

April 2025



# Newsletter

Brighton Croquet Club Inc. Stopford Rd Hove 5048 [www.brightoncroquetsa.com](http://www.brightoncroquetsa.com)

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### From the Brighton Croquet Club President, April 2025

Dear Members

Our recent wine fundraiser, supported by members, their families and friends, has been a success and has raised just over \$500 for our club. Another one will be held in October/November for people getting ready for Christmas.

This month we received a small grant from the Department of Recreation and Sport for which we are very grateful.

Places for entering our Gala Day to be held on Thursday 29 May are filling fast. This event is always competitive and good to watch. Kadina Croquet Club have donated some lovely glasses as prizes for the Gala Day. Steve Taplin delivered one of his paintings to use as a prize or raffle on the day.

We held a couple of events in April which were enjoyed by visitors and members and raised funds for our club.

Friday 28 March- St Paul's Lutheran Men's Group;

Friday 4 April – Helen Shaw and friends.

Thanks to the organisation by Karen Magee, the Brighton Bash 1 of 2025 was held on Easter Saturday. Nine players battled it out and it was a successful event. We enjoyed Easter eggs and hand decorated Easter biscuits on the day.

Our Giant Garage Sale will be held on Sunday 18 May. We are really looking forward to this major fundraiser.

It's exciting that we have welcomed new members joining the club. We have also received enquiries from a few people who will come and try over the next few weeks.

"Croquet is a surprising way to exercise both body and mind".

Wendy Williamson

President

## Winner of GC Autumn Singles 5+

Susan Dunsby won this event after playing 9 others. The event was held at Hutt Road on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March. She kept her nerve to win by 2 hoops over Phil Colebatch from Norwood.



## Croquet Australia GC Bronze Medal

The Croquet Australia Bronze Medal is played in all States to determine who will represent their State in the GC Gold Medal competition in September. This year it will be held in Newcastle.

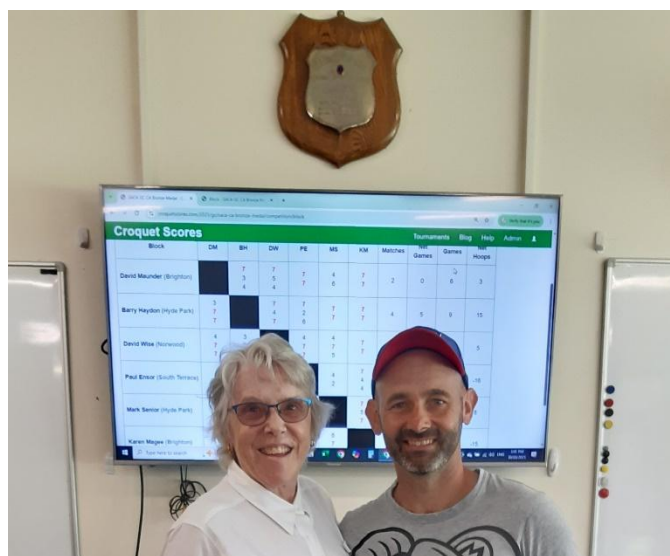
Entries for this event were by invitation according to World Croquet Rankings. 6 players participated on the last weekend of March. The representatives of Brighton were David Maunder and Karen Magee.

The games were untimed and the best of three. Given the quality of the field, I was hoping to win at least the toss on occasion. This didn't happen very often; however, the games were tight on all lawns and some very high-quality croquet was played

Barry Haydon of Hyde Park was the eventual winner and will represent SA once again.

Brighton representatives:

Karen Magee & David Maunder



## GC Doubles Combined 15+

This event was held at Hutt Road on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of April. The weather was good for a change. Nine teams entered and Helen and her partner Ansi did extremely well.

After day 1 they played and won 4 games. Robin Golding (North Adelaide) and Nic McNicol (South Terrace) also had no losses. By the last round on day 2 there were 3 teams which could win. Unfortunately for Helen and Ansi they were pipped into 2<sup>nd</sup> place by just one hoop. Robin and Nic in third by just one hoop and Liz Mackenzie and Julian Hafner of Norwood won.

It was good to see pairings from different clubs getting together to compete and I am sure all players took some positives away from the experience.

Karen Magee



## SA Gold Medal

This was played on the Anzac Weekend at Hutt Road.

Karen Magee was ranked 10th of a field of 12 and came 4th.

Dwayne McCormick (Norwood) won, Stephen Condous (Hyde Park) 2nd and Ansi Baumanis (Norwood) 3rd.

Thanks to the Brighton spectators for your support.

Karen Magee

L to R: Karen Magee, Ansi Baumanis, Stephen Condous and Dwayne McCormick



## Brighton Bash 1 2025



The first Brighton Bash for this year was a singles event held on Easter Saturday for players with an 8 or higher handicap. Nine players were divided into two Blocks for a single round robin, with the top players from each block playing off in the final.

Alex Wilson, Brighton's junior member, did well and just missed out on being in the final. Atholie Dennis of North Adelaide held her nerve and made it through. In the other block it was much the same story, Colleen Baumanis (Norwood) edged out Frank Marcus (Victor Harbor) by the slightest of margins.

The final between the two ladies was excellent, with great approach shot and confident hoop running. Colleen eventually won.

The next Brighton Bash later in the year will once again be a one-day competition as a Doubles Combined 8+.

Many thanks to the Brighton members who supported this event and supplied a range of easter treats to keep the energy levels up.

Karen Magee



Colleen Baumanis and Wendy Williamson (Brighton President)

## Victorian State Gateball Championships 2025

This event was held on Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th of March this year at the Victorian Croquet Centre in Cairnlea.

The weather was mild and dry with temperatures in the low 20s. It was overcast on Saturday and sunny on Sunday. The courts were in reasonable condition with a little more grass left after mowing, compared to the 2024 event.

The event was held as usual in two parts

- the teams event - the Victorian Gateball Teams Championship
- the doubles event - the John Bradley Pairs Championship

### The Victorian Gateball Teams Championship

Three players from S.A. played in a composite team – called the 'Allsorts', together with two players from the Brunswick C.C.

A round-robin draw was played with all five teams playing each other – ie four games each. The first game was a vigorous affair with the Allsorts playing the highly fancied NSW team resulting in a 12-8 win.

This was followed by mixed success and only one further win.

The NSW team won the trophy by winning all of their remaining three games.

Congratulations to the NSW team.

### The John Bradley Pairs Championship

This event was named in honour of John Bradley. He is remembered as a prominent innovator and promoter of Gateball in the early years of the sport in Victoria. There were eleven pairs entered in this event. Peter Martyniuk (Hyde Park) and Peter Woodward (Brighton) formed a doubles team while Geoff Crook (Woodville).

combined with Philip Brown (Kew C.C. of Victoria) to form another pair.

This event was played with two blocks playing round-robin games and the top two pairs played knockout semifinals.

Peter W & Peter M managed two wins in a tough draw and missed the semifinals.

Geoff & Philip were undefeated on entering the semifinals.

They went on to play strong games, winning their semifinal and the grand final.

Congratulations to Geoff & Philip.

This was a well-run event played on a good grassy playing surface in good weather conditions.

All the players played in good spirits, making it a great event.

Peter Woodward

Brighton CC Club Captain

Victorian State Gateball Championships 2025



Allsorts Team: Peter Martyniuk, Jasmain, Geoff Crook, Tim, Peter Woodward

Philip Brown  
And Geoff Crook



