



A Blue

A Gold

A Red

A White

B Gold

B White

B Blue

C Blue

C Gold

C Red

C White

# Masters Matters

Issue No 11

November 2016

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**Dates For The Diary:**

December 10th: Saturday Hockey self catered dinner - Perry Lakes.

**December 14th: Knees versus Hips match. PHS 1 - 3:30 to 4:00 pm.**

**December 14th: WHM Christmas Party.**

June 2017: European Tour - possible 4 Countries.	} Australian 70s
August 19th to 27th 2017: European Cup - Glasgow.	} Southern Cross / Australian 75s
2017: Interstate Masters Championships - Hobart.	
2018: Masters World Cup - Madrid.	} Australia
June 20th/30th. Grand Masters World Cup - Barcelona.	} Australia and Southern Cross
2020: World Cup - possibly Japan.	} Australia and Southern Cross

**Selections For Australian Teams:** Following the Adelaide tournament national sides were selected for all age groups. The O/35s to O/65s will be heading for the Trans Tasman matches in Whangarei. The O/70s are planning a four country European tour next June, while the O/75s are off to Scotland to play at the European Championships in Glasgow from August 19th to 27th. I'm not certain if it's in the Championship or the Tournament Trophy section. Congratulations to all members of WHM who have been selected, who as best I can determine are:

O/50s: Rob Behets.

O/55s: Cam Fairbrother (coach). John Pestana (shadow).

O/60s: Steve Farrar. Shadows - Adrian Gabriel, Graham Harper.

O/65s: John Chapman.

O/70s: Simon Thomson (captain), Len Blyth, John Burt, Graham Challoner, Ken Walter, and for the first time Peter Andrews.

O/75s: Peter Gason (captain), Bill Baldwin, Graham Harler, Ian Lyon, Richard Osborne, Ron Venables, and Peter Willet. Shadow - Bill Williamson.

**State And WA Country Teams:** The last minute loss of Colin Sanders resulted in Brian Soares moving from the State O/70s to the O/75s. And I have got John Chapman wrong all year, and it seems that I left him out of the WHM players in Adelaide. After discovering him in the Australian O/65s I realised that he must have played for one of the WA teams. So I re-checked the lists on the Masters web-site and found him in the State O/60s. My apologies John, I'll try to do better in 2017.

**Department of Corrections:** John Watts' wife was called Chris in the last issue instead of Trish. Those acoustics in the Stadium bar are bad, but it appears my hearing is too. I also managed to make a real mess of John's 'Test Your Hockey Knowledge' question, and have included the correct text this time.

**Department of Health:** Colin Sanders is on his way back to health after the infection which kept him away from Adelaide, but will not play again until next year. Peter Murray had a spell in hospital after the Adelaide semi final and returned home with a newly fitted pacemaker and a replaced valve. The State O/70s were afflicted with a nasty virus and Howie Herbert came back in a sad state. At least he still had a sense of humour and amused his fellow Saturday committee members with an account of his misadventures seeking medical treatment. Ron Venables has an Achilles problem, duration and prognosis uncertain. I heard (19/10) that Colin Benporath had a scare in Adelaide too, but is OK now. Irene Simpson was back in Fiona Stanley on the 26th for more surgery. The 17 flights of stairs during the SA power cut would not have helped. Best wishes to all for a speedy and complete recovery.

**Department of Health And Safety?** Ken Walter was one who drove over to SA, & had an interesting return trip. The information which reached me was that the police licence check at Eucla insisted that he did not have a valid driver's license, and that he must not drive in WA. He was able to get one of a group of concreters on their way to Norseman to drive his car there and then had to contact Perth for help. His wife made a train and bus journey to complete the trip home. Apparently his next trick was to fall off his roof - fortunately the metal beam went first. Though Ken did land on it, and the photograph of the bruises was quite spectacular. No bones were broken and I'm told that any Saturday players hoping for a marron feed this summer can continue to hope. I hear Ken's last task at the Water Corporation was to write the health and safety regulations - but as is well known, these are only for other people. Apparently Adelaide's power blackout was not sufficiently exciting.

**Adelaide Results:** I have had an interesting time looking for these. The editorial board decided that all I could locate should be published, as it has been very difficult to find all of them.

O/35s: Queensland (2) - NSW (3).

O/40s: Queensland (0) - Victoria (2).

O/45s (1): Victoria (2) - WA (3).

O/45s (2): NSW (0) - Queensland (1).

O/50s (1): WA (2) - SA (0).

O/50s (2): NSW (1) - Queensland (1). [Shootout 2-0]

O/55s (1): WA (3) - Queensland (0).

O/55s (2): WA (1) - NSW (0).

O/60s: NSW (1) - Queensland (0).

O/65s: NSW (1) - WA (2).

O/70s: ACT (0) - Victoria (1).

O/75s: WAC / NSW (0) - WA (0). [Shootout 2-0]

**Quotable Quote Number One:** "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth all one's lifetime." *Mark Twain (1835 -1910) - from "The Innocents Abroad."* Senior hockey players seem to agree.

**Letters To The Editor:** Thank you to Neil Mannolini and John Milner, who were the sole respondents to the last issue. Perhaps everybody was too busy with Adelaide to read it. By the way Neil described himself as a "sad non able to join person of a whistling kind" which I think is a little harsh.

**Whistle While You Work - Without Neil Mannolini:** *Manno is having a month off and it is hoped will be back for the bumper Christmas edition. Some time ago I lamented the lack of a clear signal for the long corner - thanks to the John Sanders / Colin Gee / Neil Mannolini combination for this:*

“Ball out of play over the back line unintentionally by a defender: using right or left arm as appropriate, with the arm well below shoulder, draw an imaginary line from the point where the ball crossed the back-line to the point on the 23 metres line from which the restart should be taken.”

**Adelaide Umpiring:** It is pleasing to be able to report that I thought the standard was very high. The pedantry on display in Cairns was not present; all the umpires I experienced and observed controlled the games in the right spirit. The cards I saw awarded were all justified, and infrequent.

**Department of Limericks Part One:** The last time I can remember anything like the power cut we experienced in South Australia was in my infancy, when Perth had several days with no electricity. As there were no traffic lights in Perth then, and my mother was doing all her cooking on a wood stove and storing the food in an ice chest it had less impact. Adelaide's cut all kinds of services, even the water supply was affected. I only had three flights of stairs to walk down in the emergency lights in our apartment building - Ken Watt and Brian Stewart had fourteen. So:

High in an Adelaide tower

Off went the entire state's power

No hot cups of tea

Nor Foxtel TV

Even no freezing cold shower. *(My apartment had a hot water problem at the time of the power cut.*

**Well Done:** The 'A' division umpires list for September only went up to the 14th. This October list includes the 21st September: Colin Gee, Vern Gooch, Mal Jackaman, Neil Mannolini and Don Smart. Thank you all. Sausage sizzle observation identified John Lindsay and George Mullins as umpires in the 'B' division, and again the 'C' division are not known to me - but thanks to you all. The Saturday list is: Eric Alcock, Peter Brien, Dudley Burress, Ash Foster, Colin Gee, Brian Glencross, Ian Hill, Jim Malcolm, Neil Scaddan and Ken Watt. Thanks umps. And the cooks were Peter Andrews, Jim Banks (roll prep), Graham Challoner, Alan Ledger (onion chopper) and Simon Thomson at PHS on 26/10). Gordon Thomas cooked the chips on 21/09. At Perry Lakes on 29/10 the barbecue was driven by Jim Wright and Col Gee. Thanks to all October workers for WHM.

**Grumpy Old Men Part One:** “The more things change the more they remain .... insane.” *Michael Fry and T Lewis - “Over The Hedge.” This is actually a syndicated comic strip.*

**Best Player Awards in Adelaide:** After many enquiries I still have not located a web-site where these can be accessed. These are from my own knowledge and those which Ric Roberts knew - despite being on the tournament committee he could not direct me to a site either. So those I have are:

O/60s: Dennis Cranston (NSW).

O/65s: Bruce Snape (NSW).

O/70s: Gerin Hingee (ACT).

O/75s: David Webster (WAC/NSW).

**Punology One:** The Balloon family name died off when it ran out of heir.

**A' Division Blog:** The usual post-tournament flatness is upon us. Back to normal service next month.

**September 21st:** Contrary to expectations the State O/70s stayed on after their training session and played a game against a hastily assembled Blue team. They then went off to Turf Two, which caused some players from there to come up to Turf 1 thinking they were supposed to play there. After that was sorted out a couple of uneven games were played between the Blues and Whites before we all decided to run no further risk of injury and head for the bar. Next stop Adelaide.

**October 12th:** Both 'A' and 'B' divisions had just enough players for a mix and match game, though only the 'B's had goalkeepers. The 'C' division had two fully padded keepers but not enough players to do more than just have a hit around. Perhaps we need to think about not bothering to book both turfs for the first week after the interstate tournament.

**October 19th:** Numbers were improved to the point where we played the scheduled fixtures, with a few fill-ins necessary. Some of us were in need of hockey, some needed a rest after Adelaide, & one or two needed a lot more hockey after Adelaide. The standard varied, with the Blue team showing that even without Ivan Wilson they can pass the ball around. Sea gulls were in evidence in the circle (attacking) all day, with most goals coming from close range. Goal of the day has to go to Ash Foster for a 'deliberate deflection' which slowly rolled unimpeded into the corner. The three goalkeepers (Colin, Tony and Bill) all saw plenty of action, and made some fine saves. Player numbers on the day were: Blue (9), Gold (6), Red (8) and White (5). Goals scored 9.

**October 26th:** Both our numbers and our hockey continue to improve, but in both cases there is still room for more. Some players still seem to be in need of a run, while others have brought back some fine form from Adelaide. Peter Willett, Ian Lyon, Mal Horrigan and Ken Watt were amongst them, as were goalkeepers Bill, Colin and Tony who all made several excellent saves. They were aided by poor finishing by too many of us to mention. Peter Evans was also in fine touch. Stan Balding was reputed to have been one of two WA O/70s who went through the tournament without catching the virus - but suffered what appeared to be a glute injury quite early and had to stop. Turf Two looks like the summer home for 'A' division, and we look forward to the unimpeded sea breezes if and when the summer actually decides to begin. Player numbers were White (9), Red (7), Blue (8) and Gold (8). Only 5 goals were scored - all deserve a G.O.D. due to their rarity.

**Test Your Knowledge With John Sanders:** This month I'll repeat October's question and this time include all the words: These Hockeyroos made their Australia debuts for on the same day of the week. Rachel Lynch (No 419), Casey Eastham (No 420), Georgia Nanscawen (No 431), Jodie Kenny (No 449). Was it on a) Monday b) Tuesday c) Wednesday d) Thursday?

*Answer next issue.*

**Knees versus Hips:** Earlier this year (MM February and March) this match was floated as a possibility for later in the year. The time has now come for serious commitment, as the match is scheduled for Wednesday 14th December on PHS 1 at 3:30 pm. All eligible players are asked to nominate with Bob Bowyer or Simon Thomson. Contact details can be obtained from the editor if you need them.

In late news Bob's email went out on 31st October. Since then the fibre and copper lines are running hot with reactions, comments & quips. Dave Horsley offered to provide one-eyed umpiring (strongly supported by WAC team mates), Scott Blackwell offered to go on a medical panel to check the qualifications of nominees, and Peter Blockley suggested that as he did not qualify for either of the teams he might invoke Section 18.c of the Racial Discrimination Act.

WAC / NSW O/75s Gold Medalists

Photo from Ken Watt



**Winners are grinners. Congratulations to players, coaches and manager.**

**From The Saturday O/65s:** The summer season kicked off on the 22nd with two and a bit teams. It took three scoreless games before Simon Thomson and John Milner remembered how to slot them on a non turf surface. After week one the ladder reads: Blue (0), Lime (0), White (0).

# Social Membership is available for \$50, which includes the weekly nibbles, the complimentary drinks (when available), and the end of summer season function. We already have one member.

# The committee intends to provide nibbles and complimentary drinks throughout summer on the last Saturday of each month. Many thanks to Ash Foster for his generous contribution towards this. Social members are included as part of their membership. For other days the nibbles provision will be rostered around with two players sharing the duty each week.

# A reminder that the drinks prices are: all beers \$3, all soft drinks \$2.

# Another reminder seems to be necessary about umpiring decisions. Could I suggest that it is not necessary to call a committee meeting if you don't like a decision. Just accept it, and get on with it. Yes, umpires do make mistakes - so do the players (and we make many more).

# On the 22nd it was very noticeable that Ian Hill was using motorised transport to get around Perry Lakes. The motor cycle became a drinks vehicle at times. He was also quoted (having just spent time in Ethiopia) that it was safer there than in Adelaide. Perhaps the power supply was more reliable.

# As I hope you realised, there were some problems with the drinks on 22/10. Due to the illness of the bar manager we had intended to use the supply transferred to us from YM. Our store room key did not open the door, and a hasty dash was made by George for more supplies. Hence the lack of variety & difficulty of access in the eskies. See Comedy of Errors on page 10; Limerick 3 on page 12.

**Adelaide Impressions:** *As has become customary for these events my personal opinions from within one of the O/70 sides follow. Gordon Jeffrey has a viewpoint from the O/65s in his piece, while the web-site [www.wavets.org](http://www.wavets.org) now provides a link to separate Facebook pages for all WA State teams.*

**Trip Over:** The pre-flight announcements now include cautions against using Samsung S7 phones. It was a nice change to reach Adelaide in 2 hours 20 minutes. I then collected a hire car without a long wait in a queue and managed to drive directly to my accommodation without getting lost.

**Accommodation:** The CBD proved to be an excellent place to stay. Not only was there good access to any kind of restaurant desired, but it was very easy (on most days) to get out to the grounds at both Gepps Cross and Port Adelaide. WA Country had booked apartments in the Istay precinct, and it was possibly the best accommodation I have ever had at a tournament. *(A personal apartment)*

**Grounds:** Both venues had good playing surfaces and facilities. It should have been a really enjoyable tournament but the weather was totally without precedent. That's not just my personal opinion, but that of players who have been attending tournaments since the 1980s.

**Weather:** We did play in some fairly bad conditions, but several matches (about 20) were called off - quite correctly in my view. At our age it should not be obligatory to play in thunderstorms, gales and torrential rain. I hope everybody was back under cover before the power went out on the 28th & we all managed some kind of an evening meal. Mine was sandwiches (tinned tuna) and an apple.

**Sign of the Times:** On an Adelaide CBD restaurant: "Closed due to shortage of electricity."

**Gala Dinner:** Had some good moments, and some not so good moments. The 6 piece band playing at full volume rendered conversation impossible at the start of the evening. But guest speaker Stephen Bradbury (winter Olympics gold medal winner) was very entertaining, as were comedy singing group 'The Three Waiters.' The music included Mozart, Verdi, Bizet, Puccini and Engelbert Humperdinck, all performed karaoke style. The weather was so bad we travelled the short distance back home by cab.

**WA Country Dinner:** This was held on the night following the gala dinner at the Cruising Yacht Club of South Australia, and as seems to be usual, was a great night. Lynn Dunnet's awards this year were limited to the 'Princess Award' and the 'Balls Up' award. The first needs no further explanation, but the second went to the WAC O/35s, for neglecting to inform the medics that their game had been cancelled. Apparently being the only people present at a darkened stadium on what was a very dark and stormy night can be rather hair-raising.

**Southern Cross AGM:** A quick AGM is usually an indication that an organisation is running well, and this one was no exception. Masters Matters has been able to keep you in touch with forthcoming tournaments. Nominations for Glasgow closed on October 31st and the teams are due to be made public on November 14th. The executive will start preparations for Barcelona as early as possible.

**Culture:** The WA Country O/70s may have only scored one goal, but we claimed a gold medal for the most cultured team present. The Musica Viva concert on October 5th and the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra on the 7th were attended by 10 & 12 of our players and spouses. This demonstrated one more benefit of staying in the CBD, as the Adelaide Town Hall was within easy walking distance.

**Full House:** On one of these nights George Bradbury went to park the vehicle while Mary joined the rest of the party in the restaurant. The car park allowed him to take a ticket and enter, when he was confronted by a "Car Park Full" sign - not placed in a very helpful position.

**Dear Editor:** Those of us who took advantage of the free "Adelaide Advertiser" where we stayed had a small surprise on discovering a 'Letter to the Editor' from Kenneth Beer of City Beach. Some expert comments on the power outage were included, as well as a plug for the hockey tournament.

**Restaurants:** The quality of the food and service was consistently good. Special mentions go to the Passatempo Cafe and Restaurant on Gouger St, the Nu Thai restaurant on Monmouth St, & Boomers on the Beach at Glenelg, which not only delivered a fine lunch of fish (garfish), chips, and salad but also offered a tea pot of Twinings Irish Breakfast with raw sugar (just like home for me).

**Tournament Tours:** My team managed a trip through the Adelaide hills, including a very good lunch at Hahndorf. We also went to the south coast, with another decent lunch at Victor Harbour before almost being blown away on the crossing to Granite Island.

/8

WA Wins: It was pointed out to me that in the O70s all the medals went to West Australian keepers. Well done to Graeme Samson (Gold), Col Benporath (Silver) and John Burt (Bronze). Also the O/75s grand final resulted in medals to Bill Baldwin (Gold) and Barry Rutter (Silver).

Post Tournament Tours: I had booked a two day tour of Kangaroo Island after the tournament, and duly turned up at the Adelaide Central Bus Station at 6:15 am to be bussed to the ferry. At the Cape Jervis terminal we were given the bad news that all ferries had been cancelled for the day due to the weather. I met Len Blyth (WA 70s) and Keith Millar (ACT 65s and team mate in The Hague) who both had a car in the queue. We then were given a bus ride back to Adelaide and I looked for a room.

Franklin Apartments: This was where I had reserved a room for the next night, and they were able to admit me one night early; I was very happy with all aspects of the accommodation. However a tram trio to Glenelg Beach did not quite match the sights of Kangaroo Island. The wind was still blowing at gale force, and I had grave doubts whether the ferries would be sailing that day either.

Adelaide Weather: I have not seen the weather have such an impact on a tournament. To illustrate, I had ordered two after match drinks (light beer of course, as befits a responsible driver). Post-match hospitality was so limited due to the weather that I got two drinks - for the entire tournament. The rumour was that this was the result of our manager attempting budget repair for the team bus but we all decided that this was totally without foundation. Bus repair maybe, but that's another story, and what goes on tour stays on tour. Except for Roger Partington, who came home early for a grand final featuring one of his grand-daughters.

Verdict: Congratulations go to all involved with the organisation and conduct of the tournament. The elements did not co-operate at all, and to produce an enjoyable experience under the circumstances deserves great credit. I was part of a most congenial team who had a very good time, despite results. I would also have to say that Adelaide is a great place to have a very good time.

Department Of Limericks Part Two: My Kangaroo Island tour cancellation produced this:

We departed for Kangaroo Isle

And bussed to the Cape in great style (*that's Cape Jervis*)

But in a full gale

The ferries can't sail

And that day the weather was vile.

*And many other days too. I am happy to report Viator Tours gave me a full refund without ado. Ed.*

Grumpy Old Men 2: "Bore: one who has the power of speech but not the capacity for conversation." Benjamin Disraeli (1804 - 1881). An alternative definition from Ambrose Bierce's "Devil's Dictionary" reads: "Bore; a person who talks when you desire him to listen."

Dummy Spit Of The Month: There might have been several contenders this month. These could include all those caught up in the SA power disaster who had to tackle lots of stairs. It also could include a lot of thirsty Perry Lakes players, but thanks to some fine improvisation by the Committee did not. Thanks for the patience and tolerance shown by all in both these events, so the DS trophy will be held over until next month.

Shakespeare Said It: "Tempests themselves, high seas, and howling winds....." Othello Act II Scene I. *A very accurate weather forecast for the tournament, and my cancelled Kangaroo Island trip.*

"Such sheets of fire, such bursts of horrid thunder, such groans of roaring wind and rain I never remember to have heard." King Lear Act III Scene II. *And an accurate description of the tournament weather which caused mass match cancellations.*



**The French letter No 24:**

Well, I guess you are all back home and resting those aching legs. Some good results and I was impressed with the performance of NSW/WA Country – I figure such a combined team would never have occurred a few years ago so it's refreshing to see that common sense dictates that there are vets who want to get out there and play hockey at the interstate level and that they should be able to do so.

Our vegie garden finished off the season in fine style, with bumper crops of tomatoes and beans – we had to buy an additional freezer to cope – and some magnificent ten kilo pumpkins. See picture below...



Today I am going out to buy a big order of timber to make some modifications (jigs really) to the table saw in my workshop. I am going to remove the metal legs of the table saw and build a timber stand which will contain a dust collection bin and a storage area for saw accessories. I will also build a sliding table that will make it easier and safer to cross-cut wide boards or sheets. I hope to finish those two projects before the weather gets too cold. One day last winter the temperature in my

workshop actually reached 0 degrees. My woodworking activities help keep me sane amidst the continuing chores involved in maintaining the property.

Last week the local commune held the annual seniors lunch. Everyone over 65 is invited and it is quite some event. It starts at midday and we got back home at 6.30pm. We started with “aperitifs” - scotch or white wine and finger food. Then we sat down at long tables and enjoyed an entree of grilled fish with a delicious sauce and accompanied by a sauvignon blanc. Then we had a sorbet to refresh the palate. The main course followed – roast veal and chargrilled vegetables, washed down with a cabernet merlot. Then followed a -”true Normand” - a glass of sorbet drowned in calvados. Then came the cheeses with more red wine and finally (almost) a delicious dessert served with champagne. To complete the feast there was coffee served with a “digestif” - Calvados again. Needless to say there was no dinner served in our household that evening.

Ian Purdie. *Good to hear from you again Purds. Good luck for the European winter. Ed.*

**No Balinese Bulletin This Month:** Peter writes: “. can I have a little more time on the bench. I will return, if allowed, when something happens .... Please pass on my best wishes to all.” *More bench time is a most unusual request for a hockey player. Ed.*

**Quotable Quote No Two:** “The most incomprehensible thing about the world is that it is at all comprehensible.” *Albert Einstein (1879 - 1955).*

**Punology Two:** To expectorate is bad grammar because it is a spit infinitive.

**Poets Corner:** Our recent misadventures at Perry Lakes prompted Jim Wright to request his better half for a verse saga, as nothing less can describe our trials and tribulations. Good wine apparently helps in production. One of Jim's emails was headed "Saturday ... ..and no one noticed."

**Comedy of Errors** (with apologies to William Shakespeare)

The first week of summer we do our own drinks  
That's all too easy, everyone thinks  
Jim has the key for the clubhouse door  
Bob missed the email about the key to the store.

John and Jim have some beer, ice and food  
But the drinks in the storeroom are needed too  
George was despatched to the nearest outlet  
Saved the day .... it was never doubted.

John picked up a store room key  
Jim said "Leave the clubhouse key with me."  
Safely under the bed with the drawer of cash  
Week Two at the club house, keys still with the stash.

Jim phoned home with a most urgent plea  
"Could you please deliver the key?  
It's just 40 minutes from there to here  
Can you please be a dear?"

But it's not a problem, Les has a key  
"Sorry guys, it isn't with me  
I lent it to someone, can't remember who  
Does anyone know what we can do?"

Bob arrives with sausages in a frozen pack  
Someone else to cop some flak  
Makes many phone calls about the missing key  
Then checks his bag ... oh, it was me.

Now we just need George with a bottle of gas  
Arrives empty handed, he was back in a flash  
Didn't check his diary but no need to run  
Into the shed, we can borrow one.

Howie's virus kept him away on the day  
Lucky not to join the fray  
John had the store room under control  
The rest felt they had scored an own goal.

The games are over, the meat has been cooked  
Next week's nibbles have been booked  
We all enjoyed the food and beer  
The 'afters' can only improve from here.

*Thanks Beth; it may have started as 'The Comedy of Errors' but finished "All's Well That Ends Well."*

**'B' Division Report - October:**

**Disclaimer:** This article concentrates on the Australian National Masters Hockey Championships held in Adelaide during September and October as the writer trudged across the Nullarbor in his trusty wagon and caravan defying the best storm and tempest that Adelaide have put on for the last 50 years to play hockey along with 1700 other Veteran and Masters players, and he won't be returning until November.

**Injuries:** Roger Davey has a broken / fractured bone in his leg as a result of hockey (or so I am told) and missed the last 3 games. Ian Brown and Bruce Goetze suffered muscle stretches missing 2-3 games each, Mike Robinson continues to suffer Achilles and calf muscle soreness but continued to play. Others could not explain their form by referring to injuries.

**Visitors:** We all visited Adelaide.

**Life's Lingerin Moments:**

1. Stupidity is far more fascinating than intelligence, after all intelligence has its limits.

2. Male prayer: Dear God - You gave me childhood, you took it away.

You gave me youth, you took it away.

You gave me a wife ... it's been years now, just reminding you!!

3. An elderly couple were at home watching TV. Ian had the remote and was switching between the fishing channel, a hockey match and a porn show. His wife Jill, became more and more annoyed by this and finally said; "For God's sake Ian, leave it on the porn channel as you know how to fish and play hockey."

**This Month's Hockey:** Adelaide made every effort to put on a tremendous National Masters Hockey championship, but was not helped by the once in 50 year spring storm which dumped large amounts of rain and heavy winds that saw all of SA in the dark with no power. As a result all of the hockey to be played on that morning was cancelled and a draw was awarded to teams affected. The rest of the tournament was played in wintery type conditions that fined up on the last two days. S.A. Masters should be proud of their efforts given the conditions.

Congratulations to the WA 65s team who came home bearing gold medals. WA 65s had not had a brilliant carnival but had beaten most teams on the way to the final against NSW. NSW had beaten WA in the round robin 5-0 and were the tournament favourites. Alan Ledger (C) had scored 6 of the 10 goals scored to that stage and was the mainstay in attack. I saw Len Collier set up 2 goals with thoughtful stick work in the last qualifying game that dished the Vics out of the finals & settled WA in 2nd place. Bill Campbell had a brilliant tournament at left half, helped by Morgan and Pestana across the back and Huddo and Ian Kealley at full back.

WA beat Queensland (2-1) in a solid semi final and NSW easily beat SA (4-0). The grand final was a vigorous affair. NSW were out of the blocks early, controlled much of the first half and scored first. Although defending stoutly WA was not looking dangerous in attack. Morgs was being well covered at centre half, denying the forwards any free movement. Huddo was masterful at full back giving plenty of voice to ensure players were not left free and ably defending when required to do so & Pesty was moving better than I have seen for some time. It was the old Kiwi master Dudley Evans who broke the back of NSW with 2 fine goals from the left inner position. NSW plugged on for the last 20 minutes but were unable to penetrate the rock solid defence and counter attacking from the WA team with WA running out winners 2-1 on the final siren. Congratulations to the coach Jim Banks who put in a lot of effort and time understanding the opposition, looking at changes and looking at ways to win the tournament. Well done Jim (*And so say all of us - Ed.*). WA Country 65s containing 6 metro Wed and grass players was not so successful and ended up 7th. Our biggest effort was playing WA back into form after their 5-0 thrashing by NSW. Bob Le Merle had a great carnival and Mike Robinson played very well despite issues with his Achilles. /12

The WA 60s team underperformed in the tournament, finishing fourth. Given the strength of their forward line this was a surprise although I was told they hit the post on more than 8 occasions during the tournament. Steve Farrar was the top scorer with 6 goals out of the 15 scored. They lost the semi final (2-0 to NSW) and then lost the bronze medal playoff (2-0 to Vic) to complete the championships in 4th position. WA Country 60s were well defeated in most games and ended in 10th position despite drawing their last game in the playoffs.

The unluckiest player of the tournament has to be Mike Jenkins (Westside Wolves & WAC). Mike and family drove to Hahndorf to have a look at the historic village on a free day, at there for half an hour and were unable to leave the car because of rain. He then revisited the town because of the washout only to find it still not reconnected to the power. Having spent 30 minutes visiting shops not open or not operating he packed up and left. On the second last day of the tournament Mike was driving his car back to his hotel after the defeat by WA 65s and was cleaned up by an emergency vehicle at Gepps Cross, writing off his hire car and causing major traffic holdups as reported on SA news that night. The good news was that no one else was in the car, Mike was not injured apart from bruising, was able to play in the final day's hockey and the hire car company replaced his vehicle very quickly. *(I heard about the accident, but did not hear it was one of us. Ed.)*

Gordon Jeffrey *(Thanks again Gordon. Have a safe trip back)*

**Past & Temporarily Retired Players:** Since returning from Adelaide I've noted Col Gee, Jeff Godfrey, Brian Lester, John Sanders and George Winning at the Stadium and Eric Alcock at Perry Lakes.

**Department of Limericks Part Three:** *The reason for our Perry Lakes drinks difficulties was that the YM rooms had been the target of two break-ins. The first one resulted in the store room door being written off, but no drinks were taken from the ransacked room. The second merely marked the new door without gaining entry. We arrived on the 22nd with an old key, which naturally did not fit the new door lock. As we had planned to use the store room stock .....*

Our key will not open the door

We can't get the beers from the store!

What will players think?

No post-hockey drink

So George had to go and buy more.

*We have a very resourceful committee. Well done to George and Jim for averting a dry Saturday.*

**Editorial:** The post-tournament period usually provides difficulties in fielding teams, and this one has been no exception. At the start time of the first match we often struggle to field 2 'A' division teams. All the later arrivals (after 1:30) do not generally warm up at all, which also applies to those players who arrive at 1:25 for a 1:30 start. If possible, could all players arrive in sufficient time for a proper warm-up. Not only will this help to prevent injury, it will also raise the standard of the hockey.

The same applies to Perry Lakes on Saturdays, with the added point that the team selections are done before we start playing. Please do the rostered selectors the courtesy of arriving at least 15 minutes before play is due to start.

**Masters Matters Schedule:** Next issue is our Christmas bumper edition. Is anybody able to give me a brief overview of the 'C' division year. And there is no hockey on December 21st & 28th.

All news and other contributions to:

John Mercer - 'A' Division White team. Email: [johnmercer@iinet.net.au](mailto:johnmercer@iinet.net.au).