

# MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

## JANUARY 2024

Official Newsletter of Donvale Bowls Club INC

PO Box 1312, Doncaster East 3109

[www.donvalebowls.com.au](http://www.donvalebowls.com.au)

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# DONVALE



# BOWLS

# CLUB

## AUSTRALIA DAY 26<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024



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**Gary & Jan**



**Our Computer "sticks" man - Robert**



**Mal,  
Jan,  
Peter,  
Robyn**

*"A Great  
afternoon  
tea"*





## AUSTRALIA DAY 26<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024



We had 54 members supporting our club enjoying a barbecue lunch, a game of bowls with prizes handed out by our own Wally, then a magnificent afternoon tea organised by Jan Shields with many lady helpers on the day. Many helped decorate the clubroom and tables my thanks to all concerned.

**John Chandler**  
President  
NP & SE

With the Pennant Season and Club Championships in full swing, Twilight Bowls resumed on 17th January, and we have been pleased with our numbers being in excess of 35 members attending each night. Thanks to Robert Stephenson we have a new computer program in place whereby the computer automatically allocates players to rinks on the night, this avoids the previous problems we encountered in trying to compile teams 24 hours prior to the event a new printer in the clubrooms prints the cards 10 minutes prior to start time.





Rito Bettioli has made a range of beautiful hand-made wooden serving boards for sale at our club. Rito has kindly offered to donate \$10 from each sale to support the club.

These boards are available in two sizes and if you are interested, please call:

**Rito on 0425 745 759**



# ASK THE UMPIRE – JANUARY 2024



**Barry Wilkins**  
Coach & Umpire

Helpful Herbert and Dopey Dora were very excited. They had reached the final of the club mixed pairs competition. Their opponents were Old Charlie and Cleverclogs Carla.

The game was played over 15 ends, and it was a close tussle right from the start.

At the completion of the 14<sup>th</sup> end Helpful Herbert and Dopey Dora scored one shot and this meant that going into the last end they needed 2 shots to win.

After all bowls had been played on the last end the players couldn't agree on the score. Dopey Dora claimed that her team was holding 2 shots, while Cleverclogs Carla said that she and Old Charlie were holding 1 shot. The umpire was duly called, and the club's newest umpire duly arrived with trammels, callipers, and chocks. Given the importance of his decision the umpire took a good deal of care and in the end decided that Helpful Herbert and Dopey Dora were holding one shot. This meant that the game was drawn.

On the green and in the crowd of onlookers various opinions were offered as to what to do next. The players asked the umpire for his opinion, and he told them that an extra end had to be played.

Helpful Herbert then stated that as he and Dopey Dora had won the last end, they should roll the jack. Cleverclogs Carla and Old Charlie disagreed and said they should toss a coin.

The umpire was again called and ruled that the parties should toss a coin.

Was the umpire, right? Umpire Barry was at the game, and he couldn't fault the umpire's decisions.

The relevant law is Law 28 which goes on to say that the extra end is played from where the previous end was completed and if further ends are required (think tied ends) the players must again toss to see who plays first.

Law 28 also provides that if the extra end becomes dead it is replayed like any dead end. There is therefore no coin toss after a dead end.



## GREENS REPORT

**Gary Brady**  
Greens Director

### Artificial Green

Brush grooming has been completed hope members find it better after this operation.

### Grass Green

The grass is looking good and with the warmer weather is expected to quicken. Lines have been renewed thanks to our dedicated lines crew. They have completed a great job.

**Mal Shield**  
Corporate Function Coordinator

## BAREFOOT BOWLS & FRIDAY NIGHT



Barefoot Friday night bowls will start again on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 5.00pm till about 9.00pm. There is no cost if you are a member, except for drinks and food purchased. We will have some snacks at DBC prices, and the bar will be open. We have had a few enquiries, and we have a couple of bookings already in February. So come along, you don't have to bowl just have a drink and socialize if you want to.

**We are also arranging for our in-house band to perform on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> February.**

## BOWLING GREEN CANOPY

Four of us visited bowls clubs with canopies prior to Christmas, Ian Bramstedt, Gerhard Blum, Russell Breadmore and Mal Shield. We visited Traralgon, (inside bowling facility), Morwell (Lightweight structures canopies) and Pakenham (Greenline canopy). All clubs have improved their memberships, financial position, and

increased bowling participation. The corporate functions have also increased, as well as other participation of schools or mum's with babes as examples. This information has been written up and sent to INC for their consideration of a canopy for our front green.

## PROGRESS ON GREEN REPLACEMENT

I am meeting with the council on the 24<sup>th</sup> February to help finalise the design for the replacement of the green. This includes the replacement of the banks, a completely new drainage system and the synthetics that can be acceptable to our club. The lighting is also part of that design. After we sign off on the design concept the council will go out for quotations. The council then runs the project to meet the specifications we have agreed to.

**Mal Shield**



**Ian Bramstedt**

Chairman

Donvale Bowls Club

During the meeting, we presented the recently released Bowls Victoria strategy on "Covered Greens Initiatives," supporting our case for the council to reconsider our 2020 submission for a canopy over the front green. The council responded positively, expressing broad support for our plans and ambitions. However, a clear pathway forward emerged, necessitating a temporary halt to the new synthetic green project. Our objective now is to advocate for a change in sports infrastructure policy, introducing provisions in Manningham (with a new draft policy set for release in March). The policy will provide for funding for a canopy to be shared equally between the council and our club, which we are happy with. As soon as the policy change becomes likely, we will seek approval for adjusting the budget and scope of the current green replacement to incorporate a canopy (while eliminating lighting towers).

The decision to postpone the front green project was not made lightly. It was apparent the council would not support a canopy if we had already installed a new synthetic. We believe the potential benefits of securing a covered green are well worth the short-term delay. Rest assured, if the likelihood of policy inclusion or budget approval for the canopy seems doubtful over the next few months, we will promptly resume the new synthetic project, which is poised and ready to proceed to the tender stage.

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Hello Members

There are some significant issues and projects right now that the management committee is working on. Generally, though, it is business as usual at our club with an ever-growing membership base, well attended events, enthusiastic and successful pennant teams, well maintained grounds & greens, dedicated volunteers doing a great job, and the unpredictable Melbourne weather.

Recently we hosted a meeting at our club with the Manningham council, including the Mayor, our local councillor, and senior officers. This was a pivotal meeting for us as we highlighted the thriving nature of our club and emphasized the inclusive nature of bowls, which brings numerous benefits to the Manningham community.

In the spirit of community support and connection, several members of our Management Committee attended a special thank-you night at the Grand Hotel hosted by the Warrandyte Cricket Club. This event marked a significant step in their recovery following last year's Hunter Valley bus crash tragedy. We extend our collective pride to all our members for generously contributing to a special fundraiser last year, which played a crucial role in aiding the cricket club. Your support was acknowledged in emotional speeches, highlighting the unity and strength of local organizations and clubs like ours.

As we continue to foster a sense of community, I encourage all members, their families, and friends to contribute to our club by collecting eligible containers and dropping them off at our premises. Our recycle bin is located next to the BBQ shed and will be regularly emptied into the reverse vending machine near our car park, with the proceeds directly benefiting our club. For more details, please refer to the separate newsflash.

Your ongoing support is invaluable, and together, we are making strides towards an even brighter future for Donvale Lawn Bowls Club. Thank you for being an integral part of our vibrant community.



**Anna Brady**  
Vice-President &  
Membership Director

### **Trading Table**

The Trading Table continues to do well with approx. \$350 in sales for the last month. Book sales continue to be a winner and also Barbara and Norma have a selection of "as new" uniforms to sell.

### **Bunnings**

The Bunnings sausage sizzle was held at Christmas time and Brian Roberts and his team raised approx. \$1,000 on the day. It is planned to hold two events per year with the next planned for mid-year.

### **Car Parking**

In December we commenced a new fundraiser assisting the Warrandyte Market with allocation of Car Parking for their monthly markets. This activity has been coordinated by Michael Meehan with able assistance from fellow bowls members from Warrandyte Ray Heller and Gerry Kearney. Well done getting up so early on a Saturday morning !!

### **Recycling**

Ron Preto has developed a process for capturing all our recyclables for processing at the nearby depot. Only bottles (excluding wine bottles) and uncrushed cans can be recycled. More information in next month's newsletter. Well done Ronnie for taking on this complex task.

## **REPAIRS**

**Bowls bag handles, lifters etc repaired**

**Contact David Mattiazzo**

**Mobile: 0428 101 404**

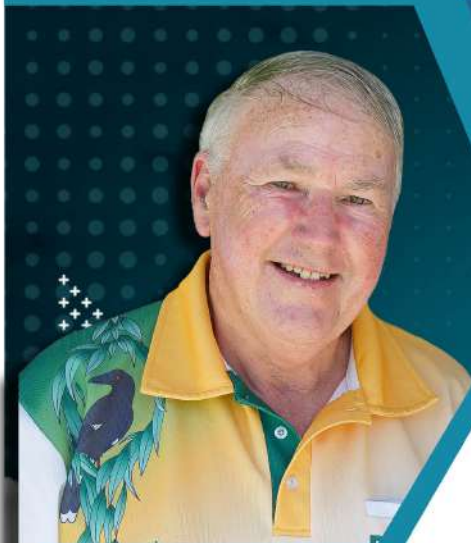
**David kindly donates the funds from the above  
to the Hamper Raffles**

## **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**

Photo by : Ewan Simpson



Richard Davis

DONVALE



BOWLS

CLUB

“CHARACTERS”

### By Rob “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 Richard Davis. A brief insight into Richard’s working life, his eventual involvement at Donvale Bowls Club, and the experiences it has provided.

Richard was born in 1946 in Coburg, attending the Coburg Primary and High Schools.

He went on to Melbourne University and graduated with a BA and became a secondary teacher. In those days a huge shortage of teachers existed, the government provided Secondary Studentships which paid their fees and a living allowance, without that he couldn’t have attended university.

The agreement meant you would teach in any school in Victoria for three years. His first assignment, Wodonga Tech. In 1975 he met Margaret, she was teaching at Lalor Primary, they married in 1969.

Next school was Preston East Tech which had the reputation of being the roughest school in Melbourne, despite its negative reputation,

it was well run, serving the community well. From there he taught at Coburg Tech for 2 years, Doncaster High for 4 years, and Hadfield High for 3 years.

He also attended Richmond Secondary and Doncaster Secondary (for a second time) spending 11 years at each of those schools.

After VCE was introduced in 1987, he began marking VCE examination papers which he continued to do for the next 25 years, in addition tutoring students outside school hours for many years.

Richard loved sport and was always involved in coaching. Coached athletic teams at most of the schools at which he taught, distance and cross-country running being his forte.

For three years he was Assistant Manager and then Manager of the Victorian Secondary Schools Athletics team, competing against other states.

In 1993 he transferred to Doncaster and was asked to be swimming coach; he was bemused because he had no background other than the swimming feats of his children who attended the school. It continued, lasting the next 7 years.

In his own personal sporting life, he

played football, athletics, became a runner, a goal umpire in the Diamond Valley Football League where he umpired with Ray Halliday on occasions.

Unfortunately, at 25 years of age due to a back injury he needed to retire, but not before playing in a premiership team with Kiewa-Sandy Creek in the Tallangatta Football League. The club hadn’t won a premiership for 27 years, have since won 13 flags.

He retired from teaching in 2004, joined the U3a run by Barry and Julie Wilkins deciding to try a new sport, lawn bowls, in the class were Rob & Cheryl McAnally, Bob Grosvenor and Colin Davis.

He asked Barry where he should play, Greythorn or Templestowe, both clubs nearest to him. His response “No way you’re playing at Donvale.”

17 years later I’m still here, Margaret joining a year later, playing in two Metropolitan Finals.

Richard loves the club, it’s friendly and inclusive nature, strong administration, and the wide network of friends they have made, he’s looking forward to many more enjoyable years at Donvale.... Well done, Richard, a life well lived!

This DBC article was published by

FIND MANNINGHAM Newspaper

“Click this URL” to see the online newspaper- <https://findmanningham.com.au>

Written by: Rob (Stormy) Fairweather

Photo: Ewan Simpson



**DONVALE**



**BOWLS  
CLUB**

**Margaret Cunningham Mentor Classic**

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March**

**Presents**

**Labour Day – Members Only Event**

**12:30pm start**

**Two Bowl Triples**

**Two Games x 14 Ends**

**Dress Mufti – Green Fee \$10**

Single entry event designed and catering  
for many of our new bowlers

**BE QUICK – SIGN-UP NOW**

**YOU COULD MISS OUT – LIMITED TO FIRST 72 MEMBERS**

**Prize Money**

**Winning Team \$150**

**Runner Up \$90**

**Best First Game \$90**

**Best Second Game \$90**

Skippers selected from available list on the board,

Leads and Thirds drawn independently

prior commencement of the game.

Every team will have an opportunity to be competitive

and share in the prize money.

**Interested?.....**

Enter your Name(s) on the Entrance Board (Limited to the first 72 members)

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