



ELTHAM BOWLING CLUB

Newsletter No 51: January 2013 Editor: Sue Arnott



A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

First of all, Happy New Year to you all, I hope that it is healthy one for you all, too.

I would like to say welcome to our new members- Barbara Woodward, Wendy Lyons and Bruce Hill. Bruce is already playing Social Bowls with Barbara and Wendy hoping to start in the near future. Please say hello to our new members and help to make them feel welcome at our club.

We are now into two thirds of our Pennant Season with 6 games to go on Saturdays and Midweek. Overall the club is in a good position with most sides doing well. Let's keep it up and finish on a high note!

Most of you would have noticed that the grass green is closed due to renovation that needs to be carried out at this time of the year as this is

main "growing" time for this type of grass. Thanks to the many helpers who assisted in this task. It may be that some of the "home" pennant games on Saturdays in January will still need to be played at other clubs.

You will notice that over the New Year break that we have installed irrigation points around the synthetic green. This is to keep the sub-grade moist, and prevent it from drying which should help keep the line true and minimize bubbling.

On the subject of Green maintenance, Gary Marshall, our Greens Director has written an article found further on in this newsletter. Please take the time to read it and consider offering some assistance to help "spread the load".

Noel Spargo

BAREFOOT BOWLS

We have had a very busy time leading up to Christmas with 10 bookings over a 2 week period. These were covered by our 4 accredited coaches with assistance of 26 of our members. We had around 240 people playing, ages ranging from 6 years to around 70 years old. Most of them were Christmas "Get-togethers" for local businesses from the local swimming school staff, a well known restaurant and members of the staff of an area school. The feedback that I received was all positive with them enjoying our facilities and our hospitality. Thanks to Jenny Millar who organized all the helpers, many of whom had not done it before, so it was a new experience for them too. This was the greatest number of bookings that we have had for Christmas for many years, so thanks again to all those (as well as the Bar volunteers) who made it possible.

Meryl Spargo

LONG SLEEVED CLUB SHIRTS

We now have a good stock of these shirts on hand. See either Meryl or Di Debney if you would like to purchase one.

GREENS DIRECTOR

At last year's AGM there were no applicants prepared to take on the Greens Director position, so at the request of our President I took up the challenge. Having worked with our previous Greens Director for three years I felt I had sufficient working knowledge to handle the task, however there is far more to this job than meets the eye. I have completed the first six months and have a number of ideas that I believe will alleviate the excessive amount of time, and in my case the travel as well, on the task of immediate and significant needs to run a successful bowling club green. My suggestion is to adopt a different approach to the management of the maintenance, using small groups responsible for various tasks, under the supervision of the Greens Co-coordinators.

A first step would be forming four line marking teams of four people. The line marking machine is light and not a problem for those unable to manage heavy weights. It takes approximately one and a half hours to mark one colour on the grass green. This would equate to one session per fortnight during Pennant Season.

Next would be a reworking of the rolling roster. I propose that four co-coordinators be responsible for looking after the rolling roster, each taking alternate weeks to make sure that the people

allocated are advised and available. One hour is sufficient to complete the rolling, blowing and vacuuming of leaves from the greens and ditches (two people). The roster would be compiled on the second Friday of each month by the four co-coordinators for the next month.

Watering duties would be taken up by the four co-coordinators in line with their respective weekly rosters.

My plan is that this system will spread the load and make the role of Greens Director less intimidating prior to the next AGM when the next Greens team will be elected. This may necessitate discussion of extending the Green's Team. For a successful transition we need to adopt this system starting in the New Year 2013. Your willingness to help is important.

If you are willing to help as a part of this team please make yourself known to either myself or a member of the current Greens Team - Gary Marshall, Eugene Snopkowski or Leo Crimmins. We will endeavour to talk to all members in an attempt to best use your available skills. I am happy to converse further with you on 9717 5177 or 0427 010 725.

Gary Marshall

ROLLING ROSTER FEBRUARY 2013

	Roller Operator	Blower/Assistant
Saturday 2nd February	Greg Patrick	Lee Williams
Tuesday 5th	Noel Spargo	Eric Langford
Thursday 7th	John Elliott	Paul La Motte
Saturday 9th	David Gillespie	Steve Spargo
Tuesday 12th	Graeme Lewis	Leo Sinnott
Thursday 14th	Bruce Goodman	Archie Shaw
Saturday 16th	Wayne Byrne	Colin Hines
Monday 18th	Ernie Richards	Eugene Snopkowski
Tuesday 19th	Graeme Climas	George Rizzi
Thursday 21st	Brent Arnott	Joe De Carlo
Saturday 23rd	Greg Lambert	Graeme Abblitt
Tuesday 26th	Bob Cairns	Kevin Dean
Thursday 28th	Glen Debney	Eric Fabbri

Note:

1. Rolling and blowing must be completed by 10am on Tuesday, Saturdays and Sundays. But Thursdays to be done after 12 noon as Green is mown in the morning.
 2. If you are unable to attend on your rostered day please contact another Club member and exchange days with him.
 3. Please be sure to wash rollers following operation.
 4. Assistants to blow Synthetic Green with blower.
 5. If you are unable to operate the roller or blower please contact either Gary Marshall or Eugene Snopkowski for assistance. (Number in Club Handbook)
 6. Green to be rolled in one direction only. For example if the Green is being used in a North/South direction then rolling to be East/West.
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SOME GOOD ADVICE from a member who is minus valuables after a Saturday **away** match at Heathmont. (The Saturday Committee has contacted Heathmont)

"When playing bowls please ensure all bags are zipped up, such as handbags, and bowls bags. Also limit the amount of money you take to bowls. When playing ensure you are able to see your belongings from where you are playing and try not to tuck your handbag under or behind a bench. I would encourage you not to bring a handbag without a zipper. Leave valuables at home and not in your handbag or bowls bag."

The Club also had an unpleasant surprise to find the honesty box at the "shop" in the clubrooms went missing just prior to Christmas leaving the Club approximately \$30 short, plus the neat timber box. Disappointing for our Fund Raising Committee who have been doing a sterling job this season. **Ed.**

FORTY/40 - 2013 COMPETITION

The 2012 Forty/40 competition will be held on the following Friday nights between 6 and 8pm.
February 8th (Introductory night), **15th, 22nd and March 1st, 15th, 22nd and 29th.**
Eight teams have already entered and there are vacancies for another 6 teams.

If club members are aware of possible participants (either teams or individuals) who may be interested in participating in the 2013 Forty/40 Competition, please let Leon know.

Forty/40 is a fast paced exciting game of bowls. This innovative game is fun, social and competitive. It is a game for teams of 3 players (2 bowls triple format), which consists of 12 end (2 sets of 6 ends; each set taking around 40 minutes). There is rotation of team positions and power plays. Forty/40 bowls has been designed primarily to introduce participants to the game of lawn bowls. Participants are taught to bowl and bowls are provided by the Eltham Bowling Club. Low cost light meals are provided between 5.30 and 6.m. The club bar is open.

Forty/40 Organising Group - Graham Climas, Nyra Crimmins, Di Debney, John Elliott, Maureen Luke, Zoe and Leon Sinnott, Steven Spargo, Kaye Taylor.

From Rolls-Royce Staff Magazine....

Sometimes it DOES take a Rocket Scientist! (true story).

Scientists at Rolls Royce built a gun specifically to launch dead chickens at the windshields of airliners and military jets all travelling at maximum velocity.

The idea is to simulate the frequent incidents of collisions with airborne fowl to test the strength of the windshields.

American engineers heard about the gun and were eager to test it on the windshields of their new high speed trains.

Arrangements were made, and a gun was sent to the American engineers.

When the gun was fired, the engineers stood shocked as the chicken hurled out of the barrel, crashed into the shatterproof shield, smashed it to smithereens, blasted through the control console, snapped the engineer's back-rest in two and embedded itself in the back wall of the cabin like an arrow shot from a bow.

The horrified Yanks sent Rolls Royce the disastrous results of the experiment, along with the designs of the windshield and begged the British scientists for suggestions.

Rolls Royce responded with a one-line memo:

"Defrost the chicken".

Now the not so true stories.....

Couple in their nineties are both having problems remembering things. During a check-up, the doctor tells them that they're physically okay, but they may want to start writing things down to help them remember.

Later that night, while watching TV, the old man gets up from his chair. "Want anything while I am in the kitchen?" he asks.

"Will you get me a bowl of ice cream?"

"Sure".

"Don't you think you should write it down so you can remember it?" she asks.

"No, I can remember it."

"Well, I'd like some strawberries on top, too. Maybe you should write it down, so as not to forget it."

He says, "I can remember that. You want a bowl of ice-cream with strawberries."

"I'd also like whipped cream. I'm certain you'll forget that, write it down."

Irritated, he says, "I don't need to write it down, I can remember it! Ice cream with strawberries and whipped cream - I got it, for goodness sake!"

Then he moves to the kitchen. After about 20 minutes the old man returns from the kitchen and hand his wife a plate of bacon and eggs. She stares at the plate for a moment.

"Where's my toast?"

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An elderly couple were talking, and one said, "last night we went out to a new restaurant and it was really great. I would recommend it very highly".

The other man said, "What is the name of the restaurant?"

The first man thought and thought and finally said, "What's the name of that flower you give someone you love? You know, the one that's red and has thorns".

"Do you mean a rose?"

"Yes, that's the one", replied the man. He then turned towards the kitchen and yelled, "Rose, what's the name of that restaurant we went to last night?"

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Hospital regulations require a wheel chair for patients being discharged. However, while working as a student nurse, I found one elderly gentleman already dressed and sitting on the bed with a suitcase at his feet, who insisted he didn't need my help to leave the hospital.

After a chat about rules being rules, he reluctantly let me wheel him to the elevator.

On the way down I asked him if his wife was meeting him. "I don't know," he said. "She's still upstairs in the bathroom changing out of her hospital gown".