

## STATE OF ORIGIN game 1

28<sup>th</sup> May 2014

**Venue..... David Lords (AKA Jesus)**

Commencing at 6pm with pre Game drinks, BBQ and a cosy wood fire!

Vic, Amber, Jayden and I arrived around 7pm following traffic delays on the M1 and Gateway motorways. Upon arrival we were met by a fabulous display of the colour MAROON, and the BBQ in operation for all to cook with delicious side salads supplied by Nicole. The pot belly fire filtered welcomed warmth setting the scene for an enjoyable night. Being the last to arrive we were quickly engulfed in footy fever, of cause all Maroon!!!!!!!

Together with Jesus, Nicole, children Anthea & Lochlan, Brett, Molly, Teagan, Grizzly, our very own “referee (ANZAC), Kevin” Simone, Vic, Amber, Jayden and myself, it was now time for kick off in Origin 1 from Suncorp Stadium.

With the drinks flowing and nibblies on the table, the usual banter began in fine form until certain decisions by the official appointed NRL Ref, became interesting talking points amongst the small gathering of Maroon supporters. It was then that our Country’s close neighbour ANZAC informed all, that he once was a Referee in New Zealand, so, to undoubtedly disgruntled Maroon supporters, this was music to our ears, as we soon learnt just what side the official Ref supported!!! With Half-time approaching, the Maroon party grew louder, insisting the fate of the game, had already been secured. At this point the Sarg, had certainly been informed of my impending fines as I tried desperately to give QLD a much needed push across the try line, not to mention my aching knees from standing and sitting so many times in the space of seconds. Not to be out done half time score was only..... NSW 10- QLD 4, so plenty of time for that famous QLD, second half come- back.

As the half progressed, so too, did the BLUES score, with QLD just adding the extra 4 points, it became clear game 100 was moving south of the border. With the last 5 minutes of the game signalled and in true Maroon spirit, our small band of supporters took the floor to encourage the Mighty Maroons in their final enthusiastic push for the try line, however, it wasn’t to be with the NSW Blues winning 12 – 8.

A very entertaining night had by all.

**Carol Moore**

## STATE OF ORIGIN 2

18<sup>th</sup> June

**Venue.....David Lords (Jesus)**

Just 3 weeks later than Game 1, its game on for Origin 2, and the faithful Maroon supporters gathered again at the home of David Lord. As we arrived late again, we found the party had grown in number, with the inclusion of Colin, Dylan, Tracie, & Heather. On this occasion we were blessed with our “Sargent at Arms” and partner Tracie dressed in BLUE. Tracie informed us that her jersey had seen better days, Heritage listed maybe, but it was great to see a mix of colour. ANZAC also changed his colour code, wearing his old faithful NZ Referees jersey, in readiness for declaring “Code of Conduct” on the official NRL ref. With the BBQ burners cooking, the pot belly fire, Nicole’s fabulous salads, a tasty ANZAC made cheese cake, drinks, nibblies and a large TV screen, it was time to settle in for an enjoyable night, in the hope that Cameron and his boys could colour game 101 Maroon!!!!

With the Refs whistle, wave of the hand, the voice of Ray Warren, Origin 2 was underway, from Sydney’s ANZ stadium. As the game progressed, it became apparent just how many Blues supporters were present at the game, as the camera panned around it was clearly obvious that blue was the main choice of colour, but never fear our mighty Maroons stood proud in the centre of the ground forcing their way through the blues pack, subsequently being rewarded the first points, taking the lead 4 – 0 to the half-time break.

With a 4-0 lead, the gathering of the clan became a little excited at the prospect our mighty maroons may deliver a win in enemy territory, however our delight was short lived as the hint of controversy and disallowed tries continued to interrupt the course of the game. At this point I noticed Tracie silently grinning in the hope that her beloved Blues would make it two in a row, certainly dampening the enthusiasm of her maroon company, although, at times loud cheers and the raising of hands added brief delight for those dressed in Maroon. Both the NSW and QLD teams played hard, but there could only be one winner much to the delight of our Blues fans.....it was a close game with NSW winning 6 – 4, taking the series, ending Queensland’s 8 straight series wins!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Oh well, at least from a maroon perspective we still had game 3, and the hope of a win!!!

Again a great night had by all. Congrats to the BLUES, and a big thank you to David & Nicole.

**Carol Moore**