



A Blue

A Gold

A Green

A Red

A White

B Blue

B Gold

B Red

B White

C Black

C Blue

C Gold

C Green

C Red

C White

O/65 Blue

O/65 Green

O/65 Maroon

O/65 White

Masters Matters

Issue No 12

December 2021

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Access Cardiology Gala Day: This has been quite a big day since its inception, but this year's one has expanded well beyond all its predecessors. We have finally added two new teams, dubbed Cancer and Hearts, but Bob Bowyer's long-standing ambition to include teams from interstate has needed to be put on hold for another year. Due to the depleted numbers in our current Divisional sides it has been decided to depart from our standard fixtures and select teams just for the day. All players will need to keep a sharp watch on incoming emails to pick up when, where and in which colours they will be playing on the day. This issue includes all the details I have at the time of closing off and includes the programme and the Hips, Knees, Hearts and Cancer teams on Page 3.

MM's limericist decided that he could condense the previous paragraph into 5 brief lines:

Our first little Hips and Knees show
 Has always looked likely to grow
 The teams now are four
 With sponsors galore
 But interstate still is no go.

Christmas Party: I understand that payments are coming in rather slowly. Please book in and pay as soon as you can to assist with preparations and catering. As advised in the emails, players are up for \$20 while partners pay \$35 (i.e. \$55 for two and \$20 if you're going on your own). The BSB is 036004 and the bank account number is 111511. Please include your name and the number of people.

Proposed Re-Organisation: The decision has been taken that we will switch to four Divisions as from 6th April. There are some challenges to be overcome in accommodating players whose ages range from (potentially) 50 up to 85 and trying to keep everybody happy. With only two turfs available it would seem that some further fragmentation of our group is inevitable though we have been assured that the bar and access to food will be available for all. Before this can come into effect there is a lot of work to be done to redraft players and provide them with the correct colours.

Dates For The Diary:

2021 December 15th: Access Cardiology WHM gala day followed by WHM Christmas Party. PHS.

December 18th: Saturday hockey - Christmas club day and drinks at YMCA clubroom.

December 22nd and 29th: PHS closed - no play.

December 25th: No play at Perry Lakes.

2022 January 1st: No play at Perry Lakes.

April 6th: Changeover to four Divisions takes effect.

April 23rd to 30th: Australian Masters Games - Perth. Postponed from October 2021.

June 25th to July 3rd: Wim van Noortwijk memorial tournament Barcelona. (Southern Cross will not be sending any teams in these times of Covid).

September/October: Interstate championships (Men) - Gold Coast.

September/October (?): Interstate championships (Women) - Cairns.

2023 To be advised: Masters Interstate Championships for Men and Women. Home State WA.

Access Cardiology Gala Day: Thank you to Bob Bowyer for this planned programme for the day.

Turf One:

- 12.40 pm – 2.00 pm – B Division game & warm up. Game to start at 12.50 pm.
- 2.10 pm – 3.30 pm – CANCER v HEARTS game & warm up. Game to start at 2.20 pm.
- 3.30pm – 3.50pm – any presentation required for C v H and warm up for H v K.
- 3.40pm – 5.00pm – HIPS v KNEES game & warm up. Game to start at 3.50pm.
- 5.00pm – 5.20pm – any presentation required for H v K and warm up for C Division
- 5.10pm – 6.15pm – C Division game & warm up. Game to start at 5.20pm.

Turf Two:

- 1.30pm – 1.45pm – warm up time for A Division.
- 1.45pm- 3.45pm – A Division games
- 3.45pm-4.00pm – B Division warm up
- 4.00pm – 5.10pm – B Division game
- 5.10pm – 5.20pm – C Division warm up
- 5.20pm – 6.15pm – C Division game.

Teams :

<u>KNEES 2021</u>	<u>HIPS 2021</u>	<u>HEARTS 2021</u>	<u>CANCER 2021</u>
Stephen Adams (GK)	Dudley Evans (capt)	Steve Powles	Steve Farrar
David Lockett (capt)	Ashley Knapp	Peter Wallis	Rod Bickers
Adrian Gabriel	Andrew Robertson (GK)	Heath Tyrrell (capt)	Mal Horrigan
Graham Harper	Neil Miller	Russell Wood	Geoff Riley
Peter Selfe	Simon Thomson	Simon Williams	Terry Gaston
Royden D'Vaz	Bob Claxton	Peter Fogels	Ray Embry
Shane Williams	Rudy Keswick	Jim Wright	Stuart Amphlett
Nick Pereira	Simon Walsh	Ian Hill	Warren Noddings
Norman Same	Steve Steicke	Len Collier	Tony Jones
Michael Gottschalk	Jim Campbell	John Rogers	Les Waldon (capt)
Greg Allen	Shane Knapp	Rick Watts	Jim Balding
Thomas Long	Chris Buchan	Craig Burgess	Mike Sputore
Rob Ainsworth	Don Sanders	John Harper (GK)	Len Walker
Peter Eastlake	Rob Tincey	Carlo Sorci	Martin Hickey
Brian Thomas	Troj Sanders		John Mercer
			Ken O'Driscoll (GK)

Supporters: A lot of work has been done by the organizers, as this list of sponsors shows:

Give Away Bags and Match Day Program: Medical Forum (Tony Jones).

Media: Naming rights Access Cardiology (hence Access Cardiology Gala Day).

Cancer Team: GenesisCare.

Heart Team: Perth Radiological Clinic.

Heart & Cancer Cup: Perth Urology Clinic.

Hips Team: Australian Orthopaedic Association.

Knees Team: Australian Orthopaedic Association.

Hip & Knee Bionic Cup: Australian Orthopaedic Association.

Quotable Quote One: “The statistics on sanity are that one out of every four Americans is suffering from some form of mental illness. Think of your three best friends. If they’re okay then it’s you.” *Rita Mae Brown. US author and social activist. Explains a bit about the USA today? Ed.*

Department of Health: Commiserations to Mike Robinson, who was all set to have a run with the Cancer team on 15th December. A broken hand will keep him out of hockey for at least 6 weeks. Jim Wright has also had to pull out of the Heart side on the 15th due to some ongoing cardiac issues. In very late news Carlo Sorci is out as well, due to some post-operative complications. In even later news Chris Buchan is out of the Hips side as it appears he's in need of a double qualification. Mal Jackaman was able to resume Hockey action on 1st December and all appeared to go fairly well considering the amount of hockey he's missed. George Bradbury was due for a hip replacement on 1st December - all good so far and he's back home again. Ken Walter is having some eye surgery early in December and again we hope all went/will go as it should. Barry Rutter has made it to PHS a few times to see how we're going, but any comeback is some way off still. On the good news front, Brian Soares has now resumed regular play and seems to be in good shape other than needing a helmet. On 1st December comebacks were also made by Jim Banks, Jim Balding and Gordon Jeffery. Best wishes go to the sufferers in all three Divisions for a speedy and complete recovery.

Letters To The Editor: November's MM did not elicit too many direct responses. Thank you to Peter Galbraith, John Halley, Ric Denny, Mal Jackaman and Bill Baldwin for their communications. Some can be read elsewhere in this edition - Ric on Page 7 and Bill on Page 11.

Peter Galbraith: "In the next newsletter it is possible to enquire whether anyone in our Masters group has knowledge, or can lead me to somebody who has, knowledge of COINS ETC

After my folks passed away I was left with a large number of coins and notes ... no idea of value or otherwise. If the collection I possess has no real value, I can donate the coins to some worthy cause - or just give them all to my grandchildren."

Do we have any members with knowledge on this subject who can give Gallows some expert advice? Or any who are members of the Perth Numismatic Society?

You can contact him at 'Peter Galbraith' gallows123416@yahoo.com.au.

John Halley: Our shortage of limericks last issue has spurred JH into sending one. This is not quite the original one, which had some resemblance to the "... young man of Japan, whose limericks never would scan because I like to fit as much into the last line as I possibly can."

John Mercer for quite a long time's

Been writing his doggerel crimes

So sparse is the news

His limerick muse

Is missing a few decent rhymes

That may have been the case for November, but not so this month. Ed.

Department of Corrections: Again it was difficult to find any blatant errors in the November Masters Matters. I'm sure that our readers would have told us if they'd found any.

Player Birthdays: If you do not want to have your birthday included in Masters Matters then please contact the editor at the email address johnmercercer@iinet.net.au.

Please let me (and Colin Gee) know if there are any errors or misspellings. We stress again that there is no compunction to buy drinks for the bar on either a Wednesday or a Saturday.

Happy December birthdays to all the following:

A Division: 8th Scott Blackwell (1944) 22nd Keith Kessell (1945) 31st Phil Metcalf (1946).

B Division: 1st Tony Freeman (1950) 2nd Shane Knapp (1954) 3rd Bill Campbell (1949) 12th Keith Gilbride (1953) 18th Andrew Robertson (1952) 22nd Alan Ledger (1949) 26th Greg Wood (1954) 31st Shane Williams (1956).

C Division: 3rd Stuart Amphlett (1961) 6th Mark Oosterling (1970) 15th Kevin Knapp (1962) 24th Kevin Burton (1960) 30th Brian Robinson (1958).

Saturday: 6th Peter Livingstone (1940).

'A' Division Blog: Green only lost once and Blue 3 times - for the entire month.

November 3rd: The Red side was undefeated, Blue, Gold and Green only lost once while White were the day's easy beats. The four goalkeepers meant that they could stay fresh by having games off and they were generally hard to pass. All sides had the numbers until Peter Jones injured a calf and Ken Watt felt the effect of the unusual bright sunlight. The goal of the day judges liked the corner from Ricky Watts, the tomahawk from Peter Wallis and the Red team goal from Ken Beer, but eventually decided to award John Ree's volley. Rob Butler was there again and played with Red (which just happened to be the colour he arrived in). The day's results were:

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

Goal Scorers: **Blue:** Peter Eastlake, John Ree, Ricky Watts. **Gold:** Rod Spencer. **Green:** Peter Andrews, Steve McEntee (2). **Red:** Ken Beer, John Jeffreys, Ron Venables. **White:** Peter Wallis. The team numbers at maximum were: Blue (11), Gold (10), Green (10), Red (12), White (11). 11 goals.

November 10th: Gold and Green were both multiple players short so Roy Grant transferred from White to Green and John Ree from Blue to Gold. Blue kept 11 players, as Chip Challenor could not play all the games, especially after a fast ball on the foot from point blank range. White actually led in all four games but managed to snatch two losses and a draw from the jaws of victory. It is quite unusual for two penalty strokes to be awarded in one day, but it is even more unusual for both to be superbly saved by one goalkeeper - congratulations to Graeme Sansom. Graeme played very well almost all day, as did his colleagues John Burt and Colin Benporath, but the defences had a bad day and for once the forwards were quick to take advantage. Green and Blue did not have things all their own way, but still finished as the dominant sides, while Red badly missed John Jeffreys and Mal Horrigan and Gold missed Angelo Strano and Gordon Jeffery. The short list for goal of the day:

Ivan Wilson - tap in at the end of a fine corner variation from Blue.

Neil Scaddan - two beautifully placed finishes against White (volley well out and shot from the top)

Archie Andrews - reverse stick tap along from near the back line.

Peter Wallis - two centimeter perfect finishes against Gold (tomahawk and top of the circle).

The judges' decision was a joint award to Neil Scaddan and Peter Wallis. The day's results were:

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

Scorers: **Blue:** Peter Eastlake, Neil Scaddan (2), Ivan Wilson. **Gold:** John Ree (2). **Green:** Archie Andrews (2), Hector D'Rozario, Steve McEntee. **Red:** Colin Murray-Smith. **White:** Bob Le Merle, John Mercer (2), Peter Wallis (3). The player numbers at their maximum and in their original sides were: Blue (12), Gold (8), Green (6), Red (9), White (11). 17 goals were scored.

November 17th: Green and Blue were undefeated again, while the depleted Red and Gold sides had a tough time, especially against the White team who decided to reserve their best hockey for those games. Numbers were down and after all the White players arrived Robin Bailey and Roy Grant transferred from White to Red. That side also included Rob Butler, visiting from Bruce Rock, and the late arriving Ken Beer. The first 5 matches produced only 3 goals, after which the defences tired and the forwards realized that they could pass to one another and produce better results. Goalkeepers Speedie, Graeme, John and Colin were under pressure from then onwards and held up quite well, all things considered. Goal of the day went to the tomahawk from Peter Wallis, though Peter Jones claimed an honourable mention for White's equalising goal against his Green side. The day's results:

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

Scorers: **Blue:** Peter Eastlake, John Ree (2). **Gold:** None. **Green:** Peter Blockley, Steve McEntee (2), Ken Walter. **Red:** Rob Butler. **White:** Scott Blackwell, Ray Domingo, John Mercer (2), Peter Wallis (2). Team numbers at max: Blue (9), Gold (9), Green (9), Red (9), White (12). 14 goals were scored. /6

Quotable Quote Two: "Abundance of knowledge does not teach men to be wise." *Heraclitus (540 BC - 480 BC). Greek philosopher. True then and true today?*

'A' Division Blog (continued):

November 24th: The day included no draws, with Green and Blue dominating. Blue only lost in their clash with the undefeated Greens. Gold, Red and White all managed to win once in otherwise very bad days. White hit their low point in the game against Green and the 3-0 loss could easily have been a lot more. Goalkeepers Speedie, Graeme, John and Tony were under severe pressure in any game against Blue or Green as shown by the final goal tally. Another factor clearly was that the ball we began with was not a good one and many of the first goals of the day came directly from defensive mis-traps. The save of the day award has to go to John Burt for two fine denials in the one passage of play during the Gold/Green match. The goal of the day is a shared award between Steve McEntee (a good tomahawk) Archie Andrews and John Ree (4 goals apiece). The day's results:

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

Scorers: **Blue:** Ian Hill, John Ree (4). **Gold:** Hector D'Rozario. **Green:** Peter Andrews (4), Steve McEntee (2), Ken Walter, Ken Watt. **Red:** Bob Bowyer. **White:** Scott Blackwell, John Mercer (2). Team numbers were Blue (9), Gold (8), Green (10), Red (10), White (11). 18 goals went in.

A Division Comment: It has been pleasing in recent weeks to see the captains conferring when fill-in players are needed. It can be quite frustrating to be opposed to the same elite player multiple times in one Wednesday afternoon. MM's limericist decided he wanted a say:

You're short and your side needs a boot
 You think a star player would suit
 It isn't your call
 As what should befall
 The donor team names the recruit.

From Saturday Masters:

It has been extremely difficult to combine bar duties with taking care of our hockey ball bag plus the first aid kit and defibrillator and caretakers were sought on 20th November. The volunteers were Bruce Mercer (balls) and Ian Hill (medical equipment). On days when Ian cannot be there Peter Livingstone has put his hand up to be the backup. Many thanks to all.

Ours is a club where members are prepared to help and to be generous. To illustrate this point the following have all given something during November:

Bob Byers: Donated all the food on 6th November.

John and Robyn Peirce: Donated half the food on 20th November.

Ron Venables: Our corner flags appear to have been stored in the big sea container. So Ron has made and donated another set.

Life Member Bob Bowyer: Made a cash donation in lieu of fees.

Many thanks to you all.

I hope that members are pleased with the location of our summer ground. I consider that our ground marker Tim Scurry has done an excellent job and look forward to playing on the shady wing on the warmer days.

The goals have been wandering after we depart and we've been in discussion with YMCA regarding the possibility of chaining them together. Apparently the people who use them will bring bolt cutters if we do this. They were very near the field on 27th November, but this was due to the President of YMCA having been down and moved them back during the morning. This will be ongoing.

Nibbles: Club Captain Les announced that during the warm summer season it's quite OK to bring sandwiches instead of hot food. That makes a lot of sense.

Make sure that you book in to play by responding to Jim Wright's email before 12:00 noon on Fridays. And if you've booked in and can't make it, then please let him know that too.

Punology One: There is a shorter alternative to "sleeping bag." All you need is a "Napsack."

No Balinese Bulletin: Nothing from Peter again this issue. We and he hope he'll be back next year.

Letters to the Editor: We heard from Ric Denny for the first time in a while. Here he is:

.... Although I haven't been receiving emails I have been able to catch up on MM monthly editions by going to WHM web site. It is great reading all the "gossip" and following what things are happening. We have been in lockdown here in Bowral (as has all regional NSW) for the past 5 months but are now out and fortunately there has only been a few number of covid cases and some 94% here have had double jabs.

I may have mentioned that I am not playing hockey but completely into golf however a niece and family have move here from Sydney (as are many younger families as real estate is marginally cheaper and there are very good facilities: schools, shops, hospitals etc.) and their 3 children are into Minkey played at the local hockey centre in Welby (small suburb of Mittagong a village about 5 km from Bowral) and thus in the Southern Highland winter mornings (sometimes regularly 1 degree or below and windy) I have refreshed an interest in hockey by watching them and in a very small way assist in coaching.

The centre boasts two fields, one an original sand filled surface and last year a wet turf similar to Aquinas was competed, due to these facilities the sport is very strong with junior numbers increasing.

Please give my regards to all that I know, reading MM there are many new players that have joined since my leaving some 8 years ago whom I don't know.

Very kind regards, Ric Denny

Thanks Ric - good to hear that you're still in touch. Best wishes for Christmas from us all. Ed.

Shakespeare Said It: "... shall then have no power to stand against us." Measure For Measure Act V, Scene I. *A Division Green team evaluate their Wednesday opposition.*

"What is infirm from your sound parts shall fly; Health shall live free and sickness freely die" All's Well That Ends Well Act II, Scene I. *Hence Hips, Knees, Hearts and Cancers.*

"To B or not to B, that is the question." Hamlet, Prince of Denmark Act III, Scene I. *To be decided when the reshuffle takes place at the start of April.*

Wine Winners: Bill Campbell has won yet again, which is rapidly becoming a habit. Next issue we will be including the final totals for 2021 and will discover whether Bill's late surge can take him as far as the top three. Our new format next year may make conducting the 2022 raffles quite difficult.

Well Dones for November: Wednesday's 'A' Division umpires were: Rob Ainsworth, Jim Balding, Ken Beer, Bob Bowyer, George Bradbury, Dudley Burrell, Bob Claxton, Peter Eastlake, Peter Evans, Peter Galbraith, Terry Gaston, Colin Gee, Ian Hill, David Horsley, Gordon Jeffery, John Jeffreys, Peter Jones, Jeff Kozak, Bob Le Merle, Steve McEntee, Colin Murray-Smith, Colin Sanders, Neil Scaddan, Rod Spencer, Greg Street, Simon Thomson, Ron Venables, Les Waldon, Ken Walter, Ken Watt, Ricky Watts, Frank Williams. Saturday's umpires were: Rob Ainsworth, Eric Alcock, George Bradbury, Michael Gottschalk, Ian Hill, Steve Powles, Neil Scaddan, Greg Street, Ron Venables, Len Walker, Ken Watt. Many thanks also to Ivan Wilson and Bob Bowyer for the preparation, cooking and clean-up of the 24th November sausage sizzle. Well done all.

Past Players, Non Players and Injured Players June: Noted at PHS: Robin Bailey, Bob Bowyer, George Bradbury, Ham D'Souza, David Evans, David Horsley, Bob Maley, Barry Rutter, Neil Scaddan Brian Soares. At Perry Lakes: Eric Alcock, George Bradbury, David Lester, John Milner, John Peirce, Neil Scaddan, Brian Soares, Heath Tyrell (and dog), Len Walker, Ken Walter.

Grumpy Old Men and Women One: "There are in fact two things, science and opinion; the former begets knowledge, the latter ignorance." *Hippocrates (460 BC - 377 BC).*

'B' Division November 2021:

The improvement in play that was seen in October has continued through November with all teams highly competitive and all having their share of wins and losses! Again it is the goalies who are having most influence on the outcome of each game.

With ideal weather conditions now prevailing most players seem to be taking every chance to see how fit they can be for summer! Some are even warming up before their games in order to gain a competitive edge!

November finished with the customary get together and sausage sizzle. Another successful month ticked off on the highway of life for our club.

This month Michael Gottschalk is our featured player. Michael is well known through the WA Masters community as "Gorby" and is currently playing as a fullback for the white team. Read on and enjoy!

Dudley Evans

Thank you Dudley.

Michael Gottschalk

As many of you will know, my father, Vern Gooch, has been active in hockey in WA since the early 1950s so it's no surprise I've been around hockey pretty well since the day I was born.

My own hockey story started in 1962 when, as an 8-year-old, I started playing with Suburban ("Subs") in the Under 13 grade which was, at that time, the most junior grade run by WAHA. Our entire team then comprised 8- & 9-year-olds and we were very much up against it playing against much older boys.

I vividly remember my first ever game at Subs' home ground which is now the site of Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital (before Subs moved up the hill to Tregonning). We lost our first game to Fremantle 0-15 but we must have gone on to improve throughout the season because Fremantle only beat us 0-8 in the second round !!! If I'm not mistaken, it was 2 years before we actually won a game, but after 4 years in the grade, we were then the "big kids" and went on to win every game we played – such is the cycle of junior sport !!!

As a teenager, I continued to play hockey for Subs through all the junior grades, as well as at Wesley College where I went on to captain the school hockey team in 1971. I then played in Subs' top side for the next few years while I was at university during which time we fluctuated between 1A's and 1B's.

Throughout all my junior hockey and up to Colts level, I always managed to make the final squad of 22 at state selections, but never actually cracked the final 16 !!!

In early 1976 I left Perth and travelled overland to England where I got a job as a civil engineer in Manchester. There I joined one of the more prominent local clubs, Bowden HC, which played in the Northwest League. We went on to win the league cup that year and I personally enjoyed a fair bit of success scoring (I think) around a dozen goals from short corners. That doesn't say much about the quality of the opposition, I hear you all saying!!! While the hockey results at Bowden were great, I must say that I didn't really enjoy the club atmosphere itself very much as it was pretty "snobby" and "elitist" - just not my cup of tea.

The following year I was transferred to Yorkshire with my work where I then played two seasons with Bradford HC – and had an absolute ball. Compared with Bowden, Bradford HC had a totally different atmosphere which I enjoyed enormously, and I remain very close friends to this day with several my old Bradford team-mates. We enjoyed some success, even going on to play in the Yorkshire Cup final for the first time in the club's 100-year history (although we lost !!!). While we didn't know each other at the time, Jim Campbell (who played in Sheffield at the time) and I have since worked out that we probably played against each other.

While living in Yorkshire, I even managed to play two games for the Yorkshire County team which included the then England captain, Norman Hughes.

/9

After leaving England I spent several months travelling around Europe before settling in Heidelberg, a stunningly beautiful town in Germany, where I joined HC Heidelberg. Our top team included 3 German internationals, including Michael Peter who was captain of the German national team and FIH's first ever World Player of the Year. The hockey itself was "next level" in terms of intensity, professionalism, and commitment compared with the more social environment of hockey I'd experienced in England. HC Heidelberg went on to win the Bundesliga (National League) although my own contribution to the team's success could best be described as "modest" at best !!!

In 1981, I returned to Perth and played two seasons for Subs – including being part of the squad that won the 1A Grand Final in 1982. With work commitments requiring me to travel a fair bit, I couldn't commit to all the training that was required to play at the top level, so I gave away playing and started umpiring instead. I found that umpiring was a great way to 'stay in touch' with top grade hockey and to be perfectly honest I was probably a better umpire than I ever was a player!

Through the 1980s, I umpired a lot of top-grade hockey in Perth as well at interstate where I went on to umpire several Grand Final games at Australian Championships. In 1986 I was awarded my FIH International Umpires Badge & in 1988 I was asked if I would be available to go to the Seoul Olympics, an invitation which I declined so I'll never know if I would have been selected anyway !!!

In around 1991, happened to be at Yokine Reserve with my then 9-year old son, Daniel, watching heaps of junior teams playing. The Harlies Under 11 team was short a player, so Daniel filled in for them, and I then got a tap on the shoulder asking if I could fill in for one of Harlies "grade teams" playing that same afternoon. Thus began my 'come back' to actually playing again.

In the mid-1990s, a group of us moved into the Harlies Over 40 Vets team, after which we went on to enjoy a great 10-15 years together as a group, not only playing together with a fair bit of success but also enjoying a great bond of friendship. Unlike many of the older, more traditional Clubs, we were a group that came together at that time from all different hockey backgrounds, and my very closest hockey friendships with guys like Cameron Fairbrother, George Naylor, Chris North, Joslyn D'Silva, Mike Bridger, etc. actually started then.

In 1992 our Harlies group started regular annual tours to Malaysia – something which we continued doing for the next 15 years, and which always included inviting several new players from other Clubs. The stories from those trips get more exaggerated as the years go by and obviously what happened on tour stayed on tour!!!

In around 2010, while our Harlies vets team (now in Over 50s) continued be quite strong and successful, player numbers at the club were dwindling to a point where we started to struggle for new 'players coming through'. At the same time, Modernians vets were also struggling for numbers, so after a few years of the two clubs working together our entire Harlies Over 50 team moved to Mods. This not only enabled our Harlies "core" group to continue playing together, but we went on to enjoy new friendships with long-time Mods players, as well as many new players who have since joined Mods Over 50s and Over 60s teams.

Mods really is a fantastic "family" club which reminds me very much of early days playing at Subs. Not only is the standard of Mods masters' hockey pretty high, the camaraderie within our teams is second to none, and the hospitality that we provide after home at Charles Veryard is something that we're enormously proud of. I continue to really enjoy my Saturday hockey with the home-and-away format, something which is likely to be lost with younger 'vets' not wanting to play on grass.

In around 2015, I discovered Wednesday hockey at PHS, something which I enjoy enormously. It's hard to put into words but there really is something quite special about playing together with a group of guys, many of whom I've spent decades playing against. I also really enjoy the fact that while the games themselves are competitive and hard fought, at the end of the day the results don't actually count for anything. As I'm still working almost full time, the Wednesday afternoon at hockey is also like having a mini-midweek break for me.

Outside actually playing and umpiring, I've also been active off the field having been on committees at Subs, Harlies and Mods. I've also run events like the Gardie Marshall day (the

forerunner to vets hockey in WA) in the 1970s, and more recently, the Turtle Pre-season Carnival, a fundraiser for an injured hockey comrade Richard "Turtle" Wright which at one stage comprised up to 15 Over 40s & Over 50s team.

In closing, can I just say that hockey has been very special to me, both on and off the field. When, in the 1990s, when I was going through some very tough times both personally and in business, my hockey mates never wavered in their support for me – something I will never forget.

Hockey people are generally really good people who don't judge others. We might have different skill levels but once we're on the field, we're all equals irrespective of what car we drive, where we live, what we do for a living and where we come from. For me it's also very special to share a drink after a game with my team mates as well the guys I've just played against – something that non-hockey people just don't understand.

Thanks for the opportunity to tell my hockey life story to date and hopefully there are still quite a few more years ahead of me playing the game I love. If you've read this all the way to the bottom then you've either got too much time on your hands, or you really need to get a life !!!

Cheers - Gorby

Thanks Gorby for a great read. It never ceases to amaze me that everybody else has had a much more interesting career (work and hockey) than me. Ed.

Test Your Hockey Knowledge With John Sanders:

November's question was: Eddie Ockenden, Fergus Kavanagh & Kiel Brown played many international matches for their country. They were selected in the Australian kookaburras Hockey team in the same decade. Which of these statements is true.

- a) Eddie and Kiel were selected in the same year.
- b) Eddie was selected the year before Kiel and Fergus.
- c) Eddie was selected after Kiel had been selected.
- d) Fergus was the first of the trio to represent Australia.
- e) None of these statements is true.

No answers were received. b) is the right answer.

Eddie made his debut on the 19th June 2006, Kiel made his debut on the 18th January 2007 and Fergus debuted on the 5th May 2007.

December's question is: In August 1999 the Hockeyroos played in a Women's World Invitational Tournament at Milton Keynes, UK. The competing teams were Australia, Great Britain, Spain and the Netherlands and. Australia eventually lost the final 0-1 in extra time after Bianca Langham 2 and Alyson Annan scored in the initial 3-3 full time outcome.

Who were their opponents?

- a) Spain b) Netherlands c) Great Britain

Answer next issue.

Punology Two: I hope that our erudite readers are well aware that theology students are awarded a Doctorate of Divinity:

A young theologian named Fiddle
 Refused to accept his degree
 "It's quite bad enough being Fiddle
 Without being Fiddle DD."

Rules 'R Strict: Recently it was suggested that goal of the day might go to the Editor.

It's nice of one person to say
 The Ed could be goal of the day
 That would not be cool
 As there's a firm rule
 An editor selfie? No way!

Rules 'R Us: In recent weeks a couple of questions have been posed on the rules. In both cases I have looked at the latest rules on the FIH website but have not been able to obtain a definitive and final answer. As always, reader opinions are welcome.

Dangerous Play: The question on this one is whether a raised ball which imperils the striker's team mates should be penalised. The actual wording of the relevant rules is:

Rule 9.8: 'Players must not play the ball dangerously or in a way which leads to dangerous play.'

A ball is also considered dangerous when it causes legitimate evasive action by opponents.

The penalty is taken where the action causing the danger took place.'

Rule 9.9: 'Players must not intentionally raise the ball from a hit except for a shot at goal.

A raised hit must be judged explicitly on whether or not it is raised intentionally. It is not an offence to raise the ball unintentionally from a hit, including a free hit, anywhere on the field unless it is dangerous. If the ball is raised over an opponent's stick or body on the ground, even within the circle, it is permitted unless judged to be dangerous. 25 Players are permitted to raise the ball with a flick or scoop provided it is not dangerous. A flick or scoop towards an opponent within 5 metres is considered dangerous. If an opponent is clearly running into the shot or into the attacker without attempting to play the ball with their stick, they should be penalised for dangerous play.'

I discussed this one with two members of our Wednesday umpiring panel. One agreed with me that any ball which generates evasive action from the striker's team mates should be counted as dangerous, especially as we do not take evasive action as quickly at our ages as we once did. The other thought that the rule is explicit. I'd suggest that umpires should err on the side of caution.

The other question concerns goalkeepers storing stuff in the goals. I have not been able to find any rule which forbids this - can any knowledgeable reader enlighten us?

Letter To The Editor: Bill Baldwin has not only confirmed his retirement from hockey, but is also moving and has a lot of goalkeeping gear which he would like to go a good home. Here he is:

"Whilst one cannot dictate I would love to see Junior members of a Club/Clubs get the best chance to pick up any useful Goalkeeper items. The items range from very old to relatively recent. Bags included. I will leave it to WHM to determine how they may be best distributed & determine if any funds can result by way of donation. I am not sure about an auction - after all most items are well used. Collectively these bags have travelled the world with Australian Masters over 25 years and served us well.

I will bring them to the Stadium next Wednesday 8th December.

Whatever is left over I will collect and dispose of"

Bill Baldwin



Roll of Honour 2021: I'm sure that we have had a better year of Masters hockey than anywhere else in the world. 2022 will bring some new challenges, starting with the reorganization in April. As normal the Christmas edition of "Masters Matters" will thank those who make things work.

Executive: It has been another super busy year for our top team of Simon Thomson (President), Tony Jones (Vice President), Neil Patterson (Secretary), and Steve Farrar (Treasurer) with back up from Bob Bowyer (Assistant Secretary). Very well done to all for smoothing out the bumps.

Divisional Coordinators & Team Captains: Thanks to Divisional Coordinators George Bradbury ('A'), Adrian Gabriel ('B') and Colin Howell and Tony Jones ('C'), who do their best to keep us all happy. Allied to the coordinators are the team captains - who this year were:

A Division: Neil Scaddan (B) Colin Gee (Go), Peter Andrews (Gr), Jim Wright (R) David Horsley (W). Vice captains included Ivan Wilson (B) , Mal Jackaman (Go), Ron Venables(R) and Peter Evans (W).

B Division: Dudley Evans (B), Bill Campbell (Go), Mike Robinson (R) and Jim Campbell (W).

C Division: Stuart Amphlett (Black), Tony Jones (Blue), Mike Sputore (Gold), Paul Cartwright (Green), Kevin Burton (Red) and Wayne Cutler (White).

Thank you and well done to all those listed, plus any others unknown to me.

Off-Field Roles: Our Wednesday games need equitable fixtures to work as they should. Thank you to Dan Hill who has taken on this role. Thanks also to Peter Trend for help with our current A Division matches. Cam Robinson looks after the WA Masters web-site and is the man responsible for you all being able to read the monthly MMs. Robin Bailey is still doing a great job as uniforms officer and will be faced with another team and Divisional reshuffle in 2022. Social Secretary Peter Jones is very much involved with the weekly raffles and the monthly sausage sizzles and Ivan Wilson does the work of supply ordering, set-up, and subsequent barbecue cleaning. Bob Bowyer is also heavily involved in the raffles as well as a lot of work to organize our super carnival day on December 15th. Colin Gee is our data base administrator and our guide and mentor to all things Revosports. Thank you to all for keeping WHM functioning for another year.

Goalkeepers: Thank you to coordinators Tony Marshall and John Harper, and to our entire roster of custodians. It must be tough to play in a Perth summer clad in a portable sauna outfit.

Umpires: Thank you to all who officiated during 2021, and especially to those who volunteered when they were unable to play. I trust we were polite and respectful at all times.

Saturday O/65s: Well done to all who make this competition the sociable afternoon that it continues to provide. These include not only the hard-working Committee members Les Waldon, Jim Wright, Scott Blackwell) and Howie Herbert, but also all our members who are always ready to lend a hand. The tasks of providing after hockey food and selecting the afternoon's teams are rostered around the club and these members have done pretty well and deserve our thanks also.

Stadium Staff: Thanks again to PHS Venue Manager Jason De Wind and all Hockey WA staff for the assistance in keeping our competition going. And for the post-hockey refreshments.

Contributors: Thanks again to our regulars, Peter Hammond (Bali), John Sanders (John's Question) and Dudley Evans ('B' Division). Plus the letter writers and all providers of feedback.

Next Year: We hope to be back. Merry Christmas and a Happy Covid free New Year to all.

Grumpy Old Men and Women Two: "People everywhere confuse what they read in newspapers with news." A. J. Leibling (1904 - 1963). American journalist, largely on the "New Yorker. Hopefully there is no such problem with "Masters Matters."

Change of Details: In the event of any change to your email address and other details 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: A Division White team. Email: johnmercera@inet.net.au.