

Outline for April, 2007 Newsletter
Paddy Chapman and Magnus McGee, 1 September 2021

Summary

The following is an outline for the next *We Stand*, the UCC newsletter. Most of the material is now in place and needs to be edited. There are a host of details that need to be confirmed (highlighted below). Most of these are date and times. Since the newsletter will be mailed to all of the membership then this might be the opportunity to send a new telephone list. Could Paddy and I please have decisions on the “missing” details.

Possible page by page layout

1. Cover story.
2. News.
3. Article: Geoffrey Naylor (possibly starting on front page too) by John Prince.
4. Article: CCA review for 2006/2007 by Tony O’Donnell.
5. Article: NZ Open, 2007 by Paddy Chapman.
6. Article: MacRobertson Shield, 2007 by Chris Clarke.
7. Editorial.
8. Diary.

Other items: Adverts and Pegged Out.

News

- Lawns.
- Winter play.
- CCA Closing Day, Fendalton Park CC, **time Saturday 14 April 2007 1.00-3.30pm** with note that trophies are to be presented
- Arthur Ross (or edited into Tony’s CCA article [Add “Late News: Magnus was beaten in the semi-final by the eventual winner Geoff Duckett”](#))
- UCC man the WCF marquee

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Adverts

- **Closing day with details.**
- **Presentation evening with details.**
- Early season coaching (will be in Diary could be advert or News too)
- United Weekend Tournament (will be in Diary could be advert or News too)

Editorial

- If no one else volunteers then Magnus to write something.

Pegged Out

- Photo of Kevin helping with the top dressing.

Diary

All dates are 2007 unless otherwise stated.

Date	Details
Xxxx	CCA Closing Day, Fendalton Park CC, time Saturday 14 April 2007 1.00-3.30pm
Sat 21st April	Closing Day function
Sun 22 nd April	Summer play ends
Xxxx	Annual dinner / presentation night Jane still organising
Xxxx	Call for nominations Open now. Close 19 May
Sat 26th May	Annual General Meeting OK Time 1.00pm???
Thur 31 st May	Winter play ends
Xxxx	Winter social. We sometimes have a pot luck dinner in July. Please don't pick the night of the Christchurch rugby test. 28 July. Details to follow
Sat 18th Aug	Working Bee with Captain's report
Sat 25th Aug	Working Bee (alternate date)
Sat 1st Sep	Opening day
Sun 2nd Sep	AC early season coaching I
Mon 3–Fri 7 Sep	AC early season coaching tournament
Sun 9th Sep	AC early season coaching II
Sun 16th Sep	GC early season coaching
Mon 17–Tue 18 Sep	GC early season coaching tournament
Sat 22–Sun 23 Sep	United weekend tournament * Note change in date OK
Xxx	September delegates meeting ** Probably not available
Xxx	CCA Open Day ** Probably not available
Xxx Oct	[Dates for S.I. Masters and possible evening with bowls and petanque]
Sat Xxx Nov	Play and Pizza [but not on show weekend] a Saturday in November
Sat Xxxx Dec	Christmas Celebration
Other selected dates	
Sat 9th June	Canterbury Croquet Association, Annual General Meeting *** to be confirmed
Xxxx	CCA Association Handicap Singles ** Probably not available
Sat 2 – Sun 10 Feb 2008	WCF World Association Croquet Championship
Wed 6 th Feb 2008	UCC man the WCF marquee
Late Feb	End of the World(s) **** Will there be a celebration for this?

Vote of Thanks

Bill Malloch and his team for top-dressing the lawns; Sally and everyone who helped with catering during recent tournaments; Ursula for all her handicapping work; Jane and Paddy for coaching at recent functions. **Any others?** Dormer for organising teams and club events and preparing lawns for numerous events

Phone list for the UCC Committee members**Some other time**

- Article on Top Ten
- Article on A. H. S.
- Pegged out: Amy II.
- Anagrams of United Croquet, UCC etc

We Stand

United C. C.
Newsletter
August 2006

Life Membership awarded to Geoffrey Naylor

John Prince profiles longstanding United member, Coach, Umpire, Past President and now Life Member whose services were recognised at the May AGM.

My friend Geoffrey Naylor first played Croquet when in his twenties along with his father on their small suburban lawn, using home-made equipment. They visited the Hurlingham Club during a Croquet Tournament to see if they were playing the same game as the experts. Well they weren't exactly, but a young competitor kindly took time to chat about the game with them; they later discovered that he was none other than John Solomon, destined to become perhaps the greatest player of all time. Although Geoffrey was intrigued he was soon leading a very busy life with his Canterbury, N.Z. born wife Alison raising a family and building a career in business, and with his Canterbury, N.Z. born wife Alison raising a family. However, in the early 80's he was approached in his role as the While Marketing General Manager for the Royal Bank of Scotland Group he was approached, to sponsor televised Croquet possibly on TV. Remembering his enjoyment from playing at home and the pleasant time at Hurlingham he readily entered into negotiation with Stephen Mulliner representing the Croquet Association. The upshot was the Royal Bank Short Croquet Series filmed on a purpose build lawn at Granada TV studios. Played as a "Home Nations" tournament it was quite a success. Large numbered blocks were mounted on the crown of the hoops and Croquet player commentator Phil Cordingley became the whispering voice of Croquet, not unlike his Snooker counterpart Ted Lowe.

But, it wasn't until Geoffrey retired and he and Alison moved to Christchurch that he took up Croquet. Introduced by Marie Thompson he joined United in late 1991. With the guidance of Dorrie Winchester, Billie Millar and others Geoffrey soon became a very capable "A" Grade player. In the Intermediate Grade with Joan Tyler he won the N.Z. Junior Championships Doubles in 1995 and he won the Canterbury Senior Singles Championship the

following year. There were many other successes and only last season, although admitting to being extremely nervous he won the CCA Senior Doubles with fellow countryman Chris Clarke.

Geoffrey's contribution to Croquet off the court has been immense. He has tirelessly organised and taken part in numerous coaching ventures, not only for the benefit of United members but those from the other Canterbury clubs, winning the Sport Canterbury "Outstanding Summer Sports Coach" award in 2005. He has been President at United for several years, and has helped steer the club through difficult patches, and established a good working relationship with our neighbours, both bowls and tennis. He was very active in ensuring the "United" Centenary celebrations were a great success. He has been involved with numerous CCA activities including organisation for Trans Tasman and MacRobertson Tests and currently is on the organising committee for the WCF 2008 World Championships. In 2001 he was presented with the Sport Canterbury "Outstanding Summer Sports Administrator" award. Geoffrey was a member of the New Zealand Croquet Council Executive and in that role rewrote the Council's Constitution. He was a little uncertain on how he would be received by the "traditionalists" when he commenced this task, but in true Geoffrey fashion he "drafted" various amendments and sent them for comment, deletion etc., to the various people he knew would hold strong views on this subject. He was delighted to be paid a compliment once it was completed by Ashley Heenan, whom he had regarded as someone very formidable should he get on his "wrong side". Over three years in the late 90's I was pleased to be able to help Geoffrey write "Play Better Croquet" modestly having his name as author printed in smaller print than those who made contributions. It has sold almost 1,000 copies. Geoffrey while very decisive is never autocratic, he is always interested in the view of others, and has worked very hard over many years for the betterment of the United Croquet Club. 🇺🇵

News

The details of the Committee elected at the Annual General Meeting are given on the back page. ■■

Congratulations to Chris Clarke on winning the Australian Open Singles and Doubles titles ■■

Christchurch City Council Botanic Gardens and Hagley Park Management Plan are still at the committee stages with the report due before the spring. ■■.

Annual dinner and presentation night. ■■

Invitations. ■■

English season. ■■

Does Dormer want an entry. ■■

United ground commitments. ■■

AJ Reid. ■■

World's and its website. ■■

. ■■

Green fees are now \$5 for a half or full day including tea and coffee. People new to the game are welcome to have up to two free visits. Please encourage visitors to sign the book as this helps us to keep in touch. After all, they may want to join. ■■

Peter Weeks.... treasurer resignation. ■■

Anything else from. ■■

.... who all joined United during the past month. ■■

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Patron John Prince MNZOM

President Tony O'Donnell

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Editorial

UCC Committee members for 2007/2008

Name	Post	Phone
Tony O'Donnell	President	358 6422
John Yarrall	Secretary	325 7855
Dormer Gardner	Captain	343 0971
Peter Weeks	Treasurer	358 3560
Magnus McGee	Vice-President	355 8515
Philippa Porter	Vice-Captain	358 4393
Kevin Cusack	Committee	379 3948
Sally Jeffcott	Committee	355 3830
Marie Thompson	Committee	



WWW dot Canterbury Tales

Following United's fortunes was easier due the website wizardry of Jenny Williams.

Tony O'Donnell reflects on the season.

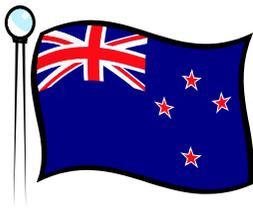
Looking at the website maintained by Jenny Williams showed United is Canterbury's, and probably New Zealand's, premier croquet club (<http://www2.phys.canterbury.ac.nz/~jcw83/CCA/croquetresults/index.html>).

In the Canterbury Interclub competitions Marie Thompson and Kevin Cusack won the Division 1A title. This was particularly meritorious as Kevin had only just graduated to Division 1 and was playing up in the 1A division. Tony O'Donnell, Dormer Gardner, Sally Jeffcott and John Yarrall won all their matches to take out Division 2 and the United 1 team of Philippa Porter, John Yarrall, Ian Black and Sheila Walker, of Holmes Park, had a seven win, one draw record in winning the inaugural Golf Croquet CCA Interclub Tournament.

This fine form continued into the Canterbury Championships, where United names were prominent. In the Open grade the first three Singles placings were Jenny Williams, Peter Parkinson and Jane McIntyre. In the Open Doubles Peter and Jenny formed half of the winner and runner-up pairs respectively. Marie Thompson and Roger Lane (St James) won the Doubles 0-3 handicap grade with Sally Jeffcott and Dormer Gardner winning the 10+ grade. In the 10+ Singles, Magnus McGee beat Tony O'Donnell in the final. Magnus also represented Canterbury in the national Arthur Ross finals where he was a losing semi finalist.

The Golf Croquet Silver Badge had only United in the Premier grade with Paddy Chapman ahead of Tony O'Donnell and Jane McIntyre. Geoffrey Naylor was runner-up in the Intermediate section. In Association Silver Badge Marie Thompson was runner-up in the Division 1A, whilst Trevor Walker and Philippa Porter won Divisions 2 and 3 respectively.

So the results in the 2006/7 season have been tremendous for UNITED. 



The 2007 New Zealand Open

Paddy Chapman reports on the nationals.

Wellington hosted its first NZ open for quite some time, had its headquarters situated at the Kelburn Municipal Croquet Club. The event proved to be an extremely strong turnout, boasting an entry of 48 players in the singles and 23 pairs in the doubles. These included overseas players such as #2 seeded Ian Lines, #3 seeded Pete Landrebe, and #4 seeded Stephen Mulliner, as well as many of the usual contingent of Kiwis.

Charles Jones was again the manager, and looked after all the players' needs extremely well. The lawns were fairly easily paced, but the hoops were always well set (though still forgiving in the soft ground). Unfortunately, once again, aspherical Barlow GT balls were used throughout.

United was well represented, with Chris, Jenny, AJ, Paddy and Jane all competing this year. Chris and Jenny won the doubles title, with Paddy (and partner Greg Bryant from Nelson) runner-up. AJ played some brilliant croquet to reach the singles final where he took Chris to the fifth game of the best-of-five. Chris, the #1 seed, won his first NZ singles title, triple peeling his way to victory. In fact, the top three places in this year's tournament went to United club members, surely proving that United is the strongest club in New Zealand. A great result. 🇳🇿



Vote of Thanks



MacRobertson Shield

Association Croquet's World Cup was coming back to New Zealand but in who's suitcase. Chris Clarke explains all.

The Mac was held in Australia at Rich River and Shepparton from mid-Nov to early Dec last year. Paddy Chapman was representing New Zealand at number 2 and Chris Clarke represented Great Britain at number 3.

The first day test matches saw New Zealand against GB and Aus vs USA. NZ took a surprise 2-1 lead after the first day of doubles, but GB took control with 3 doubles wins on day 2. Paddy had very few chances during the entire test match and having not had a break in the first three days, failed to take the few opportunities that came his way on days 4 and 5. GB won 15-6 with Aaron Westerby beating both Robert Fulford and David Maugham, an excellent performance. Meanwhile, AUS had beaten the US 14-7.

The second set of tests saw GB win 19-2 over the USA and NZ compete in a close struggle against Aus. Paddy won 3/5, but unfortunately it was not enough to stop Aus winning by the closest of margins 11-10.

The final sets of tests had NZ take an early 2-1 lead against the US before one of the biggest upsets in Mac history when the US won all 6 singles on day 2 to go 7-2 up. NZ did well to claw their way back to 8-5 down, but the final score of 13-8 to the US must have been very disappointing. Paddy finished with 2/6 in singles and 5/9 in doubles, an encouraging start for his first Mac, playing at the top of the order.

The decider between Aus and GB was totally one-sided. By the end of day 3, GB had won with an emphatic 12-0 lead. The final result of 19-2 showed that the GB team had all played fantastic croquet and are currently a level ahead of their rivals. Chris finished with 5/6 in singles and 9/9 in doubles.

The next Mac will be held in GB in 2010 with NZ hosting again in the 2013/14 season. ■■■

Diary

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Events marked * are mentioned in the newsletter.

Pegged Out



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Picture by Mrs Malloch, March 3rd, 2007. 