

# THE HOCKEY WRITERS' CLUB

(Press Release - Embargoed until 00.01 hours on 24th January, 2005)

## *The Times Sydney Friskin Memorial award 2004.*

### **Anne Ellis named Hockey Official of the Year**

**ANNE ELLIS, MBE, the president of Welsh Hockey Union, has been honoured by being named the winner of The Times Sydney Friskin Memorial Silver Goblet for 2004.**

Anne Ellis will receive the award from Sydney Friskin's son, Neil, in the company of David Chappell, former Sports Editor of The Times, at the annual presentations of the Hockey Writers' Club, being held this year at the Wimbledon Club (home of Wimbledon Hockey Club), on Monday 24th January, 2005.

Anne Ellis who has been involved in sport, and particularly hockey, all her life. In 2004, she was elected to the Executive Board of the FIH (International Hockey Federation), and also became the first woman to be named Acting Chairman of the Sports Council Wales. She is also the chairman of the European Hockey Federation Coaching Committee.

Although fairly diminutive in stature, Anne Ellis' playing achievements included 136 consecutive caps for her native Wales, she was an outstanding hockey player, who went on to captain both Wales, and the first ever Great Britain women's team and to coach both. She was awarded the MBE for services to hockey in 1980. Anne was named female British Coach of the Year in 1989

Among the many posts the former PE teacher has held in administering sport it was with great pride that she became President of the Welsh Women's Hockey Association in 1999, going on to play a crucial role in the setting up of the Welsh Hockey Union, when the Welsh men's and women's associations amalgamated a few years ago and was elected their first President of which she remains today. She was the driving force behind the successful FIH Year of the Youth in 2001.

David Chappell of The Times speaking about the award, said “

In the view of the judges, David Chappell, Bill Colwill OBE (Treasurer of the Sports Journalists Association and former Chairman, HWC) and Dil Bahra (Secretary ,HWC), she has made a ???

The Sydney Friskin Goblet is just one of several Hockey Writers Club awards to be presented at the Wimbledon Club on January 24. Barry Davies MBE, the BBC Television commentator/presenter, will make the presentations to the male and female 2004 UK Players of the Year. The winners of UK Youth Players of the Year and the Chris Moore Memorial Regional Hockey Writers Awards will also receive their prizes.

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**NOTE EMBARGO**

**January 21, 2005**

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