

# MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

## OCTOBER 2023

Official Newsletter of Donvale Bowls Club INC

PO Box 1312, Doncaster East 3109

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

Newsletter/Newsflash & Handbook Editor: Ewan Simpson

[ewan.simpson377@gmail.com](mailto:ewan.simpson377@gmail.com)

# DONVALE



# BOWLS

# CLUB

## OPENING OF OUR GREENS – 1<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER







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

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The New Members Day held on the 15<sup>th</sup> October was again a great success this year with over 40 new members joining either on the day or in the days following. A lot of hard work was done by club members and now the challenge for all of us is to ensure we retain these new members.

The follow up Members Night will be held on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October and new member packs will be presented on this night.

Again, a great job of coordinating this significant event was done by Rob Fairweather. Well done Stormy !

## FUNDRAISING

### CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE

Christmas has hit the shops so therefore a sign that it is now time to appeal to our members for donations for our annual Christmas Hamper Raffle. Last year we were able to raffle 26 hampers.

Any Christmas items e.g. food, especially fruit cakes, chocolates, puddings, nuts etc., wine, ribbons, tissue paper or cellophane or other Christmas decorations. Cash donations also gratefully appreciated. We would prefer not to receive perfumed items e.g. candles. As these items cannot be included with food items. Collection basket is located at the Club or contact Anna Brady on 0417 580 842.

Raffle tickets will be available from beginning of November and all Club members are encouraged to sell a book. Enquiries regarding tickets to Jan Meehan 0408 582 850 or Anna Brady 0417 580 842.

## TRADING TABLE

Barbara Drew and Norma Juchno will be setting up the trading table on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October for this bowls season. Books are already available in the clubhouse and selling well. Any **suitable** items for the trading table can be donated by contacting Barbara 0419 996 339 or Norma 0417 558 237, or bring the items to the Club.

## BBQ AT BUNNINGS

Brian Roberts coordinated a very successful BBQ at Bunnings Doncaster which resulted in a profit of \$1132 for the club. Thank you to Brian and all the volunteers who assisted on the day, a fun day was had by all.

Brian has booked another Bunnings BBQ for Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December. Volunteers can contact Brian on 0408 301 067.

## 50/50 CLUB

Only 3 more opportunities left to win these fantastic cash prizes in this year's draw. Sheldon will be conducting the next draw on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October at the Clubhouse. Question is : Will Ronnie's Coffee Club prevail again, or will Alan Davidson make it a trifecta ? 🤔🤔🤔

## ASK THE UMPIRE – OCTOBER 2023

Helpful Herbert and Nasty Norm were at loggerheads again.

It was the first Saturday of the new season and the weather was looking bad.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> end of the game there was a sudden downpour and Helpful Herbert and Nasty Norm, and their teams took refuge in the shelter. At the time Helpful Herbert was holding 3 shots. Just after 10 minutes from the time the teams went to the shelter the rain stopped. Nasty Norm immediately claimed that as play had been interrupted for 10 minutes the end was dead. Helpful Herbert disagreed and called the umpire who told the parties the Helpful Herbert was right because no interruption had been called by the Side Managers or the umpire.

On the 9<sup>th</sup> end the rain really started and it was evident that it was going to last some time. The Side Managers agreed to call a stoppage and all players on the green immediately sought shelter. After 15 minutes the players went back onto the green and were told that the ends on all rinks were dead. This upset Nasty Norm who had been holding 4 shots and this time he called the umpire. The umpire told Nasty Norm that because the Side Managers had called the stoppage the ends were dead. Nasty Norm bitterly complained but the umpire patiently explained things to him.



**Barry Wilkins**  
Coach & Umpire

On the 16<sup>th</sup> end torrential rain started and didn't look like stopping. The Side Managers agreed that the players should come off the green. The rain persisted for over an hour and play was abandoned.

What was the result of the game? Nasty Norm contended that because the game had been abandoned it was a tie (he was behind). Helpful Herbert contended that the side with the higher score should win (he was in front). The umpire was again called and ruled that because more than 60 ends had been played by the sides the one in front was the winner. Nasty Norm looked at the main scoreboard and saw that although his team was behind his side was the overall winner.

Was the umpire, right? Umpire Barry says she was right on all counts.

**Season 2023-2024 Bowls Victoria Metropolitan Pennant Conditions of Play govern the situations:**

**Clause 36.6** in relation to interruptions and stoppages.

**Clause 33.2** in relation to the number of ends to be completed to constitute a game.

Please note that 60 ends constitute a game in a 16-player game while 45 ends constitute a game in a 12-player game.

## 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)



# VISIT TO THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS

12<sup>th</sup> October 2023

The 24 of us who braved the rain, with our umbrellas held high, thoroughly enjoyed the day. We learnt from our guides the valuable foresight of our brilliant botanists' who established these gardens.

[Von Mueller in 1846](#) established a vast array of plants on 38 hectares. Later, Guilfoyle rearranged the plants to provide an artistic landscape. We would walk around curves in the path and “hey presto”, a new vista of plants appeared, what a tranquil oasis for us all to enjoy.

In Japan they have the words for the experience, “Shinrin-yoku”, which can be defined as making contact with, and taking in the atmosphere of the forest. Their authorities say, “*go into the forest regularly, it is good for your mental health*”.

As we walked around, we began appreciating the diversity of plants that have evolved over some 470 million years. There are about 380,000 species of plants to see. [Guilfoyle's Volcano was something to enjoy and behold.](#)

We finished our day in bright sunshine, feasting on food at the Terrace Café overlooking the ornamental lake.

**Please note:** The above was a handwritten report about our wonderful day at our Royal Botanic Gardens. So well done and thank you [Graeme Morrison](#), for a beautiful written account about one of the best gardens you will ever see. Photos taken by [Ewan Simpson](#).



**Guilfoyle's  
“Volcano”  
was  
something to  
enjoy and  
behold.**



These beautiful cactus flowers originate from Ecuador/Peru

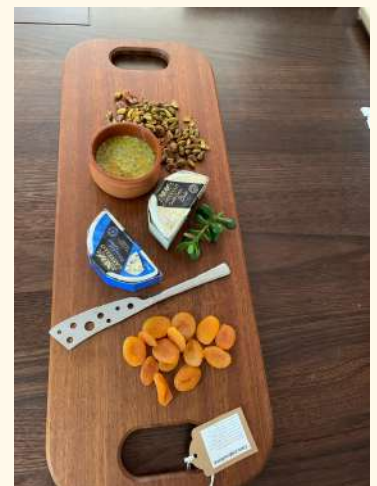


Some of our Donvale Bowls Club members that enjoyed a great day

Rito Bettiol 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**





# NON-PENNANT & SOCIAL EVENTS



**John Chandler**

President

NP & SE

A special thank you to Graeme Morrison who kindly Coordinated a visit to the Botanical Gardens on 12th October. Despite Inclement weather in excess of 24 attended for an enjoyable day, well done Graeme.

**Our next event is our annual Melbourne Cup Day function** at our clubrooms on **Tuesday 7th November**. Come and enjoy a *Chicken and Champagne lunch together with a game of Bowls then enter Cup Sweeps, participate in the best Melbourne Cup Hat Competition Prize, Plus watch the Melbourne Cup live.* Please enter your name in our sign-up sheet in the shed ASAP.

The **Christmas break** up this year will be held in the clubrooms on **Sunday 26th November please keep this date free** further details will follow closer to the event.

Again, thank you for supporting our social events.

## MONUMENTAL METAL ROOFING

### A warm welcome and introduction to our Sponsor

Monument Metal recently agreed to join Donvale Bowls Club as a valued sponsor.  
(Their sign is in a shelter on the west side of the grass green).

Derek Walter, the proprietor of his company immediately satisfied two of our club members with his response when contacted, and the work completed, namely David Bill and Ron Preto.

A photograph of a complete roof replacement for Ron appears in this article (refer below).



Derek immediately responding to David's call, inspecting the work, gutter replacement, and downpipes, emailing his quotation, and received within 24 hours. David considered the quotation to be very reasonable.

Concurrently David's neighbour had also received a quotation from another roofing contractor, David himself a retired builder, considered the neighbours quotation excessive, employing Derek to quote and successfully complete the work.

Derek a family man, father of three, started his apprenticeship in air conditioning in 2007 (mechanical plumbing), continuing into roof plumbing, working on domestic and commercial projects over his journey including NSW, Queensland, and Victoria.

He commenced his own business in 2011, successfully working his way up to where he is today. He enjoys a good challenge, a work ethic, and his reputation, putting a quality roof over people's heads.

Can I suggest, should you have, a roof problem, or a roof query, you contact Derek, we know he certainly takes a pride in his work, and three satisfied customers who have used his services would obviously confirm.

**Derek Walter**

**Website..... [www.mmroof.com.au](http://www.mmroof.com.au)**

**Mobile 0426 797 858**



## GREENS REPORT

**Gary Brady**  
Greens Director

Although the grass has been heavy due to much rain it has been available for play throughout the Winter, and from my experience this has not happened in recent years.

It is currently being cut to the lowest height and double rolled on days of predicted use. With some sun and warmth, it will start to green up.

The Artificial has been treated for moss and algae infestations and weed control and had all lines remarked. Special thanks to the line crew.

**Also, thanks to our perimeter grass cutting crew led by Daryl who are often unsung.**

## UPDATE ON GRASS GREEN REPLACEMENT

**Mal Shield**  
Corporate Function Coordinator



I met with the council and some consultants assisting the council on the 19<sup>th</sup> October, to ensure the works quoted covers everything we require. Things discussed were the sprinkler system, ditch wall requirements, soil disposal, lighting locations and several other things.

I will be placing some samples, in the clubhouse, of the synthetic surfaces from each contractor that we have approved for the council to consider. These are the only contractors and surfaces the council are considering, on our advice, and also approved by Bowls Vic.

Please when you are bowling at other clubs if you play on one of these surfaces, I would love your feedback. The samples will be in the clubhouse before the end of October. I am waiting for one more sample to arrive.

## Major projects

I have presented a list of projects to INC for them to consider. The purpose is for INC to decide which projects to prioritise and desired timing. If you have any project ideas, please talk to me and I will add them to the project list for consideration. This is being done at this time to be ready if the promised bequest money does eventuate. The only current major project is the upgrade of the grass green.

**Ken Eldridge**  
President  
P & C - Committee



## PENNANT & CHAMPIONSHIP - REPORT

### PENNANT

Firstly, I would like to wish all members playing Pennant this year an enjoyable and successfully season.

It has been a good start to the Saturday Pennant season with our 1<sup>st</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> sides all with wins in the 1<sup>st</sup> round.

We are continuing with our after Saturday Pennant food which is now organised by Kay Chandler- many thanks Kay. I would like to thank Marilyn Grant for the many years of looking after that role.

### TUESDAY NIGHT PENNANT

Unfortunately, due to lack of numbers we are unable to run Tuesday Night Pennant this year.

### COACHING

The 40 Bowl test will continue on Monday evenings - With two time slots available [ 7.00pm – 8.00pm and 8.00pm -9.00pm] with the capacity of up to 10 participants for each session.

All Pennant players are encouraged to attend. [Sign-up sheets are available at the club for the 40 BOWL TEST.](#)

As members of Donvale Bowls Club, we benefit greatly from the coaching times available each week and I encourage all members to make the most of the opportunities available to them. Thank you to all those coaches for their continued support. [Please check our website for full details.](#)

### CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Club championships are well underway with the 100 up and Minors complete. We have had one round washed out but have managed to keep the Championship on schedule.

#### CONGRATULATIONS

100 UP – WOMEN'S  
100 UP – MEN'S  
WOMEN'S MINOR  
MEN'S MINORS

#### WINNERS

Jan Meehan  
Wally Cerato  
Robyn Ham  
Keith Williams

#### RUNNERS-UP

Leanne Sullivan  
Graeme Chandler  
Jill Simpson  
Kim Di Marzio



## PENNANT TICK SYSTEM REMINDER

Skips and thirds are asked to be accurate in recording of ticks, not to be generous for any reason.

**Short Bowls** will not be recorded.

### Type of shot - Tick requirement

- **Draw** - within one mat length of jack.
- **Position shot** - within one mat length of target position selected by the skip.
- **Trailing the jack** - moving the jack the required distance.
- **Weighted shot or drive** - hitting the target [not almost hitting it] - this may be a jack, bowl, or a number of bowls.

- **Other shots** - As directed by the skips [tick to be given if shot is judged successful.]
- **Lucky wick** - If you put down a really bad bowl and get a "luck wick" to get a resting toucher, it was still a really bad bowl - no tick.

### Important

- Effective communication by the skip to a bowler on the mat is critical.
- If no direction is given by the skip to a bowler on the mat, then it should be assumed by that bowler that a draw shot is required.

# NEW MEMBERS DAY

## SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER

### 11am – 5pm



Our  
youngest  
member?

Our  
parents  
are now  
members



Ian Heap with  
new members



Very keen new members?



We are signing up!





**Our wonderful MC and organiser of  
NEW MEMBERS DAY, fantastic Stormy!**



**Mary with some of her friends, hopefully  
becoming members**



**Ian Bramstedt**  
Chairman  
Donvale Bowls Club

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Dear esteemed members and a warm welcome to our recent new members.

I'm filled with gratitude and amazement as I observe the continual growth of our club's membership. It's heartening to see new faces among us each year, and I'm thrilled to report that, barring two challenging years affected by the pandemic, our club has increased overall member numbers for the past 12 years. This incredible achievement is a testament to the unwavering dedication of our volunteers, who spare no effort in attracting new members and fostering a welcoming atmosphere. I call out the tremendous job that Rob Fairweather (Stormy) does as the driving force for our annual new members day, with excellent support from Anna Brady and a large team of volunteers.

Let's collectively extend a warm and hearty welcome to all our new members. A simple smile and a helping hand can go a long way in making them feel at home.

I sometimes describe our club as a "small, big club." We may boast impressive statistics like 240 members, two greens, six Saturday and seven Tuesday Pennant Teams, regular newsflashes and newsletter, and a bustling calendar filled with bowls and social activities. But what truly sets us apart is our small-knit community vibe, the spirit of volunteering, and our commitment to remaining free from paid players or pokies.

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to our exceptionally talented in-house musicians. Their wonderful performances at the Gala Twilight event and jamming at the New Members Day added an extra layer of vibrancy to our club. We're consistently striving closer to our vision of becoming a "growing, vibrant, and successful club." In fact, the musicians have contributed to this vision by constructing a cost-effective temporary stage for our events, and we've decided to keep it a bit longer for possible future music sessions and to use for various meetings and events.

As I've mentioned before, the installation of a new synthetic green with lights directly in front of the Alfresco area, will enable the vision of hosting new Friday night activities, such as members' social bowls, visitor barefoot bowls, happy hours, trivia nights, card games, and other engaging events designed to bring our members and visitors together for fun and camaraderie. Keep an eye out for announcements where we might have some pleasant surprises in store, possibly sooner than expected.

On a more sober note, it's essential to recognize the resurgence of COVID cases. We should not take this virus lightly, even though it is now part of our daily lives. Please continue to practice safe hygiene measures and remember that COVID symptoms can be mild, making regular testing important to prevent any unintentional risk to others.

I encourage all of you to make the most of everything our club has to offer. From the greens to the social events, there's something here for everyone.

**Warm regards, Ian Bramstedt.**



# “CHARACTERS”

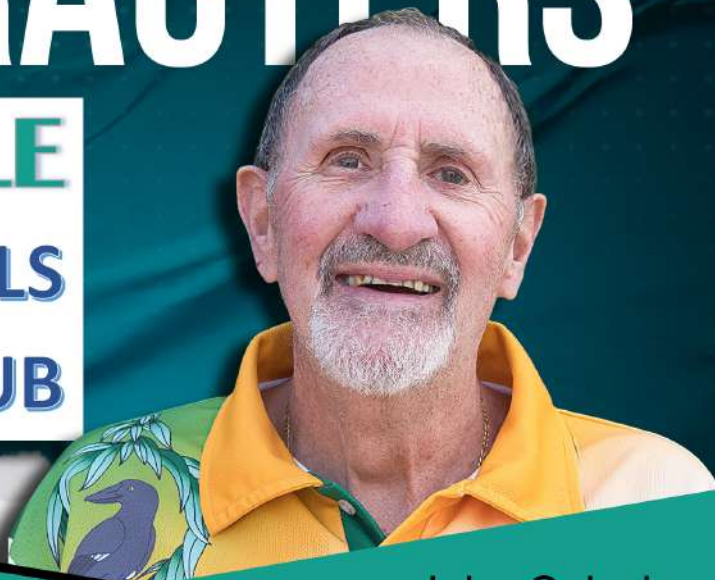
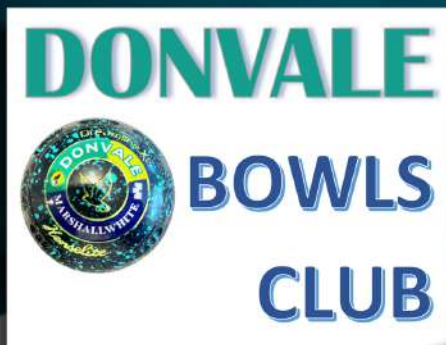


Photo by : Ewan Simpson

John Cobain

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 John Cobain. A brief insight into John's working life, his eventual involvement at Donvale Bowls Club, and the experiences it has provided.

He was born in Richmond in 1943 living with his parents and older brother in East Kew. He attended the East Kew Primary school, and on to Balwyn High, the year after it opened.

John worked from an early age delivering a local newspaper once a week, in his mid-teens he worked in a hardware shop after school, mornings Monday's through to Saturday.

After completing year 11 at school, he had a number of odd jobs gaining his first regular employment with SSW Food Wholesalers at their head office in Nth. Fitzroy.

Working there for 15 years. Following on, he worked with his brother in his accounting practice for a couple of years, assisting clients maintaining their books and general auditing work.

He was then employed at the Veneto Club in Bulleen as office manager and accountant from 1980 through to his retirement in December 2013 at the age of 70.

Continued working one day a week at the club on a voluntary basis for the following six years.

He met his future wife Cathie in 1964 at a dance called 431 in St Kilda Road and they married in February 1968. Following a honeymoon, they moved into their brand-new home in Dellfield Drive Templestowe.

They had two boys, Tim, and Simon, both now living in Townsville and Cairns respectively with their families. Unfortunately, Cathie was diagnosed with Liver Cancer late November 2011, moving to her lungs, despite never smoking.

She fought it with chemo every Thursday at Epworth Hospital in Box Hill for over two years. She sadly passed away in July 2014. Cathie was a member of woman's interest group (WIGS).

Norma Juchno also a member, organized a twilight bowling night at Donvale Bowls Club. Cathie enjoyed the night so much, she encouraged John to join the bowls club when we retired, unfortunately she passed away only a few months later.

John decided to join Donvale Bowls Club in mid-2015. How fortunate the club has been he made that decision.

Always prepared and ready to give of his time when called upon, a hand-up if there are duties or tasks needed to be addressed.

His ongoing contribution and company at Donvale is valued and appreciated.

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



**CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023- 100UP  
FINAL RESULTS**



**WINNER: Jan Meehan** (right)

Runner Up: Leanne Sullivan (left)



**WINNER: Wally Cerato** (right)

Runner Up: Graeme Chandler (left)

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL**

**CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023  
MINOR MEN'S & WOMEN'S FINAL**



**WINNER: Robyn Ham** (left)

Runner Up: Jill Simpson (right)



**WINNER: Keith Williams** (right)

Runner Up: Kim Di Marzio (left)

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL**

## **KNIFE SHARPENING**

Knives, scissors, shears, tools sharpened

### **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



# SPONSORS & ADVERTISERS

**RJ LEGAL** Commercial & Business Law, Litigation & Dispute Resolution, Conveyancing & Property Law, Will & Probate, Criminal Law  
Principal Solicitor: Rami Jurdi. Phone: 9431 5312

**BENDIGO BANK** (Community Bank) Doncaster East and Templestowe Village Branch's - for all your banking needs. Contact Senior Manager – Paul Thompson. Phone 9840 2028

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

**FIND MANNINGHAM** - Local Community Newspaper supported by Find Accountant providing SMSF & Retirement advice. Phone: 1300 88 38 30. Warren Strybosch is Director, and member of Donvale Bowls Club

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

**PEPPERCORN PIZZA** – 264 Blackburn Road, East Doncaster  
Phone: 9842 2010 – enjoy great pizzas from our very special sponsor

**MONUMENT METAL ROOFING** – Phone 0426 797 858 (Derek Walter)  
Domestic and Commercial Metal Roof and Gutter Specialists  
[www.mmroof.com.au](http://www.mmroof.com.au)

**RYAN SMITH** - Member for Warrandyte - Suite 2, 1020 Doncaster Road, Doncaster East – Phone: 9841 5166

**SONYA TERPSTRA** – State Member of Parliament for Eastern Metropolitan Region Phone: 9803 0592

**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 – licensed plumber



PLEASE USE OUR SPONSORS & ADVERTISERS AND TELL  
THEM YOU ARE FROM DONVALE BOWLS CLUB  
AND WE APPRECIATE THEIR SUPPORT