



# TOUCHER TOPICS

## BORONIA BOWLS CLUB NEWSLETTER SEPT 2013

**WELCOME TO THE NEW SEASON, MAY WE ALL ENJOY IT.**

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT.**

It was with much sadness that we heard of the passing of John Cowling in July. For those of us who have been members for a long time, will remember the huge contribution John made to this club. John held many positions, including Executive Secretary and Sponsorship Officer. He organized many activities and we all will remember his legendary Cup Night function. John also took many of the new bowlers under his wing and was always willing to share his vast bowling knowledge.

For me personally, especially over the last two years, John was a great support and mentor. Even though he didn't like changes, he was always very encouraging. I was very privileged that John and Yvonne attended my Presidents' Day last season.

Vale John, you will be very much missed around the club and our deepest sympathy goes to Yvonne and family.

To other matters. Season 13-14 will see a big change to the structure of membership and fees. We decided to make these changes as a fairer, user pays system. We decided we could no longer keep increasing the annual fee, as it may cause hardship to some of our members. The new system of green fees only applies to Tuesday and Saturday pennant. The amount of \$7.00 per game is not much more than a cup of coffee and you get hours of entertainment.

However, this club does not receive the benefits that go to other clubs. We are therefore very reliant on fundraising to meet all our expenses. I would ask everyone to support all of our efforts, so we will remain viable into the future. In order to run some of these activities, we also need volunteers. If everyone can contribute some time, it will ease the burden on the people doing a lot.

I know some of our members were disappointed that the green was closed earlier than anticipated for our Winter Bowls. On the advice of our greenkeeper, it was decided not to continue bowling for this season. The protection of our green and the safety of our members will always be our No. 1 priority. Thank you to everyone involved in the running of this event. I wish everyone a really good season. This is a great club. Let's all work together and make this the best season ever.

*Margaret Grossbard.*

**LADY PRESIDENTS' REPORT. 2013/14 season.**

Well here we are again, another season upon us, the time surely flies.  
I hope you have all returned fit, well, and ready for a wonderful bowling season.

Those of us who didn't go too far away for too long, enjoyed the indoor bowls on Tuesdays run by Edith Whitehall and Pauline Edwards. We had fun bowls and lovely afternoon teas. I would like to thank Edith and Pauline very much.

The ladies have decided to enter one ladies and three open sides into this seasons pennant, so we hope you will be ready for practice games etc. with the season opening coming up in August.

On Gala Day ladies I would like you all to remember our "craft stall" is exactly that, only craft items and new objects, NO OLD CLOTHES PLEASE!  
I would also ask you all to please attend our fundraising functions, as you all know we get very little help, if any, from the council or anyone for that matter.  
Maintenance and all the other things cost money, so please help where you can.

I wish all the various committees (ladies and men) all the very best for the coming season and thank them all for their efforts for the club.  
I would also like to thank Margaret Grossbard for her wonderful work as Lady President over the last two years, and wish her well in her role as Executive Director. I sure have big shoes to fill. Thank you Margaret.

Without wanting to sound old hat, I would ask you all to ask not what your club can do for you, but what you can do for your club.  
I am here for you all at all times and hope you will be nice to one another, and all have a wonderful and enjoyable bowling season 2013/14.

A sad footnote to this; we have lost John Cowling. I for one will miss him very much. My thoughts go to Yvonne and family. A memorial service was held at the club for John 19/7/2013. I have never seen so many people in our club, it was a wonderful tribute to John and what he has done for our club

Sincerely, Elvie.

Feel like a good cup of coffee and good food too? (eat in or take away)  
Pay a visit to **Caffe Romano** in Boronia Mall.  
Sam and his staff will certainly look after you, and inside it's nice and warm.  
With a varied lunch menu, or even just a slice with your delicious coffee, **Caffe Romano** is just the place to meet up with friends.  
Here's a tip, the breakfasts are amazing too. Sunday morning is the favorite.

## **MENS' SECTION REPORT.**

Welcome to the 2013/2014 season.

To all members who traveled during winter, welcome back, I trust you are all well and looking forward to the coming season.

This season will see the introduction of paying for each pennant game you play, and the fee of \$7.00 will need to be paid to the team manager before the game, each day you play. To assist our team managers, would every player ensure that they have the correct amount of \$7.00, as team managers will not be giving change. Your co-operation with this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Due to diminishing membership this season we have entered only four Saturday pennant sides into the Bowls Victoria pennant competition. At the time I write this report we have only 70 players who have confirmed they are prepared to play pennant on Saturdays. As we have to enter the number of sides which will represent our club for the coming season in July, we can only make the decision of how many sides we should enter, knowing the number of members prepared to play.

This season the selection committee will run a bankers competition for those players who cannot be placed into a pennant side, to ensure every player who wants to be part of a pennant side, will be able to play a competitive game of bowls each week and be ready to play pennant when they are selected to represent our club.

All members should be aware that Bowls Victoria impose fines against clubs that enter teams into the pennant competition, then forfeit matches as they cannot field the number of teams they have entered.

With the new selection committee having arranged a number of practice matches, the season will start with competitive games to prepare for the coming season.

I trust season 2013/2014 will be a most enjoyable one for all players and successful for our club.

Good luck and good bowling to you all.

*Vin Hughes*

### **Tels Teaser**

Peter and Paul are twin brothers. One of them, (we don't know which), always lies. The other one always tells the truth. I ask one of them:

“Is Paul the one that lies?”

“Yes,” he answers. Did I speak to Peter or Paul? (Answer next month)



## A LIFE ON THE OCEAN WAVE.



It all started on a cold morning of 27th May at 5.00 a.m. We came from all over the place to the Grossbards, where we were to pick up our bus for our adventure. We got to the airport for our 9.00 a.m. flight to Sydney and to board our beautiful white lady The Pacific Jewel, which was our home for the next 14 days. Our cabins were perfect and everyone was happy, all 2000 of us. It was as if people were injected with a happiness potion – super –. The exit out of Sydney was at 4.00 p.m. that afternoon, and going under the harbour bridge and seeing the Opera house in all its glory, with the sun going down was quite a site. Unfortunately when we got out to open sea that's when the seas started to swell and the rocking and rolling was not just on the dance floor. We had it quite rough for the next few days, which was such a shame as the two ports where we were to get off were cancelled as it was too dangerous for the tender boats to take us to shore. So the first few days were on board. There was plenty to do. We did our own thing during the day, and all got together for cocktails in the evening and dinner of course. The seas calmed nearing the next port which was Vila, in Vanuatu. It was good to get off but the sea legs were still on – wobbly wobbly – people went on tours and was great to see another culture, how they live, and oh so happy people. Now the weather was what we had imagined, hot, humid very tropical. We moved on to Fiji where a few of us went to the Thermal mud springs. It was about a half hour drive from where we docked. It was good seeing not just the city and the nicely manicured lawns and resorts, but we were able to see the real Fiji. When we passed in the bus we were greeted with waves and cheers, which made us feel very special. It was fun. At the thermal springs, we had a

Kava ceremony, and some of us tried it. Then on to the mud part – YUK – you spread it on yourself, let it dry then you enter the mud pool, which is also –YUK –. The best part is the thermal bath 35 to 40 deg., you need it to get the mud off, then a lovely massage. We all felt 10 years younger, for a while anyway.

The days were spent having so much fun and talking to other passengers, was a real holiday, we all got on so well, and as we weren't all from the club we all got to know them as friends too.

Got back on June 10th at 6.00 am. into Sydney and again such a wonderful site. It was now sunrise and the sun coming up through the bridge was brilliant. The bus was there to take us to the airport and we got home roughly 4.30. It's always nice to get home, we all had such a lovely time. We (I mean I) got on the scales and yes, you do put on a little excess baggage. Never mind, that's what it's all about. The memories will be with us forever.

Thanks to Cynthia Cairra for this most fascinating and amusing report.



### **OLDER BUT GOLDER**

#### August

Anne Leopold 6<sup>th</sup>, Margaret Carty 17<sup>th</sup>, Jeff Edwards 21<sup>st</sup>,  
Bob Lancaster 21<sup>st</sup>, John Cupples 22<sup>nd</sup>, Lex Hardie 22<sup>nd</sup>, Bill Paus 22<sup>nd</sup>,  
Bruce Perry 24<sup>th</sup>, Don Edwards 25<sup>th</sup>, John Jennings 25<sup>th</sup>, Rita Lynn 25<sup>th</sup>,  
Alan Cobb 30<sup>th</sup>.

#### September

Keith Scutt 4<sup>th</sup>, Margaret Learmonth 9<sup>th</sup>, Stuart Schmoling 9<sup>th</sup>, Pam Hughes 12<sup>th</sup>,  
Carole Knight 17<sup>th</sup>, Pat Edwards 18<sup>th</sup>, Ian Ball 23<sup>rd</sup>, David Fletcher 24<sup>th</sup>,  
Geoff Woodford 24<sup>th</sup>, Graham Worthington 24<sup>th</sup>, Kevin Hamond 26<sup>th</sup>,  
Pat Walton 26<sup>th</sup>, Geoffrey Turner 27<sup>th</sup>, Pat Harvey 28<sup>th</sup>, Tom Bedohazy 29<sup>th</sup>,  
Terry Phillips 30<sup>th</sup>.

## VALE JOHN COWLING



John joined Boronia Bowls Club in 1970 and it was in the early days of his bowls career that he decided to limit his commitment to the sport to club level. He was first elected to the Committee of Management in 1976, serving as President from 1983 to 85, Secretary, then committee member until 1991. That year saw the introduction of the 3 tiered committee system, and he immediately became Assistant Executive Secretary and ultimately Executive Secretary from 1993 to 2000.

Back in seasons 1996/97 and 1997/98 he was on the selection committee, and in 1982 served on the Coaching Panel in its first year of operation. Also in 1982 he became the clubs' Promotions Officer, arranging all club sponsorships and sponsor promotions within the club. During his time on Management

Committees, John presided over clubhouse extensions in 1984 and 1988, obtained the clubs' liquor license in 1984, and the following year completed all requirements for the club to become an incorporated body.

John Cowling had become synonymous with Boronia Bowls Club.

His support and encouragement for new and young bowlers is well known, and his formation and running of the Pizza Club has raised thousands of dollars for the Royal Childrens' Hospital. Johns' bowling achievements are also very formidable. Club Singles Champion 1976/77, 1977/78, 1981/82. 1982/83, 1984/85, 1992/93, 2001/02, Club Fours Championships 1990/91, 1992/93, Club Triples Championships 1987/88, 1992/93, Club Pairs Championship 1989/90, four Chandler Memorial Triples, six Proportional 100-up, five Club Mixed Pairs, and the inaugural Minor Championship in 1975/76.

John also played in Pennant Divisional grand finals: 1974/75 (lead), Premiers A4 1976/77 (skip), Premiers division 3 1981/82 (skip), Premiers division 2 1984/85 (skip), Premiers division 2 1986/87 (skip), Premiers division 2 1997/98 (skip).

John was many things to many people and will be missed by all.

**Yvonne would like to thank sincerely, all those who were able to attend the memorial service at the club for their support.**

## **15 minutes with Bill Paus.**

Ed

Bill, what do you remember about growing up in Holland?

BP

I actually grew up in Germany. I was born in Eindhoven, South Holland in 1934, the youngest of three boys. Our father had his own painting and decorating business, but it was a struggling business and he took to smuggling just to keep us alive. He used to smuggle goods across the border from Belgium and re-sell them in Holland. Unfortunately he got caught a couple of times so decided to try and find something a little less risky.

At this time, Germany was advertising jobs which included accommodation, so in 1937 dad traveled to Northern Germany near the Dutch border, to a job already secured, and sent money back home.

Ed

Soon after, the war came. Do you remember much of that?

BP

Not really, but when war broke out, we could either stay in Germany or go back home, but Holland was under occupation, so it was better to stay in relative freedom. I do know, from documents and letters that I still have today, that children up to the age of 12, were carried by train to South East Germany and settled with German foster parents. I remember in 1941, the three of us standing at the station, each with little carry bags, then getting on the train which had a lady in every compartment to look after us. The idea was to go well south of Berlin where the allied planes could not reach, but I remember a train being strafed by aircraft until they realized they were just kids.

After Berlin the train made many stops and my older brother was first to be dropped off in a small village. I continued on with my middle brother and we stayed together with the same foster parents, started school, and were there until March 1943. I still have letters from our foster parents letting them know how we were getting along. My foster father wrote to the fostering organization to try to get my older brother to come and live closer, but without luck. However, soon after, my parents were able to take him back home.

Ed

What about language? Presumably you were speaking only German; did that present problems?

BP

Not so much at the time. When the Russians started moving, Germany was beaten so I was taken home to Holland. I was only 3 years old when I left so had little or no Dutch and had only been to school in Germany. I have never had a language class in my life, and all the languages I now know have been gained simply by listening to people talk. I have done a lot of listening.

Ed

What prompted you to come to Australia?

BP

My older brother and I both worked for the same company, a machine factory, he a turner and myself a tool maker, and we concocted to go to South Africa. We collected information on Canada, South Africa and Australia. We had an auntie and uncle in Australia, so my brother and his wife decided to go there. In the meantime, I was married and never thought about it any more.

Wilma and I were living in very cramped conditions with no space to put what little furniture we had in storage. Then two things happened; the Dutch were being kicked out of Indonesia by Soharito and repatriated in Holland with free housing and so nothing for the local residents, and Wilma got pregnant. So then we decided to emigrate. The ship sailed into Southampton to pick up English migrants, then headed out across the Bay of Biscay. The reputation of this stretch of water was not an exaggeration, in fact the crossing was so rough that Wilma spent the time in hospital and lost the baby. When we reached Genoa in Italy, we were able to go ashore for the first time since leaving home.

Our first accommodation in Australia was a garage with concrete floor where we lived for about two years. Fortunately Wilma worked for three years which helped us buy a block of land in Ferntree Gully.

Ed

Was work easy to find for yourself?

BP

Oh yes, there was plenty of factory work for me. My first job was at Sheffield Corporation in Dandenong. The tool making department had a German in charge, so he was the only person I could speak to. What put me off however, was something I'd never seen before; ladies working in the dirty and often dangerous environment of the workshop.

We were living in a bungalow in Noble Park at the time, and one Monday morning I was so fed up I decided to catch a train into town just to see what was around. On the way I happened to look out the window and saw this big VW sign. Being a German company that I knew, I walked in off the street armed with my translated paperwork, and was interrogated by this person. I had no idea what he was talking about but then he said "I'm Dutch too and you can start next Monday." "Next Monday," I said, "I'll start tomorrow," which I did and never went back to Dandenong. I was a tool maker and also worked in the drafting area, and hooked up with English guys at every opportunity to learn the language.

Ed

Through all this moving around, did you have time for sport?

BP

Back home I played table tennis and was also a member of a marching team. In competitions we had to march either 50 or 100 kilometres. We kept in touch with a couple who came over with us and he was in a table tennis team and asked me to join. There was also a team at VW but that was more beer drinking than table tennis. Meantime we had built our house at Ferntree Gully and I added a large patio area where we all played the game. When the two girls were old enough we played tennis.

One day I saw an ad in the local paper for carpet bowls at Waverley Golf. We went along with our neighbours and enjoyed it so much I wanted to play outdoor bowls. Because Boronia was closer we went there and were coached by Alan Baldwin and Les Lucas. When asked to join I said we were already members of Waverley Golf, however after ten years there, we finally joined Boronia. We didn't go to Ferntree Gully because we were unaware of the club at that time.

Ed

Their loss our gain Bill, and thanks for talking to me.

### **THE PEOPLE YOU MEET.**

To those who remember Dot Overbeck, you'll be pleased to know she is now in remission and back playing bowls. She is seen here at Tweed Heads Bowls Club with some of our locals who go North for the Winter.



Dot joined Boronia Bowls Club in 1990 and after her husband Peter died, she left in 1996 and settled in Queensland. To date her bowling CV reads as follows:-

Won Queensland State Pairs 2005, won two division 1 pennant flags (2008, 2012), twice won the Taylor Bowls Challenge, won District Pairs twice, Triples twice, Fours three times, plus numerous Club Championships.

Not bad for someone who was told she'd never make a bowler.

**CLEANING ROSTER FOR SEASON 18th August 2013 - 24th May 2014**

1. Each team is on cleaning duty from Sunday to Saturday.

2. Please note the dates in your calendar diary for these periods in which your team is on duty and contact your team leader when it is your turn to assist.

3. Enquiries about roster operation to **Keith Scutt on 9761 0206**. Thank you for your support and co-operation in helping out with this most important task.

Name	Sun To Sat	Name	Sun To Sat
<b>TEAM NO. 1</b>	18 Aug to 24 Aug 17 Nov to 23 Nov 23 Feb to 1 Mar	<b>TEAM NO. 2</b>	25 Aug to 31 Aug 24 Nov to 30 Nov 2 Mar to 8 Mar
<b>John McCarthy</b> Brian Carolan Don Edwards Cheryl McCarthy Bradley Castle Gerry Gommers Peter Croker		<b>Bruce Legrew</b> John Cupples Heather Cupples Irene Hunnam Jeff Edwards Myra LeGrew Noel Comport	
<b>TEAM NO. 3</b>	1 Sep to 7 Sep 1 Dec to 7 Dec 9 Mar to 15 Mar	<b>TEAM NO. 4</b>	8 Sep to 14 Sep 8 Dec to 14 Dec 16 Mar to 22 Mar
<b>Keith Scutt</b> Annette Scutt George Bisset Max Lyon Troy Haartsen Brian McCristal Paul McAloney		<b>Stuart Eastwood</b> Jim Arnott Robyn Jones Craig Drill Greg Johnson David Treleaven Mark Westley	
<b>TEAM NO. 5</b>	15 Sep to 21 Sep 15 Dec to 21 Dec 23 Mar to 29 Mar	<b>TEAM NO. 6</b>	22 Sep to 28 Sep 29 Dec to 4 Jan 30 Mar to 5 Apr
<b>Lindsay Russell</b> Lesley Russell Irene Major Bob Williams Graeme Greene Noel Dowler		<b>Angelo &amp; Lia</b> Henry Grossbard Marg Grossbard Ron Evans John Jennings Len Doddrell Alan Horwood	
<b>Vin Roche</b> Ian Mclean Margaret Woodford Marc Buis Keith Groenewegen	29 Sep to 5 Oct 5 Jan to 11 Jan 6 Apr to 12 Apr	<b>TEAM NO. 8</b>	6 Oct to 12 Oct 12 Jan to 18 Jan 13 Apr to 19 Apr
		<b>Bryan Dennehy</b> John Robinson Marn Wynn Alan Forster Graeme Turner Stuart Schmolling	
<b>TEAM NO. 9</b>	13 Oct to 19 Oct 19 Jan to 25 Jan 20 Apr to 26 Apr	<b>TEAM NO. 10</b>	20 Oct to 26 Oct 26 Jan to 1 Feb 27 Apr to 3 May
<b>Terry Phillips</b> Brenda Phillips Mal Barrow Daniel Price David Fletcher		<b>Bruce &amp; Lin Perry</b> David Inglis Ray Bilton Garry Overs Ron Marsh George Lynn	