



# Cammeray Croquet Club



## NEWSLETTER

## June 2018

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

### The 2018 Cammeray Birthday Tournament

This year's event was played early in May – just as the weather decided to skip autumn and head into winter. In fact, we experienced almost every meteorological condition, from glorious sunshine to howling wind and rain.

Interestingly, the lower handicap players were generally given a lesson in the game by the higher handicappers.

**Tim Woolford-Smith** (handicap 7) managed to win three straight games, before losing to Chatswood's Gerard Barry (9). But he then peeled off two more wins, before again losing to Gerard, and dropping out of contention.



The Maureen Cope Trophy

And **Marg O'Brien** (11) rattled up four straight wins, before also succumbing to Gerard. But she too managed a further a couple of wins to give herself a re-match, which sadly also resulted in a loss.

In the meantime, **Ian Lucas** (11) had won *six* consecutive games (including a win against our friend from Chatswood!) to put himself straight into the final. There he was ultimately joined by Gerard, who had done it the hard way – having to win a further two games after his earlier loss to Ian.

The final, played in pretty miserable conditions, but watched by a modest crowd (who crammed into the clubhouse for warmth and sustenance, and some little refreshment) was disappointing from Gerard's point of view. He never really got going, and Ian was able to extend his winning streak to seven, leading 19 - 7 at the finish.



Steve Marton Manly CC (Winner of Plate)	Ian Lucas Winner of Maureen Cope Trophy	Gerard Barry Chatswood CC (Runner-up)
---	---	---

In recognition of the magnificent generosity of club member **Maureen Cope** in providing prize-money (which must now run into thousands of dollars) over the past several years of this competition, the trophy awarded to the winner has now been named the *Maureen Cope Trophy*.

### In this issue ...

- The Birthday Tournament
- NSW Men's Singles
- Club Championship
- Club Handicap Competition
- New Members
- Corrigendum

### Editorial

You may have noticed that the adjoining column is pretty much given over to last month's Birthday Tournament. And you will have gathered that the winner's trophy has now been named *The Maureen Cope Trophy* in recognition of Maureen's extraordinary generosity in recent years – which continues unabated.

But space did not allow further comment, so we take this opportunity to mention that Maureen remains our longest-standing member – having joined more than forty years ago – and despite some infirmity which prevents her actually getting to the Club these days, she still takes a very keen interest in what is happening – as diligently read or recounted to her by Mal Russell.



And we conclude this month's editorial comment with an invitation to you to regard Wednesday afternoons (from 2.00pm) and Saturday mornings (from 10.00am) as an opportunity to get some help with your game. Apart from 'beginner lessons', and 'supervised play', we have people only too willing to offer guidance to anyone brave enough to ask. More of this in the future.

*Comment on this issue, or contributions for future issues, can be sent to the editor: Michael Strickland [stricko@ozemail.com.au](mailto:stricko@ozemail.com.au)*

## CNSW Mens Open Singles

Played at Tempe over the weekend following the Birthday Tournament, the field of ten included Cammeray members **Peter Landrebe, Alan Walsh, Mike Hughes, Rob Elliott, Steve Miles,** and **Tim Woolford-Smith**. But this year's title was won by Tim Murphy from Canberra, who beat Rob Elliott in the final. And Peter Landrebe won the third-place final against Alan Honey.

## Cammeray Club Championship 2018

This year's Club Championship has been won by Rob Elliott, who beat Alan Walsh in a 'best of three' final: 26-4, 0-26, and 26-3. Both players peeled the odd hoop, but neither managed to complete a triple. Well done, Rob!



## Club Handicap Competition

And this year's handicap event was also played through April and May, culminating in a final won (embarrassing to relate) by your correspondent, against an out-of-form **Sandra Colquhoun**, whose ten bisques proved insufficient on the day.

## New Members

It is very pleasing to report the addition of another two new members in recent weeks, whose enthusiasm for the game bodes well.



**Margaret Widjaya** was fascinated by what she saw on her regular walk along Ernest Street, and decided it was time to try something different.

Margaret grew up with sheep and wheat in south-west of the State, before university in Sydney, a serious corporate career, and twenty years of serious motherhood.

Sport has not featured much in her life to date, but determination is very evident.



**Mira Moynihan**, on the other hand, has had a long involvement in sport, including squash, tennis, and golf.

Margaret grew up in Perth, before moving to Melbourne to indulge a passion for ancient history at University there. The move to Sydney came five years ago, spurred by a yen to spend more time with grandchildren here.

And she is hoping that croquet will not take quite the same toll on her body as her previous sporting activities.

## Corrigendum ...

It seems there is nothing to correct this month! ... unless we count our failure to thank **Jan Thomas** and **Sandra Colquhoun**, who deputised for **Marg O'Brien** while she was on extended travel leave recently, and ensured that housekeeping standards were maintained. We didn't run out of coffee (or anything less important, for that matter) so we rate their efforts highly successful. And they earn the writer's personal thanks.

## More thoughts on the game we play ...

**Juan Roberson** wrote last month about his relief that Croquet seemed unaffected by the worst of the bad behaviour apparent in so much sport today, citing the recent 'ball-tampering' episode in cricket as just the latest example.

After exploring several imaginative (but quite possible) opportunities for similar misbehaviour in Croquet, he concluded by saying that the senior player he asked about the incidence of such turpitude at the upper levels of the game was quite dismissive.

Clearly he didn't ask **Mike Hughes**, who has responded ...

"There are a number of stories (believed to be true) of Australian players who have caused rule changes by behaving not quite as English gentlemen (think convicts).

1. The rule used to be that if a fault was committed the balls *had* to be returned to their original positions. One player is believed to have called a fault on himself, in the event of failing a hoop, if the position in which the ball came to rest was more advantageous to his opponent. Now the opponent has choice.
2. The rule that a break had to be completed with the one mallet was introduced after a player used to carry a tiny mallet in his pocket – when hampered in a hoop the tiny mallet came in very useful!
3. Nowadays a croquet shot requires the striker's ball to be in contact with the ground. An enterprising player who had to take croquet from a ball in a hoop and wanted to leave that ball behind managed to balance the striker's ball on the ball in the hoop, and hit it out of "mid-air".

Thank you, Mike.

## And coming events ...

You can download the full Schedule from: <http://www.cammeray-croquet.org.au/pdfs/2018Events.pdf>

But, of immediate interest might be the CNSW Pennants Competition which started just last week, and offers the first meeting of the two Cammeray Silver teams this coming Tuesday morning, 12<sup>th</sup> June.