

# North Adelaide Croquet Club

NORTH ADELAIDE  
CROQUET CLUB INC.



## Newsletter April- Augustb 2022

### From the Editors - Barry Elsey & Gayle Searle

Long ago, Harold Macmillan, a former British Prime Minister, once remarked that it was 'events' that spoiled the enjoyment of his job. On the contrary, it is events that characterise the energy and sense of purpose of the club in our common pursuit of croquet. Below is a brief overview of our successful management of two recent events.

Over the late autumn and winter period we saw the courts covered in heavy rain and, briefly, a light dusting of hail, but the show went on. We entertained Norwood in the annual Northwood friendly, ploughing our way through puddles that had covered large parts of court two and affected play on the others as well. The spirit was amazing as both sides cheerfully accepted the intervention of Nature and played on, with the compensation of a splendid lunch prepared and served by numerous club volunteers. It spoke volumes about the wonderful collaboration of most club members as we pulled together and even emerged clear winners of a memorable day, clearly enjoyed by our friends from Norwood CC too.

Another significant event was the gala day, which attracted players from other clubs and earned much praise from those that attended for the friendly way we managed playing matches, again complemented with excellent food and hospitality by the army of club volunteers. We certainly earn our reputation for being a user-friendly club. Sue writes further about these and other events further in the newsletter.

We continue to strive at SACA pennant competitions and approach each encounter with other clubs in a 'can do' spirit, despite having absences of regular players through injury, post-operative recovery, family crisis and other valid reasons which can create a challenge at times for Captains to find reserves. The club executive committee will no doubt consider the matter further.

Training for competition matches has developed steadily in recent months, inspired by Noel and Jim and others. To have a sporting chance of winning pennant competitions the club must take seriously its performance capabilities. We should all recognise the 'room for improvement' that is within us when we play other clubs, equally keen to triumph. The club has not embraced a performance-based approach to team selection, preferring instead to field whoever is available. Much depends on how much club members wish to invest in the training and preparation that supports serious competition.

Not every club member wants to play competitions and we must ensure we keep a balance with croquet as a mainly recreational, relaxing social activity. With that in mind the committee has formed a social activities group, bringing together a core of members willing to devote time and energy, experience and skills in hospitality services that provide the much-valued extra dimension to club spirit and enjoyment. The group will work as a team to support our various social activities and no doubt seek whatever 'room for improvement' we can identify going forward.

In addition to brief reports and pics that capture some highlights of recent events please read the short description of the model railway club that are welcome tenants of the old clubhouse. Only the smallest club members can get a ride, but maybe expect delays!

**Barry**

## Association Croquet News – Roger Harris

### NACC AC Teams 2022

AC teams have been registered for:

**Weekend Pennants:** Div. 2, Div. 3 and Div. 4.

To be able to field a Div. 4 team, David Sincock (Coromandel Valley) and Karen Magee (Brighton) have signed Clearance Forms to enable them to play Div. 4 for North Adelaide through this year.

### Dates for North Adelaide Games 2022

Dates for the North Adelaide Games 2022 have been cleared with Di Helier (SACA Events Coordinator) and Roger Buddle (SACA AC Director), entered into the SACA Events Calendar by Peter Martyniuk (SACA Calendar Coordinator) and written into our NACC Diary.

North Adelaide Games AC Swiss Handicap Singles: 16-18 November 2022

North Adelaide Games AC Invitational Singles: 26-27 November 2022

## Notes from the Badger and Mallet



What a great year it has been for your bar ( the proof is in the financial statement for the club).

The BaM, goes from strength to strength with club support at all levels and is now in its Tenth year.

Need to harden those arteries - the BaM now sells Salted Peanuts - just the thing to build a winter thirst! Hint - Irish Whiskey

A Thought!

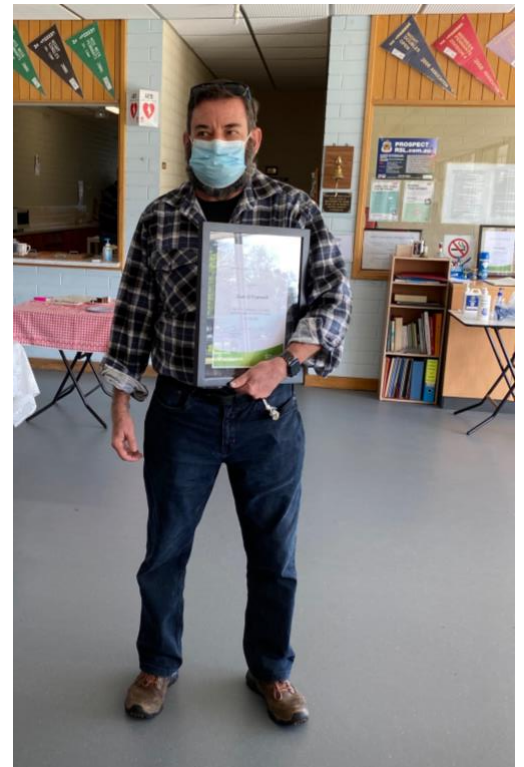
Maybe Brussel sprouts don't like you either!

*Cheers BaM , your bar, your club.*

## The Prospect Council Community Volunteer Award 2022

### Dan O'Connell

Dan was nominated by the North Adelaide Club Management Committee in recognition of all the many hours Dan volunteers to support our Club. He manages our Badger & Mallet Bar with precision and pride. His endearing personality & wit is always appreciated. Thank you, Dan, for all the work you do for the Club.



[NACC Gala Day 2022](#)

On Friday 29/4/22 we held our annual Gala Day. Many club members committed their time and support to manage this event. Some spent time outside organising the lawns and making sure that games ran on time. Some managed the money, the raffle ticket selling and the Bar. A band of very dedicated helpers provided a delicious lunch for over 40 people. Hot homemade soup, **Muratti Quiches** and salads, and a choice of desserts filled everyone up to the brim. It was a great way to showcase the level of volunteering at our club and the skills and talents of a great many. Thank You so much to everyone who helped on the day, gave cash donations or collected prizes for the Raffle. We raised over \$1,200 for our club.

Sue Le Poidevin



## Northwood



## Friendlies 2022

On **Sunday 5/6/22** our players competed against the **Norwood Croquet Club** in an annual competition which has been running for many years. We alternate the hosting duties and this year it was our turn to host.

Both teams had 16 players (determined from those players who compete regularly in SACA competitions) and were graded from Open to 9+ in sub teams of 4.

The 10am start was freezing!!! The expected temperature for the day was only expected to peak at 12 degrees. All players rugged up in wet weather gear and prepared for the worst. There were a lot of showers and some quite heavy rain but we ploughed on stoically.

Our persistence payed off because we won in magnificent fashion **with a score of 16-6.**

Our win was enhanced by the terrific lunch that was served between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> games. On the Menu was home made soup, quiche and salad and pavlova. **Our TEAM of Libby, Jane, Jocelyn and Ann** did an outstanding job including setting up our dining area to look very stylish. It was a very successful day.





Winning Team North Adelaide.



# ***DECCA MRG - background***

## *Digital Experimental Command Control Australia – Model Rail Group*

In the period of 1998 – 2000 a group of like-minded Model Railway Enthusiasts got together with the advent of Digital Command Control. Together they formed a group and named it DECCA(see above).

Most of the members purchased a LENZ DCC system and set about altering their layouts to accommodate the new system. The members installed DCC Chips into their locomotives enabling them to run their trains with their DCC systems.

One of the Clubs aims was to promote the DCC concept to other Model Railway Enthusiasts. Initially there was some opposition to our aims, but as the years passed and with the ever - evolving DCC improvements, especially with decoders incorporating improved running, sound and lighting functions more and more Model Railway enthusiasts turned to DCC operation.

The members would meet at homes as we did not have the financial resources required to establish a Clubroom. Initially, and for several years the Club numbered over 20 members but now has a current membership of 10 members and hoping to expand this number in the coming year.

DECCA MRG has exhibited their continually evolving Club Layout over many years at the annual Adelaide Model Railway Exhibition. DECCA MRG has held many workshops and tutorials for Club members covering a large amount of Model Railway topics as the Club endeavours to help members achieve their goals regarding DCC operations and building their own DCC layouts.

DECCA has gone through several metamorphoses over the years and the Club has had several changes of members over the past 24 years and is now known as DECCA MRG (DECCA MRG, Digital Experimental Command Control Australia Model Railway Group) .

In 2021 DECCA managed to acquire Clubrooms situated in the North Adelaide Croquet Club complex situated at 8 Menzies Crescent, Prospect, SA. This is a major transformation for our Club and will hopefully result in increased membership as we move forward with our endeavours for the future improvement of our DECCA MRG Club and future development of our Club. We are currently updating our Club Layout wiring including the installation of working signals and an operating Faller road system.

We meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month commencing at 10.00 am with workshops, lunch break, Club meeting and running session, after upgrade of our layout. The Club will hopefully soon have running sessions whereby members will be able to bring their locomotives and run them on the Club Layout.



## ***North Adelaide Croquet Club – Model Train Open Day***

North Adelaide Croquet club members were invited to a special display of the model train layout residing in the Western Clubrooms at NACC.

**Date:** Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 2022 **Time:** 10.00am to 2.30pm

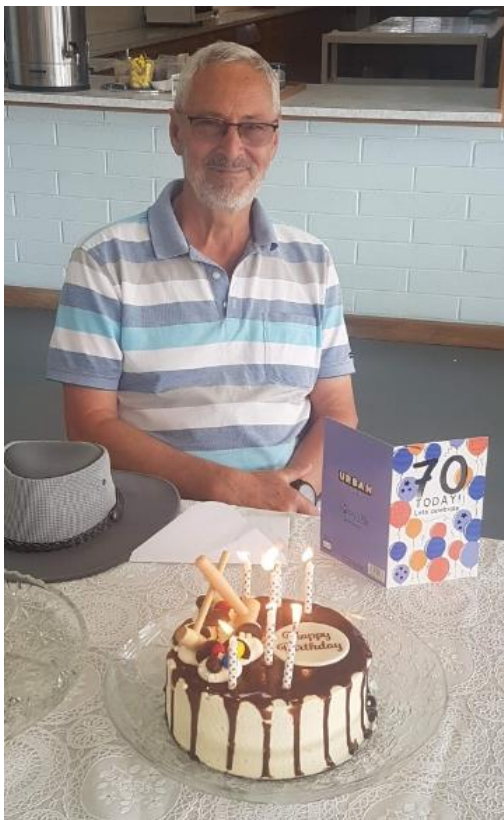
The Open Day was a great opportunity to see the model trains in action on the intricate track layouts and carefully crafted environments through which the trains travel. Our original Prospect Croquet Clubrooms are now the home for this model train group and it is proving to be an ideal location for all. Many thanks to the group for the opportunity to view their model trains and to also enjoy a sausage sizzle, buy some delicious cakes and even purchase a plant or two from their trading table.

Happy Birthday to three people who turned 70 & 90 respectively this month.



80

**Jon Kirwin**



**Iain Fraser**

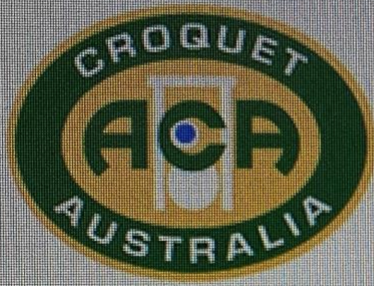
**Gai Tout**



**Kath**  
**Depasquali**







# AUSTRALIAN GOLF CROQUET CHAMPIONSHIPS 2022

*Adelaide, South Australia  
7th–18th September*

North Adelaide Croquet Club is one of four other Croquet Clubs together with SACA Hutt Rd, to be hosting players competing in the Championship. There will be 51 women and 48 men playing in this event so it is a great opportunity to come to the Club to watch Australia's best players.

Come along to see GC players in action competing at our Club from **10<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> September for Men's & Women's Singles** then **14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> September Interstate Shield event**. Finals will be held at Hutt Rd 18<sup>th</sup> September

