

# Manningham Leader

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**It's going to take such a long time before anybody feels normal again so to do something you had planned to do is a really good idea at times like this.**

SELWYN MAISTER

Christchurch's Harewood Hockey Club took on the Doncaster Hockey Club in green and gold. Players from Doncaster and Harewood hockey clubs (inset) held a minute's silence for victims of the Christchurch earthquake.

Pictures: MICHELLE KLOBOUCNIK

# Kiwis' hockey tribute

Earthquake | Anna Prytz

PLAYERS from Christchurch's Harewood Hockey Club were able to briefly take their minds off the devastation of their hometown during a visit to Doncaster at the weekend.

Acting coach Selwyn Maister dedicated the club's efforts over the three day series, which saw them play matches against Doncaster, Albury and the U18 Victorian women's team, to the brave people of Christchurch. A minute's silence was held in between

## Games played in spirit for those lost

matches on Friday evening in respect to the scores of people injured and killed in last week's earthquake

Mr Maister said the club had resolved to attend the competition, organised to connect international clubs, to try to "maintain real life." "It's going to take such a long time before anybody feels normal again so to do something you had planned to do is a really good idea

at times like this," he said. Mr Maister said the club's members, who arrived in Melbourne on Thursday, were deeply disturbed by the catastrophic scenes in Christchurch.

"Driving around, it was impossible to take in. And the news you hear of people close to home is hard. The hockey community is very close-knit and a woman from another team in Canterbury is

missing and presumed lost so everyone knows somebody directly affected," he said.

Doncaster Hockey Club president Rob Henry said he admired the Harewood team's fighting spirit.

"I think it's terrific that they've come and are trying to get on with things," he said.

"Community sporting clubs are always very supportive organisations so we're glad to be able to

welcome them onto Mullum Mullum and to rally around at a time like this."

He said a group of about 40-50 Doncaster and Harewood players went out together in the city on Saturday night and "had a great time by all accounts".

Mr Maister said he and his club appreciated the support from Doncaster members.

"It means a lot and it's good to come over and have a friendly experience like this when we know we're going back to a place that will never be the same."

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