



# Cammeray Croquet Club



NEWSLETTER

August 2015

<http://www.cammeray-croquet.org.au/>

## Croquet will get you flying!



Well, they may not actually have put it quite like that, but the report recently produced for London's Heathrow Airport and Pimm's (the drink people) was almost as wacky, and of course attracted plenty of fascinating press commentary.

The London *Daily Telegraph*, produced the startling headline:

### ***“Croquet will not survive to 2037 if young people do not take the sport up”***

Little attention was paid to the fact that the number of clubs and registered players is apparently growing, or that the dole queues would be unsustainable if the youth of today did flock to the game. Instead, *Telegraph* writer Rozina Sabur blithely proceeded to highlight from the report, the extraordinary news that ...

### ***“Despite a rise in the sport's popularity, most players will have disappeared from the UK in just 22 years”***

So it seems you play in the UK at your own risk. It's another Bermuda triangle!

On a more rational note, *Guardian* writer Zoe Williams commented:

“As delighted as I am by the sheer weirdness of Heathrow Airport undertaking a study to discover when the sport of croquet will finally die out (2037) I don't buy it. They've done a simple numbers analysis – 74% of Britons have no interest in it, and 5% have never heard of it.”



*Heathrow Terminal 2*

But it was left to Christopher Hooton, in the UK *Independent* newspaper, to reveal the unvarnished truth:

“The airport is taking such ... interest in this news because it is trying to revive the game in Terminal 2. [*Where it had died?! – Ed.*]

A fortnight-long pop-up croquet tournament has been arranged, updated for the 21st century, to include musical hoops and laser-guided mallets.” [*Ye gods and little fishes!*]

So there you have it!! Make of it what you will, but there's a PhD thesis waiting to be developed from those last two paragraphs!

## In this issue ...

### World news

- Heathrow Airport Croquet Report

### Other stuff

- Coaching Sessions
- Friday Mornings

### Results

- AC Pennants
- Club Championships
- NSW Open GC Championship

## Editorial

Discerning readers [are there others?] will be familiar with the regular exhortation to contribute items of interest. This month we extend thanks to the several of you who drew attention to the “news item” reported in the adjoining column. Clearly, the old country can still teach us thing or two! [How to laugh, if nothing else.]

Still in Europe, we have also been delighted to learn that the Cammeray colours have been worn with pride and to great effect in ... Germany.

And we continue our campaign to enhance your understanding of the game, with mention of the wonderful Oxford Croquet website. If you still haven't visited it, do!

---

... comment on this issue, and/or contribution to the next, can be sent to ... Michael Strickland  
[stricko@ozemail.com.au](mailto:stricko@ozemail.com.au)

# Other Stuff

## A word of thanks ...

Coaching for Bronze players conducted in recent weeks by some of our Gold and Platinum players at the end of their Wednesday morning session was a great success. Well done, Bev Westwood, for getting it going! And well done coaches, David Stanton, Mike Hughes, Alan Walsh, Ken Edwards, Barbara McDonald, Annette Du Preez, Graham Maynard, and Denis Faggoter.

## And a reminder ...

I am also asked to make mention of the fact that **Friday morning games are for ALL grades**. Come along! If you really need them, you will be offered bisques. And if you're very lucky, you may even be shown how to use them properly!

# Results

## NSW Pennant Competitions

Matches have now been completed, and we can report:

- Bronze #1** **Bill and Bev Westwood, Sue Nicholas, Margaret O'Brien, and Warren Yates** started with a 0-3 loss to Cammeray 2, but then beat Chatswood 2-1, Mosman 3-0, and Strathfield 2-1, but ended with a loss to Killara 1-2.
- Bronze #2** **Peter and Sandra Colquhoun, Roger Lises, Sue Eldridge-Smith, and Ian Lucas** started with a 3-0 win over Cammeray 1, but then suffered a 1-2 loss to Killara, before beating Strathfield 2-1, and Mosman 2-1, but ended with a loss to Chatswood 1-2.
- Silver** **David SurrIDGE, Georgie Ofner, Marg O'Brien Matt Carden, and Bebe Abdullah** won 2-1 at Mosman, and 3-0 against Sutherland (since withdrawn), won 2-1 at Manly, and 3-0 at home to Chatswood, but then lost 0-3 at Chatswood, lost 0-3 at home to Manly, and lost 1-2 at home to Mosman.
- Gold** **David Stanton, Annette du Preez, Barbara McDonald, and Steve Miles** had a 3-0 loss at Maitland, and a 3-0 win at home to Maitland, before playing off in a final at Tempe, **now 11 Aug.**

## Club Championships

We have already reported on the open Club Championship won by **Alan Walsh**, and on the Bronze Championship, won by **Sue Eldridge-Smith**, but it seems we are going to have to wait for Silver and Gold to get their act together.

## NSW Open GC Championships

Won by the evergreen and irrepressible **Peter Landrebe**.

North  
Sydney  
Council  
Community  
Fair 2015



The Community Fair in St Leonard's Park, on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July, was a lot of fun.

Michelle Nixon would like to thank the volunteers who assisted - Warren Yates, Marg O'Brien, Penny Garrett, Jeff Burgess and Jen Holt, and Roger Liles. Well done, team!

## Krocket in Deutschland

Bill and Bev Westwood were playing at Cammeray some while ago, when they were approached by a young lady who asked to buy some Club gear to take to her uncle in Germany.

That the goods duly arrived is evidenced by the charming e-mail sent to Club Secretary, Warren Yates, by their grateful recipient, [pictured, right] who commented:



*Last week my niece was coming home to Frankfurt ....*

*She really had a big surprise for me: a shirt and a hat from your club.*

*Yesterday I wore things for the first time on our lawn.*

*What can I say? I won every game!! Even against the German champions. I am very proud!*

*I think I'll take the stuff for good luck more often.*

Is there a moral to this story?

*And finally ...*

[www.oxfordcroquet.com](http://www.oxfordcroquet.com)

We have regularly commented on (and plagiarized from!) the cornucopia of croquet information available at *Oxford Croquet*:

<http://www.oxfordcroquet.com>

Not least of the fascinating and helpful resources it offers, is the 3D 'virtual' croquet lawn, with demonstrations ranging from the four-ball break to the sextuple peel. Well worth a look!