

The Sewing Circle

Before we get down to the nitty-gritty I would like to say that we should be very grateful to Bill for allowing us to gather at this wonderful location. I've known Bill for a long time. We first met on a tennis court - Bill just a young lad then. Some of us will remember our first year here and the wonderful changes Bill has made ~~over the years~~ to this location over the years. Bill on behalf of all those who have enjoyed these get togethers, I would like to thank you very much.

Now with the proceedings. I have in my possession a very valuable 'sewing machine', which is my duty to pass on to another Amateur. The machine cannot be used for stitching up a tear in your shirt, but can be used to provide information on why we are called 'The Sewing Circle'.

But first things first. How did it all begin?

It was during the Xmas holidays of 1962-63, when Snow JCH on yacht 'Moriuna' used to have regular aheads with Jack JTB and Bob JOM. Gradually this small group increased to include TMZ Charles. Later

TMZ Harold, TAG John, JCT Terry and THS Charles.

TMZ It was during this time that Joy JYL - JTB's XYL remarked that the group reminded her of group of children at school during their sewing ^{lesson} ~~circle~~ (Joy had been a teacher). It was this remark that she coined the label of 'The Sewing Circle' to our group today.

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(Joy features on the front cover of the later AM including a writeup inside). Gradually the group increased in numbers, it even included that bloke The

It was the gathering at Kow in 1981 that was the beginning of the yearly get together. (I have photos of those who were present if anyone is interested to see them). JOE JBT, had made up this interesting plaque to register the names of some early amateurs. What are the qualifications? Initially, I would say those who had been active on the group. However, there are a couple of exceptions so I have no idea what we could term the guidelines.

So now we come to the big moment. Who will be the caretaker for another 12 months? There is plenty of ~~the~~ space to record the names of amateurs for many years to come and in due course could ~~so~~ ~~soon~~ could become a piece to ~~most~~ add to our Amateur Collection. You are ~~are~~ wondering if I will ever get to the point of nominating the recipient for the coming year. Well I have chosen ~~was~~ an amateur who has his license for some considerable time and is a member of the "Old Timers Club". The recipient is Les JBT.

Speech given by Lloyd Duggall VK7LC
at Sunnyvale barbeque at Hooy Van Tan
19/11/95.