



ELTHAM RECREATION BOWLING CLUB



Newsletter No 21 : April 2008

Editor: Peter Townsend



Work will begin within the next month on the laying of our new synthetic green (Green 2). The work will be carried out by "Tiger Turf" – it will take 5-6 weeks to complete. The surface name is "BOWLS MAT NEEDLEPUNCH"

Early planning is underway to replace Green 1 with a Tift Dwarf surface. At the moment we are looking at seasons 2009/10 to replace same.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

We have come to the end of the Pennant Season with mixed success. Congratulations to the RVBA & Affiliates Division 6 side for finishing 2nd on the ladder which means that they will go up a section next season. With two of our other sides just missing out on going up we look forward to more success next season. The VLBA & Affiliates have consolidated their positions in both divisions and also look forward to next season.

The exciting news is that we look like having work starting on our new green around late March early April. We have just about tied up all the procedures necessary and look forward to the works beginning. Whilst the constructions is being carried out there will be limited access to No 2 green and a barrier will be set up to denote the area. Also it is planned to use the old car park for the short-term storage of materials so with trucks using that area parking will also be limited.

We plan for as little interruption to our bowling calendar for the rest of the season though all the games will need to be played on No 1 green during construction. Also our greenkeeper is working hard to keep our greens playable with the water restrictions, so please keep this in mind when bowling.

To finish up I would like to thank those members who organized our Theatre Night out on 6th March. I'm sure that those who attended the BBQ social beforehand and the Play, enjoyed themselves and had lots of laughs which is after all the best medicine!!!

Thanks to the following members for helping out on Sunday 9th March on a hot day to level out the spoon drains on Green 1 – Ian Jones, Harry Ophetveld, Bob Millar, Graeme Lewis, Rob Ludeman, Peter Townsend, Ron Stevens.

And finally, congratulations to Ernie

.Noel Spargo, Chairman

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – RVBA AFFILIATES

As stated on the front page, the new era at Eltham has commenced. Year round bowling at Eltham has finally arrived.

Analyzing the last year for the club it has been a very successful and financially pleasing year, owing to our 4

pennant sides performing admirably, increased revenue with hall hire, barefoot bowls and bookings increasing.

Congratulations to all winners of Club Championships and the best of luck to Ernie Richards when he plays off in the Champion of Champions contest.

This will be the last monthly newsletter I will be compiling. If you are interested in producing a monthly/bi-monthly newsletter from here on, please contact ERBC Committee.

Good year round bowling to all.

Peter Townsend, President

Hello Colleagues: I have just received our quarterly water account from Yarra Valley Water so you have just received yours or will receive it in the next few days.

I hope you are all willing to enter our water challenge. All you need to do to enter is hand me a copy of your account or show me a copy of the account so I can record average daily usage. I also need to know how many people were living at the property last quarter and whether your garden is small medium or large. I am happy to suggest some definitions if you are undecided.

While there are some great prizes in our lucky draw to be held on Presentation Day, the real issue is participation. As a condition for receiving the Government grant the Club has a commitment to conduct a publicity campaign to promote water conservation. We will need lodge a report later this year. My hope is that we will be able to report that more than two thirds of our members took part in the campaign.....so no matter what your water usage was, I hope you will be willing to be part of it.

I will contact you in a week's time to see if you have been persuaded.

Brent Arnott.

WEDNESDAY SOCIAL BOWLS

Wednesday Social Bowls for the 07/08 season will conclude on 23rd April. Until then, weather permitting, social bowls will be held each Wednesday at 1.00 pm. Come along and join us for an enjoyable afternoon.

The leaders in the WSB of the year award (in alpha order) are: Sue Arnott, Brent Arnott, Jeff Ashelford, Gary Battershell, Jack Diamond, John Edwards, Les Engblom, Joyce Gee, John Gee, Bruce Goodman, Jim McKenzie, Sandy Lane, Barry Lane, Anna Lewis, Graeme Lewis, Robert Ludeman, Jim Waugh.

Special mention goes to Jim Williams who updates the progressive scores for the award each week. The winner and runnerup will be recognized on 23rd April.

Mike Theodore, Barry Lane and Harry Ophetveld have assisted the organizing group during the last month. Their support is greatly appreciated.

The ERBC committee is considering how social bowls will be structured during the off season now that the club will have a synthetic green on which to play. More information will be provided in the near future.

Organising Group: Cath Andrews, Sandy Lane, John Gee, Joyce Gee, Jim Williams, Leon Sinnott

NIGHT PENNANT

Eltham Night Pennant Players can be proud of their performance this year; as to win 5 games with a total of 14 rinks scoring points against opposition that was mainly premier division 1 or 2 shows the determination our squad had.

For many years night pennant teams have been made up of players in our lower grades but this year Steve and Lee Williams and Cliff Lynch joined us with 6 members that regularly play division 4. The other 11 players came from our division 6 & 8 teams.

During the year Cliff Lynch tried his hand at skipping which resulted in 2 wins from 3 games. Then Paul Hickey skipped 3 for 2 wins and 1 loss (by 1 shot 19/20). Is it possible, once again, that night pennant has developed some promising new skips??

Don White

EYE ON ELTHAM



Sorry folks I've missed a couple of newsletters – I had something in my eye!

The season has come to an end and a great effort by all members to retain three sides and gain the 3rd side a promotion to divvy 5.

Many club events are now under way so keep a look out for things you can enter into. My personal favourite is the event that seems to have the players try and keep the bowls as far away as possible from the jack, I think it is known as the "Novice" championship!

I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable off season and can keep your hand in some kind of bowling. Don't forget we have our new surface on the way so keep an eye out for when we might be able to get on to it for a roll.

THE EYE

Well folks it has happened! In the footsteps of Ros and Frank, romance, courtship and eventually marriage has come to two members of the club.

On a fantastic day on 1st March, Sue Chalkley and Shannon James took the plunge into the wonderful world of marriage/slavery. The groom and the better man (sorry best man) looked absolutely sensational in grey imported Italian suits, while the bride and matron of honour didn't scrub up too badly either in traditional white and a lovely gold dress.

The setting was at the Evelyn County winery in Research down the bottom near the pond, where a lovely area was greeted with sunshine and great decorations. After the ceremony it was a 200m trudge up the hill where some lovely cold refreshments awaited the gathering hoards. Some of the bowling club members enjoyed them so much they continued to refresh themselves all evening!

As most weddings do there was formal part of the evening where emotions ran high and speeches were made. But the best of the night went to the groom's father Mr Robert "Alfie" Jones with some great bowls references.

On a serious note I would like to wish my best mate and his wonderful wife all the very best that marriage has to offer (as I am sure there is something) as they share the rest of their loves together.

Well done!

Colin White (Best Man)





PETE'S PATER



CAKE OR BED

A husband is at home watching a football game when his wife interrupts, honey, could you fix the light in the hallway? It's been flickering for weeks now.

He looks at her and says angrily, fix the lights now? Does it look like I have GE written on my forehead? I don't think so.

Fine! Then the wife asks, well then, could you fix the fridge door? It won't close right

To which he replied, fix the fridge door? Does it look like I have Westinghouse written on my forehead? I don't think so

Fine, she says then you could at least fix the steps to the front door? They are about to break

I'm not a carpenter and I don't want to fix steps, he says, does it look like I have Ace hardware written on my forehead? I don't think so. I've had enough of you - I'm going to the bar!!!!

So he goes to the bar and drinks for a couple of hours.

He starts to feel guilty about how he treated his wife, and decides to go home. As he walks into the house he notices that the steps are already fixed. As he enters the house, he sees the hall light is working. As he goes to get a beer, he notices the fridge door is fixed.

Honey, he asks, how'd all this get fixed?

She said: Well, when you left I sat outside and cried. Just then a nice young man asked me what was wrong, and I told him. He offered to do all the repairs, and all I had to do was either go to bed with him or bake a cake.

He said, so what kind of cake did you bake?

She replied, hellooooo.. Do you see Sara Lee written on my forehead?

I don't think so!

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BELIEVE IT OR NOT!

An event not to be forgotten: Eric & Sue Butcher were married in this very Church a "few years"! after the Father of Bowls, Sir Francis Drake, was married there in 1569

On [July 4, 1569](#), it was the wedding site for Sir [Francis Drake](#)'s marriage to local woman Mary Newman.

**St Budeaux Church
Plymouth in the English
county of Devon**



**As this is the last newsletter we will be compiling,
we wish to thank all the contributors for their contributions,
and for the compliments received since we began in September 2004!
Peter and Jan Townsend**