



# **Rotherham Hockey Club..... coming home at 90**



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in the storage unit.*



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A huge thank you to our partners in this new pitch, without who it would not have been possible.



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## Welcome

On behalf of everyone connected with Rotherham Hockey Club, from committee, players and volunteers, we would like to welcome you all to our celebratory events in commemoration of the grand unveiling of our new pitch here in Rotherham. The programme of events, over four days are a celebration not only to our new facilities but also to our late President, Eric Duke and to the club's 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We have much planned over the four days and we hope you enjoy helping us celebrate

As many of you will recall the old Aurora pitch was infamous for its characteristic 'bobble', the nets were held together with tape and tie wraps, and the changing rooms were tatty. That said it was our home. Our exile to Westfield Sports Centre, Sheffield took its toll on the membership, particularly the youth where numbers dwindled forcing us to make partnerships with other clubs to get players a regular game.



The Club's management committee has worked tirelessly since the move to secure a partnership deal to provide a home for the Club, in Rotherham, for years to come. Our new facility is a dedicated artificial hockey pitch, meeting England Hockey's standards for top-flight hockey. It also includes disability access, a refurbished spectator stand, welfare facilities, floodlighting, landscaping and car parking. We also have use of the excellent Graham Solley Pavilion just next door, for changing facilities and refreshments.



We hope that this move not only provides a first-class base for us to provide competitive hockey for our men, women, and young people but that at the same time it will allow us to work towards our objectives of promoting the game through education, involvement of the local community, and player development for all ages and abilities.



As well as the hard work and time the club's management has dedicated to this move, it would not have been possible without the donations and funds raised by club members and associates. All players have paid an annual levy on top of subs for the past few years, players from the men's 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> team ran the Total Warrior event raising sponsorship money, social events organised by Matt Webb and Sue Downs such as the race night raised thousands and donations from members, VP's and life members all contributed to the fund.

Finally, we must thank our volunteers and very generous event sponsors, without who these events would not be possible.





## In tribute to Past President, Eric Duke

Each and every one of you will have abiding memories of Eric; as a friend, player, umpire, supporter and most especially, as our President.

Eric was delighted to be asked to be our President and it is in this role that many of us will fondly remember him. Always positively supporting our teams from the side line and along with his wife Betty, Mrs President, he took centre stage at our social events, was delighted when presenting awards for team and personal achievements and very supportive of our young player development.

As President of our club, Eric was a magnificent ambassador representing all that is good about hockey. Even during his illness, he could often be found on the touchline supporting and encouraging our teams; testament to how much Eric loved the club; the game and the atmosphere. Eric had a wonderful tenet in life and believed in treating all with warmth, kindness, gentleness and equality. He was a true gentleman and a gentle man, who very much loved the club and who, in return, was very much loved by the club.

He was our Number 1 fan, supporter and ambassador showing love and compassion as well as being an inspiration to us all. He touched and influenced so many of our lives and our opposition.

He was so looking forward to the club moving back to its natural base in Rotherham. Sadly, this was not to be. We are honoured that's Betty is attending on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September to present a bench in Eric's memory, donated by his loving family and friends along with contributions from our club members and the hockey world in general.

**James Swinscoe, Club Chairman**





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## Ranby House (3-11) open events

- Friday 13 October, 10am - 12pm
- Friday 16 March, 10am - 12pm
- Friday 11 May, 10am - 12pm

## Worksop College (11-18) open events

- Saturday 14 October 2017, 10am - 12pm
- Monday 20 November 2017, 6pm - 8pm  
(Sixth form open evening)
- Saturday 2 December 2017, 10am - 12pm  
(Scholarships Information Morning)
- Saturday 17 March 2018, 10am - 12pm
- Saturday 12 May 2018, 10am - 12pm



**Saturday 9th September**  
**12:00 – 16:00**

## OPEN DAY, MATCHES AND FUN ACTIVITIES FOR ALL

If you are a current player, past player returning to the sport or a beginner and between the ages of 5 to 70+ we welcome you to our Festival. Come along and have a go, meet new people and have some fun with the family.

England and Great Britain's most capped Hockey player, Barry Middleton will be attending alongside dignitaries from funding partners involved with the new pitch, including Sue Catton from England Hockey.

Having played at Doncaster Barry is a local hockey hero, he was named as captain of the Great Britain Team and has a wealth of experience, with Rio 2016 being his fourth Olympic Games.



What is on this afternoon?

11.00 am	Set up
12.00 noon	Selection of teams and warm up.
12.15pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening Ceremony</li> <li>• Welcome Address</li> <li>• Introduction of Guests including GB Player Barry Middleton and EH Head of Events Sue Catton plus representatives from our funding partners</li> <li>• Question and Answer Session</li> <li>• RHC Opening of new pitch and official start of Club's 90th anniversary</li> </ul>
12:45 – 16:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Hockeyathon" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ 7 a-side match continual game with collection for charity</li> <li>◦ Mixed teams</li> <li>◦ Include odd rules such as Walking Hockey</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Hockey Activities (runs all afternoon) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Hockey O's &amp; X's</li> <li>◦ Duck Race</li> <li>◦ Hockey Skittles</li> <li>◦ Hockey curling</li> <li>◦ Beat the keeper</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Junior Coaching Session: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Coaching sessions for young players</li> <li>◦ Coaching session for inexperienced players.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
1.15 pm	Start of family 7 a-side Tournament Team squads of 10 with mixed teams with a family theme. Play 1.30pm to 4.00 pm
4.00 pm	Closing Address

Plus a lots more including a tuck shop running all afternoon with hot and soft drinks, and sweets for sale.



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We champion sporting success, offering up the best viewing opportunities around for live sport. And what better way to celebrate local sport than being proud sponsors of the one and only Rotherham Hockey Club!





## Presidents Address

I started playing in the early 60's on grass pitches when RHC had only two men's teams and before the formation of league hockey, when all matches were friendlies. Over the years the clubs fortune has ebbed and flowed, whilst the transformation of the sport and playing surfaces has been unbelievable.

The new hockey dedicated facility will provide a superb venue for the development of the sport and particularly for young people. I am very proud to have been part of a number of hard working club committees with volunteers whose vision, dedication and commitment to our sport has been an example to all. Excellent management and hard work particularly over the last 6 years has led to the construction of this brilliant facility and our partnership with Sheffield Hallam University that guarantees a home base for the club for many years to come.

I hope that many of you will enjoy the new facility and that it helps us realise the clubs vision for the development of the sport within the local community, especially for young people. On behalf of the whole club I would like to thank all those members and supporters who have donated and helped raise £30,000 as our contribution towards the cost of the pitch.

We are also indebted to England Hockey, Sport England, The National Hockey Foundation and particularly Sheffield Hallam University for providing the bulk of the funding for the new pitch and facilities.

**David Woodward, Youth Co-ordinator, Development Manager and recently elected President.**





Ex First team player Andy Burgin and his team at Zeon have been suppliers of Rotherham Hockey Club's kit for many years. Their performance fabrics and eye-catching designs place them strongly in the team wear market.

The current club kit is available in both men's and ladies' fit. Kit bundles are available which give members great savings. Purchases are available online when ordering windows are open but they hold many items in stock so get in-touch today.

We will be attending the event on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September with a range of sizes for people to try on and purchase.

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## Youth Tournament - Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September



This is a Youth tournament for boys and girls with local teams invited to attend to play against RHC teams. There are two age groups; U12's who will play 12 minute games and U15's who will play 20 minute games.

A proposed schedule is listed below, a finalised schedule will be circulated on the day.  
*Timings below are subject to change.*

Time	Pitch 1	Pitch 2
11:30	Registration and introduction U12 teams	
12:00 – 13:15	U12 Boys Matches	U12 Girls Matches
13.00	Registration and introduction U15 teams	
13:30 – 16:30	U15 Boys Matches	U15 Girls Matches
14:30	U12B Final – 1 <sup>st</sup> U12B v 2 <sup>nd</sup> U12B	U12G Final – 1 <sup>st</sup> U12G v 2 <sup>nd</sup>
14:45	Trophy presentation Under 12	
17:00	U15B Final – 1 <sup>st</sup> U15B v 2 <sup>nd</sup> U15B	U15G Final – 1 <sup>st</sup> U15G v 2 <sup>nd</sup> U15G
17:30	Trophy presentation Under 15 and closing remarks	

We would like to thank the visiting teams for taking part in this afternoon's tournament.



Many thanks to Rotherham Hockey Club legend, Bernard Fletcher for kindly providing the RHC pens for these events.

All donations and money raised at these events go into the club to support our future development.



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## Club Development

My role as Development Officer is to help the club to grow and develop. This will be accomplished by getting people into the club; youth and senior, not just to play, but also to coach, umpire and volunteer.

Primarily, I will be working to strengthen our links with Schools in Rotherham and South-East Sheffield. I will achieve this by going into schools and taking sessions in curriculum time and at after school clubs. Additionally, I will be working with teachers to give them the knowledge and confidence to lead hockey sessions that are safe and fun. I will also be going into special schools in Rotherham, with the aim of starting a special needs section of the club.

I am not only working with children, but adults too. Sessions such as Back to Hockey, which is aimed at beginners, and Rush Hockey, which are small sided games, are intended to offer hockey to people who do not want to play competitively and may not want to join a club. I will also be working with companies like Active Rotherham, to provide hockey at their events.

I will be working to offer courses and qualifications for both Hallam students and our own club members and will be working with Sheffield Hallam University to offer their students volunteer opportunities within our club.

If you have any ideas/helpful contacts/information please contact me.

**Ben Davis, Club Development Officer**

ben.davis@rotherhamhc.org.uk or 07455866133

Congratulations to Billy Colohan for providing the winning entry in the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Badge Design Competition. This design will be featured on the players shirts produced for the celebration events and all Rotherham Hockey Club correspondence during the 2017/2018 Season. Well done Billy!





## Club Tournament Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September



This is a mixed, senior inter club 6 a-side tournament for over 12's. The focus for this event is to bring together all sections of the club in celebration of the new pitch.

### Teams

	Colour	Sponsor	Captain
T1	Blue	Jeremy Neal	Lee Kaighan
T2	Black	Workshop College	George Leeson
T3	Red	Yorkshire Windows	Laura Jane Lee
T4	White	Flaming Grill, The Belfry	Steve Siddle
T5	Yellow	Arnold Laver	Julie Rayner
T6	Green	Air Power Products	Tom Austen
T7	Pink	Cappuccino Tints	Michaela Cocksedge
T8	Orange	Tomson Buxton	Andy Downs

### Playing Schedule

Time	Pitch 1	Pitch 2
10:30	Introduction	
11:00	T1 v T2	T5 v T6
11:30	T3 v T4	T7 v T8
12:30	T1 v T3	T5 v T7
13:30	T2 v T4	T6 v T8
14:00	Lunch	
14:30	T1 v T4	T5 v T8
15:00	T2 v T3	T6 v T7
15:45 – Semi-finals	Winner P1 v 2 <sup>nd</sup> P2	Winner P2 v 2 <sup>nd</sup> P1
16:15 – Final & 3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup>	P1 semi v P2 semi winner	P1 semi v P2 semi losers
17:00	Buffet and none hockey activities in the Graham Solley Building	
18:00	Trophy presentation and closing remarks	



## Showcase Matches Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September



An exciting schedule of four games, showcasing; the club's current top senior teams against club legends, club old boy Ian Feather's North Over 70's Vs England Over 70's and club legends against ex RHC player and now Yorkshire Hockey President Jon Bray's Yorkshire select XI.

<b>11:30</b> Captain: Sponsor	<b>RHC Ladies 1<sup>st</sup> Team</b> Kayleigh Dunwell	<b>V's</b>	<b>RHC Ladies Legends</b> Rachel Lee <i>Yorkshire Windows</i>
<b>13:00</b> Captain:	<b>North Over 70's</b> Ian Feather	<b>V's</b>	<b>England Over 70's</b> Peter Danson
<b>14:30</b> Captain: Sponsor	<b>RHC Men's 1<sup>st</sup> Team</b> James Thomas	<b>V's</b>	<b>RHC Men's Legends</b> Pete Hucknall <i>Tomson's</i>
<b>16:00</b> Captain: Sponsor	<b>RHC Men's Legends</b> Pete Hucknall <i>Tomson's</i>	<b>V's</b>	<b>Yorkshire President's XI</b> Jon Bray

*With special thanks to Rosehill Press for supplying the event programmes*



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