

CROQUET NSW NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2021



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GREETINGS FROM THE GOVERNOR

“To everyone at Croquet NSW,

As 2020 draws to a close, Her Excellency and Mr Wilson send their best wishes to you all. They acknowledge what a difficult year this has been for everyone but are so encouraged by the invaluable contributions you make to our community. A highlight of 2020 for Her Excellency and Mr Wilson has been the opportunity to connect with so many of you virtually, to hear about your experiences particularly during COVID and how they can best support you going forward, in the good work you do.”

**Her Excellency the Honorable Margaret Beazley
AC QC and Adjunct Professor Dennis Wilson,
Patrons of Croquet NSW**

(The message was received in December)

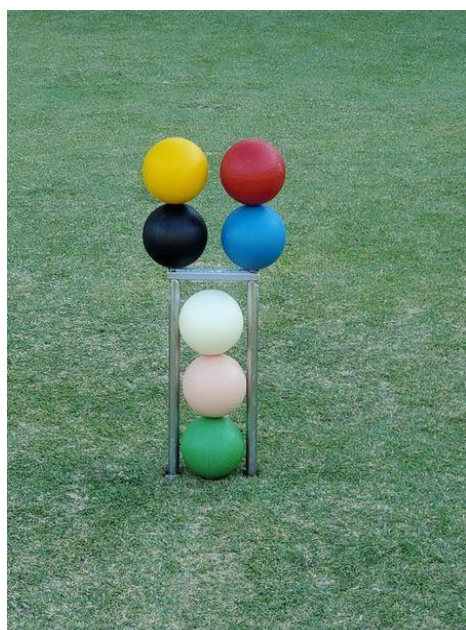
EIRE CUP TEAM 2021

The Eire Cup is the premiere AC competition in Australia: pitting the four best male and female players in each State against each other. In 2021 the Cup is to be held in Sydney (Covid Gods willing).

The Board has pleasure in announcing the 2021 selected team:

**Peter Landrebe, Tim Murphy, Jim Nicholls,
Stephen Richards, reserve and Captain Alan
Honey.**

**Rosie Landrebe, Kerri Ann Organ, Alison
Sharpe, Alix Verge, reserves Barbara
McDonald and Kate McLoughlin.**



Stay tuned for more updates about the Eire Cup Team and the Event here and on Facebook



Simon Cook, returning Board member

Board members

Chair: [Kate Elliott](#)

Treasurer: [Steve Miles](#)

Secretary/Newsletter: [Kate McLoughlin](#)

[Rosie Landrebe](#)

[Rik Mills](#)

[Simon Cook](#)

Website: croquet-nsw.org

BOARD UPDATE

Following up on the success of the ZOOM workshops over 160 attendees in 2020, these workshops can be viewed online at the [Croquet NSW, Australia - Resources](#). Planning for workshops in 2021 is under way. There are three confirmed sessions so far for 2021, March 3rd Improve Your Game, April 7th Attracting New Members and June 2nd Running a Club. If you have ideas for other workshop topics, let the secretary know at secretary@croquet-nsw.org

The Board unanimously accepted the Bundanoon Croquet Club application for affiliation and look forward to renewing past acquaintances and friendships.

All the submissions received in **the draft Constitution** have been forwarded to the drafters for review and consideration. Given the interest and useful responses, the Board will consider the input and plans for a ZOOM meeting with all Clubs and their members to address the response in February. Details will be circulated when available.

Simon Cook (Coutt's Crossing) was welcomed back to the Board. The Board also accepted Lorraine Hatfield's appointment as Director GC Refereeing, and Alison Sharpe and Ros Johnstone to the GC Selection Committee. Congratulations and welcome to all!

Rik Mills, Board Member

Simon Cook Board member

The Board is pleased to welcome Simon back to the Board. Simon is a member at Coutt's Crossing Croquet Club.

'After many years working in the public service, then running a successful Architecture practice, my wife and I moved north and are now semi-retired and building our house. I love playing Croquet. It is a game of fun and skill that people of all ages can play, and in Coutts Crossing it forms a binding force within our community. I am keen to see more young people playing Croquet, and our Club actively invites school and community groups to try the game. I also believe in the need to consult with Clubs to ensure that the Board has support for the directions that it takes. I have held many positions within community groups, and on Steering Committees for major projects within the Federal Public Service. I believe I can offer CNSW an eager enthusiasm and a fresh perspective, tempered with much business experience in both the Public and Private sectors.'

GOLDEN MALLET WINNER

Golden Mallet Award 2020

The Golden Mallet award celebrates outstanding contributions to croquet in NSW and the ACT. It replaces the Presidents Award, and the nominations are put forward mostly by the Club members and peers, recognising their fellow members. This is the second year of this award, and although we are not able to have an event to recognise the nominees and winner, we were pleased to receive nominations for 12 CNSW Club members, all of whom have made wonderful contributions to croquet.

Nominations received

The following nominations (in alphabetical order) were received from Clubs across the State, and I congratulate all these members on their significant contribution to our sport. Well done to you all! And a big thank you to members who put together the information for the nominations.

Chris Christopher, Wollongong

Andrew Davies, Canberra

Kevin Davies and Ted Lyng, Toronto

Lorraine Hatfield, Sutherland

Alison Hine, Wagga Wagga

Peter Martin, Coutts Crossing

David Scott Cherry St Croquet Club, Ballina

Bronwyn Thompson, Lithgow

Brenda Wild, Mt Sugarloaf

Robert Wilson, Camden Prk

Janelle Wood, Cheltenham

Winner

The judging panel comprising Peter Freer, Canberra (last year's winner), Pam Gentle, Maitland and Richard Hughes, Ballina Croquet Club. The winner is (drum roll.....)



Lorraine Hatfield, Sutherland Croquet Club.

Lorraine was nominated for her many contributions at the State and local level. She has been active on the CNSW Tournaments Committee, including coordinating the Pennants competitions for Golf Croquet and the awards for events. Lorraine has contributed significantly to refereeing, running training as well as refereeing a number of State events and is active in coaching both Golf Croquet and Ricochet. A player and active member of Sutherland Croquet Club, she is described by fellow members as innovative, professional and a problem solver who manages to keep croquet 'fun and informed' for her fellow Club members, especially during the pandemic.

Congratulations Lorraine!

Runner up

Peter Martin, Coutts Crossing Croquet Club.

Peter Martin has produced and published *Running Hoops*, an independent croquet newsletter 'written with humour and understanding of the interests and needs of ordinary Club players during the pandemic'. Peter established the Coutts Crossing Club and

has encouraged croquet within the Clarence Valley especially. He has been active as Club President, Secretary, has written grants and been active in coaching, mentoring and refereeing. He has publicized croquet and organized play with local clubs.

Congratulations Peter!

FROM OUR NORTHERN CORRESPONDENT

Peter Martin has decided not to continue publishing *Running Hoops* online newsletter, so we welcome him as a regular contributor to the Croquet NSW Newsletter.

Club Captains – Prepare your troops.

In all our clubs we have some people who are a little shy. The players who would give a good account of themselves in a carnival or tournament, but have never quite had the courage to enter. You hear "I am not really good enough" or "I don't want to be embarrassed." Experienced tournament players know that concern is unfounded.

Club Captains to the rescue. Select a nearby event, CNSW or club run, and select two or three of your members, who are also friends with each other. Then use your Captain's charm to persuade them to enter as a group into the event. Don't just leave them to enter, get the forms, help them fill it in and send it off. Be sure to write across their entry form, in bold capitals, THIS IS MY FIRST TOURNAMENT. Reassure them right up to the tournament date. Boost their confidence. If it is a doubles event make sure they can enter as a pair, not be allocated a partner. Being allocated a partner is a big turn-off for some, but especially for first timers.

In 2020 I managed to have just six people from my club enter their first event, this year the same six and another eight have agreed to venture out. I have not yet found the right event for each of them. From our isolated location in the north, the choice is limited. But, COVID-19 permitting they will all taste the fun of meeting other friendly croquet addicts in 2021.

Now tournament managers, your turn. Make sure they play the friendliest of people, particularly on that nervous first day. And make sure they get a referee with a permanent smile.

Serious Pennants, Fun Pennants

Most clubs play GC Pennants, some Division 1, most Division 2 and 3. We all play our best players and go all out to win. PENNANT MATHED. That leaves at least 50% of our members not playing pennants.

So try a way to give that 50% a chance to play. In NSW there are 67 Clubs affiliated to CNSW. There are at least another 100 places where croquet is played on a regular basis with regulation hoops and balls.

Just imagine if we could bring all those clubs and players into the croquet family. Their standards at present will not be high, they do not have the coaching we enjoy. In fact they are probably at the level of that 50% of our members.

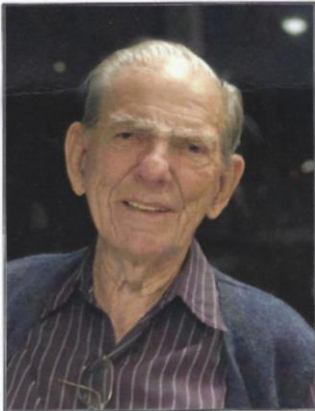
So research a couple and invite them to your (superior) lawns for a match, probably all doubles, between their best and our 50%. This works very well for my club. The best play serious GC pennants, the rest all get a game in the fun pennants against four nearby clubs. In the season everyone who wants to, gets to represent our club. Minor rule infringements are ignored: it works well.

Peter Martin (Coutts Crossing)

Ben Durie

11th September 1928 – 5th December 2020

Aged 92 Years



Being relative new comers to Toronto, we first met Ben when we joined the Croquet Club in 2004. However, Ben on the other hand, was born in Teralba in 1928 so a true local lad. Ben respected his privacy and was especially strong willed. He illustrated this in his younger days when even his mother who wanted him to take up music had to allow Ben to take up his preference for sailing. As with anything he started Ben showed great commitment to his life including his sports as he was very competitive. In sailing he was the State Champion in the VJ class and crewed a challenge for the Australian Titles. He served as Vice Commodore and Commodore at the Royal Motor Yacht Club.

He, with Pam, became members of the National Park Croquet Club, but Ben did not play there saying words to the effect that he would only play croquet when there was a club at Toronto. This led to Pam starting a club at Toronto and both she and Ben were founding members of that Club when it was located as part of the Workers' Club. In his typical committed style he helped the set up there and enjoyed many hours maintaining the courts.

Being a respected member of the Toronto community Ben acted as a sound and sensible liaison person between the Croquet Club and the management of the Workers' Club

When the Club moved to its current site Ben continued with his strong work ethic and integrity by serving on the Committee as President and other roles, but his main interest was in Association Croquet, which he enjoyed with Pam as they toured many Clubs and tournaments. He enjoyed many trips away with Kurt Beck. In recognition of his contributions Ben was made a Life Member of our Club.

Ben continued his interest in croquet right to the end, even visiting for morning tea when he could not play, but we will all remember Ben out there on the Courts playing croquet and discussing Club matters.

As Pam said, she will always have a special reminder of Ben as he always left "tattoos on her car" whenever he borrowed it.

Ben, we will always remember you and be thankful for your work for our Club.

Margaret and Bill Newberry

VALE JOHN GRIEVE

John Grieve from Williamstown Croquet Club, Victoria passed away on December 21 2020. John will be remembered by those players who played at Cairnlea in Victoria in ACA and Croquet Victoria events. John managed many tournaments at the venue with efficiency and enthusiasm. He will be sadly missed.



NSW Intrastate Cup players. With the cancellation of the Interstate Golf Croquet Shield competition in 2020, squad members were divided into two teams: Red and White and played a 2 day contest, kindly hosted at Newcastle Croquet Club, December 5 & 6. Both teams were victorious on one of the days. Well done all, and thanks to Newcastle for hosting.

COACHING ACCREDITATION

Training and Information sessions related to the new Coaching Accreditation system developed by the Australian Croquet Association are being held around Australia, and in NSW at

Newcastle Thursday Jan 28 - Sunday Jan 31 **Canberra** Tuesday Feb 2 - Friday Feb 5.

Who can attend?

Coach Conference: Newcastle: Thur Jan 28, 8.00 am - 10.00 am, Canberra Tues Feb 2, 8.00am - 10.00 am. This session is open to all existing coaches, potential coaches and observers. Its purpose is to explain the coaching pathways in detail and demonstrate the new training tools we now have available (videos)

Academy Information session: Newcastle: Sun Jan 31, 12.30 - 2.00pm, Canberra: Fri Feb 5, 12.30 - 2.00 pm. : Open to everyone. Its purpose is to give an update on [The Australian Croquet Academy](#): what has been achieved and the plans for 2021.

Improve Your Game Sessions (GC, AC, Ricochet): Newcastle: Sat Jan 30 and Sun Jan 31, Canberra: Fri Feb 5. Open to everyone. Coaching session for players and demonstrate how to coach to coaches.

Coaching Accreditation Program: Newcastle: Jan 28 - Jan 30, Canberra: Feb 2 - 4. (session times listed) Open to existing coaches, particularly those whose accreditation is due to expire soon.

You may apply to upgrade to a higher level where your experience warrants this.

Greg Bury (Australian Coaching Academy) will also be training **Presenters** who will train new coaches in this new program. Apply to Pam Gentle to be a presenter.

REGISTER with [Pam Gentle](mailto:pamgentle@bigpond.com) (pamgentle@bigpond.com) for whichever sessions you would like to attend. If you have not yet been accredited as a coach, you can apply via the [Coaching page](#) on the CNSW website. New coaches will be trained after the initial coaches are accredited. Coach Accreditation Information, Posters, Program Outline and Registration forms have been sent to all Clubs

WINNERS ARE GRINNERS

Apologies to Rob Elliott from Royal Sydney Golf Club, winner of the GC Club Champions Tournament, 14 – 16 November 2020. (I got the wrong Rob Elliott!)

Congratulations to **Mike Giddings, from Ballina NSW**, for his win in the Victorian Croquet Association Open Singles (AC) held at Cairnlea Dec 30 – Jan3 2021.

Congratulations to **Callum Hyland, Canberra** and Sandy Bay who together with David Johnston, Ballarat won the Victorian Open Doubles (AC) at Cairnlea, 28-29 Dec 2020.

Check [Croquet Scores](#) for more results

TOURNAMENTS COMING UP

A host of Club managed events have been entered on the Calendar, so we encourage you to travel safely within the State and support these tournaments.

Additionally around half of the CNSW events scheduled until 31 July 2021 are being held by clubs outside Tempe, and we thank those Clubs who have taken on the responsibility for hosting State events.

Beryl Chambers State Handicap singles playoffs (AC) are held in regions around the State, with the finals in Sydney. **Entries close 27 Feb.**

GC Pennants competitions for 2nd Division (Handicap 5-8) and 3rd Division (Handicap 9-12) players are held within local zones. Teams of 4 players from one Club play a test of 2 singles and 1 doubles against other Clubs in your zone. The winners from each zone play off for the finals at Tempe. Specific team members do not need to be nominated yet, but **Club entries close 1 March.**

Check out the [Events](#) tab on the CNSW website.

COVID GUIDELINES UPDATE

Latest CNSW Covid guidelines as at 5 January have been mailed to all Clubs and are available on the website. Note mask wearing indoors is not required unless you are a retail space, and there are changes to social distancing guidelines.

ACA TRIBUNAL PANEL

Croquet Australia is on the lookout for people across Australia to be available if a complaint is required to be dealt with by a Tribunal. The ACA [Member Protection Policy](#), Attachment F, requires the association to “...establish and maintain a **pool of potential Tribunal members** consisting of senior members within ACA, Member Associations and Affiliated Clubs with no less than three members from each relevant state/territory.”

If you are interested please contact secretary@croquet-nsw.org

LAWN MAINTENANCE

The Croquet Association is holding a Webinar - [Croquet Lawn Care And Maintenance](#) 30 January 2021 8.30 – 10.00 pm AEDT featuring Duncan Hector and George Noble - two of the leading experts on croquet lawn care in England.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS



Your contributions to the Croquet NSW newsletter are welcome. Contact Kate McLoughlin at newsletter@croquet-nsw.org