

# Members Newsletter

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2024

Newsletter of Donvale Bowls Club  
PO Box 1312, Doncaster East 3109  
[WWW.donvalebowls.com.au](http://WWW.donvalebowls.com.au)



# DONVALE BOWLS CLUB

## Pennant Finals



**Congratulations Donvale 4  
Midweek—Section Winner**



**Congratulations Donvale 1  
Weekend Pennant—Section Finalist**

**Congratulations  
Donvale 4  
Weekend Pennant—  
Section Finalist**

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### COMING SOON:

#### APRIL

- Sunday Bowls
- Tuesday 2-4-2
- Wednesday Scroungers
- Saturday Triples
- Luncheon Club Ringwood

#### MAY

- Luncheon at Yarra Valley  
Racing

#### JUNE

- AGM
- Theatre Outing at The Round



**Ian Bramstedt**

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Hello Members,

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to everyone involved with our Pennant season for your outstanding support. We are one of the few clubs in Melbourne with an impressive 6 teams on Saturdays, and 7 on Tuesdays, and we need to take that into account when looking at our results. I am pleased to see that our average ladder position and percentage have both seen improvements compared to the previous year, showcasing your commitment to continuous improvement. Two of our weekend teams, and one of our midweek teams, finished in the top four and played in finals. Special commendation goes to our midweek Team 4, who had an exceptional year. Finishing on top of

the ladder and then clinching a Section Flag. They went on to play in a semi-final for the Divisional flag, but just missed out on getting into the grand-final.

Well done to all our members, who support the Pennant competition by playing and practicing throughout the season. None of which would be possible without the hard-working Pennant Committee, selectors, coaches (without the support of a paid coach this year), umpires, greenkeepers, linesman, gardeners, and bar/kitchen staff. I am proud to say that our club continues to uphold a strong sense of camaraderie and sportsmanship. The games and practices were conducted with respect and mutual support.

Regarding the Bruce Hallman bequest, the newflash with a photo of Bruce jogged some memories. Rob Fairweather (Stormy) and Terry Cooper can now remember meeting Bruce. Stormy can remember a new member enquiry around October 2019. Bruce had just moved into an aged care facility and indicated to Stormy that he wanted to visit our club as he was considering joining. Stormy offered to pick up Bruce, and drive him home, which he did. They had a bowl and then a couple of friendly drinks in the clubhouse. Terry Cooper can also remember Stormy introducing Bruce at the club. Terry also knew Bruce from the monthly Wednesday triples competitions at Doncaster, where Terry and Bruce often played. Bruce must have been very impressed with the friendliness of our club as he wrote his final will later that year, leaving his estate to our club. Bruce did not join our club, but that was probably due to the COVID years in 2020/21.

This is a wonderful personal story around why our club will inherit a large estate. It serves as a poignant reminder of the importance of fostering a welcoming and inclusive environment. We pass on our sincere gratitude to Rob and Terry, and anyone else that influenced Bruce whilst he lived in Manningham.

About 18 months ago, David Bill agreed to establish a Sponsorship Think Tank. David and his sub-committee volunteered when we needed it the most. As David has done on many other occasions over a long period of time and in various roles. The sub-committee's contribution by way of taking on the sponsorship role and extending it to a general think tank on fund raising, was very welcome and should be appreciated by all members of our club. The Think Tank did a great job in reviewing what we could offer sponsors, preparing a sponsorship brochure, formalising an approach to lobbying potential sponsors, and trying to be creative in ideas for fund raising. They were involved in bringing three new sponsors to our club (RJ Legal, Monument Metal Roofing and Peppercorn Pizza) as well as commencing the very beneficial Bunnings Sausage Sizzles. This year we are likely to

have a record high in sponsorship revenue. Which was also boosted by a new contribution from Warrandyte Riverside Market, thanks to the efforts of our esteemed Secretary, Michael Meehan.

David Bill is not continuing the sponsorship role this year and the think tank has unfortunately been disbanded. We sincerely thank David and his committee, Liz Bill, Ewan Simpson, Tolik Tkatchenko, Rob Fairweather and Brian Roberts. I am very pleased to advise that three of our members have agreed to help manage sponsorship arrangements and partnerships. On behalf of all members, I thank the new sponsorship committee of Jeanette Baker, Graeme Chandler and Jurgen Schnabl. Please support this new group and contact them with any suggestions.

Recently we called for a volunteer to help coordinate the collection and depositing of eligible containers. We thank John Caruso for agreeing to take on this role. Please support John and help our fundraising efforts with this worthwhile initiative that enhances recycling efforts. We have already received hundreds of dollars in donations from the containers deposited. You can drop off your eligible containers into the recycling bin near the BBQ shed.

Talking about volunteers, YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU. We are very much dependent on our members actively contributing to the running of the club for the benefit of all members. The club needs more support in several key areas, including membership, media (newsletters/newslashes/Facebook), treasury, and secretarial. I encourage each of you to consider lending your skills and expertise by nominating for a role, which I am sure you will find very rewarding. Your fresh ideas will be very welcome. The roles can be tailored to your skills, interests, and availability. Please contact a Management Committee member if you can help in any way.

During the last 12 months we have welcomed 54 new members to our club. A fantastic accomplishment, resulting in 12 years of continuous net growth in member numbers (excluding the two COVID impacted years). I look forward to expanding on our membership growth story and make up of membership in the annual report for the next AGM. Obtaining new members is only half the story. Retaining them is our challenge. So once again, it is critical that we make every visitor and member feel welcome and remain vibrant and inclusive.

Regards  
Ian



**John Chandler**

**President  
Non-Pennant & So-  
cial Events**

Following our last main function on Australia Day together with the closing of Pennant plus finals and club championships our social side has been the running of Twilight Bowls every Wednesday night. We are pleased with attendances which have been averaging some 45 players that enjoy coaching from 5pm, a competition game at 6pm then a barbecue meal. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the many rostered members in preparing

meals, assisting coaching and making it all possible - a big thank you.

We finish Twilight on 27th March and am planning a special final night, the meal will be an Easter theme with Hampers as special raffle prizes plus the DONVALE CLUB BAND will entertain us. Please put this in your diary to attend.

After Easter we have many events planned with the reintroduction of Scroungers, Tuesday 2 4 2 , Saturday Triples and Sunday Bowls with a free barbecue.

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

### Upcoming Bowls Events:

- Saturday Triples commencing 6<sup>h</sup> April with Ron Pretto as coordinator.
- Tuesday 2-4-2 Bowls commencing 9<sup>th</sup> April with Peter Hanslow as coordinator.
- Scroungers commencing 10<sup>th</sup> April with Ron Pretto as coordinator.
- Sunday Bowls commencing 14<sup>th</sup> April with John Chandler as coordinator.

### Upcoming Social Events:

- Luncheon at Club Ringwood, 18<sup>th</sup> April
- Luncheon at Yarra Valley Racing, 13<sup>th</sup> May
- Theatre Outing at The Round , 13<sup>th</sup> June



### VALE **EWAN SIMPSON**

It was with deep sadness that we learnt of the passing of Ewan Simpson on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March, after a long battle with cancer. Ewan was a valued and respected member of our club for 9 years. He served on the management committee for 5 years as Assistant Secretary and supported the Sponsorship Think Tank for a couple of years. Our members, friends and sponsors have enjoyed Ewan's dedication and passion over many years to produce a monthly high-quality newsletter. Ewan also made a tremendous contribution by managing many other aspects of our media, such as newsflashes, Facebook, and photography.

Our deepest sympathies go out to Jill and family.

This monthly Newsletter is the first to be produced without the guidance and expertise of Ewan. He will be missed but will continue to be an inspiration to us all.

# Margaret Cunningham Mentor Classic

This Special day honours and acknowledges the late Margaret Cunningham.

Margaret was a well-loved member of Donvale for just over 10 years. She was assistant secretary and newsletter editor. Margaret was also assistant to Rob (Stormy) with membership development. Margaret was posthumously awarded Club member of the year 2019. She also holds the Order of Australia medal (OAM) for her tireless work with the Club, days for girls and the community.

Mentor's day welcomes all new members to participate in this annual tournament.

Generous prize money is offered.

Wonderful plants for raffle prizes. (Donated by our plant specialist Graeme Morrison).

Although numbers were down this year, all members managed to enjoy themselves with a competitive game of bowls. The afternoon followed, with afternoon tea and presentation to winning teams made by James Cunningham.

A special thank you to all our members who helped in assisting Stormy on this great day.





**James Cunningham with Winners**  
**Terry, Liz, Ray (Skip)**



**Runners up**  
**Terry (Skip)**  
**Adrian**  
**John**

**Third place**  
**Kim**  
**Lindsay (Skip)**  
**Debbie**





## MY THOUGHTS – GRAEME MORRISON

We didn't have very many bowls final teams this year, but when we did they were backed up by many of our members cheering them on. In our world today there is too much emphasis on the 'me' in our lives and not enough of 'you' or 'us'.

It impressed me to see so many of our members cheering on our finalists. Our 4th team won their sectional final and brought home the flag to prove

They went on to play Werribee at Aberfeldie in a Divisional Semi final. Twenty five of our staunch supporters travelled to Aberfeldie to cheer them on. There were two teams playing finals next to our game and they only

*“Twenty five of our staunch supporters”*

### Trading Table

Barbara and Norma have had another successful year running this very popular activity however as we are about to handover the Clubhouse to Hockey, the table will be cleared by Easter. Books will still be available.

Barbara still has some “as new” bowls uniforms for sale, if you are interested please contact Barb directly on 0419 996339.

### 50/50 Club

Sheldon will be conducting the March draw on the last night of Twilight on Wednesday 27th March. Good luck to all participants.

### Car Parking

Michael and his team will continue to support the Warrandyte Market by coordinating the car parking on the 1st Saturday of each month. This has proved to be a good fundraiser for the Club. Well done getting up so early on a Saturday morning.

### Recycling

Thank you to John Caruso for taking on the focal point role for the recycling activity. Well done Ron Preto who has been the coordinator until now. It is quite time-consuming feeding the individual items into the machine so if you would like to assist please contact John to offer your support.



**Anna Brady**

Vice-President  
Fundraising  
Co-ordinator

## REPAIRS

Bowls bag handles, lifters etc repaired

Contact David Mattiazzo

Mobile: 0428 101 404

David kindly donates the funds from the above to the Hamper Raffles



# CLUB CHARACTERS

KIM HEMBURROW

## By Stormy Fairweather

Donvale Bowls Club is indeed indebted and beholden to many of our beloved characters which define and distinguish it. One such character at Donvale is Kim Hemburrow. A brief insight into Kim's working life, her eventual involvement at Donvale Bowls Club, and the experiences it has provided.

Kim was born at the Upper Ferntree Gully hospital and lived in Ferntree Gully with her mother, father and a younger brother to complete the family. Her Nanna and Pop lived opposite the Ferntree Gully Hotel on Burwood Highway. They had land, and Kim spent many enjoyable hours riding her new pony Honey. She reluctantly sold Honey to purchase her first motor car.

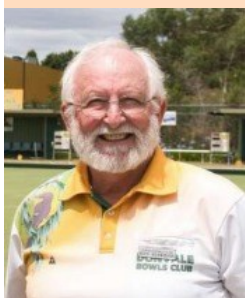
Kim attended Ferntree Gully Primary School then Boronia High School, from year 10 onwards she went to Stott's Business College in Melbourne.

The family moved to Nunawading during the time she attended Stott's and after graduating, Kim worked for a firm of Solicitors. During this period she met Rob, her husband to be, at Power House, a trendy dance and night club in Albert Park. They eventually married, built a home in Wheelers Hill, and started a family having two children Tonya and Dean. Rob a plumber, started his own business.

Kim and Rob made many friends through sport, in particular those who shared their love of water skiing. They spent many years enjoying this chosen sport at Yarrowonga, they purchased a caravan and moved to Echuca where the water was considered great for skiing and boating. They stayed in Echuca for 20 years. Rob loved fishing so they traded their ski boat and purchased a fishing boat.

In 1981 they purchased land in Doncaster East and built their new home. Rob's plumbing business continued to grow and thrive and Kim started working for a Eye Specialist. Once the skiing had stopped and the kids had their own jobs, they enjoyed travelling, including many overseas trips. They joined the Donvale Bowls Club in 2014 and enjoyed the camaraderie of playing bowls. Her contribution to Donvale Bowls has been immeasurable, first to put her hand up when needed.

Unfortunately Rob's health deteriorated and he sadly passed away in June 2022. Kim believes the club has been a saviour and support for her personally, she has made so many great friends. She looks forward to many years playing bowls and the companionship the Club provides— Hopefully improving her game along the way! Kim with your perennial smile and laughter, how glad we are that you chose Donvale Bowls Club.



## PENNANT AND CHAMPIONSHIP REPORT

**Championships:-** The CMC once again has had a busy year starting mid - September and finishing late February. We held 10 events and have managed to complete 140 matches compared to 121 last year. Once again this year's Championship was run as a programmed event with fixed dates with consideration given to changes as long as the match was completed prior to the next round and fitted in with Social and Coaching events. This has worked well again this year.

### Congratulation: Winners

100up – Women's	Jan Meehan
100up – Men's	Wally Cerato
Women's Minors	Robyn Ham
Men's Minors	Keith Williams
Men's Singles	Dennis Johnson
Women's Singles	Helen Milner
Mixed Pairs	Fay Giules / Les Giules
Men's Pairs	Ian Heap / Dennis Johnson
Women's Pairs	Jan Meehan / Helen Milner
Open Triples	Rob Fairweather / Terry Cooper / John Poulton

### Runners Up

Leanne Sullivan
Graeme Chandler
Jill Simpson
Kim DiMarzio
John Poulton
Fay Giules
Jan Meehan / Michael Meehan
Ritto Bettiol / Jeff Grant
Marilyn Grant / Leanne Sullivan
Kelvin McMahon / Ritto Bettiol / David Mattiazzo

Most Valuable Player (Midweek) Fay Giules,  
 Most Improved Player (Midweek) Graeme Chandler

(Weekend) John Poulton  
 (Weekend) Stephen Varney

**Pennant:-** Congratulations to all our players. A good result for Pennant this season with 3 out of 13 teams into the Finals.

### Finals:- Our Weekend Teams:-

Side 1:- Section Semi- Final lost to Ringwood in a close match losing to Rin wood by 3 shots.  
 Side 4:- Section Semi Final lost to Rosanna by 17 shots.

### Our Midweek Team:-

Side 4:- Section Final winners against Hurstbridge in an exciting match which was a draw after 21 ends with Donvale winning by 2 shots on the extra end. They played in the Divisional Preliminary Final losing to Werribee by 9 shots. They will be promoted to Div 4 next season.

Good Luck and Good Bowling!  
 Ken Eldridge - President PB&C Committee

### Pennant Ladder 2023-24

Weekend				Midweek			
Team	Div	Section	Ladder	Team	Div	Section	Ladder
1	2	4	3	1	1	3	6
2	3	5	6	2	2	3	6
3	5	4	5	3	3	3	8
4	6	4	4	4	5	4	1
5	7NW	4	5	5	6	4	6
6	8SE	1	8	6	6	3	7
				7	6	6	8



# Ask the Umpire

by Barry Wilkins



On one fateful day, for some reason known only to the selectors they made Dopey Dora third in Helpful Herbert's rink, while Fast Freddy was made second.

On the first end of the match Helpful Herbert picked up his bowl ready to play the final bowl of the end. At the other end Dopey Dora aided by Fast Freddy was busy examining the head.

As Helpful Herbert went towards the mat his opponent Nasty Norm, made an insulting remark. Helpful Herbert immediately turned around and told Nasty Norm what he thought of him and his team.

While Helpful Herbert and Nasty Norm were exchanging unpleasantries, Fast Freddy convinced Dopey Dora that she and the opposing third should start measuring. Fast Freddy was not only fast when it came to playing bowls, he was of the view that a fast game was a good game and that the thirds should get on with it.

The thirds decided that Nasty Norm's team scored 2 shots and these bowls were removed from the head.

Helpful Herbert stepped onto the mat to deliver his bowl. He saw what was happening and called out "one to come" and told Dopey Dora to put the bowls back. Nasty Norm called out "too late" and told his third the bowls couldn't be replaced.

The club's littlest lady umpire turned up when called and stepped between the warring parties. She ruled that Nasty Norm was right and that not only could the bowls not be returned but Helpful Herbert had lost the right to play his final bowl. Nasty Norm laughed while Helpful Herbert muttered under his breath about \*\*\*\*\* umpires.

Was the umpire right?

Being married to her, Umpire Barry knows very well that the club's littlest lady umpire is always right!

Law 29.4.1 states that if the result of an end has been agreed or the process of deciding the number of shots scored has started, a player who has failed to play a bowl (either deliberately or accidentally) will lose the right to play the bowl.

Moral:

All players should concentrate on the game. Skips should keep an eye on what is happening at the head. Thirds should be aware of whether the skips have played both their bowls.

## WELFARE SUPPORT

If anyone needs assistance or support in any way, please contact our  
Welfare Officer

KAY CHANDLER on 0412 732 428 or  
[kayc44@optusnet.com.au](mailto:kayc44@optusnet.com.au)

## Coaching Coordinator's Corner



**Jeff Grant**

Coaching Coordinator

A short story made long (but with no apologies!).

Many years ago, when I was in charge of a major project at Telstra, the company's Chief Operating Officer came to me on his last day of work and said something to me I have never forgotten. It was: "Jeff, the future belongs to those who are willing to continue to learn". The COO was, by the way, George Hams who was, in his youth, a Collingwood back-pocket premierships player. But don't hold that against him, he was very intelligent and a really good bloke. From a sporting point of view I would add "and practice" to the end of his statement.

Question 1: Who were the two most represented sides at Thursday pennant practice sessions during the year?

Answer: It was (easily) sides 1 and 4.

Question 2: Who were the two sides playing in finals?

Answer: Sides 1 and 4.

### Conclusion:

This is no coincidence, and is another example of the importance of continual learning and practice because there is no doubt that learning and practice are two essential integrated components of success.

I am quite aware that there are times when circumstances are such that prevent us from attending practice (e.g. family issues and commitments, health, etc) but if we are to improve as individuals, teams, sides and a club, we all need to make every effort to attend, starting in 2024/25.

Our club has a significant number of very good and promising players. So to make the most of our talent, let us all make a New Season's resolution to attend as many practice sessions as possible, and I am sure we will then see significant benefits at the end of the season.

Good luck and have an enjoyable break.

Jeff Grant

Coaching Coordinator

# Around the Rinks

with Michael Meehan

## JIM MORRISON

Members should be pleased to know that Jimmy Morrison has maintained his relationship with his beloved roses. His family scattered his ashes on the garden bed, recently.



## U3A

As many of us are aware, U3A has been an important part of our Club for almost 20 years. As well as introducing the great sport of bowls to a multitude of people it has also been an excellent recruitment funnel for our Club.

Unfortunately, after many years of exemplary service, Barry and Julie Wilkins have reached the limit of their efforts and are looking forward to some more relaxation in the future.

We are very keen to continue this excellent endeavour and asking if any members would like to take on the challenge on managing U3A in the future?

## CHEESE AND CHARCUTERIE BOARDS



Ritto Bettiol has a range of beautiful hand-made wooden serving boards for sale.

Ritto has kindly offered to donate \$10 from each sale to support our club. If you are interested in purchasing a board please call **Ritto on: 0425 745 759.**



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MARSHALL WHITE MANNINGHAM - 908 Doncaster Road, Doncaster East. Phone: 9822 9999 For all Real Estate needs - Contact: Brenton Linmeiers.

NICOLE WERNER – MP Member for Warrandyte - Suite 2, 1020 Doncaster Road, Doncaster East – Phone: 9841 5166

NUNAWADING PANELS – 168 Rooks Road, Nunawading 3131 - Phone: 9873 5855 - High standard panel service

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CAFÉ JULIA - Farhad and Bobby. Cafe Julia is located at 78 Jackson Court, Doncaster East. Great coffee & vanilla slices

CRAIG GATHERGOOD – Maintenance & General Plumbing - Phone: 98421334 or 0407 057 231

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