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March 2014 Newsletter No.199

## **AND THE WINNERS ARE...**

**2014 GOLF CROQUET CARNIVAL** It was fantastic to have players from all over NSW playing in our carnival; and to provide them with great weather over the 4 days. Was a pity that we didn't have all 3 full size lawns up and running, however that little bit of variation adds something extra to the competition!



Congratulations to Peter Freer (Canberra) and Chris Pullen (Walla Walla) for winning the doubles. This was Chris' first competition and she was absolutely chuffed. Having a partner as experienced as Peter was a great learning experience. Runners up were Belle Cahill (Walla Walla) and Dot Moroney (Jambaroo)

Peter also "won the chocies" in the singles event from Bill Munns (Toronto), which is a fair effort as he was also the Tournament Referee and ably assisted Robyn in managing the weekend.

Robyn, and volunteers, deserve a big thankyou and congratulations in managing the event. Hosting a carnival such as this is important as we have the opportunity to meet and play against other players and promote the game in the wider community as well as having a financial benefit for the club.

We are hosting a number of events in coming weeks, please assist wherever you can, rather than leaving it to the same group of volunteers.



### **NSW Croquet Team (Jim on far left)**

NSW has come a close second to arch nemesis and defending champions, Victoria, in a close fought battle.

Victoria were undefeated, beating NSW 11 games to 9 on day four at Windsor Club in Brisbane. The exceptional courts at Wynnum, fast lawns, tight hoops set very rigid in firm ground and the occasional "interesting boundary" were challenging with poor shots being punished with startling rejection.

One of the lawns at Toombul on day 1 was like playing on a cow paddock – our 3<sup>rd</sup> lawn looks very tame in comparison (editor)

Jim had a great 9 days of croquet, winning 16 of his 20 singles games, losing 3 times to Australian and World #1 Robert Fletcher and to Australian #2 player Stephen Forster.

Jim finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Australian Mens and at time of printing is currently ranked #4 in Australia!

Alix Verge successfully defended her Australian Women's title, with Alison Sharpe and Trevor Bassett each taking out 5<sup>th</sup> place in the respective events. Overall a very good week for NSW Croquet.

**THE FENCE IS UP** It has taken a while, delayed slightly an un-expected evacuation of the Oasis Centre when the contractor hit a gas line, but it is in place.

**Before (November 2012)**

**After (March 2013)**



Given we are approaching the end of the growing season it is unlikely we will have full use of all of the playing space until later in the year. In the mean time we will continue to use the two smaller lawns as marked out for the carnival.

**GATEBALL CARNIVAL** Next weekend (5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> April) we are hosting our annual Gateball Carnival. Joshua Willsher has done a great job in promoting the event and we will be having visitors from Melbourne to the Gold Coast and everywhere in between.

The teams event will be played on Saturday. This will provide an excellent opportunity for the in-experienced players to participate and learn more about Gateball. As we learnt at the Christmas party, it isn't too hard (smaller balls through bigger hoops) and you get told what to do!

If you want to participate put your name down on the list at the clubhouse or email [Joshua.willsher@bigpond.com](mailto:Joshua.willsher@bigpond.com) or [secretary@waggacroquetclub.org](mailto:secretary@waggacroquetclub.org).

**PLAYING TIMES** will change commencing from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2014 (end of daylight savings) to the following.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
AM	AC – 9.30am	##			##	AC – 9.30am	
PM		## AC – 5.00pm	GC – 1pm		##		

## Our groundskeeper, Brian, requires 2 days each week to maintain our lawns.

**OUR NEW LOOK COMMITTEE** was elected at the AGM. If you have any ideas or issues you want to raised and discussed please contact one of the following committee members.

Position	Elected
President	Robyn Willis
Immediate Past President & Captain	Peter Lloyd
Vice Presidents	Margaret Priest & Anne McGregor
Secretary	Jim Nicholls
Treasurer	Ruth Wilson
Committee Members (3)	I Hayes, J. Burmeister & J. Terry

**2014/15 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE** Please pay your membership fee promptly to the treasurer (Ruth).

You have the choice of paying \$60 membership fee and then green fees (\$5) and practice fees (\$2) on a pay as you go basis, or \$300 upfront, which covers all play and practice throughout the year.

The \$300 option is great value for regular uses, ie if you play or practice more than once a week, and makes life a little easier for Ruth.

**NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING** Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> April 2014 at 11.45am at the clubhouse.