



# Catalogue of the Betty Fairgrieve (1912-1973) Hockey Collection



Title: Catalogue of the Betty Fairgrieve (1912-1973) Hockey Collection  
Compiled by: Lizzie Richmond  
Description level: Fonds  
Date of material: c 1929-c 1940s  
Extent of material: 5 boxes, 90 items  
Deposited in: University of Bath Library  
Reference code: GB 1128 Betty Fairgrieve

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## GENERAL INTRODUCTION

### PROVENANCE

The collection was donated to the Library by Mr Peter Scott, Betty Fairgrieve's son, in October 2019.

### OUTLINE OF THE CAREER OF BETTY FAIRGRIEVE

Betty Fairgrieve was born in Hebburn, Tyne and Wear, in 1912 and grew up in nearby Sunderland. She was educated at Bede Collegiate School and attended Sunderland Training College, qualifying as a primary school teacher. A keen sportswoman, Betty was an advocate of regular physical activity for fitness and as part of a well-rounded education.

After playing hockey at county level for Durham from 1929 and at territorial level for the North from the early 1930s, Betty was first selected as a reserve for the national team in 1937. The following year she was part of the All England Women's Hockey Association (AEWHA) team that toured New Zealand.

Shortly after her return to the UK Betty married her childhood sweetheart, John Scott, and moved with him to Swansea. They finally settled in Cardiff. Her career as an international hockey player came to an end with her relocation to Wales and the start of World War II, but her interest in hockey, and other sports, continued. She maintained links with her former team mates and was later to assist in hockey coaching and training at Cardiff University.

Betty died in 1973.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

The material is presented in the order given in the contents list. It covers the period from c 1929 to c 1940s.

The collection is small. It comprises various materials assembled by Betty Fairgrieve (1912-1973) during her career as a hockey player. The photographs, post cards and other memorabilia she collected whilst on tour with the England hockey team in New Zealand provide evidence of how women's sport was organised and conducted at an international level in the 1930s. Betty's letters and journal diaries offer further insight into the experiences, thoughts and feelings of an individual player at a time when sport for women was still in the early stages of its development. As a whole the collection puts the achievements of a pioneering player into the broader context of a life lived whilst documenting an important moment in sporting history.

For more information about women's hockey and the All England Women's Hockey Association see also the AEWHA (Hockey) Collection.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are very grateful to Mr Scott for his assistance in making this material available.

L. Richmond, University of Bath, 2020

**SECTION A                      BIOGRAPHICAL    1934-1939**

This section contains a small amount of biographical material. It relates mainly to Betty's teaching career and her interests in physical education for children and women. It includes notes, instructions and exercises documenting her involvement in the Sunderland 'Keep-Fit' movement.

The presentation is chronological.

- A/1                      Certificate of attendance issued to Betty Fairgrieve, Course in Recreational Gymnastics for Leaders, Sunderland 'Keep-Fit' movement, nd, c 1934.
  
- A/2                      Black and white photographic group portrait showing Betty Fairgrieve and other members of the Sunderland 'Keep-Fit' for women movement, nd c 1934.
  
- A/3                      Hardcover album containing notes and instructions relating to physical exercises, with Sunderland 'Keep-Fit' music scores, 1934-1935.
  
- A/4                      *'Keep-Fit' Classes for Women and Girls*, Sunderland Education Committee, 2nd edition, 1936.
  
- A/5                      Printed sheet (annotated) of illustrated exercise instructions entitled 'Are You A Sensible Susan?', nd c 1936.
  
- A/6                      Printed sheet of illustrated exercise instructions entitled 'Are You A Sensible Suzette?: Home Exercises for Elderly Women', Norah Reed, nd c 1936.
  
- A/7                      Hardcover album containing notes and instructions relating to physical movement, exercise and activity lessons, and games, some with musical accompaniment, to be used with children aged between four and seven years old, nd c 1936.

- A/8                      Printed sheet of illustrated exercise instructions entitled 'The Bertram Morning Exercises: 26 Rational Exercises for Women', nd c 1936.
  
- A/9                      1p manuscript poem/song entitled 'Keep-Fit Tour in S. W. Scotland, Whit 1935', 20 March 1937.
  
- A/10                     Programme, Sunderland Keep-Fit Adventure: Demonstration in Recreative Physical Education, 23 March 1937.
  
- A/11                     1p manuscript music score with 1p manuscript notes relating to physical exercises, nd c 1937.
  
- A/12                     British passport issued to Betty Fairgrieve, 15 March 1938.
  
- A/13                     Black and white photographic portrait (mounted) of Betty Fairgrieve taken on the occasion of her engagement to John Scott, 1938.
  
- A/14                     Two black and white photographic prints showing Betty Fairgrieve's wedding, 25 July 1939.  
  
Betty married her childhood sweetheart, John Scott, at St John's Methodist Church, Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, UK. The photos include members of the wedding party including her brother, Basil, and sisters, May and Connie.

**SECTION B**                      **SCRAPBOOKS, ALBUMS & MEMORABILIA**                      **c 1929-c 1940s**

This section contains photographs, newspaper cuttings, badges, match programmes, fixture cards and other associated memorabilia assembled by Betty during the course of her hockey career. It relates mainly to the All England Women's Hockey Association (AEWHA) touring team visit to New Zealand in 1938, but also includes some material documenting Betty's county and territorial hockey playing, and her participation in an international tournament in the Netherlands with the British Wanderers team.

The presentation is chronological.

- B/1                      Two Durham County Women's Hockey XI insignia cloth badges, nd c 1929.
- B/2                      Two Northern Counties Women's Hockey XI insignia cloth badges and metal pin badge, nd, c early 1930s.
- B/3                      Flyer, South v. North, Hove, Sussex, UK, 15 February 1932.
- B/4                      Flyer, Northern Counties Women's Hockey Association, North v. USA, Durham, UK, with menu card signed by the players, 14 October 1933.
- B/5                      Programme, Welsh Women's Hockey Association, America v. Wales, St Helen's, Swansea, Wales, UK, 4 November 1933.
- B/6                      Black and white photographic group portrait showing Betty Fairgrieve and other members of the North hockey team, nd c early 1930s.
- B/7                      Newspaper cutting entitled 'North Slow Off Mark: Clever Hockey for Losing Women's Team', nd c early 1930s.

- B/8                      Black and white photographic group portrait showing hockey players and officials, nd c early 1930s.
- B/9                      Programme, Northern Counties' Women's Hockey Association Hockey Tournament, Scarborough, North Yorkshire, UK, 31 December 1934-5 January 1935.
- B/10                      Flyer, Northern Counties' Women's Hockey Association, North v. South, Billingham, County Durham, UK, 6 February 1935.
- B/11                      Luncheon menu card, Royal Station Hotel, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK, 12 February 1935.
- B/12                      Flyer, Midland Counties' Women's Hockey Association, North v. Midlands, Smethwick, Birmingham, UK, 16 February 1935.
- B/13                      Fixtures card, Durham Counties' Women's Hockey Association, Scarborough, North Yorkshire, UK, 1935-1936.
- B/14                      Programme, Northern Counties' Women's Hockey Association Hockey Tournament, Scarborough, North Yorkshire, UK, 30 December 1935-4 January 1936.
- B/15                      Flyer, East Anglian Women's Hockey Association, East v. North, Brentwood, Essex, UK, 8 February 1936.
- B/16                      Flyer, Northern Counties' Women's Hockey Association, North v. Midlands, 12 February 1936.
- B/17                      Press cutting entitled 'Territorial Hockey: North Team, 1936', with photographic group portrait, *Hockey Field and Lacrosse*, 15 February 1936.

- B/18 Fixtures card, Durham Counties' Women's Hockey Association, Scarborough, North Yorkshire, UK, 1936-1937.
- B/19 Flyer, Northern Counties' Women's Hockey Association, North v. East, Cochrane Park, Newcastle on Tyne, UK, 12 February 1937.
- B/20 All England Women's Hockey Association (AEWHA) Reserve insignia cloth badge, nd c 1937.
- B/21 Programme, All England Women's Hockey Association, England v. The Rest, Merton Abbey, Surrey, UK, 27 November 1937.
- B/22 Black and white photographic group portrait showing Betty Fairgrieve and other members of the North hockey team, nd c 1937.
- B/23 Programme, Northern Counties' Women's Hockey Association Hockey Tournament, Scarborough, North Yorkshire, UK, 3-8 January 1938.
- B/24 Black and white photographic group portrait showing Betty Fairgrieve and other members of the North hockey team, 1938.
- B/25 Flyer, Northern Counties' Women's Hockey Association, North v. Midlands, Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, UK, 11 February 1938.
- B/26 Flyer, Scottish Women's Hockey Association, Scotland v. England, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK, 26 March 1938.

- B/27-B/49 Material relating to an All England Women's Hockey Association tour to New Zealand, April-September 1938.
- The touring team left England on 28 April travelling via Panama on the SS Remuera. They landed at Auckland, New Zealand, on 6 June. The team spent the following six weeks touring both the north and south islands of New Zealand during which time fifteen official hockey matches were played. On 22 July the team departed Wellington for Sydney and a two-week unofficial tour of Australia followed. After five and a half weeks at sea with stops at Bombay [Mumbai], Aden, Port Said and Marseilles, the SS Strathmore returned the team to England on 16th September.
- Betty assembled a substantial collection of material, including photographs, newspaper cuttings, ephemera and memorabilia, relating to the tour. She put some of the material into albums, but most of it was kept loose in envelopes and packets.
- B/27 All England Women's Hockey Association (AEWHA) NZ 1938 insignia cloth badge, April 1938.
- B/28 Black and white photographic group portrait showing Betty Fairgrieve and her England team mates at London Liverpool Street train station ready for departure on the tour, April 1938.
- B/29 Leatherbound album containing black and white photographic prints (labelled) relating to the tour, April-September 1938. Loose material intercalated.
- Includes pictures of the journey on board ship, numerous sight-seeing trips, hockey matches, and a meeting with the Indian men's hockey touring team.
- See also AEWHA (Hockey) Collection D/1/31-D/1/33: Series of scrapbooks and albums compiled by Margaret 'Peggy' Lodge, 1929-c1950.
- B/30 Hardback scrapbook containing press cuttings, programmes, photographs and other memorabilia relating to all aspects of the tour, April-August 1938. Loose Material intercalated.
- B/31 Printed booklet entitled 'Itinerary: English Women's Hockey Team in New Zealand' (annotated), 1938.
- Includes a record of the results of matches played.

- B/32-B/35 Memorabilia, including tourist guides and visitor brochures, telegrams, tickets, menu cards, newspaper cuttings, match programmes and flyers, relating to the team's activities in New Zealand, June-July 1938.
- Includes a photograph and newspaper cuttings relating to a meeting with the Indian men's hockey touring team.
- Four folders.
- B/36, B/37 Memorabilia, including visitor guide, newspaper cuttings, post cards and match programmes, relating to the team's activities in Australia, July-August 1938.
- Two folders.
- B/38-B/40 Nine black and white photographs, passenger documentation and associated memorabilia, including post cards, tickets, and menus, relating to the team's journey back to England on board the SS Strathmore, August-September 1938.
- Three folders.
- B/41 Memorabilia, including visitor guide, post cards, and match flyer, relating to the team's visit to Columbo, Ceylon [Sri Lanka], on the journey back to England, August 1938.
- B/42 Memorabilia, including visitor guide and post cards, relating to the team's visit to Bombay [Mumbai], India, on the journey back to England, August 1938.
- B/43 Memorabilia, including visitor guide and post cards, relating to the team's visit to Cairo, Egypt, on the journey back to England, September 1938.
- B/44 Six black and white photographs showing members of the team during visits ashore, including Cairo, Egypt, on the journey back to England, August-September 1938.
- B/45 Five black and white photographs showing the team during or before matches with members of (unidentified) opposing teams, nd c June-August 1938.

- B/46 1p manuscript 'report' entitled 'Betty Fairgrieve: New Zealand 1938'.
- B/47 Three souvenir metal insignia pin badges relating to New Zealand and Australian hockey, nd c 1938.
- B/48 Newspaper cutting reporting the return to Sunderland of Betty and her team mate, Kathleen Thompson, nd c September 1938.
- B/49 *All England Women's Hockey Association (AEWHA) News Sheet, 3(2), October 1938.*
- Includes a brief report on the New Zealand tour.
- B/50 Flyer, Northern Counties' Women's Hockey Association, North v. North Wales, Ainsdale, Merseyside, UK, 21 January 1939.
- B/51 Flyer, Northern Counties' Women's Hockey Association, North v. South, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK, 6 February 1939.
- B/52 Flyer, Northern Counties' Women's Hockey Association, North v. East Wales, Old Trafford, Manchester, UK, 18 February 1939.
- B/53 Programme, All England Women's Hockey Association England v. Scotland, Kennington Oval, Surrey, UK, 4 March 1939.
- B/54 Programme and memorabilia, including post cards, a cloth badge, a metal pin badge, and three black and white photographs, relating to an international hockey tournament, Bloemendaal, the Netherlands, 7-10 April 1939.
- B/55 Metal pin badge, Welsh Women's Hockey Association (WWHA) 'B' umpire, nd c 1940s.

**SECTION C                      LETTERS & DIARIES                      1930-1939**

This section contains journal diaries kept by Betty and a small amount of correspondence relating to the All England Women's Hockey Association tour of New Zealand in 1938. The journals record Betty's experiences and thoughts in some detail. The letters were predominantly sent to or received from John Scott, Betty's fiancé, in Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, UK.

The presentation is chronological.

C/1                      Leatherbound appointment diary, 1930.

C/2                      Post cards and notes of congratulation received by Betty Fairgrieve on her selection to play as a reserve for the England hockey team, February 1937.

C/3                      Three letters to Betty Fairgrieve from John Scott, October 1937-January 1938.

C/4                      Letters of congratulation received by Betty Fairgrieve on her selection as part of the England hockey team to tour New Zealand, January-February 1938.

C/5                      Softback notebook inscribed on the first page 'New Zealand Tour 1938' used as a daily journal by Betty Fairgrieve, 27 April-2 July 1938.

See also C/6.

C/6                      Hardback notebook used as a daily journal by Betty Fairgrieve, 4 July-14 September 1938. Loose material intercalated.

See also C/5.

C/7-C/10                      Sixteen letters from Betty Fairgrieve to John Scott written during the All England Women's Hockey Association tour to New Zealand, 26 April-8 September 1938.

The letters were sent during the outbound journey, the tour of New Zealand, the visit to Australia, and the homebound journey back to London. They contain descriptions and observations relating to the voyage, life on board, sight-seeing trips, and tourist activities as well as some details of the hockey matches played.

Four folders.

C/11-C/13                      Nine letters from John Scott received by Betty Fairgrieve while she was on tour in New Zealand, April-September 1938.

Some of the letters include notes written to Betty by John Scott's mother.

Three folders.

C/14                      Two letters from families who hosted Betty Fairgrieve and other members of the All England Women's Hockey team during their tour of New Zealand, July 1938.

C/15-C/21                      Twenty-seven letters to Betty Fairgrieve from John Scott, January-July 1939.

Most of the letters were sent from Swansea, where John had moved for his work, to Betty at home in Sunderland, but three of them are addressed to Betty whilst she was away from home playing county, territorial or international hockey.

Six folders.