



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 6

June 2017

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Dates For The Diary:

2017: June 12th to July 3rd: European Tour. } Australian 70s
 June 28th: Sausage sizzle - PHS.
 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

WA State Coaches And Managers: Having queried last issue whether it was possible for players to be team managers for the Hobart tournament. I am reliably informed (by Simon Thomson) that as long as there is a permanent person on the bench to fulfil the match duties that it is OK. It is pleasing to hear that common sense has prevailed. I have no information on the WA or WAC teams as yet.

Trans-Tasman: Those interested will have been following the results on-line. In case you did not here are the winners and match results, with Australia retaining the overall trophy 55 points to 52.

Women: **O/35:** New Zealand (NZ 0 - A 0 / NZ 3 - A 1 / NZ 2 - A 0).

O/40: Australia (NZ 1 - A 1 / NZ 3 - A 0 / NZ 0 - A 3). Australia won shoot-out 3-2.

O/45: New Zealand (NZ 0 - A 1 / NZ 1 - A 1 / NZ 2 - A 0).

O/50: Australia (NZ 1 - A 0 / NZ 1 - A 1 / NZ 0 - A 1). Australia won shoot-out 2-0.

O/55: New Zealand (NZ 1 - A 0 / NZ 1 - A 1 / NZ 4 - A 2).

O/60: New Zealand (NZ 3 - A 1 / NZ 6 - A 2 / NZ 1 - A 2).

Men: **O/35:** Australia (NZ 0 - A 1 / NZ 2 - A 8 / NZ 2 - A 5).

O/40: Australia (NZ 0 - A 5 / NZ 2 - A 3 / NZ 1 - A 5).

O/45: Australia (NZ 1 - A 3 / NZ 2 - A 1 / NZ 0 - A 0).

O/50: New Zealand (NZ 5 - A 0 / NZ 1 - A 0 / NZ 2 - A 0).

O/55: Australia (NZ 2 - A 2 / NZ 1 - A 0 / NZ 0 - A 3).

O/60: Australia (NZ 0 - A 1 / NZ 1 - A 1 / NZ 2 - A 2).

O/65: Australia (NZ 1 - A 2 / NZ 1 - A 1 / NZ 1 - A 3).

Congratulations to all who participated, especially those from Western Hockey Masters. I had some trouble obtaining the overall score, but as the one above was on the NZ website it's probably right.

Vale Rae Cherrington: It was with much regret that I noted the death during May of Rae, who played for Perth and later Raiders. He was also a member of WHM. Many of us have toured with him, including Mike Black, Ian Lyon, John Mercer and Peter Stevens to Hobart's Masters Games in 1987.

Department of Health: Phil Anderson returned briefly following his cut foot, and now has taken off to the north of the state for bowls and fishing until the end of July (some of us are very envious). Peter Hearne has been absent from hockey fields for a while, due to unspecified medical causes, but has now been cleared to resume, which he did on May 17th. He can still hit the ball out of defence fast, flat and accurately. Ash Foster has had the operation required for his hernia/groin problems, but now may need a hip clean up, or possibly even a replacement. Ken Watt resumed playing on the 31st. Hope all OK. Graham Harper was admitted to hospital having suffered a spontaneous brain bleed after hockey on Saturday the 13th. Thanks to Charles Hulbert and Bob Bowyer for updates, which have eventually provided a diagnosis (stroke). As of the 29th GH is back home and started on the road to recovery. Bob Bowyer had an operation on the 19th, to re-connect the tendon in his foot and his playing future is uncertain. This did not stop him from conducting the wine raffle on crutches on the Wednesday following the operation (the 24th) and again on the 31st. Jim Banks has had a problem with the metal hip (no, not a loose screw) and is out of action for a while. Former player Ross Lonnie's wife Ellen was severely hurt in a bad crash near Capel and air lifted to hospital in Perth with broken bones and internal injuries. Our best wishes to all recovering readers and families.

Department of Corrections: Other than an error in John Milner's Saturday goal tally (not enough!) I have not been informed about mistakes in the May issue. Nor (for once) have I detected many.

Letters To The Editor: The May issue generated a little bit of interest, judging by verbal comments, but only Ken Watt and Peter Murray sent emails, for which my thanks.

Opportunity Missed: Thanks to George Winning for letting me know (just after the May issue) that Rob Crofts had been to the Stadium on Wednesday 26th April. I missed it completely. George also told me that Rob had travelled from Guildford on public transport, which must have been quite a saga. I remember the time when I introduced a wheelchair bound new member to the Apex Club of Scarborough. Though he had a car with hand controls, which he drove (wheelchair on the roof) just as badly as before his accident. We did a little lobbying at his instigation for some better wheelchair facilities, without much success. I hope that access to more places is easier now than it was then.

Parking Pains: I know so little but am prepared to guess that Wednesdays are the only week days when there are two large groups trying to use the hockey parking at the same time. I believe that the younger people are in training for the I-V competition, which according to Google is due to take place between 24th and 30th September. As there is only sufficient parking for one of us and they arrive first it is usually WHM who miss out. The only thought which suggests itself is that the second row of parking could be temporarily converted for Hockey WA usage on Wednesdays but doing this would require signage, and setting it up and removing it. Could WHM volunteers be found?

Grumpy Old Men Part One: "I find it rather easy to portray a businessman. Being bland, rather cruel and incompetent comes naturally to me." *John Cleese (1939 -)*.

History Repeats: I heard that 'C' division gained a new volunteer umpire recently (from Vern Gooch). Apparently he lasted half an hour before departing. We reckon we're bad in 'A' division. Reminds me of Neil Mannolini's account of a similar event in the past. Umpire comment would be welcome.

Rule(s) of the Month: It seems that not all of us are totally happy with the rules on tackling, and how they are being applied by our umpires. So printing the applicable rules might be worthwhile.

Rule 9.3: Players must not touch, handle or interfere with other players or their sticks or clothing.

Rule 9.4: Players must not intimidate or impede another player.

In my opinion these are self-explanatory. It is supposed to be a non-contact sport.

Rule 9.12: Players must not obstruct an opponent who is attempting to play the ball.

Players obstruct if they:

- 1) Back into an opponent.
- 2) Physically interfere with the stick or body of an opponent.
- 3) Shield the ball from a legitimate tackle with their stick or any part of their body.

This is only part of the full rule, but it reinforces the non-contact nature of our sport.

Rule 9.13: Players must not tackle unless in a position to play the ball without body contact.

As demonstrated by Simon on Turf 2, if you attempt to tackle from behind or from the side you will almost certainly make contact with your opponent's body or stick. This rule makes it crystal clear that it is an offence no matter when the contact occurs, and you should be penalised accordingly.

In this case further correspondence will certainly be entered into, if doubts still exist. Ed.

2017 Rule Books Correction: Last issue I claimed that the rules could only be found online. Not so; Sue Cook had 30 2017 Rule Books in the Hockey WA office (all gone as at 10/05), and "Just Hockey" where I purchased mine for \$7.95 has some in stock. *(still there on 17/05)*

Interstate Tournament: In previous issues I have questioned the necessity for the tournament to be a single entity when the World Cup is very successful as two events. I have yet to speak to anybody from WHM who is not in favour of splitting our championships, and the reasons supporting this have been extensively laid out here, more than once. Perhaps those in the field of education may disagree here, and I would be happy to hear from any of our WHM fraternity who would be disadvantaged by a split in the tournament and a shift away from the school holiday period. MM's limerick writer says:

The time of the year when we fly
Occurs when the fares are sky high
A most costly room
Just adds to our gloom
There must be a good reason why.

I am aware that at least one unsuccessful attempt has been made to split the tournament. If you have already enquired about air fares to Hobart, or checked on available accommodation during the period September 23rd to October 7th then you will be aware that this is very much peak period. Possibly it is time to try again.

Interstate Tournament (again): The loss of our state rotation system has also caused some angst in the ranks of our more senior regular participants, but I have yet to hear of anybody who declined to nominate for this reason. Our limerick writer decided to comment.

I hope that we all think it's great
Again to cross over Bass Strait
Is it quite snazzy
Returning to Tassie
After only a brief five year wait.

Information on either of these points is very hard to locate online. If there are any readers who can provide us with some enlightenment MM would be delighted to hear from you. Even if all that you do is to identify web-sites worth checking that would be most helpful. Ed.

Quotable Quote One: "A family is a unit composed not only of children but also of men, women, an occasional animal, and the common cold." *Ogden Nash (1902 - 1971). So true at this time of the year.*

A' Division Blog: Results are variable; who's there, who's not, and who converts their chances.

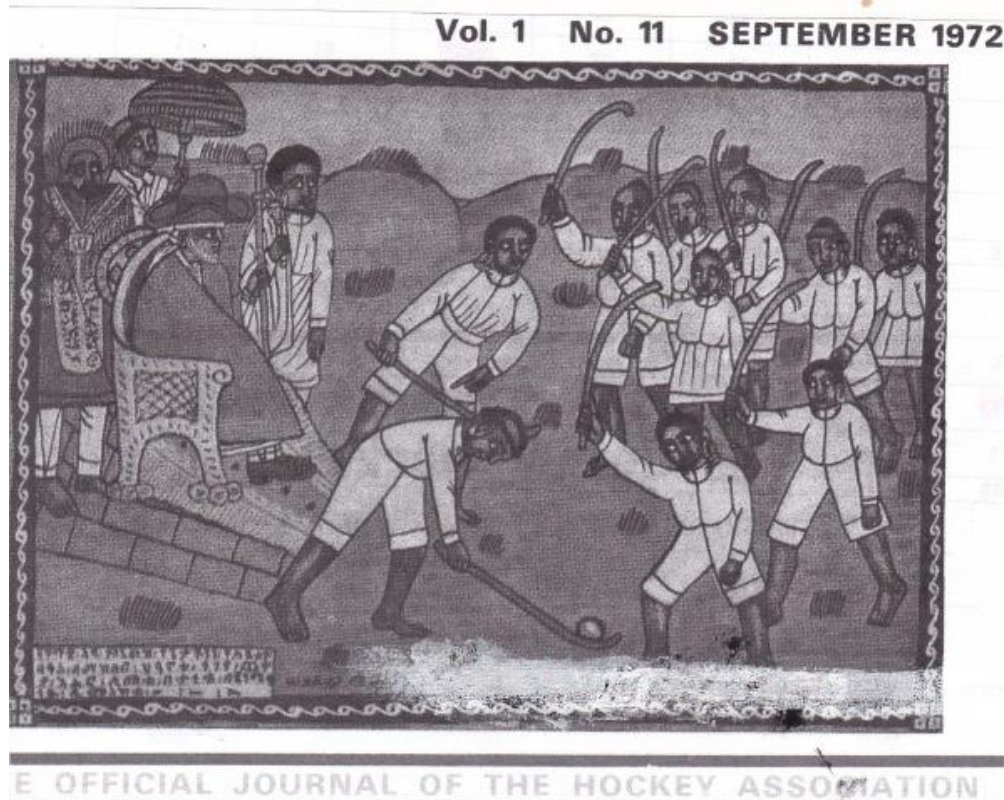
May 3rd: The day started uneventfully with Gold holding Blue to a 0-0 draw, followed by a 1-1 draw between Blue and White. Then the fireworks began as Red put 5 goals past Gold, with Trevor Kerr getting no less than four of them. Gold had made changes to the team, which did not work, and were unable to regain their balance for the next match when White scored four times, with Ham D'Souza leading the way. Red then overcame the dominant team of the 2nd quarter with a 3-0 win over Blue; Trevor scored again & Rob Butler put in two tomahawk goals. A third win was just beyond them, going down 1-0 to White thanks to a fine Ham D'Souza solo run. Defenders made several goal-line saves throughout the matches, with the standout being Peter Evans. The scores do indicate an imbalance in the teams, which may have been caused by absences. A quick glance at the team lists shows that the Gold side were missing Jim Balding (injured), Ash Foster (medical), Ken Walter (work) and Peter Willett (cruise). Blue were without Bob Bowyer (injured), Terry Gaston, Ian Hill, Jim Malcolm, Neil Patterson, Neil Scaddan and Ken Watt. The goal of the day was decided on quantity, with Trevor Kerr's five and Ham D'Souza's four the standouts. Robin Bailey was a surprise and welcome arrival. He said that he was there for a little therapy, and I hope we provided some. Player numbers were Blue (7), Gold (11), White (13) and Red (11). Goals scored (15).

May 10th: Blue (8 out of 15) and Red (10 out of 16) were missing the majority of their listed players, resulting in spares transferring from White (2) and Gold. Peter Dennis from Blue was clearly not able to run at his normal velocity, and pulled out during the afternoon (hope no permanent damage). Goalkeepers Tony, Bill, John and Bob proved difficult to pass and the goalscoring pass proved elusive all day until the last game when half the tally went in. Gold had not scored since April 12th and were extremely pleased to see Ian Lyon goal twice in the last game of the day. Gold (1 win, 2 draws) and White (2 wins, 1 draw) were undefeated, while the depleted Blues lost three times. Scott Blackwell seems to enjoy filling in for other teams where he can get a run as a forward - his own side is over full of them. Goal of the day should be shared between the four who were successful: George Bradbury and Ham D'Souza for White, Ian Lyon two for Gold and Scott Blackwell for both Blue and Red. Save of the day award goes to Tony Marshall (left hand reflex) and Phil Anderson (goal line). Player numbers were: Red (6), White (12), Gold (11) and Blue (7). 6 goals only were scored.

May 17th: Most of Blue's list seem to be overseas, so White (3) and Gold (2) players changed sides for the day. Each side won at least one game and scored at least one goal. The dominant team of the month in White won their first two matches easily, but in something of a surprise went down 2-0 to Red in the last game of the day with Rob Butler netting two class goals. Goalkeepers Bill, John, Tony and Colin all played fairly well for most of the time and between them made plenty of good saves. Players in good touch included Robin Bailey (disposal particularly good), Rob Butler (adds spark to the Red midfield), Roy Grant (2 White goals), Howie Herbert (traps it all), Brian Soares (playing with confidence again) and Peter Willett (regaining touch after his cataract operation and holiday). It was noticeable that the reduced number of games for each umpire is raising the standard, and that the whistle practice is very beneficial for the player umpires. Goal of the day goes to Ham D'Souza for scoring with a reverse stick shot from the edge of the circle. Player numbers were; Blue (5), Gold (12), Red (8) and White (13). Goals scored (9).

May 24th: Several comebacks meant that only Blue were short and the transfer of 2 of White's 14 players (Ken Beer and Brian Soares) meant that nobody needed to play extra games. White won the first two games of the day thanks to a sound defence and some moments of brilliance from Ham D'Souza who scored all the three goals. Three weeks ago Red scored five against Gold, but this time there was a nine goal swing with a 4-0 win to Gold. Blue beat Red in contrasting style with a goal to Brian Soares in the last 10 seconds. White's forward line failed to combine against Gold, and without Ham D'Souza they lost 1-0. The last game of the day was at its usual standard and ended in a 0-0 draw between Blue and Gold. The list of players making a comeback is a long one and includes Bob Byers, Peter Jones, Ian Hill, Neil Patterson and Peter Stevens. Goal of the day must go to Ham D'Souza for a class hat trick. Numbers were: White (14), Red (11), Blue (8) & Gold (10). 9 goals only.

/12



Pre-Historic Hockey? The sender of this picture suggested that it could be the 'A' division warming up to do battle. Thanks to Stan Salazaar - any more suggestions?

From The Saturday O/65s: I trust we are all enjoying ourselves. The complaints department is idle.

Correction is required for my statement last issue that John Milner had scored twice on April 29th. It was actually three times. At my age it is difficult to see details from behind the backline when the play is at the opposite end, but John seems to have no trouble seeing the ball to deflect it in.

Some time ago Richard McEntee had to stop playing and go and have some heart repairs done. It is pleasing to be able to report that he resumed on the 6th May after undergoing the operation (with scar to prove it) and the extensive rehabilitation period. Welcome back from us all.

May 6th also featured Peter Livingstone's first appearance on a hockey field since his cameo in the Hips versus Knees match. All seemed to have gone well (he even scored a good goal) and both of the knee replacements must have stood up to the workload as he's now a regular attendee.

The 6th also saw another overseas guest in Alan Bryce from Scotland (and a long time WA Country player). AB had just played in the Masters Games in New Zealand, and following a short stay in Perth he and wife Helen left for Broome just before our weather decided to lower the temperature.

May 20th featured a couple of significant comebacks. Volunteer umpire Ken Edwards made a very welcome return to the whistle, while Ian Hill is now back in Perth after a long holiday in Europe.

One group I have not remembered to mention is the roster of volunteers who select our teams and provide the bar snacks each week. Well done all - I consider that our selectors produce balanced sides almost every week and that score imbalances are usually the fault of the forwards and keepers.

A special thank you this issue goes to Di Crocker & the YMCA people who make life so much easier for us all each Saturday by setting out the tables and chairs as well as helping with our hot snacks.

I hope everybody responded to the survey about the future usage of the Perry Lakes venue, which was described as Alderbury Reserve. Future developments (planned and actual) will be interesting. Even though I doubt we'll be getting too many games on a Perry Lakes turf due to the likely costs.

The French Letter No 31:

Well Macron certainly had a convincing win and has put together a very interesting collection of ministers – with representatives from the right and the left, equal numbers of women and a large bevy from civil society, outside politics. Time will tell if he can pull off the major reforms that are sorely needed in France. I wish him well.

While, still on politics, I am obliged to make a comment about Donald Trump. What can one say, except that he is an embarrassment on the world stage. His ignorance of world affairs is mind boggling and his overall aggressive attitude also makes him highly dangerous. One can only hope that his senior generals exercise wisdom and restraint.

Well spring has been pretty good and the temperatures are now getting up a bit – we are expecting 30 degrees tomorrow (28th). Time to break out the barby!

We have had a couple of house inspections over the past week and one couple are coming back for a second inspection next week. This has come after many months of no activity. We can only hope that one day a sale will occur. Bear in mind that we placed it on the market in March 2011, more than six years ago!

Was fascinated to read of the possible development of the recreation centre at Cockburn and the inclusion of hockey facilities, including a turf. Well done to the Fremantle Club for their energy and vision.

Well, that's all from me for now and as usual I wish you both good health and good hockey.

Ian Purdie.

Thank you Ian - both for the contribution and your usual timely submission of it. I welcome your coverage of French politics from within and hope that our readers agree with me. Ed.

Quotable Quote No Two: “Macron is the first president of France to speak English competently, which means he also speaks it better than the current President of the United States.” Guy Rundle; correspondent-at-large for Crikey. *Hope I haven't stolen your thunder Ian, here seemed logical. Ed.*

Test Your Hockey Knowledge With John Sanders: May's question was: Who scored the most goals for Australia of these great forwards? (All exceeded 50 goals) a) Richard Charlesworth b) Terry Walsh c) Craig Davies d) Colin Batch. *No answers arrived this month - actual counts are: Charlesworth (85), Walsh (70), Davies (63), Batch (61).*

June's question is: N Mott (2), K Powell, J Haslam, R Hawkes, A Annan, K Towers and M Andrews all scored in an 8-1 win in the final of the Commonwealth Games hockey. Was the match against: a) New Zealand. b) Jamaica. c) England. d) India? *Answer next issue.*

Dummy Spit Of The Month: I have resisted a strong temptation to give this to Colin Barnett (nudge, nudge, WA Inc, WA Inc). The not so coveted trophy for the month of May has to be a group award yet again. Contenders include all 'A' division players who grumbled about being swapped to another team for a day, or to those who grumbled about playing out of position. Also in contention should be anybody who refused to accept an umpire's decision. Have I left anybody out?

Punology One: Did you hear of the Soviet poet who wrote an ode about a tractor. It was said to be a classic case of man verses machine.

They Said It: The dialogue is not warranted to be 100% accurate, but this is the age of fake news. Australian Border Force official to Alan Bryce: “Do you have a criminal record?” Alan Bryce: “Didn't know I still needed one.” Probably thanks to the Scots accent they let him in anyway.

Balinese Bulletin No 23: From Peter Hammond.

HE ...THEY WON'T DO IT AGAIN!!

The other day Erin removed the toaster from the shelf in order to make a couple of pieces of toast for breakfast. Within seconds of the toaster being turned on a smell of burning accompanied by smoke issuing forth from said toaster signaling something amiss. Amis it was ...once the toaster was turned off we discovered a small gecko, which had been searching for insects, barbecued!!! We were naturally devastated as these small creatures form part of our living environment & are much loved. Fortunately there are many, many more to take the place our departed friend.

CATS & RATS.

One night, recently, Erin was preparing to make her way to the bedroom at the end of the evening at around 11.30 pmI had already retired ...remember I am older than Erin ...anyway she heard Eddy barking in the garden. Upon investigation she found Eddy & one of the stray cats in our area at a "stand off". Erin shoed the cat on its way & resumed her preparation to retire. A few minutes passed & then Erin in the half light stepped on something oddtook a closer look to find to her horror the "something odd" was in fact the dead rat that was the cause of the afore mentioned "stand off". It appears Eddy had carried the spoils inside. Naturally the "corpse" was subsequently dispatched by a traumatized Erin. This story was related to me the following morning as I was already asleep.

RAMADAN.

This ninth month on the Islamic Hijri calendar is considered the holiest month by Muslims, commemorating the first revelation of the Quranic verses to the Prophet Muhammad. In Indonesia, the country with the largest Muslim population in the world, the month of Ramadan is referred to as the 'fasting month' or *bulan puasa* in the local tongue, which culminates with the biggest Muslim holiday in Indonesia: Eid al Fitr or 'Idul Fitri'.

So, How is Ramadan in Bali?

Bali is a predominantly Hindu island, so Ramadan here is not as pronounced as in other major cities, like Jakarta. The only impact felt is that most street vendors and budget and local Muslim-run restaurants cease to operate during the day, so the effect for international visitors is minimal.

Your Bali hotel, resort or favourite restaurant will oftentimes feature special 'Ramadan packages' or special menus highlighting favourite 'halal' Indonesian cuisine as part of their promotions to tie-in with the daily 'iftar' or after-sunset fasting breaks throughout the month. If you favour local cuisine, expect some of your favourite 'warung' (local food stalls) to open a little later than usual.

During the Idul Fitri holiday week, you can expect less traffic in Bali, since most of the non-Balinese urban population flees the island (a collective act locally referred to as *mudik*) to gather with their families at home in other parts of Indonesia. For visitors to Bali, this translates as much faster transfers between points of interests, than usual. Therefore, you can plan your stays or travels, between Kuta and Ubud much, for example, much easier!

Around the end of the Idul Fitri holidays, however, traffic conditions will spike again due to the *arus balik* or 'return trips' back to Bali. Streets and the major ferry port of Gilimanuk in West Bali will be at its most hectic. Most transportation will also be fully booked for the several days, as life and businesses steadily go back to normal.

The nightlife scene in Bali also goes on largely unaffected. In Jakarta and other major Indonesian cities, you won't find any alcohol on the menu during Ramadan. Conversely, in Bali, your favourite bar, beach club or venue will always be serving their world-class mixologist-designed cocktails and ice-cold Bintangs. *Thanks again Peter - this is the time of the year we start to envy your warmth. Ed.*

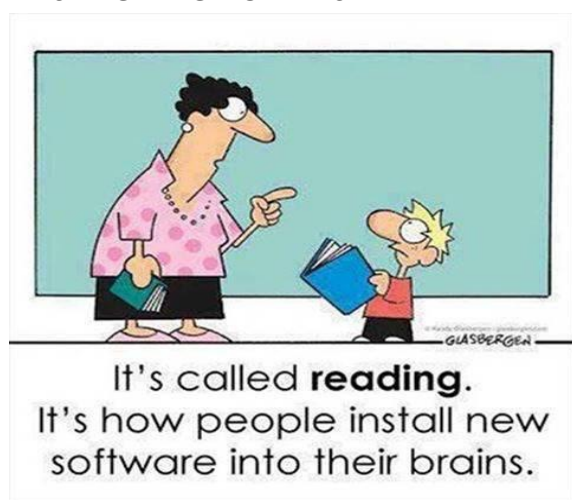
Punology Two: A young man was in love with two women and could not decide which of them to marry. Finally he went to a marriage counsellor. When asked to describe his two loves he noted that one was a great poet and the other made delicious pancakes. "Oh" said the counsellor, "I see what the problem is. You can't decide whether to marry for batter or verse."

'B' Division Report - May:

INJURIES: It was sad to hear Graham Harper had episodes of bleeding on the brain but the good news is that he has recently returned home and is recovering. It was also good that fellow hockey players kept the line of communications open and updated all on his progress. We miss you Graham. Get well.

Greg Allen has finally succumbed and had his knee replacement whilst Don Sanders has decided that his knees can't manage turf hockey. Good to see Ian Brown down at the State trials, maybe a comeback in the not too distant future???

VISITORS: It was great to see Gerin Hingee, ACT and Australian representative, in Perth catching up with family. It is unbelievable that a bloke who appears to have difficulty walking shows such skill when he has the ball or even when hunting the ball. Thanks Gerin. Heath Tyrell returned from his time with the Irish team with the good news that he has been selected for Ireland for the European Championships later in the year. Dudley Evans returned from his New Zealand hockey experiences.

LIFES LINGERING MOMENTS:**THIS MONTH'S HOCKEY:**

Electric Blue dominated this month's hockey with 8 wins out of the 16 games played in this reporting period followed by Gold with 5 wins and White managed just 1 win. The over 60's and 65's teams have been selected ready for the National championships, the WAC teams will not be finalised for another week or so.

Week 1: Gold got out of the blocks with blistering pace, helped by the return of Bill Campbell with a 2-1 win over Blue. Graeme Nicholls opened the scoring with a strong hit from on top of the circle after some good work through the middle of the field. Gold then settled into a strong team game scoring two team goals through carrying the ball down the right hand side, along the back line and then switching back to the spot for relatively easy goals to Graham Wood and Tom Long. White then maintained their recent standard in the next two games with 2 scoreless draws against Blue and Gold even after getting additional players from Blue and Gold. Gold again gave Blue a touch up in game 4 with another two goals to Leo Welten and Bob le Merle. Blue then got hold of White and beat them 2-1. Although some commentator in the crowd claimed it was 3 goals to White and none to Blue. The commentator was referring to White's strong defensive hitter Michael Gottschalk who was picked off by Steve McEntee from a 16 yard hit, who then transferred the ball to top of the circle and passed to Graham Harper in the circle who beat the goalkeeper. This occurred after Michael had hit a teammate in the foot and whilst offering condolences the ball was picked up, moved into the circle and Steve McEntee scored a fine goal. Phil Hewton replied for White to make the score 2-1. To round the day off White defeated Gold 1-0 again with Phil Hewton being the goalscorer with a strong hit from the right inner position on the circle.

Week 2: Highlighted by the return of our 2 internationals Dudley and Heath with Heath now confirmed as an Irish representative for the European Championships and a strong performance by Electric Blue winning 3 and drawing 1. Graeme Nicholls opened the scoring, second week in a row, for the Blues with a running entry into the circle followed by a strong shot from the top of the D leaving the goalkeeper with no chance. Ray Domingo received an excellent pass from Dudley and tapped it in as well as a strong backstick goal on the run. Ledge (with a lofted shot), Keith Platel and Graham Harper rounded out the Blues scorers. Tom Long scored the first goal of the day and the only one for Gold whilst Simon Thompson broke White's drought followed later by a good tap in by Arch. White ended up with 3 draws and a loss whilst Gold had 2 draws and 2 losses. Goalkeepers for the day were Graeme Sansom, Richard Osborne and Andrew Robertson whilst the games were controlled by Vern Gooch and John Lindsay.

Week 3: What a turn up for the books. White who have the best defensive record of the teams let in 4 of the 6 goals for this week. With the WA state O'65's trials in the morning prior to the afternoon's games the forwards must have been a little tired, poor darlings. Blue welcomed the services of ACT and Aust representative Gerin Hingee to add to their already dominant forward pack and the Blues scored 3 of the 6 goals recording 2 wins a draw and a loss whilst Gold who had the same record scored 2 goals and White's lone goalscorer was Peter Wallis. White was bolstered by the one game short return of Don Sanders but the lack of numbers and their players' efforts in the trials (and perhaps a lack of ability) told on them for the afternoon resulting in 1 draw and 3 losses. Neil Miller opened the scoring with a superb goal from left top of the circle after receiving an excellent pass from Gerin, another wonder of the world. Today was the day of tap in goals with the other 5 goals all tap ins with Ray Domingo, Peter Fogels, Keith Platell, and Leo Welten all being in the right position at the right time and can trap and tap. Umpires for the day were led by Vern Gooch with players filling the other positions. Goalkeepers having a good day included Richard Osborne, Graeme Sansom and Andrew Robertson.

Week 4: Again Blue was the top team with 2 wins followed by Gold with 1 win and 1 draw. Again White was short of numbers and was bolstered by volunteers from other teams. White again leaked goals allowing another 4 goals through for the second week in a row. Ray Domingo (Blue) continued his strong vein of goalscoring being the only multiple goal scorer with 2 goals. It has been a good goal scoring run for several months by Ray. Jeff Kozak opened the scoring with a penalty stroke, the result of a goal circle scrimmage in which Gold transgressed. Adrian Gabriel responded with a strong goal out manoeuvring several defenders and the goalkeeper and then slotting it in nicely. Dudley Evans got sick of passing off to other players for them to score so he took it upon himself to stroll into the circle and hammer it home in their team's 1-1 draw with White. Peter Wallis followed up last week's score with another tap in goal to draw the game, Whites only goal for the game. Other scorers for the day included Leo Welten & Peter Fogels in their 2-0 win over White and Heath Tyrell.

Week 5: See next issue.

Many thanks to Gordon Jeffery for managing to write up the activity while in the middle of a family crisis. My apologies for last month's heading of March, not April. As always, another informative and entertaining read. I'll be interested in the Week 5 report - from the Northern Wheatbelt? Ed.

Umpiring Signals: Last issue included what I thought was all the umpiring signals. Regular Saturday whistler Peter Brien has suggested another one. Both arms extended forward, palms up, and waved up and down once. The meaning: "I haven't got a clue!"

*Peter B said "I haven't a clue
As all of your bums blocked my view
If none of you lie
Then please tell me why
The hit's claimed by both White and Blue."*

WHM Executive: A recent email from a leading South Australian hockey administrator (on another topic) mentioned that they were having trouble obtaining new blood for the Masters Committee. This caused me to reflect on our situation here at WHM, where the same people have performed the same roles for some time. As far as I am aware the situation on the WA Masters Committee is different, as there appear to have been several changes of personnel in recent years. As always, any information would be welcome. And so would more background on the WHM story.

To the best of my knowledge, since the formation of what is now Western Hockey Masters in 1991 we have had only two Chairmen (George Winning and Simon Thomson), two Secretaries (John Dunstan and Bob Bowyer) and just one Treasurer (Brian Lester). *Though I believe that the original secretarial work was done by George Winning's office Girl Friday.* Our current executive have all been in their positions for quite a while now. Approximate timings are Simon (more than 12 years), Bob (10 years at least), and Brian (more than 20 years). Such a wealth of knowledge and experience is very hard to replace, and it would be necessary for a fairly comprehensive handover to take place should anybody decide to retire.

The task of finding a successor for any of these positions will not be an easy one. Though I hope the initial approach will not have to be along the lines of "What are you doing for the next twelve years?" The other question which comes to mind is who in their right mind would want to look after a lot of grumpy old men?

During my 18 years in an Apex Club the succession arose every year, as offices were turned over each year. This meant that incoming Club Board members needed to start work immediately their year began. Continuity was provided by one's predecessor being available to give advice & guidance at all times. Scarborough Hockey Club had a similar system with the club bar. As running it had such a detrimental effect on the bar manager's hockey everybody only did it for one year.

What prompted this whole piece was that in casual conversation the possibility was raised of one or more of these roles becoming vacant. If this ever does actually eventuate, whoever takes on whichever office will have very big shoes to fill, as we owe an awful lot to our executive of today.

Footnote: Expressions of interest are not currently being sought. Ed.

WHM Executive (again): I hope that this is a much exaggerated version of life at the top.

It gives you no time for nightlife
But maybe won't lose you your wife
Just work night and day
So others can play
It's almost a sentence for life.

Past Players & Non Players: The "Masters Matters" notebook has malfunctioned again during May and has no entries under this heading. Those I can recall from PHS are Jeff Godfrey, Brian Lester, and George Winning, and at Perry Lakes Rusty Phillips and Ken Watt. Good to see you all.

Well Dones: There were many 'A' division umpires during May. Thanks to: Adolphus Abrahams, Phil Anderson, Jim Balding, Greg Black, George Bradbury, Lionel David, Peter Evans, Peter Gason, Col Gee, Ian Hill, Mal Horrigan, David Horsley, Roger Jewell, Neil Mannolini, John Mercer, Peter Murray, Roger Partington, John Sanders, Neil Scaddan, Ken Watt and Ivan Wilson. Thanks also go to those who umpired in the 'B' and 'C' divisions - Gordon Jeffery has mentioned the 'B' division umpires in his report while 'C' division remain the unsung heroes. The Saturday umpires included: Peter Brien, Ken Edwards (great to have you back), Peter Gason, Colin Gee, Brian Glencross, Richard McEntee, John Mercer, Neil Scaddan, and Ken Watt. Our PHS sausage sizzle didn't happen this month so all thanks for cooking go to Jason. *Volunteers to run the June barbecue please contact Bob Bowyer.*

Grumpy Old Men Two: "Fashion is a form of ugliness so intolerable that we have to alter it every six months" *Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900)*

Shakespeare Said It: “He has his health, and ampler strength indeed than most have of his age.” The Winter’s Tale Act IV Scene III. *This is an accurate description of many playing members of WHM.*

There is only a tenuous connection with hockey for this one, but I like it.

Hamlet: “... why was he sent into England?”

1st Clown: “Why, because he was mad; he shall recover his wits there; or, if he do not, it’s no great matter there.”

Hamlet: “Why?”

1st Clown: “Twill not be seen in him there; there the men are as mad as he.” Hamlet Act V Scene I. *According to Alan Bryce (Scotland) this was true in Shakespeare’s day - and is still true today.*

Hockey and Royal Perth Golf Club): My thanks to Neil Mannolini for a clipping about Royal Perth members who have also been hockey Olympians. Mentioned are Ian Dick, Eric Pearce and Gordon Pearce who were in the Australian squad for Melbourne 1956. Eric also went to the next three Games in Rome, Tokyo and Mexico City, winning bronze and silver medals. Members who attended later games were David Bell and Terry Walsh (Montreal and Los Angeles), Neil Hawgood (Seoul), and Greg Corbitt (Barcelona).

Umpiring: On the 31st I got to do the first game of the day (first time ever), and found that player mistakes were much less frequent (before they tired). Hopefully this meant less umpire errors too.

Quotable Quote Number Three: Other than the fearless writings of Kevin Orr (aka “The Professor”) in Hockey Bulletins of bygone days I had not seen a fictional mention of hockey. So here is one worth sharing: “... Miriam takes nines in voices. They had to stop her playing in the ‘Macaws’ Hockey Club because you could hear what she thought when her shins got mixed up in a scrimmage for half a mile on a still day. They are called the Macaws because of their blue-and-yellow costumes but I understand there was nothing yellow about Miriam’s language.” *From “The Innocence of Reginald”, a short story by ‘Saki’, the pen name of H. H. Munro (1870 - 1916). He was killed in WW I.*

New Players: Joining our WHM ranks during May were Kalwant Singh, Tony Watkins and Len Walker. Welcome to you all. If you play in the ‘B’ division there is every chance that you will re-appear here on a semi-regular basis, but the ‘C’ division very rarely features in “Masters Matters.”

‘A’ Division Blog (continued): Another month with five Wednesdays has caused an overflow.

May 31st: The State O/70 trials were conducted before our games, and had an impact. Red lost the services of John Jeffreys for the day, Mal Horrigan did not play all the games, and Peter Murray strained a muscle under the workload. Other teams were less affected, but it must have been a test of fitness for all trials participants. White were less depleted than their opponents, with only Brian Soares (70s trials) and Ham D’Souza (recurrence of plantar fasciitis) away. The results reflected this, with Blue competitive in all matches but only able to score one goal (Roy Grant filling in from White). Gold also only scored once (Ian Lyon again), and missed the midfield drive and distribution of Greg Black. Red regained Bob Byers, whose pace up front resulted in two goals against Gold, even if he needed some assistance from the Gold defence for one of them. Bill Williamson got their third, which is his first goal since the third quarter of 2015 (welcome back). Dave Horsley finally managed to play in White’s forward line again after being obliged to fill defensive holes for some time, and joined five other single goalscorers. Good goals were scored by Paul Robinson, Ron Venables and Ken Beer, but the goal of the day had to be a rasping field goal by right half Scott Blackwell (hope the 70s selectors were still watching). Player numbers were Blue (9), Gold (10), White (13) and Red (8), so Roy Grant went from White to Blue, and Eric Alcock and Robin Bailey played for Red. 11 goals were scored.

All news and other contributions to:

John Mercer - ‘A’ Division White team. Email: johnmercer@iinet.net.au.