



THD GOLD AWARD

CLARE BYRNE

(note from the President)

Tulse Hill & Dulwich Hockey Club was formed in 2002. Since then THD has given annual awards, which have included a "Club Person of the Year" award. That award has increasingly over the years become awarded to someone who has not only contributed greatly to the Club in the current season but has a history of contributing to the Club's activities in previous seasons.

As the seasons have gone by, it has become apparent that our system of honours has not catered for the person who over a number of years has made an exceptional contribution to the club, and indeed may well be continuing to do so. We are able to bestow the honour of making him/her a Vice-President, but that has been the limit of the Club's options.

It was therefore decided, now that we have ended the Club's 15th season, that a new honour should be created to be awarded from time to time to a person who for many years has made an outstanding contribution to the Club. Clare Byrne is the first recipient of what is to be known as the THD Gold Award.

Clare joined THD at the beginning of its third season (2003-4) having previously played for Newcastle 1st XI, Cambridge University 2nd XI, Cambridge City 1st XI and Old Loughtonians 2nd XI. She was a member of the THD 1st XI until 2011.

Clare has been, and remains, a member of the THD 2nd XI, since 2011, having been captain in 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15, and having led the 2nd XI to an unbeaten season in 2013/14, with promotion from Surrey League Division 1 and winning the EH 2nd XI Trophy.

On the administrative side of the club, Clare has been a Womens Club captain since the 2013-14 season, and was appointed a THD Director in 2013. Since 2013 she has also been THD's official liaison for the Club with England Hockey.

Clare has been a member of the main Committee since 2012, and subsequently what is now known as the Executive Committee, of which she has been joint Chair since June 2015.

Since 2014 Clare has been the Chair of the then newly formed THD Club Development Committee which produced a detailed 5 year plan for the Club in 2016.

These above official positions are only the framework within which Clare has been an indispensable part of our Club for over 12 years, whether playing, occasionally coaching and umpiring, or involved in the essential parts of the administration of a club such as ours.

It is hoped that the THD Gold Award can be formally handed to Clare at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

We, the members of THD, should be honoured that we have a member such as Clare worthy of such an honour.