



# Cammeray Croquet Club



NEWSLETTER

August 2018

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

## CNSW Pennant Competitions

Last month we were able to report that the Cammeray 'A' Team had managed a last-gasp win in the Silver competition. Since then, the Bronze team finished with wins at home over Strathfield and Manly, but the four losses they had incurred up to that point still left them with the wooden spoon. And the Gold team could win only one of their four matches, leaving them with the same kitchen implement.

Some work to be done here, people. And less than a year to go!

## Other CNSW events

Cammeray Club Champion, **Rob Elliott**, won the *CNSW 'Champion of Champions'* trophy, beating all of the Champions from Chatswood (Alan Walsh), Killara (Alison Sharpe), Canberra (Alan Honey), and Marrickville (Gareth Denyer). Not a bad effort, Rob!



Joining him on the winners' dais, **Peter and Rosie Landrebe** recently teamed up to win the *CNSW Open Doubles* championship, without dropping a game. Great stuff!

And this year's CNSW Selectors' Eight was won by Cammeray's **Ken Edwards** (pictured, right) who lost only one game, and that was to runner-up, **Barbara McDonald**. Well done, both!



Not wanting to be outdone completely, **Steve Miles** continued a very successful year by winning four out of five matches to finish runner-up in the annual *Fransted Trophy*, a CNSW Handicap Singles tournament.

## Cammeray Platinum Division Championship

Last month's report was very limited, as play had only just started, but we can now advise that all games have been completed, including a final between **David Stanton** and **Stephen Howes**, which David won 17-16. Sounds like a pretty close contest. Well done, that man!

And entries are now open for the Gold Division championship, for those on handicaps from 5 to 8 (or higher, if you feel like having a go!)



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## Editorial

Your editor has returned safely from his European peregrinations, and was full of vim and vigour until he first sat down to tap all this out, at which point a serious dose of lassitude promptly set in.

The condition was exacerbated when, in casual conversation with a club member, it became apparent that not everyone reads the latest *Newsletter* from start to finish the moment they receive the e-mail advice that it is available on the website. What!! How could that be!

Consolation can always be found, however, in recalling that we have readers everywhere for whom life is made bearable only by their monthly fix from this source (along with the occasional game of croquet, of course).

And the return to Cammeray was made all the more pleasurable by the discovery that, even though we have not had any rain for all the time your correspondent has been away, the lawns are still playing magnificently. Then of course there is the customary winter riot of colour along the western boundary ...



*Comment on this issue, or contributions for future issues, can be sent to the editor: Michael Strickland*  
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## More New Members



**Evelyn Humpherson** grew up in Newcastle NSW, and was destined for great things until she fell for the charms of a dashing young RAF officer on exchange at RAAF Williamstown.

From there she entered the murky world of social croquet at RAF bases around the globe. But in the late 1990s, she decided to take the game more seriously, and joined Chatswood, where she became President (a position

which Ron took over from her).

A move of house some ten years ago, led them both to join Mosman, where she was playing until recently, when the allure of Cammeray proved just too strong.

**Werner Kos** grew up near Salzburg in Austria, but left in 1962, making his way to Australia by the 'scenic route' - Guernsey, Bermuda, California, and Hawaii - before making landfall here in 1965.



He returned to Europe a couple of years later, but finally settled back here in 1972, and working in the hospitality industry, he managed food and beverages with such success that he was able to retire young, and turn to golf and bowls.

But the view from Coogee Bowling Club took in the Croquet Club, which piqued his interest. And there he met Rob Elliott who suggested that Cammeray was in fact the place to go ....

## House and Grounds

In case you haven't noticed, we now have a new water dispenser, or 'bubbler', on the fence at the western end of the grounds, between the two lawns. Adjacent to this is a tap for filling jugs or water bottles.



North Sydney Council has also kindly installed a self-closing gate at the Park Avenue entrance, and we are waiting for the same to be installed at the Ernest Street entrance, after which we can tidy up the step there which is in a state of disrepair.

There will always be work to be done, and improvements which can be made, but every little step on the way affords its own measure of satisfaction!

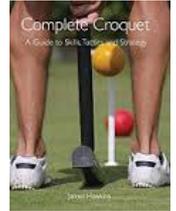
## Reminders

**On Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September**, from 10.00am to 2.00pm, we shall be holding another 'New members Day' – a social gathering offering some fun and games, including a light lunch, and a chance for longer standing members to meet more recently joined members (and *vice versa*).

And a date has also been set for the **Club Christmas Party** and presentation of trophies (which this year will incorporate our annual charity effort). Make a note of: **Sunday afternoon, 2<sup>nd</sup> December**.

## Aunt Emma and the 'squeeze' ...

The following notes draw on a work which we have often had recourse to in the past, and which we highly recommend – James Hawkins' *Complete Croquet* – published in the UK by Crowood Press.



On this subject, Hawkins writes:

*Nobody knows who the original Aunt Emma was, or indeed whether there ever was such a person. Her technique of unadventurous and destructive play has certainly been around for more than a century, however.*

*The formula for Aunt Emma play is simple: split the opponent balls, and join up.*

Nothing wrong with this as a principle, but when it takes priority over making hoops ... the game becomes rather less than fulfilling.

What Hawkins recommends as a first step is for Auntie to attempt a 'squeeze leave'.

This involves splitting up the opponent's balls – *but with a purpose* – sending one of them to each of your own next two hoops. And then not just joining up your own balls at a distance from your opponent's – *but setting a rush* – which will get you going next time whatever your opponent does.

It also involves overcoming any lingering fear of making a hoop off an opponent's ball!

## One more thing ...



Pictured left is the sad sight which greeted us the other morning. A lovely new peg cruelly split by a moment's thoughtlessness.

How difficult would it have been to remove the peg extension first!



No, no, no ...



... yes!!