



Cammeray Croquet Club



NEWSLETTER

November 2018

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

Sydney Premier League Finals Thursday 15th November – 5.00pm

After several Thursday evenings of terrific entertainment, both on the lawn and in the clubhouse, we have arrived at the serious end of the Competition.

The semi-finals, this week, will feature **Peter Landrebe** playing **Rob Elliott** on Court 2, with **Alison Sharpe** playing **Rosie Landrebe** on Court 1. Then at 7.30pm, the winners of the semi-finals will play the final on Court 1, and the losers will play off for 3rd place on Court 2.



Refreshments are available, but dinner (\$10) is limited, and it pays to be early in placing an order. After last week's Thai Beef Salad, we can expect a rush. This week's menu has yet to be divulged, but **Sue Eldridge-Smith's** culinary skills show no sign of flagging!!

Club Xmas Party and Presentation Sunday 2nd December – 1.00pm

Our annual get-together and presentation of trophies and awards will this year include a buffet lunch, for which we plan to sit down at 1.30pm. But you are cordially invited to come along to the club from one o'clock, to allow time for some 'enhancement of the tastebuds' (not to mention 'adjustment of attitude').

More details can be found on the Club website. The cost is \$25 including wine. Payment can be left at the clubhouse, or better deposited in the club bank acct: **BSB 484-799 Acct: 169786996** (Please enter as a reference 'Xmas' followed by your name.)

House and Grounds

The Spring 'working bee' saw huge progress made with the tasks we had set ourselves, and it is pleasing to be able to report that, with the benefit of that terrific start, all the planned work has now been finished.

The more observant may also have noticed that the Golf Croquet colour boards (indicating the order of balls) have been returned (freshly painted) to the fence at the skate-park end of the lawns, the outdoor table under the olive trees has been repaired and re-painted – and has spawned an addition (see pic!) – and the door to the little shed has at last been painted.



Marg O'Brien & Bev Westwood ... awaiting some table service.

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Editorial

We have changed things around this month. Results have been pushed over onto the next page, and this page addresses some of the more current events at Cammeray.

Top of the list is the 2018 Sydney Premier League. The new format and timing of the competition has proved a great success – popular with players and spectators. We have enjoyed some delightful evenings of good croquet and splendid hospitality. This Thursday is your last chance (this year) to see for yourself. I hope you may be able to join us.

And coming up very shortly, we have our annual Xmas Party and trophy presentation, which this year takes the form of a buffet lunch. See the piece in the column to the left.



Apart from anything else, either of these occasions will give you a chance to step back and admire the work that has been done around the place in recent weeks. It really is starting to come together, and we have some very willing club members to thank for it.

Comment on this issue, or contributions for future issues, can be sent to the editor:

Michael Strickland

stricko@ozemail.com.au

The 2018 'Tempe Open'

Held (as might be expected) at Tempe, and over the last weekend of October, this event is played to 'super-advanced' rules, involving the giving of a lift after running any of Hoop 4, One-back, or Four-back. And if all three lift hoops are run before partner ball has conceded a Hoop 4 lift, then the opponent has a 'free placement', meaning that he or she may lift and play their ball from any unoccupied position on the lawn, including within the yard line



– giving them a guaranteed rush.



The competition was won impressively by Callum Hyland from Tasmania (he of the multi-coloured jumpsuits seen in the Dixon Advisory Classic), but Cammeray's **Alan Walsh** and **Rob Elliott** both had three good wins.

The 2018 NSW Open

Played at Tempe over the first weekend of November, this year's NSW AC Open saw **Peter Landrebe** once again prove how consistently good he can be.

In a field which included three other Cammeray members – **Mike Hughes**, **Rob Elliott**, and **Alan Walsh** – Peter breezed through the 'round-robin' series, winning six matches out of seven, before winning a semi-final against the only player to have beaten him (Alan Honey of Canberra) and the final against Rob Elliott. Congratulations again, Pete!



Alan Walsh was runner-up in the Plate Competition.

Club Division Championships

The winners of the two blocks in the Bronze Division, **Sandra Colquhoun** and **Sue Nicholas**, played a final match last week, which Sandra won 14-10. Well done, Sandra!

The Silver Division championship is currently underway.



The 2018 Mosman Prize for GC



Cammeray members, **Steve Miles**, **Sue Nichols**, and **Werner Kos**, played in this year's event. Steve managed to win his block, but promptly lost the first of his knock-out matches, and really it was left to **Stephen Howes** and your correspondent to uphold the honour of the Club – doing an absolutely magnificent job of refereeing!

And a final reminder of the annual ...

CNSW Presentation Lunch

On Saturday 8th December, we troop out to Tempe again for the annual lunch and presentaion to winners of this year's NSW competitions. See the **CNSW** website for details.

Juan Roberson

Sadly for Cammeray, Juan is relocating his household, including Osca the cat, to Leura in the Blue Mountains, and will be leaving the club. We wish him well, and for those who may not be familiar with his illustrious career, we offer the following ...



... it seems that Juan got into croquet by way of a ladies' finishing school in Oxford. [One might be more impressed if he had got into a ladies' finishing school by way of croquet, but it still makes for an interesting start, and one which few of us can match.]

Despite the name, Juan is of English stock. He grew up and was schooled in North London, before making his way to Oxford, where he read PPE (politics, philosophy, and economics). Subsequently training as a Chartered Accountant, and collecting an MBA in France, he became the perfect candidate for a career in banking – at a time when that was not a dirty word. Ten years later he had progressed to an international corporate career, finally settling in Australia where his only sibling had chosen to live.

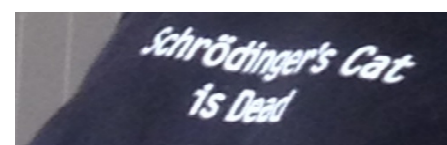
Interest in the game had waned somewhat over the decades since his acquaintance with the ladies of Oxford, but after retirement, the flame must have been rekindled, and in 2010 he joined Cammeray.

He threw himself into the Club's activities with some gusto, winning the Beginners' Tournament in 2011, and a Hi/Lo competition in the same year, (partnered by Rosie Landrebe), followed by the Club Bronze Championship in 2012.

He had already been asked to act as honorary auditor, and joined the committee very early in the piece, rising to Vice-President by 2013, and playing a substantial role in the rewrite of the club's constitution.

Juan is an erudite, witty, and unfailingly interesting character. His coaching and mentoring skills have often been remarked on. And his friendly chats will be very much missed.

For the last word, we give you the tee-shirt he wore for his "exit interview" ...



... or is he alive as well? (Oh dear, Osca!)