

The Hawthorn Herald

News Magazine of the Hawthorn Bowling Club

The Hawthorn Bowling Club is a friendly, successful innovative bowling club offering the highest standard of facilities whilst promoting bowls as an enjoyable healthy sport for people of all ages and ability.
September 2009

SPECIAL EDITION WAKE UP CALL

COMING EVENTS

Saturday October 17th	Welcome Back to Bowls dinner. 7pm
Tuesday November 3rd	Melbourne Cup Strawberries and Champas day 11am for 12.00 start
Monday November 16th	Hardy Wines Day. Cosmo 3's. 9.30am for 10am
Tuesday December 12th	Justices Day. Cosmo 3's. 12.30pm for 1pm start

FROM THE EDITOR

Rose Mitchell

Welcome to the 2009/10 season. May the troughs be low, the peaks high and best of all, may we all enjoy ourselves. And please may the selectors recognise our capabilities this year. Or was that what we said last year?

Some of us of course do not need a wake up call for the coming season as you have not been away from the club all winter. Many thanks to those who organised the Winter Bowls, served behind the bar and cleaned up. Others have been O/S or slumming around in T shirts, floral shorts and rubber thongs in that state which shall remain nameless but which grows water guzzling cotton and rice, upstream from us.

Our driest state has had some real wet rain, the greens are looking good and so are our lawns. Even Lake Eyre performed its miracle of producing and supporting abundant life where for years there has been none. OK so it was with THEIR water but it is OUR clever lake. Soon, too soon, the wild flowers will drop their seeds to blow around in the dust, the fish will lay their eggs in the drying mud and the frogs will burrow down deep. The lake will wait, as it has always done. And the Lower Lakes, what of them? No survival tactics there – the wild life must just pack up and go some place else. Don't you just love the politician or water expert who looks seriously at the TV camera and oh so convincingly says "we must act and we must act NOW." Just you try being a pelican, mate, that's wot I say.

In our little corner of the world, the Brown Hill Creek is flowing, kids are catching taddies and a new bowling season is getting underway. In the club house there is some new paint work, the shelter sheds are upright and looking very spruce and names are back on the walls. This cycle of life makes you feel real good, doesn't it? Enjoy.

REPORTS**PRESIDENT****Jan Lind**

Welcome to all bowlers to the new season, especially new members, in whatever capacity you choose to play - Stuart Lea, Brian Schaeffer, Shirley Ross, Robert Park, Leonie Ashby, Blake Fiebig, Ross Reynolds, Malcolm Sweet, Christine Edwards, Clem Case, Helen Richter, Mal and Helen Hutton and Penny McTaggart. I am sure that they will experience the warmth and friendliness of the Hawthorn Bowling Club.

The Honour Boards have returned in a new format and many members have commented on how tidy that section of the clubhouse now looks. Thank you to Bob Wadsworth and Rose Mitchell who have scrutinized old records to make sure that we have everything correct....a few minor changes to go and we are confident that they reflect a true record of that historical aspect of the club.

This season we also welcome Fiona Rouse to our club as "head chef". Fiona and her staff will supply sandwiches for pennants on Wednesday and Saturday, Thursday night meals, finger food for NightHawks and cater for all social functions at the club.

Please put this date in your diary and come along and support our new caterers and taste what they have to offer.

Welcome Back to Bowls Saturday 17 October 7pm...come as you are, no need to change out of whites. Bring family and friends.

Menu will include 6 choices, a sample of which is:

:<Chicken Caesar Salad: Grilled Chicken pieces with bacon & poached egg. Tossed with Cos & varietal lettuce, tomato & cucumber. Served w/- parmesan croutons & aolie. \$10.00

:< Thai style Calamari & Prawn Salad: prawns & tender calamari blanched & marinated w/- warm Thai flavours. Served on a bed of crispy noodles w/- Asian green salad & dressing. \$12.00

:<Beef Schnitzel w/- gravy: Tender beef fillet coated w/- seasoned bread crumbs, deep fried served with chunky cut chips, coleslaw & tossed salad.\$10.00

Sound tempting? Menus will be displayed in the clubhouse shortly, just to whet your appetite.

My best wishes to all bowlers for a successful and enjoyable season.

VICE PRESIDENT - MEN**Bob Wadsworth**

It has been a busy off season so I am quite looking forward to a more relaxing time as pennant season arrives. Winter bowls each Wednesday and Saturday (weather permitting) has been very successful this year due in no small degree to our hard working organisers. Ray Price, Alan Harris, Vic Magoch and Barry Whittle have developed an efficient system which provides a well oiled routine infused with a lot of fun. On behalf of the club I wish to thank them for their efforts. Numbers each day averaged around forty and kept the club “alive” throughout the cold winter months.

I would also like to recognise the work done by Bill Booker over this period of time. Of his own volition, Bill established a “coaching clinic” starting about 11 am prior to winter bowls. This was particularly appreciated by newer members of the club as well as social bowlers who had come through the “Try it” series. Thanks Bill for your time and commitment.

One of the very important tasks confronting the Board over this period of time was to engage a Coach for the ensuing season. I would like to thank Bernie Manser for pointing us in the direction of several possible candidates which eventually resulted in the club choosing Trevor Sharpe to fill the position. Since then Bernie has worked closely with Trevor to facilitate his introduction to the club and the printing of Trevor’s coaching guide. Thanks also to John Whittle for doing the binding of the manual. Talking of printing, our thanks also go to Brian Harmer who has spent so much time gathering and collating the information to go into our Events Calendar.

You will all have noticed the Honour Boards that grace the western wall of the clubhouse. In Jan Lind’s absence, Rose Mitchell and I almost went cross –eyed as we spent many hours putting the lists together and arranging their manufacture. The boards were erected by voluntary labour and for this I want to thank John Whittle, David Sutherland, Joe Grieve, Andy Kleinig and Mike Dempster. Rose Mitchell was also an important member of the group overseeing the positioning of the boards and providing fresh cut rolls and chocolate cake to ensure we had no reason to leave before the job was completed. Apart from the inevitable negative comment, it would seem that the new boards have been generally well accepted by club members.

A couple of weeks ago a working bee of about six members finally finished painting the shelters in preparation for Opening Day. Thanks to all those involved in a job that took much longer to complete than I originally thought. Maurie Simpson in particular will be pleased to see the job completed now he has finally arrived home from his annual Queensland jaunt.

An umpires course was recently conducted at the club resulting in Graham Dodd, David Young and Michael O'Dea gaining their Level one certificate. Bob Pearce was re-accredited. Congratulations to all.

I would like to draw the attention of members to the new guide-lines to rotation passed by the Board at a recent meeting. I have placed a copy on the notice board for your information

On behalf of the club I would like to welcome the following bowlers who have recently joined the club; Ross Reynolds, Blake Fiebig, Stuart Lea, Brian Schaefer, Clem Case, Robert Park and Malcolm Sweet. Please make yourself known to these chaps when you bump into them round the club.

While we have gained some new bowlers, I was saddened by the news that Peter Homburg has left. Peter has purchased a new house and has joined Tusmore Bowling Club which is a lot more convenient for him. Peter has been a good club member and has bowled well while representing the club and I am sure our best wishes go with him.

The other evening I rang Mike Hewett to see if he had any clearer idea about whether he would be playing for us this season. After a few loud beeps he answered the call informing me that he was in Montreal. I asked him the time and was told it was 6.00am but he was already awake. I told him he was lucky because I was just about to ring him an hour earlier when my wife said the evening meal was on the table. We both had a good laugh. However it seems that Mike and his wife have decided to stay in the Alice for the next year so we will not be seeing Mike this year either.

The moral of this story is "if you do not want to be woken in the early hours of the morning in Montreal, get your commitment sheet in early". Also Brett Hurrell has chosen to play for Somerton this year. On behalf of the club I have written to Brett to wish him well.

We are now on the brink of a new season. Let's all make use of the coaching available to us and commit to more effective practice. If each of us can improve by just 5% it will make a big difference to our results on the green.

GO HAWKS

VICE PRESIDENT- WOMEN**Evelyn Manser**

Now what was it that I had to do next?

A very successful card day was held in August and my thanks to all those who assisted in raising over \$1000. We received many compliments on the 3 course lunch and the raffle and trading table were well patronised.

Welcome to the new members and I hope you are already feeling "one of us".

I wish everyone a successful and enjoyable season.

TREASURER**Andrew Kleinig**

Members are reminded that subscriptions are now overdue and your earliest remittance will be greatly appreciated.

GREENS MANAGER

Our greens have survived winter well with a better cover than at this time last year.

As the soil warms there will be an increase in cover enabling Simon to increase the speed. All greens should roll well this season.

Over the Christmas break it is planned to deep core and top-dress B green in the hope that the problem area at the south end of rinks 5 & 6 will further improve. While there has been marked improvement of this green we are determined to continue to seek to bring it up to the standard of the other greens. At our request our curators have prepared a report on a complete replacement of B green should this year's work prove unsuccessful. We hope that this will not be necessary.

It is planned to dust A green over the break.

A decision on what maintenance will be done on C & D greens will be made closer to the break.

There has been no change in our water allocation for the coming summer so we should get through the season OK.

We continue to keep up to date with developments in artificial surfaces.

As we all start to use the greens more I ask that you do your bit to keep them in good condition:

- Wear appropriate bowls shoes at all times,
- Refrain from "lobbing" your bowls from the bank to the green,
- Give the ends a go by standing on the bank during games.

COACH

Trevor Sharpe

Leaders

Your job is to get two (2) close bowls **near** the jack.

Be consistent.

Learn to roll the jack within one metre of your skipper's foot.

Seconds

Should be able to play all the shots – so in particular, practice your metre or two metre over shots, and to position.

Thirds

Do not suggest the shot for your skipper to play unless asked!

Help the lead and second.

Measure yourself if the least bit in doubt.

Skippers

Be precise about the speed of shot required, if not a draw. e.g. Place your foot at exact spot or indicate by word of mouth i.e Ditch weight or sometimes perhaps "your own weight".

Reminders

Please find time to read all of "Bowling Along" in the next few weeks **before pennants** begin.

Good bowling to all members - use me like a sponge and squeeze all the information you need out of **me** to improve **your** game.

HBC NOTICE BOARD

Ray Schilling

A short time ago, Raelene Schilling informed the club that Ray would be unable to continue bowling due to his deteriorating health. Ray has been a staunch member for our club since he first joined in 1977. Since that time he has represented the Hawthorn Bowling Club on 613 occasions which is, by anyone's standards, a formidable record. This does not take into account that he filled in for the women from time to time. It would appear that, at the time of his retirement, he was the longest serving member of the club. The club has lost a loyal, well-respected and valued member. On behalf of you all, I have written to Ray to thank him sincerely for all that he has done for the club and to wish him and Raelene peace and happiness in the years to come.

Bob Wadsworth

Vale

It was with regret that we recently heard of the death of John Robertson's wife, Patricia. Bernie Manser and I represented the club at Patricia's funeral held at the Heysen Chapel. We extend our sympathy to John and his family at this sad time.

Bob Wadsworth

THE DAY THE BIT BENT

At last the honour boards arrived, with all the champions' names
in gold and black and emerald green, most glorious in their frames.

Five workers were assembled there with ladder, skaff and tools;
with Rose to supervise the work, though none of them were fools.

They laboured on at cracking pace; there was never time to laugh
but the pressure put upon the drill caused the bit to bend in half.

Those tools were downed with alacrity, there was no point to stay
and with a mighty grin at Rose, they prepared to go away.

But there was one among them yet who would not join the fun
"Its OK chaps be not dismayed, for I've brought another one."

There they stood and held their breath (They hoped it wouldn't fit.)
But no, it did, so on they went; there was no time to sit.

And when at last the job was done, they proudly eyed the wall.
The boards were now so tightly screwed, they had no chance to fall.

And late that night, the strangest thing - but no one there to say,
for gathered by the honour boards, were the shades of yesterday.

McGilp, who gave the biggest board, noted his name was right,
while others zoomed around the club and gave the mice a fright.

With muted mutters, shrieks and groans, they read their names aloud.
A banshee would make far less noise, for they were mighty proud!

An apparition stretched a hand, the street light shone straight through
"Behold the Hawthorn champs," she said "and it all began with you."

A few were silent, pleased as Punch; they had not won a match
for they were the tireless workers who built this club from scratch.

So let's salute the ones who won, acknowledging their skill,
but not forget the working bees of paint brush, bit and drill.

We have some new sponsors and when our wounded treasurer is back on deck, they will all be displayed on this page. Please support them as their assistance is much appreciated and vital to the club.

Also have look at the light board above the kitchen and locker rooms. Sure, you can look now and not see any difference but watch that space. Not only will there be the new sponsors but also all of last season's winners of internal competitions.

And the "not to be missed" new addition- photographs of the President and the two Vice Presidents.