



1977 UWA First Grade Champions



1974 IV Adelaide (Pam Rothwell centre)

THOSE WERE THE DAYS MY FRIENDS!

By Pam Rothwell who joined the club in 1973 from South Australia

"*The West Australian*" heading, August 1977..."**University Break Hockey Drought**"

University won their first premiership in 28 years after defeating Surf 3-1 in extra time. How sweet it was, my old team (I played 8 years first grade for Surf), they couldn't believe it.

There are many fond memories of my years with University such as training at McGillivray Oval. The troops just loved forwards against backs, basic skills drills (cones everywhere) and team talks were not high on the agenda, better received was speedball, shirts v skins or a drink at the old Floreat Bar. Nevertheless, through 1977-79 they were a well oiled machine, fit, fast and fantastic. No one could catch Flissy, Anwen, Lorna, Shanksie, Gail, Suzy, Mandy, Vickie or JR or could get passed Bev, Jen Wealand, Hazel, Bubbles, Liz Prater or Liz Allen-Williams.

Then there was Intervarsity, "Wee Wasy", my main responsibility was custodian of the pot (that could probably be misinterpreted these days, it was a potty). Wasy (West Aussie) teams were successful from 1973 -1977 inclusive and were also unbeaten at the boat races not to mention our supreme singing of our very own selected verse. I continued my Intervarsity experience as Coach/Manager of the Australian Universities tour of New Zealand in 1975. There were 5 Wasy representatives in the team including Jen Wealand, Hazel, Ali, Anwen and Bubbles. 13 games in 12 days, 49 goals for and only 9 against. What a marathon and still heaps of time to party.

Speaking of parties, we had them for any reason at all, far too numerous to mention, although progressive dinners, wine and cheese, Steve's, The Shents and the Floreat do spring to mind.

I vividly recall Tuesday 27th November, 1979. It was supposedly a small group meeting for dinner at Al Piccio's Restaurant in Claremont...wrong...surprise, surprise, all the gang were in attendance for my Life Membership dinner and I was so overwhelmed. What a wonderful way to end my A1 coaching involvement. That's truly up there in my fondest memories of the UWHC.

The days of Saturday afternoon games only, Tuesday/Thursday training and players teas. Memories of club selection headaches with Ric and Gail, IV initiation with Marksie and Buncie, the parties, IV, everything with club stalwarts Vickie, JR, Gibby, Trogs, Garfy, Ali, Ellie, Jo, and McMiles x 2 all featured to make an unforgettable era of team spirit and unity, life long friendships and everlasting memories...

"Those were the days my friends"...simply the best!
