



# TOUCHER TOPICS

BORONIA BOWLS CLUB NEWSLETTER NOV 2013

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT.

It is hard to believe that another month has slipped by and Christmas is just around the corner. Our Christmas dinner will be held on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December. We really need our members to support this function. Put your name down and bring along friends or family. We have new entertainment this year and the same caterers. Really outstanding food! It is a great night and a good chance to socialize with fellow members.

A few things are happening around the club. Firstly, by the time this is printed, we will have a new dishwasher. Unfortunately the old one could not be repaired. Thanks to Bryan for organizing this. We are also looking at different options to upgrade the outside seating. A lot of the seats are in disrepair and in need of attention. Bob Williams is looking into some options. If anyone has any suggestions about anything that needs doing around the club, please let us know.

As I mentioned last month, continue to support our sponsors. Let them know you are from Boronia Bowls Club and importantly put your receipts in the sponsors box.

Until next month, happy bowling everyone.

*Margaret Grossbard.*

### **Vale Shirley Christensen.**

Those who remember when APT Tours sponsored the club, would remember the effervescent Shirley Christensen attending our smorgasbords and, after asking everyone to be quiet, sing the praises of the company and the places around the world you could visit with them.

Unfortunately, about two months ago Shirley passed away from a heart attack. Sometimes controversial but always enthusiastic, Shirley was a character who was always welcome at the club.

# **SPONSORS CORNER**

## **Anderson Partners**

See Alyssa for all your legal matters.

Wills, powers of attorney, and all family matters.

1045 Burwood Highway, Ferntree Gully. Phone: 9753 5001.

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## **Robinsons Podiatry.**

Mark will look after your feet.

Suite12, 5-7 Chandler Road, Boronia. Phone: 9761 0019.

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## **Club Kilsyth & Club Ringwood.**

Proudly support Boronia Bowls Club and also the local community.

Seniors meals available

7 days a week lunch and dinner

All welcome

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**Ensure you support our sponsors as they support us.**

## **MENS PRESIDENTS REPORT.**

As I write this report I am now out of hospital and recovering quickly, and would like to say thank you to all those members who rang to see how I was going during my stay in hospital. I now join the prostate club with Brian McCristal and Bruce LeGrew as we recover and prepare to return to playing bowls.

Vin Roche will be leaving us in December and moving to Warragul. I would like to wish Vin and Mila best wishes with their relocation and thank Vin for his years of service to the club, including his input on the Mens Section Committee. He will be sorely missed.

With Vins' resignation from the club there is a vacancy on the Mens Section Committee. If any full member would like to join this committee, would he please contact either myself or secretary Bruce.

The Mens Pairs and Singles competitions are now under way, and by the time you read this the pairs champions will be known. However I congratulate Tony and Bob, along with Troy and Brian on reaching the final.

Barefoot bowls starts soon and this is where we can obtain new members, so if you know someone who is interested in playing bowls, or just having a go, please bring them to the club. Ask yourself "HOW DID I START PLAYING BOWLS?"

Good Bowling

*Vin Hughes*

### **NOT BEHIND THE EIGHT BALL.**

Congratulations to Leigh McLean, Pat Walton, Cynthia Caira, and Edith Whitehall. On the second end of their pennant game Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October THEY SCORED AN 8. Not an easy thing to do so all must have been drawing well. They went on to win their rink.

**Congratulations** also to Troy Haartsen and Brian Carolan for winning the club mens pairs in a tight and enjoyable game against Tony Buckingham and Bob Williams.

### **APOLOGY.**

In last months TT it was stated that the baby that Troy and Amy Haartsen are expecting was imminent. Now this got Troy both puzzled and excited at the same time, until it was explained that "imminent" in this case meant next March. Our apologies for any champagne that now has to be returned, or starting a panic into decorating that second bedroom. Keep breathing normally Amy, and Troy, enjoy your bowls for a while yet.

A reminder from our friends in England. (Where did we go wrong?)

“Bowls is a sport in which the objective is to roll biased balls so that they stop close to a smaller ball called a “jack” or “kitty”. It is played on a pitch which may be flat (for “flat-green bowls”) or convex or uneven (for “crown-green bowls”). It is normally played outdoors although there are some indoor venues. It has been traced certainly to the 13<sup>th</sup> century. The worlds’ oldest surviving bowling green is the Southampton Old Bowling Green, which was first used in 1299”.

### **JOKE OF THE MONTH**

In the middle of the night Holmes awoke and nudged his faithful friend. “Watson, look up at the sky and tell me what you see”.

Watson replied, “I see millions and millions of stars”.

“What does that tell you Watson?”

“Well astronomically, it tells me there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Horologically, I deduce that the time is approximately a quarter past three. Meteorologically, I suspect that we will have a beautiful day tomorrow. Why, what does it tell you?”

Holmes was silent for a moment, then spoke: “Watson, someone has stolen our tent”.

### **COACHES TIP.**

Now that we are lucky enough to have a green that runs fast from the beginning of the season, many bowlers are having trouble with their weight.

If you are bowling consistently too long, try bending a little lower and taking a shorter delivery step.

If you have the same problem with a bowling arm, SWING SLOW SWEET BOWLING SHOT, coming first to carry us home.

### **BOWLERS REQUIRED.**

The Sir George Knox Trophy tournament has come round once more, and at the time of writing, we need more players to put their name on the list. The tournament is run at Parliament House, organized by Nick Wakeling, and is on WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>.

If you haven’t participated previously, this is a great day out with, morning tea, a nice lunch, and tour of Parliament House. The bowls is pretty competitive but Boronia has always done well, so have a good think about it and be part of this traditional competition. You won’t be sorry.

### **Tels Teaser**

Can somebody marry his brothers’ wives’ mother-in-law? (answer back page).

## **15 MINUTES WITH LEX HARDY.**

**Ed**

So where did it all start Lex?

**LH**

Well, I was born in 1927 in Gala Shiels in Scotland.

**Ed**

What was it like growing up in the 1930's in Gala Shiels, was it tough?

**LH**

It was very hard. Dad was gassed in the war and sent home. He was a big strapping fellow but his lungs were all stuffed and he died at 57. I was married and living close to dad and it was a really tough time.

**Ed**

What did you do when you left school?

**LH**

I was 14 and worked in the mills, but at 15, in 1942, I joined the merchant navy and went to sea school. I wanted to join the navy but you had to be 18. Anyway I ended up working on convoys. One day we were heading for Quebec in Canada and something happened. I became "non compus mentus" possibly some sort of blood poisoning. While I was unconscious, the ship radioed for the fastest vessel to take me to shore. They then transferred me on a rope between the two ships tied to a bosuns' chair and roared off as fast as they could go. I spent two and a half weeks in hospital where they drained all my blood and filled me up with new blood. So now I have Canadian blood which is why I wave my hands around a lot. They shipped me back to UK and that was my 16<sup>th</sup> birthday. I was demobbed in 1946.

**Ed**

When did you make the trip to Australia?

**LH**

I was by then, an electrical linesman, and came here in 1958 with a wife and four children. We were sent to the hostels in Nunawading, the old Nissan huts. It was pretty rough but not bad except it was a 100mts walk to the toilets. I always used to take a broom to jam the door shut because there were no locks.

We then rented a house in Box Hill. My wife was also working full time so we soon bought our own little weatherboard place on a block 50 x 150ft. We stayed there for 29 years then moved to the Basin into a lovely home which happened to be opposite Peter Middleton, who bowls at Mitcham.

**Ed**

What about your bowls career Lex.

**LH**

I'd joined Blackburn club in 1963, a very homely club, and enjoyed my time there. Of course joined Boronia club when we moved to the Basin, about 1992. All the kids were grown up; we came out as a family of 6 and we're now about 36. Coming to Australia was the best move we ever made. All four children were hard workers and good savers and have all bought their own homes by the age of 40.

**Ed**

You must be very proud.

**LH**

We are a very close family, all the kids live fairly local and we regularly meet and go out to dinner. Unfortunately my wife passed away 6 years ago, very quickly and unexpected. We were all devastated.

**Ed**

I heard you used to do a bit of singing.

**LH**

I sang a bit around the traps. Tried to get into TV like Bill McCormack, who came here just before me, and he made his name at Channel 9.

I retired at 60, made possible because of my active service, gave up the linesman job and did maintenance for 19 pubs. Anything from carpets to lighting, whatever was needed. I hired a few people and sometimes worked during the night. I was kept very busy and they were very disappointed when I gave it away.

**Ed**

So, apart from bowls and your family commitments, do you have time for anything else?

**LH**

I'm still a member of Blackburn RSL, the only overseas member, and I go each week for a game of pool, a yak, and a cuppa. I have some good friends there.

**Ed**

Lex, thanks very much for speaking to me.

<p>19 paddies went to the cinema, the ticket lady asks "Why so many of you?" Mick replies, "The film said 18 or over."</p>
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THE RETIREES PRAYER (sent in by Irene Jackson).

Today dear lord I'm 90 and having lots of fun  
Do you think I could still be around when I'm 91?  
I still have lots of things to do  
So with a bit of help from you  
I'll still be here at 92.  
So many places I want to see  
Really I would like to stay till at least I'm 93.  
The world is changing so very fast, there is so much in store  
I would like to be here when I'm 94.  
As I am active and alive, could I stay here till I'm 95?  
More planes will be in the air, road traffic is so thick  
I'd like to see what's happening when I'm 96.  
I know dear lord it must be nice the place that we call heaven  
But I'd rather stay here on earth till I'm 97.  
I know by then I won't be fast and sometimes very late  
But life should be rather pleasant when I'm 98.  
I will have seen so many things and had a wonderful time  
So I'm sure that I am willing to go when I'm 99.



**OLDER BUT GOLDER**

BIRTHDAYS FOR NOVEMBER

Ron Marsh 2<sup>nd</sup>, Irene Jackson 9<sup>th</sup>, Cyn Caira 11<sup>th</sup>, Shirley Gardner 16<sup>th</sup>, Betty Cornish 17<sup>th</sup>, Dorothy King 18<sup>th</sup>, Peter Stiff 18<sup>th</sup>, Mark Ward 19<sup>th</sup>, Mavis Simpson 21<sup>st</sup>, May Matthews 21<sup>st</sup>,

“HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU ALL.”

My daughter asked me for a pet spider for her birthday, so I went to our local pet shop and they were \$70. Blow this, I thought, I can get one cheaper off the web.

CLEANING ROSTER FOR NOVEMBER
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<b>TEAM NO. 11</b>		<b>TEAM NO. 12</b>	
<b>Vin Hughes</b>	27 Oct to 2 Nov	<b>Derek Pitt</b>	3 Nov to 9 Nov
Ian Ball	2 Feb to 8 Feb	Tom & Olivia Lucas	9 Feb to 15 Feb
Kevin Hamond	4 May to 10 May	Bill Paus	11 May to 17 May
Bob Lancaster		Alan Cobb	
John & Dot King		Don Korver	
Pam Hughes			
<b>TEAM NO. 13</b>			
<b>Graeme Ashmore</b>	10 Nov to 16 Nov		
Royce Wardle	16 Feb to 22 Feb		
Oscsa Quaremba	18 May to 24 May		
Hans Eriksen			
Tony Buckingham			
Geoff Turner			
Gwen Brown			
<b>TEAM NO. 1</b>		<b>TEAM NO. 2</b>	
John McCarthy	18 Aug to 24 Aug	Bruce Legrew	25 Aug to 31 Aug
Brian Carolan	17 Nov to 23 Nov	John Cupples	24 Nov to 30 Nov
Don Edwards	23 Feb to 1 Mar	Heather Cupples	2 Mar to 8 Mar
Cheryl McCarthy		Irene Hunnam	
Brad Castle		Jeff Edwards	
Gerry Gommers		Myra LeGrew	
Peter Croker		Noel Comport	

Don't forget the cleaning tools are located in the storeroom alongside the secretaries office. The cupboards in the mens' and ladys' toilets are stocked with paper and disinfectant materials.

Cleaning tasks include: waste removal, clean and mop hard surface areas, vacuum carpeted areas, and generally ensure the rooms are looking clean and tidy.

*Answer to Tels Teaser.*

No, because it would be his mother.