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Tassie Tales

The magazine of the Tasmanian Croquet Association Inc.

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As we were going to press, Ian Smith the TCA president has been pleased to announce that IAN SCOTT has been awarded the

Australian Croquet Association's Meritorious Service Award for 2011-12. Congratulation Ian - you certainly deserve it after all your hard work in getting the Northern Tasmanian Croquet Centre developed at St. Leonards.



Ian Scott being presented with his medal by Greg Diprose, ACA Senior Vice-President.



From the President's Desk

That has to be one of the quickest seasons ever! By the time you receive this newsletter all competitions will have been completed except the State Golf Croquet Championships, Winter Wheeler Doubles and the State Team will be away in Perth contesting the Gold Medal Play off, Men's and Women's Championships and the Eire Cup for Interstate Teams. We wish our team all the best of luck and in particular Mick Wood for his play in the Gold Medal. The team has worked very hard in preparation for the Nationals and deserve to achieve better than ever before.

I was disappointed with the number of entries in the Open Doubles, contested in Launceston on the weekend of 3rd-4th March. Only one of the three events just managed to get the needed 4 pairs for a competition to be held. Event 4 and Event 12 had to be cancelled. The other competitions have been reasonably well subscribed in some cases but encouragement needs to be given to newcomers to have a go. It is all good fun so please consider it next season.

As this will be my last newsletter article before I step out of my position as President, I wish to encourage all members to consider nominating for some position on the TCA Executive. It is not onerous and past experience it not necessary. I wish also to thank all those who have given me support in so many ways, in particular Graeme Denehey (Mr Croquet) whose knowledge of the game and all matters to do with TCA and ACA is encyclopaedic.

The last event of the season will be a fun weekend at Sandy Bay Croquet Club on 19th and 20th May. There is a limit of 24 players so get your entries in early when we call for them. You enter as an individual. Players are ranked on handicaps then paired Hi with Lo. Pairs change each game. There is one low handicap winner and one high Handicap winner. Great fun Have a go!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I am still concerned that a few newcomers to the sport still find it difficult to accept that there are times when competitions will take precedence over social play. As far as possible games are scheduled so as not to clash with social days but sometimes it is not possible. That is the way it is. There are always plenty of lawns available elsewhere even if a competition has made some lawns unavailable. Get over it!

To all the hard working members of clubs who give so readily of their time to run clubs and events, provide nourishment during competitions, keep lawns in tip-top condition, set out lawns, referee, coach and generally keep our sport developing I say a BIG THANK YOU & KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.

To the outgoing Executive of the TCA I extend my thanks for all the time and effort you have put in to ensure everything ran smoothly.

To Liz (Competition Secretary) for all her hard work in organising events and for being an understanding wife when I was never home!!

Eire Cup Team

The Tasmanian Association Croquet Team is heading to Perth to play against other states in the Eire Cup commencing 21 March.

The Team is:

Ladies: Sue Beattie (coach), Claire Bamford,
Elaine Roomes and Kate Fox

Men: Mick Wood, Rob McAdam (Capt),
Bob Beattie and Callum Hyland.

The team has a lot of experience at Eire Cup level. We welcome back Kate who has returned to Tasmania after spending 3 or 4 years away. She was previously a regular team member. Callum and Mick are both playing for the second time, although it is a few years since Mick has competed at this level.

Each day in the Eire Cup we all play a doubles match and 2 singles matches. All are 3 hour games. We are generally exhausted by the time we return to our accommodation. For the last 10 years at least Tasmania has come last but I am optimistic that we can drag ourselves up the ladder a bit this year, although, no doubt, all the other teams will be trying to keep us down! Several team members are regularly completing triple peels with Callum and Mick each completing more than one in recent

competition play. If we can do that under the stress of top competition and unfamiliar lawns we will be well on the way to our best result of recent years.

Prior to the Eire Cup Mick will compete against other state winners for the ACA Gold (and Silver) Medals. He was the winner of the Tasmanian playoff for the Bronze medal late in 2011. He has continued his good form by winning the Tasmanian Open Championship and coming runner-up in the Tasmanian Classic. The Gold Medal starts on 14 March. We wish him well.

Between the end of the Gold Medal and the start of the Eire Cup all team members apart from Mick will compete in the Australian Mens and Ladies Open event. This is always a good tune-up for the Eire Cup.

Results from all these events are updated several times a day on the ACA website. There will be a link on the ACA Home Page. We encourage readers to check on our performance regularly.

Rob McAdam



2011 TCA Medals

In the Bronze Medal, Patsy Paine finished first in Pool A, followed by Fritha Neilsen and Susan Pearson. Pool B was won by Peter McCulloch from Daryl Jacobs and Kaye Jeffery. The final saw Peter beat Patsy 18-1.

In the Silver Medal, Don Clayton finished first in Block A, followed by Rex Potter and Henry Burbury. Block B was won by Hazel Newham from Sheena Sims and Jan Barnes. The final saw Hazel defeat Don 19-16.

In the Gold Medal Bob Bye was undefeated with 6 wins. In second place was Rob McAdam with 4 wins, and Claire Bamford just edging out Peter Rich for third place on point difference, both being on 3 wins.

In the Mens Medal Michael Wood was triumphant with 6 wins and only 1 loss. Three players had 5 wins, and points difference saw Rob McAdam finish second, followed by Bob Bye and then Callum Hyland.

The Ladies Medal was won by Elaine Roomes with 5 wins and just the 1 loss. Second was Claire Bamford, followed by Pam Hamilton, both on 4 wins.



2012 TCA Championships

In Event 1 (the Open Championship) Mick Wood (Eastern Shore) won the final 2 games to 1 after trailing Bob Bye 0-21 in the deciding final game.

Event 2 (the Mens Championship) was won by Bob Bye (Sandy Bay) on 5 wins from David Wise (South Australia) on 4 wins.

In the Ladies Championship (Event 3) held in February at Newtown, Sue Beattie (Kingston) was undefeated on 8 wins including a TP. In second place was Elaine Roomes on 6 wins.

The Open Handicap (Event 5) was won by Liz Smith (Eastern Shore) with 3 wins (+53 points) from Zoc Malceski (Kingston) with 3 wins (+19 points).

Event 6 (5-20 Championship) was won by Kate Fox (Eastern Shore) with 5 wins from Rex Potter (New Town) on 4 wins.

Event 7 (10-20 Championship) saw Ricki Barratt (Sandy Bay) defeat Peter McCulloch 26-4.

The 10-18 Handicap (Event 8) saw Sue Pearson (New Town) victorious on 5 wins from Heather Lovell (Kingston) on 4 wins.

Event 10 (the 18-20 Championship) was won by Daryl Jacobs (Eastern Shore) on 3 wins, from B. Stafford (Sandy Bay) on 2 wins.

Due to lack of entries, only one doubles championship was held, Event 9, the 9-20 Doubles. Liz Smith (Eastern Shore) and Bob Godfrey (St. Leonards) were undefeated on 3 wins. Runner-up was the Devonport pair of Patsy Paine and Joan Gill on 2 wins.

All grades Handicap Doubles

The Sandy Bay Club was delighted to host the All Grades Event (Event 13 of the Tasmanian Open Championships) on the 5th, 6th & 7th of February.

The winners were Pam Hamilton & Darrel Jacobs (Eastern Shore) and runners up Ian Smith & Graeme Keating (Eastern Shore).



*Daryl Jacobs sharing the spoils of victory
with his partner Pam Hamilton.*

A record number of 25pairs took part. These included two visitors from Noosa, one of whom started his croquet at Sandy Bay and three players from the north. Kingston entered seventeen players! A fantastic effort.

The format changed from a Plate to an improvised "Swiss" event allowing eliminated players to take part in as many games as they chose.

Fifty games were played over the three days which gave the whole event a great buzz and generally pleased the majority of participants.

The winners of the Swiss event were Patsy Paine (Devonport) and Connie Allison (Kingston). This was not the original partnership but nobody minded.

The runners up were Elizabeth Brinsdon & Sue Pearson (New Town).

What a great way to begin the Championships.

Peggy Roberts.



In the TCA Executive

In their January meeting the TCA Executive decided to bid for the 2013 AC Handicap as well as the GC handicap tournaments. (The same bid was made for 2012, with the GC event to be held at St. Leonards from 8-12 November. The AC event in October was awarded to Rich River.)

Rob McAdam was selected to be the TCA delegate at the ACA AGM to be held in Perth following the Eire Cup event. It was further decided to increase the subsidy for Eire Cup team members from the normal \$200 to \$300 per person.

Cecelia Stevenson has resigned as Promotions Officer due to personal reasons. The Executive decided not to fill the position until the TCA AGM on May 26th.

The AGM will be held at the Sandy Bay club., with the Annual Dinner that evening in the Harold Gregg Centre, as in past years.

Clubs have been advised regarding nominations for Executive positions. In particular, President Ian Smith will vacate his office as he has served the maximum term of three years.



Ricki Barratt interviews TCA President Ian Smith

This interview which took place in December last year was undertaken for the benefit of new members of Ricki's Sandy Bay club, but should be of interest to new members in all clubs.

R: What IS the TCA?

I: The TCA is formed of all the affiliated Croquet clubs in Tasmania and therefore consists of all affiliated club members. An executive from representatives of clubs comprising President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and a representative for the northern clubs (NRCC) is elected at the AGM.

The responsibility of the executive is to run the affairs of the TCA on behalf of its members.

R: As a member of my club, what does the TCA do for me?

I: The TCA represents Tasmania at the national level (ACA ...Australian Croquet Association). The ACA provides insurance, organizes national events and provides support for coaching and refereeing.

The TCA, through its sub-committees and nominated conveners such as Director of Coaching, Director of Refereeing, State

Handicapper and Competitions Convener, Selection Committees:

- runs competitions such as Pennants, Medals, Tas Open, Hi-lo and ACA Bronze for both Association and Golf croquet;
- organizes some guest coaches from interstate or intrastate, though most coaching is the responsibility of local clubs;
- organizes certification of coaches and referees. It sources Law booklets, referee and coaching materials;
- selects representative State teams.

R: How may I contribute to the affairs of the TCA?

I: Attend AGMs and discuss issues with experienced and influential club members and committee members (TCA or Club).

R: When I enter TCA competitions, where does my entry fee go?

I: The money goes to clubs for lawn hire and to winners as prize money. The TCA makes no profit out of it.

R: Will the TCA website give me up-to-date competition results and news of interest such as a member about to compete in an ACA or international event?

I: Hopefully, yes. The web site is only as good as the information which is given to the web mistress by members and competition conveners.

R: How can members access the TCA By-Laws and Rules?

I: These should be on the web site and certainly every club has a copy which should be readily available.

R: Is there any other information you would like members to know?

I: At the request of one club (Sandy Bay) it has been agreed that draft minutes of Executive Meetings will be forwarded so that clubs are aware of TCA business. They are draft only in that they are not confirmed until the next meeting.

The TCA is the Croquet Community of Tasmania. It is only as good as the interest shown by its members and the enthusiasm of the few dedicated people who are prepared to give their time and effort on members' behalf.

Point of Law

Nerida Taylor (ACA Executive Director) advises the following:

Players please note that ACA has agreed that for ACA Events, Law 35(b) Ball Jammed in Hoop, will be replaced with Law 53(b)(3). The ACA will include this as a condition in all ACA Events.

Law53(b)(3): If a player suspects that the outcome of a stroke he has just played was affected by a ball being in contact with both uprights of a hoop simultaneously, he is entitled to have the equipment checked and, if necessary, adjusted or replaced. If it is found that the ball does touch both uprights of that hoop on some axis, he may elect to replay the stroke, unless his turn has ended for another reason.

Summary:

If Law 53(b)(3) is advertised in the conditions of the tournament (which will be the case for ACA Events from now on) Law 53(b)(3) replaces Law 35(b). Under this law a player may elect to replay a stroke if his stroke was affected by a ball being in contact with both uprights of a hoop simultaneously – regardless of whether the ball remains jammed in the hoop at the end of the stroke or not.



Time to butt out!

From 1st March this year, it is illegal in Tasmania to smoke within 20 metres of competition, seating or marshalling areas at outdoor sportsgrounds while a sporting event is being conducted. This includes all sporting events, irrespective of the type of ground. It includes the period 30 minutes before and after the sporting event. It does not include informal or impromptu sporting activities.

10 YEARS ON

Ten years ago to the very day
I announce 'I'm taking up croquet,
it'll help to while the time away
as wrinkles deepen and hairs turn grey.'

My son said 'You deserve some fun
but at sport you've never been A1,
and while I know you're far from dumb
why choose a game so hard - so rum?'

But, of course, I joined at Sandy Bay,
a club with class and some cachet.
Tho' when they gave the whites away
I asked myself if I should stay.

Then people were so very nice,
they overflowed with free advice
on rolls and peels, a crush, a tice
but even all that would not suffice.

They told me there was nought to fear
with a pivot set up and a pioneer.
They said, 'You'll get it one day, dear,
it's simple stuff, we'll make it clear.'

Don't lift your head and don't sashay
'cause if you do you won't roquet.
Make sure you come here every day
and turn up early - you need foreplay.

Keep shoulders still and point your toes
It's all about vees and ratios,
a smooth attack and a stroke that flows.
You can learn it all from videos.

A take-off can be fine or thick
Which one to use - just take your pick,
be careful not to hit the stick
or your turn can be over mighty quick.

They persuaded me to do a split,
a term which made me flush a bit.
But all it takes is one good hit....
and now I rather savour it.

They said, 'If your opponent's fired
and you are down and feeling tired,
some sleight of hand is what's required
so nudge the ball and cry "I'm wired."'

And if, perchance, you should mis-hit
do not grimace and shout 'Oh shi....
I hate this game, I'm gonna quit!'
That isn't croquet etiquette.

Now all this help has quelled my fears,
smiles have replaced those hidden tears.
And, if only the confusion clears,
I'll gladly face the next ten years.

Jan Johnston, December 2011

Derwent Park's Secretary

Audrey Bartlett takes over as Secretary of the club following the resignation of Colin Jones.

She can be contacted at 101 Rocks Road, New Norfolk, TAS 7140.

Royal Park News

As reported elsewhere in these pages, Gillean Willson reports that it was with regret that at their last committee meeting, the club accepted the resignations of Roger Ardley (President and groundsman) and Emily Ardley (Treasurer), as well as Marianne Dickens (Committee member and Welfare Officer). The dedicated diligence and loyal support of these three valued members is much appreciated and we look forward to their continued presence on the court.

Following these resignations, revisions to the club's personnel are:

President and Welfare Officer	Gillean Willson
Vice President	Lois Richards
Secretary/Treasurer	Carol Steel
Handicapper and Groundsman	Grant Willson
Garden Curator	Nancy Stamp

The committee has co-opted Ian Phillips and Diane Oliver to fill casual vacancies. Ralph Dawson, ably assisted by his sub-committee, continues as Games Convenor.

What better way to learn the rules of Golf Croquet than enrol as one of Graeme Denehey's keen students in his Golf Croquet Refereeing Course which three brave club members attended the first session on Sunday February 5th. One's future popularity amongst general membership may be in jeopardy as a result, and one's spirit may be somewhat daunted by the vast range of rules to be comprehended and regurgitated correctly. However, what is the point of playing any game if the rules are not understood and adhered to?

During daylight saving time, Lois Richards reports that Royal Park has held Twilight games from 5-8pm. 7-point Golf Croquet games were played using a Swiss Format, and this enabled members to have as many games as they could fit in, and to play both experienced and less experienced players. With typically a dozen, and sometimes up to 22 players in attendance, and with a BYO BBQ, the events have been good for friendship and fellowship. Members have been encouraged to bring along family and friends, and it is hoped this will add to the clubs membership.

Gillean Willson & Lois Richards

What's been happening up North with the NRCC?

In spite of Association players dwindling in all clubs, pennant rosters were conducted in all 3 grades, although only two clubs entered teams.

In the A-grade Association pennant both teams won 2 matches, with St. Leonards edging out Devonport by 7 games to 5.

The B-grade was very even. All teams won 2 matches, and all also won 6 games. Devonport 2 won from Devonport 1 and then St. Leonards on hoop difference.

In the C-grade Devonport were clear winners with 3 matches to St. Leonards 1 match.

One unusual occurrence in a B-grade pennant game between St. Leonards and Devonport was when Jan Barnes turned up at St. Leonards only to find she had not been told the match had been rescheduled to Devonport earlier in the season. Her doubles partner Bob Godfrey elected to play alone until Jan drove the 100km to Devonport. He put Jan's ball on the B-baulk in corner 3 and left it there in turn 4 and played each turn with his own ball.

Jan turned up after 90 minutes of the 3-hour game and joined the game in accordance with ACA tournament regulation 9(a). No fairy-tale ending however, with the Devonport pair of Norma Windley and Ravi Naika winning 16-15.

The NRCC Association Croquet Championships struggled to attract entries, and several events were cancelled.

In the A-grade singles, Osma Martston won the best of 3 series by 2 games to nil, beating Bob Godfrey 26-10 and 26-24.

The B-grade singles was won by St. Leonard's Jan Barnes, with Devonport's Patsy Paine second. Congratulations to St. Leonard's Kaye Jeffery for once again playing in a B-grade event when her C-grade event failed to attract any other entries.

In the B-grade doubles three close games all decided by single point margins saw Jan Barnes and Bob Godfrey (both St. Leonards) win from Steff Anderson (Devonport) and Kaye Jeffery (St. Leonards).

The NRCC HiLo event is scheduled for 24th/25th march at St. Leonards.

Devonport Summer Tournament



The 36th Devonport Summer Tournament lived up to its reputation with the hot weather only surpassed by the hot action on the lawns.

Devonport's Gina Kirkland being protected by Eastern Shore's Ellen Cornish.

After the completion of 84 shortened games and with 1169 hoops made, Leah Eiszele with an average of 10 hoops a game was declared the winner with Liz Smith (s9.7) in second place. Rob McAdam (3rd) was the best placed male and Barbara Clements (4th) took the prize for best placed Devonport member.

The competition was not restricted to the lawns with those who attended the Saturday Night Meal taking place in the Croquet Olympics. The Eastern Shore Switzerland team were overall winners with 2 Golds and a Silver. Winning the Take-off with Daryl Jacobs blue jelly bean decorated Paper plane and being the closest in drawing the Olympic Symbol(or Hoops...Blue, Black, Red Yellow Green...should be easy to remember eh Jenny).

The outstanding performance of the night went to Greece with Henry Burbury doing a perfect 36-inch peel.



Remember to mark this event on your calendar for next year and come enjoy the Food, Fun and Frivolity at the Devonport Croquet Club.

St. Helens Tournament

The 2012 event will be on Sat/Sunday 21st & 22nd July. Details to follow later.

Eastern Shore

Our membership continues to grow with the induction of six new faces added in the last two months, bringing our total number to fifty

three. On the 4th February, our oldest member, Esther Hutchins, celebrated her 97th birthday, and although Esther has no longer got the strength to play, she takes a keen interest in Club affairs and regularly attends the popular mah jong group that enjoys our comfortable clubhouse every Wednesday afternoon.

In the absence of a professional greenkeeper, a small group of active male members led by Past President Ian Smith have assumed responsibility for the maintenance of our playing lawns and surrounds.. The Club is indebted to these men and also the lady members who tend to the garden and attending to the domestic needs of the clubhouse.

Over the last few months our members have participated in many competitions and pennant games with somewhat mixed results. However, some results are outstanding and bear recording:

- In the All-grades HI-LO Doubles, we were very proud to see the final match contested between two Eastern Shore couples, with victory going to Pam Hamilton & Daryl Jacobs with Ian Smith & Graham Keating runners up.
- In the Tas. Singles Championship for 18-20 handicap players, Daryl Jacobs won.
- In the Tas. Mens Open AC Singles, Eastern Shore's Ian Smith came third amongst a strong field.
- In the TCA Medal Competition our Mick Wood won the Men's Medal and Don Clayton was runner up in the Silver Medal. Mick will now play for the National Gold Medal in Perth W.A., in March this year.
- Two of our members, Mick Wood and Kate Fox have been selected in the State AC Team for the National Championships in Perth.
- Eastern Shore's Golf Croquet Team was runner up in the Southern GC Pennant

In AC Pennants, Eastern Shore teams were unsuccessful in winning a pennant, but B & C grade teams came very close.

However, all players were thrilled to learn that they had won the Perpetual Trophy awarded to the club with the highest percentage of hoops won to hoops lost, over the Pennant season,

showing a creditable consistency over all the matches.

To cap off a successful season Mick Wood has won the Tasmanian Open Championship and was runner-up in the Classic Competition. We all wish Mick and Kate the very best in the National Championships.

John Jacob, President, ESCC.

Kingston

The Kingston club almost made a clean sweep of the recently completed southern golf croquet pennant. They finished on top of the ladder with only one defeat (by Eastern Shore on the last day of competition). Eastern Shore was second, closely followed by New Town Magpies. Sandy Bay and New Town Penguins drew for fourth place. The large number of new players involved in the teams was a feature of this pennant and we hope they enjoyed the competition and will front up again next year.

June Pongratz

St. Leonards

10 months after the club's foundation, membership has risen to 25.

The inaugural Christmas luncheon held at the Tamar Cove resort in Beauty Point was a great success.



*Christine Russell and Kaye Edwards
relaxing after lunch*

Two club events have been held so far. Margaret Brockett won the Golf Croquet championship, with Kaye Jeffery coming second. The 14-pt handicap Tournament was won by Bob Godfrey, with Ian Scott second.

To encourage new members into competitive play, an 8+ Golf Croquet tournament will be held shortly.

The plans for the proposed Northern Tasmanian Croquet Centre clubhouse at St. Leonards are currently being submitted for Planning Approval by the Launceston City Council.

Referees Decisions

From time to time we will all be faulted by a referee and it is natural to be frustrated when the decision might mean the difference between us winning or losing the game.

At times like these a player is expected to behave properly. Rule 15(c) of the World Croquet Federation *Rules for Golf Croquet* state:

A player may appeal against a referee's application of the Rules but may not appeal against a referee's ruling on a matter of fact. Appeals are to be made to the Tournament Referee.

Similar rules apply in Association Croquet.

Players should accept with good grace any decisions of the referee; if a player is dissatisfied there are proper avenues of appeal. There is no place for intimidation of referees in croquet. Remember, it is easy to be a good winner and at times difficult to be a good loser. It is only a game after all and, win or lose, the sun will still rise the next day.

Tru-Gauge

The Tru-Gauge™ is a rigid piece of plastic with an arc graduated from 3 22/32" to 3 26/32" and is the official ACA hoop gauge.



It has recently been unavailable following the retirement of Orm Cook who manufactured them. Graham Howie and Jim Clement advise that they have been given permission to continue their manufacture and are currently setting up to do so.

Coaching

The ACA Director of Coaching, John Riches from South Australia has resigned the position due to ill-health. During his time as Director of Coaching John has been very active in re-writing the coaching manuals and visiting the States to conduct seminars for both coaches and players. John has attempted to raise the standard of coaching in general and encourage people to undergo some training and also to maintain their skills.

On the local scene it has been encouraging to have been able to register three new Level 1 coaches, Ricki Barrett (Sandy Bay), Ian Smith (Eastern Shore) and Mick Wood (Eastern Shore) and also for the first time in many years Tasmania now has a Level 2 coach - Sue Beattie (Kingston) has completed her assessment and is now registered as a Level 2 coach.

The remainder of our registered coaches are not getting any younger and we do need to keep up the numbers. It is not very onerous to become accredited - it involves attending a General Sports Principles course, run by Sport and Rec. , obtaining a copy of the Level 1 Coaching Manual from me (\$25) or your Club should have a copy and working through it with a senior coach. When that is done, the State Director of Coaching will register you. Whilst on that subject, most of our current coaches will be due to be re-accredited this year. Seminars will be organised some time during the next few months which coaches will be required to attend if they wish to maintain their accreditation.

In December 2011 Peter Landrebe from NSW came over to conduct a weekend seminar for State Team members, both Association and Golf. Everyone who was able to attend was given plenty to think about in tactics, practice routines and positive thinking!!!

Jenny Parrott, TCA Director of Coaching.



2012 MAYORAL CHALLENGE

Members of New Town Club were wonderful hosts to the Mayoral Challenge: Thanks to

- Henry set 4 half lawns, organized the draw and kept track of the time and scores and 'coached'.

- June made a delicious Greek salad and Bob Hutchinson cooked up a storm on the barbeque.
- President Ian Somervaille, and Nick played in the scratch team, Leah 'coached' and June helped entertain younger spectators.

John Jacobs from Eastern Shore partnered Alderman Doug Chipman (Clarence), Ian Smith gave up the Cygnet regatta to officiate and 'coach' a team and Secretary Cecily came as an enthusiastic supporter for her mayor.

Kingston was represented by Deirdre who partnered Graham Bury, and Tim, our unofficial photographer, who enjoyed playing in the scratch team.

Sandy Bay had me bossing everyone around (can you believe that?) and Sally and Gill came as enthusiastic onlookers. Sally also wound up in the scratch team.

The Red Cross ran a bit of a promo to launch the beginning of *Where is the heart of Tasmania?* then the games began in perfect weather conditions.

Winners: Councillor Dr Graham Bury (Kingborough) and Deirdre.

Runners up: Councillor Jan Barwick (Tasman) and Andrew.

Kingborough won the shield, three times in four years! Congratulations.

Each participant received a keepsake trophy.

Councillor Bertrand Cadart (Glamorgan-Spring Bay) and his French, non-English speaking fiancé Catherine were delighted not to come first as they "did not want to create a diplomatic incident". Lord Mayor Alderman Damon Thomas and Deputy Mayor Ron Christie put up a valiant effort as did Alderman Doug Chipman and John.

Suggestions for next year:-

1. Should we rotate the venue?
2. An idea might be to run it back to back with a Come and Try. Participants in both could enjoy a BBQ lunch.

WE NEED TO HAVE MORE SPECTATORS TO MAKE IT AN EXCITING EVENT.

Thank you to the Secretaries who encouraged members to attend.

Ricki Barrett - Event organizer

East Launceston

Things are starting afresh at Windmill Hill, with the recently refurbished clubrooms now fronted by a thoroughly renovated lawn.

The wait while members were forced to play at St. Leonards has been worth it, with club competitions now underway.

The club will be holding a breakfast on march 24th in the Tower Café (the old Queen Victoria Hospital building)



A concluding word from the editor

I am saddened to learn that Roger Ardley has had to step down as the Royal Park President due to ill health following heart surgery, and that his wife, Emily Ardley feels she is no longer able to continue as Gazette correspondent. Emily has asked me if I would take over that role and after talking with TCA president Ian Smith I am happy to combine the role of Tassie Tales editor and Gazette correspondent.

I am sure we all wish Roger well in his recovery, and pass on through these pages our thanks to Emily for her past (and hopefully future) contribution to Tasmanian croquet.

Bob Godfrey

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Next issue: Closing date May 26th (at the AGM)

Too many numbers and lists in this issue? The solution lies in your hands. Remember, we need more pictures as well as words.



Who's Who?



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