



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 4

April 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. Herdsman's Hotel after hockey.
April 20th: 'A' division at UWA 1, 'B' division at UWA 2 - both 1:30 pm. 'C' division at Hale 4:00 pm.
 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

Which Turf: On April 6th the turfs will be swapped with 'A' division on Turf 2 from 1:30 pm and 'B' and 'C' divisions on Turf 1 from 1:00 pm and 3:30 pm respectively. April 13th sees us swap back again, and we are all elsewhere on April 20th. From April 27th to the end of the second quarter it's 'A' division on Turf 2 and 'B' / 'C' divisions on Turf 1. PS: No change to parking arrangements.

New Look WHM: For the second time since I started on Wednesdays we are to adopt a new range of shirts. I understand that the new look will cover our change of name to "Western Hockey Masters" as well as accurately reflect the current sponsorship. There will also be a walk-out shirt, which needs to be pre-ordered from uniform officer Robin Bailey for \$25. The orders will be placed this month.

Perth Hospitality For 70s: Gordon Jeffrey has covered the games in the 'B' division report on Page 9. I hope you all enjoyed your time in WA, and that the training was productive.

Perth Turf Three: The story in The West Australian on March 24th mentioned \$19.4M in funding for re-development of PHS, as well as turfs in Gosnells and Cockburn. The story stated that \$10.3M in funding is in place now and that \$9.1M is sought from the federal government. Some us went and looked at the plans for PHS after the Turf 1 media session. It was most interesting to see the new roads on the Bentley campus, including the light rail near the current Turf 1. Could I suggest that if we want WHM to be a part of the new facilities we should not go out of our way to upset the Curtin Uni staff, or the Hockey WA CEO.

Are You Going To Adelaide: Nominations are now open for WA Country teams in all the age groups. You can go via the web-site at "wachockeymasters.wordpress.com", or ask Irene Simpson for a form on a Wednesday afternoon. For more information you can talk to George Bradbury, Dave Horsley or Neil Scaddan (all from WHM 'A' division). The tournament dates can be found on this page. I believe Country are putting together an O/75s, and urge your support (depending on age) to get this started.

Department of Health: The in-box and the rumour mill have not delivered a lot. Herewith the little. Bill Baldwin has had an accident while skiing and the fracture has kept him out for a while. He hopes to resume shortly after Easter. I think he'd be much safer having us hit hockey balls at him - at least in his general direction. Jim Banks also hopes to resume shortly following quite a lengthy absence. Ken Beer is working his way back to fitness - and telling us that he's being well looked after. Roger Jewell is still umpiring on Saturdays rather than playing. Colin Benporath is playing a few games, and no doubt is following all his medical advice. Graham Wood has suffered a broken arm - I'm not sure when he'll be back on the turf. Eric Alcock has added bursitis to his list of ailments and also does not know exactly when his return date might be. Terry Gaston has informed us that he is hoping to have a run on April 2nd at Perry Lakes - great news. Jimmy Miller has temporarily retired from hockey, the reason is not known to me. And John Mercer has sciatica - yes, it's back again. He also woke up Good Friday morning with plantar fasciitis - great timing. Our best wishes go to all sufferers.

Letters To The Editor: There was not much feedback from the March issue, possibly due to its record size. Thank you to Alan Bryce, Roger Partington and David Lester.

More Hot Weather: The "Masters Matters" sound recorder consists of a notebook, a pen and what is alleged to be my memory, which is how this story missed the last issue. Neil Patterson emailed an apology to his captain on the day it was 42°. With considerable poetic licence:

Neil P was intending to play

In the forty degrees of the day

It seems that his bride

Forbade suicide

"Next week you'll return to the fray."

Neil's original email was much better expressed, and was along the lines of: "My wife doesn't object to me playing hockey, but she does object to me committing suicide." Ed.

Department of Corrections: Having spoken at last to BT, I can now confirm that the 'Thomas' in the Southern Cross O/60s Red for Newcastle really is our WHM Brian Thomas. Despite what you read in "Masters Matters" he's been in the team all along, just under an alias at times.

Apologies to Peter Andrews, who did provide me with the times of the O/70 practice games on 15th and 17th March - both 1:30 pm. I managed to omit them somehow.

Well Done: Thank you to the 'A' division umpires I was able to note in March: Adolphus Abrahams, George Bradbury, Bob Bowyer, Peter Evans, Ash Foster, Peter Gason, Colin Gee, Vern Gooch, Ian Hill, Roger Jewell, Neil Mannolini, Roger Partington, Bob Robinson, Neil Scaddan, Gordon Thomas, and Ivan Wilson. This month the 'B' and 'C' division are unknown to me - but they deserve a thank you. So do the Saturday umpires: Bob Bowyer, Peter Brien, Dudley Burress, Ken Edwards, Roger Jewell and Barry Rutter. The sausage sizzle cooks on the 2nd at PHS were Glen Mihala and Steve McEntee. Good to see the younger generation getting involved - and both were rewarded by winning a wine in the raffle. Thanks also to Gordon Thomas and Jason for our Wednesday bar snacks.

Grumpy Old Men 1: "A positive attitude may not solve all your problems, but it will annoy enough people to make it worth the effort." Herm Albright (1876 - 1944). *Painter and lithographer who was born in Germany but migrated to the USA before World War I.*

Rules Are Us - Without Neil Mannolini:

In the February issue I mentioned that Neil was planning to visit Iran and Turkey. When this issue reaches you all Neil and Pat will be well on their way to the Middle East. Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable trip - I look forward to receiving and publishing the "Persian Perception" (Neil's words, not mine) on your return.

The previous paragraph was written before I realised that Neil and Pat's departure date was coincident with the industrial action at Perth Airport. Hope you managed to get away. Ed.

Rule Change: Last issue I briefly covered the new situation on free hits within the 23 metres area. This issue I have room to cover the full rule which now states:

"From a free hit awarded to the attack within the 23 metres area, the ball must not be played into the circle until it has travelled at least 5 metres or has been touched by a player of the defending team."

If the player taking the free hit continues to play the ball (ie no defending player has yet touched it):

- That player may play the ball any number of times, but
- The ball must travel at least 5 metres, before,
- That player plays the ball into the circle by hitting or pushing the ball again.

Alternatively:

- After a defending player has touched the ball, it can be played into the circle by any other player including the player who took the free hit.

At an attacking free hit awarded within 5 metres of the circle, the ball cannot enter the circle until it has travelled at least 5 metres or it has been touched by a defending player. On this basis defenders who are inside the circle within 5 metres of the free hit are therefore not interfering with play and may also shadow around the inside of the circle a player who takes a self-pass, provided that they do not play or attempt to play the ball or influence play until it has travelled at least five metres or has been touched by a defending player who can legitimately play the ball.

Players inside or outside the circle who were 5 metres or more from the point of the free hit at its award are not allowed to move to and then remain in a stationary position within 5 metres of the ball as the free hit is taken.

Other than outlined above any playing of the ball, attempting to play the ball or interference by a defender or an attacker who was not 5 metres from the ball should be penalised accordingly.

Following a time stoppage after the award of an attacking free hit inside the 23 metres area, upon the restart all players other than the player taking the free hit must be at least 5 metres from the ball.

It is permitted to play the ball high above the attacking circle so that it lands outside the circle subject to rules related to dangerous play and that the ball is not legitimately playable inside or above the circle by another player during its flight.

I hope that makes things clear. Umpires will need to be on their toes even at our speeds. Ed.

Men's Masters World Cup - Canberra 29th March to 6th April: I had hoped to include the results for the first few days of this tournament. According to the web-site play started on Tuesday 29th March, but there were no results yet available at the time this issue of "Masters Matters" was finalised.

Punology One: Did you hear about the man who went to a zoo, only to discover that the sole animal there was a dog. It was a Shitzu.

A' Division Blog: Some more of my opinions follow. Please feel free to express contrary views.

March 2nd: The Blue and Gold teams have been the powers of the 'A' division this quarter, but both of them failed to score today. I doubt that the cause was the player umpires who officiated all day as we seem to have seen off all our volunteers. Dave Horsley scored two goals for White, but Bob Byers went one better with a hat trick against Blue. This included the goal of the day for a one-handed tap from an acute angle. Bob was unworried about drink buying because it was his birthday in any case. Many of us seemed to be rusty following the warm weather break and the hockey was not very good for much of the day - particularly the last few games, as usual. Player numbers were Red (11), White (9), Gold (9) and Blue (11). Goals scored (8).

March 9th: For the first time in a while I watched the matches from the comfort of the plastic chairs in the stand. Perhaps the temperature (37.3° at Perth Airport) was a factor, as might have been the limited warm-ups for many players, but the standard did not seem to be good. Many players tried to hit the ball instead of playing the short game, and during the two brief periods I counted only about 20% of hits found a team-mate. This did not apply to all players and some very good hockey featured too. Blue had the advantage of possession and territory in all their games but their failure to score at all resulted in two 1-0 losses and one draw. There were only two goalkeepers and as Colin Benporath is only supposed to play two games they understandably pulled out after the fourth match, making it much easier for goals to be scored in the last two. Ham D'Souza is only running in short bursts, which when allied with the strong running and passing from Ron Venables and Ash Foster was enough for the White team to pressure their opponents; thus Robin Bailey and Dave Horsley scored two goals each. Goal of the day could go to Scott Blackwell ("I may not score many goals" *last issue*) or Robin Bailey (already double last year's total). Player numbers: Blue (11), Gold (6 plus Julian Gardner), Red (10) & White (10). The total goals scored were 7, but only 2 were against the goalkeepers.

March 16th: The temperature was down and the standard of play was up, despite the Australian70s players' absence to join their team in 'B' division (see Page 9). Later arrivals were quite surprised to find that play had started early. Highlights included a goal line save by Colin Gee (filling in for White), several contenders for goal of the day (Brian Soares, Roger Partington and Howie Herbert), and two goals each to Brian Soares, Bob Bowyer (filling in for Red all day) & Adolphus Abrahams. Bob Maley, Adolphus and Bob Bowyer combined for goal of the day to Red. Numbers were Red (7), White (10), Blue (11) and Gold (7). Total goals scored (10).

March 23rd: Play started early again. Those responsible may have known that we would be told to end the first game a few minutes early so that a photo session could be conducted. Readers of The West Australian on the 24th will have seen the result. We still managed to finish early, and the two national teams (China & Australia) were able to conduct their pre-match warm-ups. My White team had a day to forget (W 0 L 3, GF 0 GA 5) while the three other sides all played reasonably well and won twice and lost once. Goal of the day could have gone to several good efforts, but I decided on a cracking field goal from left half Roger Jewell. Not all the four goalkeepers seemed to be in top form, neither were some of those attempting to get the ball past them. Player numbers: Blue (11), Gold (11), White (9, plus Rob Butler) and Red (8). Total goals scored were (10).

March 30th: It is only too easy to criticise when not participating, but the hockey standard at times was far from good, with five consecutive turnovers not uncommon. Not all the hockey was terrible, and Bob Maley provided goal of the day via a good first-time connection to a fast bouncing ball. It was good to see Jim Banks make a come-back. Player numbers were Red (8 plus Bob Bowyer & Jim Malcolm from Blue), White (10), Gold (8) and Blue (12). 11 goals were scored.

An Uncommon Sausage Stealer

Photo from John Milner



Stop Thief: Our last Perry Lakes barbecue featured a kookaburra with gourmet tastes. This one was somewhere over east, as the reptile is described as an eastern brown. Quite scary. Though maybe:

The sequel to this sausage take
Could be that the diners ate steak
Yet here is a thought
If the thief had been caught
It might have been barbecued snake. (*stuffed with sausage?*)

From The Saturday O/65s: Thanks to all players for their cooperation on 19th March when we tried a new system for collecting the drinks money. It was very pleasing to find that the till balancing was spot on. This looks like being the way to go in future, and is no real hardship for the cashiers as we get to talk to everybody as they get a drink.

A few more brief items:

- # On the 19th Simon Thomson requested that a line of players search the field for his mouthguard. As the line formed he sent a line of fingers through his own pocket - successfully.
- # As a follow on from Ken Watt's "an abuse of umpires" we worked on a good description of a group of full backs. The list included a bash, a shoulder, and an elbow. Any defender is welcome to send in his own description, but I doubt that a "kindliness of full backs" will win much favour here.
- # Colin Benporath heard about this and suggested a collective noun for a group of goalkeepers. The only possible word to use (according to CB) is "a box of GKs."
- # I hear that John Milner scored three goals on March 26th, and then turned on drinks for the boys. Due to a family wedding I missed it all.
- # Our end of summer season dinner and AGM is coming up after hockey on Saturday 2nd September at the Herdsman's Hotel. If you haven't already booked in you are almost certainly too late.

The French Letter's Non-Arrival:

This month I have not heard from Ian Purdie since we exchanged notes on the parking. At one point I do remember reading that southern England and Normandy had been buffeted by massive storms during Easter and that there were widespread power cuts. IP was having internet problems even before this. Ed.

Test Your Knowledge With John Sanders: March's question: 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. *No answer was received - Rusty where were you? John says that they all came from WA (c) though three of them were named Shirley.* April's question is: Mark Hager scored a total of 181 goals for Australia! His first goal was scored on: a) 29/04/84 v West Germany Pre-Olympic Tournament in Berlin b) 11/08/84 v Great Britain, XXIII Olympic Games, Los Angeles c) 21/07/85 v England, Test 2, Canberra d) 28/11/85 v Spain, Azlan Shah II, Ipoh. *Answer next issue.*

Shakespeare Said It: "Put money in thy purse." 'Othello' Act I Scene III. *This does not apply to buyers of drinks at Perry Lakes - the cash flow is supposed to be in the opposite direction.*

"Good wine is a good familiar creature, if it be well used." Othello Act II Scene III. *At our age I'm sure we all use it well and (most times) wisely too. Good thing with all the raffle prizes around lately.*

Grumpy Old Men Part 2: "Human beings, who are almost unique in having the ability to learn from the experience of others, are also remarkable for their apparent disinclination to do so." Douglas Adams (1952 - 2001) *From "Last Chance to See" - also author of "Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy."*

Dummy Spit Of The Month: Not awarded this month, due to there being too many contenders.

Quotable Quote No 1: "When I was young I could remember everything, whether it had happened or not." Mark Twain (1835 - 1910).

Past Players: George Winning, Jeff Godfrey and John Sanders have become regulars - good to see you swelling the bar trade. George was presented with a new WHM walk-out shirt during March, & incurred considerable flak for not wearing it the next week. He claimed it was too good for that.

New Registrations: Joining our ranks officially last month were Graham Harper and Colin Howell. All the best to you both for your time in WHM.

Parking Again: "You know, somebody actually complimented me on my driving today. They left a little note on the windscreen, it said 'Parking Fine'." *Tommy Cooper. English comedian and magician.*

Balinese Bulletin No 13:

On March 9th we celebrated our 3rd annual "Day of Silence" ...NYEPI.

For those of you who have found themselves in Bali on this Bali Ceremonial Day in the past & for all those who may at some future time experience Nyepi, I have offered some explanation.

NYEPI EXPLAINED.

Observed from 6 a.m. until 6 a.m. the next morning, Nyepi is a day reserved for self-reflection, and as such, anything that might interfere with that purpose is restricted. The main restrictions are no lighting fires (and lights must be kept low); no working; no entertainment or pleasure; no traveling; and, for some, no talking or eating at all. The effect of these prohibitions is that Bali's usually bustling streets and roads are empty, there is little or no noise from TVs and radios, and few signs of activity are seen even inside homes. The only people to be seen outdoors are the [Pecalang](#), traditional security men who patrol the streets to ensure the prohibitions are being followed.

Although Nyepi is primarily a [Hindu](#) holiday, non-Hindu residents and tourists are not exempt from the restrictions. Although they are free to do as they wish inside their hotels, no one is allowed onto the beaches or streets, and the only airport in Bali remains closed for the entire day. The only exceptions granted are for emergency vehicles responding to life-threatening conditions and women about to give birth.

On the day after Nyepi, known as Ngembak Geni, social activity picks up again quickly, as families and friends gather to ask forgiveness from one another, and to perform certain religious rituals together.

On the eve of Nyepi we have another Hindu ceremonial day called ...Ogoh Ogoh.

Ogoh-ogoh are statues built for the Ngrupuk parade, which takes place on the eve of [Nyepi](#) day in [Bali](#), [Indonesia](#). Ogoh-ogoh normally have form of mythological beings, mostly demons. As with many creative endeavours based on [Balinese Hinduism](#), the creation of Ogoh-ogoh represents spiritual aims inspired by [Hindu philosophy](#).^{[1][2]}

The main purpose of the making of Ogoh-ogoh is the purification of the natural environment of any spiritual pollutants emitted from the activities of living beings (especially humans). The forms of Ogoh-ogoh represent the Bhuta-Kala ([Bhuta](#): eternal energy, [Kala](#): eternal time), according to Hindu teachings. The imperceptible potentials of nature cannot be thoroughly explored by anyone. Philosophically, civilized men are required to manage the natural resources without damaging the environment itself.

An Ogoh-ogoh is normally standing on a pad built of timber planks and bamboos. The pad is designed to sustain the Ogoh-ogoh while it is being lifted and carried around the village or the town square. There are normally eight or more men carrying the Ogoh-ogoh on their shoulders. This procession is accompanied by orchestral music performed by the youth. The use of flares is also a main part of the parade. During the procession, the Ogoh-ogoh is rotated counter-clockwise three times. This act is done at every T-junction and crossroad of the village. Rotating the effigies during the cremational parade and the eve of Nyepi represents the contact of the bodies with the spirits. It is intended to bewilder the evil spirits so that they go away and cease harming human beings.

The Ogoh-ogoh is a very recent addition to the Nyepi ceremonies first appearing in Denpasar in the early 1980s. At that time, they were carefully monitored for criticism of the [Suharto](#) regime.

BATS OR RATS ...anyone!!

You know you are becoming "Balinese" when at night sitting watching TV or simply listening to music you look up & watch a Bat leisurely fly into the room & slowly make its way out againno need for panic or concern ...after all they live just outside in the garden.

The same can be said of Rats. Our Bali Dog ..Eddy is probably the World's Fastest Ratter. He obviously doesn't like them ...neither do we it can be said ..anyway after quickly dispatching them to the hereafter. Eddy then proceeds to "play" with the "dead thing" & often will bring them into the house. Naturally the "remains" need to be disposed of ...a deed assigned to yours truly ...Erin will have nothing to do with them. Fortunately we have 2 large garden bins near the front gate which very conveniently accommodate them, to then be removed by the "Rubbish" men who call by twice a week. Oh & then there are the family of small lizards (Geckos) who wander around the walls & ceilings looking for insects to eat. Life here wouldn't be the same without them.

THE WET ...Coming to an end.

For all of you who follow the Weather up here I sadly report that the Rains, which arrived very late this time round, appear to be drawing to an end. Bugger ...back to hand watering it seems.

Well, that's all for nowthe FOOTY is back so I will need to break off & sit back & watch a game.

Thank you again Peter. I do get several favourable comments about our foreign correspondents. Quite often I find your pieces more interesting than the ABC Foreign Correspondent program. Ed.

'B' Division Report / Australian O/70s Training Camp: *Thank you Gordon Jeffrey for this coverage.*

VISITORS: The **Australian O'70's** team for the Newcastle World Cup chose Perth as their one and only training camp in the week 14th to 18th March.

To assist with the training Simon and Arch organised a composite side consisting of players available from the Australian 70's Shadows, members of the Australian 75's team and members of WA and WAC 65's and Wed 60's coached by Jim Banks. The visiting Australian members, billeted amongst the locals, flew in on the Mon trained and played the composite team on Tues and Thurs and joined in as part of the WHM 60's competition and then returned home on the Friday.

Australian team members visiting included Dick Cummins (Qld), Barry Paice (Vic), Keith Ellis (NSW), Noel Johnston (NSW), John Longmuir (Vic), Ian MacDonald (SA), Chris O'Dempsey (Qld), Tony Rodgers (Vic), David Sinclair (Vic), and Doug Truman (NSW) and they joined the local six Len Blyth (Capt), Bill Baldwin (injured), Graham Challenor, John Harper, Simon Thompson and Les Waldon. Missing selected players were Ken Briggs (inj) and Gerin Hingee. The Australian team is coached by John Watts (Vic), managed by Robert Rowley (Qld) with Tracey Elphick (WAC) the team medic and physio and supervised by Ric Roberts (SA) Australian selector and Southern Cross Hockey convenor.

The Australian team was given a good workout by the locals and all games were played with intent, determination and panache(?). The Austs started off slowly but picked up the pace as they became accustomed to playing alongside their fellow team members and showed a fair degree of skill, finesse and fitness. The Austs beat the composite team 2-1 on Tues and drew 4-4 on Thursday and had a mixed bag on Wed beating Gold 2-0, losing to Blue 0-1 and beating White 1-0 (after some white personnel self umpired themselves out of position). Mike Robinson's goal for Blue from the right inners position on the edge of the circle was a beauty, Simon Williams diving goal on Tues was a great effort and Alan Stewarts reverse stick goal from the Left inner position in the circle was exceptional. The Aust virgin, Chip showed that he has well and truly earned his place in the side, Harps was great in goals whilst the evergreen Simon ably marshalled the midfield to help the two L's down back. Lungers efforts showed that he would not be misplaced in the Aust team and the other shadows Arch, Ian Hill, JJ and Kenny all put in good serviceable games. Jim Campbell and Peter Morgan both played well and maintained control at centre half. The games were well umpired by George Mullins, Bob le Merle and Ian Pestana. Many thanks to George as he explained the new rule and interpretation for taking free hits within 5 metres of the circle. (Pesty offered a different opinion). With the scores locked at 4-4 on the final game and composites into a strong attack, Aust goalie, Harps, falls to the ground and chucks such a serious injury scare (in front of the Aust Men's real hockey team training group) that the game is called off and honour is retained. Harps was moving well the following week, a glute (ie Gluteus Maximus)!!

After an enjoyable final night at Len Blyths place the Aust team journeyed back to their homes pleased with the overall training camp and the benefits the team gained from the competitive nature of its opposition. Meanwhile the eager WA based Aust 75's playing and onlooking under the watchful eye of Manager Bill Williamson were making notes and perhaps thinking these 70's aren't all that great afterall.

Other visitors to the B comp during March were Gerin Hingee, a skilful forward and Alan Chapman BOTH from the winning ACT 65's and John O'Donoghue Qld 60's. All visiting kids and grandkids who having seen the light had escaped to enjoy life in WA. Must be something about WA.

INJURIES

Mike Robinson returned from a long spell resting his knee, Dave Evans continues managing his troublesome limbs, Brian Thomas returned to the park after knee issues, Graham Wood continues with knee constraints, Adrian Gabriel is resting his back to enable him to move more freely while Terry Gaston continues to be unavailable.

LIFES LINGERING MOMENTS

1. Never take life seriously. Nobody gets out alive anyway.
2. God promised man that they would find Good and Obedient Wives in all the Corners of the World. Then God made the World Round..... and she laughed and laughed and laughed.
3. Life should NOT be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well-preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways - Glass of Red in one hand - hockey stick in the other - body thoroughly used up, totally worn out and screaming "WOO-HOO, what a ride!"

THIS MONTH IN B HOCKEY

With the end of March most of us know how to park, use Cellopark and we can now concentrate on the game. The highlight for the month was the Australian's O'70's training in Perth. From all reports we enjoyed the experience and it was great to hear supportive comments from around the teams. The weather for the month was a mixture of hot (Max 37), humid (up to 70% humidity) & the cooler transition days to winter. Numbers were generally good with 3 fullish teams available most weeks. The results for the month looked more like soccer results with 75% of games in March a 0-0, 1-1 or 1-0 result. The games have been most competitive and have reduced White's dominance of the competition. Blue forces are being well marshalled by Graeme Nicholls and Dudley Evans with goalscorers Ledger, Harper and Domingo leading the charge. Gold saw that with the inclusion of one extra forward in Gerin Hingee they can build on a solid back half led by Mihala, LeMerle and Campbell allowing Hewton, Metcalf and Hyphen more chances on goal.

White continues to be the strongest team winning 12 of the 19 games they played during the month. On the second Wed they won all 4 games, scored 10 goals in the 65 mins of hockey with Greg Allen playing extremely well, had a day out and scored 5 goals. The bar was awash. Arch really had his team firing at the start of the month built on solid defence by Campbell, Gorby and Robinson, strong transition play by Thomson and Parker and goals by Allen, Davey and Andrews. However towards the month end Jim took a trip to England and the competition became more fierce so much so that by the last week in March (aided by an indecisive goalkeeper) all the teams were equally competitive. It looks like April could be an interesting month.

Department Of Limericks Part 2: More missing out on playing (for various reasons) prompted this:

As we age we acquire some new ills

And they don't go away taking pills

Plus pain in the back

Sciatic attack

Old age brings a lot of new thrills. *(Personally I'm underwhelmed - Ed.)*

Quotable Quote No 2: "To be able to fill leisure intelligently is the last product of civilisation, and at present very few people have reached this level." Bertrand Russell (1872 - 1970). *From "Conquest Of Happiness."* *Of course Wednesday hockey is normally an intelligent use of leisure time. Although this is very doubtful if the temperature exceeds 37° - Ed.*

Punology Two: Did you hear about the bloke who returned home and discovered that someone had broken in and stolen every lamp in the house. He was delighted.

A Last Word: This issue has been put together with considerable difficulty. May's work starts now.

That's All Until Anzac Day: The May issue must go out then due to the Newcastle tournament.

All news and other contributions to:

John Mercer - 'A' Division sideline. Email: johnmerc@inet.net.au.