



The Hawthorn Herald

News Magazine of the Hawthorn Bowling Club Est. 1912

Celebrating our past, enjoying our present, planning our future

SEPTEMBER 2011

COMING EVENTS

Thursday September 22

Players information night 6.30pm

Pennants begin:-

Wednesday October 5

Men

Thursday October 6

Ladies

Saturday October 8

Open Selection

Saturday October 8

Social bowls

Saturday October 8

Club photo 11am

FROM THE EDITOR

ROSE MITCHELL

Welcome back to bowls and the 2011/12 season. Time to empty out your bowls bag of all those things that have been wintering there – a peppermint with fluff on it, assorted grotty cloths, a miniscule bit of chalk, a blunt pencil and a folded up tube of your favourite sticky stuff for your bowling hand. A new season, a fresh start, hope is high and everything is possible. It is a bit like getting your new books at the start of the school year, isn't it? The pages are all clean, no assessments, no red crosses, no "could do better" remarks in the margin. May your season be filled with gold stars and smiley stickers.

And this is not just any ol' season for Hawthorn, is it? Half way through we will be starting our centenary year which is a pretty good record by anyone's assessment. One hundred years on this spot, one hundred years of highs and lows, joys and woes, friends and fellowship. Four rinks were put down by the Oval Trust at the inception of the oval complex in 1911, a leap of faith on their part that people would come forward and take on the responsibility of setting up a club. And they did, as we know, in November 1912.

Would they though, if they could only have seen into the very near future, a drought worse than any on record and the long dreadful years of war. A drought with no mains water and no bore, the greens not open for practice in an attempt to hang in there with matches played on very poor greens. It is hard not to feel intrusive at times, reading these letters which the writers would have had no idea someone was going to read a century later. A bit like eavesdropping. We should be grateful that all these letters have survived, giving us a personal insight into the lives of those earlier Hawks. No "send a copy and delete" as we do now. Where will someone find our human story when they come to write the second century of Hawthorn? The recycle bin would have long since been emptied.

The graphic artist has been busy all winter and we have some great centenary projects. We have raised the funds for the mural behind the bar, the men have painted the walls, now EVERYONE must turn up at 11am on the first Saturday of pennants for the family photo shoot. If you don't play on Saturdays please put on your uniform and come to the club; if you are playing away, please come to the club first. The photo will be prominently displayed throughout the centenary year and beyond. We want to show, without having to say, that Hawthorn is a big thriving club, a good place to be and here to stay for the next hundred years.

REPORTS

PRESIDENT

NEIL JENKINS

Welcome to everyone especially our new members to the 2011/12 season. It will be a special season for us as we begin our centenary year on January 14th with a celebration after the first Saturday match following the mid season break. At a special meeting in early June, the membership voted to install solar panels. It was agreed that this would be an appropriate major centenary project as it was an investment in the future. The City of Mitcham renewed the roof before the panels were installed and there have been many positive comments on our new smart external look. Other improvements have been planned for the interior of the club.

Many thanks to the people who worked at the club over the winter break, especially the bar and greens staff, and the coordinators of winter bowls, Vic Magoch, Barry Whittle and Alan Harris. Thank you to the members who have agreed to take on the task of selector this year and they have already been at work preparing for the season. One who is doing overtime is Graham Dodd as he is not only Chairperson for Wednesday but is also Gary Mickan's stand in for Saturday while Gary is absent. Graham also organised the match with the ladies last Thursday.

A House Manager is needed following the resignation of John Whittle. Several members are assisting in the short term especially Rick Owen but the position needs a permanent replacement.

Trials and practice sessions are now underway and I encourage all members to commit themselves to these training sessions. Our greens have been well cared for over winter and are in an excellent state.

I hope you all have an enjoyable and successful 2011/12 season.

VICE PRESIDENT- WOMEN

MYRA MATERNE

Spring has sprung and the bowls off-season break has come to an end. During this time some members have enjoyed Winter Bowls, others have been travelling or engaged in another activity of their choice. I hope you have all had a happy and refreshing few months.

In August, the ladies held their annual card day. Once again it was very successful socially and financially. The eighty attendees enjoyed it so much they wish to be invited again next year. My sincere thanks to all who contributed in any way and worked on the day. Special thanks to Mike and Tom for their assistance in the bar and serving the welcoming drinks and to Rick for his donation of a beautiful wooden board which was used as a raffle prize. Over all it was a great team effort. The \$2222 we raised has been deposited in our special purpose bank account together with other generous donations from past and present members. This money will be used to pay for our Centenary project which is the mural behind the bar. Rose Mitchell with Nigel Galliver of Design Works have worked hard to design and produce this. It will be installed over the Christmas break ready to be unveiled on January 14th at our opening Centenary function. We wish to say a huge thank you to the men who volunteered to paint the wall behind the bar which is the base for the mural. It was much appreciated.

Now it is time to start serious preparations for the pennant season. The ladies are very pleased to welcome Gary Davies who has been appointed as our coach for the 2011/12 season. He will be organizing skills training sessions at Tuesday morning practices. He will assist individuals if they have problems, and offer advice on team strategies. He will endeavour to attend pennant matches to assess our progress. We have three sides in the pennant competition:-Premier 2, Metro 1, and Metro 2. Fortunately we have welcomed a number of new members, viz. Ingrid Ashton, Sylvia Houston, Dianne Peters, Dawn Pitman, and Christine Holt. Please make yourselves known to them and encourage them to join in all club activities. However we will probably need the assistance of some men to fill our 3rd side, so volunteers are welcome.

Our internal tournament organizer, Margaret Lamshed, has put up sheets for entries in the club singles championship, club pairs, and two bowl singles. These are in the ladies locker room. Please put your name on the list by the end of September if you wish to play in these competitions. I encourage you to do so, it is good practice.

Thanks to Bev Ploenges, chairperson of selectors, for organizing trial games for us during September. The selectors are busy working on the composition of our 3 sides, trialling persons in different positions. If possible make yourself available for the trial games.

Unfortunately several of our members are on the sick list including Iris Nicholas and Noreen Stanley. We wish them a speedy recovery and look forward to welcoming them back to "active service".

I hope during this season we can expect the same degree of cooperation and dedication of our members as we have had in the past. I sincerely wish everyone an enjoyable and successful bowling season.

GREENS MANAGER

BERNIE MANSER

As we start the season, all four greens are ready for action.

Over winter there have been changes in personnel managing our greens; Simon left and was replaced on a temporary basis by Ben Would under the supervision of Clynt Ryan (who looks after Clarence Gardens). Nigel Ryan is now going to be looking after us on a permanent basis. Nigel and Clynt are the owners of D&D Curators. Nigel has had soil samples from all greens sent to a laboratory for testing. The results of those tests indicate that our soil is in very good condition with only small adjustments needed in our fertilizer program. Weather permitting we can look forward to good playing surfaces this season.

D Green:

There are ongoing problems on the western side of this green. Roots from the trees over the boundary have invaded the green and this together with the litter from the trees affect the playability of the last rink. We requested Council to install a root barrier along the boundary but were unsuccessful. The cost of this is over \$4,000 which is more than we can afford at this stage. We will be seeking a grant to enable us to do it.

You may have noticed that we have pruned our neighbour's deciduous tree back to the fence line. This should reduce the amount of litter on the green and will allow more sunlight on the western side of the green. The remaining trees along that boundary are on Council property and we have negotiated with Council to

have them removed and replaced with lower growing plantings with less invasive root systems.

C Green:

There are no plans for major changes. The new plinths are looking good with grass coverage right up to them. There are a couple of spots that still need attention; this should be solved once we get more growth. The "fairy rings" have been treated and will be less noticeable.

B Green:

There are no plans for major changes. Once funds allow, the plinths will be replaced. Pull out shades (as on C green) will shortly be installed. These will be slightly lower than those on C green. This should enable more members to be able to operate them. The cost has been partly covered by a grant.

A Green:

There are no plans for major changes.

CHAIRPERSONS OF SELECTORS

THURSDAY WOMEN

BEV PLOENGES

Season 2011/12 has started on a very positive note with the Board appointing Gary Davies as our coach. Under the guidance of Gary, Tuesday practices have been very well attended, enthusiasm is high and with hard work we are looking forward to a successful year.

Membership increased slightly enabling the club to enter 3 Divisions. Premier 2, Metro 1 and Metro 2 (in this division we will need a few men to help us out). Selectors for Premier 2 are Jenny Whittle and Susan Jenkins and for the Metro teams, Barbara Payne and Myra Materne.

On Thursday 8th, an internal trial was played against the men, a fairly serious game and a lot of fun. Thanks guys, especially Graham Dodd for rounding you all up.

Three external trials against Clarence Gardens, Marion and Happy Valley are also to be played in the following weeks.

Internal tournaments are an important part of club involvement so we encourage all players to nominate for these events as they are a good learning experience for all.

Enjoy the season -- have the club spirit.

SATURDAY OPEN SELECTION

GRAHAM DODD

Graham is currently Gary Mickan's proxy, therefore acting chairperson and a good bloke for writing two reports. He is anxiously awaiting Gary's return to the fold.

With a playing list of well over 135 players, we have entered 8 teams this season which indicates a very healthy situation for Hawthorn. Open Day rolled off a good start to the season with a fantastic turnout of over 90 players scorching the greens. The Open Selection Committee for this year is Gary Mickan (Chair), Daryl Liew, John Whelan, Mark Kennedy, Trevor Strudwick, Ron Jones, Lesley Slattery, Alan Harris, and Ross Reynolds, and meets each Monday at 5.45pm. The

Committee is striving to improve on the results of last year with a good level of enthusiasm shown already amongst the players in the trials.

Welcome to the following new players to Saturday Pennants.

Wally Beale	Tom Rushton
Geoff Beare	Sylvia Houston
Lorenzo Dissegna	Eddy Ward
Ralph Fraser	George Metschke
John Godfrey	Jens Peters
Jim Hughes	Dianne Peters
Brian Jenkins	Ingrid Ashton
Jim Philpott	Trevor Ward
Dawn Pitman	Charles Yee
Don Roach	Lance Woodgate

If I have missed anyone, my apologies, but be assured you are most welcome!

Our first trial against Payneham saw nearly 200 bowlers on all greens which was a fantastic sight. It resulted in a 3 win – 3 loss hit out which was reasonable considering players not available. The upcoming trials will be good for shuffling players to get our strongest sides ready for the season. Thursday organized practice has begun and we expect numbers to grow considerably over the next few weeks. This session will be split into 3 groups and please remember to look on the outside whiteboard to see which green has been allocated for you to practice on.

All the best for a successful season.

WEDNESDAY MEN

GRAHAM DODD

This Pennant Season is looming to be a challenge with the Asia Pacific and Australian Masters Games, and the Country Carnival providing significant interruptions. We have a very good playing list of more than 70 players for the four sides entered this year. Welcome to the new players below who have joined the Wednesday players list.

Lorenzo Dissegna	Jens Peters
Don Roach	Wally Beale
Eddy Ward	Rick Owen
Geoff Beare	Tom Rushton

Many thanks also to the ladies who have offered to be reserves over the season.

The Selection Committee for the season is Bernie Manser, Graham Giles, Brian Harmer, Barry Hanna, and Michael Nimon, and meets each Friday 8.30am. The experience and wisdom of this group will hopefully bring similar, if not better results, than last year.

Wednesday pennants is trialling a new competition format this season in the Premier grades of 1 pair, 2 triples, and 2 fours in each side. The scoring has also been changed to be out of 20. The trial games played using the new format have indicated a small variation in finishing times for the various rinks with the pairs and triples finishing earlier – all the better for supporting the rinks still playing. Our first trial against Holdfast Bay was a good hit out with 3 strong wins. The coming trials will see the usual shuffling of players to get the best possible fit for our Pennant Sides, and organized Tuesday practice has commenced with reasonable numbers turning out.

Have a happy & successful season!

HBC NOTICE BOARD

Member's success

Congratulations to Rebecca Arbon who was very successful in the Nationals this year. Scoring wins at Australian level in Fours, Ladies Pairs, Mixed Pairs and Singles, she was even more successful at the State level scoring gold in the Singles and Mixed Pairs

Well done Rebecca.

Pie and pasty night

The player's information night will be held on Thursday September 22 at 6.30 pm. Please put your name down on the sheet provided which is displayed on the white board to assist in catering.

Opening Day

While we are talking of catering, there were about 20 more people to afternoon tea on Opening Day than names on the sheet. All very lovely but it caused some consternation in the kitchen when the food was plated. Who says girls can't do maths, "fast on our feet maths" what's more as we endeavoured to even out what we had. Pity we weren't serving soup, we could have added water to that. Last year, as you will remember, it rained and people who had their names on the sheet didn't show so we had, guess what, too much food.

Myra and I were very grateful that Eddy and Newel showed their faces in the club house after everyone had gone out. The chaps were very sorry that they did as they were immediately pressganged, hijacked and seconded to kitchen duty. Thanks you chaps, we most certainly appreciated your help.

So the moral of the story is thus –

If you fancy a spot of bowls watching, stay out of the club house or you might finish up in the heat of the kitchen whether you can stand it or not.

Cooks Companion

This is an excellent centenary fund raiser coordinated by Pene Billsborough and worthy of consideration by all members. Not just a recipe book but lots, lots more. There is a double page spread for a family tree, pages for Christmas and birthday lists, medication notes and conversion charts for pre metric recipes. Quite an heirloom to be handed down, don't you think?

Members are asked to submit up to three original recipes plus a couple of dollars to cover production costs; the nature of the book requires quality paper and a stout laminated cover.

Come on chaps, share with us your favourite recipes or that one special dish which is your creation and for which you are famous. Do you cook your speciality on Sunday mornings? One past Hawk created Pufftaloons on Sundays accompanied by loud singing of "The Floral Dance" and "The Green Eyed Dragon with the Seven Tails". To a visitor the creation looked mighty like pancakes; to the family the kitchen looked a total mess, "cooks don't wash up" being the motto but the whole experience became family folk lore. So what specials are there in your family? Pene is looking for fillers too, one liners, wit and wisdom. Be in it.

HAWTHORN FUNIES

Artie

Tired of constantly being broke and stuck in an unhappy marriage, a young husband decided to solve both problems by taking out a large insurance policy on his wife with himself as the beneficiary, and then arranging to have her killed. A 'friend of a friend' put him in touch with a nefarious dark-side underworld figure who went by the name of 'Artie.' Artie explained to the husband that his going price for snuffing out a spouse was \$5,000.

The husband said he was willing to pay that amount, but that he wouldn't have any cash on hand until he could collect his wife's insurance money. Artie insisted on being paid at least something up front, so the man opened his wallet, displaying the single dollar bill that rested inside. Artie sighed, rolled his eyes, and reluctantly agreed to accept the dollar as down payment for the dirty deed.

A few days later, Artie followed the man's wife to the local Woolworths Supermarket store. There, he surprised her in the produce department and proceeded to strangle her with his gloved hands. As the poor unsuspecting woman drew her last breath and slumped to the floor, the manager of the produce department stumbled unexpectedly onto the murder scene. Unwilling to leave any living witnesses behind, ol' Artie had no choice but to strangle the produce manager as well.

However, unknown to Artie, the entire proceedings were captured by the hidden security cameras and observed by the store's security guard, who immediately called the police. Artie was caught and arrested before he could even leave the store.

Under intense questioning at the police station, Artie revealed the whole sordid plan, including his unusual financial arrangements with the hapless husband who was also quickly arrested.

The next day in the newspaper, the headline declared...

(You're going to hate me for this...)

'ARTIE CHOKES 2 for \$1.00 @ WOOLWORTHS

A nine letter word

What 9 letter word in the English language is still a word after a single letter has been removed?

STARTLING

Take away
L = starting
T= staring
A= string
R= sting
T= sing
G= sin
S = in
N= I

