

**N. A. C. C.**



## *Croquet Chronicles*

August 2024

### Message from our President

Having survived my first month as President of the Club I am beginning to breathe a little easier but know that there is much work to be done. Many thanks to all the members who have stepped up and volunteered to take on the many roles within the Club that help keep everything running smoothly. It is a wonderful team effort which is truly appreciated. Our new Secretary, Marianne is up and running with great enthusiasm continuing the smooth running of the Committee and administration of the Club. Chris, our Vice President, has been very busy last year developing a Club Sponsorship Proposal document which was used successfully in gaining a new Sponsor for our Club. Many thanks to Chris for this work and setting up a process with which we can operate. There is a continuing need however, to seek many more sponsors, to enable us to achieve the necessary continuing future of our Club, so please consider who you may suggest or approach with our sponsorship proposals. A copy of this document will be available in the clubrooms.

Our new sponsor is **Ivan Butler Family Funeral Directors**. Michael Butler is the Managing Director, and also son in law of our member Libby Doepke. On Saturday August 17<sup>th</sup> Michael and his wife Rachael were able to join us for our sausage sizzle lunch and had a chance to meet and chat with members. It was a great opportunity for us to welcome and thank them for their generous offer to become sponsors for the Club. Signage and publicity options are in the process of being completed so that we can acknowledge our sponsors. We look forward to having Rachael and Michael return for social events and possibly joining in social play evenings.

Safety and welfare of our members and visitors to our Club is one focus of direction for me at present, guided by the requirements of Occupation Health Safety & Welfare (OHSW) guidelines. Pam and Evelyn, our OHS&W officers are my advisors

so together this focus will be updated and improvements made where necessary. Please keep us informed regarding any issues and we will also keep you updated on what needs to be addressed.

Social Committee continues to plan and provide a wonderful array of gatherings for us to enjoy and creates the welcoming friendly environment that makes our Club special. Many thanks to Mary and the Team. We look forward to more enjoyable events ahead.

Spring Pennant season competition is about to begin again so Jim and Roger our Croquet Captains, have been busy organising teams and dates for play. Great to see that we will have a GC Open team again this season. We completed a successful Autumn season so good luck to all for continuing success in the Spring Pennants.

Delightfully North Adelaide Croquet Club also have a significant number of skilful social players who enjoy attending our Tuesday and Saturday sessions. As the weather has improved of late it has been wonderful to see all courts full with members enjoying playing together. Occasional whoops of joy as jumps are made or a difficult roquet is achieved, are fun to hear as enjoyment of the game is experienced all round. We will ignore the sounds of frustration when that ball just won't go through the hoop!!

Many more events and procedures are to come and I look towards all North Adelaide Croquet Club members working together in support of your Committee as we continue to develop and maintain our important sporting asset that is part of the Prospect Council's proposed New Lifestyle Precinct.

Gayle Searle

## AC News

**CROQUET SA**  
**AC WEEKEND PENNANTS SCORE CARD**

Date: 1/6/2024 Division: 3			Time: 11:30 Lawn: 2		
Duty: Team 1 Manage <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			Duty: Team 2 Manage <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kitchen <input type="checkbox"/>		
TEAM 1: NORTH ADELAIDE			TEAM 2: NORWOOD		
Player	H/cap	Score	Player	H/cap	Score
1 RAY WALTER	11	20	1 JOAN KELLY	7	10
2 ROGER HARRIS	12		2 KEVIN LE POIDEVIN	9	
3 LYN BOOTH	12	9	3 JEFF BRIGHAM	14	6
4 BARBARA STANLEY	12		4 PETER WOODWARD	16	
Total Hoops		29	Total Hoops		16
Total Games		2	Total Games		0

Match won by: North Adelaide Signature: [Signature]  
Signature: [Signature]

Our three AC teams continue to compete well in the SACA Pennants. The playing program is about halfway through and will finish in November.

The Division 4 squad are progressing well. They are all enjoying the experience of a new challenge, though undoubtedly feeling a little frustrated at times! Well done to all of them - Carolyn Fraser, Chris Dalzell, Ev. Dalzell, Laura Eden, 'JJ' Jago, Barry Elsey and Glenda Kelly, and ably captained (now that her operation is over) by Norma Greig. Special thanks to Glenda - who said she was 'retiring' from competition at the end of last year, but has been able to be cajoled back to play a few games so that we could field a team - old AC players never retire, they just keep rolling!

In the recent AC Division 2 (2.5+) Singles at SACA on 2-4 July, Russell Kopp came a very creditable 3<sup>rd</sup> in this tournament out of 10 players. He won 5 of his 9 games. Congratulations, Russell.

With much sadness, we acknowledge the recent passing of Iain Fraser. Our condolences go to Carolyn, one of our AC players. Iain was the first President of the newly-formed NACC in 2002 and until a few years ago, one of our keen AC players, and was made a Life Member in November 2021.

**Roger Harris, AC Captain**

## Golf Croquet News

### GC Spring Pennants Teams

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Open Team</b> Commencing 19<sup>th</sup> September Thursdays 7pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>24+ Team</b> Commencing 9 September Hutt Rd., - Mondays 9:45am or 1pm</p>
<p>Norma Greig (Captain) David Stumm (Vice-Captain) Chris Dalzell Manoli Flouras</p> <p><u>Reserves</u> William Pennino Jim Carter Karen Tierney Gayle Searle</p>	<p>Karen Tierney (Captain) Jim Carter (Vice-Captain) Jon Kirwan Gayle Searle Peter Swalling Marianne Maycock Robin Golding</p> <p><u>Reserve</u> Chris Dalzell</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>5+ Team</b> Commencing 18 September Wednesdays 7:00pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>9+ Team</b> Commencing 19 September Thursdays 1pm</p>
<p>Gayle Searle (Captain) Jim Carter (Vice-Captain) William Pennino Jon Kirwan Karen Tierney Peter Swalling Marianne Maycock Robin Golding Barry Eley Lynn Hughes</p>	<p>Phil Burford (Captain) Wendy Carter (Vice-Captain) Claire Royal Janice Lis Elizabeth Freda</p> <p><u>Reserves</u> Dee Marsh Eleanor Barnard Tess Newton (Emergency Reserve)</p>

## Club News

Unfortunately July saw the sad passing of a long term club member in Vivienne Hayes. Barry Elsey has contributed the following obituary.

### **Fond farewell to Vivienne Haynes, a much-loved club member.**

Club membership brings to us all an opportunity to connect with others and form lasting and valuable friendship. It has nice surprises, too. Such was my experience with Vivienne Haynes over the past few years. Our connection came through university and how teaching and learning had enriched our lives. It was a short step to talking about family and life matters, and Viv had much to recount from the experience of a long life well lived caring for others.

It was obvious that she loved all her family members, but owing to my connection to the corporate world granddaughter Alex was often the prime topic. Our chats would always be about her rapid climb up the corporate ladder and how it impacted her private as well as professional life. Viv expressed both awe and admiration mixed with some anxiety at the demands of corporate life. Alex once told me that she always expected a 'granny lecture' if Viv was not amused or concerned.

For many years Vivienne's was a regular player but her visits to the club became sporadic as the physical restrictions of being well over 90 years took hold. Despite her condition Viv made every effort to attend the coffee break and chat to friends. It became our enjoyable habit afterwards for me to escort Viv to her car. She talked freely about her life ebbing away and hoped she could go quickly, preferably while asleep. Then she would laugh and after a warm hug drive off with a wave and smile. That was our last goodbye.

Special memories and moments flood back. The first was for Viv, in her best teaching voice, warning other club ladies to beware for "We don't know where he has been" expressed with another winning smile. We could banter and enjoy such carefree moments. The second was for Viv to witness my jump over an opposing ball, hit the ground and then fly through the hoop. I called out 'dam buster' whereas Viv promised to keep my brilliance to herself and not tell others! We laughed a lot. That was the nature of our friendship.

In more sombre mood, during the bleak times of last year Viv left a voice message on my phone pleading with me not to leave the club. It was true friendship and showed care and concern. Thank you, Viv for gracing my life and what you have done for other club members over many years. You were loved and will be missed, but your warmth, wit, sharp mind and sense of humour continues to sustain the best spirit of the club.

Further sad news was the passing of the club's inaugural President and Life Member, Iain Fraser.



Iain Fraser pictured with Roger Harris receiving his Life Membership.

Iain was a founder member of Prospect Croquet Club when Fitzroy Croquet Club amalgamated with Prospect to become North Adelaide Croquet Club in 2002. Iain served as the first President of the new Club and served in the role for the first three years. Iain then took on the role of Club Captain in 2006/07 before stepping back into the President's role in 2009/10.

Iain was a co-sponsor of the inaugural North Adelaide Croquet Games an association croquet tournament held at our club annually.

Iain was an AC player who, while on management committee, supported the upgrading of the lawns to a standard that interstate AC players have praised. Our lawns remain the envy of many other clubs as this high standard of maintenance has continued with subsequent lawns groundsmen. Iain was proud to ensure the ground was dressed and the flags were correctly flown for the duration of tournaments. Iain supported all fundraising efforts at the club with the Prospect Fair, sausage sizzles, recycling cans & bottles. Iain was a certified Coach for AC and regularly invited people to come & try croquet encouraging them to consider taking up the game he loved to play. AC achievements included; 2001 Div 4 Champion, 2004 Div 3 Men's Champion of Champions, and 2004 Handicap champion. Unfortunately, an accident resulted in an injury that prevented Iain from competing in any further competitions but he continued to play AC socially at the Club. Iain has been a loyal member of NACC, and acknowledges the strong fellowship which has always been and continues to be an important aspect of North Adelaide Croquet Club.

Rest in peace Iain.





Members please note the installation of the above signage, the purpose of this space is for those very senior members and those who require walking aids. Because of our small carpark the committee asks that parking spaces be left for those members that are a little less spritely on their feet and for functions where deliveries have to be made.

There should also be a space available at all times for the Vice-Presidential Limousine and accompanying entourage.

On a happier note we recently saw a special birthday celebration for Pam Miller.

HAPPY



BIRTHDAY Pam!

## From the Past

by Roger Harris

*"The more I study history, the more I realise how little mankind has changed. There are no new scripts, just different actors."* (Richard Evans, American author, 1962- )

This quote seems particularly apt for our croquet club today! Let me explain. I perused the early newspapers on the Fitzroy Croquet Club, one of our two Club predecessors when NACC was formed in 2022. The earliest references I found were in November 1911, in columns enticingly entitled "Society Gossip"! The Fitzroy Croquet Lawn evidently existed by then, as the opening was to take place "on their green ... near the North Main-road, between the Caledonian Hotel, North Adelaide, and Robe-terrace, on November 17".

I quote verbatim the report of the Fitzroy Croquet Club opening their "new ground":

... which is situated in that portion of the parklands between Barton-terrace and Robe-terrace, the Enfield tram passing the entrance. The lovely green Lawns look particularly refreshing in such a parched surrounding, and a pretty little teahouse has been erected in one corner for afternoon accessories. There was a very large gathering on Friday afternoon in spite of the heat, and there were representatives from all other clubs. Several exciting competitions were arranged which made it interesting for the onlookers.

There followed a lengthy description of what the players were wearing! I quote it to illustrate what was apparently more important at that time than the croquet:

Mrs. Shanasy, the club's hon. secretary, was becomingly gowned in blue and white striped voile, with piping of navy blue, large black hat with pink roses and foliage. Mrs. T. Davey, handsomely embroidered white linen, and mole-colored wide-brimmed hat with cluster of crimson carnations on the left side. Mrs. Crase, in heliotrope and white striped silk, and black hat. Mrs. T. Tolley, white embroidered muslin frock, and putty-colored straw hat with reseda trimming. Mrs. J. Rankin in becoming toilette of slate-grey corded silk, and black plumed hat. Mrs. Cannaway, in white coat and skirt, and hat with pink roses. Mrs. Bedford wore mole-coloured costume with touches of cerise hat en suite. Mrs. Sims, in cream silk, with overdress of cream net lace, and cream hat with lace crown and flowers. Mrs. A. Conrad, in electric blue silk with Paisley silk facings, black hat wreathed with flowers and foliage. Miss Baird looked pretty in black satin veiled in black fisher net, and black hat with wide flare of black tulle. Miss Jean Crawford, in smart fawn coat and skirt, hat to match trimmed with scarlet. Mrs. Rischbieth, vieux rose silk toilette, and black and white hat. Miss Agnes Smith, pretty white frock, and hat with pale blue. Mrs. Edward Kay, in white muslin, and white helmet. Others present were: Mrs. Mostyn Evans, Mrs. Hele, Mrs. and Miss Dowie. Miss Crawford, Mrs. Wilcox, Mrs. Frank Joyner, Miss Dawson, Miss Saunders. Miss Lucy Ayers, Miss Muecke. Mrs. S. Talbot Smith, Mrs. Colquhoun, Miss Brooker, Mrs. Alf Roberts, Mrs. and Miss Reid, Mrs. Clucas, and many others.



And after all that, "afternoon tea and strawberries and cream were daintily served at small tables, and Rago's String Band contributed all the popular airs". Notably, no mention was made of the croquet itself.

The following Wednesday, the weather was 102 degrees, though we are reminded that "enthusiastic players are indifferent to weather":

Mrs. I. Davey and Mrs. Shanasy gave an enjoyable croquet afternoon at the Fitzroy Croquet Club. Enthusiastic players are indifferent to weather, and everything was so beautifully arranged that even the onlookers failed to realise that it was 102 deg. Rago's Band contributed charming music, and the afternoon-tea was delicious.

Again, descriptions of clothing graced the report, but this time we are mercifully informed that "Mrs. P. Bollen and Miss Roberts both scored highest points". However, that was all the croquet news.

Jumping a couple of years, to 20 October 1913, the committee of the Fitzroy Croquet Club gave on "their picturesquely-situated grounds" a most enjoyable and successful croquet "at home", interestingly portrayed as "a pastime so beloved of womankind":

... on their picturesquely-situated grounds between North Adelaide and Fitzroy. The rains naturally affected the lawns, but a week or two of sunshine will put them in good condition for the pastime, so beloved of womankind. Several innovations have been made by the club, which is in a prosperous condition financially. The teahouse has been moved from the side of the lawn to a small square taken from the western side of the parklands, thus affording the spectators more space in the shelter of the high green hedge. The committee kindly provided a delicious afternoon tea. The table on which it was set out looked most attractive with its bowls of roses and dainty cakes, scones and sandwiches. Pleasant weather, pretty open surroundings, and delightful people to talk to, made the hours pass quickly for the onlookers, whilst the players enjoyed some exciting contests. The hostesses had worked hard for the success of the "at home" and their hospitable labors were appreciated by their guests.

So among the lovely green lawns, picturesquely-situated grounds, pretty little teahouse, attractive table settings, enjoyable croquet, exciting competitions, enthusiastic players indifferent to weather, lack of males, hardworking hostesses, afternoon teas, delightful people to talk to and the gossip, one might ask: what has changed today?

I leave that for you to ruminate over as you daintily sip your own cups of tea and coffee!



This reflects your editor's view of playing in the rain and to re-enforce this view I recount an interaction between myself and long standing member Joan Cahill.

I greeted Joan on her arrival at the club and commented that I hadn't seen her for a while. Joan's reply was, that it had been a bit wet of late and if she wants to get wet she'll have a shower.

## Rules

**Why are there rules in croquet?**

So we can have law'n order.

## From the Coaches

For the upcoming Spring Pennants season Golf Croquet coaching will be conducted on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday's of the month. You don't have to be a pennants player or aspiring pennants player to attend, this is open to any club member looking to improve their game.

For A/C coaching, ask Russell Kopp, he is a font of knowledge.

## THANKYOU TO OUR SPONSORS



**IVAN BUTLER**  
Family Funeral Directors

I'VE DECIDED TO GO with FAMILY

*Rachel, Michael and Thomas Butler*

Offices | Chapel | Function Room

26 O.G. Road, Klemzig | 8261 8211 All Hours  
[www.ivanbutlerfunerals.com.au](http://www.ivanbutlerfunerals.com.au)

AUSTRALIAN FUNERAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION



94 Main North Rd, Prospect SA 5082.  
Phone 08 8344 1046

## Committee

President	Gayle Searle
Vice-President	Chris Dalzell
Secretary	Marianne Maycock
Treasurer	Noel Spooner
Grounds Manager	William Pennino
AC Captain	Roger Harris
GC Captain	Jim Carter
AC Floor Member	Ray Walter
GC Floor Manager	Karen Tierney

Please send your newsletter contributions to Chris Dalzell  
[cdalzell59@iprimus.com.au](mailto:cdalzell59@iprimus.com.au)

or

alternately to

Ann Gill [mqrhire@bigpond.com](mailto:mqrhire@bigpond.com)

