



A Blue

A Gold

A Red

A White

B Gold

B White

B Blue

C Blue

C Gold

C Red

C White

Masters Matters

Issue No 3

March 2016

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Dates For The Diary:

March 29th to April 9th 2016: Masters (O/40s to O/55s) and Women's World Cups - Canberra.
 April 2nd: Saturday O/65s end of summer season AGM and social.
 May 3rd to May 12th 2016: Grand Masters (O/60s and higher) World Cup - Newcastle, Australia.
 September 24th to October 8th 2016: Interstate Masters Championships - Adelaide.
 2017: European Cup - Glasgow. } Southern Cross
 2018: World Cup - Spain. } Australia and Southern Cross

Bereavement: Our deepest sympathies to Scott Blackwell whose wife Naomi died on February 1st. The eloquent tributes at the funeral from her sisters, children & Scott himself made it clear that all who knew Naomi regarded her as a very special person, who was much loved. Scott sent this to MM:

"WHM more than just hockey players: I wanted to let the WHM men know how much I have appreciated their concern and support since the loss of my wife Naomi. I have found that as a group we are clearly more to each other than just hockey players. Coming to play hockey has been a bright spot for me during a time when it was easy to be gloomy. So thanks to you all, you have each shown your support in your own way, and that is appreciated. I may not score many goals but I go home a winner every hockey day."

Thanks enormously Scott - I came to a similar conclusion following my own mother's funeral. Ed.

Heat Policy: The recent spell of hot weather resulted in a WHM guideline for such days.

Our aim is to make sure that no member of WHM feels under any pressure to play on a day when the weather is in a potentially dangerous state.

- 1) *We will not play regular fixtures when the forecast maximum temperature is more than 37° in the forecast issued at 9:00 am the day before the games.*
- 2) *Any player who wants to have a game after the cancellation of the regular fixtures must understand that he is playing entirely at his own risk.*
- 3) *At any time, any player who feels that the temperature is too high for play, especially goalkeepers, is not obligated to take part.*

In addition, it is strongly recommended that all players hydrate well before, during and after play. A soft head covering should also be worn - WHM caps are still available from Robin Bailey for \$15.

Parking At Curtin: After you have registered and you arrive at Curtin, in order to commence the paid parking time you will either have downloaded the app and follow the prompts, or if you have an older phone will need to ring Cellopark 6145 3333 on arrival and on departure.

Vale: Many slightly older members of WHM would remember Lincoln (Linky) Grostate, who was still an occasional visitor. It is with much regret that I sighted his funeral notice in the West Australian on February 29th, for Friday 4th March. Funeral Mass at 2:30 pm St Andrews Church, Belleville Gardens, Clarkson. Cremation Service at Pinnaroo 4:00 pm.

Department of Health: I would like to think that MM's is in better shape than the State equivalent. **Ron Mitchell** has had a prostatectomy, but hopes to be back playing by the end of March. **Ken Beer** had a disaster with a cancer removing cream and lost enough skin to stop him playing for a while. Following this he has had a shoulder operation which was supposed to be for bone impingement, but discovered a torn rotator cuff too. He is currently having a few weeks worth of recuperation. **Roger Jewell** has resumed on Wednesdays (the 27th at least) but is still umpiring on Saturdays while easing his hamstring back into action. **George Winning** now has no scooters I'm led to believe - much to the relief of a lot of us. There have been too many road accident statistics lately and we do not want our inaugural chairman to be one. **Tom Long** intended to have his second knee replacement on 18th February hope all went well. As can be seen from the bionic match players list on Page 10 there is plenty of experience and knowledge within WHM. We hope you all get well soon.

Rob Crofts: I am pleased to report that a WHM party of Simon Thomson, George Winning and Ian Brown had lunch with Rob in Fiona Stanley rehab. Rob is very keen to have a shot at some form of wheelchair hockey, and I understand that a few of our members are investigating further. He has also already volunteered to play goalie in the hips versus knees match.

Letters To The Editor: The feedback from the February issue was much appreciated. Thank you to Peter Fogels, Stuart Burnfield, John Milner, Neil Mannolini and Ric Denny. A couple of highlights: **Stewart Burnfield:** "May I suggest that the hip replacement team be known as the Hipsters. Perhaps the winner of this match could take on the Hair Replacements." (*Any volunteers for this one? Ed.*) **Ric Denny:** "Thank you again for all the news and updates; although not as far afield as Jim Malcolm it's always great to catch up with all the latest gossip. It is great to see Saturday 65s going so strongly from its fledgling start in 2013. (*Ric did a lot to help get it started - Ed.*) If the Bionic Match does get going and I happen to be in town, put me down as I happen to be just two weeks on from total left knee replacement. Kind regards to all and those on the sick list." *Thanks Ric - great to hear from you and we all hope your recuperation from the knee progresses as it should. Ed.*

Grumpy Old Men 1: "The word politics is derived from the word 'poly' meaning 'many' and the word 'ticks' meaning 'blood sucking parasites'." Attributed to Larry Hardiman; nobody knows who he was.

Frank Fay: Following on from the publication of Frank's address in the December "Masters Matters" Rusty Phillips and John Mercer went to see him. He is fairly frail but we still managed an enjoyable chat. His wife (for several years Frank was her home carer) is in a room very close to his. As a sequel to this Rusty brought Frank out to Perry Lakes on the 13th for (Jim Wright wrote) the "quality hockey to watch, cold beer after games, and snags cooked by our own celebrity chefs." Well done Rusty, I hope that when we are in Frank's situation some of the younger blokes are as good to us. Should any of you wish to contact or pay a visit to Frank his address is:
St Michael's Aged Care Facility, 53 Wasley St, North Perth and his phone number is 9227-2927.

Rules Are Us - With Neil Mannolini:

Neil has been inspired by the hot weather to contribute this piece on umpiring. It should be required reading for all Wednesday 'A' division players and umpires.

Umpires contribute to the game by:-

- Helping to raise the standard of the game by making sure that players observe the rules.
- Ensuring every game is played in the right spirit.
- Being considerate, fair, prepared, focussed, having good rapport with the players & natural.

They need to be consistent, establish and keep control. And apply the advantage rule as much as possible to assist a flowing and open match but without losing control.

On advantage, it is not necessary for every offence to be penalised when no benefit is gained by the offender. Unnecessary interruptions to the flow of a match cause undue delay and irritation. Obviously when playing advantage a second opportunity must not be given by reverting to the original penalty. Basically decisions must be made promptly, positively, clearly and consistently. Lately, there has been an increase in stick checks & leaning on or pushing into a player with the ball. These actions cause frustrations and anger. They must be discontinued.

Enjoyment of our great game is paramount for players and umpires.

Thanks Neil - I concur completely with all you have written. Surely we no longer have to win at all costs - the points system has been terminated. Ed.

Rule Change: Thanks to Neil Mannolini and John Sanders for this notification. The FIH has updated Rule 13.2 which relates to attacking free hits within the 23 metres area. The rule now states: *"... at all attacking free hits within the 23 metres area, the ball cannot be played into the circle until it has travelled at least 5 metres or been touched by a defending player."*

The amendment removes the possibility for the attacker to touch the free hit for a teammate to run onto and play the ball into the circle.

Men's Masters World Cup - Canberra 29th March to 6th April: Our best wishes to all members of WHM who are off to the national capital a bit later this month. When the April issue comes out you will have started the tournament. It's a rare opportunity to enjoy a home event. I have found it very difficult to check these national teams online, so will repeat the WHM names we published last time.
O/50s: Cameron Fairbrother (coach), Rob Behets, Mike Hallam.
O/55s: Rob Lawson (coach), Brian Robinson, Craig Burgess, Graham Miller, Noel Morrison, Steve Pestana. *Please let me know of any omissions or errors. Ed.*

Department Of Limericks Part 1: Heat cancellations in WHM! Global warming?

We thought that the tenth was too hot

Even should we slow down to a trot

Though some went to play

Despite the warm day

And heat stroke was all that they got. *(See 'A' division Blog on Page 5 - Ed.)*

Punology One: The Shakespeare quote in the last issue about WA Country O/70s hearing difficulties suggests that we could have done with the services of Davy Crockett, who had very good hearing. He is said to have had a left ear, a right ear and a wild frontier. *Courtesy of a listener to Eoin Cameron.*

A' Division Blog: Some may like it hot. At our advanced ages most of us do not.

February 3rd: The Gold team seemed to have all their players in attendance except for Lloyd Jones. Blue were only missing Jim Malcolm and Col Sanders, while Red were very short. I noted the Red fill ins included Peter Ford (from Blue), John Milner and Bob Robinson (from Gold) - all octogenarians. Bob Bowyer also played for Red - have you had a game in your Blue team yet Bob? The White team failed to score for a second week. If Ken Walter had not been there the goal tally would surely have been even lower than it was - he scored 60% of it. The standard of the hockey for much of the time matched the poor scoring. We welcomed new umpire Chris Gilders, who joined Vern Gooch & Neil Mannolini in controlling the games. Not all the hockey was awful, and the 3 goalkeepers (John Burt, Tony Marshall & Barry Rutter) did well. Peter Willet (Game 2) and Peter Dennis (Game 5) were both lost to injury. Player numbers were Red (7), White (10) Gold (12), Blue (12). Goals scored (5).

February 10th: All official games were correctly called off due to the forecast 42°. Good luck to any of you who went to the Stadium and had a hit - Noel Coward's lines about mad dogs and Englishmen come to mind. Hockey can be a great summer sport, but not in the noonday sun. Perhaps it is getting hotter; this is the first cancellation I can remember since joining WHM in 2006. **Stop Press:** It appears that some players did attend and the following report was received from one of the Englishmen:

"About a dozen mad dogs & a couple of Englishmen played 5 a side yesterday for a couple of hours. Notably Mark Faithfull was the only participant mad enough from 'A' division. George Winning, John Sanders and Mal Jackaman helped us with our recovery and cool down." *In the bar, I hope. Ed.*

February 17th: Despite the suspension of play enough from the 'A' division arrived for two complete teams - other than goalkeepers who deservedly had the day off. George B and Les W kindly umpired as neither of them is quite able to play again. The goal of the day was set up by a fine overhead from Dave Horsley who from the centre launched one towards the vacant circle, where it was not a total surprise that the first to arrive was Ron Venables. Numbers were White (11), Red (5), Blue (2) and Gold (4). This must say something about the White team; we're all in need of a run? Total goals (10).

February 24th: We resumed normal service, so did the Blue team. Without Peter Dennis, Ian Hill and Colin Sanders they continue to dominate the scoring (with good recruiting, fill-ins scored 3 of the 4 goals), if not always the play. Dave Horsley could not make it & sent Ham D'Souza as a replacement, who scored well and frequently (5) throughout the afternoon with several contenders for goal of the day. Red compete well midfield but are having trouble with that last touch. Their last to arrive player David Pandher only played for Gold and Blue and is needed back in a Red shirt (as is Mal Horrigan). Not too many dummies appeared to be spat from where I looked on. Player numbers were Gold (9), Blue (8), White (10) and Red (11). Total goals scored were (13), including two to John Milner.

Well Dones: There have been plenty of volunteer umpires in February - so many that my New Year resolution to do more has come to grief. Thank you to the 'A' and 'B' division umpires I was able to note: George Bradbury, Chris Gilders, Vern Gooch, John Lindsay, Neil Mannolini, George Mullins, and Les Waldon. The 'C' division are unknown as I did not look out of the bar window on the 3rd. Thanks also go to Saturday umps: Eric Alcock, George Bradbury, Peter Brien, Dudley Burress, Bob Hotinski, Roger Jewell & Les Waldon. Sausage sizzle cooks: 3rd Stadium; Eric Alcock, Howie Herbert, Gordon Thomas & Jim Wright. 13th Perry Lakes; Bruce Mercer & Simon Thomson. 27th Perry Lakes; Rusty Phillips & Bob Hotinski. Thanks also to Jason & the Stadium staff for our Wednesday bar snacks.

Department of Corrections: February's "Masters Matters" omitted a 'be' from the 'B' division report comment. "*It must nice to know*" should have read "*it must be nice to know.*" No 'be' in 'B'.

Celebrity Chefs at Perry Lakes

Photo Jim Wright



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Thanks Gents: Bruce Mercer and Simon Thomson in action on the 13th. I should point out that Bruce does not owe his celebrity chef status to having the same surname as the “Masters Matters” editor.

From The Saturday O/65s: This issue is going to include a couple of complaints. Due to late arrivals we always seem to be starting our games without any proper warmup. The task for the selectors is thus made extremely difficult and our standard of play suffers badly as a result - which can be seen by the very high percentage of mishits and mistraps. Play starts at 2:30 pm in summer and it would be good if everybody could arrive by 2:15 at the absolute latest.

The bar has been run on the honour system since we began, except when the YMCA facility is operating. We have taken advantage of the number of bar staff this summer to introduce stock control and cash reconciliation, but it has been rare for the cash to balance - though sometimes it does. The discrepancies are not large (unlike some in 2014/2015) but can be quite time-consuming. George Bradbury has almost certainly come up with an accurate diagnosis: “A bunch of well meaning not always concentrating / counting carefully seniors who should get their grand kids to look after the pocket money for them. A relief, just normal people over 70.”

The limerick inspired by these events reads:

There’s one thing we’d like you to know

We balance our Perry Lakes dough

So if you don’t pay

We spend half a day

Retracing our entire cash flow. *(More normal O/65 news can be found on Page 11)*

The French Letter No 18:

The winter time continues in its mildest form - plenty of rain and wind but no really cold temperatures. In the South of France spring has come one month early. Even here in Normandy we have plants and shrubs growing and blooming, cherry blossom for example, well before their time. Bear in mind that winter doesn't end officially until 21st March.

All the talk here is about the forthcoming referendum in Britain concerning membership of the EU - to stay in or leave. I don't know a lot about all the implications of a British exit but on the surface it appears to me that it would pose significant problems for their economy. Great Britain is the number 2 economy in the EU, only behind Germany but ahead of France.

Enough of my political ramblings but on to more of life's realities.

Tragically, tomorrow we will be travelling to Paris to attend the funeral of one of Joelle's nephews - son of her middle brother. Leo took his own life and he was only fifteen years old. One can only partially understand the feelings of his parents and siblings in having to endure such a tragedy. We feel a bit at a loss in the situation as we are 200 kms away from where they live and can only provide phone and email support.

Well that's all from me and best wishes to you all - Ian Purdie (*Thanks again Ian, with an extra thank you for taking the trouble to contribute at such a tough time. Our commiserations to Joelle. Ed.*)

Test Your Knowledge With John Sanders: February's question was: In the late 1980s did Jacqueline Pereira, in total, score in relation to the careers of Kim Small, Sally Carbon and Juliet Haslam a) The same number of goals b) Fewer goals c) More goals d) I don't know (or care). Answer from John is: Jacqueline scored 118 goals for Australia, Kim Small 37, Sally Carbon 23 and Juliet Haslam scored 30 so between them a total of 90 goals, so c) is correct. *Rusty Phillips: "... as Jackie Pereira was a prolific scorer for Australia I'll go for c)." Right!* March's question is: These players represented Australia in what was to become the Hockeyroos in the 1960s: HA #205 Sanders, HA #211 Francis, HA #212 Haines and HA #213 Wheeler. What did they have in common? a) They all toured Malaysia in 1962 b) Their first name was Shirley c) They came from WA. d) They were all forwards. *Answer next issue.*

Shakespeare Said It: "Let your reason serve to make the truth appear where it seems hid." 'Measure For Measure' Act V Scene I. *Advice for unsighted umpires. Of course it's a whole lot simpler if players who transgress own up - or just simply give up the play.*

"Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines." Sonnet XVIII. *Quite right. Hence WHM's heat policy as outlined earlier in the newsletter.*

Grumpy Old Men Part 2: "Disbelief in magic can force a poor soul into believing in government and business." Tom Robbins (1932 -) *US author.*

Dummy Spit Of The Month: I have awarded this to myself too many times lately (for some reason) and thank Ivan Wilson for claiming this one on the 3rd. He has reformed since then, maybe it's time the rest of us did too. Dummy spits should be out of the mouths of babes, not seniors.

Quotable Quote No 1: "Politics (noun): A strife of interests masquerading as a contest of principles." Ambrose Bierce (1842 - 1914). *From The Devil's Dictionary.*

Balinese Bulletin No 12:**GALUNGAN – KUNINGAN**

We “Balinese” up here have just celebrated another Galungan-Kuningan. For those of you reading this that have an interest in Balinese Culture let me explain

Galungan and Kuningan: Gods’ Visit to the Earth

If you have flown thousands of miles to explore the Island of Gods, Bali, you should not miss one of the most important cultural religious ceremonies, *Galungan*. This special day is believed to be the descent day of the Balinese Gods, including *Sang Hyang Widhi*, accompanied by the ancestor spirits to the earth.

The word “Galungan” is derived from ancient Java language meaning *to win* or *to fight*. On Galungan, Balinese honor the triumph of the decency against the villainy. To laud the glory, the people reunite with the whole family and crafts offering for the temples and the houses. Tall bamboo poles called *penjor* are usually put in front of houses as the symbol of the religious festive. After 10-day visit to the earth, the Gods and the spirits ascend back to heaven. Yellow rice is prepared as the offerings to Gods before they return to nirvana. *Kuningan* is marked as the end of the *Galungan* ceremony series. Next month “We” celebrate another Balinese Hindu religious event called NYEPI ...more on that later next month.

ONE WAY OF LOSING 4-5 HOURS HERE IN BALI.

Generally, waking from a relaxed Balinese night’s sleep I would slip out of bed around 9.00 am to find our “Friend” Putu in the kitchen preparing our Fruit & coffee to begin our day. I should point out that Erin, meanwhile, remains in bed for another 15 min or so.

A couple of days ago, just when I thought that another Bali day was beginning as normal, I woke at 8.00 am to “spend a penny” ...put my feet on the floor ...Wet! Bugger, the bloody air conditioner is leaking again ...no, a little more water than that ...in fact water some 4-5 cm deep “All” over the bedroom floor ...open the ensuite bathroom ..more of the same!! Make my way out of the bedroom into the adjoining living area ..more of the same ..Bugger!!! Closer inspection of the problem reveals the bathroom sink tap had “blown a gasket” & was quietly but very efficiently spewing water everywhere.

First mob. call to the owner of the house to alert them to the problem ..the second call was to Putu, who fortunately lives within a 1 min walk from our house. There we were’ Putu & I sweeping the water from the bedroom into the bathroom & into the shower recess to allow for natural draining to take place. I might add that at this point I had turned the water off. I should explain that Erin, aware of the “Banjir” (flood) was standing by the side of the bed, motionless ..a little like the “Lady in the Lake” assessing her next move. Finally decided that her safest place was at her “computer station” so as not to slip & break a bone & simply assume her natural role of “Supervisor”.

The Balinese “Handyman” arrived shortly after to replace the “offending” tap & make good the situation. Meanwhile the carpet square in the living area was soaked & is still drying some 3 days later!! The whole cleaning up process was still “alive & well” at mid-day at which time a cold Bintang was well & truly earned. Putu, naturally declined the offer!!

Just another Bali adventure to keep one on one’s toes!!

Thank you Peter, and thanks also for the pictures which go with this story, which I have managed to include this time. They can be found on Page 12. Ed.

WEDNESDAY MASTERS HOCKEY B GRADE MONTHLY REPORT: FEBRUARY 2016

INJURIES: Bob le Merle returned to the field in Feb after eight months recovering from joint replacement operation Michael Robinson, Dave Evans and Brian Thomas continued absence with leg and muscle injuries. Terry Gaston is recovering from a spinal abscess & is still aiming for Newcastle.

New players: Don Sanders arrived at start of Feb, doesn't need any introduction around WA Hockey, has recently retired and wanting to fill in a bit of time on the hockey field. Dave (...??) from the Fremantle Club has decided to partake of his favourite sport after a three year break.

February Games:

The biggest talking points for February did not concentrate on the players performances but rather:

1. The location, cost and how to pay for car parking at Curtin,
2. Should we play or should we not, when temperatures are extreme,
3. Which ground are we playing on this week and what time do we start and
4. How do we use our mobile phones to pay for parking?

I understand Simon et al will make further comment on some of these issues as and when new information comes to pass or as further clarification.

January weather was kind to us this year but February wasn't so nice. With 4 days exceeding 40 in the second week and an original forecast of 39 and humid (actual 33 and humid) on the third Wed had a telling effect on B Grade numbers. Whilst we fielded 3 full sides in Week 1 with extras for each game, week 2 (including mad dogs and Englishmen) had 13 attendees, played 6 a side and played across the field, week 3 as the game was cancelled and then rescheduled we had enough for 2 full teams, whilst week 4 temperatures and conditions were fine for hockey we struggled to get more than we did on week 3.

White continues to be the strongest performing team winning most of their games in Feb. Weeks 3 and 4 saw White with a full team of players (without a goalie) continually defeat the combined might of Blue and Gold. Goal scoring performances by Greg Allen, Peter Wallis, Don Sanders and Peter Andrews lead the White team to a series of comfortable victories over the 2 weeks whilst the white defence continued to thwart many promising attacks. Other players to put in strong performances during Feb included Ian Brown, Chris Morley, Jim Campbell, Peter Sinclair, Glen Mihala and Bill Campbell.

Goal of the month goes to Adrian Gabriel with a deft deflection from the spot after a strong accurate pass by Ian Pestana (cameo appearance in B grade) from outside the 25 yard line giving the defence and the goalie no chance. It looked brilliant even from close up. Best team goal saw Peter Wallis do a reverse stick rebound from behind the defensive 25 yard line to Don Sanders who travelled through the centre passed to Arch Andrews on the right, back to Sanders, back to Arch into the circle and back to Sanders for a strong goal. Left the opposing defence and goalie perplexed and beaten.

Facts of Life

1. They say nice things about people at their funerals. It makes you sad to realise you are going to miss yours by just a few days.
2. Never argue with a doctor, he has inside information.
3. How come you never see the heading "Psychic wins lotto".
4. If you could kick the person in the pants responsible for most of your problems, you wouldn't sit for a month.

Thank you to Gordon Jeffery again. It sounds as though you all will be able to give the Australian O/70s a decent run - something which would be well beyond us in 'A' division. Ed.

Wine Winners For 2016: There has not been a lot of movement in this area during February. Ham D'Souza has made a turf comeback and already features in both goalscorers and wine winners. An updated ladder will hopefully appear in the next issue.

Probable Bionic Match: The latest on the teams appears here. Any possible reserves who qualify are very much sought after as our teams of replacements may need some replacements.

Hip replacement team: Jim Banks, Peter Evans, Ian Lyon, Simon Thomson, Don Sanders Ivan Wilson, Dudley Evans, Shane Knapp, Jim Campbell, Andrew Robertson (GK), Simon Walsh, Mal Skinner.

Knee replacement team: Bob Bowyer, Roger Davey, Peter Livingstone, Bob Le Merle, Nick Pereira, Gordon Thomas, Trevor Kerr, Peter Murray & Tom Long (both February operations), Don Smart, Adrian Gabriel, John Burt (GK with knees).

Umpires: Trevor Gallagher (knees), John Sanders (hip and knee - no bias there).

It is envisaged that the match will be played in June / July depending on ticket sales.

As I had a lot of standing in queues during the Festival of Perth a few limericks resulted:

Our test match between knees and hips
Is sure to draw plenty of quips
If you've seen them play
You would not dare say
It's a game between two teams of crips

Past Players: Our Wednesdays and my notes have been disrupted by the heat, though memory is of the opinion that George Winning, John Sanders and Jeff Godfrey were there. At Perry Lakes the list of non-players includes Frank Fay, Rusty Phillips, John Sanders, Jeff Godfrey, George Bradbury, Rod Spencer, Peter Murray and Peter Livingstone. We may all be past players some day.

Quotable Quote No 2: "Be not ashamed of mistakes and thus make them crimes." Confucius (551 BC to 479 BC). *Sound advice for the 'A' division at the moment.*

Which Turf: *It seems that the turf situation is subject to change this year including a few weeks when we will have to move from PHS. "Masters Matters" and your email inbox will keep you informed.*

Men's Grand Masters World Cup News: The teams count as of last issue was 45. The Korean sides and the Malaysian O/65s have been withdrawn, reducing the total team numbers to 42.

Masters Matters Staff Meeting: There has been a further leakage of information from this meeting where retrospective cancellation of the staff Christmas bonuses was mentioned. One staff member is said to have suggested to the Editor-in-Chief that even if the cheap red wine which had been his Christmas bonus could be recovered nobody would be likely to enjoy it much second-hand.

Stan Salazaar: Has asked that anybody who can bring him back some badges from Newcastle does so. We have only two non Southern Cross teams in TT 70s, so it might help if a few of us work on it.

Bunbury: Robin Bailey has been very busy this year, and so has Rob McNab. So they were not able to arrange the match during the window of opportunity in March. Please contact Robin if you can help in arranging next year's game. He had the original idea, but it should not mean it's a job for life.

More Celebrity Chefs at Perry Lakes



Rusty Phillips and Bob Hotinski

Appreciative Perry Lakes Diner



Kookaburra Sits In the Old Gum Tree

More Saturday News: A more normal report after all my complaining on Page 6.

I'm told that Ash Foster had contributed the cost of the barbecue on the 13th, and then found he was unable to attend. So he chipped in again for another one on the 27th. Thanks Ash. Thanks also to chefs Rusty and Bob, and to Jim Wright for the pictures as well as the food sourcing. The chicken kebab in the gum tree was actually snatched off the table (in front of Peter Brien) by the feathered thief. The rest of the fine food went to the intended recipients.

Keith Kessell & Rod Spencer put their heads together far too hard on the 13th. I did not actually see the clash as the ball had popped out my way for a rare touch. To our amazement both picked themselves up off the grass (eventually) and played on.

John Milner just keeps turning up at the right spot at the right time and scoring goals. He's doing it on a Wednesday too. *Stop press: Two more on Saturday the 27th.*

We had a very long line of volunteers to umpire on the 13th. Ken Watt suggested it was a plethora of umpires - but later decided that a better collective noun would be an "abuse of umpires."

On umpiring, welcome to new Saturday whistler Ken Edwards. I think he may be a former player at YMCA and Subs but have not been able to confirm this.

Bob Hotinski has managed to begin the comeback on the 27th after quite an absence. The hockey seemed to have been OK (a good goal) and he was able afterwards to help set up the tables and do the cooking with Rusty Phillips as reported in a little more detail above.

New Grade for Adelaide: Rumour has it that the O/75s will finally be a reality later this year in South Australia. There are undertakings for teams to attend from WA, WA Country, NSW and Victoria as at the moment. Please support this if you can help to get it started. The relevant limerick:

It's happened at last in SA
 A seventy fives, so they say
 With four teams on board
 A senior cits horde
 Is coming the Croweaters way

Punology Two: What do you call a chicken staring at a lettuce? Chicken Caesar salad.

Peter Hammond's Bali Pictures



Peter's Pictures Proudly Posted. About time the editor went to picture processing primary school.

Welcome Arrivals: Joining our ranks last month were Don Sanders ('B' division) and Rick Rodoreda ('C' division I think). Best wishes for your time in WHM.

Have Hockey Stick Will Not Travel: The WA members of the national O/70s must be pleased that they do not need to go away for the Newcastle pre-tournament gathering. It is to be held in March here in Perth and a busy program is planned. Thanks to Peter Andrews for this information: "The Australian 70s team for Newcastle will be training in Perth for 3 days: 15 - 17 March. Australia will play full matches on both Tuesday (15th) and Thursday (17th). These will be played against a combined squad of WA based 70s shadows and invited 75s Australians WA and WAC 65s and Wednesday Hockey players. The opposition coach is Jim Banks. The umpires are George Mullins and Bob Le Merle. On 16th March Australia will play in our 'B' division against the 3 regular teams starting at 1:00 pm. Those of you not playing are, of course, welcome as spectators on any of the three days.

Parking: The one thing that we all need to do is keep the hockey stickers on our cars, as they will be used by the security officers to identify students parking in the hockey bays. I'm sure we'll all do our best to comply with the requirements of the new regime, and hope for no miscarriages of justice.

For a final word on the topic (I jest of course) the following limerick. Younger readers can ask older ones about the Graham Kennedy show and the segment on bird calls, crows especially.

The question of how do we park
Has left lots of us in the dark
I'm in a real spin
It's done my brain in
And all I can do is say "faark!"

That's More Than Enough Until Next Month: A bumper edition, but there's a lot happening.

All news and other contributions to:

John Mercer - 'A' Division White team. Email: johnmercer@inet.net.au.