

**Wednesday  
Hockey Masters  
Perth  
Est 1991**

**A Blue**

**A Gold**

**A Red**

**A White**

**B Gold**

**B White**

**B Blue**

**C Blue**

**C Red**

**C White**

**Masters Matters**

**Guide To Important Stuff:** Where to find what I think you might need to know:

Dates For The Diary: This page.

Department of Health: This page.

Department of Corrections: Page 5.

The French Letter: Page 4.

**Editorial:** Wednesday afternoons lately have been most enjoyable after the games are over. With the 'A' and 'B' divisions finishing at the same time they now feature a busy bar scene with fine food and seven teams. Everybody seems to be talking about the Perth tournament for some reason.

**Department of Health:** Best wishes for a speedy recovery to all those afflicted.

**Ken Walter:** An update to the last bulletin - a knee problem. He will be back before the tournament begins. Hopefully all the work of wine deliveries was not a contributing factor.

**Peter Gason:** Knee problem is ongoing. Medical aid has not helped much as yet, and is currently playing with some difficulty. Sometimes is not playing.

**Paul Robinson:** A lofted ball on the 13th struck him on the uninjured hand with a thump that could be heard in the dugout. Played on regardless - it takes a lot to stop Robbo from having a game. But as of Saturday 16th the hand was in plaster - suspected fracture. Played again on the 23rd.

**Peter Williamson:** Has had bypass for blocked artery, replacement of aortic valve, and a pacemaker fitted. Is now recovering at home, and can receive visitors.

**Nigel Thomas:** At the Stadium again on the 6th, but it may be a while before he plays again. I hear that in addition to the knee replacement and spinal fusion operation there is a fibrillation problem.

**Lynda:** Heard from Steve McEntee on the 27th that all is totally clear now. Very pleased to hear it.

#### **Dates For The Diary:**

September 27th to October 11th 2014: Interstate Masters Championships in Perth.

October 25th: Saturday O/65s competition starts at Perry Lakes - see Page 5.

Second week of May 2015: Trans Tasman in Melbourne. Ages 40 to 65 - 70s tba.

2015: European Championships - London. Southern Cross may be there.

2016: Next Grand Masters (O/60s and higher) World Cup - Newcastle (the Australian one).

2016: Next Masters (O/40s to O/55s) World Cup - Canberra.

**Strange But True:** My nephew just departed for New York for further study, and now lives in Mercer House in Mercer Street. Not named after a relation - unlike the Mercer St in Albany (great uncle).

**Comebacks:** It has been very good to see past players in the stands at the Stadium during August. Among those noted have been Derek Jobe, Brian Bird, Dudley Younger, and Linc Grostate. It's also good to have a few past players in the bar - George Winning, Geoff Godfrey, John Sanders and Terry Armitage. They seem to win as many wines as the 'B' division.

Injured players who have resumed recently include Ian Hill, Mal Horrigan and Ken Walter. Phil Anderson is now permitted mild exercise - at least it's better than no exercise.

**Quotable Quote No 1:** "I was seldom able to see an opportunity until it had ceased to be one." Mark Twain 1835 - 1910. *He must have been a forward - Ed.*

**Letters To The Editor:** Thanks to the respondents to the last issue; Peter Murray, George Bradbury, Neil Mannolini, Ric Denny, Jim Wright, Phil Anderson, Ian Purdie, Derek Jobe, and John Milner .  
Neil says (in response to my question on replacing a player sent off) “Re my contribution ... if anyone is sent off ... no replacement.

That is due punishment to the team for having such a bad sportsman on board.”

John Milner responded to my reporting on his scoring burst: “Can’t imagine how I managed to jag four, but as someone once told me, the beauty of flukes is that they still count.” *I should point out that John’s four of the best happened on July 19th. He did not get to the game on the 26th, but since then has hit the scoreboard again on August 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd. Being in the right place at the right time on repeated occasions is no fluke. Ed. Refer to Limerick One.*

Ric Denny has unfortunately had to withdraw from the NSW O/65s as “my knees (left) aren’t up to a two week stint. Am managing to get in one game a week in the local Southern Highlands Hockey comp using a pre-game dose of anti-inflammatory.” *This is in open competition, as there is not a Vets grade - just A, B, and C. Norm Stanton (well known to WA Country) is at the games but not currently playing.* Ric adds “Away from hockey life is all go in the Southern Highlands; there are always events, e.g. weekend village markets, theatre both live and film, wineries to visit, and dining at the many establishments around, all with magnificent scenery getting to them.” Sounds as though Ric’s really having a hard time - he was also off to the snow. He concludes: “That’s it for now, please pass on my regards to all at WHM (Wednesday and Saturday).” *We regret that you will not be over here Ric. Thank you for keeping us all in touch. Ed.*

Phil Anderson: Phil picked up our typist’s error, and said that he hoped the operation had not been underdone, though at times it felt like it. He also liked the Roger MacLiver quote, and added.” It is a reminder, and my philosophy too, that we should be thankful for the opposition, for without them we cannot have a game.”

Jim Wright: The photo of the Naughty Corner last issue put Jim in mind of an amended reference to golf. “Long ago when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks it was called witchcraft. Now it’s called hockey. And no, your reference to Ivan didn’t jog my memory. My story & I’m sticking to it.”

#### **Whistle While You Work with Manno. Incorporating Rules ‘R’ Us:**

“There is an increase in the number of ‘stick checks’ ... some may be conceived as border-line ... but I feel that they need to be stamped out for the sake of an enjoyable/ safe game. I recommend that the team captains need to cooperate in the elimination of the bad practice.” *(I think we may have some trouble with this one - it will require effort from players and umpires too. Again we remind all readers that a clash of sticks is not necessarily a hit, as the position of the ball will determine who gets the hit, and must be the key factor in deciding if there is to be a hit awarded. Ed.)*

Neil Mannolini

**Quotable Quote No 2:** “Under capitalism, man exploits man. Under communism, it’s just the opposite.” John Kenneth Galbraith 1908 - 2006. *Or as cricket commentator John Arlott described the dismissal of English captain George Mann bowled by South Africa’s Tufty Mann: “It is a clear case of Mann’s inhumanity to Mann.”*

**Punology One:** Clive Palmer seems to have heard of the “Shock and Awe” campaign of bombing directed against Saddam Hussein. He’s attacked China with a “Shock and Ore” campaign.

**Department Of Limericks Part 1:** I hope that John Milner agrees with Oscar Wilde: "There is only one worse thing than being talked about, and that is not being talked about." Or not being written about.

Our readers we don't want to bore  
But Milner continues to score  
He has not many roles  
Just keeps on getting goals  
In numbers too great to ignore.

**The French Letter:** Many of you (especially Saturday casual players) will be aware that Ian Purdie left for France recently to re-join his wife. He has volunteered to drop us an occasional bulletin from the green fields as a means of staying in touch with all the WHM mates. Those of you who know the newsletter editor will be well aware that the title for this section was suggested by Ian - as the editor could never think of something like that on his own. Over to Purds:

"I thought it was about time I sent a little news from France so I will pick up on the "flying" topic. You may well have been relieved about missing out on being shot down but let me say not half as relieved as me. MH20 was on an identical flight path (KL to Paris) and I missed out by just 3 days!!

As you can imagine, life has been busy since my return as I have started tackling the metre high weeds in the "potager" (vegie patch). It's getting a bit late for planting now but I am trying out some lettuce, cucumbers, courgettes and capsicum. A couple of photos showing the results of my labours are attached. *(If I get the hang of "Dropbox" I might be able to send you a link - Ed.)*

I am also suffering from a severe case of hockey withdrawal syndrome, characterised by swinging the garden hoe as another goal goes into the back of the net - in my dreams!! My anxiety has been further heightened by the exploits of John Milner - four goals in the afternoon. Well done John (you are an inspiration to us all) and whatever you are on can you please send me some. That way my garden hoe will score even more goals.

... The need for an evening "aperitif" is creeping up on me.

Cheers and best wishes to all my hockey friends."

Ian Purdie

**33 1/3 Wednesday Masters:** Peter Hearne played his 800th game for Blades on Saturday 23rd August. Congratulations from all of us at WHM - does this include all the two-game Saturdays? Well done also to Blades for the great coverage and pictures in the Hockey Bulletin.

Well done and congratulations also go to Peter Willet who managed to surpass Peter Kennedy's record of games played for Aquinas on the same weekend. PK's record was 864 games, and PW has had to play from 1964 (starting year) to 2014 to accumulate enough games.

*For younger readers - 33 1/3 was the revolutions per minute of a long playing vinyl record. Ed.*

**Shakespeare Said It:** "Let me be that I am, and seek not to alter me." Much ado About Nothing Act I Scene III. *As teams in every state of Australia prepare for Perth doubtless this sentiment will be felt by some players whose coaches are planning to use them in ways they would rather not be used.*

**Grumpy Old Men Part One:** "I don't necessarily agree with everything I say." Marshall McLuhan 1911 - 1980. Canadian philosopher of communication theory.

**Interstate Tournament 2014:** It is desirable that PHS is to be the major venue for this major event, and a well done to all those who toiled through the negotiation process. Extrapolating from my copy of the fixtures there are 71 teams competing from all states and territories. As there a few readers from interstate we extend a warm welcome, and trust that your stay will be a pleasant one. The thought did occur that there should be some limits to the extent of the hospitality, as expressed in the following (not completely serious) piece of doggerel:

**Department Of Limericks Part 2:** It was a beautiful day until ...

I'm sure that you'll hear people say

"We wish you a very nice day."

But we don't really mean

All of us are mad keen

That you have one and beat Western A.

*For the purposes of this limerick Western A means WA, WA2, and WAC.*

**Saturday O/65s Summer Competition:** This is due to start on 25th October at Perry Lakes - please contact Les Waldon to express an interest. Teams are not fixed, so your opposition and team-mates vary in a relaxed and casual atmosphere where almost all players stay on afterwards.

*(In another scoring feat Rusty Phillips managed tallies of 6 and 3 goals in consecutive weeks.)*

**Grumpy Old Men Part Two:** In case this regular feature might lead readers into thinking "Masters Matters" encourages grumpiness we include a couple of pieces of advice on how to avoid it, "If you do not wish to be prone to anger, do not feed the habit; give it nothing which may tend to its increase." Epictetus 55 AD -135 AD. *Never ever drive around what once was The Esplanade in Perth.* "Speak when you are angry ... and you will make the best speech you'll ever regret." Laurence J Peter 1919 - 1988. *One for Clive Palmer - but politicians talk rather than listen.*

**Department of Corrections:** The proof-reader overlooked a line in the last Department of Health which stated that "Phil Anderson ... has now underdone an operation for hernia." I trust that the procedure that Phil has just undergone was not actually underdone. The Air Force humour page omitted the "do" from the line "Anything you do can get you shot ... including doing nothing."

Apologies go to Ken Beer for leaving his name in the story about the sausages at UWA. The line was supposed to read "I'm sure the sausages were delicious, for those who got one." Perhaps this was a Freudian slip, prompted by envy of yet another scorer of more goals than me.

**Dummy Spit Of The Day:** Not included this issue, as we're all playing for the team now.

**Well Dones:** Thank you to August 'A' Division umpires Adolphus Abrahams, George Bradbury, Bala Chandran, Peter Ford, Ash Foster, Ian Hill, Roger Jewell, Neil Mannolini, Roger Partington, Col Sanders, Neil Scaddan, Gordon Thomas, Ron Venables, Les Waldon, Ken Watt, Peter Willett, Bill Williamson, and Ivan Wilson. Thanks also to Peter Brien for Saturdays. *(And 'B' and 'C' unknowns)*

**Punology Two:** In Perth's wild weather on 17th August the ship hit the span. *For non WA readers, a car carrier in Fremantle harbour broke a mooring line and drifted into the Fremantle Railway Bridge.*

Kyleakin - Skye

Photo John Mercer



I could not think of an appropriate tournament photo, so settled on the west coast of Scotland, as quite a few of our number spent time there recently. Is this why Scotland wants independence - it's too good to share with the people from south of the border.

**Happy Birthday To ... :** We missed mention of one player in the last issue - due to the goalkeepers being in a separate section of the WHM data base - as befits special people. Congratulations to Col Benporath who celebrated the occasion (*the big 70*) appropriately - or so we hear.

Thanks also to John Halley and Harvey Davies, who bought some birthday beers on the 13th August. Having just had a blood nose in the showers I was personally in no condition to appreciate them properly - but the rest of the WHM crew appeared to have no problems.

**Test Your Knowledge With John Sanders:** Herewith the answer to last issue's question which was: Which of these competitions was held first: a) Champions Trophy 1 Lahore b) ESANDA Tournament, Perth c) World Cup Barcelona d) 1st Azlan Shah Tournament Kuala Lumpur.

The same day the last 'Masters Matters' went out usual suspect Rusty sent an email which read: "Quiz Question: Answer - World Cup, Barcelona. I was at the third World Cup in KL in 1975; first Champions' Trophy 1978; Esanda in Perth was the first international event at new PHS completed in 1979; and Sultan Azlan Shah started in early 1980s." Need we say, he's right again!

This issue's question is: In the 1995 Champion's Trophy for men at the Olympia Stadium in Berlin Australia's record was: a) L2 D2 W2 b) D2 L4 c) Drew all games d) W2 D4 L0 (*L loss, W Win D Draw*) Answer next issue.

**News From The Saturday O/65s:** Those of you who are not yet of age to play in this elite social grade may not be aware that former Wolves player Peter Brien is a regular umpire - from a walker on the side-line. This means that he cannot always distinguish the lines, particularly when they have not been freshly marked and sometimes enquires whether a particular rule breach was inside the circle. Recently during the regular post-match socialising he revealed that he had asked that particular question no less than four times that day. Each time all defenders said "outside the circle" and all the forwards said "inside." Perhaps this indicates that we are not ready for the honour system yet - though we did not do too badly on August 16 - most of the time.

We also gained a couple of new players recently, and extend a very warm welcome to Dave Brown (formerly Vic Park) and Terry Murphy (Raiders). I trust you are enjoying the leisurely tempo of our games compared with the full on Saturday O/60s.

*Many thanks to Les, Jim, Bob, Ian, George, Ken W, Ken B and umpires for a great winter competition.*

**English - Crazy Language:** Readers know that the English language has been mangled here. Doggerel has also featured; so thanks go to Eric Alcock for this contribution, best described as English in verse.

We'll begin with a box, and the plural is boxes,  
But the plural of ox becomes oxen, not oxes.  
One fowl is a goose, but two are called geese,  
Yet the plural of moose should never be meese.  
You may find a lone mouse or a nest full of mice,  
Yet the plural of house is houses, not hice.

If the plural of man is always called men,  
Why shouldn't the plural of pan be called pen?  
If I speak of my foot and show you my feet,  
And I give you a boot, would a pair be called beet?  
If one is a tooth and a whole set are teeth,  
Why shouldn't the plural of booth be called beeth?

Then one may be that, and three would be those,  
Yet hat in the plural would never be hose,  
And the plural of cat is cats, not cose.  
We speak of a brother and also of brethren,  
But though we say mother, we never say methren.  
Then the masculine pronouns are he, his and him,  
But imagine the feminine: she shis and shim!

**Perth Tournament:** Congratulations to the committee for managing to produce a set of fixtures which appear to be as fair and balanced as possible. I am sure that the Queensland and WA Country O/70 teams appreciate the absence of games on three consecutive days which we endured last year.

At this point teams from all over Australia are in preparation. Best wishes for training which is survivable, a safe, on-time trip, a pleasant stay in W.A. and an enjoyable, injury-free tournament to you all. Best wishes also for your return home.

**Reader Contribution:** Thanks to Neil Mannolini for sending this piece. I'm not certain that all the chronology is correct, as I'm sure that penicillin was discovered well before I was born, but at our age memories can become unreliable - mine included. Over to Manno, and "The Way We Were."

For Those Born Before 1946

"We were born before penicillin, television, polio shots, frozen foods, fast foods, Xerox, plastic, contact lenses, credit cards and instant credit. As children we had never heard of radar, sat-nav, split atoms, laser beams, ball point pens, felt pens and recycled paper. We managed to survive without pantyhose, clothes dryers, electric blankets, air-conditioners, drip-dry clothes, car safety belts & twin cams. Man had not visited the moon, there had been no fly-past of Venus, pilots were not sucked out of their cockpits if a window shattered, and one used wooden tees to place their golf ball upon.

We got married first, then lived together, a meaningful relationship was no license to put it together. Bunnies were small rabbits, designer jeans were scheming young ladies called Jean, land rights were what you had when you held the title to a piece of land you had paid for with money, single mothers were kept from view and the child adopted out, no one had heard of a dole cheque, we were lucky we were able to work for our money. The gay society was people having a good time.

We thought fast food was what one ate during Lent, outer space was the back of the toilets at school where no one played. No one had heard of a house husband, computer dating, dual careers, government advisors, gay rights, day-care centres, group therapy and nursing homes; we knew what French letters were (See Page 4) but had never heard of condoms. We had never heard of FM radio, tape decks, electronic typewriters, artificial hearts, kidney transplants, word processors, yoghurt or choc-milks. The only male we knew who wore earrings was Long John Silver. Time sharing to us meant togetherness and had nothing to do with computers or holiday homes. A chip meant a piece of wood, hardware was something one bought down at the hardware store, and software was not even a word in the dictionary. Instant loans was some sort of joke only understood by bank managers, and to get any credit one had to have massive assets. A multi function polis was a visiting Greek SAS police officer.

In those days "Made in Japan" meant that it was junk. Pizzas, Red Rooster and instant coffee were unheard of. Woolworths boasted that nothing was for sale over 2/6 (25 cents). You could either have an ice cream cone at three pennies or an icy pole at one penny. For the capital outlay of one penny (1 cent) one could ride in a tram, make a phone call, buy a glass of lemonade, buy a stamp to post a letter, or two stamps to post two postcards. A new car cost £250 (\$500), benzene (petrol) was nine pennies a gallon (4.1 litres). In our day grass was mowed, coke was a cool drink and pot was something one found under the bed. Aids were helpers in the head master's office. We were the last generation to believe that you needed a husband to have a baby.

No wonder there is such a generation gap today. But in spite of all this we still managed to survive and if we are still confused about sex we can always ask our children for more details."

*Contributions on aging are flowing in at the moment- more on this theme next issue. Ed.*

**Perth Tournament:** Some lateral thinking was done by the WA O/70s second side, who have managed to re-arrange our Wednesday 'A' division so that they can play in it as a team. I trust that the same facility was offered to the first team, even though that would unbalance the competition.

All news and other contributions to:

John Mercer - 'A' White (temporarily). Email: [johnmercer@inet.net.au](mailto:johnmercer@inet.net.au).