



TOUCHER TOPICS

BORONIA BOWLS CLUB NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2012

Annual Subscriptions are due now and should be paid by August 31.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

As a new season is about to commence I extend a hearty welcome to returning and new bowlers and trust that we all may enjoy participation in the various competition and social activities planned for the year. Unfortunately, we will sadly miss Robbie Ward who was taken from us early this month after a short illness. During his time at the club Robbie endeared himself to everyone and the high esteem in which he was held was reflected by the many members who attended the service to celebrate Robbie's life.

Bowlers who may have been disappointed with the limited availability of the tiftwarf green over the winter period are advised that this action was necessary to protect the green from damage during the period of dormancy in order to ensure a good playing surface at the commencement of the new season. Like other grass greens, tiftwarf needs a period of rest and experience has shown that clubs who have subjected their tiftwarf greens to heavy use over the winter months incur considerable repair and maintenance work in the following season before their green achieves peak performance.

At the end of last season it was necessary to recall our club shirts due to a copyright issue. Replacement shirts will be provided to club members in time for the new pennant season.

I sincerely thank those members who have taken up committee positions for the new season and look forward to working with you to ensure a successful year for our great club. Like many other clubs we only exist through the goodwill of our members and their willingness to volunteer to fill committee positions. I trust that those who were unable to nominate for positions this season will seriously consider serving the club in some capacity in the near future as we must all be willing to do so if the club is to survive as a viable entity.

Peter Learmonth
Executive Director

OFFICE HOLDERS

Executive Director	Peter Learmonth
Executive Secretary & Treasurer	Carol Ashmore
Deputy Executive Director & Ladies President	Margaret Grossbard
Mens President	Bryan Dennehy
Admissions Officer (collects subs)	Elvie Williams
Bar Manager	Garry Degenhardt
Sponsorship Officer	Rob Curtis
Property Manager	Graeme Ashmore
Ladies Secretary	Annette Scutt
Mens Secretary	Bruce Le Grew
Ladies Selection Committee Chairperson	Pam Hughes
Mens Selection Committee Chairperson	Bill Paus
Ladies Tournament Committee Secretary	Irene Hunnam
Mens Tournament Committee Secretary	Ian McLean

SPONSORS CORNER

Well it's the start of another bowls season and our club needs the support of our loyal sponsors. Where possible support them for a quote, advice or friendly chat.

Metro Cinemas Boronia & Croydon. Ph. 97628744

Good value theatre tickets and friendly, staff - take the grandkids during school holidays.

Martello Motors Automotive Services.

8 Thomas Street Fern Tree Gully. Ph.9758 5860. For all your automotive problems. Very professional service at a real price. He will also service your new car under warranty.

Venetian Blind Carpet Cleaning.

Call RUDY 0430 489 755 for free no quote. He does Venetian blind cleaning and is a strong supporter of the Boronia Bowls Club

J Z Motors

Burwood Highway Fern Tree Gully Ph.97522799

If you are in the market for a vehicle see Jeff Zaninelli for a good deal on a second hand vehicle.

Escape Travel

Shop 1089 Knox City Shopping Centre Ph. 92987600.

For all your travel arrangements and special deals call Jade and the friendly staff will arrange some great travel packages for you.

When you visit our sponsors ALWAYS tell them you are from Boronia Bowls Club

LADIES PRESIDENT REPORT

Welcome back everyone. It is great to see everyone returned safe and well from their winter break and hopefully enthusiastic for the 2012-2013 season.

We are looking forward to another great year, having entered 4 sides for our Tuesday Pennant Competition. We will have 2 Ladies only sides of 12 as well as an Open 12 and an open 8 side. The open competition is very strong, so if there are any men who would like to play, please see Pam Hughes or any of the ladies on the selection committee.

We are hoping to organise a few activities this year. We are having a "fashions on the Green" dinner & bowls on Cup Eve. Our special effort raffle will be drawn on that evening as well as the cup sweeps. On 23rd Nov, we are having Tillow Fashions coming to the club for a fashion parade. They have brands such as Black Pepper, Kolotex, Bonds & many other brands. Please put these dates in your diary & come along have fun & support the club. Elvie will also be having her coffee mornings this season. These were very successful last year & a great way to socialise and get to know your fellow members.

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard on the cleaning day and also the ladies & gentleman who set up the tables for opening day. I would also like to thank the ladies committee for doing the afternoon tea. Thanks also to John Cowling & Lesley for providing & arranging the flowers. I would like to wish everyone a terrific & successful season

Enjoy & Good Bowling

Margaret Grossbard

OUR NEWEST LIFE MEMBER - MAISIE DODDS



Maisie Dodds

In May 2012, at the Annual General Meeting our members voted unanimously that Maisie Dodds be granted Life Membership of our club for the outstanding work she has done for many seasons.

Maisie said she is happy to receive this honour. Of course "she loves you all".

Congratulations Maisie.

MENS PRESIDENT REPORT

Welcome back to all members. I trust that those who have been fortunate enough to travel North and elsewhere for the winter have enjoyed their travels and have returned home safely.

The weather is slowly improving and the greens are looking good. Time to get into it.

Regarding pennant this season, there have been some changes. Our Saturday 4th side was unfortunately relegated to 6th division, the challenge is to get back into 5th division. Tuesday pennant sees the introduction of 2 open sides. Boronia 3 is in division 2 so all those men who want a bit of competition, here's your chance.

Night pennant continues with 2 sides ably managed by John McCarthy and Mark Ward. Always a good competition on Tuesday night.

Barefoot bowls is scheduled to start in October. Last season this activity proved to be very popular with new bowlers. As well as helping to raise much needed funds for the club, it is a great introduction to the game of bowls for the general public. We could always do with some more members to help out with running the night. A good time is assured.

Just a reminder that our club relies on its members to help run the club, be it running nights like barefoot, working bees or just general cleaning. Just think what a fantastic club we could have if everyone did a little bit. Many hands make light work!

Good luck for the coming season.



Bryan Dennehy
President Mens Section

PIE NIGHT

On Thursday 20 September a pie night is arranged for Saturday pennant bowlers. New club pennant shirts will be handed out on this night to financial members.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Richard Allen has moved to Benalla.

He writes:

"Hi everyone,

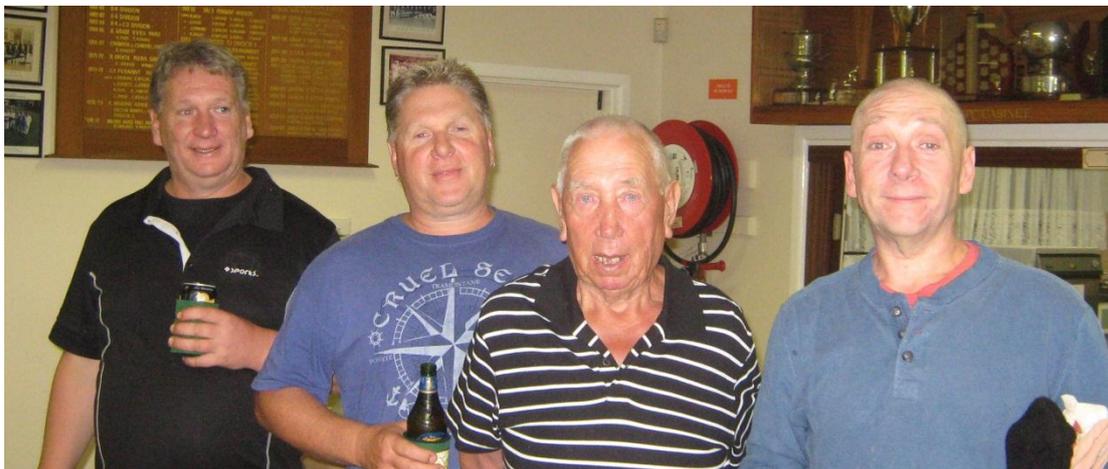
How is life there? A lot quieter I imagine.

Could you please include my address in Toucher Topics for me as an open invitation to any members who happen to be in the area.

My address is 115 Sydney Rd. Benalla 3672 Ph 03 5762 3519 Mob. 0434 357 021

Thanks to all members for the good times Merrin and I had at the club."

Regards Richard.



Rob Ward with his sons Mark, Neil and Barry

(pictured on March 15 2012 when Barry lost his beard and hair for Pizza Club's Children's Hospital donation)

On Tuesday 7 August Rob Ward passed away at Knox Private Hospital. His family were with him and he was pain-free and lucid until he went. The previous Saturday Rob was bowling at Bayswater with Max Lyon and John McCarthy. After the first game which they had won 14 shots to 4, Rob asked to be excused from the second game because he was struggling. He said he could hardly climb the stairs to the clubhouse. After the day finished Barry and Rob decided he should go to Knox Private Hospital to be checked out. He was admitted with slight pneumonia, but his condition deteriorated quickly over the next days.

Barry allowed the club to use part of the eulogy, spoken at Rob's funeral, in this tribute.

The funeral at Lilydale Memorial Park was attended by a huge number of family members and friends.

Rob Ward's Eulogy:

There are no words of comfort that can cushion the shock experienced when one is faced with sudden and unexpected death. Today, you are all fellow mourners united in the common bond of love, and grief for Rob. It is a time to pause and reflect on Rob's life which ended so suddenly last Tuesday and his family hope that he is now reuniting with his beloved wife Lorraine, whom he always called "Sue". Rob was the much loved father of Neil and Debbie, Mark and Barry, the loving Pop of Brandon, Nathan and Gareth. Rob was younger brother to Ron, and identical twin brother and best mate to Colin.

There are many facts we can list about Rob Ward. He had a great sense of humour and shared it freely amongst his family and friends. He loved playing bowls, and wished he'd taken it up years earlier, he followed Carlton footy club, and loved to watch cricket on the tv. He was not much of a reader, but he loved to listen to Keith McGowan on the radio. He was a very cautious driver, and always arrived at appointments far earlier than he needed to. He loved his food, and his favourite food was – deep fried anything. But by far, the truest fact we can state about Rob Ward is the love he felt for his family.

Robert George Ward was born at a maternity home in Ferntree Gully on Monday 17 August 1936 to parents Len and Gladys. Rob had an older brother, Ron and he was older brother to Colin, who was born half an hour later than Rob. These two brothers continued to be inseparable throughout their lives.

The Ward family lived on Dorset Road, Boronia, opposite Elsie Street and Rob and Colin walked the short distance to Boronia State School each day to receive their education. As soon as school had finished for the day, the two Ward brothers raced up the hill to the family market garden where they had a list of chores that needed to be completed. Life was not easy for anyone in the 1940's, and this was particularly

so for Rob and Colin. They wore heavy army boots on their feet, and their chores included feeding the horses, tending to the vegetables as well as fixing machinery that needed repairing.

They were a mischievous pair, none the less, often confusing their teachers, and their parents..... When holidays could be taken, the Ward family loaded themselves and bales of hay in the back of a covered wagon and were driven by horse over to Lysterfield. It would take half a day to get there, and they boys enjoyed fishing and rabbiting. Rob and Col also rode their bikes from their home in Boronia over to Coldstream where they would spend the day ferreting for rabbits. On the long ride home they would be carrying their ferrets and the haul of rabbits they caught.

Rob and Col left school the day before they turned 14 years of age. Their father, Len took them into partnership with him on his market garden, and the brothers worked long and hard together. For a respite from work, the Ward brothers played cricket. Remembering these two lads were identical twins caused some bother to the opposing cricket teams at times. You see, Rob was a right handed batsman, and Col was left handed. Just to mix things up a bit, sometimes Rob would come out to the crease and take the batting position of a left hander. The opposing team would arrange their fielders accordingly, and when they were set, Rob would shift to his preferred right hand stance. On more than one occasion, the opposition teams were left scratching their heads. Rob was a very good cricketer – very handy with the bat, and also an opening bowler who once took a hat trick. He played cricket until well into his 30's, and made many friends along the way. In fact, Rob Ward made friends where ever he went.

Those of you, who knew Rob so well, will know he was a character who loved to play a joke with his brother Colin. Back in the day, progressive dances were a very popular way for young people to get to know each other. Rob, being the elder of the twins, would often place himself a few dancers ahead of Col, and when the girls had danced with Rob, they found themselves dancing opposite Col. However, most of the girls were perplexed, and said, sometimes indignantly to Col, "I've already danced with you....." Ah, the joys **and** the trials of being an identical twin.

The Ward family were early settlers of Boronia, and they watched the township grow over the years. They were very excited when the first milk bar opened, just near the corner of Dorset and Boronia Roads. Rob was probably more pleased than anyone, because it was in this milk bar he fell in love. The Ewen family owned the milk bar and the very first time Rob Ward stepped inside that shop and laid eyes on young Lorraine Ewen, he was smitten. It is fair to say that it was love at first sight for both of them. Rob was only 16 years old, and Lorraine was 14, and still at school. Their romance continued to blossom and grow, and they were married at the Church of England in Boronia in 1958. They honeymooned in Port Arlington, and their honeymoon continued for the next 54 years, until Lorraine's sad passing on 2nd. October, 1996. Rob and Lorraine welcomed with love each of their three sons, Neil in 1962, Mark in 1964, and Barry in 1970.

The Ward family's market garden land in Boronia was reclaimed by the government to build a high school. With older brother Ron off creating a life of his own, Rob and Col purchased a market garden in Yellingbo, and continued to work side by side.

Family holidays were spent at first camping in tents at the Pondage Caravan Park in Eildon, and later when Heard's Tourist Park opened, the Ward families were the first on site. Altogether, a group of five families would travel up to Eildon every second weekend, and Rob thoroughly enjoyed the camaraderie of his friends, and also the valuable time he could spend with his three sons –finding pleasure in watching his

sons discover the simple joys to be found in camping in the country. Rob was a hands on dad who taught his boys many things – fishing, the land, and life skills. He began to teach eldest son Neil to drive, and after a while, handed that task over to Lorraine. Both Rob and Colin were very cautious drivers. They had no problems with the scenery passing them by in a blur, they drove slow enough to enjoy their surrounds. One time at the caravan park, Neil was in the shower block and heard two men bemoaning “that slow driver in the blue fairlane” and he knew exactly who they were talking about.

In the early 1990s, Rob and Lorraine decided to open up their own nursery and called it Robaine. They bought a house on a generous block of land and created their own retail nursery on the Corner of Margaret Road and Monbulk Silvan Road in Mt. Evelyn. It became a very successful nursery, and still the two brothers were helping each other out. It was Colin who gladly volunteered to help Rob install his sprinkler system.

When it was time to move on from their Robaine Nursery, Rob found employment with Aumann’s nursery in Templestowe. It was whilst he was working here, that his beloved wife Lorraine, always known as Sue to Rob, became ill. Lorraine was struck down with the insidious disease, breast cancer, and no amount of love or care could save her. It is true that a lot of the light in Rob’s life dimmed when Lorraine passed away. His sons had grown up and were creating independent lives of their own. Neil and Debbie had married, and their eldest son Brandon was just a baby. The love of Rob’s family and his love for his new grandson helped to ease his immense grief. Rob became a very proud Poppy to his three grandsons, Brandon, Nathan and Gareth, and as they have grown he answered to Pop. He was very proud watching the next generation of young Ward men play cricket, and he attended all their school productions too.

Rob supported his sons in all of their endeavours – from swimming club when they were younger, to cricket when they were a little older, and now of course, playing pennant bowls with them on a Tuesday night.

At one stage, Neil, Mark and Barry worked together as plasterers. One time they were on a job at the RSL in Rosebud, and the sparkys on the job challenged the plasterers to a game of bowls. They all had a great time, and began to play regularly when they returned to Melbourne.

About 10 years ago, Boronia Bowling Club was holding an open day. Rob’s sons decided to take him down, and suggested he would know most of the people there and he might enjoy the day. And enjoy the day he did. And he continued to enjoy each day he spent with his bowling companions. One of Rob’s proudest moments was at the end of the 2010-2011 season when he was named Most Valuable Player for the Boronia Bowls Club, and the trophy he won was sponsored and presented by his sons Mark and Barry. He did not rest on his laurels though, even after being recognised for his sportsmanship and ability with a bowl. He often told his children, that he was in training for the Commonwealth Games, and was just waiting for the phone call.

With regular bowling days, and helping his brother Colin with his stall at the Caribbean Market, Rob’s life was busy indeed. When asked if he could babysit his grandsons on the school holidays, Rob informed Neil and Debbie that he could only help them on a Tuesday – every other day was taken up. Not only did Col enjoy Rob’s company at the market, they two brothers played golf each week at Olinda. It is common knowledge in his family that Rob is part reptile, because he never, ever felt the cold. Even up at Olinda, Col says before Rob hit off his first tee stroke, at 6.30 in the morning, he would take his jumper off. Rob had

rejoined life, and his family was happy to see him enjoying himself, although they knew that not one day passed when he did not think of Lorraine.

No one was more shocked than Rob's family when they received the news that their beloved brother, father and grandfather was suffering a more serious illness than pneumonia. Just nine days earlier he was enjoying a game of bowls with friends, and no doubt looking forward to a meal of deep fried something.

But, so suddenly, Rob has gone, and you are left with sadness in your hearts, and a hole in your lives. May the loving memories you hold of this wonderful man help to ease your pain.



Rob pictured with Bryan McCristal and Danny McCarthy (Presentation night May 2005)



You don't stop smiling because you get old
You get old because you stop smiling



I did not know this...

When you drink vodka over ice, it can give you kidney failure.
When you drink rum over ice, it can give you liver failure.
When you drink whisky over ice, it can give you heart problems.
When you drink gin over ice, it can give you brain problems.

Apparently, **ice** is really bad for you.

Warn all your friends.

PRACTICE MATCHES

Please check notice boards to record your availability for these games.

The fixture book has information about these matches.

OLDER BUT GOLDER

August

John Cowling (9th); Robert Harvey (10th); Amy Walsh (15th); Bob Lancaster, Jeff Edwards (21st); Marg Carty (17th); Bill Paus (22nd); Lex Hardie (22nd); John Cupples (22nd); Bruce Perry (24th); John Jennings (25th); Doug Smith (28th); Alan Cobb (30th)

September

Keith Scutt (4th); David Alderman (6th); Margaret Learmonth (9th); Pam Hughes (12th); Pat Edwards (18th); Marianne Wolske (21st); Ian Ball (23rd); Les Moxon (24th); Graham Worthington (24th); Geoff Woodford (24th); Peter South (24th); David Fletcher (24th); Pat Walton (26th); Kevin Hamond (26th); Geoff Turner (27th); Pat Harvey (28th); Tom Bedohazy (29th); Terry Phillips (30th)

These members turned older after Anzac day:

May

Edith Whitehall (3rd); Vin Roche (7th); Gloria Spinks (13th); Annette Scutt (19th); Ken Maloney (22nd); Mal Barrow (24th); Bruce Le Grew (27th); Neil Ward (29th); Barbara Kligerman (31st)

June

Vin Hughes (3rd); Shirley Barrow (4th); Royce Wardle (4th); Gillian Dyson (5th); Marguerite Connell (6th); Lesley Russell (9th); Hans Eriksen (10th); Garry Overs (20th); John Robinson (24th); David Treleaven (26th); Betty Coulson (27th)

July

Graeme Greene (1st); Troy Haartsen (30 on 2nd); Stephen Castle (5th); Kevin Gamel (7th); Manfred Mohren (12th); Angela Carolan (13th); Lorraine Dennehy (17th); Shirley Moxon (17th); Gerald Kligerman (20th); Don Korver (21st); Sheridan Lee (22nd); Alan Horwood (26th); Tom Lucas (27th); Garry Degenhardt (31st).

WINTER BOWLS

Carpet Bowls

Each Tuesday Edith Whitehall and Pauline Edwards ran games of carpet bowls. Most weeks 16 or more bowlers enjoyed these games. Significantly more than \$700 was banked by the club for these events.

Outside/Inside Bowls

Wednesday and Saturday mixed bowls were played until the end of June, either on the front green or on our indoor carpets if the weather was inclement. A highlight of these days was Bruce Le Grew's soup of the day. Sadly the maximum attendance was only 19 bowlers for any of these days.

CLEANING ROSTER 2012-13

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Sun To Sat</u>	-	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Sun To Sat</u>
<u>TEAM NO. 1</u>						
John McCarthy		19 Aug to 25 Aug	-	Bruce LeGrew		26 Aug to 1 Sept
Brian Carolan		18 Nov to 24 Nov	-	John Cupples		25 Nov to 1 Dec
Don Edwards		24 Feb to 2 Mar		Heather Cupples		3 Mar to 9 Mar
Cheryl McCarthy				Irene Hunnam		
Bradley Castle				Jeff Edwards		
Gerry Gommers				Myra LeGrew		
Peter Croker				Noel Comport		
<u>TEAM NO. 2</u>						
<u>TEAM NO. 3</u>						
Keith Scutt		2 Sep to 8 Sep		Rob & Joy Curtis		9 Sep to 15 Sep
Annette Scutt		2 Dec to 8 Dec		Peter South		9 Dec to 15 Dec
George Bisset		10 Mar to 16 Mar		Stuart Eastwood		17 Mar to 23 Mar
Max Lyon				Greg Johnson		
Troy Haartsen				David Treleaven		
Brian McCristal				Mark Westley		
Paul McAloney						
<u>TEAM NO. 4</u>						
<u>TEAM NO. 5</u>						
Lindsay Russell		16 Sep to 22 Sep		Angelo & Carol Lia		23 Sep to 29 Sep
Lesley Russell		16 Dec to 22 Dec		Henry Grossbard		30 Dec to 5 Jan
Irene Major		24 Mar to 30 Mar		Margaret Grossbard		31 Mar to 6 Apr
Bob Williams				Ron Evans		
Graeme Greene				John Jennings		
Noel Dowler				Len Doddrell		
				Alan Horwood		
<u>TEAM NO. 6</u>						
<u>TEAM NO. 7</u>						
Vin Roche		30 Sep to 6 Oct		Bryan Dennehy		7 Oct to 13 Oct
Ian Mclean		6 Jan to 12 Jan		John Robinson		13 Jan to 19 Jan
Margaret Woodford		7 Apr to 13 Apr		Brenda Degenhardt		14 Apr to 20 Apr
Les Lucas				Alan Forster		
Keith Groenewegen				Graeme Turner		
David Alderman				Barry & Mark Ward		
Manfred Mohren				Stuart Schmolling		
<u>TEAM NO. 8</u>						
<u>TEAM NO. 9</u>						
Terry Phillips		14 Oct to 20 Oct		Bruce & Lin Perry		21 Oct to 27 Oct
Brenda Phillips		20 Jan to 26 Jan		David Inglis		27 Jan to 2 Feb
Malcolm Barrow		21 Apr to 27 Apr		Ray Bilton		28 Apr to 4 May
Jack Higgs				Garry Overs		
Daniel Price				Ron Marsh		
David Fletcher				George Lynn		
<u>TEAM NO. 10</u>						
<u>TEAM NO. 11</u>						
Vin Hughes		28 Oct to 3 Nov		Derek Pitt		4 Nov to 10 Nov
Ian Ball		3 Feb to 9 Feb		Ernst Burian		10 Feb to 16 Feb
Kevin Hamond		5 May to 11 May		Tom & Olivia Lucas		11 May to 18 May
Robert Lancaster				Bill Paus		
John & Dot King				Alan Cobb		
				Don Korver		
<u>TEAM NO. 12</u>						
<u>TEAM NO. 13</u>						
Graeme Ashmore		11 Nov to 17 Nov				
Royce Wardle		17 Feb to 23 Feb				
Tom Pieters		18 May to 25 May				
Hans Eriksen						
Geoff Turner						
Gwen Brown						

