

MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2023

Official Newsletter of Donvale Bowls Club Inc

PO Box 1312, Doncaster East 3109

www.donvalebowls.com.au

Newsletter/Newsflash & Handbook Editor: Ewan Simpson

ewan.simpson377@gmail.com

DONVALE



BOWLS

CLUB

Annual General Meeting Wednesday 24th May 2023



Our Chairman (left)
Ian Bramstedt

Our Secretary (right)
Michael Meehan presented the notes (as follows) on the AGM meeting.

Thank you, Leanne Sullivan, for taking the photos at our AGM meeting.

Held at in the Clubrooms on Wednesday 24 May 2023 at 07.00pm

CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

(1) Confirm the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 01 June 2022

(On website) Moved – F Smit Seconded - John Cobain Confirmed

(2) Presentations:

Keith Rochow trophy for Best Club Person: Jan and Mal Shield

10 Years of service awards:

Ray Bridger, Robert Haschek, Maureen Jackson, Ron Jackson, Neville McKenzie, Pat Ryan, Graeme Shaw, Robyn Walsh.

Some photos following:

Mal and
Jan
Shield

Best
Club
Persons'





Ray
Bridger



Ron & Maureen Jackson



Neville McKenzie

(3) Consider and adopt the Committee of Management (INC) 's Report.

Moved - Michael Meehan Seconded – Jan Meehan Confirmed

(4) Consider and adopt the Treasurer's Report.

Ron Gibbs highlighted several areas of interest.
Ron further explained the circumstances behind not having an external audit of the AGM's financial statements. He asked the members to approve those statements.

Moved – Kim Hemburrow Seconded – Sheldon Lipschitz Confirmed

(5) Consider the annual reports of the Pennant Bowls and Championship Section and the Non-Pennant and Social Events Section.

Moved – Jeff Grant Seconded – Helen Milner Confirmed

(6) Election of office bearers for 2023/24 as follows:

Committee of Management (INC): 2023-2024

Group B positions – nominations received for **Treasurer** – Frank Smit, **Committee member** – David Blyth, and **Secretary** – Michael Meehan.

No nominations received for Vice-Chairman.

As there less nominations than positions, there was no need for elections and those candidates were elected.

The INC Management Team:

Chairman: Ian Bramstedt – **Vice Chairman/Membership Director:** Anna Brady – **Secretary:** Michael Meehan – **Assistant Secretary:** Ewan Simpson – **Treasurer:** Frank Smit – **Greens Director:** Gary Brady – **PB & C Delegate:** Ken Eldridge – **NPB & SE Delegate:** John Chandler

Pennant Bowls and Championship Section: 2023-2024

Nominations received for **President** – Ken Eldridge, **Vice President** – Dale Farmer, **Secretary** – Jill Simpson, **Assistant Secretary** – Pat O'Meara, **Treasurer** – Keith Williams

There were no nominations for the two (2) positions of ordinary committee members.

As there less nominations than positions, there was no need for elections and those candidates were elected.

The PB and Championship Section 2023-2024

President: Ken Eldridge – **Vice President:** Dale Farmer – **Secretary:** Jill Simpson – **Assistant Secretary:** Pat O'Meara – **Treasurer:** Keith Williams

Pennant Selection Committee Members 2023-2024

There are five (5) positions available, and the following nominations were received:

Peter Gillett, In Heap, Helen Milner, John Poulton, Robyn Walsh

As there were equal nominations for positions, there was no need for elections and those candidates were elected.



Robyn Walsh

Championship Match Committee Members 2023-2024

There are four (4) positions available, and the following nominations were received.

Elizabeth Bill, Ken Eldridge, Robyn Ham, Pat Ryan.

As there were equal nominations for positions, there was no need for elections and those candidates were elected.

Non-Pennant Bowls and Social Events Committee 2023-2024

Nominations received for **President** – John Chandler, **Vice President** – Leanne Sullivan, **Secretary** – Virginia McGuinness, **Assistant Secretary** – Ray Heller, **Treasurer** – Kim Hemburrow, **Ordinary Committee members** – Kay Chandler, Ian Heap, Norma Juchno, Jan Shields, and Katie Taubert.

The ordinary committee members will be involved in a spread of sub-committee functions, including Catering, Social Events and Welfare. No need for an election.

(7) Election of auditor

Covered in Section 4 and in page 5 of Treasurers report.

(8) Fix Annual Subscriptions and Entrance Fees for the year 2023/24

ENTRANCE FEES - nil

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION FEES

The Management Committee recommends the following fees for the 2023/24 membership year:

Full Membership: \$210

Non-Affiliated Social Bowls Membership: \$140

Junior Membership (under 21 years of age): nil

Associate Membership: \$40

Dual Registration Membership (secondary club): \$100

Note: Non-Affiliated Social Bowls Members shall have the same rights and privileges as Full Members, except for affiliation with Bowls Victoria (or any region of BV). They are not entitled to participate in Pennant, club championships, any event registered with Bowls Victoria, any club tournament requiring a club uniform, or at any organised event at other bowls clubs.

Ian Bramstedt provided further background on the establishment of the membership type of

Non-Affiliated Social Bowls Membership.

(9) Special Resolutions for proposed changes to the Constitution.

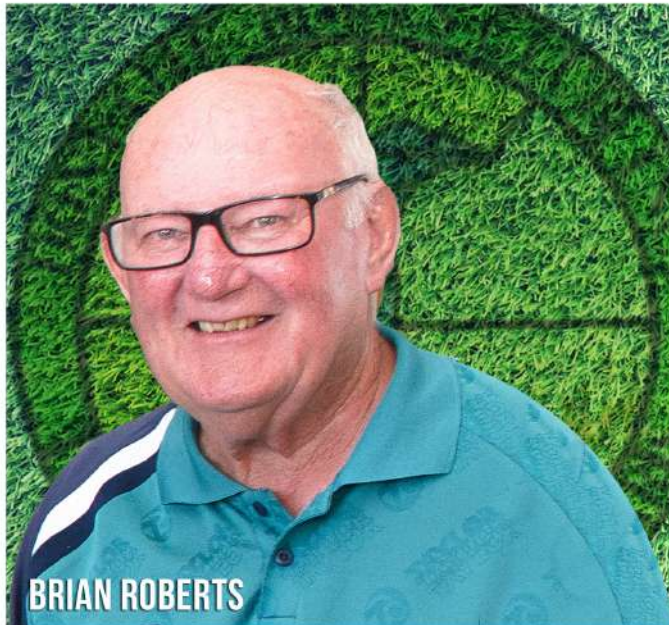
(A) ADD NEW CLASS OF MEMBERSHIP FOR NON-AFFILIATED MEMBERS

The Management Committee recommends the introduction of a new class of membership for bowlers who do not need to be affiliated with Bowls Victoria. Currently our club pays large affiliation fees to Bowls Victoria and Yarra Region for all our playing members, even if they do not play Pennant or participate in any Bowls Victoria events or in any other event requiring an official bowls uniform (as determined by the Committee). Introducing a new class of membership for non-affiliated bowlers will provide greater choice and flexibility for all members, especially newer bowlers and those deciding to limit the number of events they participate in. The club will save in affiliation fees for members that only play in social games and would be able to pass on the savings via a discounted Social Bowlers (non-affiliated) membership. This type of membership is becoming more common at bowling clubs in Victoria. We would also be able to offer Life and Junior members, who decide not to play in Pennant, the choice to be non-affiliated. This would provide a saving to the club in affiliation fees.

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



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 Brian Roberts. A brief insight into Brian's working life, his involvement at Donvale Bowls Club, and the successful experiences it provided.

He drew his first breath in Launceston, Tasmania, one of 7 children, lovingly raised by his parents, Henry Charles, and Lyra Bellatrix Roberts (wondering about his mum's strange names, they were chosen by his grandfather, a prominent builder in Launceston and avid astronomer who named all his 9 children after stars and heavenly bodies),

Brian considers his upbringing as quite humble; he recalls the happiness and good times he shared with his parents, 3 brothers and 3 sisters, all crowded into a modest 3-bedroom house in a working-class area where families of 7 or more children were considered the norm.

He was educated at East Launceston Primary and Queechy High Schools before starting his working career as a trainee building surveyor with the Launceston City Council. This was the beginning of his lifetime love of building and architecture.

He left the council after being offered an "in house" cadetship with an architectural firm.

One of the firms' major clients was the National Trust of Tasmania, how he loved it, working on restoration projects of many notable Tasmanian colonial homesteads, including Franklin House in Launceston, Clarendon House at Evandale, Malahide Estate at Fingal and Mount Morrison at Ross.

All was to come to an end when he was called up for national service in September 1968.

After 6 months of training at Puckapunyal and Casula

near Sydney, he was posted to Adelaide working as an architectural draftsman with the Royal Australian Engineers Corps.

It was here in Adelaide he met Jennie, "the loveliest girl in Adelaide", they were married in 1970.

On his discharge, they moved back to Tasmania.

Following several varying prospects... owning a milk bar - newsagency and a restaurant, he returned to life on the drawing board, setting up his own office. Never looking back, employing 2 draftsmen keeping up with client demand for his services.

A highlight of those years was winning a top 10 award for Australia's best home design, this project published in the annual James Hardy best home designs book.

During those years his family grew with the addition of 3 wonderful children, Monique, Heath and Lincoln.

For almost 50 years Brian has played bowls, winning several club events, including 6 club singles titles, 7 club pairs and several Northern Tasmanian and State Pennant flags.

His proudest moment winning the club pairs with his then 12-year-old son Lincoln, (although starting rank outsiders, Lincoln was brilliant giving his opponent one of the clubs leading skips, a lesson in draw bowling setting up the win).

First time in 95 years of club history a father-son team had won this event.

To be closer to family they eventually decided to move to Melbourne.

It was here they discovered Donvale Bowls Club.

A tireless worker at our club, Brian has always been ready and able to take on many of the challenges and opportunities as they arise.

This DBC article was published by our sponsor last month
FIND MANNINGHAM Newspaper

Written by: Rob (Stormy) Fairweather Photo: Ewan Simpson

ASK THE UMPIRE – JUNE 2023

Avid readers of this column will remember that during The Covid lockdowns of 2020 Helpful Herbert and his friends amused themselves by participating in Zoom sessions where they discussed the Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

Helpful Herbert's knowledge of the laws was enhanced by his studies in 2020 and when the Crystal Mark 4th Edition of the laws was published, Helpful Herbert was among the first to read it.

Helpful Herbert spent a whole day reading the Laws and when he fell asleep that night, he dreamt of nothing but the Laws. He even dreamt that in the forthcoming pennant season when he was playing Nasty Norm (who else) a situation arose which was covered by the new Laws.

The situation which Helpful Herbert dreamt about was when on the 21st end Stupid Sam, Nasty Norm's second, played out of turn followed by Dopey Dora, Helpful Herbert's second. Helpful Herbert smiled in his sleep as all the people on the rink had different ideas as to what was to happen next. Some of these were:



Barry Wilkins
Coach & Umpire

The end's dead (Dopey Dora)

You miss out on playing your next bowl (Stupid Sam)

The game's over, we win (Keen Ken Helpful Herbert's lead)

No, we win because you failed to play your bowl (Nasty Norm)

And so, it went on until Helpful Herbert heard himself say *"we just continue to play our bowls in that order for the rest of the end"*.

Helpful Herbert dreamt that everyone just laughed, so he called the umpire who came running, keen to help. Helpful Herbert's dream continued with the umpire stating that Helpful Herbert was right.

Was the umpire in Helpful Herbert's dream, right?

Umpire Barry says she was, the relevant new law being 29.1.4 which says that if a bowl is played by each team or player in singles before the players discover that one of them has played out of turn, play in that end must continue in that order.



Our well-known member of our Club
Graeme Morrison
with
Rhonda Burchmore

Rhonda Burchmore OAM is an Australian entertainer, most notable as an actress, recording artist and singer in musical theatre, she has appeared in numerous television shows and briefly in film.

This photo with Graeme and Rhonda was taken on board the ship Hebridean Sky with 85 passengers on board, mostly Australians. We travelled from Spain to the Canary Islands, then Morocco, continuing to Marrakech, Casablanca, then Portugal, France and ended up in London.

Rhonda Burchmore was our ships singer/entertainer. She must have heard my bass baritone voice and beckoned me up on the stage to sing a duet with her. After we had finished, I said to the crowd. *"I can't wait to show a photo of this to my bowling mates"*. Cheers - Graeme Morrison.

Donvale Bowls intermittently sponsors Bowls for REAL (Recreation, Employment, Activities, Leisure) for Special Needs adults as one of its Strengthening Community activities

Attached are photos of when the REAL group came a few months ago.

The bowl Tim put down did stop as shown in the photo, but like me - and many others - was not able to be repeated. **Best regards, Frank Smit.**



Our new Treasurer
Frank Smit



REAL GROUP
In action

NON-PENNANT & SOCIAL EVENTS



John Chandler
President
Non-Pennant &
Social Events

Finally, Sunday Bowls 2-4-2 Leanne Sullivan Mobile: 0412 080 925.

To assist our Coordinators in the Sign-up Book please give them at least 24 hours' notice if you wish to play or unable to play as a lot of preparation goes into finalising the teams prior to the event.

Following our AGM on 24th May I would like to introduce you to our Committee for 2023/2024. Our **Vice President** is Leanne Sullivan, **Secretary** Virginia Mc Guinness, **Assistant Secretary** Ray Heller, **Treasurer** Kim Hemburrow, **Catering Manager** Jan Shields, **Welfare Officer** Kay Chandler, **General Committee** Katie Taubert, Norma Juchno, and Ian Heap. I am so fortunate to have such a dedicated and hard-working Committee.

On 15th June we had 37 members attend Club Ringwood for an evening meal followed by **"All Shook Up"** at Karralyka Theatre the show was outstanding and fully enjoyed except for **"Wally"** who confessed he is not an Elvis fan.

Our next event is on 20th July at the Greensborough Hotel for a **"Xmas in July"** Luncheon. In going to this Newsletter, we already have 38 in the sign-up book please come and enjoy the day with us bookings still open.

Our Winter Bowls program is exceeding our expectations, and, in some instances, we have had to have emergencies recorded for the day. **New Bowlers are very welcome**, and I would like to thank our Coordinators **Peter Hanslow** Mobile: 0433 879 844 Tuesday 2-4-2 games commencing 12.30pm, **Ron Pretto** Mobile: 0412 071 212, **Ian Heap** Mobile: 0438 574 715 and **Kim Di Marzio** Mobile: 0417 554 268 for Wednesday Scroungers commencing 10.45am and Saturday Triples commencing - Noon start.

The last three weeks of Sunday Bowls we have been fortunate to welcome our **Life Member Bernie Henderson** playing with us and I might also add he has won each week showing our members he has not lost his younger form. **Well done, Bernie.**

Again, thank you to all members in supporting our Social Events.

COMMUNITY FUNDRAISER & RAFFLE



Anna Brady
Vice-President &
Membership Director

COMMUNITY FUNDRAISER

Donvale Bowls Club is holding a Community Fund Raiser to support the members of the Warrandyte Cricket Club injured recently in that horrific bus accident.

Please support this event on Sunday July 2nd, register 10.30am for an 11.00am start. Entry fee is \$20 which includes a game of bowls (2 bowl Triples) plus hot food.

Sign-up by 29th June at the Club or contact John Chandler 0448 005 662.

MANNINGHAM COMMUNITY RAFFLE

Tickets are selling fast and can be obtained from Katie Taubert 0421 313 237.

This year we are participating in the Manningham Community Raffle for the first time. **Raffle tickets are \$2.00 each, \$1.50 of each ticket sold goes to our Club and the remaining 50 cents will be donated to the Manningham Community Fund.**

There is an incredible \$10,000 worth of prizes on offer, including first prize of a \$5000 Coles Myer gift voucher and five runner-up prizes of \$1000 Coles Myer gift vouchers.

A report from Gray Brady – Greens Director.

The grass Green is still open for play despite being Winter if any members need to use it for an event, please let me know and we will arrange for it to be rolled.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Ian Bramstedt
Chairman
Donvale Bowls Club

Thank you to all members who attended and supported the club at the May AGM. The club appreciates all the new volunteers who have taken up committee roles. We offer our sincere gratitude to all those who held committee roles and decided not to stand again, as detailed in the reports.

The AGM approved a new category of membership for non-affiliated Social bowlers. This new category will provide greater flexibility and choice, especially for newer members, and those who do not want to play in regular competitive games. If members want to change to the new category, please advise Frank Smit as soon as possible and pay the lower fees. A reminder that membership subscriptions are due by the end of June. Please support your club and pay your fees as early as possible. If you have any queries on your membership, please contact Anna Brady or Bill Duggan.

As mentioned at the recent AGM, our plan is to review the club's constitution and by-laws to bring them in line with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act. We thank Grant Purdy for agreeing to conduct this review. He has already made considerable progress. Once the Management Committee has approved the new draft constitution, we will commence a consultation process with all members prior to a member's vote.

Many of our members have requested faster action on improving the acoustics in the Alfresco area and providing toilet facilities closer to the back synthetic green. We acknowledge the importance of these projects and are balancing that requirement with the need to be financially prudent. Unfortunately, there are not a lot of grants available right now and we have a major financial commitment coming up for the conversion of the front green to synthetic.

We ask members to be patient as we carefully plan our facility upgrade commitments.

I am currently on the Sunshine Coast and planning over the next couple of months to continue heading further North, for some winter warmth. There are some fantastic grass greens all the way up the coast of NSW and QLD.

During our trip I will enjoy playing on as many of them as I can. It would be good if the weather in Melbourne and our finances allowed us to maintain and play all year round on a good grass green, but the many benefits of a synthetic make it essential for our club to proceed with a conversion of our front green. The council has included an allocation in the 2023/24 draft budget for our project and hopefully it will be endorsed in a council meeting scheduled for 27th June.

During the club's winter season, I hope everyone is staying connected with other members, family, and friends. Connection and sense of belonging are very important for your mental health. Our club has a great variety of bowls activities for you to attend to help maintain a routine and keep you moving and warm (well maybe not so warm).

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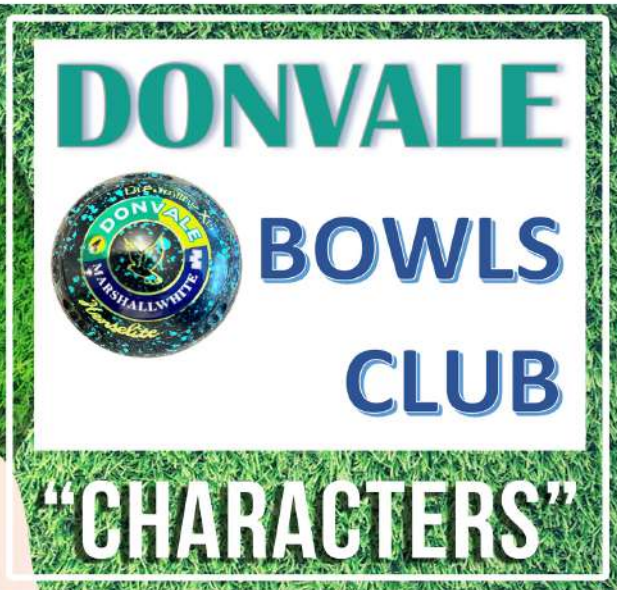
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GERHARD BLUM



By Ewan Simpson

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 Gerhard Blum. A brief insight into Gerhard's working life, his involvement at Donvale Bowls Club, and the experiences it provided.

He was born in a little town called Huenfeld in Germany in 1955. The family migrating to Australia in 1956 when he was 1 year old.

His parents had 5 children, all boys, Gerhard being the middle child. The family settled in St Albans where he attended school receiving a Primary and Secondary education. (Honours in several subjects)

He became no slouch when it came to his sporting achievements.

Running, Swimming and Bike Racing. In fourth form, winning Sportsman of the Year.

He was also awarded 1st prize in a

woodworking exhibit at the Royal Melbourne Show, a coffee table he made and presented.

He commenced a woodworking apprenticeship at the nearby ammunition factory.

1,200 applicants for 2 positions, his application succeeding.

During his apprenticeship he joined the Albion Athletics Club fast becoming the Under 17 captain.

As expected, winning the Best Sprinter Award, and adding numerous individual and team events to his repertoire.

At the age of 18 he took up hang-gliding, boasting he was the 1st "legal" hang-glider to jump off Mt Buffalo.

He continued hang-gliding for a further 11 years.

Played ten pin bowling for 28 years, apologies.... more success and awards.

He has worked as a self-employed carpenter all his working life, including

the building of his current home in Donvale.

He met his wife Denise when he was 30, they married and have 2 stepchildren, (Richard and Nicki) followed by Natalie and Jarryd.

He commenced playing lawn bowls in 2003.

During his tenure at Donvale, he has served on the committee, when needed ran the winter bowls competition at the club.

He is considered and respected by the members as a "character" at our club.

A competent bowler, Pairs and Triples Champion, together with several awards and tournament wins to his credit.

We value and welcome Gerhard's contribution at Donvale and the friendship he provides.



This DBC article was published by our sponsor

FIND MANNINGHAM Newspaper

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

Written by: Rob (Stormy) Fairweather

Photo: Ewan Simpson

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