



**Glebe  
District  
Hockey  
Club Inc.**



# **GLEBE DISTRICT HOCKEY CLUB**

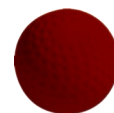
**RED RAG NEWSLETTER**

APRIL 2012

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## Letter From the Editor

### House Keeping

On behalf of the Glebe District Hockey Club I would like to express that the views and written opinions in the newsletter "The Red Rag" are not the views of the club as a whole but the authors who contribute. At current we have only a small number of contributors to the monthly publication and would love to widen the spectrum with new insights, opinions and current happenings with the club, players lives, hockey in Sydney, NSW and beyond. Whether you're a budding writer, hockey enthusiast, have a story to tell or are simply peeved at someone else's judgment in The Red Rag the current authors- Harry Wark, Louise Tapsell, Adam Grampano and myself would love to hear from you.

Josie Barron

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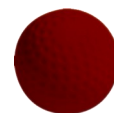
### Letter from the Editor

This week was a great example of team effort in the club and I would like to congratulate everyone on their recent efforts to updating the social pages that the club currently uses - being twitter and facebook! These avenues keep us all informed and are a great way to spread the hockey word, along with a little banter! Having these social pages regularly added to and commented on meant that while being away this weekend I was still able to catch up on the men's first grade BIG WIN (4-2 to NWS), and on my return to see all four women's grades record points on the table in round.

Notes about fitness and general posts are also a great way to keep everyone posted and hockey-focused so keep it up and bring on round 2!!!!

This month is a great edition of the Red Rag so please read on for - the infamous Albury Report, Mr and Mrs Shippe make it Official and the women's first grade round one report. Plus which first grader made his 100 games and farewell to the wonderful manager of men's first grade (one teams loss anothers win!!!).

Cheers,  
Josie Barron



## Mr and Mrs Shipp

### Congratulations- Mr and Mrs Shipp make it Official under the Arches!!!

On January 21<sup>st</sup>, the Glebe Hockey community came together to celebrate the marriage of former Women's President Amy Wark and regular Glebe Hockey Band Night entertainer, Adrian Shipp.

Amy has been involved in the Club since Minkey's and has coached junior teams as well as represented second grade and held the position of President and Social Convenor for the Women's Committee. By shacking up with Amy, Adrian had to embrace Glebe as well. His cross over to the Glebe side was clearly evident when he and his band wore Glebe Women's Uniforms to a band performance. They suited the band members unusually well.

As a fitting part of their wedding day, Amy and Adrian chose to have their wedding photos taken under the Arches, the iconic image of Glebe Hockey, where all junior players start their careers with the Club. The shot above shows the wedding party, including former players Amy Wark and Simon Wark and current player Gabrielle Wark.

We wish Amy and Adrian the best of luck for the future. Molly "Grandma" Wark will no doubt be asking the couple to "breed new hockey players" so enjoy the time together while it lasts!

## Albury Easter Carnival 2012

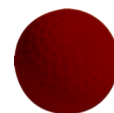


GBDC. Creep Fest 2012. Powered down to Albury, 23 be we. Googa had the beers on ice. Perfect beautiful sunny Autumn weather. The two English men and one French men were most impressed with our belated Summer weather. By the time of Friday luncheon a bawdy ensemble had gathered around the pool.

We were for the record made up of: myself (Campo), Googa, MCPC, Pino, Will, Alas-derrrrr, the Legacy, Fighting Fouldsy, Jakey, Cool Ribo, David, Cha Chi, Eric, Holmesy, Yazz, Junior, Sammy the Rat, Zach E. Smooth, Chowder/Faguette, Milky, Mouse, Hoppa and Spud.

First night after a fascinating and eventful judiciary, in which a new mascot, Charlotte, was offered to the Big Boys, we went and owned the Albury SS&A Club as per usual in our beautifully designed new going out shirts.

Cont.



## Albury Easter Carnival 2012 cont.

First day of the carnival we began with the March Past at 8.30am, where we marched to the beat of the drum in our miscellaneous 'Creep Fest' theme dress costumes. We then commenced the tournament by defeating the Screaming Orgasms 5-2 in an ironically anti-climactical event and held to a tough draw against the local La Trobe University side. Prior to the games, the Carnival Organiser Mr Dennis Martin had returned our mascot Sexy Lexy, who had been stolen following our grand-final win in 2011, on behalf of La Trobe and Gordon.

Second night shenanigans involved Yazz going to jail (a makeshift jail not a real one), Will being made a Big Boy (finally) and miscellaneous other shenanigans at the local Irish Bar, Paddies.

Second day of the Carnival began with a comfortable 5-2 victory against Gordon Crusaders and then a tough 1-1 draw with Gordon Vikings, who looked strikingly similar to the make-up of the former side. The day ended with a 4-1 semi-final win against La Trobe to get us into the next day's final.

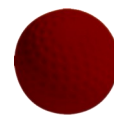


Third night shenanigans involved some fine dance floor exploits at the old Roi Bar and that's probably all that needs to be said.

Easter Monday brought a sleep-in and uninspiring final against Gordon Vikings. As per usual we conceded the first goal but scored an equaliser early in the second half. We then missed three clear cut excellent chances to win the game before extra time. Gordon scored an unstoppable penalty corner drag flick in the second period of golden goal extra time to seal the victory, which was in fact, Glebe's first finals loss in the 7 finals it has competed in at the Albury Carnival over the past 9 years. We were probably lacking an extra striker on the day.

Gordon were humble in victory and thanked us for the game. Cheers boys. Yazz regained his Zing King jacket from David and we all somehow got home safely in the long weekend traffic. Thanks for coming.

Adam Campano



## Fitness Testing - Round 1

On Thursday, 5th April, while others were having an afternoon beer before the Easter Holiday, Glebe Women met at Jubilee Park for the first ever fitness testing completed by the Women's Club.

Earlier this year, first grade assistant coach Matt Wark, outlined his plans for a successful women's club, and that was to solidly work on our fitness. The women's committee worked with personal trainer and first grade centre-half Lynsey Askew to formulate a plan for fitness improvement. Keeping in mind that many players are mums or have demanding jobs, the women's committee knew that asking players to come every week to Thursday training would be a difficult task (Tuesday's are compulsory as this is field training and assists players skill levels etc). So the committee, Matt and Lynsey decided that once a month fitness testing would be introduced to make sure all players were keeping fit in their own time.

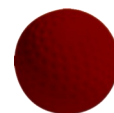


Selectors announced at the last trial that for first and second grade, these testing sessions would be compulsory. If players couldn't make the session, they would be tested at Tuesday training (so no one gets out of it!). Over 33 players attended the fitness trials, making it the largest turn out for a fitness session in at least ten years (I can't remember there being a better turn out!). Groups were separated into at least 7 competitors and ran a 800m, 400m, 50m and 4x25ms. The testings were to provide players with a baseline, so that in six weeks time they will hopefully be fitter and can beat those times.

"It gives players something to work towards, and shows their coaches that they are working on their fitness outside of the designated training times," said Lynsey.

I was very excited to see so many players there and really try their hardest to record some solid times. Hopefully this will demonstrate to players that fitness is not just for Tuesday training and Sunday games, but should be a part of most days of the week, even if it's just a good walk, bike ride, or short run.

Louise Tapsell



## 2012 Band Night

### Band night at the Club House 19 May 2012



The Club has held several Band nights under the Arches over the last few years. All of these have been huge successes. The Club is busting with musical talent. Come along to the Band Night on the 19<sup>th</sup> of May, soak-up the atmosphere, listen to good music and meet fellow Club Members both male and female. Without a doubt this is a night not to be missed. The refreshments are reasonably priced; the food comes straight from Googa's kitchen on Jube and the musical talent on display will not disappoint.

Running the Hockey Club is not cheap and playing fees fall at least \$15,000 short of the Club's outgoings. I

calculated this figure by consulting the Club's 2011 Financial Accounts as shown in the 2011 Annual Report. The funding shortfall is made up of profits from social functions and interest generated from money in the bank. In 2012 the Club does not have a Major Sponsor, although it continues to have its usual loyal band of businesses that support it through thick and thin. Thank you to Galluzzo's Fruit Shop 186 Glebe Point Road, Just Hockey, George Ribaroski and Aussie Home Loans, and Baker's Delight, Glebe Point Road, Glebe.

The Band Night is a major fund raiser for the Club, your Club. Make an effort to come yourself and perhaps bring along some friends. You will not be disappointed with the energy, atmosphere and vibrancy of the night.

## New Players Night

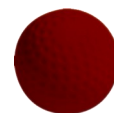
### New Player's Night 31 Match 2012 at the Australian Youth Hotel Bay Street Glebe

The function room, I suspect was chosen by the men, and was the descriptively titled 'Nude Room' at the Australian Youth Hotel (editor's comment: thanks Adrian McKeown for booking the room). The walls were laden with paintings of scantily clad women, which made for a good conversation starter.

There were 100-150 people in attendance and the function room was only just large enough to host the crowd but this closeness made for a great atmosphere.

The crowd included many new and old faces. The new ladies partaking in festivities and warmly welcomed to club were Rosie Major, Emma Martin, Maddy Dell, Caroline Dixon, Sarah Forrest and Katie Inglis. Some of the older familiar faces making a return were Mary Wark, Andrea Lum, Mel Newton, Nellie Farlow, Lara and Terrie. Some of the new faces of the men's teams included Victor Dunand and Luke Rogers.

Cont.



## New Players Night cont.

As midnight came round there were no pumpkins to be seen..... the crowd made its way back to where it all began, under the arches and the drinks kept flowing!

Highlights included Googa's tartan shoes, Amy's ankle breaking stack down the stairs and MCPC and his spontaneous raps.

Many members stayed and celebrated the start of a new season to the wee hours; some even made it to daybreak!

Thanks to the social organisers for making it happen and we all look forward to the next instalment.

"Great first social function of the year! The Aussie Youth was a great venue, with great food and drinks and good chat in the luscious upstairs nude room. Things kicked on at the clubhouse afterwards with a select few enjoying a beautiful Jubilee Oval sunrise. Thanks to [Adrian McKeown](#) for organising the venue, to [Ian Paterson](#) for making the flyer, [Anthony Charge](#), I'm not sure what for, and [Sara Bala](#) and [Louise Tapsell](#) for mobilizing the ladies. Lots of new faces - I hope everyone had a good time. Lock in Saturday 19 May for the next big social function and major fundraiser for the year, Band Night, at the clubhouse."

Adam Campano- Facebook

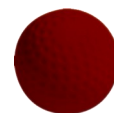


## Googa's Cafe on Jube



After the first round game of the season on 17 March 2012, Club House Manager Andrew Goodrick put on gourmet Spaghetti Bolognese for true blue players and supporters at the Club House Arch one Jubilee Oval Glebe. A good night was had by all, particularly as Glebe won both first and second grade games. The first grade win was unexpected. The camaraderie between the players in first and second grade is excellent.

From 40-50 people attended the night and the comments on the food provide by Andrew were all favourable.



## Josh La Spina - 200 Games!

On 24 March 2012 Josh La Spina played his 200<sup>th</sup> senior Club Game for Glebe, in the first grade game against Moorebank on the Olympic Pitch at Homebush. The team were defeated 8-0 by the slick Moorebank outfit.

Josh started for Glebe as an Under 11 in 1999 and worked his way up the age divisions. By the time he finished as an Under 17 he had played 129 junior games for Glebe. Twenty-one year old Josh has played, in total, 329 Club games for Glebe, including both junior and senior games.

At the rate Josh is progressing it will not be long, only around 30 years or so that he will be taking the record from Les Wark, for the highest number of Senior Club Games played by any Member. From 1968 to 2009 Les played 813 Senior Club Games for Glebe (excluding Veteran's Matches). He played his last game aged 54 years.

Josh is studying to become an accountant. Despite the demands of working full-time, studying and playing hockey himself and the training that comes with playing in the first and second grade teams, Josh has managed to fit in coaching Glebe Junior Teams. Josh is a contributor to the life and times of the Club socially and as a coach of junior players.

- Congratulations Josh on attaining this milestone, your contribution, given with good grace and humour is much appreciated by all Club Members and Supporters.

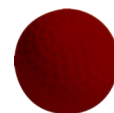
## Double Green Card

### A Double Green Card, Father and Son Scenario in a Second Grade Fixture Glebe v Ryde on 31 March 2012 at the Ryde Turf

This game was generally played in good spirits and with little in the way of on field aggro. At the 27<sup>th</sup> minute of the game Ryde was awarded a penalty corner, which was considered of dubious merit by the Glebe supporters. The Glebe Second Grade Manager GR, a normally mild mannered, quiet type was standing around the Glebe Dugout, which was several metres from where the umpire was standing. The umpire must have heard a phrase or two that GR uttered under his breath and was brassed off. GR was given a green card and had to sit at the official table for two minutes, before he could resume his place at the Glebe Dugout. This was an unusual occurrence but the ducks lined up even more in the second half. Around the middle of the second half GR's son JR made a tackle considered by the umpire, not the umpire who gave GR a green card, to be sufficiently sloppy to warrant a green card. I personally thought the tackle was no worse than dozens of other tackles that had been made that afternoon, but that was the way the umpire saw it. Club House Manager Andrew Goodrick made the pronouncement on the terraces that it was the first time in Glebe History that a father and son, manager and player combination had been given cards and required to sit at the official table, in the same game.

Is this pronouncement by Mr Goodrick true? Do readers remember any other interesting family send-offs from days gone by? Most of us try to forget our cards, but there might be a few tales, tall and true out there in reader land. Let us have your stories, we will share them with our readers for their entertainment and enjoyment.





## Kookaburra Timeline

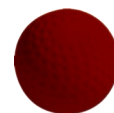


In March 2012 Glebe's Mark Paterson played for Australia in the test series against China and Japan in Wollongong and Canberra respectively. A 28 player squad was selected for these international games. When Mark was in Sydney on 1 April 2012 resting after his International commitments, I asked him to set-out a timeline for the road leading to the selection of the Australian Men's Hockey Team to represent Australia at the London Olympic Games. The Opening Ceremony for the Games is to be held on Friday 27 July 2012. I received the following e-mail, thank you Mark.

Hi Harry

- Below is a list of upcoming event/tours for the Kookaburras and selection timeframes. Some of these dates are not set in stone so they are likely to be changed or amended, but they should provide you with a brief outline of what is to come. 13th of April - announcement of the European touring party - 22 players earmarked for the tour. 26th of April - European Touring Party departs Perth 2nd of May - Olympic Test event commences Aus vs India 3rd of May - Olympic Test Event Aus vs Germany 5th of May - Olympic test event Aus vs Great Britain 6th of May - Olympic test event Placing matches 3 vs 4 & 1 vs 27th Of May - European touring Party departs London for Brussels. 9th & 11th of May - Aus vs Belgium 15th & 16th of My - Aus vs Germany 17th of May - return Home. 8th - 10th - 12th & 13th of June Home series (In Perth) against Korea- Week of the 18th of June the Olympic Team will be communicated to players and the public. 22nd - 25th June, 3 match test series in Cairns vs NZ, Olympic Team only. 18th of July - Olympic Team departs for London. That is about it for the coming months like you said you can only give it your best and on some occasions a bit of luck doesn't go astray either. Regards, Mark Pato

Cont.



## Kookaburra Timeline

I sent Mark a brief reply as shown below:

Good luck with your efforts. As we discussed on Sunday you just do your best and accept what comes. You cannot do any more than this, and worrying about it is going to change nothing.

Regards, Harry

I am sure all Club Members and Supporters wish Mark the very best in his efforts to make the Olympic team. He has now played over 100 internationals for Australia, which is an outstanding achievement. If he does not make the Olympic team, and not everyone can make it, then there is always the prospect of playing again with his mates in the Glebe first grade team, where it all began. I have no doubt he will enjoy himself either way, playing for Australia, or playing for Glebe. Mark is a qualified teacher, a graduate of the Australian Catholic University, and he has a promising career to fall back on when the final curtain comes down on his International career.

So many Australian hockey players leave/are dropped from the International team with no qualifications and have difficulty earning an income after their International career is over. The financial rewards from hockey are small and I would advise any young person to think career first and hockey second. If it is possible to manage both a hockey career and an after-school qualification then this is well and good, the preferred situation, but if one has to suffer than for mine a post school qualification trumps higher representation in hockey any day.

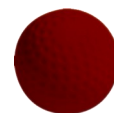
## Men's Team Managers for 2012

After 15 years as Manager of the Glebe first grade team, Club Life Member John Nilan has stepped down from the job in 2012. His renowned managerial skills will not be lost to the Club as in 2012 he will manage the third grade team. First grade's loss will be third grade's gain. His wide knowledge of the game and his inclusive manner will no doubt benefit the younger players in third grade as they settle in to senior hockey.

John has added greatly to the life and times the first grade teams he has managed. His encouraging, positive, up-beat, can-do disposition is infectious and just having John in the dug-out settles a team of nervous, sometimes apprehensive and expectant players. He has always treated each player equally, accentuating the positive and minimising the negative. Thanks John for all your efforts.

Secretary and Life Member Danny O'Brien has taken over from John as first grade manager. Danny is a Life Member of the Club and has played over 600 Club games, so his hockey knowledge and tactical ability will be of substantial benefit to coach Dean Benfield. The second grade manager is George Ribarovski. George managed second grade in 2011 and a fine job he did too.

Grades four to seven are managed by the captain, helped and assisted by the lower grade's Club Captain.



## Jubilee Upgrade

Jubilee Oval, Glebe Point was built on a tidal mud flat close to 100 years ago. The playing surface at Jubilee is close to sea level and drains poorly. Over the years top soil has been added to the playing surface and the height of the playing surface is marginally higher than it was 100 years ago.

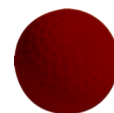
Every time there is a modest rain fall the City of Sydney Council closes the ground. In my view the Council closes the ground much too readily and spoils the fun of hundreds of children in the process, hockey players, Australian rules players and cricket players. As you might imagine the Council officer in charge of making the weather call at Jubilee has a different view of this matter than me. We agree to differ here.

Commencing September 2012 the Council is going to upgrade the drainage at Jubilee, by putting in agricultural drains and raising the playing surface. The cost of the project is reputed to be of the order of \$500,000. Some of this money I am told is coming from Section 94 Money contributed to Council by the developers of the Harold Park Site.

For the 2013 season Jubilee should drain a lot better than it currently does, and the Hockey Club is most grateful to Council for taking the initiative on this matter. Thank you Council your help is much appreciated. A few seasons ago Council upgraded the Jubilee lighting at a cost of several hundred thousand dollars. Now the Oval is well lit, as opposed to four or so years ago when about 15% of the playing surface was lit. The City of Sydney Council has listened to field users and has acted on the information they received. The better lighting of the field has enabled the Club to conduct evening/night full field junior hockey games. These night games often allow teams to play catch-up fixtures, the original games having been postponed because of wet weather cancellations.

Night games at Jubilee are popular with junior players and parents. There is often a reasonable crowd watching the games and the after-match BBQ and thirst quenching activities by children, parents and supporters are most enjoyable. Googa on Jub puts on a great feed and the atmosphere has to be experienced to be believed.

If you hear of a Wednesday night junior catch-up game at Jubilee, come down for a look at the hockey and a night of fine dining under the Arch.



## Late Night Hockey

The first grade game on Saturday 24 March 2012 finished at 2215 hours (10.15 pm). This late night time slot kills players and spectators passion for the game and is a significant reason why players retire from the game.

The Sydney Hockey Association (SHA) Executive Committee should be looking at ways to eliminate late Saturday night hockey. On Saturday 24 March there was no hockey played on suburban synthetic grass fields. To my mind a 1530 hours first grade game played at Cintra Park Concord with blue sky above and in glorious sunshine, would have been much more preferable than the 8.30 pm game at Homebush (started at 8.55pm) played in the dark under artificial lights.

The SHA Committee claims it was trying to generate interest in hockey by having the first two games of the season at the Homebush Site. I know there were at least 20-30 regular Glebe supporters who decided not to attend the fixture because of the lateness of the game and from what I could see on 24 March at Homebush, there was no one there watching the game from any other clubs.

My perception is that a mid-afternoon game is much more preferable to a Saturday late night game, and the perception that first grade hockey can be showcased at 8.30-10pm on a Saturday night is a fantasy. Added to the woes on the 24<sup>th</sup> was that the Sydney Swans Australian Rules Team played the Greater Western Sydney Team at the Olympic Stadium, with a kick-off time of 2120 hours (7.20pm). The traffic was diabolical and the parking difficult or impossible to get. Driving around the streets of West Homebush at 2000hours looking for a parking spot certainly puts a damper on the enjoyment of the occasion.

## Local Player Quota?

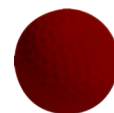
### Should there be a local player quota for teams competing in the Sydney Hockey Competition?

On 24 March 2012 Glebe was defeated 8-0 by an impressive Moorebank team. Moorebank won well and they won in style, no doubt about that. I am told that 8 or more of the players in the Moorebank squad play Saturday hockey for Moorebank and Sunday hockey in the Illawarra competition. Moorebank only had one or two local juniors in the first grade squad.

Glebe had 12 players in its first grade squad of 14 who started their hockey with Glebe either in the Minkey Squad or in an under eleven team. Of the two other players Andrew Palmer played for Glebe in the under seventeens and Anthony Charge came to Glebe in his twenties having learnt his hockey else where (Note - Illawarra, ironically enough).

Is it good for hockey in general if a club team imports a large number of talented players to bolster its competitiveness in its first grade? The team that imports the large number of talented players might win the first grade competition, and get the kudos that goes with it.

Cont.



## Local Player Quota? Cont.

There are, however, unanswered questions. Has the club fostered the game of hockey, has the club ensured its own long term future, has the club looked after its own local talent, has the club sacrificed long term survival for short term glory, has the club engendered a spirit of commitment and camaraderie in its playing ranks as opposed to the attitude of win at all costs?

A club that displaces its own locally grown talent with imported better players from elsewhere is in my view only kidding itself. Locally produced talent needs a fair go and needs nurturing and support, even if it means that there are no trophies in the cabinet back at the club house. The local juniors will become parents of future juniors and they will become the coaches, managers and administrators of tomorrow. If the local talent is pushed aside for imports, a goodly number will either go somewhere else or retire and be lost to the sport. This exodus of locally produced players weakens a club and may lead to difficulties with finding able administrators, coaches and managers in the future.

Is there a solution to this importation of large numbers of talented imported players to bolster a first grade team?

My suggestion is to mandate that a minimum of four or five players in a club's first grade squad must have been registered with that club's under 15 team in past years. The records of the Sydney junior teams are well maintained and this information should be reliable and accurate. If my suggestion was accepted then a club would have a significant incentive to foster its own junior program, and clubs that do so would be advantaged. As it stands at the moment, a club can import a fourteen man first grade squad with no junior players and win the first grade competition. Does this foster hockey at the grass roots level? I think not. University teams would be exempt from this local content requirement.

If SHA is serious about fostering the game at the junior level then clubs that support and encourage junior teams should be rewarded at a senior level.

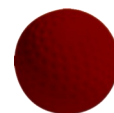
All comments on this proposal will be published in the May Red Rag. Editorial input may be needed if the language of the response is not suitable for our family publication.

## Beep Test VS Hockey Brain

Over the last twenty years sport's coaches have become almost mesmerised with the assessment of physical attributes. The Beep test, the time for 20 metre sprints, how many push-ups the athlete can do, how much weight the athlete can lift, how high the athlete can jump etc, etc. Is this preoccupation with physical prowess warranted? Does it lead to better team performance?

A certain degree of physical fitness is required for any sport. The physical fitness required for seventh grade is different to the physical fitness desired for first grade. Physical attributes are also important. A person who can run the 100 metres in 10 seconds will be a better player, all else being equal than a person who runs the 100 metres in 12 seconds.

Cont.



## Beep Test VS Hockey Brain cont.

In reality all else is usually not equal. Some hockey players have better skills than others and this is a factor in comparing one player against another. Some of the things that are important in assessing a hockey player's potential and their ability to contribute to the team effort are difficult to measure. How does the player read the game, has he/she got a hockey brain? Has the player got a suitable temperament to handle the pressures of a tight game and the frustrations of dubious umpiring decisions? Does the player have the ability to be a team player - playing for the team rather than themselves? Will the player pass the ball to a player in a better field position, or will they usually take the shot at goal themselves? Will the player listen to instruction and follow a game plan? Is the player welcoming and fair with his/her team mates or are they always seeking the limelight, or the glory? Can the player prioritise a list of on field options in a game situation and come up with the most appropriate choices? Can the player think on their feet and make reasonable, rational, thoughtful decisions? Does the forward have good circle craft and goal scoring abilities? Does the player have a vision for what is possible?

My view is that selectors and people who assess performance do not give enough credence to sports people who have a gift for reading the game, who take the right field position at the right time and take the most appropriate option. A hockey brain is difficult to assess, but just because it is difficult to assess does not mean it should be undervalued.

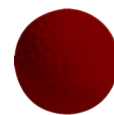
All players vying for first grade selection need a basic level of physical fitness and athletic prowess, no doubt about it, but to become mesmerised with physical prowess and not give due weight to the mental abilities, circle craft, and game reading attributes of a player seems irrational.

An article of interest from the pen (keyboard) of SMH Columnist Mr Peter Fitzsimmons THE FITZ FILES 24 March 2012

## Team Effort

Early last week the first grade Sydney Uni Hockey Club player Chris Pelow, an Irishman, consulted a mate of his in fifth grade, about his crook right foot. That mate, health professional Damo Cunningham, immediately sensed it was serious and steered him towards the radiographer in first grade, Dougal Alexander, who promptly guided Pelow through a series of scans and MRIs, which showed a real problem. This looked like a job for Sanjeev Gupta, an orthopedic surgeon who used to play first grade for the club and now plays masters. On Tuesday night, at training, the still calm Pelow told his teammates the upshot: he had been diagnosed with a synovial sarcoma, a rare but vicious cancer, and the only treatment was to have his lower leg amputated to prevent it spreading. That was going to happen on the morrow. Two men to whom this was no news were SUHC club captain Mark Crennan and first grade coach Chris Moylan - as they had already taken the week off their jobs to help, and this included organising to fly Pelow's parents from Ireland and accommodating them. Many others in the club helped in their own way. The amputation went ahead, and the early signs are good. As noted by the report on the club's website: "No one wants a crisis. If there is one, SUHC is up to it."

The Glebe District Hockey Club and all its Members and Supporters offer their best wishes to Chris and his family. Our prayers and thoughts are with him. May God give him the help he, his family and friends need to cope with his illness with peace, equanimity, strength and courage.



## Letter to the Editor

From Jack C Taylor aged 86 years.

Jack "Tea Cosy" Taylor wrote this e-mail after reading the obituary of Club Life Member Jack Worley in the March 2012 Red Rag.

From: [J.C Taylor](#)

Sent: Tuesday, 20 March 2012 10:31 AM  
To: john William Taylor; Daniel O'Brien; Bill Stubbs  
Subject: red rag

Hi Daniel & Billy,

It is J.C (tea cosy) Taylor here. After having read the March Red Rag, I have been prompted to put my fingers to the Keyboard.

After reading every word, yes, every word of the rag, I would like to take this opportunity to mention a few things. Firstly, my congratulations to the editor, I presume to be you Daniel (Note - this is incorrect, it is Harry Wark), on a first class and entertaining edition. I agree wholeheartedly on the thoughts re the changes proposed by certain officials to the way that Hockey is conducted & played.

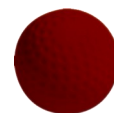
The lateness of some fixtures and the separation of the 3 grades which can only destroy the social life of the Game and take away the huge advantage of the lower grade players learning by observation, how the stars play Hockey. I completely agree that club Hockey is where the game is learned and those players good enough, progress to Sydney, State then Australian Representation.

Publicity, by ALL clubs must be geared to educate fans, and new players, to the fact that hockey starts at home base, where ALL PRESENT & FUTURE STARS play every week, week-in, week-out. Supporters do not have to wait four years for an Olympic Games Tournament, or once a year for an Australian Championships Tournament to watch gifted hockey players. Gifted players play every week at the club level and it is here at they can be seen week-in, week-out.

I had better stop now whilst I am ahead; hockey was and still is my sporting life, especially the Glebe District Hockey Club where my length of service is noted on the Club's records. Writer's Note Jack played 401 games for Glebe from 1940 to 1962, many of these in first grade. He also played for Sydney and New South Wales.

An important role of the Red Rag is as a notice board to inform Club Supporters, and players past and present of the passing of past players and their spouses.

Cont.



## Letter to the Editor cont.

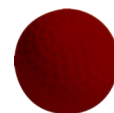
On my study walls I have many photos of the Glebe Teams that I was proud to be a member of. Now & then I catch a face & wonder how they are going, so I ring them. Such was the case about 3 years ago. I rang Jack Worley. After he picked up the phone, I said "Hi Jack, this is a blast from the past, it is Jack Taylor". Jack replied, "Oh young Jackie Taylor". I said "I used to be, I'm 85 now". Jack said "well, I am 92".

The result of my call was a wonderful 30 minutes of memories and laughter. I first met Jack around 1940 when I answered an advertisement which was shown on the cinema screen at the Astor Theatre. The advertisement invited any person interested in playing Hockey for Glebe, to contact Club Secretary Jack Worley, which I did. Writer's note The Astor Cinema, which was renamed the Valhalla Cinema was located on the corner of Glebe Point Road and Hereford Streets Glebe. About 7 years ago the Cinema shut and the building was converted into small commercial suites.

The measure of the man came to me when I was chosen to play for N S W in 1955. Jack walked up to me, after the team was announced and asked "did I remember when I called him after viewing the advertisement at the Astor Theatre" I said "I did".

Jack then informed me that I was the only caller the Club received as a result of putting the advertisement on the Astor Cinema screen. He pointed to my cap and said "but I think the cost of the advertisement was worth every penny". He was flatteringly implying that my contribution to the GDHC, and my NSW State selection was worth much more than money to the Club.





## VALE Jack Worley

Daniel, when you or your band of helpers get a little tired sometimes, just think how much your efforts are appreciated. If any Member or Supporter would like to contact Jack, his address, phone number and e-mail address is in the Club's records held by Club Secretary Danny O'Brien.

I've enclosed a photo of my late wife June and myself. June passed on in 2007. I am well and still play Golf twice a week, as well as playing sax. in the Sunshine coast concert Band  
Cheers J.C. Taylor

Writer's Note: Jack often played hockey in a Glebe District Cricket Club cap, which was maroon and had white concentric circles around the head section of the cap. The cap looked for all the world like a tea cosy, hence Jack's nick name Tea Cosy Taylor. For the benefit of younger readers, a tea cosy is a woollen cover placed over a tea pot to slow the rate of heat loss from the pot of tea.

Jack "Tea Cosy" Taylor is no relation to Bob Taylor the Club's current President. Bob Taylor is a Queenslander who learnt to play hockey at school in Brisbane and then played in Brisbane for the Commercial Hockey Club. Bob came to Sydney for work in 1977, joined the GDHC and has been with the Club ever since, first as a player and then as an administrator.