



TOUCHER TOPICS

BORONIA BOWLS CLUB NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2009

Hi everybody

We have had a busy season so far. The season started off with a very successful RVBA Official visit, the Unification issue bubbled along and was finally resolved with a resounding **yes** vote for the Unification of both the VLBA and the RVBA. The interim board has met already, and are moving towards the election of the new board for **Bowls Victoria**.

We now have a **new singles champion, Steve Castle**. Steve has been bowling extremely well this season and managed to achieve a win over Les Lucas in a very close game. I will leave the details of the game to be described elsewhere in this newsletter, but we all congratulate Steve on a well fought win.

I would like to congratulate **Ian McLean** and **his Tournament Committee** for the organisation which has gone into ensuring that our bowling program will continue smoothly while the front green is being replaced. The organisation of having two shifts of players for our Monday and Wednesday Triples, along with two sets of prizes each day, has ensured that visiting teams who have been playing with us, are willing to continue bowling with us during this difficult period.

Bruce Le Grew has volunteered his services to cook the sausage sizzle lunch on both the Monday and Wednesday Triples days, and I would like to thank Bruce for his efforts.

Coaching Co-ordinator Rob Curtis and our **coaching staff** are working regularly with prospective new members on Wednesday evenings, and also included within this group have been University of the third age (U3A) participants, these people will be rolling through regularly throughout the season, **all due to the foresight of Garry Senn** who is involved with the Knox U3A. We have already signed up a member from this group.

As you are aware the **3rd and 4th side will be hosted at Glen Waverley Bowls Club**, and the **5th side at Eastwood Golf from the 12th of December to the end of the pennant season**.

Information sheets have been posted above the RVBA Side Selection Board for both Players and Managers. Sheets have also been included in the Side Managers folders. If you need any further information contact Bruce Perry.

“We did it again” we won the **Sir George Knox Perpetual Shield** for the second year in a row. This is an annual bowling competition held at Parliament House and supported by local member for Ferntree Gully, Nick Wakeling MP. The day was excellent and of course the team we sent from Boronia all bowled well. Results were Boronia 1st, Waverley Golf 2nd, Ferntree Gully 3rd and Waterford Valley 4th.

Well done everyone.

Have a relaxing, enjoyable and safe Christmas and New Year.

Bruce Perry
President RVBA Section

SPONSORS CORNER.

This is probably the month when you are thinking about gifts. Have you considered those sponsors who maybe able to help?

If you are in the Knox City shopping centre, have a look at **Prouds** for fine jewellery and giftware, or even pop into **John Alan Retrovision** for small electrical appliances.

Back in Boronia we have **Boronia Mall Newsagency** for pens, pencils and other useful desk paraphernalia, **The Tobacco Station** have an extensive variety of giftware, and up stairs is **Tinkers** who also sells jewellery and assorted gifts, and don't forget if it's for a special occasion, you can have almost anything engraved.

Cross the road from the newsagent and you enter **Wool n' Bull**. Lisa is selling the shop to concentrate on the embroidery business which has grown really well. This means you may get a bargain on hats and Australiana products which are great to send overseas.

It certainly will pay you to browse in these places and talk to the owners or their staff. If you mention the bowls club they all know and will be delighted to assist. If you don't already know, you will be pleasantly surprised at their reaction and how much they respect our club. You will have friends wherever you go, and isn't that a nice feeling to take into the Christmas season?

Speaking of which, don't forget the Christmas fare gracing the shelves at **Boronia Mall Bakery**. Michael is a dear friend of the club and his cakes and puddings are something to savour.

From time to time we have sponsors who feel they are not getting value for money and we can only think it's because people are shy when it comes to mentioning the club, especially in a shop full of customers. Well it is important that they know the club is supporting them, so if you just flash your membership card when paying, you will get whatever special discount is offered and the sponsor will come back next year. One of the hardest for example to say your stuff is Chris' Fish & Chip shop, but he is one that keeps a close eye on the business he gets from club members. Perhaps we should all get into the habit of carrying our membership cards at all times.

TELS TEASER

There are 100 buildings in a street. A sign maker is ordered to number the buildings from 1 to 100. How many "9's" will he need?

VLBA PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR TOUCHER TOPICS - DECEMBER 09

I would like to sincerely thank those ladies who donated goods and manned the stalls on our Gala Day to make it such a great success. Also thanks to the donors of goods for our Christmas Hampers which will be drawn at the Dinner Dance on 11th December.

It was pleasing to see so many ladies attend the Special General Meeting held after bowls on 24th November to decide how we would vote on the proposed unification with the RVBA to form Bowls Victoria. Although there may have been doubts in the minds of some members, the presentation given by Bruce Perry clearly showed that for bowls in Victoria to progress it is necessary to streamline the administration of the sport and for the VLBA and RVBA to work as one together for the betterment of all bowlers.

Having voted for the unification, Secretary Lyn and myself represented our VLBA affiliates at the Special General Meeting at Moonee Valley on 3rd December. Some 200 VLBA delegates were present at that meeting and over 80% of the clubs represented voted in favour of the unification. Over 85% of the RVBA delegates also voted in favour so an interim Board of Bowls Victoria can now be formed to complete the process of unification.

There will be no immediate change affecting our club or how we play pennant except that a new affiliation fee will be struck to replace the former VLBA and RVBA affiliation fees, thus those who play in both pennant competitions will only have to pay the one affiliation fee.

Those who attended the final of the Club Singles Championship saw a titanic struggle between Dot King and Annette Scutt with the score see-sawing throughout the 3-hour marathon. Both are to be congratulated for putting on the fine display we were privileged to witness with Annette eventually triumphing over Dot.

Congratulations also to June Davis who won the Group Novice Singles which was played at Glen Waverley at the same time as the club singles final.

To those on the sick list please get well soon, to those going away over the Christmas period please return safely, and to all our members have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year with your families and loved ones.

Margaret Learmonth
President VLBA Section

Club Pride

Just a small issue I've been thinking about for some time.

I really enjoy belonging to as fine a club as Boronia is, but I often think we could all do a little bit more to help keep our club clean and tidy.

Little things like picking up used drinking cups that often blow around the greens and surrounds, pushing our chairs back around tables after using them, make sure we wash our cups after enjoying a cuppa, and generally not expecting our volunteer cleaning crews and ladies to clean up after us.

We have so many marvelous people who do so much to make our club operate successfully, so C'mon fellas let's all do our bit to help, so we can be proud of our great club.

Garry Degenhardt

78s in the Long Room

During his dusty disturbance of the “long room”, Lindsay has found some “78s”.

Enrico Caruso - Chuido Gli Occhi (Il Sogno) in Italian
International Concert Orchestra – The Merry Widow
Bjorn Talen – Gralserzahlung Deutsch
International Concert Orchestra – Danube Waves
The Luton Girls Choir – You are my heart’s delight
Enrico Caruso – Vesti La Giubba (On with the Motley) in Italian
Giuseppe Di Sefhano – Addio Mignon in Italian
Les Paul and Mary Ford – The World is Waiting for Sunrise
Orchestra Des Grossen Schauspielhauses, Berlin – Spanish Romance

Can any member remember the source of this cache of memories?

Are they the club’s or do they belong to a current or former member?

An item you may have missed - Kim and Les Lucas

Couple dance to wedded bliss, five decades on

Anniversary | Michael Gleeson

LIKE so many great romances, Kim and Les Lucas' lifelong union started at a dance.

It was at the Box Hill Town Hall in 1967, and Mrs Lucas finally summoned the courage to talk to the twinkie-toed young man who had caught her eye weeks earlier.

"I used to watch him dance and thought I'd love to dance with him," Mrs Lucas said.

"I didn't know his name, but one night I heard one of his mates say 'hey Les', so I walked over to him and said 'hello Les'.

"He was surprised, but then a few minutes later walked over and asked me for a dance."

The pair, who are now both 71, married in 1969 and moved into the Boronia house they still call home.

Four children, 12 grandchildren and one great-grandchild (with another on the way) later, the loving couple are now counting down the days until their 50th anniversary on October 10.

They are hosting a family barbecue to celebrate the big day. Mr Lucas, a former farrier, said one of the keys to their longevity was that they never argued, especially when it came to one particular subject.

"We never argue about money, which is something I always tried to teach the kids," he said.

"Otherwise it's easy, as Kim makes all the decisions and I just go along!"

Kim and Les Lucas - still happy after decades together. N14KN602

Birthdays

December

Ian McLean, Henk Ellemans, Graeme Smith, Richard Allen, Maisie Dodds, Jack Higgs, Marion Lee, Graeme Turner

January

Alan Forster, Fred Wilson, Ray Bilton,, Maureen Bates, Cheryl McCarthy, Brian McCristal, Rob Trinnick, Peter Learmonth, Angelo Lia

VLBA Final



Sunday 6 December 2009 10am
Green timed at 14.75 seconds on the ramp
Women's final commenced on rink 4.
Annette Scutt is playing Dot King
Joan Connan is the marker
Leigh McLean is umpire and scoreboard official.
It is a calm cool morning. There are a few spectators here to see the first ends. Some plastic chairs have migrated to rink 6 on the green and a number of keen viewers have grabbed the chance to follow the final from this unique vantage point.
Dot began well with 2 shots on the first end, one on each of the third and fourth to lead 4 to 1.
Annette won the next for 2-4. Then, on a medium length end towards the clubhouse, Dot playing second drew a toucher with her first bowl, knocked her short second bowl in for 2 shots before drawing another shot with her final bowl. Dot leads 7-2 after 6 ends.
It's Dot's mat on the 7th end but after Annette held early shots, Dot hit the kitty back without luck – Annette picks up 3 shots. Annette elects for a long end – she bowls to advantage a big score – 4 shots the score is now Annette 9-7.
Annette starts a medium long end away from the clubhouse the bowls a short, long and wide, Dot draws best for 1 shot. Dot's mat – short to the ditch, Annette holds early but Dot's third bowl toucher is good till the end. 9 all then Dot 9-10.
Annette's mat, she rolls the kitty into the ditch, Dot rolls it short. Kitty is spotted on 2 meter mark Dot wins end with one shot. 10-10.
More spectators are arriving and sorting themselves around the green. The sun is warming as the competitors look for an advantage. The score goes Dot 10-13, 12-13, 13-13, 15-13 as the top side skip shows her talent.

Bruce has started barbequing sausages outside the pavilion has he seen a chink in Annette's game?
Inspired by the snags Annette's "Red" lines are finding their way to the kitty – Dot 15-14, 15-15, 15-16. Then Annette rolls a long end – Dot responds with two shots – Dot 17-16. A medium length end gives Annette two shots (none were very close) – Dot 17-18.
One to Dot, One to Annette, 2 to Dot, One to Annette it is 20 shots each after 25 ends.
Who will succeed in their quest for the title?
Annette gains one shot on the next, only to drop 2 on the 27th end after again rolling the kitty into the ditch and it subsequently being spotted after Dot rolled it short.
Annette wins 2 shots on the next end to lead 23 to 22. She promptly rolls kitty into the sand and Dot gives them a medium long end. Annette holds shot with her first bowl, then game when she draws a second. Dot draws shot with her second bowl. Annette draws shot with her last bowl but then Dot hits her own bowl up with her last. Umpire Leigh is asked to determine the result – Annette has 1 shot – she now leads 24-22. Deciding to follow her winning formula Annette takes the mat and promptly throws kitty into the sand. Dot rolls it truly – medium long. Annette puts the pressure on first bowl, she holds game with a resting toucher. Dot tries to move bowl or kitty while Annette draws a second shot. Dot's last effort is unsuccessful. **Annette is again our VLBA champion.**
30 ends of excellent bowls on a quick, then quicker green – 3 hours of tension and wonderful entertainment for all in attendance, both Dot and Annette deserve our heartfelt congratulations. Thanks for a mesmerizing final.

RVBA Final



Let's paint the scene. The sky is bright blue. The green is both brown and green. It is now fast and true. Some red and white bunting is flapping in the light zephyrs which play with this barrier. President Bruce Perry resplendent in RVBA jacket and tie has counseled the combatants regarding his marking role. Club webmaster and photographer Bryan Dennehy attends to the scoreboard whilst waiting for his umpiring roles. Rink 3 is the venue as the crowd resumes its seats after lunching on snags and salads prepared by Bruce le Grew and his elves. A row of chairs is lined up on rink 6 facing play, whilst a lone white chair sits on rink 2 awaiting a customer. Stephen Castle awaits his foe -multiple champion Les Lucas. Steve's nerves may have settled after his early arrival to enjoy the women's final prior to a short rollup on the back green. A coin is tossed Les has the mat he bowls his black Redline SRs close to the jack in the two end rollup whilst Steve uses his red Greenmaster Premiers. Steve is on top of the scoreboard with a yellow splash next to his score. The marker will hold high the yellow when Steve wins an end or a white if Les holds shot.

First end – Les's mat, played away from the clubhouse; Stephen draws shot with his first and wins the end with 3 shots. S 3-0. He gives Les the mat. A medium length end to the ditch is rolled. Steve's first bowl finds the sand as does Les's second. Les holds a jack-high shot with his third bowl. Steve's third rolls into the ditch, his fourth snicks the jack but to Les. Score S 3-1. Les keeps the mat Long end S 5-1. Short end S 5-3. Medium-long end S 8-3. End 6, Les has had the mat every end, rolls kitty into sand, Les first bowl about 2 feet short, the first red finds the sand, the second red is shot. A heavy response is in the ditch. Steve's last gives him two shots. He now leads by seven. S 10-3. Les wins two shots on medium length 7th end. S 10-5. Les again rolls kitty into the ditch but wins the end by one S 10-6. The jack misbehaves on the 9th as it rolls out of bounds to the left. Les is holding two as Steve unleashes an upshot which ditches the jack. Les wins one shot with his crafty back bowl. S 10-7. Steve wins the next two ends S 12-7 then S 13-7. Has he broken away? There is a murmur in the crowd. Les has had the mat for all 11 ends so far. Will he hand it to his opponent? No he retains the mat and wins the next five ends. S 13-9, S 13-10, S 13-11, S 13-12, S 13-13. Les has bridged Steve's lead and looking to assert his authority on the match. The 17th end is long, Steve draws shot jack-high with his second and another – he now leads 15-13. Les rolls a medium length end, Steve draws shot with his first and a second with his third, Les's final bowl deflects off a short bowl but doesn't change the score. S 17-13. A short end Steve has drawn two shots, one resting kitty, before Les drives and kills the end with his third bowl. Still S 17-13, onto the 20th end, short to the clubhouse, Les holds 4 shots as Steve's last bowl rolls past, slightly long and heavy. Loud cheers are heard from Les's supporters behind him on the green. Back to even-stevens S 17-17. then S 18-17, S 20-17, S 20-18, S 20-19, S 21-19, S 22-19 Steve can see the finish line. Les still has the mat on the 27th end, medium length he draws shot with his second and fourth bowl, he is bridging the gap the score is now S 22-21. Now in sight of the magical 25 shots Les hands Steve the mat. A medium length end is rolled Steve wins 2 shots. It is now S 24-21.

Les has the mat again. He chooses a long end. His first bowl is short. Steve is also short. Les's next is about 3 feet short. Steve draws a close shot with his second bowl. He is holding game. Les's third is long – trying to move either shot or kitty. Steve plays for cover behind the head. For Les, alas, his final bowl is long and wide. **Steve holds game and the championship.** He doesn't bowl his final bowl. Steve 25 – Les 21.

A worthy result to our new champion **Stephen Castle**.

Well played Les and Stephen. The spectators applaud then congratulate both players as the contractors bring their machine onto the green to cut its grass surface.

Soon after the game a young RVBA committeeman was heard to comment that Dad will now be unbearable at home!!



Front row seats



Umpire Leigh determines shot



Dot congratulates Annette



“Chef” Bruce prepares lunch



Les bowls a backhand



Stephen Castle, Les Lucas & Bruce Perry



Annette Scutt & Stephen Castle Champions 2009



Progress waits for no man

Liquor Licence

Our club has a liquor licence that allows our members, their guests and visitors to buy and consume alcohol at prescribed times within the licensed area – all of the club except the carpark. (our Executive further restricts the area –no alcohol allowed on the greens).

In response to some of the notorious late night activity at city and suburban night venues the State Government has decided to enforce licence compliance at licensed premises. They have employed some compliance officers to visit these premises.

As we found at about 10.45 am on Sunday 29 November, their compliance officers are going to visit clubs, such as ours, when they are open. The officer who visited our club inspected our bar area and foyer. He was shown our licence, which is hanging from the wall beside the bar and main office, as well as the visitor's book and compliance signs in the foyer. His visit was preliminary to any future compliance activity – more to point out any faults in our system and advise how to rectify them – we were missing some signs, and he felt the signs needed to be where the alcohol is served. He advised that his team has 25,000 premises to visit in a year.

What has this got to do with the club and you the member?

The bar manager and other members serving alcohol will continue to comply with the conditions of our licence.

Visitors shall sign the visitor's book - they will be asked whether they have signed it prior to being served alcohol.

To protect our licence and to ensure we comply with its restrictions and conditions, we ask that all members ensure that visitors have signed in.

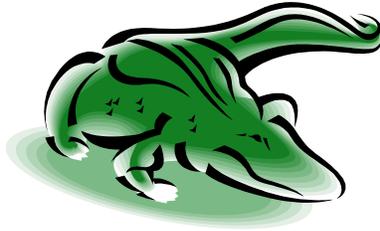


Shirley and Les Gardner celebrate 60 happy years together

Shirley and Les Gardner had a special celebration on Thursday 3 December. That day marked the 60th anniversary of their wedding at Williamstown on Saturday 3 December 1949. To mark this occasion our VLBA teams waited after pennant on 1 December to congratulate Shirley on this marvelous landmark in her life with Les.

TELS TEASER Answer:

He will need twenty "9's", one for the numbers 9, 19, 29, 39, 49, 59, 69, 79, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, and 98, and two for 99.



The director of a volunteer organization had called a meeting to address and resolve some contentious issues. The chairman began his address “ There have been a lot of allegations made around here, and I would like to know who the alligators are!”



Murphy’s Irish Medical Dictionary

ARTERY	The study of paintings	BACTERIA	Back door of a cafeteria
BARIUM	What doctors do when patients die	BOWEL	Letters like AEIOU
CAESAREAN SECTION	A neighbourhood in Rome	CAT SCAN	A search for kitty
CAUTERISE	Eye contact with her	DILATE	To live longer
ENEMA	Not a friend	NITRATES	Cheaper than day rates
PAP SMEAR	A fatherhood test	SEIZURE	A Roman Emperor
TUMOUR	More than one	URINE	Opposite to “your out”
VARICOSE	Nearby		



Murphy became sick of the city and took off to the bush for a few days. His wife was on a business trip and returning the next day. He decided to Email her but couldn’t remember her email address and put it in on memory only.

Unfortunately, he missed one letter and it was directed to an elderly preacher’s wife, whose husband had passed away the day before. When the grieving widow checked her email, she took one look at the monitor and fell to the floor in a dead faint.

The family rushed into the room and saw the note on the screen – “Dearest wife, just got checked in. Everything prepared for your arrival tomorrow.”

Cleaning Roster

7 Dec to 13 Dec	Team 3 Keith Scutt , Annette Scutt, George Bisset, Max Lyon, Troy Haartsen, Brian McCristal, Ken Maloney
14 Dec to 20 Dec	Team 4 Robert Trinnick , Peter South, Stuart Eastwood, Ted Nicholas, Greg Johnson, John King, Dot King
21 Dec to 27 Dec	Team 5 Lindsay Russell , Lesley Russell, Graeme Hockey
28 Dec to 3 Jan	Team 6 Angelo Lia , Henry & Margaret Grossbard, Ron Evans, John Jennings, Len Doddrell, Alan Horwood
4 Jan to 10 Jan	Team 7 Vin Roche , Ian McLean, Max McNaughton, LesLucas, Keith Groenewegen, David Treleaven
11 Jan to 17 Jan	Team 8 Tom Lucas , Olivia Lucas, Tom Bedohazy, Alan Forster, Paul Talbot, Barry & Mark Ward
18Jan to 24 Jan	Team 9 Terry Phillips , Brenda Phillips, Mal Barrow, Jack Higgs, Fred Wolske, David Fletcher, Sid Styles
25 Jan to 31 Jan	Team 10 Bruce Perry , Lin Perry, Ray Bilton, Garry Overs, Sheridan Lee, John Anderson, George Lynn

Team Leaders are on lock up for the above weeks.

New Members

David Alderman		Ken Graham	
Adrian Hager		Jim Jeffery	
Glenn Knight		Marion Lee	
Stephen Lucas		Fred Mohren	
Graham Turner		Rob Ward	

Welcome to all and welcome back Jim, Stephen and Rob who have returned to the club after some years.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Remember the club's website boroniabowls.org

Team selection, back copies of Toucher topics, photos, ladders, links Bryan has listed them all.