



# The Hawthorn Herald

News Magazine of the Hawthorn Bowling Club Est. 1912

Celebrating our past, enjoying our present, planning our future

OCTOBER 2010

## COMING EVENTS

Tuesday November 2

Saturday November 13

Saturday December 4<sup>th</sup>

Melbourne Cup. Cosmo Pairs 11.00 Start.

Quiz Night 7.30 pm

Christmas Dinner 7.30 pm

## FROM THE EDITOR

ROSE MITCHELL

HAWTHORN BOWLS CLUB 2010/2011



## I say, don't we look gorgeous?

Seventy (or so) members, out of 165, turned up at 11.30am on the first day of Saturday pennants to be recorded for posterity. Many thanks go to Graham Dodd's daughter who assembled everyone and climbed a ladder to get the perfect shot. Next year's family snap will be going in the centenary book - you can't say you haven't had plenty of notice. Jenny, Brian, John and Rose are easing back on the valium now most of the uniform is- 1) designed 2) agreed on 3) fitted and ordered and 4) possessed by all pennant players before the start of the season. Visiting clubs have complimented us on our new look. This photo has been sent to our sister club in Llandrindod Wells, Wales following a visit by Brian Harmer where he received a very warm welcome from committee men impeccably dressed in blazers and ties. They told Brian that they do not have a heat policy which was easy to understand as on the day he was there it poured with rain and they were forced to have a long lunch. Now how tough is that?

## **REPORTS**

### **PRESIDENT**

**NEIL JENKINS**

At last the new season is upon us and I am sure you all will agree that it is really great to see so many members out on the greens. I hope by now you have got to know a few of the newer members of the club and have made them feel very welcome. I have to say the new uniforms look splendid and have already received praise from other clubs.

The season has started with mixed results but I feel confident that as we continue to practise hard we will gain the results on the board. I quote - "what lies behind us and what lies ahead of us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us". So let's be positive for the future of our club and put the effort in.

I would like to thank all those who put in the plinths on A green and to all of those members who continually volunteer their time for the club. Thank you also to everyone who attended the back to bowls dinner. The social committee have a number of events coming up and it would be great to see you all come along and enjoy yourselves.

Lastly, a reminder that the raffle tickets are due back soon. Don't forget, 80% of the proceeds go to our club.

Good bowling, enjoy yourself and have some fun.

### **VICE PRESIDENT- WOMEN**

**MYRA MATERNE**

The women's selectors, under Bev Ploenges' leadership, have given a lot of thought to the composition of our two sides for Thursday pennants. Matching a player's skill and ability with the team position required is not always easy and there are likely to be some more changes before getting everyone settled into a compatible team. Please be tolerant. Organizing the skills and team practices on Tuesday mornings is also the responsibility of the selectors and they are doing a great job. I wish to encourage Thursday players to attend these sessions as regularly as possible with the aim to improve their bowling skills. I have requested that members be at the club by 9.40am so that we can have a short information session before getting out on the greens by 10.00 am. Bring your lunch and enjoy some fellowship after practice.

Our internal tournament organizer, Margaret Lamshed, has completed the draws for the championship singles, two bowl singles and the pair's competitions. Check the board in the women's locker room if you have entered and play the games as soon as possible. Several Sundays have been set aside for matches.

The general preparation of the club house before home pennants (in the absence of a cleaner) is now underway and my sincere thanks to Lois Simpson who has offered to do her usual cleaning which is much

appreciated by all. Thank you also to Joan Dixon who will be on duty in the bar on Thursdays.

Most of our new women members are playing in the open gender competition on Saturdays. I certainly wish them good bowling, much enjoyment and success.

Dressed in our new uniforms, our women looked very smart on the green for the pennant games. Let us now set our goals to improve our skills so that our bowls results match our appearance.

Good bowling everyone.

#### **VICE PRESIDENT -MEN**

#### **RANDALL GERLACH**

Following a well structured pre-season program the fair dinkum bowling season has now begun with some mixed results.

Round 1 started with some impressive results with Premier 1 winning in an absolute nail biter, Metro 1-S, Metro 2-W in a hard fought draw and Metro 4-S on Saturday and Premier 1, Metro 1-S and Metro 3-S on Wednesday.

This mixed start to the season has been followed by a disastrous 2<sup>nd</sup> week for the club with all teams losing on Saturday.

While it would be easy to just sweep these results under the table and consider them as just a small glitch in the long season ahead of us, we should try and learn from these losses and take steps to try and avoid a repeat performance.

While we may not all perform to our expectations on a particular day, it should not prevent us from trying to concentrate on every bowl we deliver, never throwing in the towel and trying our best to support each other in whatever way we can. Hopefully if we are able to do all these small things well we can turn this negative week into a positive for the rest of the year.

I would encourage all bowlers to continue working hard at training to improve any weaknesses you may have in your game and build on your strengths. I have been impressed to date with the numbers who are attending training sessions and I am sure this will eventually translate into the club being successful both on and off the greens this year.

I was also heartened to have a good attendance at our first bowls information night on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>. As stated on the night, we will try to make these a monthly event and include any club updates/promotions, general items of interest and perhaps the odd (not strange) guest speaker or two. We will work these in with the Thursday night meals, so they will be kept to no more than 30 to 45 minutes. If you have any suggestions of a topic that you think would be of interest to you, please raise it with a committee member or selector.

On a final note, I would just like quash the rumour that I was seen standing at the edge of a cliff on Saturday night ready to jump, in fact I was just admiring the view.

See you on the greens

### **GREENS MANAGER**

**BERNIE MANSER**

The season has started with all greens in play and in good condition. A working bee recently installed new plinths at the southern end of A Green. It appears to have settled in well. Thank you Neil Jenkins, David Sutherland, Chris Hart, Michael Lodge & Graham Giles. When they have fully recovered from their labours, the northern end will also be replaced. If anyone else is prepared to help please let me know.

The sunshades for C & D greens are slowly getting installed. Hopefully they will be completed by the time you read this. Another working bee took down the existing shelters and deposited them near the tennis courts. They will probably re-appear as shelters around the oval. You are reminded that, in the coming season on practice days, specific rinks will be allocated for sole use by the various teams. Where possible, rinks will also be available for individual practice. The allocations will be shown on the board outside the clubhouse after the greens have been prepared.

### **CHAIRPERSONS OF SELECTORS**

#### **THURSDAY WOMEN**

**BEV PLOENGES**

Welcome everyone to Season 2010-2011. The club has entered 2 teams, Premier 2 and Metro 2. It is most important that we maintain Premier 2 and that Metro 2 are promoted. As numbers are dwindling, we need to promote Thursday bowls and encourage new members to play, if circumstances permit.

Pene Bilsborough is our skills co-ordinator and has put a lot of time and effort into a program for the women. The selectors, besides selecting teams, are also running our practises and once again, this involves extra time and effort as they also have to practise. Patience by players please!!

The pre-season trials were a little disappointing as one opposition club could only bring 1 Division to play and another club cancelled at the last moment due to lack of available players. The third trial against Marion Bowling Club was successful

Practices on Tuesday have been well attended

Results

Premier 2S –

7/10 Hawthorn def Marion 64-53 (9 POINTS)

- This was a good result and well played by all players, as many positional changes were made from last year.

14/10 Hawthorn defeated by Semaphore 46 – 71 (2 POINTS)

Metro 2S –

7/10 - Hawthorn defeated by Trinity Gardens 41-61 (2 POINTS)

14/10 - Hawthorn defeated Clarence Gardens 57 – 51 (10 POINTS)

Welcome to Maria Raymond, a new member, and welcome back to Joan Lyall, it's good to see you back on the greens.

A challenging season is in front of us – so BE POSITIVE, SET YOUR GOALS and go for it!!!!

ENJOY YOUR SEASON

### **SATURDAY MEN**

### **VIC MAGOCH**

Well, the much anticipated bowls season has arrived. The club has lost a few players from the Saturday competition, mainly as a result of people moving locations. We have, however, been strengthened by players from other clubs, as well as recruiting new bowlers and now have most of the Saturday and Thursday women also playing. As a result, the club is able to field 7 sides this season.

The number of new players on Saturdays exceeds 25 and as you can imagine, with all this new and varied talent the selectors are in a difficult situation trying to identify the correct players for their ideal position. This may take a while so patience and understanding is required.

It is also pleasing to see so many people coming to practice and wanting to improve their game. The enthusiasm and positiveness can be felt around the club and I believe we are in for a successful year.

### **WEDNESDAY MEN**

### **GRAHAM DODD**

This year we entered the same number of sides as last year with two having been promoted providing an extra challenge for 2010-2011. Our first round yielded a 3 win - 1 loss result to start the season on a reasonably good note. We have 64 men available for the 60 places each week so with illnesses and other absences filling the sides is a tight squeeze. Many thanks to those women who are available to play each week – we appreciate their help very much to be able to field 4 sides consistently over the season. Our goals are to get a top four place in as many sides as possible, and particularly to maintain the side in Premier 2 division.

Tuesday practice is going well with  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the playing group rolling up to hone their skills. The Chairman's 2 bowl triples is an initiative that will provide quality practice in match conditions and is open to any club member.

The players' information night was very well attended with a mountain of organization details outlined to streamline the HBC playing operations as much as possible. Among the information disseminated President Neil outlined an award sponsored by Bob Richards-Pugh for any rink getting a 'Lucky 7', or 'Super 8' to receive \$100 with up to \$500 awarded in a year.

We are indebted to Bob for his thoughtful initiative to help motivate players throughout the season. Already I believe we have had 4 'Lucky 7' rinks to date! The purpose of the information night was to enable members to get as much organizational detail in place to enable us to get on with the main objective – playing good bowls to achieve success.

Here's to a successful and happy Wednesday Pennant at HBC!!

### **SOCIAL BOWLS**

**Rose Mitchell**

With seven teams in the Saturday competition and not many "spares", it is going to be a difficult season again for the social bowls. Most people who come out to social bowls do not want to play pennants, be committed to a whole season or play on inclement days. However, while pennant teams have to be filled, we must respect these facts or we will lose new members. We started the season with three new people and Alan Harris has once again been their coach and is very encouraging to them when they meet on the green. This keeps Alan in the good books with Anne and myself so that when he rings on Saturday mornings looking for players he knows we will do our best to help.

### **HBC NOTICE BOARD**

#### **HENSELITE CUP**

**Gary Mickan**

The club has again entered the Henselite Cup competition for the 2010/11 season. We will be playing on five Sunday nights and one Friday night at various metropolitan venues. Start time is 6.00pm.

Our group is as listed:

Sunday	14.11.10	vs	Woodville at Hope Valley
Friday	17.12.10	vs	Gawler at Clearview
Sunday	23. 1. 11	vs	Hope Valley at Woodville
Sunday	30. 1. 11	vs	Holdfast Bay at Holdfast Bay
Sunday	6. 2. 11	vs	West Lakes at Hawthorn
Sunday	27.2. 11	vs	Clearview at West Lakes

A nomination sheet has been placed on the notice board for any member who wishes to play. Players must be prepared to play in at least four of the six minor round games. From the nominations received, a final squad of 18-20 players will be chosen by our selectors. All players selected in the final squad will play at least two games.

### **Vale**

Jill Wadsworth died on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October after a long illness, lovingly cared for by Bob. On the following Saturday many members attended her funeral at Our Lady of Dolours, Kingswood. While not a bowler, she was well known at the club, attending the social functions with Bob and was very pleasant company. Our sincere condolences to Bob and their family.

**The letter Mary wrote from the Mitcham Convent in 1882 was discovered last month by Marie when she was editing this article and is the first evidence that Mary visited our little corner of the world. Have a read if you are interested. I have given the article to St Joseph's School and Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Church Kingswood as it is their heritage**

### **A MOST UNLIKELY ALLIANCE**

Written by Rosemary Mitchell

Edited by Sr. Marie Foale RSJ

About the only thing they had in common was their heritage, one born in Scotland, the other Australian born of Scottish parents. Wealth, social status and religion should have been impenetrable barriers to their paths to have ever crossed but the friendship between Mary MacKillop and Joanna Barr Smith, begun in the late 1860's, was to last for 40 years.

They were both prolific letter writers but never mentioned where they met or indeed how often. As their correspondence began when the Barr Smiths were living at Woodville in "St Clair", it can be assumed that it was here, when Mary and her Sisters of St Joseph, newly established in Adelaide, used to take underprivileged children to Woodville for picnics. Joanna's husband Robert and her brother Thomas Elder were partners in the pastoral company, Elder Smiths and hers was a life of luxury. Mary was committed to living the life of the people she sought to assist. She and her sisters often existed from hand to mouth and their work greatly benefited from the financial support of the Barr Smiths and others in the Adelaide community. Joanna had lost two of her children and she admired Mary for her faith and courage in the face of adversity, professing to have none of her own. More of her children were to die and Mary offered comfort through her letters.

Mary was in Queensland when the Catholic Church, Our Lady of Dolours, situated on the corner of Maitland Street and St Michael's Road in the Mitcham Village, was opened with great ceremony in May 1870. Fr. Julian Tenison Woods, co-founder with Mary of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart, was present. The very next day the sisters opened St Joseph's School in the church building as there were many Catholic families living nearby and Maitland Street was known colloquially as Irish Hill. When Mary was excommunicated in September 1871, the school closed but reopened when her excommunication was removed in February the following year. This building was sold in 1918 and demolished in 1926.

While the Josephite Order was established for the education of Catholic children, the sisters also cared for society's unwanted. A female refuge was founded in Franklin Street to rescue prostitutes, former prisoners and for the protection of young women who were in moral danger. It soon became overcrowded and was considered to be too near the temptations of the flesh pots of the city and so was moved to Mitcham. Housed next door to the church cum school in rented accommodation, it had to be self supporting so the inmates and the sisters took in washing and sewing.

This proved to be a problem; distance from the city might be desirable for the salvation of the women but was not a good commercial move, the location being rather remote. By the end of 1872 the refuge and laundry had moved to Norwood and transferred to Fullarton in 1901. The Barr Smiths helped pay for the new building at Fullarton.

Joanna and Robert Barr Smith bought "Torrens Park" in 1874 while on one of their many sojourns in the UK. Mary was also absent from Adelaide at this time, visiting the Vatican and studying teaching methods in European countries. When Joanna and Robert returned, they gave financial support to the building of the convent at Kensington.

Later, in 1881 they sold some land near the corner of Blythwood and Muggs Hill Roads to the sisters for five shillings and assisted them in building a convent the next year. The site also became the Josephite cemetery and the first burial took place there in December 1881. Mary wrote to all the sisters on April 14<sup>th</sup> 1882 "I am writing this at Mitcham where I have had to come for a few days' quiet. The convent is very pretty, but the Oratory is not quite finished, so Mass has not been said in it. It is so nice to have a sister buried here as every day she gets so many prayers."

While there is no other evidence, it is most likely that Mary also visited the Maitland Street premises in the Mitcham Village over the years as she travelled widely, giving encouragement and support to the sisters. In 1883, she left Adelaide and took up residence in Sydney, returning about four times on visits before her death.

By the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the school in Maitland Street had become overcrowded and the health authorities expressed concern. There was a population growth in Kingswood and surrounding suburbs and it was decided to move the location of the Church of Our Lady of Dolours and the school to their present site on Cambridge Terrace. The school opened in 1914 and served as the church, the reverse of the arrangement in Maitland Street, until the church was opened in 1928. The sisters purchased an adjoining block on the corner of Cambridge Terrace and Seaford Ave for their convent and the Mitcham Convent was demolished in 1926, leaving just the cemetery.

Mary died in 1909 and Joanna donated her tombstone in the Gore Hill Cemetery in North Sydney. In 1914, she also donated the vault when Mary's remains were transferred to the newly built Memorial Chapel in Mount Street. The tombstone was discovered in the garden of "Birksgate" when the mansion was demolished in 1972. The property had belonged to Joanna's brother Sir Thomas Elder and was inherited by her son Tom in the 1890's and passed to his heirs. Joanna died in 1919 and was buried in the Mitcham Cemetery.

Mary MacKillop and Joanna Barr Smith, that most unlikely alliance; two women living in very different worlds, but whose lifelong friendship enriched not only each other's lives but subsequently those of countless others.