

I REMEMBER WHEN!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

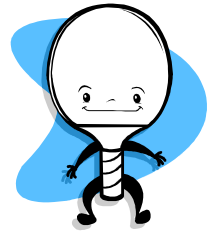
IT WAS 1973 THE YEAR THE SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE OPENED

My interest in Table Tennis started in Primary School. My best friend had a Table Tennis Table at home, and we would play game after game after game. I remember her Mum bringing us drinks and snacks.

All we had to worry about AT AGE 10 was how we were going to beat each other.

Years went by, and when I married and moved South I found Christies Beach Table Tennis Club. It was a mighty club then and still is. We played on Phil Anderson Tables and did our own Fundraising.

Our Home ground was the Primary School on Elizabeth Road and in those early years we lugged 12 Tables in and out twice a week. The teams were larger then, and the balls were smaller, I could see them back then (ha ha).



At Christies we had a selection committee who were in charge of selecting the teams each week. If you didn't rock up to practice you weren't selected to play on match night. We played round robins to win blocks of chocolate, and often put 20c under the net and bet against each other just for a laugh (\$50 in today's money). On competition nights we would be asked to bring a plate of supper for all. Of course I would bring my Scotch (not much has changed – ha ha), those were the days my friends and I thought would never end.

Eric Mason Div 1 was a Foundation member of my Club. I am sure you all know him. He is the short Scottish lad that wears a light Blue knitted jacket with Golfers on the back. It is almost glued to him, and we fondly referred to it as his Horse Blanket.

Over the years, Table Tennis grew in the South and eventually all the clubs in the area got together and with the help of a group of dedicated individuals formed the Southern Table Tennis Association. These individuals, too many to name, can be seen on the Honour Rolls in the Hallway, please STOP and read them, you may even recognize a few still walking around the centre.



It is this merry band of individuals that you can thank for our Venue we now all enjoy, and can be very proud of. The dedication of these people, and the hours and hours of commitment all in the name of promoting the sport and the love of the game should be applauded.

I have made many friendships over a lot of years and I believe that exercise keeps you centred, and including it into your routine helps ensure that you don't slow down and remain on the ball no matter what the days' circumstances may be.

THANK YOU

Enjoy your night. 😊



Ingrid Flower - 2007