

'ABUZZ'



At HAWTHORN

"Celebrating our past, enjoying our present, planning our future"

December 2020

Editor Brian Schaefer

President's Message

2020 ... a very different year!

With the bowls season now in recess until 6 January and Christmas fast approaching, I take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank you for your individual efforts to ensure that our sport and Club survived under ever changing conditions during 2020.

It has been a strange and difficult year for us all and while the current guidelines allow us a near normal life-style, I believe this Festive Season will be more significant for all of us than ever before. Enjoy it to the max!

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I round out by conveying recent developments which are significant and have the potential to benefit the Hawthorn Bowls Club (HBC) enormously.

The Mitcham Council

On Monday 7th December a delegation of Terry Onto, Alan Reid, Graeme Alder, and myself met with Dr Heather Holmes-Ross (Mayor), and Anneke Polkamp (Manager Properties and Facilities). It was a good meeting and great to connect with each of them to re-establish our formal partnership through the Lease Agreement between the City of Mitcham and the HBC Incorporated.

We felt it important to raise awareness of our great community Club, being one of the largest sporting bodies for middle and older aged constituents in the Mitcham Council area. Our 108-year-old facility provides for large community involvement through lawn bowls as well as catering for a range of private and community events. HBC's governance dovetails nicely into the Council's Vision, Goals, and 4 Year Delivery Plan. In particular, the Council's Goal to achieve an Accessible, Healthy and Connected Community for constituents being facilitated to get in touch with each other and places, empowering them to live healthy lives. The HBC assists the Council to develop its priority themes of:

Health and Wellbeing by building capacity for people to be active, healthy, and connected through involvement in the sport of lawn bowls and the opportunity to volunteer - which is at a high rate, *Services and Facilities* by providing well maintained and safe sporting amenities, enjoyment using the Club's facilities, and access to information enabling further connections through our upgraded website and newsletters.

It was a joy to convey that the Club was doing very well

From the President (cont'd)

with nearly 400 members and recent outstanding upgrades to our facilities continually drawing applause from members, guests, and visitors alike. Also appealing is the welcoming way we do business. We emphasised that planning is an important aspect of the Board and we were very pleased with the intent and achievable HBC 2020-21 Strategic and Business Plans which we described briefly and left with them – they were most impressed. The Plans have been posted on the HBC website for all members to access.

We also presented how we hoped to continue improving the Club's infrastructure by seeking grants with the Council's support and clarifying the status of such projects as the men's toilet upgrade and addition of a new entrance from the carpark. Several urgent repairs were indicated, and it was heartening to hear that the Council was fully supportive of our projects and keen to be involved and provide the solution in a range of ways.

A follow up meeting was quickly arranged for Wednesday December 16th 9.30-10.30am headed by Hayley Ashworth (Sporting Facility & Recreation Officer), to review and inspect firsthand our list of 17 projects we intend to seek Council support. It was another very good meeting with the Council Officers taking away the list and undertaking to categorise the projects for the various Federal, State and Local Government Grant opportunities. This will enable us to prepare the applications for submission during January.

HBC Governance Review

The Board is undertaking a review of the HBC Governance led by Alan Reid to

explore two key aspects: governance structures and governance processes. A forum was held on Monday 14th December to look at governance structures. The purpose was to assess Board Members' views about the ways in which our governance arrangements are currently organised. The meeting examined its strengths and weaknesses and explored alternative structures. It was a very productive meeting and the information gathered will be used to help develop the Governance Review Discussion Paper for the Board's March 2021 meeting. I envisage there will be excellent streamlining of current governance practices to benefit the Club.

Club Christmas Dinner

You will see images later in the newsletter of the Club's very successful Christmas Dinner where nearly 100 members with their families and friends enjoyed wonderful food and each other's company.

Father Christmas (Bill Tonkin) visited to the delight of all, especially the five children who received a present from the happy old fella.

Music from the Mitcham Brass Band - well led by our own Steve Packer, enhanced the night.

On behalf of the HBC Board, I wish you a wonderful and safe Festive Season, and Happy New Year.

Graham Dodd PhD,

Home Bowls

Home Bowls Pre-Xmas 'Champagne' Competition Results

Home Bowls comprises both a Pre- and Post-Xmas 'Champagne' Competition, with the combined scores determining the winner of the Andrew McTaggart Memorial Home Bowls Shield, in March 2021.

The Pre-Xmas Competition, completed in 35-degree heat on Saturday December 12th, resulted in 37 players gaining points over the 8 weeks. The possible maximum was 16 and the top ten players were:

John Liebelt	13
Mark Holland	11
Daryl Thomas	11
Bruce Golding	9
Russell Bennet	8
Penny McTaggart	7
Cedric Williams	7
Jim Wilson	6
John Whittle	6
Joe Grieve	5

Congratulations John, enjoy your French Champagne. The 'Aussie Bubbles' went to Mark and Daryl, well done guys. Mark is new to the game and recently purchased a brand-new set of Aero bowls with radioactive symbols - now there's a competitive edge!



A further ten players scored 4 points, reflecting the skills of our pairing and tripling expert, Rod Ellis. Thanks and well done mate. Thanks also to Penny McTaggart, Jim Wilson (a Port Noarlunga member), Carol Boyle and John Whittle for your selfless and expert contributions.

Graeme Alder

On behalf of the Home Bowls Task Force



ALFRED JAMES
Honouring a Life

Christmas Dinner

Christmas Dinner

What a great finish to our Events for 2020, with our Christmas Dinner enjoyed by approx. 100 members, families and friends. The HBC clubroom was full of Christmas cheer with flashing lights, decorations, raffles and even a visit from Santa who had presents and lollies for all children. Wonderful entertainment was provided by Steve Packer and the amazingly talented members of the Mitcham City Brass band who played Christmas themed tunes for us to enjoy and dance along to.

Our MC extraordinaire on the night (Jeff Lawton) provided entertaining stories and helped make the evening run smoothly.

The main event being the two-course dinner was coordinated by Marilyn and her tireless group of helpers and cooks and included cold meats and salads followed by Christmas pudding, trifle and even some apricot and rum balls for the tables. The empty plates showed that it was appreciated by all.

The Xmas raffle draw was highly anticipated with 7 amazing prizes on offer. The first ticket drawn out belonged to our President Graham Dodd who kindly re-donated for a redraw. The winners had a hard choice from the great prizes on offer. A big thanks to everyone who donated items for the raffle and to Di Peters for putting the baskets together so beautifully.

Congratulations to all who participated in making this such a fabulous evening. Big thanks for everyone who helped out on the day (including kitchen, bar, waiters and the various other helpers), who helped out with setting up tables, picking up glasses and plates, helping with tickets and a long list of other tasks too big to list. Big thanks again to Steve Packer and the Mitcham band. And of course, thanks to everyone who attended – events like this cannot happen without the continued support from our members.

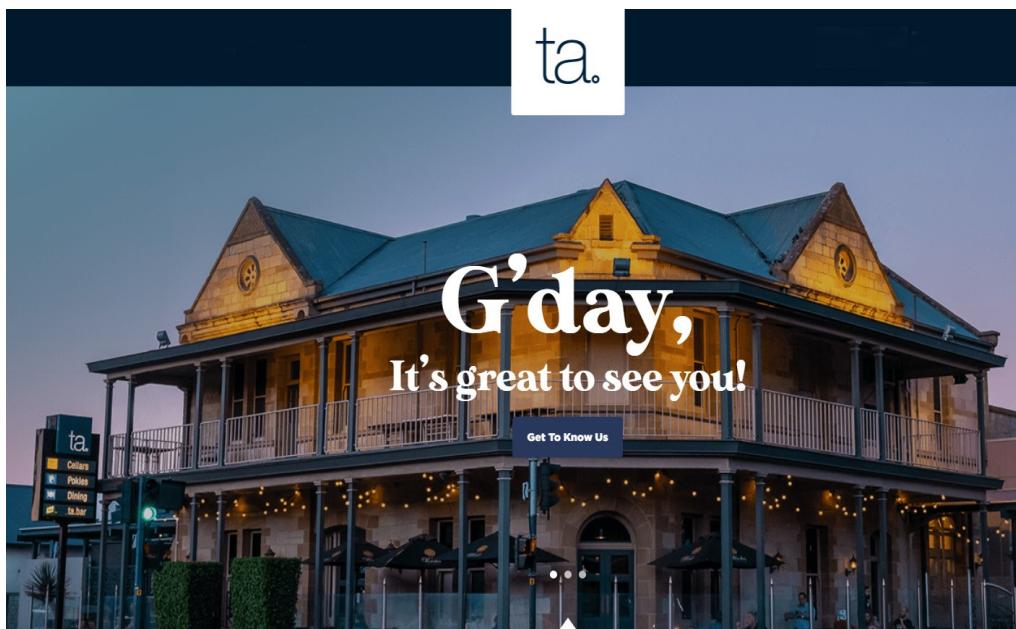
Merry Xmas & Happy New year to all.

From the Events Committee

(Chris & Malcolm Keller, Marilyn, Penny, Ethel, Di, Trudy and Graham)



Christmas Dinner



Club Christmas Dinner



Fun at the Christmas Dinner



Father Christmas arrives, interviews Jeff, has he been good? and hands out presents to those who have.



The Master Dancer, Tom, entertaining not only the children but also many of the crowd.

Christmas Dinner



Above: Mitcham City Band at work

Right: Marilyn's new recruit to wait on the tables shone on the night.



A reminder of 2020

Anne seen applying one of her many talents, with Maggie, at the **Unley Probus Christmas Lunch** held at the Club in early December.



Club Sponsors

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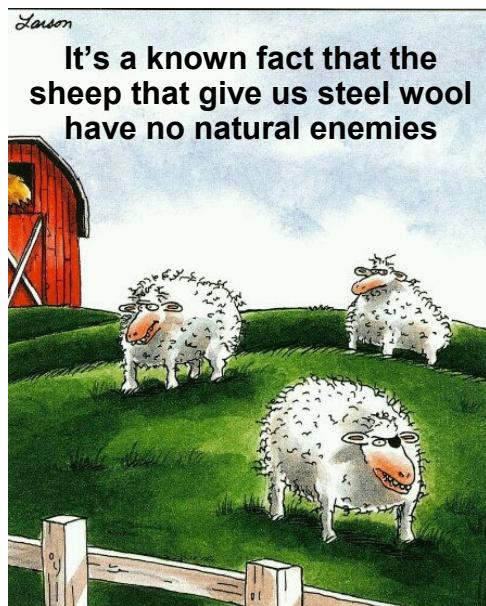
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Notable Achievements

Ladies State Pairs - I have made the quarter finals , along with my partner from Toorak, this is to be played in April 2021 (due to recent Covid) , both Wendy and Chris have also made the quarter finals, as has Jim Bell.

Mixed State Pairs - I have made the knockouts along with my partner Glenn, this is to be played Sunday 13th December 2020 .

Dawn Stoddart

1 of 1

TerryWhite Chemmart.

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Games Played

Ian Brown

Rex Curtis

Alan Reid

all completed **300 games** for the club last week.

Taylor Bowls

Our Silver South team played their first game last night. They won three matches to one (20 shots up).

Our Bronze South team also had a win by three matches to one (19 shots up). They sit 3rd on the premiership table.

WHAT DID THE PIRATE SAY WHEN HE TURNED 80?

Aye matey.

WHAT DID THE 0 SAY TO THE 8

Nice Belt

NightHawks

Normally we would lose nights due to the weather and we were on track to have the ten nights, but the corona virus struck, and we had two weeks of enforced community sports lockdown. I wanted to thank all club members for helping to get us back and running – who would've thought there could be so much variation with technology and luckily the restrictions for indoors were lifted. Great to see so many in the clubhouse over the last two weeks.



Tuesday Night winners – Bias a Beer and R/Up Funk 'N' Wagnalls

Wednesday Night winners – Bowls Bags and R/Up Plan B

Tuesday Night	Points	Wednesday Night	Points
Bias A Beer	137	Bowls Bags	135
Funk 'n' Wagnalls	129	Plan B	119
Burglars	127	The Me Ne Frego's	116
Eagles	123	Harvey Ball Bangers	110
Lyons	118	SOHA	103
Bowling Stones	113	Golden Girls	102
Bowllocks	109	Friends	100
The Young Ones	108	Aarrgghh!	98
Cruising Y'Oldies	95	The Horse Feeders	96
Ebowlers	95	Irritable Bowelers	93

Thank you to the team who make the season run smoothly – Ian Brown, Rob Geelen, Andrew Bear, Jock Jarratt, Trish Cook, Anne Onto, Terry Onto, Colin Byrne, the BBQer's, Money Coordinators and everyone else who sees when help is needed and pitches in.

Teresa Hanel

NightHawks

Director



More images over

NightHawks



Wednesday winners Bowls Bags



**NightHawks
having fun at
their Christmas
Breakup**



NightHawks seen at the Wine & Cheese Event



Happy NightHawks
enjoying the evening



Having fun and Enjoying the atmosphere

Above—Trevor Chant

Right Tait Jenkins



Around the Traps

There is no doubt that it has been an unusual year at HBC, not just because of Covid 19 but because so many of our members have required medical and hospital treatment in one way or another. The list of conditions treated could go a long way to filling a book on Pathology. There have been heart by-passes, heart valve replacements, hernias, blood clots, fractures, pneumonia, bowel obstructions, knee replacements, chemotherapy, back operations and just to top things off, dog bites.

As reported in the last edition of Abuzz, **Peter Kingston** was lining up for a major abdominal operation. He had that at St Andrews on the 1st December and all apparently went well. He was discharged home ten days later. He tells me he has been feeling "flat" since coming home but is otherwise feeling pleased with the way things are going. He is looking forward to a nice relaxing Christmas.

I became aware that I have not seen **Kevin Richards**, together with his lovely toy poodle, around the club for quite a while so I gave him a call. He tells me that he is not feeling so well of late. His back is "playing up" and his right leg is "playing up" so much that he has finally given up playing bowls. He has not ventured out much lately and now gets Meals on Wheels. He is to spend Christmas with his family.

Michael Nimon tells me that he has had a significant weight loss over the last couple of weeks and is currently booked in for some investigations in the coming week. We wish him well.

It seems **Brian Starr** just cannot stay away from the medical profession. Not content with having a right knee continuing to give him trouble, he has recently developed an issue with his left leg. CORRECTION: He has had a problem with his left leg for quite a considerable time, but only shared his discomfort with a number of people except his GP. When Brian finally fronted up to his GP, he suddenly found himself in hospital

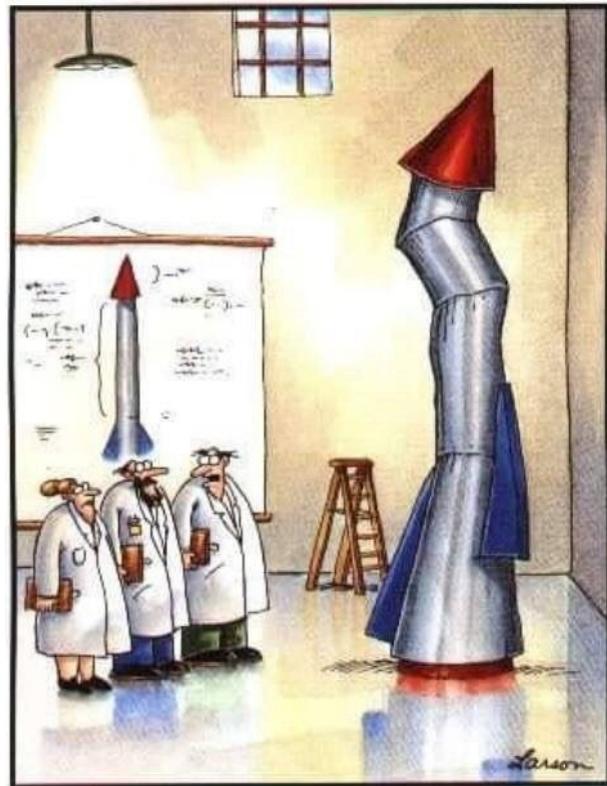
with a blood clot in the main artery to his leg. He has had an operation to fix things. He appreciates the fact that his left foot feels warm and has regained its colour. He is home now and on the mend. Hopefully we will see him back at the club some time in the new year.

I hope you all have a happy relaxing and peaceful Christmas and we all find the new year is a marked improvement on 2020. In the meantime please stay fit and well.

STOP PRESS: Brian Starr saw his specialist today (Friday 18th) and got a good report. Can start back at bowls in the new year.

Bob Wadsworth

A little humour



"It's time we face reality, my friends....
We're not exactly rocket scientists."

**A Joyful Christmas and a Happy
New Year to all.
Next Edition in February Ed**