



Who let the dogs out?
We did!

Contributions can be sent to The Editor
Julie Burton Mob 0412 374 189
Email julieburton1956@outlook.com

From The Board

Hello Members

Here we are again at the end of another year when hopefully we can all enjoy the break (especially all our volunteers) and re-charge for next year.

The “end of year” break up was held on Saturday 14th December after Pennant, when various bowls awards and milestones were celebrated, and the Christmas Hampers raffle was drawn. A big thank you Mandy Carter and her helpers for the hampers and to all the other volunteers (kitchen staff for a lovely meal, bar staff, etc). A special thanks goes to the Bowls Committee and especially the selectors for their (both midweek & weekend) hard work for the season to date, because as most of you know it was particularly difficult and stressful at times.

Members Information & “Meet the Board” Meeting 28/11/24.

The “Meet the Board Information Sharing” meeting held on the 28th Nov was attended by 45 club members representing ~15% of the club total membership. Unfortunately, Les Hunter (Club Executive Director), Graham McGrath and Eric Atkinson were not able to attend.

A summary of the current financial status was presented by Dennis Botten followed by brief inputs from those board members present (Ray Morse, Tony McDonald, Richard Doherty and Nigel Stone) regarding their specific portfolios. As Membership Officer, Geoff Lade stated the club had approximately 340 members of which approximately 100 were social members. This was followed by comments from Rob Telling (Bowls President) relating to Bowls matters.

Questions from the floor to the board included:

- The need to clarify, at the board level, who is responsible for all social media functions incl. website and Facebook.
- What is the status of the 5-year club strategic plan and when would this be published?
- Could the board have their photographs (mug shots) published alongside the Organization Chart to enable easier identification by club members?

The board responded by stating these issues will be addressed and an appropriate response issued ASAP.

Further debate took place regarding the pennant player selection process and included but was not limited to, the status of the 7th side and lack of games. The ongoing lack of player availability being highlighted as the key issue with the top sides taking preference, although in some cases, the opposing teams had themselves withdrawn from the fixture.

Friday Members Night – Please see the email that was sent to all members 19th December with the December and January dates.

Clubhouse Front Door – It has been noticed that the front door has been wedged open on a number of occasions when it is scheduled to be locked (usually before 3:00pm). If the Club is vacant, could you please remove the wedge so the door locks. All financial members should have and carry their access swipe cards which will give you access at all times. (see Geoff Lade if you need a card). Hopefully this will make the Club more secure.

New Years Eve Bowls and Dinner. This has become a great way for members to see out the old and welcome the new (some of us struggle to keep going till midnight), see the attendance list at the Club and we hope to see you there. So, from the Board of Management, we wish

you a very Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year and see you at the Club in 2025.

Board of Management –December 2024



Congratulations Denise on 600 Games



Well done to Lyn Cameron and Jackie MacKay on being Runner-Up in the Eastern Ranges Ladies' Pairs at Heathmont on Mon 25 Nov. It was close for most of the game, but 7 down on the 15th and last end was too much to recoup. Congratulations to the winners Vickie Smith (Croydon) and Jan O'Regan (Lilydale).



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New Members

We welcome to the Club - Charlie Attard and Corinne Harris.

Sunshine Lady

Denise Kirby – Sympathy (Laurie)

Jim Michael – Get Well

TJ Renkema – Get Well

Graham McGrath – Get Well

Violet Clark – 90th Birthday

Marion Byrne - 80th Birthday

Liz Renkema – 90th Birthday (Pending card 31/12)

\$1000 Draw

The next \$1000 draw is on Friday 27th December. Phyllis Scott was the winner in November. You can pay \$20 for one month or until March when the season ends. Bob

Measurers needed

Putting a call out to members to assist in measuring on Pennant days. We would love you to do the course and help out on match days.

See me if you would like to enrol. Rob Telling

COACHES CORNER

I would like to thank Mooroolbark Coaches involved in the **INTRODUCTORY NEW BOWLERS PROGRAM SINCE MAY 2024.**

This program was introduced to “put a bowl” in the hands of prospective members, then coach and counsel them, to full membership.

It gave them a good start at bowls; with support from Lyn Cameron and Mandy Carter who coordinated Membership introductions and the Buddy system. Their dedication and efforts in starting 79 new bowlers; through 3 lessons each has been super since last May has been a big job well done. Many of these new bowlers are still in their free 12 months introductory period, so it will take a while before we see just how successful the program has been.

Special mentions to coaches John Baker, Frank Hargreaves, Gerry Allen, Eric Atkinson, Geoff Lade, Henny Cortenbach and Gary Smith. These guys weathered the heavy coaching load, and to Buddies Margaret Tull, Rex Tait, Colin Musgrove and other members who assisted I thank you sincerely for your efforts.

Also, I wish to note the work done by Intro Coordinators Lyn and Mandy. They have guided, educated and counselled new bowlers through this journey to membership and Club participation. They recruited Buddies for those needing assistance in understanding the club culture and processes, rules and customs. And boy there are many of those. Thank you, you have been great!

Jim Hampton



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Most Valuable Pennant Player

After Round 9 - Xmas Break

(not in any order)

SIDE 1	Leeanne Atkinson
SIDE 1	Peter Laird
SIDE 1	Neville Roper
SIDE 2	Gerry Allen
SIDE 2	Steve Lawson
SIDE 2	Gary Roberts
SIDE 3	Helena Blundell
SIDE 3	Mark Watson
SIDE 3	Colin Guggins
SIDE 4	Alan Dufton
SIDE 4	Jim Hampton
SIDE 4	Ken Tripp
SIDE 5	Rex Menser
SIDE 5	Jack Balcombe
SIDE 5	Darren Lloyd
SIDE 6	Joy Pears
SIDE 6	David Arnott
SIDE 6	Merv Hicks
SIDE 7	Allan MacDonald
SIDE 7	Neil Johnston
SIDE 7	Bruce Morris

On the left is an update of leading vote getters (not in order) for each side after Round 9 on Saturday Pennant. The overall leader is amongst them. Henny



Montrose Primary School teachers enjoying Barefoot Bowling at the Club!



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NEW SPONSOR

We welcome Jim Bullock's company as a new sponsor for our Club.



Sunday Live Band Gig

Hi all,
No live band gig for December as I am hoping everyone will be busy with family.
Our next live band gig is scheduled for January 19th. Flyer attached.
We do have a list so far, so please don't hesitate and let me know.
Happy New Year to everyone and stay safe.
Regards Gayle



ROCK REVIVAL BAND

SUNDAY 19th of JANUARY

2~5pm

Rock revival are a Rock and Roll music cover band. Covering the greatest hit rock'n'roll anthems from the 60s to the 90s. Enjoy the memorable hits as they get you singing and dancing along!

<p>\$10pp payable at the door</p> <p>BYO food and nibbles.</p> <p>Bar will be open to purchase drinks.</p> <p>Chips and nuts available for purchase at the bar.</p>	<p>Name Registration Essential</p> <p>Contact Gayle</p> <p>PH: 0415 554 016</p> <p>Email: gaylefulkne3134@gmail.com</p>
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Saturday and Tuesday Pennant Break Up Parties





**The Friday night Jackpot has not gone off yet!
Marg, Jen, Helen and Nigel enjoying the night.**





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Monday Morning Crew

It has been a busy month with various things going on around the club. Early on we had a major water leak under the clubhouse with the main line coming in fracturing and flooding the whole under floor area. We have also had some drive issues with the ride on mower which have now been resolved (I hope) and a lot of activity repairing and repainting the moveable benches around the greens. Another achievement was the installation of the long-awaited windsock between Greens 1 and 2.

With the warmer weather here, there has been a lot of watering and pruning of the gardens and the usual lawn mowing.

To finish off the year we had a pleasant afternoon bbq at the Bull residence and I would particularly like to thank Eric Atkinson, who on very short notice came along to thank everyone on behalf of the board.

From myself I would like to thank everyone of the MMC group for a great year and I appreciate your ongoing help and support in keeping the club surrounds looking as good as they are.

Merry Christmas! Geoff and Marilyn

Garden Guru

Hi everyone, early Summer brings with it lots of jobs for eager gardeners, as well as opportunities to relax, unwind and entertain in the garden. Stay on top of watering, weeding, mulching and pruning for a flourishing garden all through Summer. It is a great time to plant a variety of beans: runner, climbing, mini and broad.

Also sow leafy greens for salads, corn for Summer eating, as well as root crops for Autumn. Sow seeds for soft leafed herbs, such as basil, chives, cress and mustard. Harvest or tip prune, so they have a fresh new growth for Christmas meals or barbecues.

Seeds for heat loving flowers can be planted now: sweet peas, lilies, zinnia, cosmos, phlox, ageratum, alyssum, aster, brachycomb, Californian poppy, chrysanthemum, cleome, coreopsis, gerbera, petunia and verbena.

Remove lower leaves from tomato plants, just leave top three shoots.

That's all for now. Have a safe and happy Christmas. See you next year. Wally



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The Doona Shuffle

My lovin wife was out playin bowls so I
Tried to help her out by cleanin up my room
Saw Doona need changing but was my doom
Laid it out like I saw her do
But which way was up or down
Laid it out again and wrestled it away
Tried to fit it on another way
Decided I'd have a coffee and sit down to pray
Then a brilliant thought made my day
Turned on the TV and John Prine inspired me sooner
YouTube was my salvation; How to wrestle a doona
Every which way to make it stay
What a lousy way to spend a day
How does she do it and make it look so neat
The bloody thing after all is just a couple of sheets
Pattern up or down still a quandary
How to fit it in tried it another way
Got it in the cover lookin like an elephant under
Pulled it off and threw it asunder
Lyn crumpled in the corner I stormed away
I don't need this in my day!
Waited till my darlin came home, thank goodness it was today
Never missed her so much and she said I'll show you the way
I'll give in - it ruined my day, never gonna try it again
It ruined my day = Never gonna try it on my own again!

Composer JH