



Newsletter

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

From the Brighton Croquet Club President, October 2023

It's been a busy few months with events such as the Armstrong Challenge and the Dawson Challenge. The Armstrong Challenge held on 3rd to 6th August, was a successful and fun day, with Julianne Jago winning the event and Karen Magee the runner-up. Once again, we were complimented on the arrangement of the event, the croquet lawns and the excellent catering. Thanks to all those members who helped during this challenge.

On 1st and 2nd October, we enjoyed the Dawson Challenge which was again a successful and fun event. Our own David Maunder won the event with the final games so exciting to watch. Many thanks to Anne Woodhouse, Ken Nunan, Karen Magee, Marlene Salmon and all those who helped with the event.

I attended the SACA AGM on Thursday 31 August at Hutt Road. Linda Kinch is stepping down from the Committee and Kevin Le Poidevin has joined.

Subject to availability on the SACA calendar, we are hoping to hold Gala Days in March and September 2024.

We are looking forward to hosting the Hackham Community Social and Sports Club in a few weeks for some croquet and a social evening. Jon has offered to cook lamb and chicken on his charcoal grill for dinner which I'm sure will be delicious. Hackham recently gave us a grant to cover the cost of a computer, a mallet trolley and new croquet balls for which we are very appreciative.

Sadly, one of our members, Ros Wilson, recently passed away after a prolonged illness. Some of us attended the service for Ros which was a celebration of her life. She was such a fun person. We will miss her.

Wendy Williamson

President



BRIGHTON DAWSON CHALLENGE 2023

Australian Gateball Championships 2023

The 2023 Australian Gateball Championships were held from September 7th to 10th at Wodonga, Victoria. Teams from India, Japan, Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, A.C.T. and South Australia participated. Wodonga is a medium sized town 320 kilometres from Melbourne and 760 kilometres from Adelaide, located on the River Murray in north-east Victoria. It lies adjacent to Albury N.S.W. – across the River. The population is approximately 45,000 people. The altitude is 150 metres, and the latitude places it 1.2 degrees more southerly than Adelaide i.e., 130 kilometres. The weather tends to be cooler than Adelaide with an average annual precipitation of 734 mm (28.9 inches).

Over these four days there was only one tough weather day – Thursday Sept. 8th – cold and episodes of fine drizzle. The weather was good for the other days.

This Gateball event was held at the Wodonga Croquet Club which is shared with the Wodonga Tennis Centre. The area available provides for some twelve lawn tennis courts. For this event twelve Gateball courts were mapped out together with three practice courts. The Doubles section of the event comprised thirty-two teams programmed in a similar way to the F.I.F.A. soccer format. Eight groups of four teams play a 'round-robin' series of matches. The top two competitors from each group then move on to the round of sixteen teams to play a series of 'knock-out' matches.

Then - eight play, then four, then two play a Grand Final match determining the winner.

The Grand Final was won by Sakai Kono and Yoshihiko Karaue of Japan defeating Glen and Kristina Whitehead of Canberra 11 - 10 in an exciting game.

The S.A. Doubles team players were -

Barry Jennings (Hyde Park) and Geoff Crook (Woodville)

Trish Fazackerley (Woodville) and Lorraine Smith (Millswood)

Peter Martyniuk (Hyde Park) and Peter Woodward (Brighton)

Unfortunately, all three doubles groups of S.A. players did not make the final group of sixteen – scores can be found on the Gateball Scores 2023 website.

The Gateball Team Event (five a side) was played with eighteen teams involved. Two blocks of nine teams played a 'round-robin' series with the top two from each group playing semi-final matches.

The S.A. team played under Hyde Park colours and finished a close fourth in our group. We won five of our eight games and did beat the third team!

The Grand Finalists were Kew White (one of the two teams from Kew, Victoria) and Rockhampton.

At the end of the match both teams had identical scores.

A 'shoot-out' (similar style to the Soccer format) playoff was held, and Kew White won.

It was a great four day event – well managed, pleasant competitors and enjoyed by all.

Peter Woodward

AUSTRALIAN GATEBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023



Back Row L to R: Geoff Crook, Peter Martyniuk, Barry Jennings

Front Row L to R: Peter Woodward, Trish Fazakerley, Lorraine Smith



Brighton Dawson Challenge 2023

This year the Brighton Dawson Challenge was held in beautiful weather. As usual the tournament was played with great sportsmanship and camaraderie. Unfortunately, two people had to pull out because of injury but the remaining 8 players provided some great contests which the spectators enjoyed.

Throughout the competition it looked like the final would be between David Maunder and Hans Hiller, both from Brighton. They were very close in the round robin with David beating Hans on the 13th hoop.

However, Laura Eden (North Adelaide) was determined to make it to the Final and beat Hans to make it there. The Final was a very good match but David had not lost a game all tournament and continued on his winning way.

1st: David Maunder (Brighton)

2nd: Laura Eden (North Adelaide)

However, as usual, these events need the support of many people, some of whom have been doing it for many years. It is great to see others joining in as well. It was also great to see spectators watching; this helps build an atmosphere as well as seeing some great croquet.

So, thank you to everyone involved.

Anne Woodhouse

Event Manager



**David Maunder, winner, with
Wendy Williamson, President**



**Laura Eden, runner-up, with
Wendy Williamson, President**

BRIGHTON MEMBERS ENJOYING THE GALA DAY AT VICTOR HARBOUR



Lorraine McIntyre (Runner-up) with Phil Wise (Winner)

Brighton Croquet Club History Matters: Episode 4

Your next revelation, history-wise, when you next move through the foyer of Armstrong House is to look carefully at a very modest but most important board "Life Members" trying its best to hide on your right on the far foyer wall. It lists those members honoured with the rare privilege of having Life Membership bestowed on them. Twenty-five names in 108 years would definitely say that a series of Club Committees have been wisely careful to avoid handing out these meaningful tributes too liberally.

Note that of the recipients that 18 are women which reflects the membership restriction to that gender during the first 34 years of the Club's existence. Also note that for the earlier recipients their first name was not recorded but instead their marital status! Many of the first names though came to light during the research of our history - but not all unfortunately.

For some enlightenment about those bestowed with Life Membership refer to one of the two Club history publications. There is one recipient about which however nothing is recorded in the surviving meagre historical Club records - Mrs E Arnold of the immediate post-World War 2 era. If you know anything of this lady you will be doing a service to our Club if you can enlighten us. You can also contribute if you are aware of the first name of the six Life Members who were only recorded by surname. Was your great-aunt in that number perhaps? If you can shed definite information of the first names of any of the following women please pass that on to our tireless Secretary :- Mesdames, De Laine, Arnold, Ward, de Rohan, von der Borch and Jones.

Seemingly incongruously, a name more recently added was that of Kassie Silver. This happened because, despite the honour of Life Membership bestowed on her in 1947, the necessary follow-through to add her name to the Life Membership Board was overlooked for over 60 years until that omission was noticed when the Club's history was being researched.

The most recent recipient of Life Membership was Ted Hayman (who died last year) and a visible tribute to Ted's prolific work for our Club was the decision to fit the name 'Ted's Shed' to the newish storage building alongside the original workshop where he spent an admirable length of time attending to necessary maintenance and innovations.

Bob Auld



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