

Christabel Lawrence (Mrs Leslie Cope Cornford) (1869-1952)

Christabel was one of Madame's very early students in Hampstead. She left college in 1887. She taught drill and games at Wimbledon House School, which three of her older sisters had founded. The school later developed into Roedean School.

Christabel was very involved with the establishment of a Hockey Association for women. After the first England trials, organised by Miss Johnson of the Molesey Club at Neasden on 30th March 1895, the Misses Lawrence, Johnson and Jamieson held a meeting to discuss the possibility of forming a Ladies Hockey Association. (Hockey was introduced in the Autumn Term 1895 to Madame's college which, by then, was at Dartford.) Although neither team could be described as representative an English v Irish match was held on 10th April 1895. After the game, Christabel, together with the Misses Johnson, Guinness, Tatham and Jamieson, met in a tea shop in Brighton to make further plans for an Association. At this meeting Christabel volunteered to be the first Honorary Secretary and Treasurer and her offer was accepted.

Christabel's obituary in the Roedean School Magazine dated 1952, recorded that: *Mrs Cope Cornford was also present at the first formal meeting of the Ladies Hockey Association on 23rd November 1895 when she represented Wimbledon House School, which is now Roedean School. It was she who obtained permission from the A.E.W.H.A. to form the Sussex team which caused the whole question of County Teams to be discussed.*

Christabel was made an Honorary Life Member of the A.E.W.H.A.