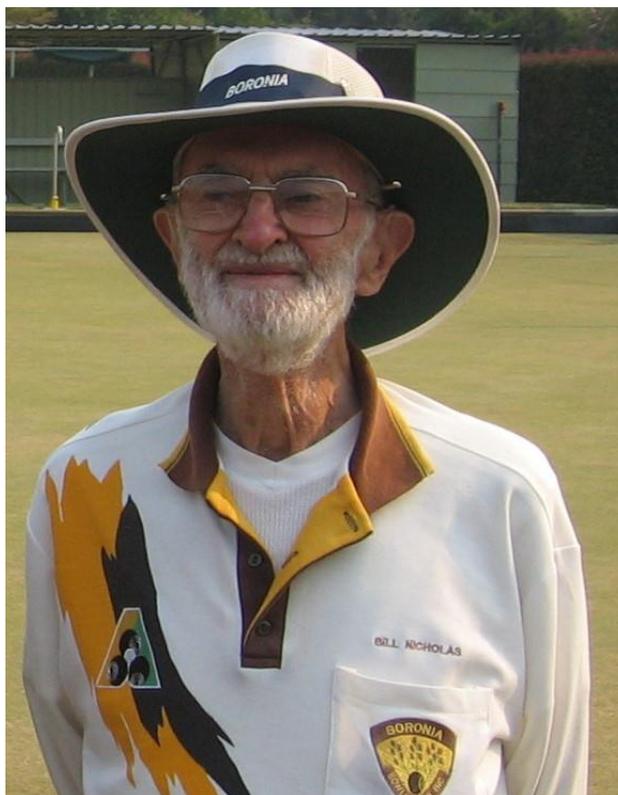




# TOUCHER TOPICS

BORONIA BOWLS CLUB NEWSLETTER MAY 2011



William St Just (Bill) Nicholas passed away 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2011

Ted and Marie Nicholas and family wish to sincerely thank the Boronia Bowls Club and all the members who offered their condolences and support following the recent peaceful passing of our father Bill Nicholas (7/5/1922 -3/4/2011).

We are especially grateful to the members who managed to attend the funeral and share our memories.

Your support during our time of sorrow is deeply appreciated.

"Bill lived a long, full and happy life (bowls being one of his greatest pleasures) and will be sadly missed by friends and family."

## The Barber

A guy stuck his head into a barbershop and asked, 'How long before I can get a haircut?'

The barber looked around the shop full of customers and said, 'About 2 hours.'

The guy left

A few days later, the same guy stuck his head in the door and asked, 'How long before I can get a haircut?'

The barber looked around at the shop and said, 'About 3 hours.'

The guy left.

A week later, the same guy stuck his head in the shop and asked, 'How long before I can get a haircut?'

The barber looked around the shop and said, 'About an hour and a half .'

The guy left.

The barber turned to his friend and said, 'Hey, Bob, do me a favour , follow him and see where he goes. He keeps asking how long he has to wait for a haircut, but he never comes back.'

A little while later, Bob returned to the shop, laughing hysterically.

The barber asked, 'So, where does he go when he leaves?'

Bob looked up, wiped the tears from his eyes and said, 'Your house!'



## Reunion

My wife and I were sitting at a table at her high school reunion, and she kept staring at a drunken man swigging his drink as he sat alone at a nearby table. I asked her, "Do you know him?" "Yes", she sighed, "He's my old boyfriend... I understand he took to drinking right after we split up those many years ago, and I hear he hasn't been sober since." "My God!" I said, "Who would think a person could go on celebrating that long?" And then the fight started.



## HARE AND TURTLE (with apologies to Aesop)

A rabbit raced a turtle  
You know the turtle won  
Mr Bunny came in late,  
A little hot cross bun.



Bob moved in with his girlfriend and her enormous collection of old magazines. They took up an entire room. "It's me or the magazines." Bob insisted. When she refused to part with any of them, Bob left. As he told his friends, she had too many issues.

Two aerials on a roof fell in love and got married. The wedding wasn't great but the reception was fantastic.

A woman walked into the kitchen to find her husband stalking around with a fly-swatter. "What are you doing?" she asked. "Hunting flies." He replied. "Oh, Killing any?" "Yep. Three males and two females." He replied. Intrigued she asked; "How can you tell?" "Three were on a beer can and two were on the phone." He said.

## **WELCOME TO CLUB SPONSORS**

State Member for Ferntree Gully      Nick Wakeling

Priceline.      Nick and Cassie Kokovitis

Boronia Denture Clinic      Graeme and Lorraine Klein

JZ Motors      Jeff and Jo Zaninelli

## **PREVENTION OF DAMAGE TO GREENS**

This letter will be sent or given to any bowler who, in the coach's opinion, needs assistance to avoid damage to the greens.

"Dear Member,

It has come to our attention that your bowls delivery may need adjustments to avoid potential damage to our greens. This is not an uncommon problem as there are many reasons a person loses the ability to get the bowl away smoothly.

With this in mind, a member of our coaching staff will contact you discreetly, to arrange a convenient time when you can have your delivery scrutinized, and receive help and advice on the necessary corrections to ensure a prolonged and happy involvement in our great game.

We trust you will accept this offer in the spirit in which it is given. Our priority is to ensure our own members can continue to enjoy their bowls, whilst at the same time protect our greens from avoidable damage.

Good bowling,

The Coaching Team."

## **WINTER COACHING**

Les Lucas is conducting organised coaching sessions each Sunday morning at 10 am.

Come along. You may improve your bowling.

# **V.L.B.A. CHAMPIONSHIP AND CLUB EVENTS**

## **WINNERS**

## **RUNNERS UP**

### **SINGLES**

Lesley Russell

Margaret Grossbard

### **PAIRS**

Annette Scutt  
Gill Dyson

Lesley Russell  
Brenda Degenhardt

### **TRIPLES**

Kath Perryman  
Barbara Kwijas  
Irene Hunnam

Lesley Russell  
Gloria Spinks  
Wilma Paus

### **FOURS**

Dot King  
Marg. Carty  
Pauline Edwards  
Cheryl McCarthy

Annette Scutt  
Joan Connan  
Irene Hunnam  
Marne Wynn

### **PROPORTIONAL 100 UP**

Annette Scutt

Irene Hunnam

### **OPEN 2 BOWL SINGLES**

**No Games This Year**

### **MINOR SINGLES 4 BOWL**

Pauline Edwards

June Davis

### **PRESIDENT'S TROPHY**

Lesley Russell  
Gwen Brown  
Pam Hughes  
Shirley Gardener

### **MADGE DOBSON TROPHY**

Graeme Ashmore  
Tom Lucas  
Gwen Brown

# **R. V. B. A. CHAMPIONSHIPS & CLUB EVENTS**

	<b>WINNER/S</b>	<b>RUNNER/S UP</b>
<b>SINGLES</b>	Troy Haartsen	Angelo Lia
<b>PAIRS</b>	Bruce Perry Gary Degenhardt	Terry Phillips Alan Horwood
<b>TRIPLES</b>	Terry Phillips Bob Murray Alan Horwood	Greg Johnson Gary Degenhardt Vin Roche
<b>FOURS</b>	Vin Hughes Angelo Lia Gerry Gommers Gary Overs	John Cowling Barry Ward Brad Castle John McCarthy
<b>MIXED PAIRS</b>	George Bisset Dot King	Gerry Gommers Joan Connan
<b>PROPORTIONAL 100 UP</b>	Ted Nicholas	John Mc Carthy
<b>OPEN 2 BOWL SINGLES</b>	Ted Nicholas	Troy Haartsen
<b>MINOR SINGLES - 4 BOWL</b>	David Treleven	David Alderman
<b>MINOR SINGLES - 2 BOWL</b>	Manfred Mohren	David Alderman
<b>RON EASTLAKE PERPETUAL (NOVICE BOWLERS)</b>	Manfred Mohren	Jeff Edwards
<b>CHANDLER TRIPLES</b>	Vin Hughes Bruce LeGrew Jeff Edwards	
<b>GROSSBARD TROPHY</b>	Brian Carolan Wilma Paus	
<b>EASTER CUP</b>	Joy Curtis Rob Curtis Max Lyon	
<b>PRESIDENTS' TROPHY</b>	Troy Haartsen Graeme Ashmore Ron Marsh	
<b>CLUB KILSYTH CLASSIC</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Phillip Rees & Team (Dromana) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Cliff Fothergill & Team (Berwick) 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place Ed Benetti & Team (Vermont South)	

**This is the eulogy spoken at Bill's funeral – It has been reproduced here with Ted's permission.  
"Our Bill" led an interesting and different life:**

**WILLIAM ("BILL") St JUST NICHOLAS  
07.05.22 – 03.04.11  
88 Years**

Bill was born in Auburn on 7<sup>th</sup> May 1922. He was the fourth of six children born to parents Edgar and *Marie* Nicholas; the children being *Dava*, Ted, Peggy, BILL, Jim and Janice.

Bill was brought up in Beechworth until the age of 12 years when the family moved to Camberwell where he lived until entering the Army. As a youngster in Beechworth Bill was baptised on 20<sup>th</sup> June 1925 in the Presbyterian Church where the family attended. Bill was told he had to attend church each week-end but because he marched to his own drum during his teen age years attended the Seventh Day Adventist Church on Saturdays. His family was very conservative and supported the Liberal Party. It was disconcerting to them naturally when Bill flirted with communism at the time.

After gaining his matriculation (now VCE) he gained an apprenticeship in aeronautical engineering at Fisherman's Bend. This love of aviation was apparent from an early age and as a young boy was known to go to school and ride his bicycle from Camberwell to Essendon to watch the planes taking off and landing.

His apprenticeship was interrupted by the WW2 and when this country was in peril answered the call and enlisted in the defence of the nation. He enlisted at Camberwell on 20<sup>th</sup> October 1941 and served in Signals until his discharge on 11<sup>th</sup> March 1947. Bill served in New Guinea but during his training a shell exploded close by him and he was predominantly deaf in one ear.

While in New Guinea he enjoyed playing cricket with the natives who always won, even though they didn't have shoes or pads. He was amused by their house boy who, when he washed the clothes, used to boil up his shoes as well – not good for anything white!

Bill was moved to tears by the natives singing the Maori farewell "Now is the Hour" when his ship departed to bring the soldiers back home.

After the War the Government was offering returned service persons the opportunity to undertake "fast track" training programs and in this way Bill gained his qualification as a Primary Teacher. At the age of 50 years however his career took another change of course. He became a farmer and grazier in southern NSW near Balranald and in 1983 he qualified as a Wool Classer.

Bill was a charming and handsome young man and when living at Camberwell his sisters girl friends were always keen to come to their house with a chance of making an impression on him. As it turned out one of *Dayva's* friends – Muriel Denmead – did succeed and after a courtship and while in uniform, Bill married Muriel in his parent's home in 1946. Bill and Muriel lived at Kangaroo Ground and were blessed with three children: Ted (1946), Heather (1949) and John (1954).

When the children were growing up and they were living at Mildura and he was teaching at Irymple, Bill always went away camping with the family for school holidays to places such as the Hattah Lakes and the Flinders Ranges.

After the War Bill became heavily involved in politics and found that socialism appealed to his sense of social justice and egalitarianism. In his own time he became an organizer for the ACTU and when in his 30's stood for election for the ALP in the safe Country Party blue ribbon seat of Sunraysia. Bill's union and political activities came to the notice of the Education Department who told him that this was not

compatible with his responsibilities as a Primary Teacher and if he continued they would sack him. Accordingly, Bill, again being his own man, moved to Hawthorn East and took a transfer to Merri Primary School. With a growing family he needed the promotion and felt that his extra curricula activities would go un-noticed because he was then a much smaller fish in a much bigger pond.

Bill bought a hobby farm at Strath Creek near Flowerdale, north of Melbourne, and this allowed him to give expression to his love of country life, animals and the bush. When his three children had left home Bill resigned from the Education Department and in 1977 went full time farming near Swan Hill. He enjoyed this lifestyle until the mid 1980's when he retired. Bill and Muriel then packed up their belongings and undertook a trip around Australia to find a suitable place for them to spend their retirement years. Unfortunately Muriel soon became ill and she and Bill came to stay with their son Ted. Muriel was found to have a brain tumour and sadly after 3 months passed away.

Bill bought a property at Euroa and lived there for about five years or so when he met Betty who became his companion. He sold up at Euroa and went to live with Betty in the Traralgon area. Unfortunately Betty had to enter a Nursing Home and so Bill went to live with Ted and *Marie* in Ashburton soon after they were married in 2003. Bill then came with them to their new home in Wantirna South. Bill was very fond of *Marie's* niece Ivana who had lived with them for 10 months at Ashburton.

Bill was a very intelligent and interesting man who always enjoyed a robust discussion. He was never one of life's spectators but was very much involved in life and the society in which he lived and he variously supported and was involved in the following organizations:

Box Hill Chess Club  
Melbourne Chess Club  
Tooleybuc Bowls Club  
Aborigines Advancement League  
Trades Hall Council  
ACTU  
Basketball premiership for Mildura Working Men's Club

Bill was a very kind person. He introduced his sister Janice to his friend Jack who later became her husband. Jack always appreciated Bill and Muriel's kindness in inviting him to Ingleside at Kangaroo Ground for weekends away. Jack was intrigued that while Bill was milking the cows he was deciding on his next chess move. He loved playing chess and played by mail and had many games on the go at any one time. With only one move possible with each letter Bill must have been a very patient man.

He was certainly very intelligent, widely read, passionate and energetic, very generous, a people person who loved children and loved life. He loved animal and had a number of German Shepherds over the years, and was very fond of his little VW. He liked to spend his money and was always buying the latest gadget, he was an accumulator and never threw things away.

Bill enjoyed good health all his life and didn't believe in doctors. He firmly trusted in Nature to heal itself and so never took medication of any kind. However, as with all things in nature the old gives way to the new and sadly, on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2011, while watching the football on TV with his son Ted, Bill passed away quietly and peacefully in his armchair.

He will be deeply missed by Ted, Marie, his sister Janice and all who were his friends.

# THANK YOU

Everybody who did their duty when rostered or not – Volunteers keep our club vital.

Everybody who bowled and filled our greens with the sounds of friendly competition.

Our Executive committee members for your time, expertise and input.

Our Bowls Sections and Presidents Joan and Bruce – you both can proudly look back on your period at the helm with the satisfaction of jobs well done.

Our Selection Committees you selected without fear or favour.

Our Tournament Committees for all the work of organising games, supervising competitions and liaising with players, markers and greens-staff.

To Guy Wallace for his determination to make our greens a pleasure to bowl on.

To Stephen Castle and his volunteers for reintroducing Friday night social bowls.

To ever-young Maisie Dodds and one of her apprentices Keith Scutt for manning the bar on Pennant and other bowls days.

To everyone I missed – thank you for a wonderful bowls season.

## OLDER BUT GOLDER

MAY			JUNE		
EDITH	WHITEHALL	3rd	LEON	GEMMELL	1st
VIN	ROCHE	7th	VINCENT	HUGHES	3rd
WILLIAM	MARTIN	10th	SHIRLEY	BARROW	4th
DANNY	McCARTHY	14th	ROYCE	WARDLE	4th
ANNETTE	SCUTT	19th	GILLIAN	DYSON	5th
KEN	MALONEY	22nd	MARGUERITE	CONNELL	6th
MALCOLM	BARROW	24th	LESLEY	RUSSELL	9th
BRUCE	LE GREW	27th	HANS	ERIKSEN	10th
BARBARA	KLIGERMAN	31st	HELEN	ASTON	10th
			HILARY	BROADWELL	20th
			GARRY	OVERS	20th
			DAVID	TRELEAVEN	26th
			BETTY	COULSON	27th
JULY			AUGUST		
TROY	HAARTSEN	2nd	JOHN	COWLING	9th
STEPHEN	CASTLE	5th	ROBERT	HARVEY	10th
KEVIN	GAMEL	7th	MARGARET	CARTY	17th
MANFRED	MOHREN	12th	ROBERT	WARD	17th
SHIRLEY	MOXON	17th	MAX	McNAUGHTON	20th
GERALD	KLIGERMAN	20th	ROBERT	LANCASTER	21st
SID	STYLES	20th	JEFF	EDWARDS	21st
DONALD	KORVER	21st	LEX	HARDIE	22nd
ANGELA	LEE	22nd	WILLIAM	PAUS	22nd
SHERIDAN	LEE	22nd	BRUCE	PERRY	24th
ELAINE	COBB	24th	RITA	LYNN	25th
ALAN	HORWOOD	26th	JOHN	JENNINGS	25th
TOM	LUCAS	27th	DOUGLAS	SMITH	28th
FRED	WOLSKE	28th	ALAN	COBB	30th
GARRY	DEGENHARDT	31st			

