

## Annual Bench and Bar v Services Golf Match - Elanora Country Club 27 August 1993

A small but enthusiastic team of judges and barristers engaged the Services at Elanora Country Club for the Annual Golf Match played between the Bench and the Bar and the Services on 27th August 1993.

The golf was played in pleasant conditions but unfortunately without success on the part of the Bench and Bar. At the black tie dinner that followed, however, the general consensus was that the Bench and Bar handsomely won the eating and drinking, which was an excellent effort given the absence from our team of Bob Toner.

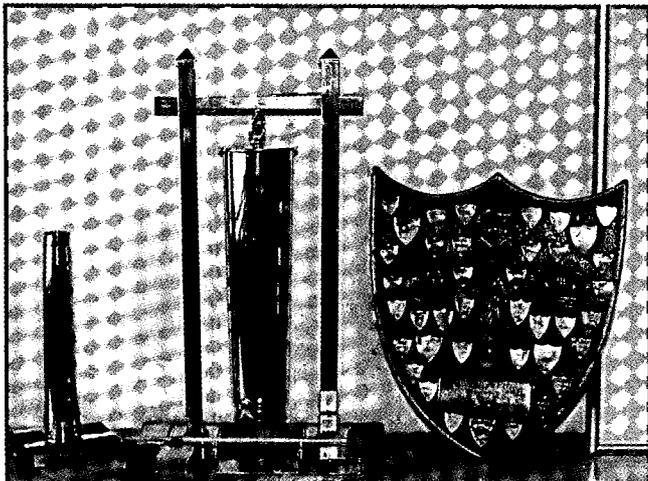
As usual, the match was played as a four ball, best ball, Stabelford competition, but on this occasion an individual event was conducted for members of the Bench and Bar, the prize for that individual competition being the Northern Ireland Medal, presented by the members of the Bench and Bar of Northern Ireland who toured here last year in July.

The Bench and Bar fielded nine teams of two but the aggregate of their Stabelford scores was not sufficient to beat the best nine scores returned by the Services and accordingly the overall prize of "the Gong" presented for perpetual competition by Brigadier General Phillips in 1950 again went to the Services, as it did in its inaugural year.

It pains me to report that the trophy for the "A" grade competition (handicaps scratch to 15) was won by the Services and the "B" grade trophy (handicaps 16 to 27) was also carried off by the fighting forces.

Those three perpetual trophies can be viewed by those interested in the offices of the Bar Association.

Such success as the Bench and Bar enjoyed was limited, effectively, to competition amongst its own number with



*"The Gong" (centre) was first played for in 1933.*



*Winners are grinners - Cal Callaway QC - winner of the Northern Ireland Medal.*

Gyles QC and Graham QC combining magnificently to score 49 points (in fact the best result of the day). That effort was made the more remarkable by the fact that Peter Graham was suffering from a transient bronchial disorder, and from having to partner Gyles QC all day.

On the 16th hole Gyles unleashed a prodigious drive which succeeded in winning the prize for the long drive on the day, and I am reliably informed he hasn't stopped talking about it yet.

The winner of the Northern Ireland Medal was none other than Callaway QC with 42 points. One assumes that his Irish background was as responsible for his success in winning the inaugural contest for the Northern Ireland Medal as it was for his popularity with the G.I.O. in his days at the junior bar.

The non-observance of a mid year vacation by the Supreme Court, a lessened emphasis on a mid year vacation by the District Court, and the growing importance to the junior bar of the Local Court has made it difficult to find a convenient day on which to play this long-standing and important contest. I would be interested to hear from those who have any views on when the match might more conveniently be played. One thought is to play the match early in daylight saving time, hitting off between 2.00pm and 3.00pm so as to minimise the disruption to practices, and hopefully to encourage a greater involvement by members of the Bench.

It is also hoped to return to the practice of dining in, after the match, in the mess of the host service club, or in the common room when the Bar is the host organisation.

Many thanks to David Farthing for his organisational input. □

John Maconachie QC

## Bench and Bar v Solicitors Golf Day

On a steamy, stormy, lightning-interrupted day at Manly Golf Club on 21st January 1993 the Annual Bench and Bar v Solicitors golf match resulted in yet another win to the solicitors.

Seventeen matches were played with the solicitors succeeding 10 matches to 5 with 2 matches halved.

Accordingly, the perpetual Sir Lesley Herron trophy remains in the care of the solicitors for yet another year.

A late afternoon lightning storm caused some of the more cautious players to seek the shelter of the Club house - and a welcome application of neck oil - for about 1/2 an hour until the danger of being turned into a shish kebab passed but not even the intervention of Thor could deflect the solicitors from their inexorable march to victory.

Solicitors Mark Saunders and Graeme Morrison carded the best 18 holes of 50 points, well clear of their colleagues John Conlan and John Rouen (who has traded his New South Wales rugby jersey for a set of usefully employed beaters) on 47 points.

The best the Bar could produce was a creditable 46 points from Bob Toner (the Bar's answer to John Daly) and Col Heazlewood, who insists he spent his time feeding Bob raw liver and keeping him away from District Court Judges.

In the consolation categories the Bar did better with Tony Hewitt and Rainbow Trout QC returning 25 points on the front line while the best of the back nines went to John Maconachie and David Farthing, the only golfer other than Tony Puckeridge able to play the game without a back swing.

The Looney Tunes prizes went to Ian Rose (longest drive) and Jim Kearns (nearest the pin) both of them being from the all conquering solicitors team.

Despite the weather, it was again a most enjoyable contest followed by a pleasant and enjoyable dinner attended by most of those who played.

Our thanks again go to Roger Williams, the doyen of the Law Society Golfing Society, for his magnificent organisation. □



*Nock receiving the Law Book Company sailing trophy from the President.*

## 14th Floor Wardell Chambers Takes John Hartigan Shield

*(This is an historical record to ensure no Great Bar Boat Race goes unreported)*

A record fleet of 53 yachts started in the 1992 Great Bar Boat Race in overcast conditions and a light 5 kt north-east breeze. As the race progressed conditions improved and most of the race was sailed in sunny conditions with a 10-15 kt north-easter making for a fabulous day's sailing.

This year's event saw competition for the first time for the John Hartigan Shield, kindly donated by his former friends and colleagues on 43 Edmund Barton Chambers. The shield is for annual competition amongst chambers with at least two yachts per chamber being required for eligibility - Selborne and Wentworth being combined for the purposes of the competition. There were 13 chambers competing this year and it was won by the 14th Floor Wardell whose team comprised Egan, Kelly and Kennedy who have all regularly competed in the race since its inception. It is anticipated that the shield will produce lively competition between an ever increasing number of chambers and will prove a fitting means of remembering John, who was not only a fine barrister, but also an active sportsman.

"The Law Book Company Sailing Trophy" was won by Nock in Freedom Bound. This victory crowned two previous second placings on the part of Nock but it is clear that the handicappers next year will exact their retribution as a result of this stylish victory.

Second place was taken by Royle in Seahawk and Kennedy was fortunate to take third in Alice-B.

The President of the Bar Association, John Coombs QC, was kindly on hand to present the trophies and Bar Association pewters.

Judge Don McLachlan of the District Court took the Chalfont Cup in Trilogy in the annual competition between judges and silks and presented in memory of the first President of Chalfont Chambers, A J Bellanto QC. It was delightful to have his son, Tony Bellanto QC, on hand to present this trophy.

"The Compo Cup" was won by Halligan in Relish III being a member of the junior bar who competed with distinction in the race but did not otherwise win a trophy.

There was strong competition for the "Gruff Crawford Memorial Panache Trophy". Hughes and his crew were decked out in multicoloured uniforms which were apparently acquired at "Target" but owed something of their origins to World Series Cricket. There was another crew who were impersonating Fathers Christmas but unfortunately there were no reindeer to give them a leg along in the race! The trophy was ultimately awarded to Egan who, as he rounded Shark Island, came in so close in order to gain an advantage over other yachts that he fell into the lee of the island which caused his yacht, Misty, to turn at least 180°. He was becalmed in this

rather distressing condition for at least 20 minutes and lost all chance in the race.

The race again proved a great sporting and social success and there were at least 200-300 persons on Store Beach for the presentation of trophies.

This year the organisers encouraged as part of the entry fee, donations to the Bar's charity, the Prince of Wales Childrens Hospital. At the time of writing this report it was anticipated that some \$2000 had been raised. Many thanks to all those who made donations and to all the skippers and crew that made the day such a fantastic success.

Special thanks to O'Connor QC and McKeand for the provision of start boats and to Alan Brown of CYCA for handicapping the race and acting as Official Starter. □

D A Wheelahan QC



*The President in an expansive mood.*

## Tennis - Judge Barbour QC Cup

The removal of the August Bank Holiday from the days when our Courts did not sit meant there were difficulties in finding a suitable day for the Bar Tennis Competition. With plenty of notice, it was scheduled for Tuesday 22 December 1992 and nearly 40 counsel and Judges (men and women) booked to play.

Unfortunately due to difficulties of the Bar Council, the day was initially cancelled and then on Friday 18 December 1992 it was revived but with a change of venue.

This late change to the Ryde Sporting Complex was made possible by the co-operative arrangements I pursued with Kim Morrissey who organised the venue and arranged the luncheon.

The day's play was enjoyed to capacity by all fourteen competitors "on the Court and off the Court", at the Luncheon. It was good to see people from Wollongong and Parramatta.

The Judge Barbour QC Cup was won in the Final play-off by Clarrie Stevens QC and Tony Bannon who defeated Michael Elkaim and Peter McDowell 6/3 (rain at 4.00pm precluded the second set being played).

The 1993 Annual Tennis Day is presently being organised and it is hoped the other players who, due to the late change of venue, missed the enjoyable day last December, will be "on the Courts in 1993!" □ Tony Reynolds

## Chess - Bench & Bar v Solicitors

An annual chess match pitting the Bench and Bar against solicitors has been 6 years in the planning (you have to do these things properly). The inaugural match finally kicked off on 5 November 1993 at the University & Schools Club, with a team of 12 stalwarts representing each side.

Before the match most players claimed not to have played for years. But after a few drinks at the bar afterwards, details of clandestine training began to leak out. There was a rumour that the Bench & Bar had flown in world champion Garry Kasparov for a practice session. One solicitor actually admitted to having bought a copy of *Modern Chess Openings* for the occasion (though he claimed not to have opened it).

The Phillip Street venue was selected with the great care and sportsmanship for which the Bench & Bar are renowned. The club was sufficiently far from the suburban practices of most of the solicitors to plan their games on the long journey in. By contrast, the short stroll for most of our team deprived us of exercise and meant that the worries of the day were still upon us. Despite these significant concessions, we emerged victorious. When the dust had settled from the thud and blunder, the score stood at 9 points to 3, as follows:

1.	Terrey Shaw	1	Roy Travers	0
2.	Justice John Purdy	0.5	Malcolm Stevens	0.5
3.	Ben Ingram	0.5	Adrian Chek	0.5
4.	Malcolm Broun QC	1	Marcus Pesman	0
5.	Stephen Rares	1	Frank Low	0
6.	Horst Bleicher	1	Ron Berney	0
7.	Robert Colquhoun	1	David Ginges	0
8.	Ken Pryde	1	Roy Williams	0
9.	Doug Williams	0	Duncan McIntyre	1
10.	Paul Glissan	0	Aaron Mucsnik	1
11.	Gordon McGrath	1	Maurice Marshan	0
12.	Ventry Gray	<u>1</u>	Alex Koroknay	<u>0</u>
		9		3

Ken Pryde earned a special prize for the ferocious way he handled his King's Gambit. His opponent, Roy Williams, collected a similar award for the meticulous manner in which he picked his way through (almost) all the ambushes set by Ken. At least one game could easily have gone the other way, but I shall exercise my right to silence by not indicating which it was.

The games finished in 2 hours, but the ensuing post mortem in the dining room and then the bar lasted until the small hours. By that stage, everyone had proved conclusively that he had never had an inferior position at any stage of the evening, and that his opponent had either been extraordinarily lucky or had deserved his fate.

The handsome perpetual shield, donated by the members of both teams, is now on display in the common room trophy cabinet. Have a look at it quickly, as we may not be able to hang onto it next year! □

Terrey Shaw