



A Blue

A Gold

A Red

A White

B Blue

B Gold

B Red

B White

C Blue

C Gold

C Red

C White

O/65 Blue

O/65 Green

O/65 White

Masters Matters

Issue No 4

April 2020

Regular Features:

Dates For The Diary: Page 3.
Department of Corrections: Page 4.
Department of Health: Page 4.
Letters to the Editor: Page 4.
'A' division blog: Page 5.
Saturday Hockey Masters: Page 6.
Balinese Bulletin: Page 7.
'B' Division Report: Page 8.
Test Your Hockey Knowledge: Page 9.

Irregular Features:

President's Message: This Page.
Good News: Page 3.
'A' Division Umpiring Session: Page 3.
Welcome to New Players: Page 4.
Getting Silly: Page 4.
Safe Social Distancing: Page 5.
Hockey Australia Statement: Pages 10/11.
WMH Statement on World Cups: Page 11.
Next Edition of MM: Page 12.

President's Message: *At this critical time while both Wednesday and Saturday play are suspended it is appropriate that our President gets the front page.*

I do hope that you and your families are all keeping well and healthy. I am writing this at the end of the second week of no hockey, or anything else.

I wanted to thank WHM committee and the Sat committee for acting so promptly in the decision to defer all hockey until 31st May. My thanks to you all, as at the time we were ahead of both HA and HWA in our action. Thank you members for the many letters of support in our decision.

Prior to the deferment WHM members in all our Divisions were looking extremely strong. B Division had just formed a fourth team, which under the strong leadership from Mike Robinson was performing extremely well. Adrian Gabriel has done a great job as coordinator, in keeping the teams balanced in numbers and strength. The other 3 captains in Bill Campbell, Peter Arch Andrews and Dudley Evans have all done a great job, and I hope will continue to keep in touch with team members while hockey is differed.

A Division numbers had also increased having just returned to a spanking new blue surface at PHS, after a stint at playing on Tuesdays, while the new surface was being laid. My thanks to George Bradbury as coordinator, and all the captains Neil Scaddan, Colin Gee, Jim Wright and Dave Horsley for keeping the comp going during the disruptions.

I should also like to thank A Division for taking the initiative in improving the quality of umpiring. Steve McEntee has held some very informative and helpful sessions, which have helped improve the umpiring, and the players' attitude! Many thanks to you all, especially to Steve.

C Division also have had an influx of new blood, which is always good to see. They also had just returned to PHS after a spell at Hale. Without new younger players coming into C Division our competition would eventually fold. It is imperative we keep recruiting young 50 year olds.

For your information the average age in A Division is 75, B Division 69 and C Division 58 and we have approximately 190 members with 4 teams in all three Divisions.

I should also like to thank John Mercer as editor of Masters Matters for all the work he does each month, well done.

Colin Gee is our records keeper, a mammoth task, which we can all help him with by notifying him or your captain if you change you email address, mobile, or home address.

Harvey Davies who looks after all bookings has done a wonderful job amongst the turmoil.

Robin Bailey our uniforms officer has kept us looking like hockey players (Roger Davey the exception) and we will have new stock of shirts by the time we recommence.

Bob Bowyer our assistant secretary is recovering from another Knee replacement, my thanks to Tony Jones for taking the reins with the weekly raffle.

My thanks to Neil Patterson as Secretary, who has kept you all well informed of the many changes that have happened in such a short space of time.

My thanks to all of you for being part of WHM.

Keep well and fit.

Simon Thomson

Dates For The Diary:

2020: At the moment there are no hockey events at all scheduled for this year. Our Wednesdays, Saturdays and every Hockey WA fixture in all grades are suspended indefinitely. The interstate Masters tournaments have been cancelled and the World Cups have been deferred until 2021. The statement from Hockey Australia about the interstate event can be found on Pages 10/11 and the full announcement from World Masters Hockey is on Page 11.

2021: July 23rd to August 8th. Tokyo Olympics (hopefully).

Masters World Cups:

Australia, Southern Cross and Alliance.

O/35 and O/40 Men and Women - Nottingham, England.

O/45, O/50 and O/55 Men; O/45, O/50, O/55, O/60, O/65 Women; Spirit of Masters - Cape Town SA.

O/60, O/65, O/70 and O/75 Men; Tournament Trophy - Tokyo, Japan.

In all cases it is hoped that the dates will be as close to the original schedule as possible.

MM's limericist comments on the Gold Coast tournament:

It seems that this blinking disease

Has led to a full travel freeze

No up and away

For interstate play

We all have to be absentees.

WHM Suspends Play: These are strange times when it is necessary to take a decision of this nature for the welfare not only of the population at large, but also of our own. There are many of us in the age groups most at risk, and for me the possible severity of the situation was summed up in a recent comment by Scott Blackwell regarding the Saturday Hockey Masters. Scott said that if all our group caught the COVID-19 virus that statistically 6 of us would die from it.

Our hockey is done for a while

Since COVID-19 cramped our style

No TV sport shown

We'll sit home and moan

And sometimes use language that's vile.

Good News: It is very pleasing to be able to report that John Sanders has been awarded the Hockey Australia Award of Merit. John's letter of notification states that this is "bestowed upon individuals in recognition of their dedicated and sustained commitment to the development of hockey in Australia." The presentation was to have occurred at the FIH ProLeague on Saturday 16th May at Perth Hockey Stadium. We will keep you informed when a new date and time is known.

Congratulations to John for this extremely well-merited award.

'A' Division Umpiring Session: Well done again to Steve McEntee and George Bradbury for a follow up. This took place in the PHS tunnel on Wednesday March 11th. Among the main points were:

- Communication between the umpires is vital.
- Be prepared to change your decision if your colleague signals, or one of the players who benefited from your decision tells you what really happened.
- Correct signals and occasional use of the voice are musts. Use the voice to indicate to the players that you have seen the breach and are allowing advantage.

The current rules may be downloaded from the link below. *(Or they can just be read).*

<http://www.fih.ch/inside-fih/our-official-documents/rules-of-hockey/>.

Quotable Quote One: "Sometimes I lie awake at night and I ask 'Where have I gone wrong?' Then a voice says to me, 'This is going to take more than one night.'" Charlie Brown in 'Peanuts.'

Department of Corrections: I omitted to give the answer for John's 'Test Your Hockey Knowledge' question. Both question and answer have been included this time as well as the new question.

Department of Health: Now that we have no regular contact this section will be out of touch with many of our Wednesday and Saturday players. We will include those I know about in this final edition before the enforced break. Les Waldon's shoulder is still not good and he may require a full reconstruction. However he's not yet been able to secure an appointment with his regular surgeon. Bob Bowyer is now going through (again!) the lengthy and sometimes painful recovery from a knee replacement. Roger Partington has had a spell in Hollywood Hospital on a course of intravenous antibiotics for 'Bronchiectasis.' And Vern Gooch was discharged from Fremantle Hospital on the 25th and is continuing his rehabilitation at home. Mike says that he's doing well, but (like the rest of us) needs to avoid visitors. Best recovery wishes to all, including those I have not heard about.

Letters To The Editor: Thank you to Terry Gaston (who liked the lined up dogs) and John Milner.

New Players: Welcome to Bob Claxton and Peter Trend, who are both joining 'A' Division. At least they will be when we are able to resume play. Bob is already well known to those of us who have been coached by him in Australian teams over the years.

Grumpy Old Men and Women One: "There are 10^{11} stars in the galaxy. That used to be a huge number but it's only a hundred billion dollars. That's less than the national deficit. We used to call them astronomical numbers. Now we should call them economical numbers." *Richard Feynman, US physicist involved in the formulation of quantum mechanics (1918 - 1988).*

Getting Silly?

Photo from John Sanders



But is it sillier than what is actually happening?

'A' Division Blog: Despite my firm intention to reduce the detail in this report it transpired that there was not a lot of news to include in this edition, so it needed a little padding.

March 4th: Numbers were better and the normal fixtures were played with 4 goalkeepers all padded up. Many players attended for the first time in a while, including Ken Beer, Bob Claxton, Gordon Jeffery, Phil Metcalf, Bob Robinson and Ken Walter. Results were inconsistent, as the scores show:

Red 1 Gold 1; White 0 Blue 3; White 1 Gold 0; Blue 0 Red 2; White 1 Red 1; Blue 0 Gold 3.

Some very fine goals were scored, including three to Ken Walter. The keepers also made some great saves, with a hand stop to Tony Marshall and a stick stop to Colin Benporath the standouts. Scorers: **Blue:** Jim Banks, Neil Patterson (2); **Gold:** Angelo Strano, Ken Walter (3); **Red:** Ray Domingo (2), Colin Murray-Smith, Ron Venables; **White:** Steve McEntee (2). Special mentions go to Hector D'Rozario and Sukdev Pandher for scoring assists; Hector's a fine run and reverse stick pass to Steve in front. A few players had their day ended early due to injury, including Neil Patterson, but excluding that team numbers were: **Red** (10), **Gold** (11), **White** (10) and **Blue** (9).

March 11th: Again all teams were at or close to full strength. The inconsistency of the results was even more marked than the previous week and included several blow outs. Red appear to have snapped up Bob Claxton and dominated all their games (including the one they lost) while a severely depleted Blue struggled to be competitive at times. Len Blyth and Ham D'Souza have added a lot to White and Gold's forward line is very competitive, even without Peter Willett and Ken Walter. It was the first game for some time for Phil Metcalf and Neil Scaddan. All four goalkeepers (Tony, John, Barry & Colin) made some fine saves but got little assistance from their defences to clear rebounds. But the save of the day was certainly Mark Faithfull on the goal line. The results were:

Blue 0 White 4; Red 0 Gold 1; Red 4 White 0; Gold 1 Blue 1; Red 3 Blue 0; Gold 0 White 1.

Scorers: **Blue:** John Ree **Gold:** Phil Metcalf, Rod Spencer **Red:** Ray Domingo (6), Col Murray-Smith **White:** Ken Beer, Ham D'Souza (2), Brian Soares (2). The approximate numbers based on original teams were: **Blue** (10 includes visitor Peter Trend), **White** (11, filled in for Gold on a rotational basis), **Red** (10, including Bob Claxton), **Gold** (9).

March 18th and March 25th: No play possible, which applies for the foreseeable future.

So now we're at home for some time

Cut off when we're just in our prime

We can't have a crowd

No visits allowed

The set-up is far from sublime.



From Saturday Masters: Not COVID-19 - a gastro outbreak on the Rhine River at Namedy Castle



We considered trying to conduct the AGM by email, but eventually decided that deferral was the better option. Email would have made it difficult for members to ask questions or make comments and conducting a ballot would not be easy. In addition, there is very little for an incoming Committee to do until there is a possibility of a resumption of play.

For those (like me) who much regret missing out on the WA Spit Roasts dinner, which was to have followed our AGM Jim Wright has used our deposit with them to make a tentative booking for the end of September. Things will be dire if we are not playing by then.

In addition to donors Paul Huisman and Ken Walter, mentioned in the March issue, thanks are also due to Scott Blackwell, who donated the nibbles on 18/01. And Howie Herbert had offered to put his wine collection on the table at the AGM dinner. Until we manage to get organised for this function it might be better kept at home as emergency supplies during an extended lockdown.

When play resumes there is a delayed beer purchase due. John Mercer did not buy a drink on his birthday, as he was not able to have one himself. That needs to be rectified.

We all received this message from Club Captain Les Waldon. It bears repeating here.

“I think it would be very valuable for us, as a particular age cohort, to know how well we have survived this potentially catastrophic threat.

To that end, we would really appreciate it, if you would report to me lawdent@westnet.com.au or to Jim, if you develop symptoms of the Covid19 virus and whether you are able to know how you might have been exposed to it.

Hopefully, a complete lockdown for a few weeks will flatten out the numbers significantly.

In the meantime, stay well.

Regards,
Les”

Balinese Bulletin No 50: *Congratulations to Peter on a fine half century, which has been completed just before the break. Hopefully there will be Bali reports again before too long.*

LIFE AS WE KNOW IT ...CANCELLED!!

Who would have thought, as we entered 2020, that the entire Globe would be in such fearful & uncertain times, particularly for all those as old as those who are now reading this. I sit here in Bali with a growing sense of Fatalism ...not a sense of dread but just knowing that the entire World is fighting this & there is nothing I can do about it other than to act responsibly to protect myself. Self isolation for us here is nothing new for us as we have been practising this for many, many months now & so have become pretty well accustomed to it by now.

On a slightly different front, I read with disappointment, not surprise, that Wednesday Hockey Masters has been postponed until further notice. On hearing this I cast my mind back to that sunny afternoon sometime in October 1991. There we were gathered, George Winning & myself, along with another 20, or so, middle aged gentlemen set to enjoy an afternoon of hockey followed by a few quiet drinks in the bar following the game. Who would have thought then that some 21 years further down the track that this humble hockey match would have grown into what it is today. I must say that I am proud to have played a part in its growth over the time. Long may it continue.

I sit here at my computer putting this 50th item together in complete silence ...25th March here in Bali is one of this Island's most important religious days ...NYEPI. To cast a more informative light on Nyepi I will insert something that will better explain what this day means to the people here in Bali.

Nyepi is a time of purification prior to the New Year. All of the evil spirits that have been lurking over this island paradise are metaphorically told to pack their bags and scam! This is represented through a series of events that occur in the lead up to the sacred holiday. The day of silence influences the malevolent spirits into believing that there is no one left on the island; thus, causing them to leave.

This silence is difficult to express in wordsimagine waking up in the morning where you live in Perthcomplete silence, other than the bird sounds in the garden. No passing traffic, no radio or TV, no music, no people walking the streets or gathering ...Nothing ..& this remains so until 6.00 am the following day. The evening provides something of a minor challenge in that we are permitted only minimal light to navigate around the house. Going to bed earlier is always an option!

In closing, let us wish you all good health in the months to come & hope that you are all soon back on the field in the not too distant future.

Peter Hammond

Thanks again Peter. Please stay in touch. Ed.

Well Dones: March (all two weeks of it) 'A' Division umpires were George Bradbury, Bob Claxton, Peter Evans, Colin Gee, Gordon Jeffery, John Lindsay, Steve McEntee, Neil Scaddan, Brian Soares, Ron Venables Ken Watt, Ricky Watts and Jim Wright. Thanks to you all. At Perry Lakes the umpires noted include Eric Alcock, George Bradbury, Peter Brien, Peter Murray, Steve Powles, Don Sanders, Neil Scaddan, Don Smart, Rod Spencer, Les Waldon, Len Walker, Ken Walter and Ken Watt. Thanks gentlemen. Those who I saw cooking the sausages on 4th March were Ken Beer and Ricky Watts with the overall organization done by Ivan Wilson. Thanks to you all.

Past Players, Non-Players, Injured Players: Bar revenues will suffer at both PHS and Perry Lakes. Last drinks were enjoyed at PHS by Eric Alcock, Peter Brien, John Mercer, Gordon Thomas and George Winning. At Perry Lakes the notebook indicates Bruce Mercer, John Mercer, Paul Robinson, John Sanders, Neil Scaddan, Rod Spencer, Les Waldon and Ken Walter.

Punology One: Did you hear about the railwayman hauled up before his boss, who yelled: "You have to be the worst train driver in history. How many trains did you derail last year?" "His response was: "Can't say for sure, it's so hard to keep track."

'B' Division March 2020: *From Dudley Evans*

Wow what a month! We started off March hockey with a massive threat lurking in the shadows! The Red side had been organised and in the first week of March were finally let loose. We had been lulled into thinking they may need assistance to get up and running but after winning their very first game together our thoughts were quickly refocussed as to how best to be competitive against them. Playing against them was like facing a virus (but nothing like the current Virus), they were everywhere in plague proportions, Captain "Robbo" had recruited well! There are even suggestions that an independent audit is required to make sure player payments are under the 2020 salary cap!

With the successful introduction of the Red side the competition was beginning to take on a much healthier look. One might think that the competition would be diluted with more participants but in fact the opposite has turned out to be the case. The games were competed for just as fiercely and the standard of hockey at least for the first 2 weeks had improved. This may be due to the generally high standard of player in WA or due to the generally low standard of player on Wednesday afternoon. Whatever the answer, as long as we are out there enjoying ourselves, who cares?

As you will all be aware following the first two weeks of March our competition has been put in hibernation for a while. Personally I have been using my time productively mowing the lawns, drinking wine and watching brawls at the supermarket. I look forward to the time when this crisis is over and hopefully most of us if not all can resume battles on the hockey field. In the meantime stay healthy and look after your friends and family.

Many thanks Dudley. We can have some time off from hockey now, but hopefully normal service will resume eventually. I had heard that for those who must watch live sport that the only events still on are live wrestling and boxing at Coles, Woolies, IGA and Aldi. Ed.

Refunds: The question has arisen of nomination fees from those who applied for selection in one of the WA State teams. Neil Patterson has advised everybody that the money goes to the WA Masters Hockey Committee, who have decided to refund all fees.

The Saturday Masters at Perry Lakes had very nearly completed the summer season when all play was terminated. We had drawn up the winter budget, but not yet asked for payment of fees.

Shakespeare Said It: "... let us beseech you that for our gold we may provisions have." Pericles, Prince of Tyre Act V Scene I. *Desperate shopper seeks toilet paper and other essentials.*

"I am sure you are not satisfied of these events at full." The Merchant of Venice Act V, Scene I. *That's how most of us feel about the total lack of hockey.*

"Sweet are the uses of adversity; which like the toad, ugly and venomous, wears yet a precious jewel in his head; and this our life, exempt from public haunt, finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks, sermons in stones, and good in everything." As You Like It, Act II, Scene I. *That is said by the banished and exiled Duke. I'd like to be able to emulate him, and find good in the current scene.*

Quotable Quote Two: "The number of books will grow continually, and one can predict that a time will come when it will be almost as difficult to learn anything from books as from a study of the whole universe. It will be almost as convenient to search for some bit of truth concealed in nature as it will be to find it hidden away in an immense number of bound volumes." *Denis Diderot - French philosopher, art critic and writer (1713 - 1784). Then we added tables of contents and indices to books, invented the Dewey decimal system and ended up (for the moment) with the internet. On the net the facts are dictated by whoever paid Google the most money.*

Vaccination: All players, especially those in the most at risk age groups, are urged to have the 'flu vaccination as soon as possible.

Test Your Hockey Knowledge With John Sanders: Apologies for my failure to provide an answer to the question posed in the February edition. Here is a repeat of the question, and the answer:

February's question was: In which Olympics did Australia's Women's team finish fourth after a 5-10 loss on penalty strokes to the USA. Was it?

- a) Olympic Games Moscow 1980.
- b) Olympic Games Los Angeles 1984.
- c) Olympic Games Seoul 1988.
- d) Olympic Games Barcelona 1992.

The answer is b), the Los Angeles Games in 1984. John says that it was ironic that the Australian girls (who were at their first Olympics) had beaten the USA 3-1 in their earlier match. Incidentally, I remember the circumstances of the shootout. Australia had just lost a decisive match to the gold medal winning Netherlands team, which was immediately followed by the shootout. Meantime, the American girls had been practicing penalty flicks. Definitely not a level playing field.

March's question was: Which of the following statements is true about the Hockeyroos successful Gold medal winning effort at the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games?

- a) Australia did not play New Zealand at these games.
- b) Claire Mitchell-Taverner made her debut for Australia.
- c) Australia conceded either 0 or 1 goal per match.
- d) a) and b).

The correct answer is c) as Australia only conceded 5 goals in total and never more than 1 per match.

April's question is: Which of the following statements is true about Australian goal scorers in the FIH International Hockey Tournament in Ahmedabad in 1962:

- a) Eric Pearce (WA) scored 7 goals.
- b) Gordon Pearce (WA) scored 5 goals.
- c) Both statements are true.
- d) Neither statement is true.

Answer next issue.

Punology Two:



Interstate Tournament Cancellation: Here is the text of the statement from Hockey Australia:

Hockey Australia (HA) can confirm all National Championships, including Masters, for this year have been cancelled, but re-emphasises a commitment for local competitions to take place at some stage in 2020. The decision was made after consultation and agreement with Member Associations (MAs) and the HA Masters Committee, coupled with the latest developments and government directives regarding COVID-19.

The **Australian Masters Hockey Championships**, which were scheduled to be held in June and July, had been initially postponed but are now cancelled. The 35+ and 40+ Men's competition set down for October will also no longer take place, as well as this year's **Masters Indoor Challenge**.

The **National Country Championships** scheduled for Albany WA in August will also be cancelled for 2020.

Planning around what these cancellations mean in regards to the timing and make up of all National Championships for 2021 has already commenced.

Considering the uncertainty around COVID-19 and these unprecedented times, the decision to cancel the entirety of **HA's national events** was made in the best interests of the hockey community and to ensure the health and wellbeing of all players, staff and officials, which remains the highest priority. It was also agreed that with the current restrictions in place, there would not be adequate opportunity to hold selection trials or competitions in order to select squads for the various championships.

The primary focus for HA and every MA for the remainder of this year will be on **local competitions** and working to ensure all Australian hockey members can operate and be part of viable competitions in 2020.

It is Hockey Australia and the Member Associations' ambition to ensure members get hockey sticks in their hands at the soonest possible time as community hockey is the lifeblood of the sport in this country. HA and the MAs reinforce the intention and importance to get local competitions up and running, but obviously only if and once clearance and assurances have been announced by the government and relevant health authorities.

Notably, any decisions regarding local state based competitions and leagues are up to the respective MA and individual state/territory. For the latest information and updates on state based hockey leagues and competitions, please contact your relevant **Member Association**.

A decision on the **Sultana Bran Hockey One League 2020 Season** will be made in the coming days. The Hockey One Board is scheduled to meet tonight and is expected to confirm a position on whether plans remain for Season 2 of the competition to go ahead.

HA can also confirm the closure of the **National High Performance Unit Daily Training Environment (DTE)** in Perth until further notice in the best interests of athletes and staff. This decision follows the announcement by the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) that Australian athletes should prepare for a Tokyo Olympic Games in the northern summer of 2021, which stems from the IOC flagging a potential postponement of this year's Games, together with changes in the public health landscape in Australia and across the globe.

HA fully supports the position taken by the AOC and have implemented this change in the best interests of our players, coaches and support staff. **Kookaburras** and **Hockeyroos** athletes have been instructed to return home, follow the necessary government protocols and remain socially responsible with planning now underway for a possible Olympics to be held sometime next year.

Meanwhile, the postponement of the **FIH Pro League** has been extended to 17 May 2020. This means the Hockeyroos' and Kookaburras' scheduled home matches against New Zealand on 16/17 May in Perth have been cancelled, together with the kids coaching clinics associated with the matches.

HA and the MAs reiterate the importance to follow all necessary measures and recommendations in preventing the spread of COVID-19, and will provide updates regarding community hockey and the 2021 calendar events in due course.

/11

Hockey Australia National Events cancelled for 2020

Under 13 Championships
Under 15 Championships
Under 18 Championships
Under 21 Championships
Country Championships
Women's and Men's Masters Champions

HA will continue to monitor, and act accordingly, in response to statements and policies enacted by both Federal and State Health authorities. Further advice on the Coronavirus COVID-19 can be found from the Australian Government Department of Health (www.health.gov.au) or for general advice regarding COVID-19, call the Australian Government's Coronavirus Health Information Line on 1800 020 080. *(I omitted the hygiene guidelines - Ed.)*

Comment: I can only feel sympathy for the people who had to make these difficult decisions. It is the only way that we will curb the spread of this thing - and the sooner we can do that the sooner that we can resume our domestic competitions.

World Cups Postponement: Here is the statement from the executive of World Masters Hockey.

Dear all,

The World Masters Hockey (WMH) Executive Board has been working very hard with our three host National Associations and their Organising Committees to plan the first ever WMH World Cup in 2020. Recent world events have created great social upheaval. We had hoped that things would return to normal in a relatively short time but it appears that this will not be the case.

Having reviewed the situation across the world, we believe that it is best to postpone the WMH 2020 World Cup. This is not a decision we have taken lightly.

In conjunction with the current organisers we are planning to hold the tournaments in 2021 on, or around, the same dates as we had planned for this year. The date for Tokyo is completely dependent on what happens with the Olympic Games, so it will be a while before we will be able to firm up on those dates. As the WMH World Cup 2020 tournaments will take place in 2021, the other tournaments organised by WMH, such as the European and Asian Cups, currently in planning, will now not take place in 2021. We will be issuing further information on how the decision to postpone the 2020 tournaments will impact on the ongoing cycle of events.

As this is a postponement, the event will still be the WMH World Cup 2020. The eligibility rules will be those in place now so, for example, the relevant qualifying age for players is as at 31 December 2020. As no competitions will have taken place in 2020, the Executive Board has agreed that the first-time team registration fee payment (£50 per team) will be carried forward to 2021. Clearly the annual membership fee which is used to cover ongoing administration costs is being used for that purpose so there is nothing to refund in this respect.

As each of the tournaments were at different stages of planning so this will impact each of them in slightly different ways, a separate email explaining exactly what this means for each of the tournaments will be issued shortly.

Comment: Again I think that this is the correct decision. Unlike our annual domestic interstate event this one can be deferred to 2021. I hope that it is possible to transfer all the arrangements and hotel bookings to next year without too much financial impact on the participating organisations.

Grumpy Old Men and Women Two: "A fool's brain digests philosophy into folly, science into superstition and art into pedantry. Hence University education." *George Bernard Shaw (1856 - 1950)*
And all the panic buying seen in recent weeks - Grumpy Old Ed.

Alone At Last

Photo from John Sanders



The Future: The staff of 'Masters Matters' have an opportunity to follow the excellent example set by the Mona Lisa and relax. So can all members of WHM for both Wednesday and Saturday. I urge all of us to remain in contact wherever possible and to look out for one another, and am sure that the bonds of friendship forged over the years are sufficiently strong to survive this period of enforced separation. Modern communication and social media would have been unthinkable even 30 years ago and should enable us to emerge from the COVID-19 hiatus as strong as ever.

Thank You: To the Wednesday and Saturday Committees, with special mentions to Simon Thomson, Neil Patterson and Les Waldon. Now is the time for good leadership, which we have certainly had.

Change of Details: Could all members of WHM, past and present, remember that in the event of any change to your email address you should notify Colin Gee. Colin is our data base administrator and his email address is gee.colin@gmail.com.

All news, other contributions, and Unsubscribe requests to:
John Mercer. Email: johnmercercer@iinet.net.au.

Next Edition: 'Masters Matters' is a hockey newsletter, no matter how many other irrelevancies we include each issue. So while there is no hockey to write about there can be no MM. If all the wider community do all the right things I am sure that it will be possible for our competitions to resume play later this year. When that happens 'Masters Matters' will be back. Until then, so long.