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The Times Sydney Friskin Memorial Silver Goblet 2007 Award

BILL FELTON, currently President of the East Regional Hockey Association and Chairman of England Hockey's Youth Trust has been honoured by the Hockey Writers' Club. His son, Clive, will today receive on his behalf the coveted Sydney Friskin Memorial silver goblet, awarded annually for outstanding service to the sport of hockey.

The presentation will be made by Sydney's son, Neil, accompanied by David Chappell, the Managing Editor of The Times, at the annual presentations of the Hockey Writers' Club, held at the Royal Thames Yacht Club in Knightsbridge.

It was very fitting, in the absence of his father in South America, that Clive should collect the goblet and accompanying cheques. It was through him that Bill was introduced into hockey. Clive, a junior England international, needed ferrying around the country so Bill and wife Maureen were introduced to hockey. The next step was for Bill to take up umpiring and then after Great Britain's Gold success in Seoul he moved forward as a match official. He has now completed over 500 games, including National League appointments, Cup games, Tournaments and numerous International events.



BILL FELTON

Bill came into national prominence as an administrator in 1991 when he was invited by the Hockey Association to run the Centenary Club. He continued in this position until the Club was absorbed into the Association in 1998. Having negotiated that some of the Centenary funds should be used for the development of youth and junior hockey it was only fitting that he should then become Chairman of the Hockey Youth Trust a position he still holds.

Bill Felton has made an outstanding contribution to the English hockey scene. He has travelled widely supporting Great Britain, England and British Club teams in international competition. In addition to this enthusiasm and patriotism he is acknowledged widely as an extremely efficient honorary administrator.

On being told of the Award Bill was disappointed that he would be unable to be present himself at the Awards Lunch, commenting: *"To say the least I am staggered and feel very honoured to*

receive such an award for the little I have done for hockey, and where I have met so many good friends."

David Chappell said: *"Bill Felton truly epitomises the spirit for which the Sydney Friskin memorial award was set up eight years ago. His devotion to hockey is unstinting and his impact felt at all levels of the game, which bodes well for the future. Deservedly he joins a distinguished cast list of winners."*

NOTE EMBARGO. Embargoed until 0001hrs. 30th January 2008

Previous winners of this award;

2000	Ernest Wall OBE
2001	Robert Watson
2002	David Collier
2003	Mike Corby
2004	Anne Ellis OBE
2005	David Whittle
2006	David Luckes MBE
2007	Bill Felton

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A Centenary Club group of England parents and supporters at the European Championships in 1996. Director of the Centenary Club, Bill Felton, is fourth from the left in the back row.