

March 2023



Newsletter

Brighton Croquet Club Inc. Stopford Rd Hove 5048 www.brightoncroquetsa.com

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

From the Brighton Croquet Club President, March 2023

The Brighton Croquet Club's Covid Policy has changed. Unvaccinated people can now attend at the club. However, we continue to encourage members and visitors to:

- . Stay away if you are unwell;
- . Socially distance from each other if you can; and
- . Wash your hands or sanitise them when entering the club, including straight after play.

It was great to have Jim and Julie Grimrod at the club on Thursday after a bit of a spell.

Thanks to Peter Woodward, we are continuing to watch videos about using CPR and a defibrillator to remind us of what to do in a health emergency where someone collapses. We will repeat showing these short but informative videos on a regular basis, probably at the beginning of Autumn, Winter, Spring and Summer.

We will soon have David and his cricketer friends, and their families join us for another Friday evening social. It was so successful last time, with both members and visitors enjoying a fun night.

We have various groups coming to try croquet over the next few months which will be a lot of fun and good exposure for our club.

A group of us are going to lunch at the Metro next Tuesday 4 April following croquet play. If you would like to come along, please either message me or call 0412730177. If you can't make it this time we will be arranging another lunch social at Juniper and Pine in the next few months.

Keep healthy and stay safe.

Wendy Williamson

President



Twilight Gala Held on Tuesday 28 March 2023

Our club held a Twilight Gala on Tuesday evening which was very successful.

Thanks to Lorraine, our Event Manager for the night - there was a full complement of 24 players, including some of our own members experiencing Gala play for the first time.

Because of the generous donations of food by members for the night our expenses were kept to a minimum and a good amount was raised.

We enjoyed home-made melting moments and Florentines for afternoon tea. Delicious home-made quiches were provided by Barbara and Marlene, together with 2 salads for dinner.

Supper consisted of grazing plates of cheese, meats, nuts, chocolates and fruit.

We received compliments from our visitors about the wonderful condition of the lawns and the excellent catering.

A number of our members helped out from 2.30 to 9.30 and this was very much appreciated.

Thanks to Ken for the scoring (I understand that Peter Woodward is also learning how to do this). Barbara Bertram, from Millswood, was the winner of the tournament – the only player with 4 wins. Trish Frith, from Aldinga, was the runner-up, with 3 wins and a draw.

Thanks to Sonya and the wonderful prize donations - the raffle was a huge success. Everyone really enjoyed the event.

Wendy Williamson

President



Thankyou to the wonderful helpers in the kitchen!

Victorian State Gateball Championships 2023

This event was held over the weekend of Saturday 25th to Sunday 26th of March at the Kew Croquet Club in Kew, a suburb in eastern Melbourne.

The weather was perfect – 20 degrees, mostly cloudy, minimal wind and no rain.

The club house is situated in the middle of a large playing area with a balcony overlooking a large court on the west with an adjacent large playing area to the east. Three Gateball Courts were marked out for the event.

Players from Queensland, New South Wales and South Australia travelled to join in and most teams consisted of players from more than one club

The teams event was held on Saturday with five teams competing in a 'round-robin' program.

Due to a convenient programming the very last match of the day saw the second placed team – Brunswick/Essendon playing the fourth placed team – Kew White. A win would have given Brunswick the championship - but was not to be.

The Kew Blue team was able to hold top spot.

A photograph is included showing the members checking their spoils. The trophy was not photographed.

South Australians playing were Geoff and Trish (Woodville) in Kew White and Peter (Brighton) in Albury which finished third.

The doubles event was held on Sunday.

Ten teams participated playing in two blocks. The top two teams in each group played a semifinal game. Geoff and Trish (Woodville) lost their semifinal - a very close match - by one gate.

Winners - Clare and Elaine defeated Alec and Maxine in an exciting Grand Final – photographed at the presentation with Philip the Tournament manager. The trophy was not photographed.

Several other photographic views of the venue are included.

The event was run very well, in perfect conditions with all players enjoying the facilities, the games and the camaraderie.

Peter Woodward

Brighton Croquet Club



Players receiving instructions



Players preparing



Looking west from Kew Croquet Clubhouse



Looking west to Kew Clubhouse



Looking east at Kew Croquet Clubhouse



Winning team presentation

Doubles presentation



Brighton Croquet Club History Matters: Episode 1

Just before you next enter our Clubhouse look up and you will see 'Brighton Croquet Club' emblazoned on attractive signage, which informs that the Club was established in 1915. That is 108 years ago - hang on there, not even Norman Ord is that old! A seriously old Club and flourishing!

Inside the premises a notice on the door to the playing greens, informs one that these premises are called 'Armstrong House' - sounds like this honours someone 'back in the day'. Hans Hiller has imaginatively posted on the eastern wall, notification that the Armstrongs - Tom and Jean - were inducted into the World Croquet Federation Hall of Fame.

Now step outside and immediately to the left, are floor tiles inscribed not only with the Armstrong names but also those of Creina Dawson and Neil Spooner. Now seriously, this is just a suburban Club in little old Adelaide - and at the time that the fourth of our members was honoured internationally, there were just 40 world-wide inductees. What on earth is in the water in this tiny neck of the woods?

Perhaps it is time for all members to go to the inconspicuous bookshelf at floor level on the eastern wall and read one of two histories written about this intriguing institution of which YOU are members. Get cracking! One booklet is titled 'Head Down and Follow Through' (as you all do of course, of course!) The other booklet, just as informative, is titled 'The First Hundred Years'.

Bob Auld



Renowned coaches Tom & Jean Armstrong pictured in 1985



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