



ELTHAM BOWLING CLUB

Newsletter No 64: May 2014 Editor: Frank Camera



If you have any suggestions on the layout and possible content material of this newsletter please e-mail me at frankc@aanet.com.au

President's Report:

After a rather stretched out AGM and now that all the initial meetings of Committee's and Sub-Committee's have finished, we can get on with the preparations for the opening of the new season.

Thank you to all those who have accepted Board and Committee positions, your contribution to supporting the running of the Club is essential and greatly appreciated.

Opening Day is Saturday 30th August 2014.

I hope everyone enjoys the winter break whether at home or holidaying away. To those who are not so well or injured my best wishes for a good and speedy recovery to get back to bowls very soon.

Thank you for the encouragement and support that has been passed on to me as I tackle the role of President. I shall do my best to continue the Club's good position and will be mindful of areas for improvement and development. I wish everyone a happy and enjoyable 2014-2015 Season.

Ros Camera, President EBC

Secretary's Report:

Members are reminded that the new season's fees are now due. You should have received a letter to this effect, detailing all the different fee structures and the discount offered if the full membership fee, or the first half, is paid by the due date of the 1st of July 2014. For those members who want to pay in cash down at the club, you can either put it into a labelled envelope with your name and amount enclosed and put it into the slot in the wall in the Meeting room for the Treasurer to collect, or see me at the club (am usually down there on Saturday afternoon for Winter Social Bowls) if you want to give it to someone directly.

Meryl Spargo, Secretary EBC

Elected Positions for the Year 2014 – 2015:

President: Roslyn Camera

Vice President: Jenny Millar

Secretary: Meryl Spargo

Assistant Secretary: John Baker

Treasurer: Scott Jarred

Directors: Colin Hines, Maureen Luke, David Oliver, Cliff Sloggett, Cliff Lynch

Tuesday Pennant Committee: (Selectors) Roslyn Camera (convenor), Jenny Millar, George Rizzi, Gary Marshall, Di Debney. (Members) Kay Taylor, Treenah Wadham

Saturday Pennant Committee: Graeme Abblitt (convenor), Cliff Lynch, Cliff Sloggett, Jim Yarwood, David Gillespie

Match Committee: Gary Marshall (convenor), Sue Arnott, Di Debney, Cliff Lynch, Wayne Byrne

Greens Committee: Cliff Lynch (director), John Baker, Wayne Byrne, Greg Lambert

Bar Committee: Brent Arnott, (licensee), Lorna Sparke (convenor), Christine Guest, Meryl Spargo, Noel Spargo, Treenah Wadham, David Oliver.

Subcommittees:

Coaches: Roslyn Camera (convenor), Leon Sinnott, Meryl Spargo, Noel Spargo, Ron Stafford

Umpires: Brent Arnott, Frank Camera, Judith Furlong, Greg Lambert, Maureen Luke, Carol Schilling-Collins, Meryl Spargo, Noel Spargo

Facilities: Meryl Spargo (convenor & club house manager), Rina Baker (provedore), Daryl Chidley (works), Di Debney, Jenny Millar, Lorna Sparke, Jan McDermott, Noel Spargo

Special events: Maureen Luke (convenor), Lorna Sparke, Chris Riddell, Cliff Sloggett, John Sparke (Monday Triples)

Gardening: Graeme Lewis (convenor), John Baker, Bruce Hill, Cliff Lynch, Mike Theodore, Peter Osborne

Fundraising: Jan McDermott (convenor), Maureen Luke, Riekie Sloggett, Kaye Taylor

Catering: Jan McDermott (convenor), Di Debney, Christine Guest, Riekie Sloggett

Night pennant: John Baker, Cliff Lynch

Wednesday social bowls: (summer) Bruce Goodman (convenor), Tom Bakker, Neville Jenkin, Bob Harris

Wednesday social bowls: (winter) Leon Sinnott (convenor), Cath Andrew, Zoe Sinnott, Mike Theodore, Bob Harris

Saturday social bowls: (winter) Sue Arnott (convenor), Bob Millar, Jenny Millar, Ros Camera, Frank Camera

Forty/40: John Elliott (convenor), Chris Riddell, Maureen Luke,

Recruitment: Jenny Millar (convenor), Maureen Luke, David Oliver, Lorna Sparke

Portfolios:

Almoner: Brian Jones

Public officer: Meryl Spargo

Barefoot bowls: Meryl Spargo

Newsletter editor: Frank Camera

Website editor: Cliff Lynch

Handbook: Brent Arnott, Sue Arnott, Cliff Lynch

Bowls Victoria delegates: Ros Camera, Meryl Spargo

Auditor: John Sparke

Coaching Subcommittee:

The coaching subcommittee has organised a two week training course for Skips and Thirds. This will run over two Tuesdays, beginning Tuesday 10th of June from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. If there are any members who did not reply to the e-mail and would like to attend they could still e-mail or phone Ros Camera or Ron Stafford before the 10th.

Ros Camera, Coordinator

Bar Committee Notice:

The football season is in full swing and so is the tipping competition at the club. The early leader was Jim Yarwood, very quick out of the blocks was Jim, but now Peter Toovey has taken over. As a very loyal Blues man, Peter has obviously been picking Carlton all season, and now that they have won a few games, well....

But even if you are not in the footy tipping it is still a great social hour or two at the club each Thursday evening until around 6:00PM. So come along for a drink, chat and a good laugh with your friends old and new.

Lorna Sparke, Convenor EBC Bar Committee

Wednesday Winter Social Bowls committee:

Wednesday Winter Social Bowls commenced on the 7th of May and will continue each Wednesday until the last Wednesday in August.

This winter the usual light lunch of "homemade" soup, a roll and a piece of fruit is going to be varied on some Wednesdays. For example, on the 14th of May, the light lunch was a chicken tenderloin and salad roll with a piece of fruit.

During winter a prize of \$100 is awarded to the bowler who bowls the most resting touchers on a Wednesday. After the first three Wednesdays of the competition Ron Lawrence is in the lead with two resting touchers.

Starting time each Wednesday is 10.30 am. To play a bowler can write their name on the sheet in the clubrooms OR telephone the clubrooms between 9.00 am and 9.45 am. Dress is casual and the cost of \$8 covers the light lunch, the green fee and entry in the raffle. The Winter Levy covers the first \$5 of the cost for the members who have chosen to pay this.

The members of the Organising Group this winter are: Cath Andrew, June Beer, Joyce Gee, Sandy Lane, Zoe Sinnott, Riekie Sloggett, Bob Harris and Mike Theodore.

Leon Sinnott (Convenor)

Fund Raising Committee:

An advanced notice from the committee that they would like to put on a Fashion Parade at the Club towards the end of July. There will be more information on this in the next few weeks. The committee would also like members to consider items for the stall as the stocks are rather low. Some hand-made items would be appreciated, as well as other small saleable items.

Many thanks in advance from the committee: Jan McDermott, Riekie Sloggett, Maureen Luke and Di Debney.

Saturday Winter Social Bowls:

The Saturday Winter Social Bowls is also well under way now with the first two days attracting 43 bowlers each day. The weather and bowls have been very good each day and with lucky door prizes of \$25, lucky loser pen packs, prize money up to \$100 (depending on the numbers) and loads of fun – who would want to go north for winter?

Don't forget to put your names on the two sheets at the club or call us between 11:00 and 11:30 Saturday mornings for a game. Visiting bowlers are also very welcome.

Sue Arnott is the convenor and the committee includes: Bob and Jenny Millar, Frank and Ros Camera, with the very able assistance of John and Lorna Sparke, Di Debney, Brent Arnott and Cath Andrew.

Lunch Anyone!

Hi to all those lucky members who get to stay at home over winter. I will be organising one social lunch in each of June, July and August, at a different venue each month. Possibly on a Sunday but if there is enough interest it could be on a weekday - other than Wednesday. The first one in June will possibly be at either Rivers Nursery Cafe or Bridges in Hurstbridge, but I am open to any other suggestions. I will send out a general e-mail soon for a list of those interested and book the required tables. Please e-mail me if you have any suggestions for venues or any other good mid-winter social activity and I will put it to all members by e-mail.

Frank Camera, self appointed mid-winter social lunch coordinator

Pennant Dates:

If you are still thinking about your winter holidays then remember to put the following dates in your diary:

Opening day for the 2014 – 2015 season: 30th August 2014.

First round of the Midweek Pennant: Tuesday 23rd September 2014.

First round of the Saturday Pennant: Saturday 4th October 2014.

Greens Committee Report:

Our greenkeeper has been applying fertiliser to the grass in order to prolong its growth before dormancy takes over. It seems to be working as the bare patches caused by spring dead spot disease are now almost completely covered. He has also been using the "fat boy" attachment to the mower to remove thatch and thin out the grass. Another minor problem being attended to is the strip near the ditch on the creek side of the green. The two large trees to the east, so loved by the council, shade the green so much that moss and algae growth is prevalent during the winter months. The steelwork erected for the SES sheds looks very imposing but the only shading problem is expected to occur for the area in the north east corner. There will be no play on the grass green now until the beginning of next season.

Some of the darker patches of algae on the synthetic green were reduced by spraying in January but the problem is ongoing. Another spray is to happen in the next few weeks. It's running quite well, as it usually does during cooler weather. The board is negotiating with Tiger Turf to perform a final surface stretch so that the bubbling evident during hot conditions is reduced or perhaps even eliminated.

Cliff Lynch, Greens Director

Special Member Profile for October: Mike Theodore



When I spoke to Mike the other day about this story he was already at the club before 9AM setting up the green for social bowls. The picture on the left shows him in the kitchen as always after a function helping with the cleaning up. Mike is, and has always been, a very enthusiastic member and worker around the club, and was honoured with a special achievement award in 2009 for his personal contribution.

The story of his childhood and early years however sounds like it would make a great book and TV series. What follows here is a very brief outline.



Above: On a trip to Cairo in 1943 with his younger brother John. Left: As a young lad in Alexandria in 1946. Below: A 19 year old Mike in Launceston Tasmania in 1950.



Mike was the eldest of two boys born in 1931 in Alexandria, Egypt, to an English mother and Greek father. Mike's father

was a automobile dealer who did a lot of work for the British and Australian soldiers before and during the war. One Australian was subsequently able to help the family move to Australia in 1949.

As a young lad growing up in Alexandria it would certainly have been interesting, but not a lot of fun given that El Alamein was only 80 kilometres down the coast. Thanks to the British 8th Army however it all went well and in 1946 Mike and his brother John even managed a trip to England with the thought of furthering their already formal education there. In 1949 the family migrated to Sydney where Mike and John worked in catering and cafe businesses. They then moved to Launceston in Tasmania for a while before buying into a cafe shop at Lakes Entrance. This did not work out too well and Mike then moved to Melbourne to work, living in a rented house in Parkville.



Mike has lived in Greensborough since 1970, raising four children and working in various jobs in the area. These were mostly in Hardware stores and warehouses, specialising in plumbing, but he was initially for many years with Johns & Waygood as a high-rise lift installer/mechanic in and around the city.

Mike joined the bowling club in 1995 and has now played 354 pennant games. He has been a member of the social bowls committee for 15 years, the public officer for 6 years, on the social committee for 4 years, greens and grounds committees for 3 years and the garden committee for the past 2 years. Mike has contributed a lot more around the club than these statistics would indicate (especially working around the gardens and greens). He has made many contributions over the years without necessarily being a member of specific committees.

Mike also played in the 2005-2006 Division 5 premiership and is a past winner of the club mixed pairs and men's section triples championships.

Frank Camera, Editor

Special Report from Christchurch NZ:



Nyra and Leo Crimmins are doing very well, have settled back comfortably in Christchurch and send everyone their regards. Both are back at the Burnside Bowls Club and playing lots of good bowls. In fact Nyra went to Greymouth recently in a representative side to play in a three day tournament. Leo is in an education program training about six new aspiring umpires at the club and Nyra is on the

Ladies Selection committee. They will be coming to visit the grandchildren in September and hope to catch up with all at the Eltham Bowling Club one day during the week here.

Quote of the Month:

Minds are like parachutes, they only function when open. Thomas Dewar

Next Newsletter will be due mid July. Please send any items of interest to frankc@aanet.com.au