



A Blue

A Gold

A Red

A White

B Gold

B White

B Blue

C Blue

C Gold

C Red

C White

O/65 Blue

O/65 Green

O/65 Maroon

# Masters Matters

Issue No 11

December 2018

**Regular Features:**

Dates For The Diary: This Page.  
 Department of Health: Page 3.  
 Letters to the Editor: Page 3.  
 'A' division blog: Page 5.  
 From The Saturday O/65s: Page 6.  
 The French Letter (final?): Page 7.  
 The Balinese Bulletin: Page 8.  
 Test Your Hockey Knowledge: Page 11.

**Irregular Features:**

Orthopaedic Challenge Match: This Page.  
 Christmas Party Bookings: This Page.  
 Neil Mannolini update: Page 3.  
 Social Secretary Sought: Page 3.  
 WHM Fees for 2019: Page 4.  
 Australian O/75s Coach EOI: Page 8.  
 WHM Committee Meeting: Page 9.  
 2018 Roll of Honour: Pages 10 and 11.

**Dates For The Diary:**

**2018:** December 19th: 'A' Division commences at 12:30 pm.

December 19th: Annual Hips / Knees match followed by WHM Christmas Party.

December 26th: No play at PHS.

**2019:** January 2nd: Combined games on one turf.

April 30th / May 4th. Trans Tasman matches - Gold Coast. Australian O/35s to O/65s.

May/June: Canadian tour for Australian O/75s.

June 19th / 29th: European Championships. Brasschaat Belgium. } Southern Cross.

September 27th / October 12th. Interstate Masters Championships - Bunbury / Busselton WA.

**2020:** World Cup (s) - To be determined. } Australia and Southern Cross

**Orthopaedic Challenge Match:** It seems that this game is able to attract publicity. So much so that according to MM's limerick writer it has caused jealousy in at least one inveterate seeker of public adulation, who feels that only he should be in the limelight.

We hear that Trump D's spitting chips  
 His ratings are now in eclipse  
 "It's all about me  
 So start World War III  
 And crowd out that Knees versus Hips."

**Orthopaedic Challenge Match:** The match start time is 3:30 pm on Wednesday 19th December. The only possible venue is Turf One, so that the crowd can be accommodated.

**The Merger of IMHA and WGMA:** Last issue we informed you in late news that negotiations were due to resume. Since then we have heard that the Presidents of the two organisations have had their meeting (Rotterdam 28/29 November). The IMHA Board are having an online forum following that, and we will try to bring you up to date on where we currently stand. *No news as at 10/12.*

**Christmas Party Bookings and Payments:** The cost to attend is a subsidised \$20 for players and \$35 for partners. Please pay online by bank transfer and make sure you include name, division and team in the reference field - e.g. "Mercer A White." The bank details are: BSB: 036-004 and the account number is: 111511. Those of you who cannot pay by transfer need to place the cash into an envelope with your name, division and team written on the outside. This can be given direct to WHM Treasurer Steve Farrar, or passed on via your team captain.

**WHM Caps:** Now that summer is supposed to be upon us you might need to start taking a playing cap to PHS. Robin Bailey, our uniforms officer, has some more WHM models on sale for \$20.

**Change of Details:** Could all members of WHM, past and present, remember that in the event of any change to your email address 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).

**Department of Health:** Neil Mannolini was not very well the last I heard, as the injured vertebrae are important in spinal functioning. More below. Ken Beer returned to Saturday hockey for one playing date, but has not been seen since. Apparently the Achilles flared again and he's now out of hockey for at least six months. Ken Watt had a disagreement with an angle grinder, and damaged his left hand, including a severed tendon. A couple of days in hospital and surgery should hopefully lead to a full recovery. It was not all bad, as he used the time to stop smoking; unfortunately temporarily. Les Waldon's back problem(s) has responded to a cortisone injection and he has now resumed play. Bob Bowyer sent us a picture of his metal knee after it had sustained hockey ball damage. Some cleaning up has occurred, and as is customary, he has returned to hockey - even if only once a week (so far). Bob's history is that he makes comebacks after adverse happenings which would be career-ending for lesser men. And in some better news I saw Colin Sanders, who not only looked fit and well but said he hopes to return to hockey in 2019. Best wishes to you all for a recovery by Christmas.

**Neil Mannolini:** Has been a stalwart of WA hockey for a good number of years, as well as a Saturday team mate in a winning grand final team. So I contacted Pat with a health enquiry:

"04/12: The latest is that Neil has come through the operation very well for his age, is still in the neck brace and will be for some weeks. The down side is that he also has some other problems. It appears that he could be coming home at the end of this week, but after the weekend I am happy to have visitors here. The house has to be 'modified', so they tell me, which seems to involve myriad hand rails. I also will need a fair amount of help, so trying to arrange that at the moment - not easy. In between I am going through my second round of cancer checks so life is difficult at the moment."

Pat M

*Thanks very much Pat. Even though Pat says home visitors are OK I'd strongly suggest check before you go to make sure that it is a convenient time. Best wishes to you both for better health. Ed.*

**Letters To The Editor:** Following the much delayed November edition I heard from Ray Norton, Fred Flanagan, Bill Campbell, Ken Dyer, Bob Stidwell, Phil Anderson and John Milner. Extracts follow:

**Ray Norton and Fred Flanagan:** Both unsubscribed on the grounds they had retired from hockey. *The end of a couple of illustrious careers. All the best Ray and Fred. Ed.*

**Ken Dyer:** Is still gardening in a No 9 WA State Hockey shirt from 1983, and wondered if it was at all possible to identify the wearer with whom Ken had swapped shirts. Stan Salazaar was able to consult his collection of memorabilia and ascertained that No 9 had been worn by the late Bob Brindley.

**Bob Stidwell:** "Thanks for including me in the MM distribution list. Makes me feel that I should be out there with you but my athletic ability at the moment is not that good. Another interesting fact to come from the 2014, 2016 and 2018 Over 75 teams (apart from John McBryde and Ron Venables) is that all goalkeepers are Western Australians i.e.:

**2014:** Bill Baldwin, Bob Stidwell.

**2016:** Dick Osborne, Barry Rutter.

**2018:** Dick Osborne, Bill Baldwin.

Must be something in the water that makes them want to have hockey balls belted at them for fun." *Thanks Bob - most of us don't actually try to belt the ball at the keeper; it just happens that way. Ed.*

**Situation Vacant:** The WHM Committee would like to appoint a new Social Secretary. Duties include organising our regular monthly sausage sizzle, annual Christmas party, and adopting any new ideas to provide encouragement for greater engagement of members in social activities and after hockey socialising. Backup and assistance will be provided by other Committee and WHM members. Please contact Simon Thomson or Bob Bowyer.

**Quotable Quote One:** "I didn't mind getting old when I was young. It's the being old now that's getting to me." John Scalzi (1969 - ). *American science fiction author. From "Old Man's War." When I saw his year of birth the question was: "What's he got to complain about?"*

**Fees for 2019 PHS Season:** Those of you who read the Committee Meeting minutes will be aware that the dollar amounts have not changed. The fees do not have to be paid immediately, but we are providing the information as an aid to budgetary planning (don't spend it all over Christmas).

- a) All players pay \$300 - no allowances for sabbaticals, travel, etc.
- b) New players pay \$350, which includes a shirt and socks.
- c) Players who are over 80 on 1st January 2019 will pay only 50% of the fee.
- d) All goalkeepers pay \$200. Unless they are over 80.

If paying by bank transfer (the preferred option), please include your name, division and team in the reference (for example 'Mercer A White'). The BSB is 036-004 and the account number is 111511. Cheques are to be placed inside an envelope with your name, division and team written on the outside. Pass the envelope on to Treasurer Steve Farrar, either directly or via your team captain.

**State Sides in WHM :** This was discussed at the Committee meeting on the 28th, and is summarised in the report from that meeting. The principle is that we do have our separate agenda for hockey on Wednesdays, and Colin Gee's thoughtful proposal was carried. In detail:

- The maximum time for any representative side on Wednesdays is four weeks.
- No changes are to be made to our normal scheduling to disadvantage WHM players.
- Non-members of WHM will need to pay the WHM casual fee. Team manager to be invoiced.
- Any additional turf time is to be booked and paid for by the team manager.

*As the tournament next year is in the South-West there may be plenty of us making up the numbers in WA, WA Country, or other State teams. The points above should make sure we do not trash our own competition to benefit non-WHM players.*

**Rule of The Month:** In recent weeks I've heard quite a few murmurs when off the foot has been blown, and the same in instances where it hasn't been. So it might be helpful to print the rule and the explanatory notes in full. I doubt that we will be able to satisfy everybody, but our aim should be to achieve a lot more consistency in the way that this rule is applied in future. The Rule Book says: **Rule 9.11:** Field players must not stop, kick, propel, throw or carry the ball with any part of their body. It is not always an offence if the ball hits the foot, hand or body of a field player.

*The player only commits an offence if they gain an advantage or if they position themselves with the intention of stopping the ball in this way.*

*It is not an offence if the ball hits the hand holding the stick, but otherwise would have hit the stick.*

**Comment:** The wording of the rule and its attached notes make it abundantly clear that many of the free hits given on Wednesdays & Saturdays are possibly incorrect. My own preferred rule of thumb is to ask myself the question: 'Would the player have successfully trapped the ball if it had not made contact with his foot?' If the answer is 'yes' then the call should be 'play on.' An alternative question for different circumstances is: "Did the player's foot contact prevent the ball reaching one of his opponents?" If 'yes' then he's gained an unfair advantage, and should be blown. I'm sure you can all think of many other scenarios, but in all circumstances the critical question is whether an advantage was gained by the contact.

The awarding of a penalty stroke for the classic defender's foot on the goal line is covered by the words 'if they position themselves with the intention of stopping the ball in this way.'

Reader opinions on this rule, or any other one, are very welcome.

**Department of Corrections:** The Alliance O/70 side for the European Championships now also includes WHM players Neil Miller and Rod Spencer. And the Australian O/75s 3 Gold medals failed to mention that Bill Williamson was also involved with each side - as either player or manager.

**Punology One:** Did you hear about the unfortunate man who was the victim of a booby trap just after he woke up. He tripped over his wife's bra.

**'A' Division Blog:** We have yet to be tested by a really hot day. Just a few hot tempers.

**November 14th:** According to my notes three teams had sufficient numbers for at least part of the day. Nevelle Brown (semi-Blue regular) and Robin Bailey (White) transferred to Gold and probably wished that they had not as their new team failed to score and conceded 5 goals. This was despite plenty of midfield play. There were only two goalkeepers again (thank you again to Barry and John, who perform had to play all games). Red were the team of the day, scoring four goals and conceding none. This included a 3-0 'Whitewash', much to the chagrin of their opponents, who found it not OK to be White. On the mark for Blue were Peter Eastlake, Ian Hill and Neil Patterson, while for White Greg Street also scored. Bob Maley finished well a couple of times for Red, but goal of the day ended up as a shared award between Ron Venables (Red) and Ham D'Souza (White) who each bagged two very fine goals. We endeavoured to spread the umpiring workload and I consider that this was successful in raising the standard. Player numbers were Blue (10), Gold (8 including Nevelle Brown), White (11) and Red (10). 10 goals were scored.

**November 21st:** The Gold team regained Jim Balding, and played much better hockey this week. All matches were evenly contested, but this time it was the Blue side who had the bad day, losing their three matches by one goal. It's been some time (if ever) since two penalty strokes were awarded in one Wednesday - ably converted by Rob Andrew (Red) and Jim Balding (Gold). Rob also netted a good field goal and Bob Bowyer finished a fine Red team build-up. Nevelle Brown was credited with Blue's only goal, while the G.O.D. had many contenders. Ham D'Souza's double included a reverse stick shot from well out and a fine solo run; Roy Grant's pair were a great near-post hit from the left wing and a breakaway after displaying good pace to chase down an excellent through pass from Terry Gaston; and Peter Blockley converted well from the right this time. Goalkeepers Barry, Tony and John are our full GK complement while Bill and Colin recover from their recent operations. The White side had so many players that they could lend Roy Grant and Robin Bailey to Gold, Brian Soares to Blue, and still have a full team. Player numbers based on team allocations were: Red (10), White (13), Gold (8), and Blue (9). The goals scored total was the same as last week - 10.

**November 28th:** The Gold side began the day with three players and ended it with two. Please bring a note next week if you were not there, and did not inform your captain. We managed to play all of the scheduled fixtures thanks to all those who filled in for a team which was re-christened the Colours. Red were the team of the day, being undefeated and keeping all opponents scoreless, with some help from the White forward line in the last game of the day. Barry, Tony and John were very hard to pass most of the time, and Blue (John Ree) and Gold (Brian Soares) only scored once. Red's three were put in by Ron Venables, Howie Herbert (this is becoming a habit) and Bob Bowyer, while White's score included two to Ham D'Souza and another one to Peter Blockley. Among contenders for goal of the day were Ron's goal (after a great pass from Rob Andrew) and Ham D'Souza's two successful runs and finishes, but the judging panel eventually awarded the acute-angle strike from Brian Soares. Player numbers: Blue (9), Gold (3), Red (10) and White (12). These numbers do not make any allowance for late arrivals and early departures. Goals scored (9).

**December 5th:** There were several statistical oddities. Among them were that all teams won and lost and no draws occurred. Blue and White won twice each and Gold and Red once. The day featured the usual missed goals, some goalkeeper assisted goals and also some very fine conversions. Mark Faithfull arrived as the first match of the day began and found himself in the unusual role of centre forward. He almost immediately finished a good team build-up and Ron Venables added another for Red to give yet another goal-scoring lesson to White. All other games were decided by one goal, the closest being Blue's last second winner (a Peter Eastlake screamer) against Red in a 2-1 score-line. Red's goal was also a G.O.D. contender to Ron Venables - an angled running shot on the reverse stick. Peter Eastlake's reverse stick from the top in the same game would have unquestionably been G.O.D. but a breach had occurred in the lead-up play, so his other success and Ron's were joint winners. Nevelle Brown scored three times, Ron V and Peter E twice, while singles went to Mark F, George B, Peter Wallis (on the comeback trail) and Neil Patterson. Other comebacks were made by Jim Banks and half the Gold team. Numbers: White (10), Red (10), Blue (9), Gold (6). Total goals (11).

From The Saturday O/65s

Could be an AGM

Photo Jim Wright



The numbers have varied a bit - even down to two teams. But the bar attendance is still excellent.

# At this stage the playing dates over the Christmas period are:

December 22nd: Pizza and wine night after play. All other normal drinks will be available too.

December 29th: To be decided.

January 5th: Normal summer season (weather permitting).

# Len Walker has now completed an afternoon's play without further mishap. Keep up the good work. And the good luck.

# Saturday December 1st featured no less than three comebacks. Peter Wallis, Bruce Mercer and David Lester all played their first games for some time. Hope you all pulled up in good shape and will be back for more. And December 8th saw the return of Roger Partington and Don Sanders

# A long time ago (2014/2015) the newsletter editor suffered badly from sciatica and brought along a folding chair. This custom has really taken hold - so much so that the row of deckchairs in the shade has become our Saturday hockey equivalent of the Member's Pavilion at Lords Cricket Ground. The comments at each venue are no doubt equally expert.

# For a few weeks there was a quite a lot of shrapnel appearing in our self-service bar till. It was rare for the right amount to have been paid, and it appeared that the unknown person or persons putting it in just emptied their pockets regardless of whether the right amount was being paid. This almost always creates extra work for the bar staff - as we only set our prices in whole dollars, and smaller coins are useless for change. We do reconcile the till before leaving for home (a long way for Howie).

# In late news the till on 1st December balanced, but was short again on 8th December by \$1.50 Please talk to the bar staff if you can't pay the right amount. *(That's Howie Herbert or John Mercer)*

**Grumpy Old Men One:** "I think age is a very high price to pay for maturity" *Tom Stoppard (1937 - ) Czech-borne English dramatist and screenwriter.*

The French Letter A La Perth:

I suppose this can be regarded as a final signing off piece, albeit a welcome one. I've enjoyed writing the numerous pieces over the last four and a half years. It helped me keep contact with the hockey community and I hope it provided some value as well.

As many of you know, we are back in Perth and I enjoyed renewing acquaintances last Wednesday. Our house is still not sold so we have taken a big gamble in leaving it empty. However, we do have excellent neighbours and we have contracted the neighbour's son to keep an eye on the place and do a few routine tasks. In the meantime we are fortunate to be living in our grand daughter's apartment in Maylands. She has moved in with her boyfriend. We are rapidly acquainting ourselves with buses and trains as we don't have a car. Our car is still in the garage in France. Once the house sells at least one of us will need to go back to settle things and arrange removalists, so the car will be needed.

I am feeling pretty nervous about playing again as it has been over four years since I last had a hockey stick in my hand. Added to that, there are a couple of health issues which cloud the picture as well. Talked about it with my GP and he referred me to an exercise physiology programme that I commence next week. If all goes well the aim is to start playing in the new year.

That's all from me and I look forward to continuing to enjoy your company.

Cheers - Ian Purdie

*Many thanks Ian for some great contributions over the years. Look forward to catching up on the turf eventually. In the meantime "Masters Matters" is without a French correspondent. As stated in an earlier edition the job comes with a starting requirement to pay your own way to France. But you will receive the same salary and allowances as the MM Editor. Though the search has not gone very well so far, according to the resident MM writer of limericks.*

We don't have a man on the bench  
To write us a new Letter French  
But also no joy  
In finding a boy  
And could not locate a good wench.  
*Or a bad one.*

**'B' Division Report:** Unfortunately there is still no news from the early games down on Turf Two. My request for a guest reporter failed to produce a volunteer, so until Gordon Jeffery manages to make a comeback the stars from the 'B's will have to join the 'C's in obscurity.

**Shakespeare Said It:** "... we did think it writ down in our duty to let you know of it." Hamlet Act I Scene II. *The guiding principle of 'Masters Matter' since its inception.*

"Sir, I desire you do me right and justice." King Henry VIII Act II Scene IV. *'A' Division player makes a request to the umpire. The difficulty lies in agreeing on what is right and just when it comes to rules.*  
"Though I look old, yet I am strong and lusty; for in my youth I never did apply hot and rebellious liquors in my blood." As You Like It Act II Scene II. *I don't recall a post game drink ever described in these terms, but just possibly this could be why both Ron Venables and John Ree are still so quick.*

**Quotable Quote Two:** "There is no reason for any individual to have a computer in his home." Ken Olsen (1926 - ) *President of Digital Equipment in 1977. His firm made and sold DEC computers. He seems to have as good a predictive record as Thomas J. Watson Jnr, the boss of IBM at the time that the first computers started to appear. Really they were just tabulating machines - and while I never actually worked on one I've seen a working example. They were clunky! Mr Watson's prediction was that IBM should be able to sell 4 or 5 of these things. "You mean per annum?" he was asked. "No, all up," was his reply. Obviously, the computer age was never planned- it just happened.*

**Balinese Bulletin No 38:****JUST WHEN YOU THOUGHT IT WAS SAFE TO GO BACK INTO THE WATER ...**

Some of you reluctant random readers of the Bali Musing down there will remember a recent item on our Bali dog Eddy & his encounter with a Bali Alu. (*October MM. Ed.*) As you will remember an Alu is a close cousin of the Monitor Lizard but not nearly so large. Well obviously the "Cousin" caught wind of this encounter & decided to pay us a visit. He made his way through a gap at our front gate & began wandering around until Eddy caught wind of him at which point he (the Monitor) took off around our garden wall & managed to find himself at a dead end behind our house ....the only way out was the same way in. Eddy, realizing that this new "bugger" was of the much larger variety, was far more wary & was happy to 'keep his distance" & content to simply "yell" at him to go. Meanwhile here I was with Eddy's lead in hand to lead him away from the contest but too frightened to enter the small space that was their "war zone". Fortunately Eddy decided to make his way out at which point I secured him safely away from his adversary. Content to watch this reptile monster from an indoor window I waited a little time until it finally made his way out from our property & disappeared down the lane .... To where I know not!! This unwelcome visitor was probably around a metre long & probably 3-4 times heavier than his smaller cousin .... This is almost certainly why Eddy, on this occasion was far more cautious!!!

**ATM INCIDENT ... 2<sup>ND</sup> ONE ...**

Last week I found myself at an unfamiliar ATM due to our "local" one being temporarily out of order. Inserted my card & was instantly told "my transaction was being processed" before I had even entered a "transaction". Nothing .... All buttons were "dead" & my card was locked inside the Bloody machine. All I could do was to make my way to a local branch of the same Bank & report the problem ... which I did following lunch nearby. The local branch was close by & I explained my problem to the Security guy outside. This very helpful & courteous Balinese man (Kadek) took my card details & went inside the office to call the ATM technician responsible for that area to ask him to make his way to the "offending" ATM to retrieve my card. I should point out that we were, at this time, in the middle of a heavy downpour of rain. Kadek took my phone details & promised to call when he had my card. Well we returned home to take an afternoon nap & await his call. Within minutes of lying down the call came through ... he had said card was within his grasp & I could make my way down to the Bank branch & retrieve it. Try doing this in Perth .....

**ANOTHER YEAR JUST FLASHED BY ....WHAT THE .....**

Erin & I would like to wish all our many friends down there a VERY MERRY XMAS & A HAPPY & HEALTHY NEW YEAR.

Peter Hammond (*Thanks very much Peter for another great year. I'm sure all of us down here would like to wish you and Erin a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Ed.*)

**Coach Sought for Australian O/75s:** The Australian Masters Committee are calling for Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the position of Australian O/75s Men's Masters Hockey Coach to Canada in 2019. Details of this tour are as follows:

- 1) When? Dates are 29th May 2019 to 11th June 2019.
- 2) Where? Vancouver and Victoria (Vancouver Island), British Columbia, Canada.
- 3) Who? Please forward your EOI to Martin Ferrari [vicpark@bizzpro.com.au](mailto:vicpark@bizzpro.com.au).
- 4) What? 6 games versus local masters and the USA O/75s.

The closing date for submissions is December 17th, 2018.

*This is taken from the Australian Masters Hockey web-site where it was posted on 4th December.*

**Grumpy Old Men Two:** "We must believe in luck. For how else can we explain the success of those we don't like?" *Jean Cocteau (1889 - 1963). French poet, writer, designer, playwright, artist and film-maker. Clearly a man of many parts.*

**Committee Meeting 28/11:** As usual our efficient Secretary Bob has distributed the minutes already. The “Masters Matters” notebook was in action too, and recorded these highlights:

- + The use of the grass fields at Perry Lakes when PHS is unavailable is to continue into 2019. This applies to ‘A’ and ‘B’ Divisions only.
- + The Committee is still searching for a Social Secretary. This edition of ‘Masters Matters’ includes a Situations Vacant advertisement for the position on Page 3.
- + Prices for the Christmas Party were set at \$20 for players and \$35 for partners. Instructions on how to book were printed on Page 2.
- + The fee structure for the 2019 season was left unchanged from this year. Full details of the amounts and how to pay them can be found on Page 2.
- + Due to changes to the Heat program for junior hockey, we have decided to distribute our limited funds to the excellent Kalamunda and YMCA junior hockey programs (\$2,000 each), and \$1,000 to the Salvation Army. *See letters from both clubs on Page 12.*
- + Colin Gee’s proposal on the inclusion of State sides on Wednesdays was passed. In summary:
  - The maximum time is four weeks.
  - No changes are to be made to our normal scheduling.
  - Non-members of WHM will need to pay the casual fee. Team manager to be invoiced.
  - Any additional turf time is to be booked and paid for by the team manager.
- + Ian Pestana is standing down as ‘C’ Division co-ordinator. Many thanks Pesty, for many years of service in this role. Does ‘B’ Division await? I understand that Tony Jones and Colin Howell will both be assisting with the running of ‘C’ Division as from next year.
- + Roger Partington is also standing down as Fixtures Secretary. Thank you Roger for giving us good service for quite a number of years in the role. Harvey Davies will take over in 2019.
- + Given our new status as Western Hockey Masters (Inc.) it is now necessary to conduct an Annual General Meeting at some time in the fairly near future. The pages of “Masters Matters” and your email in-box (not necessarily in that order) will keep you informed as the planning for this proceeds.

**Punology Two:** *Thanks to Phil Anderson for this steamy sex saga.*

Sarah was in the fertilized egg business. She had several hundred young pullets and ten roosters to fertilise the eggs. She kept records and any rooster not performing went into the soup pot and was replaced. This took a lot of time, so she bought some tiny bells and attached them to her roosters. Each bell had a different tone, so she could tell from a distance which rooster was performing. Now, she could sit on the porch and fill out an efficiency report just by listening to the bells.

Sarah’s favourite, Old Butch, was a fine specimen but this one morning she noticed his bell hadn’t rung at all. When she went to investigate she saw the other roosters were all busy chasing pullets, bells-a-ringing, but the pullets, hearing the roosters coming, would run for cover.

To Sarah’s amazement, Old Butch had his bell in his beak so it couldn’t ring. He’d sneak up on a pullet, do his job, and walk on to the next one. Sarah was so proud of Old Butch she entered him in a show, and he became an overnight sensation among the judges. The result was that the judges not only awarded Old Butch the “No Bell Piece prize”, they also awarded him the “Pulletsurprise” as well.

Clearly Old Butch was a politician in the making. Who else but a politician could figure out how to win two of the most coveted awards on the planet by being the best at sneaking up on the unsuspecting populace and screwing them when they weren’t paying attention.

**Past Players, Non-Players and Injured Players:** PHS visitors since the previous MM have included: Roger Jewell, Ian Purdie, Neil Scaddan, Ken Watt and George Winning. At Perry Lakes numbers have been very good: Stan Balding, Marty Greay, Ian Hill, David Lester, Bruce Mercer, John Mercer, Peter Murray, Roger Partington, Paul Robinson, Neil Scaddan, Les Waldon, Ken Walter and Ken Watt. And Don Sanders cycled by and expressed an interest in having a game. In very late news Don did return the week after this encounter and had a run on December 8th. He’s moving very well, and I hope was still moving OK on Sunday 9th December.

**Roll of Honour 2018:** It takes quite a lot of work by quite a lot of people to keep our WHM hockey competitions running year round. Much of it is not always visible to all in WHM, and since inception at the beginning of 2012 the Christmas edition of "Masters Matters" has attempted to thank all the dedicated people who give their time and skills to Western Hockey Masters.

**Executive:** Now that we are incorporated Simon Thomson's job title has changed (or will change) from Chairman to President. The role, and the qualities needed for it have not changed. Required are leadership, the ability to keep in touch with everything, good problem solving, adaptability and the flexibility to be responsive to changing circumstances. Bob Bowyer has continued to carry out his variety of roles during a variety of medical ailments (if we added Heart and Cancer teams to the Hips/Knees he would be eligible for three of them) and still gets the job done. He's been through a do-it-yourself house sale and move this year, but just carries on with all his hockey work. Both Simon and Bob have made an occasional mention of stepping down, hopefully not before we have our first AGM under the newly incorporated constitution. And not before an orderly succession plan is in place. Treasurer Steve Farrar has just finished his first year and has been there whenever he's needed and unobtrusive at other times. He's obviously on top of everything. Thank you and well done to Simon, Bob and Steve.

**Off-Field Roles:** The web-site is supposed to have been replaced, but Peter Fogels is still performing an essential service in loading newsletters onto the old site. Roger Partington has nearly completed his last year of drawing up our fixtures and assisting with field bookings. Harvey Davies will be taking over from next year. Robin Bailey keeps on going as uniforms officer and continues to do a great job. And Ivan Wilson has taken on preparation and organisation of our monthly sausage sizzles. Colin Gee is doing very well at maintaining our membership data base (a requirement for incorporation). David Evans is still providing a linkage to 'B' and 'C' Divisions. Thanks to you all - another job well done.

**Team Captains:** Our numbers in 'A' Division have fluctuated so much that the captains have needed to become experts at fitting square pegs into round holes. From what I hear the other Divisions have fared similarly. Many thanks to all those who have fulfilled this role at any stage this year. I know of:  
**'A' Division:** Colin Gee, David Horsley, Roger Partington and Neil Scaddan. While those who have substituted in the role include George Bradbury, Mal Jackaman, Ivan Wilson and Jim Wright. Each of our Divisions has an overall coordinator and 'A' Division's has been Colin Gee.

**'B' Division:** Peter Andrews, Bill Campbell and Graham Challenor. Substitutes have included Dudley Evans and Graeme Nichols. Peter Andrews is the Division coordinator.

**'C' Division:** Kevin Burton, Wayne Cutler, Tony Jones, Steve Pestana and Mike Sputore. The Division coordinator has been Ian Pestana.

**Goalkeepers:** Tony Marshall has functioned as the coordinator again this year and we have managed to have goalkeepers for nearly all our games. Thanks Tony.

**Umpires:** This is becoming an increasingly thankless role in 'A' Division; I hope that 'B' and 'C' players have been more respectful. Through the year "Masters Matters" has tried to mention the umpires in each issue. As usual I am not aware of everybody who has blown a whistle for WHM this year. The non-playing umpires I can mention, including several who officiated during a recovery period are:

**'A' Division:** John Lindsay, Neil Mannolini, Neil Scaddan, Brian Soares and Ken Watt.

**'B' Division:** The only names known to me are Vern Gooch and John Lindsay.

**'C' Division:** No information.

**Perry Lakes:** Peter Brien, Neil Scaddan, Ken Walter Ken Watt

Thank you to all who umpired during 2018. This includes all those unsung and unhonoured officials who are totally unknown to me from all the Divisions and Perry Lakes.

**Saturday O/65s:** This continues to provide a good afternoon of hockey played in the right spirit. This can be seen by the very high percentage of our number who stay on and socialise afterwards. Well done to Committee members Les Waldon, Bob Bowyer, Jim Wright, George Bradbury and Howie Herbert. Thanks also to all members who provided nibbles. A great feature of this competition is the many members who volunteer their assistance in setting and cleaning up the clubrooms. /11

**Other Clubs:** This year we used Perry Lakes for 'A' and 'B' Divisions when PHS was unavailable, and despite reduced numbers it seemed to work very well. 'C' Division used the Hale turf - our thanks go to both clubs for their facilities.

**Stadium Staff:** Thank you to Jason de Wynd and the bar staff for the hot food and the cold drinks. And thanks also to the ground maintenance staff for keeping the turfs in good condition.

**Food Preparers:** Thanks again to all the Sausage Sizzle chefs, and to Ivan Wilson, who does the food supplies and organisation. Thanks also to all the nibbles providers at Perry Lakes.

**Wine Raffle:** This is the source of all our charity funds, and since I joined WHM has distributed many thousands of dollars to charity / junior hockey and handed out hundreds of litres of very drinkable wine. Thanks to Bob Bowyer, who does all the hard yards on this one - in addition to his other work.

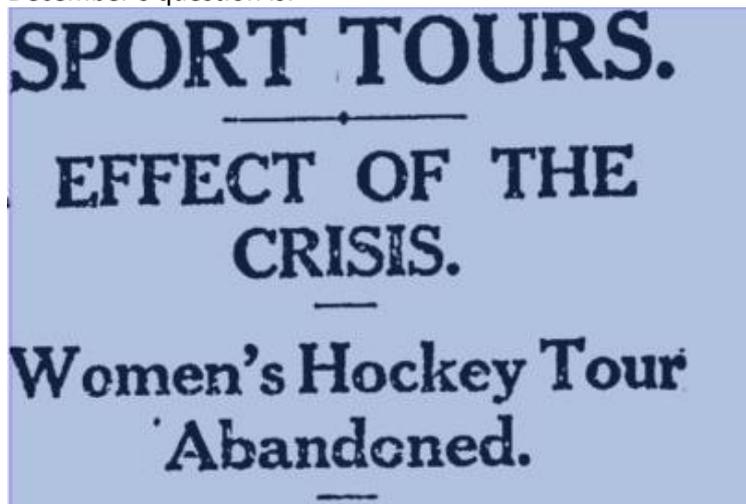
**Contributors:** My thanks go to all those who have written sections of "Masters Matters" which are news to its editor. Ian Purdie, Peter Hammond and Graham Wood have given us a slice of life from abroad; John Sanders has posed teasing hockey questions; Gordon Jeffery kept us in touch with 'B' Division, and we even received one or two items from 'C' Division's Kevin Burton and Mike Sputore. Thanks to you all, and also to everybody who sent a "Letter to the Editor." Please keep going in 2019.

**Readers:** As stated in the previous paragraph, it's always great to receive any feedback. It makes the production of the newsletter more of a labour of love than toil, and I think that another year will be possible in addition to the seven already visible in the archives. See you in 2019.

**Test Your Hockey Knowledge With John Sanders:** November's question was:

The 2018 Hockeyroos are currently preparing for the Champions Trophy in China. They won their 1st Champions Trophy in Berlin in 1991: a) True b) False. This statement is true; nobody answered.

December's question is:



This headline refers to the cancellation of the AAWHA (later the Hockeyroos) tour of England in:

- a) 1929 b) 1939 c) 1949 d) 1959. *Answer next issue.*

**Well Dones:** Those recorded as having umpired 'A' division since the last MM are: Jim Balding, Peter Evans, Col Gee, Graham Harler, Mal Jackaman, Roger Jewell, John Lindsay, Bob Maley, John Mercer, Peter Murray, Neil Scaddan, Brian Soares, Greg Street and Ken Watt - thank you. Thanks also to the unknown 'B' and 'C' Division umpires. Perry Lakes umpires since 10/11: Peter Brien, Neil Scaddan, Greg Street, Les Waldon, Ken Walter, Ken Watt, and Ivan Wilson - thanks all. Well done to Ivan Wilson (organisation) and the cooking crew for the sausage sizzle on 28th November. The Perry Lakes Saturday rostered caterers, pizza supplier (organised by Jim Wright) and wraps (also organised by Jim Wright) are providing some great nibbles (and substantial ones too).

**Umpiring Accreditation:** Thank you to Ken Watt for emailing me with a suggestion to all prospective umpires. "... accreditation can be gained 'online' at <https://hockeyed.hockey.org.au>. The cost is \$50 and should be of interest, particularly to those who want to be taken seriously..." I have checked out the site without actually enrolling and it's well worth a look. Maybe when I have a whole lot of spare time I'll seek the Level 1 qualification it offers - and hope that a few of our 'A' Division think it might be worthwhile too. Any expert advice would be welcome.

**Knees/Hips:** We have had no advance information on the make-up of the sides this year. But most of the operations in 2018 have been knee replacements, causing MM's limerick writer to comment:

Quite soon is our big day of fame  
The third annual Hips and Knees game  
But all players new  
Have joined the Knee crew  
The Hips side has stayed just the same.

*And possibly will be unable to secure their interstate recruits again.*

**Bounce-backs:** If anybody knows the correct email address for the following people: Ric Rodoreda, John Chapman, Len Collier and Rob Crofts could they let me know.

**Donations to Junior Hockey:** The Committee minutes revealed that we had donated to Kalamunda and YMCA Hockey Clubs for their juniors. Both Clubs acknowledged the receipt:

"I have recently received the wonderful news that the Western Hockey Masters Committee are supporting the junior hockey program at our club with a very generous donation of \$2,000. The ongoing growth and development of our juniors is incredibly important to us, as is our commitment to our school's program. We have recently completed a summer program of school clinics followed up with Friday night hockey whereby the skills learned during the school program can be put into action. We will again run school and summer hockey sessions in 2019.

Back in September we were extremely pleased to be able to run an inter school carnival at the club where we hosted 6 local schools with a total of 16 teams. Most of these kids had never played hockey before outside of the school sessions that we had done. This was an amazing day and one that we hope to repeat at least every year. We grew our junior team numbers from 4 to 7 in 2018, and look like we will be again increasing team numbers in 2019 to 10. Fantastic results that we are all very proud of.

Receiving funding such as that being provided by WHM is absolutely integral in assisting us to successfully promote the growth of our sport & our kids. We would love to share with you where we direct the funds and should you wish to come and be involved, we would warmly welcome you to do so. I can't thank you enough for your kind generosity and support, it is sincerely appreciated.

Thanks again and we will be in touch to let you know how we are going.

Kind regards - Jodi Fitzgerald, President" (*Kalamunda Hockey Club*)

"Thank you so much for this kind donation. The club is proud of the development that we have achieved within our junior program over the last few years. The JUMP program has enabled players of all genders and abilities to develop their skills with specialist coaches. Additionally each child is put through an assessment to measure the positive impact the program has delivered.

Your donation will enable YMCA to continue to invest in these programs and the equipment and other costs involved with the Junior program.

Paul Hough - YMCC President"

All news, other contributions, and Unsubscribe requests to:

John Mercer - 'A' Division White team. Email: [johnmerc@iinet.net.au](mailto:johnmerc@iinet.net.au).