



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 2

February 2017

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Dates For The Diary:

2017 February 22nd: Sausage sizzle at PHS.

March 4th: Barbecue Perry Lakes.

April 1st: Saturday Hockey dinner and AGM. Herdsman's Hotel.

May 2nd to 6th: Trans Tasman - Whangarei. } Australian 35s to 65s.

June: European Tour - possible 4 Countries. } Australian 70s

August 19th to 27th: European Cup - Glasgow. } Southern Cross / Australian 75s

September 23rd to October 7th: 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

International Tourists 2017: There will be several members of WHM who are playing overseas this year. Australian sides from the O/35s to the O/65s are travelling to Whangarei for the Trans Tasman Trophy. The O/70s are off to Europe and the O/75s are going to the European Cup in Glasgow. The relevant days are included in Dates for the Diary. And several of our Wednesday players have gained selection in the Southern Cross sides for Glasgow. WHM jet setters are:

Australia:

O/50s: Rob Behets, Peter Connolly.

O/55s: Tony Jones (c).

O/60s: Steve Farrar.

O/65s: John Chapman.

O/70s: Simon Thomson (c), Len Blyth, John Burt, Graham Challenor, Ken Walter, Peter Andrews.

O/75s: Peter Gason (c), Bill Baldwin, Graham Harler, Ian Lyon, Richard Osborne, Ron Venables, Peter Willett.

Southern Cross:

O/65s Blue: Dudley Evans (c), Ash Challenor, Peter Fogels, Mike Robinson, Wendy Looi (manager).

O/65s Red: Roger Davey, Gordon Jeffery, Dave Mellor, Graham Wood (coach).

O/70s: Peter Andrews, Scott Blackwell, Peter Hearne, Peter Murray.

O/75s: Dave Horsley (c), Peter Blockley, Neil Patterson, John Ree, Bob Stidwell.

WHM Gear: Newer players may not be aware that walk-out shirts and soft-peak caps are available. The shirt usually can be seen in the Stadium bar (only once on George Winning) and the gold caps on the turfs. Uniform officer Robin Bailey is contemplating another shirt order, so if you would like one contact him and give him your order and size. He has caps in stock now.

Department of Health: Following their second place in the Inaugural Orthopaedic Challenge the Knees are gaining more possible recruits. Alan Osborne has finally had his replacement on January 25th, while Ross Easton's is due during February. Stan Balding needs a medical clearance before he resumes playing and hopes that it will be soon. John Halley confirmed his retirement from hockey - we hope you can join us at a post hockey drink (PHS or Perry Lakes) occasionally. Graham Harler has made a welcome return after a bout of 'hand, foot & mouth disease.' John Milner has been plagued by a few soft tissue injuries; the physios retirement fund strikes again. In comeback news Eric Alcock has at the time of writing played three times already, and will be back to match fitness very quickly at this rate. I do not know more, so to those mentioned and those not mentioned we extend our best wishes from us all for your recovery.

Whistle While You Work - Without Neil Mannolini: The Saturday group has initiated a discussion on several hockey rules, as opinions vary on quite a few of them. For those who want their own copy of the Rule Book they can be purchased from Sue Cook in the Hockey WA office. Or you can access the full online version starting from the Hockey WA website www.hockeywa.org. The pop-up menu under the 'Officials' includes access to the rules as the last item. It is possible to reach the Hockey WA site from the Wednesday News and Fixtures in just two clicks via the WA Vets site.

Department of Corrections: The 'A' division team movements in the last issue omitted to mention that Bill Williamson has shifted into the Red team. Hopefully he will be back to join them soon.

The correct details for the WHM bank account for fees are:

BSB: 036-004 Account number: 111511.

We Stuffed Up Badly: Many thanks to Mike Gottschalk for picking up the error in the bank account number perpetrated in the last issue. I hope that none of you were inconvenienced or out of pocket as a result. The number in question was checked from my own statement, and then entered wrongly in haste. The 'Masters Matters' staff needed to be counselled - yet again.

It's what we 'reporters' all dread

The slip that will cost us our cred

We hope no one paid

For the error we made

It seems that more brain cells have fled.

Letters To The Editor: The size of the January edition seems to have deterred a few readers. Thanks to Mark Faithfull, Derek Jobe and John Milner for their feedback - as well as to Mike Gottschalk for a much higher standard of proof reading than the present MM incumbent.

Quotable Quote One: "We believe that if men have the talent to invent machines that put men out of work, they have the talent to put those men back to work." *John F. Kennedy (1917 -1963).*

Letters To The Editor (Part Two): Readers of The West Australian on Saturday 28th will have noticed a cogent and critical analysis of our State's finances. Bob Bowyer provided a public demonstration of his qualifications to be Secretary (WHM) and Treasurer (Saturday hockey) with a letter to a real Ed.

Heat Policy: A Google search by 'Masters Matters' found a document entitled "Hockey WA Extreme Weather Policy." The definitions of extreme weather are:

Ambient temperature: Greater than 36° Celsius.

Wet bulb globe temperature (shade): Greater than 30° Celsius.

Apparent temperature (wind chill): Less than 2° Celsius.

Wind speed: Greater than 40km per hour.

Rainfall: More than 80mm within 24 hours.

In any of these conditions it is strongly recommended that play is postponed or cancelled. *I had hoped to provide you with directions for finding the document from the Hockey WA web-site, but cannot make the connection. The best I can suggest is a search on "Hockey WA Heat Policy."*

The policy for Wednesdays and Saturdays was included in the March 2016 MM and reads: Our aim is to make sure that no member of WHM feels obligated to play on a day when the weather is in a potentially dangerous state.

- 1) We will not play regular fixtures when the forecast maximum temperature is more than 37° in the forecast issued at 9:00 am the day before the games.
- 2) Any player who wants to have a game after the cancellation of the regular fixtures must understand that he is playing entirely at his own risk.
- 3) At any time, any player who feels that the temperature is too hot for play, especially goal-keepers, is not obligated to take part.

Weather Against Us? Has anybody else noticed a consistent pattern in the summer temperatures so far in 2017? Wednesdays and Saturdays are usually those with the highest readings.

The days of the week which are hot
Are those that we'd rather were not
The Perth summer sun
Can be not much fun

Do you think it's a Communist plot?

Though as this is written Wednesday and Saturday will be 37° and Thursday 39°. Hot enough for you? In answer to the question above, Gordon Jeffery has covered the issue too, independently.

Welcome to New Players: There seem to be a lot of new players joining us recently, but looking at the 'C' division from the vantage point of the bar it appears that most teams are getting adequate numbers who are playing in the correct team shirt. Best wishes to Rob Tincey, Kevin Dempster, Martin Hickey, Gurmeet Singh, Peter Jones and John Heath. Frank Williams has not been playing for some time now, but has now re-enrolled - welcome back.

Grumpy Old Men (and Women) Part One: "The cure for boredom is curiosity. There is no cure for curiosity." *Attributed to Dorothy Parker (1893 - 1967).*

Dummy Spit Of The Month: This has to go to all the ex age pensioners who reacted so badly after the 'reforms' came into force. Don't they know that Ministers have to get to polo matches?

Punology 1: Did you hear about the bloke who'd decided against having a brain transplant. Then he changed his mind.

A' Division Blog: Ian Purdie's piece is entitled the cold edition. This one is the hot edition.

January 4th: It was 42° at Perth Airport when I decided to stay at home. At that time it was only 31° at Swanbourne. Another day fit only for insane canines & Poms, though according to the grapevine WHM contains enough members in these categories for hockey to have occurred at PHS.

January 11th: Some semblance of normality returned to the weather (only 37° at Perth Airport) and the 2017 year officially started a week late. Four umpires (Vern, Neil, Woody and an injured Dave Horsley) plus four goalkeepers (Colin, John, Tony and Barry) plus reasonable player numbers meant that we all could have an occasional rest. Comebacks were made by Scott Blackwell, Ham D'Souza, Barry Rutter (after a long absence) and Marty Greay (after an even longer absence - welcome back!) - all appeared to have been successful. On a day of even play games were decided by lucky goals gained with the assistance of defences and an occasional touch of class, like Ham D'Souza's goal of the day - a reverse stick rocket into the far corner. Most of the finishing indicated that it had been four weeks since we played and some sitters were missed, particularly in the Gold attacking circle. Bob Maley was the super sub, scoring within the first minute of going on after his delayed arrival. Jim Banks grasped the opportunity to take a penalty stroke with alacrity, and later added a second to follow on from his orthopaedic match scoring feats. Ham D'Souza scored a hat trick. Jim Balding and Phil Metcalf were welcomed to 'A' division.

We will know more about how the teams will measure up against one another after some of the missing players return. On the first day White and Red (three draws) were undefeated, while Gold are still adjusting to their new line-up. We improved a little on our sportsmanship, but not in our attitude to umpires. Player numbers: Blue (10), Gold (10), White (9 + Marty) and Red (9). The bar attendance did not match these numbers. Goals scored 12.

January 18th: For the first time since January 13th 2016 (with the exception of the Adelaide lead-up period) there was no need for any team to recruit fill in players. Our overall goal scoring has not improved though both Peter Dennis (2) and Ham D'Souza produced goal of the day contenders. Both White and Blue won twice. When they played one another Blue's passing game went awry, but White were unable to convert their glut of possession into goals. Terry Gaston set a great example to us all in this match by passing the ball straight back to the opposition after incorrectly being awarded a free hit - more from all of us please! Goalkeepers Barry, Colin and Tony all played well. Tony in particular has been in fine form since the Adelaide tournament. We welcome a new player in Peter Jones who was mentioned in the Knees / Hips day program. Although under age he's just back into hockey after a very long absence, and also has two knee replacements to deal with. Graham Harler returned after a break (see Department of Health) and Bill Williamson came back for his first run since Adelaide. Unfortunately he copped an accidental stick in the face in his second match and may have needed a stitch in the lip. Actual player numbers were (after Blue lent Jim Malcolm to Red for the day) Red (11), White (11), Gold (11) and Blue (11). Only 7 goals were scored.

There was a late entry for goal of the day. From the bar it has been apparent that Steve Farrar is now playing the high forward role in the 'C' division White team with skill and intelligence. His trap and scoop over Marcus Frayne was applauded in the bar, and by the visiting Chinese women's team.

January 25th: Maximum temperatures reached 39.4° at 2:38 pm (BOM Mt Lawley site) and at 3:00 pm Perth Airport recorded 39.9°. Despite this, we nearly had enough players to fill the usual four teams. Goalkeepers Barry and Colin arrived with their gear, but went home early without putting it on, while all others in the GK 'A' division roster were unavailable. Bob Robinson's reason for his non-arrival was that his wife was too busy to attend his funeral next week.

We managed to play a few games as there were about three teams. On view were a variety of skills, shirts and umpires. Phil Metcalf and Ken Walter both got on the (non-existent) score sheet repeatedly, and both demonstrated that they can pass a ball. Though one of Phil's passes to Kenny looked very like a shot. Jim Banks departed early, having suffered what was said to be a recurrence of his old injury - hopefully a more rapid recovery is possible this time.

Player numbers were approximately 8 per side with Gold having 9. Goals scored - lots.

Inaugural Orthopaedic Trophy

Photo John Mercer



Undertaker - heavily disguised as Barry Rutter. His professional services were not required

Saturday O/65s: 2017 started on the 7th with numbers for four teams, possibly due to the previous Wednesday being too hot for play. These numbers might cause difficulties for team selection and fixturing if they occur on a regular basis. Using two fields would greatly increase our costs for usage, mowing and marking and require four or more goalkeepers and umpires every week.

John Milner keeps on getting goals - another deflection on the 7th. His method is not complicated on the surface - he just turns up in the right place at the right time. Not as easy as it sounds.

A vote on the preferred starting time was taken on the 7th & 2:00 pm won overwhelmingly. Now it really would be helpful if all players could make sure they arrive by 1:30 pm. This will enable the selectors to pick even teams without having to make repeated last minute adjustments. When your own turn comes I'm sure you will appreciate this point. As a bonus you will have time for a proper warm up, and the bar staff can put more drinks on ice if they think the numbers warrant it.

Thanks to Jim Wright (chief organiser) and Ash Foster (financier) for a good pizza feed on the 28th. Thanks also to the Committee for the drinks, and to Jim and Les for help on the bar.

The Perry Lakes beverages of choice seem to have changed this year. Hence:

It appears that we're drinking less booze
 And that should be big headline news
 Some now get their cheer
 From cold ginger beer
 For many it's light that they choose.

The French Letter No 27: (Cold Edition)

As you may well deduce from the revised title the weather has been the main focus here. France, and indeed a large part of Europe, has been in the grip of a horrendous cold spell. Fifteen days straight at our house and the temperature has been below freezing mostly around -3 ranging up to +3 in the afternoon. We have escaped any snow at this point although other areas have copped that as well. The ground outside is frozen solid down to about four inches.

Of course to accompany this both Joelle and I have had the grippe (flu). We have been pretty sick and very glad we had been vaccinated or it may have been a lot worse.

Changing tack - one of the sports I have followed closely in recent times has been handball. The French national team has a magnificent record – five world championships, three European titles, two Olympic golds and currently participating in another world championship. It got me thinking – I haven't heard of an Aussie team but it seems to me it would be a sport ideally suited to the Australian physique, temperament and skill sets. I think it's a great spectator sport!

Best wishes and good hockey

Ian Purdie. *I remember handball from several Olympic Games telecasts. Ed.*

Test Your Knowledge With John Sanders: We received no answers to the last question, and have no new ones to pose. All the sport on TV has been extremely distracting. The last question we printed in both December and January was: One of these players made their Australian debut in 1997. Was it?
a) 293 Bodimeade Lee Qld fwd. b) 290 Carruthers Stuart Vic def. c) 318 Choppy Baeden Qld fwd.
d) 321 Commens Adam NSW mid. e) Corbitt Greg WA fwd. f) 288 Davies Stephen NSW fwd.
The answer is d) Adam Commens. Rusty Phillips has had a medical issue or two to deal with, and then went travelling to New Zealand. We'll work to revive this segment for future issues.

Balinese Bulletin No 20:**Visitors to Bali.**

We were recently happy to have Ross Evans & his Wife Euhni visit us for some 11 days. Ross is a Non-Hockey Friend of some 45 years & is largely responsible for us living here in Bali ...but that is another story for another time. Shortly after Ross & Euhni returned to Perth my younger Son, Blake, came to Bali for the first time. His Partner & her Mother have a house in Sanur & come to Bali frequently. Renee, Blake's Partner is confined to a wheel chair & has been for a number of years. We visited them in Sanur, enjoyed lunch with them & then returned to our home in Umalas together with Blake for the evening. Not having seen Blake for 3-4 years it was terrific to have him with us for a mini visit. Like the saying goes ..."I..he will return".

View from the corner.

Turn left out of our Gang (Lane) into the street that takes me to the local shops & my local "watering hole" & some 2-3 min later I find myself at a crossroad. Standing at this point & looking north over a large open field where a number of cows graze there are 4 volcanic peaks far in the distance. It makes for a great view ...the problem is that after having lived in our new house for around 7 months I have seen these same peaks probably no more than 4 -5 times ...the rest of time they are completely covered in cloud ...pity!!

Taxis.

This is a tip to those of you down there that plan to visit this part of the world. The new Bali airport, opened early in 2014, is home to what we call the "Cowboy Taxi Drivers" because of a "financial arrangement" with the Airport Authorities the most reliable taxi service here in Bali, Bluebird Taxis, are not allowed to operate from the airport. Instead a "team" of Cowboy Independent Drivers prey on the unsuspecting tourist & offer their services at outrageous prices. So, if planning a visit to our shores, please avail yourselves of the Hotel/Villa pick up service or try & contact a reliable independent taxi tourist group (not those entrenched at the airport). If in doubt contact me, I'm sure I can sort something out for you.

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Balinese Bulletin No 20: (continued)**Café/Bar?**

It has been said that if you are contemplating spending part of your retirement years here in Bali with a **Little** money in the bankcome to Bali with a **Lot** of money in the bank & open a Café, Bar or small restaurant. Believe me, it seems to work, over & over again. We have lost track of the number of Cafes/Restaurants that close down after only a short time. There are so many eating places here already the last thing Bali needs is another one!!!

Pagerwesi Day ..Jan. 25th.

Today we have another public/bank holiday here in Bali. Putu and family have been to visit us and bring offerings and replenish the little "mini" wall mounted hindu offering stand we have at the house. Flowers and incense are replaced every day, just much more today. Pagerwesi is the day when the Balinese **strengthen their minds and souls** against evil forces. Pagerwesi is also called "rerainan gumi" by the Balinese and means the holiday for everyone from every background (read: caste) from the families of priests to the common families. Pagerwesi is celebrated every 210 days on Wednesday of Shinta (the first week in the Balinese Pawukon calendar system).

Etymologically Pagerwesi derives from the two Balinese words *pager* and *wesi*, which means *fence* and *iron*. The iron fence is a symbol of strong self-protection and on pagerwesi the Balinese focuses on building a strong personal fortification to ensure that evil don't enter their minds, speech and deeds, so won't do harm their surroundings.

The God who is worshipped on Pagerwesi is *Sanghyang Paramesti Guru* or *God Siva* - the god who is responsible to wipe out all the bad and evil entities in the world. Also known as teacher or guru of the universe, Sanghyang Paramesti Guru, also leads and teaches human on how to live their life appropriately, without giving in to bad behavior and evil desires.

In many regions in Bali, Pagerwesi is considered to be a really important holiday which is celebrated excessively in a similar fashion to Galungan Day, including erections of *penjors* (tall decorated bamboo poles) The Balinese show their gratitude to Sanghyang Paramesti Guru by making offerings, praying in their houses and visiting temples.

Thanks Peter. I last saw Bali in 1979 (before Kuta night clubs) and am sure I would not know it now. I still remember the day when the "clouds" turned into mountains as the real clouds lifted. Ed.

Wine Winners 2016: Despite zero enquiries about why this information was not in the January issue (it already had 14 pages) I am including it here. Random chance has delivered a much better spread of winners than previous years, as nobody won more than five times. These figures are the result of a rapid manual calculation on the back of an envelope rather the output of a super computer like the Centrelink debt letters, but I'm happy to stand by them.

5 time winners: Harvey Davies, Bill Campbell, Neil Patterson, Phil Hewton, John Mercer, Peter Gason, George Bradbury.

4 time winners: Brian Soares, Colin Sanders, Graeme Samson, Ian Lyon, Les Waldon, Jason de Wynd, Jim Campbell, Ivan Wilson.

3 time winners: Vern Gooch, Bill Williamson, Bob Robinson, Paul Robinson, John Jeffries, Ham D'Souza, Jeff Kozak, Graham Challoner.

Thank you to all the ticket buyers, who provide the funds for our annual donations. Let's keep going.

Past Players & Non Players: The notebook malfunctioned at PHS during January and the only people in this category it managed to record were Jeff Godfrey, Brian Lester, John Sanders, Gordon Thomas (who now lives in the Philippines?) and George Winning . Eric Alcock, John Halley and Bob Stidwell were at Perry Lakes on the 7th, but by the end of the month Eric was back as a player.

'B' Division Report - January:

INJURIES: Roger Davey returned to the fold, after suffering a break in a leg bone at the Nationals in Adelaide. Greg Allen is giving his knee another run to see how they stand up to the pressure of playing, whilst Terry Parker continues with knee problems and is expected to be missing for some time. For the Sat players Alan Osborne from Westside Wolves has finally had a knee replacement operation last Wed, hope all goes well. Peter Sinclair has continuing knee problems whilst Shane Williams has an ongoing sore achilles.

VISITORS: It was good to see Bruce Porter from Melville down for a game.

LIFES LINGERING MOMENTS:

Paddy phones an ambulance because his mate's been hit by a car.

Paddy: 'Get an ambulance here quick, he's bleeding from his nose and ears and I tink both his legs are broken.' Operator: 'What is your location sir?'

Paddy: 'Outside number 28 Eucalyptus Street.'

Operator: 'How do you spell that sir?'

Silence.... (heavy breathing) and after a minute. Operator: 'Are you there sir?' More heavy breathing and another minute later.

Operator: 'Sir, can you hear me?' This goes on for another few minutes until....

Operator: 'Sir, please answer me. Can you still hear me?'

Paddy: 'Yes, sorry bout dat... I couldn't spell eucalyptus, so I just dragged him round to number 3 Oak Street.'

THIS MONTH'S HOCKEY: January is here and with it some warm weather, the hottest day each week for the month has been the Wednesday hockey day, 4th, 40.9°C, 11th 36.0°C, 18th 33.8°C (such a cool break) and 25th 39.4°C. (ok the 26th was hotter). This run of hot weather brought to mind Noel Coward's song, "Mad Dogs and Englishmen" penned in 1931 when he was travelling from Hanoi to Saigon, not least because of the representation of Englishmen in our midst and because of the hot weather. (and I apologise to Noel for my crude efforts as I modify most of the lines of the song to make a hockey theme).

".....the players grieve as the Team Managers leave their bunkers
Because they're obviously - definitely nuts

/10

Mad Dogs and Englishmen go out in the midday sun
The umpires don't care to, the goalies don't want to
The over 70's stay firmly inside until well after 1.30
But over 60's detest a siesta and start at 1.00 they must....."

Hockey was called off on the 4th because of the forecast temperature, however 18 mad dogs and Englishmen ventured to the hockey stadium to take advantage of the booked and paid for grounds (one could think of many reasons why this is so, but I will leave that to others to conjecture). Two teams of roughly 9 were formed, numbers fluctuated throughout the afternoon. They played until the bar opened and that was the end of the day.

The numbers for each of the following days have been good, with 3 full teams available for each day (give or take number variations due to late arrivals, early departures and injuries). A few changes over the Xmas break saw the Evans boys united at Blue as Dave moved on from his long service at White. The 11th was a welcome back day for most of the players and everything went quite gentlemanly. For the first time since I have been reporting for Master Matters, there were no draws, each team played 4 games and each team won 2 games and lost 2 games, points were shared evenly. A good way to commence a new season. Gold and Blue scored 3 goals and white scored 2 goals. Gabes had several attempts to score goals but showed his skill in picking the ball up outside the circle, shimmied around several players and goalie to score a great goal again proving how skilful a player he is. Dudley B was showing good early season form with his run, control and passing, in fact gold was looked quite impressive throughout the day and as some wag said perhaps it was because Bill C was on holiday.

Weeks 3 and 4 continued to see good even hockey. White has proven the best defensive team led by the back marshall Gorby, but battled to score goals (this is partly due to long absences from key forwards just returning to the field and some fundamental issues with shots on goal), Blues forwards continue to be the strongest with a number of skilful goals from their forwards in week 4, Alan Ledger scored from the left post from a fast moving hit, Graham Harper picked the ball up on the run from the 25 yd line, moved quickly into the circle on the left and deftly passed the keeper, Dudley Evans continues with his solid goal shooting, receiving the ball at the top left and hammering it passed the goalie, whilst Ray Domingo received the ball from Dudley E on the left moved to within 6 metres of the circle and nicely backsticked it past the goalie. The goalie in each of these cases was limited in his options. It was great hockey to watch from the sidelines. Gold again was scoring goals however their defensive efforts hurt them with their opposition outscoring them on several occasions (perhaps they are missing Bill C) leaving them with the least number of wins for the month.

Given the hot conditions a big vote of thanks to the goalies Richard Osborne, Ross Easton , Graham Sansom and Andrew Robertson. Wearing that gear in these temperatures is surely a tremendous effort. Many thanks to you all. Also to George Mullins who has been our umpiring mainstay for the month with able support from players and John Lindsay. And to John Lindsay, many thanks for the drink on Wed, celebrating his 50th birthday (he has had a tough life) which had occurred earlier in the week.

Thank you to Gordon Jeffery. How many 50th birthdays has John Lindsay celebrated now? Ed.

Well Dones: I have no idea who umpired at PHS on January 4th and neither does Gordon J. Neither of us was there, demonstrating the sanity of the 'Masters Matters' hockey reporting team. The 'A' division whistlers I was able to document in January were: Jim Balding, Ken Beer, Peter Evans, Vern Gooch, Dave Horsley, Neil Mannolini, John Mercer, Neil Scaddan, Ivan Wilson and Graham Wood. Thank you to all the PHS umpires - the 'B' division have been covered by Gordon Jeffery and the 'C' division have not been covered by me from the bar due to the excitement of the wine raffle. Thank you also to the Saturday umpires, who in January have been: Eric Alcock, Bob Bowyer, Peter Brien, Dudley Burress, Colin Gee, Brian Glencross, Ian Hill, Neil Scaddan, Heath Tyrell, Les Waldon, Ken Watt and Graham Wood. Thank you also to the cooks at the sausage sizzle on the 25th - Glen Mihala and Leo Welten. It is pleasing to be able to report that in accordance with recent custom Leo won the first bottle in the wine raffle.

Shakespeare Said It: "Peace, you ungracious clamours! Peace rude sounds! Fools on both sides." Troilus and Cressida Act I Scene I. 'A' division umpire - any Wednesday. Or Peter Brien on a Saturday. "... 'tis sure they found some place but weakly guarded, where the breach was made." King Henry IV Part One Act II Scene I. *The Bard's version of a defence post-mortem following a goal.*

Quotable Quote Two: "What luck for rulers that men do not think." Adolph Hitler (1889 - 1945). *This could be seen to have some relevance to the present day. Though as evinced by the US airport chaos some rulers do not or cannot think either.*

Olympics Howlers: I have space to fill and will refrain from the temptation to slate Hockey Australia. These are all alleged to have been broadcast by actual commentators, and are a lot more salacious than our customary fare. Sensitive readers should pass over the next few lines.

- + Weightlifting commentator: "This is Gregoriava from Bulgaria. I saw her snatch this morning during her warm up and it was amazing."
- + Dressage commentator: "This is really a lovely horse and I speak from personal experience since I once mounted her mother."
- + Paul Hamm, gymnast: "I owe a lot to my parents, especially my mother and father."
- + Boxing analyst: "Sure there have been injuries, and even some deaths in boxing, but none of them really that serious."
- + Softball announcer: "If history repeats itself, I should think we can expect the same thing again."
- + Basketball analyst: "He dribbles a lot and the opposition doesn't like it. In fact you can see it all over their faces."
- + At the rowing medal ceremony: "Ah, isn't that nice, the wife of the IOC president is hugging the cox of the British crew."
- + Soccer commentator: "Julian Dicks is everywhere. It's like they've got eleven Dicks on the field."
- + Tennis commentator: "One of the reasons Andy is playing so well is that, before the final round, his wife takes out his balls and kisses them ... Oh my God, what have I just said?"

Grumpy Old Men Two: "We have a criminal jury system which is superior to any in the world and its efficiency is only marred by the difficulty of finding twelve men every day who don't know anything and can't read." Mark Twain (1835 - 1910).

MM Gets Political? Sorry about the mention of a couple of hot topics this issue. The pension cuts affect me very badly, while as an ex computer professional I'm appalled at the Centrelink thing.

Coach's Guide To Performance Evaluation: Thanks to Roger Jewell we have obtained this document which appears to offer insight into the selection of teams and how to impress coaches.

Factor	Far Exceeds Requirements	Exceeds Requirement	Meets Requirement	Needs Improvement	Below Standard
Speed	Is faster than a speeding bullet	Is as fast as a speeding bullet	Needs a start on a bullet	Jumps gun and loses sight of bullet	Watches news bulletins
Strength	Bends steel with bare hands	Uses gloves if bending steel	Prefers aluminium	Never heard of aluminium	Cracks knuckles
Adaptability	Walks on water regularly	Walks on water in emergencies	Drinks water	Waters his whisky	Passes water
Ball Control	Dribbles 2 balls simultaneously through a minefield	Dribbles 1 ball across a minefield	Dribbles 1 ball across a kikuyu patch	Kicks ball across field	Dribbles on shirt
Communication	Talks with God and the Coach	Talks with team-mates	Talks to self	Argues with self	Loses these arguments
Citizenship	Fights a never ending battle for truth, justice, the Church and WHM	Takes Sundays off from his never ending battle	Buys a wine raffle ticket	Chops wood for widows	Chops widows for wood
Overall Performance	Able to leap buildings at a single bound	Needs a running jump to clear buildings	Able to leap gates in front of buildings	Forgets to jump and hits buildings	Cannot recognise buildings
A Division Hitting	Generally hits ball to team mate	Sometimes hits ball to team mate	Generally contacts ball when hitting	Usually misses ball	Misses ball and falls over
A Division Trapping	Traps everything within reach	Misses bouncing balls sometimes	Can stop a ball - at times	On the stick!	Ball? What ball?

As is readily apparent, the entries have been modified slightly and augmented to include WHM's 'A' Division. Any reader who wants to send in a new line for the table is welcome.

Punology Two: What's the difference between a well dressed man on a tricycle and a poorly dressed man on a bicycle? A tire.

WA Country: Have begun the process of seeking coaches and managers for the Hobart tournament. The application form is available from the web-site, and has been sent to all known players for WAC.

Country are also making their annual Promo trip for 2017. The suggested dates are March 11 and 12 or 18 and 19 and the venues will possibly be Mount Barker and Gnowangerup . Should you need further information on either of these subjects feel free to contact me if you cannot access the WA Country website, Secretary Jeannette Bashford or communications guru Dean Lomax.

All news and other contributions to:

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