

Australia v Rest-of-the-World 2023

*Twas a typical British summer's day that welcomed bowlers Tranmere's way
Light drizzle and rolling skies of grey teased Aussies and the rest at play.*

The annual Australia v Rest-of-the-World Challenge, played on 1 February, this year attracted 65 players, fifty men and a record 15 women.



The triumphant Aussies

Having mistakenly entered themselves for and played with the Rest-of-the-World side, Julie and Pat McGirr nevertheless joined the Aussie side for the squad photo. It had nothing to do with the likely prospect of an Aussie victory. It was their rightful place.



The vanquished Rest-of-the-World

Judy Uren, also an Aussie by birth, was seconded to the Rest-of-the-World side to even out the numbers. She wasn't so sure she wanted to be in the photo though. It had nothing to do with the likely prospect of an Aussie victory. It just wasn't her rightful place. Jacqui Langworthy missed the announcement for the squad photo.

Desperate to once again hold aloft the trophy after the Rest-of-the-World prevailed last year, the Aussies took charge early and led by 19 shots at the half-way mark. It was a formidable advantage but, team captain Pam Fullarton, mindful that the Aussies had established a lead at this stage last year only to see the Rest-of-the-World rally strongly to overhaul them in the second half, gathered her squad for a pep talk, the likes of which Ron Barassi would have been proud. It worked. The Aussies didn't give an inch, extending the lead to a record-breaking 38 shots, the biggest winning margin in the history of the event.

Edna Bradley, team captain for the Rest-of-the-World, graciously presented the prestigious perpetual trophy to the Aussie team captain, Pam Fullarton.



Greg Lawson, Graeme Parkinson and Ken Warrington



*Peter Colloff, Judy Uren and Nick Cirocco.
Pssst: Peter does not like having his photo taken.*

"It's Un Australian," Fred Godley said, when asked what he thought went wrong for the Rest-of-the-World. "The Aussies clearly didn't drink enough beer at the break".

The best winning rink for the winning Aussie side comprised Greg Lawson, Graeme Parkinson and Ken Warrington (+12 shots), while Peter Colloff, Judy Uren and Nick Cirocco (+13 shots) formed the best winning rink for the Rest-of-the-World side.

Edna Bradley, team captain Rest-of-the-World congratulates Pam Fullarton, team captain Australia.

