



TOUCHER TOPICS

BORONIA BOWLS CLUB NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2017

A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOWLS PRESIDENT.

I write this on the eve of the 3rd round of Saturday pennant which means the season is well and truly under way. Our midweek sides are doing well with our top side heading their section after giving their Ferntree Gully opponents a “damned good thrashing”. Well done to you all.

Although the Saturday results can be improved upon it should be noted the difficulties selectors are experiencing in fielding three full sides. The first three rounds have relied heavily on those members who have made themselves available as emergencies, some who are backing up for a 2nd or 3rd time. On behalf of the selectors I would like to express their very sincere thanks. They have said they will try everything short of bribery, threats and blackmail to field a full third side.

Congratulations to Ian Mclean and Sam Trickey on making the men’s pairs final for the third straight year. They are attempting a “threepeat” and will play Greg Johnson and Gary Overs in the final on 29th October at 10am.

Can the double G’s stop Magic and the Cabinet Man from achieving it? Be there to find out.

Due to some confusion and communication problems the Ladies Pairs championship was not held. This is unfortunate as it is one the oldest and most prestigious in the club. I would urge all members to check the notice boards in the foyer and in the case of the ladies, the ladies lounge for notices of upcoming events. All club championships are important and should be contested by as many members as possible.

A word of thanks to Jim Arnott for MC ing the recent Saturday home game. As a result of a late withdrawal I found myself playing at Healesville.

As you may have heard Jack Kirby has been injured due to a fall. I’m sure I speak for all members when I wish him a quick and full recovery, and hope it won’t be too long before we see him back supporting the club at home games.

Jeff Edwards



News from around the Club.

Some newer bowlers may well ask who the old bloke in the wheelchair is that comes every week to watch the bowls. Well, that 'old bloke' is none other than **Jack Kirby**, who, with his ever-present wife Norma and one of his two sons, gets great enjoyment meeting bowlers he used to play with and taking note of how the club is progressing.

President Jeff mentioned above that Jack will not be able to visit the club for a few weeks because of his accident. He actually fell in his nursing home room and broke a hip. The good news is that Jack is out of hospital and back in the home and improving remarkably well. We reiterate Jeff's wishes and hope to see him back real soon.

For those members who are unaware of Jacks' sporting history, we give an edited profile as reported by the North Balwyn Cricket Club.

Jack commenced with the club as an eleven year old in 1943-44 as the second eleven scorer. He became a prolific and consistent run scorer with 15,249 runs (including 33 centuries and 70 half centuries) from 395 games over 38 seasons until 1986, arguably the best batsman ever in the 90 plus year history of E.S.C.A.

Jack won many trophies during his career and to this day holds club records for most runs, most centuries, and highest season aggregates. He is described as being an attacking opening batsman and wicket keeper, and a most useful medium pacer with 391 wickets.

A complete sportsman, Jack also played 440 games with the baseball team between 1952 and 1968. He won the batting trophy nine times and the fielding trophy four times. He went on to coach both cricket and baseball. He played hard but was scrupulously fair. In 1954 as captain of the successful under 23 ESCA team, his batting partner Bert Tilley of West Hawthorn, skied a ball towards silly mid-wicket, and as the catch was about to be taken shouted as loudly as possible "YES" calling for an impossible run. The sudden shout disturbed everyone and the catch went down. Whether or not it affected the fieldsman we don't know, but it certainly affected his batting partner and captain Jack Kirby, who marched down the wicket and in very plain terms told Bert what he thought of this tactic and what parts of his anatomy he would kick if he ever did it again.

Jacks' bowling history is also legendary and his loyalty is to behold, so remember, next time you see this 'old bloke' in the wheelchair either cheering you on or greeting you as you pass, you are indeed in the presence of a true sporting legend.



Another club member who needs our good wishes is our Executive Secretary **Malcolm (Chick) Lancaster**. Chick has been diagnosed with a heart condition, and at the time of writing was due for an operation. We send him and his wife Marion our kind thoughts and hopes for a speedy recovery, and that we'll see him back at the club very soon.



Gerry Gommers also has a medical problem and requires dialysis, which he'll be taking at home. Gerry is a popular and impressive bowler and will be sorely missed. We wish him well and look forward to his return to bowls. Best wishes to his wife Tina who is charged with making sure everything goes to plan.



You don't have to be young to play bowls. Early October, **Geoff Woodford** celebrated his 90th birthday surrounded by friends at Club Kilsyth. It was a very special occasion for one of bowling's nicest and most genuine guys. Geoff has played pennant regularly to the end of last season, but unfortunately the back is feeling the brunt of his escapades and he will be playing only smorgasbord this season. Wouldn't we all like to be able to play bowls at 90?



Have you noticed that ex President **Jim Arnott** has trimmed down, (another way of saying he's lost weight)! Since he made an honest woman of Robyn, it seems he has been living in fear. Every time she says, "I've been thinking," he replies with, "Oh no, what do you want me to do now?" Good health Jim, and good luck for a long and happy life together.

JOKE OF THE MONTH

Father O'Malley rose from his bed one morning. It was a fine Spring day in his new Washington D.C. parish. He walked to the window of his bedroom to get a deep breath of the beautiful day outside. He then noticed there was a donkey lying dead in the middle of his front lawn. He promptly called the White House.

The conversation went:

"Good morning, this is Donald Trump, how might I help you?"

"And the best of the day te yerself. This is Father O'Malley at St. Ann's Catholic church. There's a donkey lying dead in me front lawn and would ye be so kind as to send a couple o'yer lads to take care of the matter?"

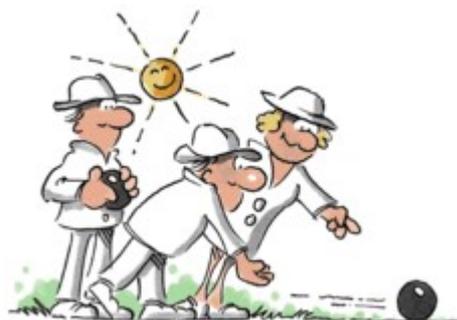
Trump, considering himself to be quite a wit and recognizing the Irish accent, thought he would have a little fun with the good father, replied: "Well now Father, it was always my impression that you people took care of the last rites!"

There was dead silence on the line for a moment, Father O'Malley then replied: "Aye, 'tis certainly true; but we are also obliged to notify the next of kin first, which is the reason for me call."

FROM THE COACHES BOX.

We seem to be either snatching defeat from the jaws of victory or just falling over the line. It is not the greatest idea to leave it to the skips to win each end, but unfortunately this seems to be the case more often than not. Whilst it is true we are stretched for players this season, every bowler in the top side must be able to draw within three feet or less of the jack on any surface, thus helping the skips to build a head that can then be defended.

If this is too difficult for some, one hour a week practicing just one shot, would enhance your game and make life easier for your team mates.



AS THE YEARS ROLL BY

These bowlers (and ex bowlers) will be celebrating birthdays this month.
Nov 1st....Leigh Elsey Nov 2nd....Ron Marsh Nov 9th....Irene Jackson
Nov 11th....Cyn Caira Nov 18th....Dot King Peter Stiff,
Nov 21st....Mavis Simpson, May Matthews.

We wish you all a lovely day with family and friends and may peace and good luck remain with you.

If we have missed your birthday, please enlighten us either direct or through John McCarthy.

Late news: Peter Marshall is in hospital with pneumonia, so we wish him all the best for a speedy recovery.

Don't forget our wonderful sponsors. Graeme is still doing his best trying to get more businesses to invest in our club, and the more good news stories he has to tell, the easier the job becomes. Use the sponsors whenever the opportunity arises.

CLEANING ROSTER FOR NOVEMBER.

29.10 to 4.11

Rob Lowe
Eric Middlemiss
Ian McLean
Paul McAloney
Margaret Woodford
Leigh McLean

5.11 to 11.11

Peter Croker
Garry Wall
Gerry Gommers
Garry Strachan
David Inglis
Irene Hunnam
Barbara Kwijis

12.11 to 18.11

Lindsay Russell
Lesley Russell
Bill Paus
Terry Phillips
Jim Shannon
Annette Scutt
Gloria Spinks

Thanks to everyone for helping with this important task and keeping the clubhouse looking its best.

WHO AM I?

This month we are looking for a couple, so it's who are we?

1. One half did a bungy jump from Skippers Cannon Bridge N.Z.
2. One half worked at radio station 3UZ for 15 years in sales.
3. Both love hot air balloons despite a crash landing the first time.
4. They grew up less than 1km from each other, attended the same school, but didn't get together until their late teens.
5. The day they were married it rained non stop and no photos were taken outside. The reception grounds were flooded.

Answer to last months' WHO AM I?

Richard (Dick) McGregor.

Why do people run over a string a dozen times with their vacuum cleaner, then reach down, pick it up, examine it, then put it down to give the vacuum one more chance?

Why is it that when someone tells you there are a billion stars in the universe, you believe them, but if they tell you there is wet paint, you have to touch it to check?