



## Icing on the Cake #3

*The official newsletter of the NPUA 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary gala dinner*

### **Onwards and Upwards to our 200 target...The booking deadline is approaching...16<sup>th</sup> August**

We have to confirm numbers to the venue before the day of the dinner. You may recall that we agreed a fixed price deal with the Orchard Hotel as follows:

- Single occupancy - £99 per room, including breakfast and vat
- Double occupancy (double or twin beds) - £109 per room, including breakfast and vat

After August 16<sup>th</sup>, that deal expires. There may well be rooms you can book direct with the hotel, but.. as of today, the best price at the Orchard for a single room that night is £143!!! Please take advantage of the amazing NPUA special rates!

As far as the Dinner itself is concerned, we may be able to squeeze a few more days out of EMCC. But don't risk waiting until the last minute – we'd hate to have to turn anyone away who wanted to come, so book now to avoid disappointment!

### **Come Taste The Wine**

*What good is sitting alone in your room?*

*Come hear the music play*

*Life is a cabaret, old chum*

*Come to the cabaret*

*Come taste the wine*

*Come hear the band*

*Come blow that horn*

*Start celebrating right this way*

*Your table's waiting*

*Life is a cabaret, old chum*

*So come to the cabaret*

And you see, we *have* tasted the wine! The NPUA Commemorative Wine, to be precise. Well, it's a party after all, isn't it? So because it passed the test with flying colours, NPUA has pushed the boat out and ordered some special "NPUA 20" Red Bordeaux, to be served at the Dinner.

In short, we're leaving no turd unstoned in our efforts to make it the best party ever. Be there or be square!



### **“No Battle Plan Survives First Contact With The Enemy” (Colin Powell)**

Just when you think you’ve got all your ducks in a row... sadly, Spikey (Henrik Ehlers) has had to pull out because his wife is away on business and someone has to look after the kids. But every cloud has a silver lining; who better to step into his shoes than Simon Mason – former President of England Hockey, Olympian, and contributor to our sport in so many ways. Thanks, Mace!

Yes, we’ve told you about the galaxy of guest speakers, and we’ve told you Lizzie is running the show, but it won’t be all yak on the night, however nostalgic and witty it is. We have still more *icing on the cake* for you...

### **The NPUA Commemorative Film**

We couldn’t let this anniversary pass without reminding ourselves of how it all got off the ground in the first place and chatting to the key movers and shakers about those formative years of NPUA. So we’ve made a film, which will premiere at the Dinner, and which we hope will be a glorious stroll down memory lane for so many present, a reminder of what makes NPUA feel special, and also - for our younger members – perhaps a sense of them wanting to keep that flame alive as they become the leaders of the future themselves. Hopefully, you’ll enjoy the show and value the fact NPUA has a historical record for our archives.

Of course, if you don’t, you can blame Higs! Years ago, at an indoor tournament, a group of umpires got chatting about how it all began. Everyone got engaged by the subject and, at the end, Higs said that it should all be written down for posterity, before everyone involved popped their clogs. Well, we haven’t written it down – we’ve made a film instead – but we hope we’ve done him proud.

### **The After Party**

Between you, you have already reserved over 80 rooms at the Orchard Hotel on the Saturday night. We have arranged that the hotel bar will remain open to residents long into the night. So for those of you who’d like to continue to chat, and reminisce, and share anecdotes, don’t for one moment think that the end of the dinner is the end of the party!

### **One Last Push**

Come on, let’s give it one last push together...

BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW – DON’T MISS OUT  
SPREAD THE WORD AND TELL YOUR FRIENDS  
NPUA CONFERENCE – SAME VENUE, SAME DAY

All the very best.

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