



Newsletter

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

From the Brighton Croquet Club President, May 2023

Regarding Covid 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.

Thanks to Peter Woodward we watched a video about jumping your ball through the hoop. It was very informative.

We have had a couple of groups come to try croquet over the last few months which was a lot of fun and good exposure for our club. St Paul's Lutheran Church Men's Fellowship Group of about 12 people visited and enjoyed playing croquet and having a barbecue on Friday 28 April. About 25 Unley Rotary Club members also came to our club and enjoyed croquet and dinner afterwards on Tuesday 2 May. These events were excellent exposure for our club as well as providing funds for us.

On Saturday 20 May we held a Working Bee and had a wonderful turnout of volunteers sorting and tidying equipment in the sheds and the kitchen and storage area. The office also underwent a cleanout thanks to Sonya Ash and Sue Stevens. Thanks to Ken, Howard and David for their work in the sheds – what a transformation. Many thanks to Paul who helped out in all areas but especially the garden. Thank you to Ken who collected rubbish from the sheds and disposed of it with his trailer. Debbie and Lorraine had an enthusiastic team working in the kitchen and storage area. Everything is now so tidy and accessible. Excess kitchenware not taken by members was donated to Vinnie's so nothing was wasted. Our hard workers were rewarded with a pizza lunch which we enjoyed when the job was done.

On Tuesday 23 May about 20 members went to lunch after croquet play to Juniper and Pine to support our valued sponsor. We enjoyed a delicious lunch and had lots of laughs as usual.

On Friday 26 May we held a social event at the club of occasional croquet play and a barbecue dinner. The weather kept some away so we were a smaller group than usual but still enjoyed the evening. Thank you to all those who volunteered to help out. Howard and David did a great job cooking the sausages which were again accompanied by Carmel's yummy coleslaw. It was definitely not the weather for icecreams so we enjoyed individual apple pies with cream and custard. It was really good to see Monica Brown who joined us for the evening. We will invite our sponsors to join us later in the year when the weather is finer.

We look forward to a few events in June, with a Quiz Night in July, the Armstrong Challenge in August and a Gala Day in September. There's lots to look forward to.

Keep healthy and stay safe.

Wendy Williamson

President

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 25 July 2023 at 1130

Followed by Pizza lunch provided by the Club

*Nominations are open for the Management Committee positions detailed below.
Nomination Forms are available on the table in the Clubhouse. Completed Nomination Forms must be received by the Secretary, Jackie Sutherland by 3.30pm 10 July 2022.*

POSITION	<i>REPORTS TO</i>
President	<i>Management Committee</i>
Vice President Administration	<i>President</i>
Vice President Facilities	<i>President</i>
Secretary	<i>VP Admin</i>
Treasurer	<i>President</i>
Club Captain AC	<i>President</i>
Club Captain GC	<i>President</i>
Greens & Garden Coordinator	<i>VP Facilities</i>
Club House Coordinator	<i>VP Facilities</i>
Sponsorship Officer	<i>President</i>
Committee Member	<i>VP Admin</i>
Committee Member	<i>VP Admin</i>
Committee Member/Bar Manager	<i>VP Admin</i>

Quiz Night for State GC Team, Held on Saturday 20 May 2023

On Saturday evening 20 May a number of us attended a Quiz Night at Hyde Park which was held in the Hyde Park Clubrooms. It was a fun night and raised funds for the State Croquet Team who will be playing in Perth. We were lucky enough to win a set of practice hoops because our club had the most members attending on the night. There was a silent auction with interesting items to bid on. The first prize of the raffle which is yet to be drawn is a new Transforma Croquet Mallet made by Robert Brown to personally suit the winner.



Wendy won a lucky chair prize



Lorraine, Carmel & Thea



Lorraine



Julie & Jim

Gateball Captain Development Course 2023

Currently Australian teams struggle against international opposition teams. This will change. The A.C.A. has given support to the Gateball group and a Gateball Captain's course was developed and run to help develop the strength and tactical skills to improve the performance of Gateball players.

This course, which received financial support from the Moreton Bay Regional Council, was held over the weekend of May 20th and 21st when twenty-four Gateball captains were invited to attend the Eildon Croquet Club at Woody Point – a northern suburb of Brisbane.

Course presenters included Philip Brown – the Gateball High Performance Coach and South Australia's own Geoff Crook from the Woodville C.C.

Over the two days various ideas, tactics strategies, philosophies and training ideas were discussed and then followed by exercises on the courts in small groups. The various captains then take these concepts home to their clubs.

Further details can be seen at the Australian Gateball site - gateball.com.au

Gateball at Brighton is going to improve!

Important dates

Australian Gateball Championships will be held from Sep 7th - 11th in Wodonga.

S.A. Gateball Championships will be held from Dec. 1st -3rd in Adelaide.

Peter Woodward



Mothers' Day Raffle

The First Prize Winner was Thea Peacock.

Many thanks to the Edinburgh Hotel for the \$50 Dinner Voucher and several bottles of wine.

Second Prize Winner was Kiko Ono.



Brighton Croquet Club History Matters: Episode 2

Croquet started in Brighton when a group of ladies played on private land on the western side of Brighton Road between Sturt Road and St Judes Church. A club had much earlier formed at Glenelg (now called Holdfast Bay) and perhaps this spurred the Brighton ladies to start up a club in 1915 with the intent to play against their northern neighbour.

The Brighton croquet players were a savvy and resourceful group and so sought to buy a parcel of land on which to site their Club. They ultimately bought the land at the south-eastern corner of Torr Avenue and Keelara Street. This site was adjacent to the Brighton Tennis Club which had some of the croquet ladies' spouses and relatives amongst its membership and so co-operation between these two sports clubs naturally followed.

By 1919 another Club was launched at nearby Seacliff on Waratah Street. Seacliff Club's founder, Susan Grace Benny, was a Brighton Councillor and has been quite recently honoured by the placement of a bust-statuettes outside the Brighton Library (which fails to acknowledge her considerable croquet involvement) and she also has a Reserve named after her in Seacliff Park. Yet another Club, named Araluen, came into being near the corner of Beach Road and the Esplanade about 1926. Araluen was the brainchild of the energetic 'Sesca' Somerville. There was plenty of choice then at this time to join one these three single-court croquet clubs. They were all clubs of serious intent as each affiliated ready for competition in the State Croquet Association.

Note the common element here? All three Clubs were formed for ladies to partake in the sport. Croquet was a women's game in that era; men played Bowls. Another nearby Club - Oaklands - sprang into existence in 1930 but both Araluen and Seacliff clubs had disbanded by 1940. Brighton lived on.

Bob Auld



Susan Grace Benny

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