

**Wednesday
Hockey Masters
Perth
Est 1991**

Blue 60s

Electric Blue 60s

Gold 60s

Green 60s

Red 60s

White 60s

Masters Matters

Blue 50s

Gold 50s

Red 50s

White 50s

Department Of Health Part One: More on recent events, and excellent advice from a goalkeeper.



Remember this The Keystone Cops

It was a similar scene at Melville when Ricky Watts took ill.

For the first ten minutes none of us realised that he was feeling any more than 'off colour', in fact, I do recall someone saying when a few of us checked on him - "Where are the medicos when you need them?" and it was shortly after that Graham Harler called an ambulance and received instructions relating to his ongoing care.

This situation brought home to me the realisation that as we are all subject and prone to this and other life threatening occurrences we need to be aware of the actions that need to be taken.

It was glaringly obvious that on that day, at that time, there was not anyone on hand that was familiar with CPR or any action remotely similar.

I vaguely remembered that we (WHM) do have a defibrillator, however, where is it? Who is proficient in its use and aware of when to use it?

Hockey WA and / or Wednesday Hockey Masters must 'step up to the plate' in this matter and vigorously encourage a great number of us to become proficient in CPR, and if necessary provide the funding to do so - as the next to need CPR may be YOU.

Ken Watt

I believe that things improved after the arrival of Mark Faithfull (who is a trained first aider, and Graham Harler getting some instructions over the telephone after phoning for an ambulance. Some more on this can be found in subsequent pages.

The word from Bill Baldwin, who has been forced to take it quietly for a while, also after a scare is: "The message here, once again is (at our age) to all, as espoused by Ray Norton 6 months back when he had a massive heart attack ... "Listen to your body and don't wait to get checked out." It has been so easy to think - It won't happen to me!!"

Update: The need for these admonitions was very sadly confirmed on 25th May when one of my teammates collapsed while umpiring his son's match at Altone Park, and despite prompt CPR (thanks to Ceri Writer) and an immediate call for an ambulance did not survive the afternoon. Deepest sympathies are extended to the family of Graham Marion, and to the Eastern Blades Hockey Club.

WHM Country Tours: The weekend of 6th May featured a WA Country training day in Bunbury, which gave organisers Robin Bailey and Rob McNab the chance to discuss the possibilities for another date to hold our next match. There are so many commitments for WA Country state team members that this proved to be impossible to finalise, as all the breaks in fixtures for both Metro and Country hockey have already been fully booked. Watch this space for further information as it comes in.

It Pays To Advertise?: Thanks to my Electric Blue team mates (and our opposition) who responded in the first half of May to the “hits wanted” ads in the last issue. I now know why they sometimes limit my ball supply - as I seem to get tired from over-possession and start to miss goals I should have scored, managing to snatch two draws from the jaws of victory on May 15th. Also, the bruise on the right foot from being hit by the ball was not exactly the kind of hit desired. However, everything was back to normal on 22nd and 29th May, and as a result the team did better.

Department of Health Part Two: Since our last issue several Wednesday Masters have gone into recovery mode. Best wishes to Ric Watts and Bill Baldwin, who are both unlikely to take the field for a little while. Both have differing problems in a similar area. Many thanks to all those who assisted Ricky at Melville with first aid and ambulance summoning - and also many thanks to Secretary Bob Bowyer and Chairman Simon Thomson who contacted Ricky during the immediate post-Melville period and let us all know how he was going.

Jim Banks said that his comeback had been ended by his surgeon, who suggested (rather strongly perhaps?) that it was much too soon to start running hard again. However, I would hazard a guess that he'll be back again in good time for the Sydney tournament.

Comebacks: It has been tempting to put Paul Robinson into this section on a semi-permanent basis. The latest one I noted (good to see you back on the turf) began on May 15th - and continues on as this issue closed. It was also great to see John Dunstan at the Stadium bar on 15th May. And while mentioning Wasps I've noticed Ashley Challoner's name appearing on Saturday team lists. Roger Davey tells me that Ash is playing again, having managed a non-surgical alleviation of his problem.

Picturesque Speech: The presumption of innocence is generally understood to be that “a defendant is deemed innocent until proven guilty.” This now should read “innocent until proven guilty unless the accusation is made by and in the main stream media” - I'm sure Rolf Harris would agree.

Department Of Limericks: I cannot give the goalkeepers a rest - even though they were back on 22nd and 29th May. There have been some very dire consequences without them - for instance:

While the keepers decide not to play
We forwards have things our own way
It has even been said
Goals were scored by the Ed.
Is it time that we call on Frank Fay?

Frank please note -the keepers are back now, and this is not a desperate request for you to strap the pads on again next Wednesday, jump into a taxi, and head for the Stadium. Is there a chance that we might see you out there in any case, and could you use a lift?

Whistle While You Work - Without Neil Mannolini:

Neil is travelling, so I thought I'd pick up on recent suggestions that we start issuing cards on Wednesdays. The Hockey WA site includes the complete rules, and the applicable one is:

Rule 14: Personal Penalties.

- 14.1) For any offence the offending player may be:
 - a) Cautioned (indicated by spoken words).
 - b) Warned (indicated by a green card). *At an international match, a green card indicates a temporary suspension of 2 minutes of playing time.*
 - c) Temporarily suspended for a minimum of 5 minutes of playing time (indicated by a yellow card). *For the duration of each temporary suspension of a player on or off the field, the offending team plays with one less player.*
 - d) Permanently suspended from the current match (indicated by a red card). *For each permanent suspension the offending team plays for the remainder of the match with one less player.*

A personal penalty may be awarded in addition to the appropriate penalty.
- 14.2) Temporarily suspended players must remain in a designated place until permitted by the umpire who suspended them to resume play.
- 14.3) Temporarily suspended players are permitted to rejoin their team at half time, after which they must return to a designated place to complete their suspension.
- 14.4) The intended duration of a temporary suspension may be extended for misconduct by a player when suspended.
- 14.5) Permanently suspended players must leave the field and its surrounding area.

I am sure that none of the card advocates (including me) are anxious to see yellows and reds being flashed around like confetti. Nothing more than a green in almost all cases - and possibly not with the two minute rest which applies in Masters interstate tournaments. What do readers think?

John Mercer

Lost and Found: Lost, the ability to score goals. Found, several goalkeepers. Just coincidence?

Dates For The Diary:

May 26th: Closure date for June "Masters Matters".

June 5th: Barbecue at the Stadium.

July 3rd: Barbecue at the Stadium.

July 10th: Wednesday Masters at Melville.

July 17th: Wednesday Masters at Melville.

September 25th: Masters Nationals - Sydney.

October 2nd: Masters Nationals - Sydney.

Quotable Quote No 1: "Only two things are infinite, the universe and human stupidity, and I'm not sure about the former." Albert Einstein 1879 - 1955.

Punology One: Never fall in love with a tennis player, because to him love means nothing.

Well-Deserved Award: Congratulations to Vern Gooch, who was awarded life membership of WA Hockey in a ceremony at the Lemnos turf on 20th April. The Hockey Bulletin carried the story with a very good photograph in issue #4 of this year, but the “Masters Matters” research department did not find out until after our May issue. Our good wishes are none the less sincere for being belated.

Impertinent Question: Do you know CPR? Not any more would be my answer, as my brief Apex course has long since been forgotten - use it or lose it. Perhaps Wednesday Masters could think about arranging some education in this area. I know that John Ree would be prepared to do some informal teaching on the use of a defibrillator - which also sounds like a very good idea.

22nd May - Wanted to Buy: One goal, please contact the Red forward line.

22nd May - Wanted to Buy: One goal, please contact the Red team’s opposition.

To translate into English, the Red team had three 0-0 draws on 22nd May - Ed.

Latest Wine Ladder: It has been notable that there is a better spread of winners recently - perhaps due to the newsletter editor being asked to draw the first ticket (as I’m no longer a regular winner?). Successful ticket buyers in May have included Neil Scaddan, John O’Donohue, Ian Purdie, and John Dunstan. The ladder is headed by the Blues (thanks to Ham D’Souza’s 5 straight) on (7), Red and Gold (6), Electric Blue (5), past players (4), White (2) with Green bringing up the rear on (1). As soon as Dave Horsley allows them back into the bar their form deserts them? Also of interest is that Ham D’Souza’s weekly bottle drive has finally come to an end - as his cellar is now over-stocked? And in the very latest news the winners on 29th May included Dudley Younger, and once-were-winners Spider, Brian Soares, and John Mercer. *(It’s been an eternity between drinks for the three of us)*

Welcome Visitor: Not all players seem to have noticed that Chairman Simon has been away (with the touring Australian O/65s). The Electric Blues have had a guest player in John O’Donohue who is visiting a son in WA, and who played for the Queensland O/60s in Hobart. He’s done a pretty decent job of replacing Simon, who as all 60s know appears in enough places on the turf to be two players. J O’D has also won a bottle of wine while here, in keeping with Electric Blue traditions.

Letter To The Editor: On his last Wednesday John was good enough to drop us a line: “I have had a most enjoyable 5 weeks playing in the Perth Wednesday Masters. Thank you to everyone for making me feel welcome. I will report back to my colleagues in Brisbane regarding what a great crew you all are. Good health to you all. Go the Electric Blues. *(Publication guaranteed. Ed.)*

Grumpy Old Men (and Women) Department: “That is the greatest fallacy, the wisdom of old men. They do not grow wise. They grow careful.” Ernest Hemingway.

Dummy Spit Of The Day: Well done to Mal Jackaman who used a lethal weapon on 15th May (an umpire’s whistle) and induced a staff member of “Masters Matters” into becoming a contender for this award. The original decision of a short corner (given after the ball reached the back of the net) was changed to a goal - only after the desired reaction had been achieved.

Shakespeare Said It: “He is winding the watch of his wit, by and by it will strike.” From “The Tempest” Act II Scene I. Which describes my Thursday morning crossword solving perfectly.

Test Your Knowledge With John Sanders: Here is the answer to last issue's question which was: Who scored the most goals for Australia, Ron Riley or Jim Irvine? A verbal answer was received from Rusty Phillips, who as a forward thought that Ron Riley would have scored more goals than Jim Irvine the full back. Our question master has been very subtle this month and the actual figures are: Riley (62), Irvine (67). If I remember rightly the purpose of forwards was to earn the penalty corners so that the full backs could score all the goals.

This issue's question is: Since 1922 the Kookaburras have played in 1147 matches, winning: a) 558 b) 658 c) 758. Answer next issue.

Poets' Corner: Due to some recent events I have not been able to put much time into this issue. Hence further infliction of my own doggerel on you all. I wish the last line was true.

On Joining Wednesday Masters O/60s 2006

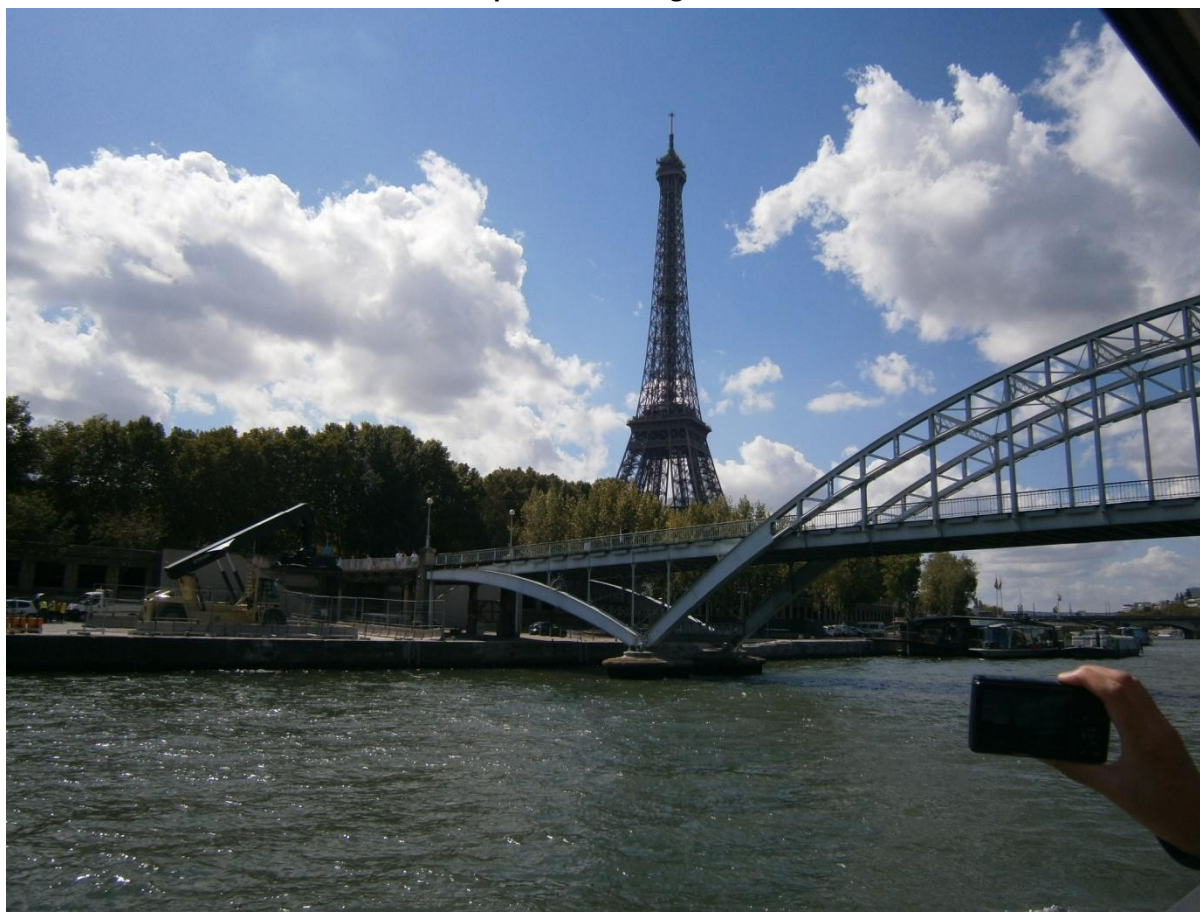
Eleven years it took for me to get there
First Rob, then Neil, and Ivan all said "Start"
But I just thought "Too good for me to dare"
And doubted that I could still play a part.
My mother then lost all her power to walk
Which convinced me I should go and start "today"
No more of your incessant talk the talk
It's time to be a "young" bloke while you may.
I found that I knew lots of Wednesday Masters
Old friendships were re-kindled with a few
My games were not all total sad disasters
And the bar contained a very social crew.
It seems in later life we've all struck gold
Too busy with our hockey to grow old.

Department of Corrections: Again there were no complaints about the last newsletter - but I have included a (*deliberate?*) error in the on-line points table up to 22/05. The Blue side has only conceded 27 goals, not the 274 shown in the on-line table. My apologies go to the Blue team, and especially to their goalkeeper. It appears that I can handle neither a keyboard nor a hockey stick.

Department Of Limericks Part 2: Another rumour or several emanating from the Saturday 65s:

MM heard this one from the birds
It was passed on in very few words
The Blue wing on the left
Had a few touches deft
And three goals resulted to Purds
I should point out that Ian Purdie was not the source of the rumours - at least not all of them. Ed.

Age Does Not Weary Him: Did anybody notice Peter Kennedy pictured in the West (again) recently. He was billed as the oldest entrant in the Run for a Reason event, and I hope that everything did not hurt too much after crossing the finishing line. I trust that fun runners go for drinks afterwards.

It Is Europe But Not Belgium

To Flanders Fields : Best wishes to all Wednesday Masters who are off to Belgium in August to play with the Southern Cross teams in the European Cup tournament at Kontich. As well as all the hockey the program includes a beer and cheese tasting night as well as a gala dinner. Thanks to Southern Cross co-convenor Mike Black for confirming the players with me. As at the time of writing they are: O/60s: Len Collier (*GK and team manager I hear*), Roger Davey, Peter Fogels, Les Hayter, Dave Mellor, Brian Thomas.

O/65s - O/70s: Mike Black, George Bradbury, Julian Gardner, Peter Hearne, Gordon Jeffrey, John Ree, Ken Watt, and Bill Williamson.

Grand Masters Hockey World Cup 2014: Mike also informs me that Southern Cross are basing their preliminary planning on nominating 6 teams for this event. It's being held in The Hague from 2nd June 2014 to 14th June 2014, and normally includes O/60s, O/65s, and O/70s in two divisions. The web-site indicates there will be World Cups for many age groups in the Netherlands at this time.

They Said It: Sign on the back of Paul Robinson's plumber's vehicle: "I'd rather be an old fart than a young w****r ." As if we old farts have a choice in the matter.

Dudley Younger was back in the stands for the last game on 29th May: "I want my money back, this hockey's sub-standard." (*Perhaps he may have used another word, also beginning with 's'.*)

Punology Two: Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana. (*Thanks again to Roger Partington.*)

Reader Contribution: This is the final instalment of John Halley's actual newspaper headlines collection - grouped together under the title "Why I Still Read The Newspaper."

"Man Accused Of Killing Lawyer Receives A New Attorney."

"Puerto Rican Teen Named Mistress Of The Universe."

"Barbershop Singers Bring Joy To School For The Deaf."

"Hospitals Resort To Hiring Doctors."

"Rally Against Apathy Draws Small Crowd."

"Starvation Leads To Health Hazards."

"The Bra Celebrates A Pair Of Historic Milestones This Year."

"Miracle Cure Kills Fifth Patient."

Reader Contribution: And also some more from John Halley of these clever anagrams.

George Bush: He bugs Gore.

The Morse code: Here come dots.

Dormitory: Dirty room.

Slot machines: Cash lost in me.

Animosity: Is no amity.

Quotable Quote #2: With the onset of the colder weather, this one seemed relevant: "Winter is on my head, but eternal spring is in my heart." Victor Hugo - 1802 to 1885.

Australian Team Tour: Some feedback on this from goalkeepers, therefore reliable. John Burt admired a Japanese gentleman's socks, and as a consequence received a gift of 18 pairs of Japanese socks, with individual toe coverings, like gloves. Contact John if you would like a pair.

We firmly believe that what goes on tour stays on tour, and so will say nothing about the Raffles Hotel, gin slings, and peanuts. I understand it all started with the young blokes, as usual.

Acknowledgements: Many thanks to all the May O/60s umpires. They included Eric Alcock, Phil Anderson, Colin Benporath, Bill Campbell, Bala Chandran, Lionel David, Ric Denny, Ross Easton, Peter Ford, Vern Gooch, Ian Hill, John Lindsay, Bob Maley, Neil Mannolini, John Mercer (*sacked after 5 minutes*), Roger Partington, Barry Rutter, Neil Scaddan, Brian Soares, and Ivan Wilson. And it's been great to have our regular past players join us in the Stadium bar.

Stop Press: Don't forget that the new barbecue will be given its WHM christening on 5th June.

All Wednesday Masters please take proper care throughout the winter.

All news and other contributions to:

John Mercer – O/60s Electric Blue team. Stadium bar. Email: johnmercercer@iinet.net.au

You can also un-subscribe if you would prefer not to receive the newsletter. This is for the player who asked Robin Bailey why he had not been told about the Bunbury touring team, and on being informed that all details had appeared here, replied, "Who reads Masters Matters?"