



CROQUET NSW INC

ABN 95 174 213 987

ANNUAL REPORT

2018-19

Supported by the



This Annual Report has been produced by Mr Stephen Thornton,
Director - Secretary and Public Officer, Croquet NSW Inc.



THE BOARD (2018-19)

Chair	Mrs Brenda Wild
Director - Treasurer	Mr John Eddes
Director - Secretary	Mr Steve Thornton
Director	Mr Tony McArthur
Director	Ms Roberta Flint
Director	Mr Richard Hughes
Director	Mrs Carol Hayes

ATTENDENCE AT BOARD MEETINGS

The Board held 11 meetings between the 2018 AGM and early August 2019. A number were face to face but many included attendances via SKYPE or phone. Some were a combination of face to face and SKYPE or conference call. Attendance of Directors is tabulated below:

Mrs Brenda Wild	10	Mr Tony McArthur	10
Mr Steve Thornton	11	Mr Richard Hughes	11
Mr John Eddes	11	Mrs Carol Hayes	8
Ms Roberta Flint	9		

From the Chair of the CNSW Board

On behalf of the Board of Croquet NSW Inc it gives me great pleasure to introduce the 2019 Annual Report for Croquet NSW.

From a Boards perspective we've had a very productive year. We have finished the year knowing we have always had the interest of every member of Croquet NSW (CNSW) at the forefront.

In September 2018 CNSW hosted the ACA GC Australian Singles titles and the ISS competition. The Hunter Valley was chosen as the region best suited with 6 Clubs hosting the event. A huge thank you to those Clubs, Newcastle National Park, Toronto, Maitland, EDSACC, Myall Park and Branxton for their efforts before and during the event with only positive comments received from all competitors. The event was a great success!!

Thanks to the efforts of our Secretary, Steve Thornton, we were very fortunate to have the patron of CNSW, His Excellency General the Honorable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd), Governor of NSW, accompanied by Mrs Linda Hurley attend a number of our functions.



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They arrived at Maitland to witness the closing stages of the Women's Singles finals, attended the Civic reception, AND stayed over to watch the opening games of the ISS at Newcastle. I noted that within 5 minutes of their arrival at the croquet club the Governor had his jacket off and a mallet in hand practicing strokes. He commented that he'd spent the previous evening thinking about the tactics of the game – a future croquet player!! A month later I received an invitation for CNSW to showcase Croquet at Sydney's Government House Open Day on Australia Day. We had approx. 700 visitors to Government House "have a go" at Croquet. A comment often heard was that people didn't realise it was as difficult or tactical as they had originally thought but thoroughly enjoyable!!! Over 50 members volunteered their time to make this day a great success with many visitors to Government House expressing positive comments about Croquet. Thank you to everyone involved.

As per the current CNSW Strategic Plan (Jan 2017 to Dec 2019), and after numerous working groups, the Board has begun implementing the agreed strategy for progressively reducing the involvement of CNSW in the Tempe facilities. Cooks River Croquet Club (CRCC) has been formed and now operates from Tempe under a broad Memorandum of Understanding with CNSW and the club has been engaged by CNSW to manage maintenance of the facility. The arrangement will ensure continued access to high quality lawns for a range of CNSW competitions as well as allow access for CNSW members. Within the next 2-3 years CNSW hopes to have substantially reduced its financial obligations to Tempe.

Our teams have done NSW proud yet again. Our 2018 GC Interstate Shield team came 3rd with only needing one or two matches to go our way and we would've jumped to second. Our 2019 AC Eire Cup team came 2nd with, again, only needing one or two matches to go our way to take out the Cup. Well done to both our teams!!!

The Player Pathways to Excellence Program is continuing to gain a great reputation as Croquet Victoria is applying for grants to apply the same program in Victoria. Well done to both Alix Verge and Pam Gentle for their hard work in progressing this program.

Our Sports Development Officer, Donna Olbourne joined us in February and has visited many clubs during her time with us. Unfortunately, her family situation has changed so Donna won't be able to complete her tenure however she has given us some valuable ideas to move forward with.

Many of you will be interested to know that the Board has agreed to a new approach in the presentation of awards to winners of CNSW events. For 2019 the glasses, that have been a feature of presentations, will be replaced by special badges for winners and runners up. These will be made available to tournament managers along with winner and runner up certificates to be presented at the conclusion of each event. Thank you to Lorraine Hatfield (Sutherland) who made this proposal and who will be coordinating the distribution of these awards.

I would also like to thank Wendy Fothergill for her many years as Editor of the CNSW Newsletter and the countless hours she spent persuading members and clubs to provide material, compiling it, arranging for the printer then organising the distribution of the newsletter. Thank you, Wendy. As members will know we have no one offering to step



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into her shoes which is a pity as the members did enjoy the quarterly hardcopy magazine. If you, or someone you know, might be interested please contact our Secretary.

The 2019 Annual Presentation has been revamped and will be held immediately following the AGM as a way of celebrating Croquet and our members. The inaugural Gold Mallet Award will also be presented at this time to celebrate the wonderful work our volunteers have done throughout the year. Congratulations to those members who have been nominated and I look forward to congratulating the winner. Following on from the awards presentation there will be a member's forum at which the CNSW Strategic Plan 2019-2024 will be launched. This is a day to celebrate Croquet and I encourage every member to attend.

For a number of years we have been moving to align with the digital age and from next year the yearbook will only be available on-line. Club Secretaries received notice of this. Speaking of the digital age no year should pass without thanking our volunteer website administrator David Archer for his continued efforts in maintaining and refining our website and the utility of the database that sits alongside it. This year David gave the site a new and more contemporary entry page as well as expanding the member area of the site. Thank you, David.

The ballot for the June 2019 Constitution received a record number of votes from 56 Clubs (83% of member Clubs) which was a great response. Unfortunately, the revised Constitution was not approved. This is disappointing for those involved as this entailed a huge amount of work to bring our Constitution up to date & relevant to our status as a State Sporting Organisation.

Please remember that all Board members volunteer their time to the administration of CNSW as well as, for most, holding positions within their own Clubs, having a family life and all whilst playing Croquet. The Board members are to be congratulated on their hard work and dedication which has made my time enjoyable whilst being on the Board.

I wish to thank two of our retiring Directors. John Eddes for his years of service to CNSW as a Director and Treasurer and Steve Thornton our Secretary for trying to bringing us all into the 21st century!! .

To finish – I'd like to thank every member of the Croquet NSW family who volunteer their time and energy to progress our great sport. Thankyou.

Keep the participation levels up and I look forward to seeing you on the lawns soon.

Brenda Wild - Chair

Financial Report

Income and Expenditure Report

The income for the year was consistent with the previous year. The GC Nationals 2019 income is offset by a similar expenditure item. The expenses are \$32,000 greater than last year, ignoring the GC Nationals 2019. This is predominantly due to some one-off items which were planned by the Board to utilise the reserves to benefit the Association. These are:

- \$6500 to Cooks River Croquet Club which includes \$5000 as an establishment payment.
- \$9950 Consulting fees relate to a Sports Consultant contracted to work on setting up the Strategic Plan.
- \$7709 Publicity includes \$6674 for the Open Day at Government House on Australia Day.
- \$16212 Legal expenses for advice on a number of issues such as the revision to the Constitution and CNSW Policies, Selection Appeals and actions under the Member Protection Policy.

Overall there was an operating deficit of \$36000 and a net deficit of \$16600 after allowance for investment income. This was considered satisfactory in view of the nature of the expenses incurred.

Balance Sheet Report.

The investments continued to perform at or above expectations (including unrealised value changes for the trusts) being Australian Unity Health Trust up 9.4%, Cromwell Property Trust up 6.8% and Term Deposit up 2.5%

The increase in the Machinery asset was due to the purchase of a ride on mower for the lawns (\$9081) and the croquet equipment storage box (\$1890).

Spending the grants from the NSW Office of Sport resulted in payments of the remaining \$6000 for the 2019 GC Nationals Championships, \$2655 for the Coaching Accreditation Project, \$8666 for the Player Pathway to Excellence Project (PPEP) and \$18330 for the Regionalisation Project which includes the recruitment and contract fees for the Development Officer (Donna Olbourne).

Audit Reports.

At the time of writing this report I am expecting the final audit report for 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 after discussions that have been ongoing for 17 months. On finalisation of this it is expected that the auditor will commence the 2018/2019 audit.

John Eddes - Treasurer



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Income & Expenditure Statement

For the year ended 30 June 2019

	2019	2018	2017
Income			
Affiliation Fees	122,808.12	117,866.36	118,848.63
Tournament Entry Fees	14,045.23	13,359.09	12,044.37
Merchandise Profit	39.06	122.01	330.97
Year Books	218.20	1,500.00	2,040.00
Office of Sport Grant	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
Coaching	72.73	-45.45	777.27
Referee Instruction	640.91	277.27	290.91
HQ Lawn & Equipment use	654.10	1,079.23	658.73
Presentation Day	1,563.61	1,463.64	2,581.82
Catering & Housekeeping	0.00	79.95	61.09
Interest (Operations)	102.74	442.76	525.39
Insurance Levies	10,368.32	9,851.37	4,806.82
GC Nationals 2019	26,449.89	0.00	0.00
Sponsorship	0.00	0.00	909.09
Other Income	37.96	1,588.70	109.78
Total Income	192,000.87	162,584.93	158,984.87
Expenses			
ACA Affiliation Fees	74,740.91	73,453.18	70,215.91
ACA Entry fees	1,541.82	1,554.55	1,463.65
Lawn Maintenance	20,295.54	16,753.22	26,002.60
Surrounds	220.00	951.82	532.13
Cooks River Croquet Club	6,500.00	0.00	0.00
HQ Overheads	283.00	0.00	358.00
Printing	153.72	381.64	878.09
Year Books	962.00	2,416.00	2,581.00
Stationery	788.37	657.57	598.48
Postage	1,919.70	2,115.88	2,242.20
Telephone	760.39	377.50	375.98
Computer Expenses	2,130.89	1,788.00	2,025.44
Insurance	958.84	904.34	864.42
Catering & Housekeeping	1,161.34	1,097.83	800.29
Newsletter	3,453.00	3,943.00	3,814.00
Presentation Day	1,718.18	1,918.18	2,960.72
Legal Fees	16,212.00	10,898.00	0.00
Audit Fees	1,500.00	3,000.00	0.00
Policy Compliance	0.00	4,461.20	0.00
Other Consulting Fees	9,950.50	1,605.00	0.00
IT Fees	2,500.00	2,894.16	2,500.00
Club Lawn Hire	5,512.50	2,903.00	3,768.00
Referee Instruction & Exam	2,158.48	1,092.95	1,762.67
Coaching expenses	86.50	0.00	3,079.38
Repairs & Maintenance	2,458.16	8,381.96	3,883.19
Bathroom Renovation	0.00	-2,171.40	5,458.72
Croquet Equipment	1,529.36	0.00	367.00
State Teams	11,050.22	11,285.46	13,299.87
Juniors Exps & Schools Grants	723.16	400.00	370.02
Trophies	3,151.08	1,297.11	1,949.62
Travel & Accomodation	5,487.14	2,978.49	3,293.20
Corporate Insurance	10,430.94	10,027.60	4,947.01
Sport NSW	409.09	850.91	0.00
Publicity	7,706.41	207.27	302.18
2021 AC National Championships	500.00	500.00	500.00
Other Expenses	231.88	53.93	124.80
GC Nationals 2019	26,372.07	347.73	0.00
Depreciation	2,538.26	1,371.27	1,267.00
Asset Write offs		93.00	480.00
Total Expenses	228,095.45	170,790.35	163,065.57
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	(36,094.58)	(8,205.42)	(4,080.70)
Other Income			
Interest, Distributions; Invest	14,784.73	14,762.91	15,661.92
Investments value change	4,680.03	3,746.62	5,642.54
Total Other Income	19,464.76	18,509.53	21,304.46
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(16,629.82)	10,304.11	17,223.76



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Balance Sheet

As at 30 June 2019

	2019	2018	2017
Assets			
Current Assets			
Bank Accounts			
Commonwealth Main Account	18,213.13	(872.97)	26,183.64
Commonwealth No 2 Account	944.97	1,525.57	0.00
Commonwealth Cash Inv Account	46,617.82	142,218.10	84,024.36
Investments			
Aust Unity Trust	65,540.37	62,693.45	57,042.59
Aust Unity Unrealised Value Ch	16,933.97	12,668.37	9,648.09
Cromwell Trust	37,890.60	35,591.39	33,418.29
Cromwell Unrealised Value Chan	4,716.19	4,301.76	3,575.42
Term Deposit	228,700.48	223,122.42	216,834.22
Accrued Interest Cash Inv Acct	65.09	268.31	100.00
Accrued Interest Term Deposit	45.00	50.00	50.00
Accrued Distrib - Aust Unity	1,098.47	0.00	1,390.87
Accrued Distribution Cromwell	197.46	186.72	176.39
Other Current Assets			
Merchandise on hand at cost	634.39	771.04	669.84
Sundry Debtors	2,939.85	571.90	786.50
Prepayments		488.70	977.40
Prepayment, Insurance	5,350.35	5,080.59	4,947.01
Non-Current Assets			
Office Equipment & Furniture	349.00	1,227.00	2,105.00
Trophies	895.00	994.00	1,105.00
Machinery	13,120.00	3,709.00	1,067.00
Banners	0.00	320.00	800.00
Total Assets	444,252.14	494,915.35	444,901.62
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
GST on accruals	(418.83)	(253.32)	62.50
Sundry Creditors	5,850.00	5,666.00	757.70
Paid in advance, insurance	5,323.77	5,044.54	4,806.82
Paid in advance; affiliat fees	452.74	150.00	2,307.27
Paid in Advance; Tournam fees	1,956.93	1,438.64	877.27
Provisions	3,500.00	3,000.00	4,000.00
Office of Sports Grants			
Coaching Accreditation	2,495.77	5,150.68	8,675.36
2018 GC National Championships	0.00	6,000.00	10,000.00
Player Pathway to Excellence	16,333.28	25,000.00	0.00
Regionalisation	1,669.49	20,000.00	0.00
Total Liabilities	37,163.15	71,196.54	31,486.92
Net Assets	407,088.99	423,718.81	413,414.70
Equity			
Accumulated Funds	396,190.94	396,190.94	396,190.94
Retained Earnings	27,527.87	17,223.76	0.00
Current Year Earnings	-16,629.82	10,304.11	17,223.76
Total Equity	407,088.99	423,718.81	413,414.70



From the CNSW Secretary

It has been a very big year as far as administrative workload has been concerned across a number of areas. The proposed revision to the constitution and associated policies that would have fully positioned ourselves as a modern State Sporting Organisation required much work but ultimately did not find favour with the membership. A number of existing policies have been reviewed and updated. The concept of regions and them having a greater involvement with CNSW is proving difficult to get off the ground.

At its last meeting, the Board endorsed the 2019-22 Strategic Plan. An external consultant assisted us to develop the plan and our members were involved via on-line questionnaires, interviews and a workshop.

Work in progress includes completion of our registration as a provider for the Active Kids Program run by the NSW Office of Sport and also looking at the ability to communicate directly with members.

CNSW will have a new Secretary and Public Officer after the AGM. I would like to thank the Club Secretaries past and present whom I have interacted with and who undertake the hard work at club level.

Steve Thornton - Secretary

Report from the Membership/Records Officer

As at 26th July 2019 Croquet NSW membership stands at 3110. Female membership represents almost 2/3 of our numbers.

We have 4 Clubs with membership over 100 players – well done and congratulations to these Clubs. Canberra, EDSACC, Mosman and Nelson Bay.

For the 2018/19 year to 30th June 2019 we had 494 new, or re-joining, members join CNSW. The Hunter region having the highest new members (109 at 22%) followed by Northern Sydney (85 at 17%). It's great to see every region had in excess of 25 new members – well done and great work to all those involved.

We are very fortunate to have 13 juniors playing our great sport. These young people are the future of our game and we welcome them with open arms.

This year we welcome Cooks River Croquet Club (CRCC) into the CNSW family. CRCC is based at the CNSW Headquarter facilities at Tempe maintaining and using the lawns when available.



As part of my duties Croquet NSW keeps a record of all members who have received Working with Children Check (WWCC) registrations. These checks last for 5 years. Once you have renewed your WWCC can you please advise me as I need to keep CNSW records up to date – thank you.

Brenda Wild

Report from CNSW Website Administrator

The CNSW website continues to adapt to meet the expectations of a changing world.

Between 1st July 2018 and 30th June 2019, the following page content changes were made: Club News 16, Club Results 5, Clubs 4, Coaching 3, Contact 3, Downloads 3, Events 3, Governance 16, Links 2, Members Area 2, News 24, Newsletter 4, Refereeing 1, Results 21.

During this period, the following database events occurred:

- 3093 sign ins by 70 clubs
- 2220 sign ins by 219 individual members
- 1021 sign ins by CNSW officials
- 2 clubs added, 2 deleted, 138 updated
- 188 events added, 27 deleted, 291 updated
- 611 members added, 561 deleted, 4492 updated
- 7 sign in accounts added, 2 deleted, 23 updated
- 463 CNSW event entrants added, 85 deleted, 12 updated
- 1999 handicap changes logged

During this period, 22 changes were made to the website database application, of which the most significant was the restructuring of clubs into regions.

David Archer

Report from the NSW State Coaching Coordinator

In the past year I have presented four Coach Accreditation courses, in Chatswood, Strathfield, Woolgoolga and Ballina, with 21 new coaches being accredited. New South Wales now has 65 Association Croquet coaches, 79 Ricochet coaches, and 133 Golf Croquet coaches, as well as 15 Gateball coaches. I would like to thank John Park for his work with the Gateball coaching.

There is at least one coach in 41 of our clubs in NSW.

I have also visited several clubs around the state to present coaching days in both Golf Croquet and Association Croquet. I would love to visit more clubs in the next year, both to provide coaching and mentoring for our coaches.

Unfortunately there is now no Coach Coordinator for Croquet Australia, and the expected Level 2 Coaching course has not been written, nor is there any indication of how our

coaches will be re-accredited after their four years accreditation has expired. That four-year period is almost up for some of the coaches who originally undertook the course and I am hoping that Croquet Australia will provide some leadership on this.

I encourage any player to consider the most rewarding experience of becoming a croquet coach, and I would like to thank all those players who have taken the step and volunteer their time and energy into improving the skills of their players.

Pam Gentle

Report from the SD Refereeing - Golf Croquet

My sincere thanks to all Referees who have officiated at Club, Region, State or National events during the past twelve months. Players and officials appreciate your commitment to ensuring that games are played according to the current Rules.

Congratulations to the 11 candidates who successfully met the ACA requirements to become a GC Referee. Well done all, I hope you enjoy the challenge and will encourage others to become referees.

My special thanks to the Examining Referees who assisted with the tuition and examination of candidates.

Currently there are 8 players who are preparing for their GC Referee examination.

Whilst I have not reached my goal of 1 Referee in each club, I am well on the way and am looking forward to more interest being shown.

January saw the introduction of the 5th Edition of the WCF Rules for Golf Croquet. The changes have been positively embraced by most players and clubs. These changes sought to improve the pace with which the game is played, and to remove unnecessary interruptions. Workshops on the new rules have been conducted at Ballina, Eastwood, Forster, Lismore, Macquarie City, Newcastle, Nowra, Port Macquarie, Taree and Urunga.

Hopefully all clubs are now using the 5th Edition GC Rules and have become familiar with the changes.

Thank you for your continued support throughout the year.

Bev Smith

Coordinator of Junior Croquet

At the moment out of almost 3000 affiliated members there are only 14 juniors. They are from: - Blue Mountains 2, Canberra 2, Killara 1, Manly 1, Nambucca Valley 1, Nelson Bay 1, Queanbeyan 1, Smithtown 1, Strathfield 3 and Woolgoolga 1. Personally, I think that is a shame and that all clubs should consider encouraging more young people to play croquet. It is a sport that can be enjoyed by all ages and something needs to be done to counteract the decline in membership in so many clubs.



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Some clubs have organised school groups, others have held grandchildren, friends and family days with considerable success. I have attended Junior Days at Toronto Club during the school holidays and been most impressed with how quickly they picked up the skills. I would be only too happy to assist other clubs in the same way.

As far as school groups are concerned, I would like to introduce a Croquet NSW School Championship next year. If your club is involved with school groups and you might be interested can you please contact me with the following information:- name of club – contact person – school name – terms involved – years involved.

In 2018 the CNSW Junior Championships were not held due to the lack of entries. However, there were three NSW competitors at the ACA U21 Championships held in Adelaide in January this year. There were fourteen entries from four states with the ages ranging from ten to twenty. Yes, it was hot but everyone really enjoyed themselves. In the Singles Jamie Gumbrell (Canberra) was runner up and Matt Grant (Nelson Bay) was third. In the Doubles Jamie and his brother Ethan were declared Champions with Matt and his partner from South Australia Runner up.

Australia had two competitors in the World U21 GC Championships which have just concluded in Nottingham, UK. Jamie Gumbrell (Canberra) and Charlie Sharpe (Killara) both played well to reach the final sixteen. Jamie will also be competing the World GC Championships in Sussex starting on 27th July. The next U21 World Championships will be held in New Zealand in two years' time so it's not too late to start practicing!

Jamie hasn't finished yet. I think he will be back in Australia for the CNSW Division 1 GC Singles and Doubles

and will certainly be a member of the New South Wales state team.

To all Junior players and their parents. Please be aware that scholarships are available from CNSW and ACA to assist with coaching, travel and accommodation. I can provide further information.

Jacky McDonald

Ricochet Development Officer

What a busy year it's been for Clubs and players.

Just in my region (Hunter Valley) I've noticed a huge improvement in players' ability to play this intriguing game - it's been the same for every region. It's also great to see Clubs offering Ricochet carnivals as a standalone event – well done.

I've recently been advised that the final draft of the new rules of Ricochet are with ACA for approval prior to printing. To get to this point a committee was formed with a representative from each state playing ricochet to discuss, clarify & agree on the rules. A huge thank you to Margaret-Rose Thompson for her continued commitment to getting the rules amended, updated and easily understood for all. Once approved Croquet Qld will print and distribute to the states. When CNSW is notified an email will be sent to all Clubs for those wishing to purchase the new rule book.



I wish to apologise for not organising a 2019 State Ricochet event however there will be a 2020 State event. June and July are quiet months for events around the state. Any club who would be interested in hosting the event please contact me.
And finally to every player playing Ricochet – Thank you.

Brenda Wild

Gateball NSW

INTERNATIONAL

CNSW players represented Australia at the World Gateball Union Championship for the first time in Sao Paola in Brazil in September 2018. Canberra added two Queensland players to their team and John Park from Lithgow club was included in a team from Kew in Victoria. For the first time in Australian Gateball the latter team progressed beyond the pool stage.

The teams were provided with uniforms from ACA and a financial contribution towards their travel expenses which was very much appreciated.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The NSW State Gateball Championships were played in Canberra in mid-November 2018 and the Teams event was taken out by a team called Epstars from NSW. The Doubles was won by husband and wife team Penny and John Park from Lithgow in NSW against a strong pair from Korea. This was the first time NSW championships attracted teams from all mainland states in Australia. This year's event will be held at Taree CC .

Victorian Gateball Championships was played at Cairnlea in Victoria at the end of March 2019 and was another win for our NSW Doubles champions Penny and John Park. A Canberra/Lithgow team were runners up in the Teams championship. The Parks double were also runners-up in the South Australian Doubles championships in April 2019.

CLUB COMPETITIONS

Competitions were held at Lithgow/Teams event in March. Jamberoo/Triples held in May, and Newcastle played mixed teams and doubles at the end of June. Next year Canberra will be adding a Triples event in October 2020.

REFEREES

This past year saw an increase in our level 2 referees to 14 and level 1 to 2 for NSW after two referee workshops conducted by Manuel and Glenda Gutierrez in Lithgow and Toronto. The level 2 exam was reviewed and updated to bring it in line with the 2019 official W.G.U. Gateball Rules and Guide for Referees.



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PPEP.

Gateball players were included in this programme when it was held at Strathfield C.C. and 13 players attended.

Gateballers were also happy to take part in the Australia Day fun day held at Government House in Sydney this year and I would like to thank all gateballers and CNSW for their support this last year. Offers of assistance are always welcome.

Mary Dunn