



A Blue

A Gold

A Red

A White

B Blue

B Gold

B Red

B White

C Black

C Blue

C Gold

C Green

C Red

C White

O/65 Blue

O/65 Green

O/65 White

# Masters Matters

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**WHM and 2020:** The year began with high hopes for a Grand Masters World Cup in a new country. Even better was the news that the Olympic hockey venues in Tokyo would also be used for our first tournament under the auspices of World Masters Hockey. Then the pandemic shut down almost everything, worldwide, including our hockey. Unlike many other parts of Australia and the rest of the world we were able to resume again after only a three month break and for once the tyranny of distance worked for us. As an island within an island (described so well by the Premier) we were able to keep the virus largely at bay. Well done to all from both Wednesday and Saturday who managed to get us started almost before everybody else. Thanks also to both Hockey WA and the PHS staff. As usual MM's limericist wants to have his say:

The year's been a bit of a mess  
 But finished as quite a success (*see Pages 13 and 14*)  
 That horrible virus  
 Was far from desirous  
 But most of us mastered the stress  
*And the rest took it out on the umpires*

**WHM Christmas Party:** By now everybody should know that this will be held after the Orthopaedic Challenge Match on 16th December and includes partners. The arrival time is 6:30 pm for a 7:00 pm start. Playing members do not have to pay but it will be \$20 for partners. Bookings are to be handled by the team captains initially - I understand that Neil Patterson is managing past players and social members. The deadline for us to nominate our attendance is 9th December.

**Contact Tracing At PHS:** Effective from 5th December everybody entering Perth Hockey Stadium must provide contact details - either by the phone app, or filling in the paper register.

**Dates For The Diary:**

**2020:** December 16th: Hips versus Knees - PHS. Followed by WHM's Christmas Party.  
 December 19th: Christmas barbecue for Saturday hockey. Perry Lakes.

December 23rd and 30th: No play - PHS closed.

December 26th: Boxing Day - no play at Perry Lakes.

**2021:**

April 17th: Saturday hockey end of summer season WA Spit Roast dinner. Perry Lakes.  
 July 23rd to August 8th. Tokyo Olympics.

**Masters World Cups:** All the Masters World Cups scheduled for 2021 have been cancelled. Here is the link to the full statement from Masters Hockey Australia and WMH.

<http://www.hockeyaustraliamasters.org.au/mens/world-cups-in-2021-cancelled/>.

**Mega Interstate Tournament:**

**Women:** Newcastle September 23rd to October 2nd.

**Men:** Newcastle September 24th to October 9th.

**Department of Health:** Greg Street has made a good comeback from his broken thumb and still can hit a hockey ball. Talking of comebacks, Les Waldon is back following his shoulder replacement and has now got through both a Wednesday and a Saturday. He is still adapting his game to the new prosthetic, but has not lost his unerring ability to trap a ball passed on his wrong side. I heard via the grapevine that Jim Banks is now having some knee problems and has not been able to continue his return to hockey. John Ree missed a Wednesday due to a stitched skin cancer removal wound, but came back next week (and scored a goal, of course). Howie Herbert has missed some weeks with a back problem but has managed to make a comeback on Saturday 28th. Mal Horrigan's return to hockey seems to have been a brief one with another (the same?) muscle injury. Robin Bailey has spent time in hospital emergency departments with atrial fibrillation, but managed to play at PHS on the 25th. Hector D'Rozario is out of action for an indefinite period, but is coming out to watch the games occasionally. Lance Wood has tweaked a hamstring; playing on a Monday night. Bob Bowyer's saga has been ongoing with more surgery and yet another recovery period to endure. In late news Ron Venables has been in regular contact with Bob Robinson, and says that Bob is doing well, apart from the diabetes which his tribulations have brought on. He and Maxine are due to attend the Christmas party. And Michael Gottschalk says that father Vern Gooch is back and home and going OK, even though a little too frail for the Christmas party. It's a very long list this month, and might explain why A Division is short of numbers. Best recovery wishes to all.

**City Versus Country:** MM is unable to bring you the detailed coverage we had hoped to do as the information does not seem to be available. Even the match results were hard to find. I was only there on the Saturday, which in my opinion was very successful. Congratulations to all who were involved in organizing the event, including Simon Thomson (WHM), Peter Andrews and all at WA Masters Hockey, and Naomi Noble, from Hockey WA. Thank you to all the umpires. Well done also to the Saturday barbecue organizers and cooks who were Ivan Wilson, Peter Jones and Neil Scaddan.

The results we have are:

Saturday 7th November	City	Country
O/60s	2	1
O/65s	10	0
O/70s	2	0
O/75s	6	1
Sunday 8th November		
O/60s	5	0
O/65s	4	0
O/70s	1	1
O/75s	0	0

Thanks are also due to all those who attended although not playing. It was terrific to see a good crowd at PHS for a Masters event again. Julian and Pam Gardner got there on Sunday; hope that you both enjoyed a good catch up with many old friends and team mates from bygone years.

**Welcome New Players:** This month we are joined by Garry Plowman (Kalamunda) in B Division Red; Bob Hotinski has formally signed up to A Division; plus Brett Karran and Peter George (both Mods) will play in C Division. Hope you all enjoy your time with Western Hockey Masters.

**Quotable Quote One:** "The reality was that the United States in 2017 was tethered to the words and actions of an emotionally overwrought, mercurial and unpredictable leader. Members of his staff had joined to purposefully block some of what they believed were the president's most dangerous impulses. It was a nervous breakdown of the executive power of the most powerful country in the world." *From 'Fear: Trump in the White House' by Bob Woodward.*

**Letters To The Editor:** The November issue, like October, generated only one response. Thank you to Phil Anderson (aka Pando) who sent some names for the young men who appeared in Ken Walter's photograph of the 1965 WA Colts team. The full story can be found on Page 13.

Ken Watt contacted MM on another matter, and the story appears on Page 15.

**Car Locking Problems at Curtin:** Neil Patterson has kept us in touch with developments since Leo Welten first reported the problem to Hockey WA. Quite a few of us have experienced difficulty with remote locking/unlocking (even me after the Committee meeting) and thanks must go to Neil and our WHM members who offered expert opinions. I trust that we all honoured the request for us to go through Hockey WA and not contact Curtin directly. The last we heard was from Hockey WA's Operations Manager Graeme Hall on the 23rd November - Curtin Uni have engaged a consultant to investigate further. The difficulties are happening in other car parks on the campus also.

**Department of Corrections:** In the A Division report for 21st October Neil Miller is credited with three goals. But the scorers list just showed Neil Miller and omitted the (3). Sorry Neil.

**Where Are They Now?** Thanks to Colin Gee for passing on an email from past player Lloyd Jones, who retired due to some hockey injuries. He has had a total knee replacement in 2019, a shoulder cleanup this year, and is due for work on the right knee and/or hip next year. In the meantime he's spending time on the bowling rink at Thornlie, where he's encountered Jim Banks and Butch Worth. All the best to you Lloyd - come over to PHS and say hello one Wednesday.

Thanks to Ian Lyon, who has not only booked in for the Wednesday Christmas party on the 16th, but also made sure that Bala Chandran and Dudley Younger have too. Catch-ups are in order.

#### **Bob Claxton receiving Life Membership of Hockey Australia**



Congratulations again Bob. Back on the Perth turf again on the 2nd too.

**Grumpy Old Men One:** "Every man has a right to his opinion, but no man has a right to be wrong in his facts." *Bernard M Baruch (1870 - 1965). US businessman and politician.*

**'A' Division Blog:** As injuries mount our numbers are dropping off. Can we recover for December?

**November 4th:** Blue were the team of the day, Red were competitive, Gold managed to have the advantage of the play in each match and lose 2 of them, while White were thrashed twice, then missed opportunities in the last game of the day (so did Red). Blue's strong defence, with zero goals against, and good passing earned them 3 wins. Even though Mark Faithfull was back in the Red team after a long injury (and holiday) absence their numbers were still low. Nevelle Brown played most of the day for Red, while Robin Bailey assisted Gold. Goal of the day has to go Nev for getting Red's equaliser against White in the last game of the day - from the backline right out near the left wing edge of the circle. The results were:

**Gold 0 Red 1; Blue 2 White 0; Blue 1 Red 0; White 0 Gold 4; Blue 2 Gold 0; White 1 Red 1.**

**Scorers:** **Blue:** Peter Eastlake (2), John Ree (2), Ricky Watts. **Gold:** Phil Metcalf (2), Angelo Strano (2).

**Red:** Nevelle Brown, Peter Eastlake. **White:** Brian Soares. Team numbers, based on original sides: Gold (9), Red (7), Blue (11), White (12). 12 goals were scored.

**November 11th:** The City versus Country matches on the previous weekend may have affected our numbers, which were well down. As a consequence many players had to fill in. Robin Bailey has been missing out on games lately, but more than made up for it with no less than 5 matches, while Ron Venables seemed to have suffered no ill effects from the weekend and was his usual sprightly self. Goals and wins were both in short supply, with 4 draws, 3 of them 0-0. The judges did not see all the goals, but even though not many were scored there were some good ones. The short list includes hits from Gordon Jeffery, Ken Beer and Scott Blackwell in addition to a fine scoop from Phil Metcalf. But as it's been a long time they awarded goal of the day to Jim Banks. Jim made a return to hockey (for one game only) after a long absence, as did Stan Balding after an even longer one. Nev Brown transferred to Red for the day, as Blue was the only side to have spares. The day's results were:

**White 0 Blue 2; Gold 1 Red 2; Gold 0 Blue 0; Red 0 White 0; Gold 1 White 1; Red 0 Blue 0.**

**Scorers:** **Blue:** Jim Banks, John Ree. **Gold:** Gordon Jeffery, Phil Metcalf. **Red:** Ken Beer, Nev Brown.

**White:** Scott Blackwell. Player numbers: White (9), Blue (11), Gold (8), Red (6). 7 goals scored.

**November 18th:** Blue and Red both began the day short of numbers. Their cause was not helped by early injuries to Ron Venables (ball on back of leg) and Neil Patterson (muscle strain). Fortunately for Red Mal Horrigan and Stan Balding both managed to complete three games. Gold's strong line up produced two big wins before the two game break disrupted their rhythm and they managed to lose a game to Blue despite having most of the play. After the loss of Neil Patterson Blue needed three fill-ins each game, and Neil Scaddan followed our playing rules and included nine different players as substitutes. White are missing many of their stars and defended for most the day. Brian Soares did well to score twice at the other end from limited opportunities. The judges were unanimous that goal of the day went to Stan Balding for a great chase after a loose ball. The results were:

**Red 0 Gold 2; White 1 Blue 1; White 1 Gold 3; Blue 0 Red 2; White 1 Red 1; Blue 1 Gold 0.**

**Scorers:** **Blue:** Terry Gaston, John Mercer. **Gold:** Terry Gaston, Colin Gee, Phil Metcalf (2), Angelo Strano. **Red:** Stan Balding, Colin Murray-Smith. **White:** Steve McEntee, Brian Soares (2). Team numbers at maximum: Red (8), Gold (10), White (11), Blue (8). 13 goals were scored.

**November 25th:** The day was slightly shambolic, due to an early decision to combine Red and Gold and play three teams. A hasty set of fixtures was drawn up, but not completed due to some players not having enough games in the combined team. So Match 5 was played **between** Red and Gold, the match duration was reduced to 20 minutes after Game 3, and the last match was not played. A new player in Terry Murray (ex Scarborough, a long time ago) had a run - I hope somebody managed to obtain his contact details. The judges decided after a very short meeting that Phil Metcalf should be awarded goal of the day for a hat trick. The results were:

**Blue 1 White 0; Red/Gold 2 White 0; Gold/Red 1 Blue 1; Blue 1 White 1; Red 1 Gold 1.**

**Goal Scorers:** **Blue:** Peter Eastlake, Col Murray-Smith, John Ree. **Red/Gold:** Phil Metcalf (3), **Gold:** Terry Gaston. **Red:** Ron Venables. **White:** Steve McEntee. Player numbers based on original sides: Blue (7), White (10), Red (7), Gold (9). 9 goals were scored.

*In the clarity of hindsight it might have been better to stay with original teams and fixtures.*



**From Saturday Masters:** The summer season is now in full swing, but summer hot weather is yet to arrive. It won't be long before the shade of the Perry Lakes trees will be welcome again.

# Many thanks to all members who paid their summer fees so promptly. Very little chasing up has been required and so far it has not been necessary to ask our retired shoulder tapper in chief to make a comeback. *(Are you available if needed, George?)*

# It has been terrific to see John Milner back on the field during November. He has already made an appearance on the scorers list.

# Have you booked in for the Christmas barbecue *(19th December)* yet? As Jim Wright has told us our games will start a little later and we are due to start dining at about 6:00 pm. The menu includes steak, gourmet sausages, coleslaw, and salads including potato, pasta, Greek and watermelon. Our Perry Lakes meals are usually something special and this promises to be no exception.

# Please note that there will be no play on December 26th, Boxing Day. We are planning to ask for expressions of interest in playing on 2nd January.

# So far fees have been paid by 47 full time players, 11 casual and social members (only 2 playing), and 3 goalkeepers. We have been warned of a possible influx of players in the next few years.

**From The Archives:** Thanks to Mike Sputore for this reminder of bygone days. His recently deceased father-in-law is in the photo, as are some famous names.



**Punology 1:** Another music industry scandal has erupted in the USA. A four man rock group has been identified without a single member who can sing. They're called Mount Rushmore.

**Balinese Bulletin No 57:** A retrospective piece from WHM's Indonesian correspondent.

Because we have been in "Bali Lockdown" since early February you will understand that not a lot has happened that warrants a mention. That being the case I have chosen to take a short trip back to our Pre Covid years for reflection & inspiration. I'm sure you will understand.

**EARLIER BALI REFLECTIONS:**

**Bali Dog-Speak.** The small Gang (Lane) in which we live is home to many dogs. No, they are not stray but are owned by the local people living nearby as our neighbours. It is fairly much a "rule of thumb" that each house is home to anywhere between 1 – 3 dogs. Very early on in our stay here I would walk up the Gang to the main road to shop at our local "IGA". The local dogs would obviously eye me suspiciously & with both ears & tail erect would eyeball me & say "Hey you're new here & I don't think I like the look of you, so keep walking" The next couple of times that there was a confrontation they would say " Ok, I know who you are ...still don't like the look of you & I'll just keep my eyes on you". On maybe the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> confrontation things are certainly more amicable ..."Ok, ..alright ..I think you're almost a local, so I'll just give you a short muted bark ..just so you know I can see you". After all this time, as a local, I can say that my presence barely raises an audible snort from my canine friends. Acceptance is obviously earned.

**Damien:** Some of you down there have been asking have we made new friends up here. Well, this may go to, in part, answering this question. We have a local eatery near us called The Plumbers Arms. The name alone will explain why it is not one of our favourite haunts. Well one day recently, for a change, we thought we would eat there. We found ourselves the only patrons there other than a single guy aged in his early 50's who arrived at much the same time as we did. Feeling sorry for him I asked if he would like to join us .....Some 90 minutes later he had gleaned our first names only & that we lived in the local area. We, on the other hand, learnt that he was formerly married, now divorced & was building a couple of Villas nearby. He was, in a previous life, very wealthy & had travelled extensively throughout Asia & recently spent 6 weeks living with the Dalai Lama's bodyguards in Tibet. It was there that the Dalai Lama, himself, blessed the Jade(?) bracelet he was wearing. In addition to a seasoned traveller he was a former Professional Photographer, a "grip" for an Australian Film Production Company & a Sous Chef ...phew!! Oh & his Father was presented with the Australian Order of Merit ..for what we have no idea. Another interesting thing was he was on first name terms with Malcolm Turnbull & had gone to school with Tony Abbot where he had personally shoved Abbot's head in the school toilet ...some of you are now smiling!! THIS is why we are very cautious in making new friends here!!

**The Sound of Bali Silence.** Following a pre-dawn heavy downpour of rain, this morning we were, once again, beneficiaries of a not uncommon period of Bali Silence. It is as if someone has hit the "mute" button & everything goes silent & still. In the area where we live, where some 1,000 & more people quietly live, you cannot detect a sound in this pristine silence. Eventually a solitary motorbike, somewhere in the distance, quietly goes from "somewhere" to "somewhere else". Then a lone small bird quietly starts up a conversation with itself, followed by a rooster calling in the dawn. These periods of silence are not unusual & often I will stand looking out through the garden foliage & marvel at the complete absence of sound & movement. Reality, however, soon hits & life goes on ....but not with a "rush".

In closing I should point out that should you bump in to me on the streets of Bali any time in the near future that perhaps I should re-introduce myself. Standing before you will be an aging gent resembling someone akin to a "homeless" man ...a very, very grey beard in need of a trim ...very, very grey hair almost down to my shoulders ... with hands firmly attached to my close friend "Willy Walker". At this point we should then adjourn to enjoy a cold Bintang or two!!

To all of you down there who have taken the time to read this I would like to wish you & your Families a Very Merry Xmas & a Happy & Healthy New Year.

*Peter Hammond Thanks Peter for another fine year as an MM foreign correspondent. The photograph on the next page raises the question - has Peter taken up smoking during lockdown? Ed.*

Is it Peter and Erin?



**Well Dones for November:** Wednesday's 'A' Division umpires: Rob Ainsworth, Jim Balding, Peter Eastlake, Peter Evans, Colin Gee, Ian Hill, Bob Hotinski, Gordon Jeffery, John Jeffreys, Steve McEntee, Colin Murray-Smith, Neil Scaddan, Brian Soares, Greg Street, Ron Venables, Ken Watt, Ricky Watts and Ivan Wilson. Saturday's umpires were: Rob Ainsworth, Eric Alcock, Peter Brien, Michael Gottschalk, Ian Hill, Steve Powles, Neil Scaddan, Brian Soares, Greg Street, Ron Venables, Ken Watt. A special mention goes to the cooks and organisers for the fine barbecue after City versus Country on the 7th - Ivan Wilson, Peter Jones and Neil Scaddan. Thank you and well done to all.

**Past Players, Non Players and Injured Players November:** The PHS bar is not as heavily populated on Wednesdays as it used to be. Those who came but did not play included: Hector D'Rozario, Keith Kessell, and George Winning. Saturdays again had a good turn-out, including: Eric Alcock, Marty Greay, Howie Herbert, Ian Hill, Keith Kessell, David Lester, Ian Lyon, John Milner, Neil Patterson, John Pierce, Neil Scaddan, Rod Spencer, Brian Thomas, Les Waldon, Len Walker and Ken Walter.

**Hips V Knees 2020:** The pre-game ceremonies start at 3:30 pm and the match is scheduled for 4:00. Bob Bowyer has told Masters Matters that the shirts (organised through Robin Bailey) are almost ready and the media releases and ceremony details are being finalised. Included in the numbers working on match preparations are representatives from Hockey WA, The Australian Orthopaedic Society and their media consultant. Bob is being assisted on the day by Dan Hill. See you there.

**Quotable Quote Two:** "I am not one of those who in expressing opinions confine themselves to facts." *Mark Twain (1835 - 1910). Thanks to the internet we all can have our own facts these days.*



**'B' Division November 2020:**

November was another great month of Wednesday Masters Hockey with some perfect weather and some near perfect hockey. I didn't say how near....? With not much hockey etc going on it's amazing how many players are out injured. All four teams have 3 or 4 players out but as is the norm players waiting for their game fill in and so the game begins.

Late in the month it was good to see Tommy Long return to play following his recent hand injury.

This month's featured player is Irishman Heath Tyrrell currently playing for the White side. Heath is also known to play for the Irish team at some International Tournaments

Dudley Evans

**Heath Tyrrell's hockey bio.**

To write your own bio with a fair amount of poetic license still requires a trip down memory lane which, of course, has become less clear with time. So off we go .....

First recollection of anything to do with hockey was in my early childhood. My grandfather, when I was staying with him, would bring me along to watch his son, my uncle, play. My uncle incidentally was the most prolific goal scoring centre forward of his generation, playing for Ireland from 50s through to the 70s. Unfortunately, very little was passed on to my DNA.

Due to marital issues, my brother and I ended up in an institution that had football as their only sporting outlet. We did really well at it and represented Dublin in an intercity competition. The football career didn't last long as my move to secondary school, The King's Hospital (otherwise known as the Blue Coat School due to the uniform we had to wear) played Rugby, Cricket and Hockey. Rugby was the schools' main mantra, followed by cricket and then hockey.

We were required to play all three sports, it was compulsory. I vividly remember my first hockey stick, a hand me down from the uncle. The head was almost as long as the handle and compared to today's sticks it looked really weird. Still, most everyone played with the same thing except the more fortunate ones who had the first Indian head sticks.

The winter of 1963 was a changing point sports wise. Playing with the JCT (Under 15 cup team) rugby team, I was injured, smashing my collarbone. Eight to ten weeks later I was able to resume sport but never played rugby competitively again other than interhouse. We either won or were finalists in a number of school hockey and cricket competitions during my time at King's Hospital whilst noting the Rugby team seldom got past the first round.

After school, I went onto Trinity College, Dublin University where I joined the hockey club 1966 to 1970. Trinity were always allocated a spot in the 1<sup>st</sup> Division in Dublin. They seldom won much but many a fine player came through their ranks. I never made the 1<sup>st</sup> team but I do remember winning a trophy, I think it was the 3<sup>rd</sup> X1, the first time a team from Trinity ever won a trophy. We managed to damage it celebrating the win by running with it full of alcohol down O'Connell's Street. Typical students having fun and misbehaving.

During my time at Trinity I would go to London to work in the holidays. University life had many holidays. I think a term lasted six weeks only and there were three terms. In those breaks I would get various jobs to supplement my Uni expenditure. During those sojourns I would play with Hounslow HC. which was another wonderful experience. Travelling for hours up the A40 or M1 to games. The best part was after the games when the host side would put on a feast and many jugs of beer which resulted in great camaraderie and oft a sing song followed by a party.

After finishing at Trinity, I moved to Three Rock Rovers, seasons 1970 - 1983. We weren't allowed to play for Trinity once you had finished your degree or had left. TRR as a club won every Irish hockey competition in those years at all levels. I managed to play one season on the 1<sup>st</sup> X1 which happened to coincide with the first time the club qualified to play in the European Hockey Cup. The rest of my hockey career was with the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> X1. /10

During those 13 years there were some magic times organising hockey tours to Holland at Easter. I would charter a DC9 plane from MartinAir, fill it full of hockey players, women and men, 110 players in all. We would arrive in Amsterdam on the Thursday before Easter and return to Dublin on the Tuesday following Easter. There are far too many stories that could be regaled about those tours but suffice to say it was enjoyed by all.

Then I think, in 1977 or thereabouts the Hotspurs came on tour to Ireland. Many Hotspur players on that tour were to crop up again in my future life, not that I was aware of that at the time I played against them – might have been more careful in my tackling etc. Many comments have been relayed by a well-known WASP's player.

And so, to 1983, when we decided to emigrate. It was a choice between Canada or Australia. The visa for Australia came through first. However, all this was not without dramas. Having got our visas in our passports we were advised by the Australian embassy in Dublin to reconsider going to Australia. They pointed out that Australia was not the country of milk and honey as painted by the media in general and that there was a recession at the time. Further as our youngest child had just been borne, we would need a medical report on him when he was six months old to verify that he would not be a medical expense in Australia. Obviously, all was good -----

We arrived in Melbourne May 1983, we were fortunate to have my brother already living there and he had organised accommodation for us in Nunawading. As it turned out the Doncaster Hockey club was close by. I turned up at their Tuesday night training and asked to speak with whoever took new membership details and was advised to come back to Thursday night training and speak with a Mr Henry. I caught up with Mr Henry in the car park after training, he gave me some details to become a member, then asked my age. I told him I was 34 and his response was "your too old for our 1<sup>st</sup> team". I got to play for the second team. They won promotion to State League 1 that year. The next season I captained the 3<sup>rd</sup> Team to the flag. They were a wonderful club and embraced us as a family and made all of us most welcome. We still keep in touch with many of the members and often meet when they travel here or we are in Melbourne.

Jan 1985, we were on the move again to Western Australia, Goodyear the company I was fortunate to join in June 1983, transferred me to the WA office. We bought a house in Willetton. When I left Doncaster the club captain gave me Graham Leek's number in Perth and suggested I contact him. Graham had been at Doncaster before he moved to Perth and was a member of a club called Mods. I contacted Graham and he invited me to their training. I did train for a week or two but found the distance too far from Willetton. Willetton had its own hockey club which was only a stone's throw from where we lived so I joined them for the 1985 season. I mostly played 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Division hockey with Willetton until I moved to Vets in 1990. Willetton Vets had limited success but as a club they were very proactive in youth hockey. Three of my children played at Willetton through Minkey and then U11's, U13's, U15's etc. I was involved with Minkey during those years. Socially Willetton was very successful till they were promoted to Division 1 or whatever it was called in those days. It was very difficult for clubs newly promoted to maintain that status and caused the club great angst. A number of years later the club folded and players integrated into other club teams. For me it was Uni Associates and then Vic Park and lately Wolves as and when required.

The team I played with was organised initially by John Dunstan (Gold team) and later by Rob Fawkes (Blue team). When exactly I joined the Wednesday Competition is missing from memory but it would have been around 2000-2003. This was due to other players I had met in State tournaments. Again, who they were exactly, I can't remember. More than likely it was Simon Thomson, with whom I've travelled and played with in a number of state teams starting in our 40's and progressing on from there to now. There are a number of players that I play with currently who were also on that first team I played in way back in 2000-2003 when I joined Wednesday Hockey. Played for a white team for a long time through 50's and now 60's. With my present fitness and poor recovery, it's not long before the next move to????

/11

During the intervening years 1990 - 2020 have had the opportunity to play in many State, Alliance and Golden Oldies tournaments as well as the 2018 World Cup Barcelona. Hockey has provided a great way to travel, see places and meet some wonderful people.

Wednesday hockey is a wonderfully organised and social event every week. The organisers are to be congratulated, in that not only is it well-structured but they have the ability to ensure the continuity it provides for all participants. Long may it continue - well done.

*Thank you Heath. Dudley added a small footnote. Ed.*

As you can see Heath brings a uniquely Irish view to hockey life. To continue this theme I would like to recount a visit to the UK where we met up with Heath & Patricia and Peter & Christine Fogels. (Apologies to those who may have already read this) Heath was going to show us parts of Dublin. He had been selected to play for Ireland in the European Champs in Glasgow and was in Dublin training!! As most of you know Heath from previous teams I thought I would share my recollection of events & confirm my observations that life for us at WHM just gets better and better!

We met Heath and Patricia in Dublin one lovely sunny morning, I couldn't remember exactly what day we were supposed to meet him, nor could Fogels or Christine so it was quite surprising (but not improbable) we actually did meet, maybe Heath got the day wrong as well? Anyway there we all were outside the gates of Trinity College at the prescribed time. Onward to the Book of Kells, centuries old books written by monks which Heath reckoned held the secrets to spiritual salvation and how to play hockey. Heath said he had disregarded and forgotten most of the stuff from his earlier readings but had retained all the important bits. He didn't say what these were & I didn't ask?

I did learn that Heath was an actual graduate of this College which is a direct contradiction to sage advice from many team mates that Heath had never been to school!!? Someone had once told me he was very well educated but disguised it well! We saw the college hockey fields, the old clubhouse now a permanent bar, a pile of old hockey sticks and were told of nearby graveyards. Heath reckoned he had played hockey against some of those buried. I wasn't surprised; I knew about his tackling, fortunately my injuries had healed.

I heard that Heath had written for the College magazine and local papers whilst at uni under the pseudonym "The Squirrel", Heath "The Squirrel" Tyrrell, He was famous and I had to admit it had a certain scholarly ring to it! Maybe "The Squirrel" would be resurrected? We visited the old College library full of over 200,000 first editions. Heath reckoned he had read them all but I think the library was all new to Heath as well as me!!

I pondered Heath's previous fame as a writer, my mind strained **then it hit me like a bullet to the head.** Like a slug of cheap whiskey on a cold Irish night, **Heath had been a scholar and a gentleman!** No wonder limericks only have 5 lines, His time at Willeton and Vic Park has changed him. He is now a much more rounded person, not as sharp as he once was, none of us are!

We went to the Christ Church Cathedral and St Michaels Church. Heath had sung solo at both places as a boy. Previous fame was fleeting and when, oh when would it return? The crypts under the church with their skeletal remains were quite unsettling, my eyes strained to see any movement, much like watching Masters hockey. I was jumpy and ready to run but I had paid to get in. Nothing stands in the way of tourism and nothing would stand in my way if one of those dead bodies decided that now was a good time to call for a pass!!

We visited Dublinia and learnt about the history of Dublin and Ireland, We had read Asterisk comics and visited Dublin castle so we knew a bit about Vikings, THEN IT HIT ME just like the pavement when I fell off my hire bike the previous day, a lump of asphalt to the head had focussed my mind, HEATH AND PATRICIA WERE IRISH ROYALTY! They were descended from 10th Century Vikings, Thor and Asterisk. They were up there with Van Morrison, C. S. Lewis, Bono, George Best and Oscar Wilde, WOW I thought, maybe we should have been addressing Heath as a Prince or King! (I made a mental note to call him Joe King from now on!) /12

We called into a pub for lunch.

A pint of beer said Heath,

aaiiiyyyy said the barman,

aaiiiyyyy said Heath,

aaiiiyyyy said a man sitting quietly in the corner,

aaiiiyyyy said I,

They all looked at me blankly, obviously I had missed some subtle inflexion, Best

not to say anything said Lois, The man in the corner nodded wisely.

We wandered past the court buildings. Heath had actually spent a bit of time there. Usually after big nights on the town during study breaks. He was well known in these precincts, you get that if you swim naked in the city's fountains carrying a half drunk bottle of wine during rush hour!

You are here on very serious charges young man said the beak. In view of the evidence I sentence you to **20 years jail**. But sir I was on my way back to college & needed a drink said Heath.

Trinity College?

Yes sir,

**Reduced to a fine on appeal** I went there myself! chortled the beak.

You are fined 11 Dubloons (this was the local currency at the time and equalled 7 Dublets). I tried to figure out how that would work, Heath said it worked in Ireland?

Apparently Ireland had introduced their own mathematical and monetary systems. Heath explained it all to me. I am none the wiser. I would have to read the complete Book of Kells and the 200,000 first Editions to get an inkling, I thought about it but not for long!

Heath had told us Tyrrell was not a very common surname in Ireland, I checked it out, whats your name? Liam Tyrrell said the man, Cian Tyrrell said another, Donal Tyrrell said one, Eamon Tyrrell, Nial Tyrrell, Reilly Tyrrell, Ronan Tyrrell, the list went on! There were hundreds of them, what did this mean? **Then it hit me just like that big Dutch fullback**, a stray elbow to the side of the head gives things a different perspective, **the Tyrrells had owned and ran Dublin**. They had controlled the Ha'penny bridge for a hundred years, they had run bootleg distilleries, smuggling whiskey and tobacco all over Ireland. It was in Heaths best interests to keep a low profile. **That way he paid zero tax!!!** He was a lot smarter than others had told me! I quizzed him no further, I recalled some wise words from that famous philosopher Coops "best to leave a can of worms unopened".

Finally we made it to Jameson's whisky factory where the ever generous Heath bought us all a top of the range whiskey. It was smoooooth as! It was here with my mind in neutral and Heath espousing some of his critical and very important theories on Irish hockey; I wasn't listening, it had **hit me like a sledgehammer!** Last years WA State team and lifting of the trophy in Adelaide was a mere stepping stone to bigger and better things!! Heath was on a steep trajectory to international stardom. We were just footholds, step ups, a helping hand. I was amazed at my clarity of thought, good on him, but would he be like the rest of us and be promoted to a level of incompetence? Peters Law, old age, selectors and umpires are great levellers. Heath left us in a pub somewhere, **he had a game that evening!** This was serious, fame so I'm told does that. I had another beer, I lost clarity of thought, I would discuss it later in Hobart.

We sailed into the Mystic.

So ended a great Day on the Heath.

*Thank you to Dudley and Heath, who would both appear to have kissed the Blarney Stone. Given the size of this issue it's probably a good thing I did not take the opportunity. Though I meant to include photographs of the Book of Kells and the Trinity College Library - both of which have mysteriously vanished from my computer. Ed.*

**Grumpy Old Men Two:** "Have no fear of perfection, you'll never reach it." Salvador Dali (1904 - 1989). Spanish Catalan surrealist painter. He could have been watching A Division hockey.

**WA Colts Team 1965:** Thanks again to Ken Walter for the photograph, and thanks to Pando (aka Phil Anderson) who got 10 players and the coach correct. How did you go?



**Back Row (Left to Right):** Merv Adams, Max Currell, Sid Wilson, Keith Bedford, Ric Robinson, Lindsay Mullings, Brian Hewitt, Brian Faulds, Colin Smith, Eric Hodge.

**Front Row (Left to Right):** Len Blyth, Bruce Palmer (VC), Al Stewart, John Barter, Richard McWilliam (captain), Ken Walter, John Dunstan.

#### **Test Your Hockey Knowledge With John Sanders:**

**November's** question was: Who was the youngest participant for Australia at the 1968 Olympic Games? a) Don Martin b) Ron Riley c) Julian Pearce d) Don Smart.

*The answer is b) Ron Riley who also featured in the previous month's question. The difference is that a correct answer was received this month - from Phil Anderson. Well done.*

**December's** question is: May Campbell (nee Pearce) played for Australia between 1935 and 1948. Which of these statements are true about May's hockey career?

- She was captain of Australia in NZ in 1948.
- She played alongside two sisters in NZ in 1948.
- She scored 12 goals in only 9 international games.
- She grew up in the WA wheat belt town of Moulyinning.

a) All statements are true.

b) All statements are false.

c) Only some statements are true. *Answer next issue.*

**Roll of Honour 2020:** To say that this year has presented a challenge would be an understatement. It is a credit to all involved that our competitions are as good at the end of the year as they were at the start, even if some of us are a little older. Both B and C Divisions have expanded and we ended the year with 14 teams after beginning it with 11. As has become customary the Christmas edition of "Masters Matters" will attempt to thank everybody involved in keeping things going. /14



**Executive:** Hockey works best as a team game, and hockey administration does also. Our team at the top in Simon Thomson (President), Tony Jones (Vice President), Neil Patterson (Secretary), Steve Farrar (Treasurer) with back up from Bob Bowyer (Assistant Secretary) has functioned beautifully throughout the year in what has been a truly outstanding effort. Many thanks to all for getting us back on the turf so expeditiously, which also applies to ....

**Divisional Coordinators and Team Captains:** A brief job description of these roles might be: To keep a lot of grumpy old men happy. (*Grumpiness increases with age - see A Division*) As our teams have increased from 11 to 14 during the year it would seem that members are generally happy with their hockey. Well done to coordinators George Bradbury ('A'), Adrian Gabriel ('B') and Colin Howell and Tony Jones ('C'). Allied to the coordinators are the team captains - those I am aware of are:

**A Division:** Colin Gee (G), David Horsley (W), Neil Scaddan (B) and Jim Wright (R) were 2020 captains. Vice captains included Mal Jackaman (G), Peter Evans (W), Ivan Wilson (B) and Ron Venables(R).

**B Division:** Peter Andrews (W), Bill Campbell (G), Dudley Evans (B) and Mike Robinson (R).

**C Division:** Stuart Amphlett (Black), Kevin Burton (R), Paul Cartwright (Green) Wayne Cutler (W), Tony Jones (Blue), Mike Sputore (Gold).

Thank you and well done to all those listed, plus any others unknown to me.

**Off-Field Roles:** For reasons of health Harvey Davies has had to hand over the fixtures to Dan Hill. Thank you for a great job Harvey, and all the best to Dan. Cam Robinson has driven the WA Masters web-site all year and deserves thanks from MM readers (if any are left) for getting the newsletter into position on the WHM page. Robin Bailey has had several health and injury issues this year, but has managed to keep doing a fine job as uniforms officer. It has not been straightforward, with the addition of 3 new teams. Ivan Wilson and Peter Jones prepare and organise our monthly sausage sizzles with Ivan doing the supply ordering and barbecue cleaning. Peter also runs the wine raffles and does other Social secretary tasks - many thanks to you both. Colin Gee is still looking after our membership data base and this year has not only assisted with the WHM history project but also been heavily involved investigating the RevoSPORT system as used by Hockey Australia. He is now engaged in its implementation. Thank you to all for keeping WHM functioning for another year.

**Goalkeepers:** This year thanks not only go to coordinators Tony Marshall and John Harper, but also to our entire roster of custodians. You are essential for our games.

**Umpires:** Many thanks to all who blew the whistles throughout the year, especially the non-playing volunteers in all Divisions. Special mention goes to Peter Brien for his work at Perry Lakes.

**Saturday O/65s:** This competition continues provide a good afternoon of grass hockey played in the right spirit with a very high percentage of subsequent bar attendees. The number of social members at our equivalent of a Mens' Shed has increased too. Many thanks must go to Committee members Les Waldon, Jim Wright, Bob Bowyer, George Bradbury (now replaced by Scott Blackwell) and Howie Herbert. Special mention goes to Jim Wright for great organisation, especially the catering. Thanks also to Howie Herbert for a consistently good supply and range of drinks. Also worthy of a pat on the back are all the rostered team selectors and caterers.

**Stadium Staff:** Thanks again to PHS Venue Manager Jason de Wind and all the Hockey WA staff for assisting us to get our competition functioning again after the lockdown. Also thanks to the bar staff for our post-hockey refreshments - both food and drinks. Thanks also to Ricky Watts for his initiative in getting us onto the Turf 1 scoreboard, and thanks to Hockey WA for their cooperation in this.

**Contributors:** My favourite parts of the newsletter are the ones I did not write myself. A very big thank you to our regulars, Peter Hammond (Bali), John Sanders (Test Your Hockey Knowledge) and Dudley Evans ('B' Division). Thanks also to all of you who sent a Letter to the Editor. More in 2021?

**Readers:** Hopefully we still have some after the pandemic. Thanks for the feedback.

**Next Year:** 2021 will be the 10th year for Masters Matters. The switch to the RevoSPORT platform may generate some changes in the way that information is conveyed to members and make a once a month newsletter obsolete. In addition the editor is getting old and tired. But rest assured we will keep you fully informed, one way or another.

**Letter to the Editor:** Ken Watt is concerned over some aspects of our A Division:

Hi John, it occurred to me that all players should be reminded and/or informed that a 'duty of care' exists both on Saturdays and particularly Wednesdays. This, (in the opinion of many) has been sadly lacking. Additionally, consideration should be given to the lifted ball when taking a short corner or on the field of play, it is dangerous and unnecessary and in my opinion is generally deliberately executed. The striker knows how not to lift the ball so a penalty should be enforced when the ball is lifted.

*Ken also referred to a back issue of "Masters Matters"*

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Whistle While You Work - With Neil Mannolini: "Do we whistle while we work? Our stated aim for Wednesday Masters is to enjoy both the hockey and the camaraderie. A key ingredient for this is the higher standard of hockey on the field ... basically to play the game in the total ambience of the international game. Occasionally a player "transgresses" beyond the spirit of the game and we (the umpires) have been "tolerant" in the interests of the flow of the game etc. Sadly a few play it "too hard" and our umpires need to consider and issue an appropriate card (yes, that will mean a suspension for a time!) .On at least one occasion our 'fearless' president commented ... "in real hockey that would have meant a card!" I accept that at least on that occasion, the transgressor "should have had a rest". Mea culpa. (In English .... I was at fault and should have sent the transgressor off.) May I recommend that we need to improve our game and for the likes of deliberate stick checks, hand in the back, rough unruly tackles, etc, that we comply with the International Code and deal out the appropriate card .... Green (2 minutes), Yellow (5 minutes MINIMUM) etc. Our game and the enjoyment of our Wednesday Masters (AKA Slow Motion Hockey) will be the better for it.

Neil Mannolini (aging umpire)"

*Thank you Ken. I think it would be fair enough to request all our umpires to be on the lookout for dangerous or over-aggressive play - especially the lifted ball. This applies not only to defenders clearing the ball but also to forwards taking shots at goal. At our age we cannot dodge as quickly as we used to and there have been several instances recently of players being struck. I would also suggest to all players that we lighten up and bring back the sportsmanship and fair play which was a feature of the Wednesday hockey I joined in 2006. Reader's views on this are welcome, but please make sure that they do not become personal. Ed.*

**One More Letter to the Editor:** Many thanks to the correspondent from Westside Wolves who let me know that at their recent presentation dinner held at the Esplanade in Fremantle Dick (Speedie) Osborne was awarded Wolves Goalkeeper of the Year. This covers all grades in the Club and not just the Masters. Our correspondent suggested that this is a notable achievement for Masters players and I totally agree with him. Congratulations from us all Dick.

**North Versus South Matches:** Last issue I had intended to mention those WHM players who played in the Masters match on this day (11th October). Time and space both intervened, but here is some belated recognition. Congratulations to Bob Behets, Michael Hallam, Brian Saxby and our web-master Cam Robinson who all gained selection in the Masters All-Stars. Also included in this team was Geoff Horsley, son of A Division White captain Dave while the Hotspurs All-Stars included Paul Armitage, son of former player Terry.

**Punology Two:** Did you know that the Norwegian navy has bar codes painted on all their ships. When the vessels return to port they can just Scandinavian.

**Another Blast From The Past:** Thanks to Ken Walter for another remembrance of bygone days. One question occurred to me when I saw this - how did the side travel to Queensland? I recall reading in the Hockey Bulletins of the day a great description by Robin Benjamin of a senior State team heading off east on the train. Having done the trip myself at the end of 1956 I remember well all the required changes of train for all the different gauges.

**W.A. STATE JUNIOR HOCKEY TEAM**  
Championship Winners - All - Australian Carnival, Queensland, 1962



Front: M. CURRELL, J. JABLONSKI (Captain), T. CROSSEN (Manager - Coach), B. FAULDS (Vice-Captain), C. SMITH.  
Centre: J. COOPER, R. STRIKE, P. RANDOLF, D. FILMER, R. HASLAM, K. WALTER.  
Rear: R. WALLER, W. COLQUHOUN, G. LITSTER, K. DALZIEL, R. HUDSON.

**RevoSPORT:** WHM had decided to move our operating platform to this system and Colin Gee is now working on the large number of tasks required for the conversion. It will give us many advantages, one immediate one being that all our membership details will be recorded in one place only but able to be accessed by anybody who has a need. You can expect to hear more about the impact of this new system in the coming months.

**C Division Reporter:** With the recent addition of two new teams the Cs are now the largest section of our Wednesday hockey, but hardly ever gain a mention in this newsletter. Is there anybody in our younger teams who would be able to give "Masters Matters" an occasional contribution? Feel free to devise your own format; it need not be match details as per A Division or as biographical as much of B Division. Nor as long as this month's B Division. Contact the editor if interested.

**Change of Details:** In the event of any change to your email address and other details you should notify Colin Gee. Colin is our data base administrator and his email address is [gee.colin@gmail.com](mailto:gee.colin@gmail.com).

All news, other contributions, and Unsubscribe requests to:  
John Mercer: A Division White team. Email: [johnmercera@inet.net.au](mailto:johnmercera@inet.net.au).