



Parkdale

the village green



December 2018 to February 2019

Newsletter of Parkdale Bowling & Social Club



From the President – Mick Supple

As we approach the half way mark of the Pennant Season all teams are in great positions in their respective sections in both Saturday and Midweek Pennant. It's really healthy as players battle for positions and even for a game with excess players available each week. There are 4 rounds left before the Christmas break let's all work hard as we aim to finish off with 4 wins.

The Club Championships are well underway with a great kick off on Sunday 11th November where most single's first rounds were played followed by a sausage sizzle. It was a great way to commence the championships having eight games playing simultaneously. Thanks to the markers who came along. The only downside to the singles is the small number of women entering. I'd encourage everyone to participate as it's not all about winning it's about improving your bowls and participation. Next year we might have to work harder to encourage more of you to enter. For those still playing, good luck and make sure you stick as close to the schedule as possible so we don't have a mad rush at the end.

The clubrooms are looking fantastic thanks to the Kingston Council and the added painting of the ceiling, new lights and fans. I've received many glowing comments from visitors and members about how great the rooms are now looking. Our next project will be to refit the office to make it a more workable room both as an office and small meeting room.

The club is currently working with both the Kingston Council and a private contractor to find a solution to improve the lighting of the green. As you are probably aware the lights were not installed as per their design due to a height issue so hopefully by Christmas we should have a clearer picture of the options available.

The introduction of the Friday Night Member's Draw has been a great success with the jackpot increasing each week. I'd encourage you to come along with your family and friends and enjoy the company of fellow members and purchase a drink from Charlie's bar in a relaxed atmosphere and possibly take out the prize.

You are all aware that we introduced a Selection Policy this year. Even though there were a few teething problems early I believe we are now

getting much closer to adhering to the policy. This is a learning curve for the selectors and as the year is progressing they are becoming more aware of their obligations under the policy. It's the most unpopular role at the club and I'd like to thank them for their efforts thus far.

The Social Committee is doing a fabulous job organising and planning our Christmas function. If you haven't already done so get your table organised or put your name on the sheet. It's always a top night.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very safe and happy Christmas and New Year. Let's make it a good one.

Mick Supple

From the Secretary - Greg Woods

It has been fabulous to hear such positive comments from members and visitors to our recent improvements to the club house. The investment into giving the club house a fresh makeover has certainly been worthwhile and I'd say we're the envy of a lot of other clubs with what we've been able to achieve.

The new bar is now in full swing and as busy as ever. Our local councillor Geoff Gledhill officially opened "Charlie's Bar" on 19 October and this event was attended by more than 30 members. "Charlie's Bar" was named in honour of our long standing member Charlie Borg, in recognition of his fabulous and tireless efforts in managing the bar over an extended period of time. On behalf of the Board and members I'd like to pass on our appreciation to Charlie.



During the recent club house renovations our Honour Boards were removed (with the exception of those above the entrance windows) and have not yet been put back on display. There have been rumors circulating around the future of our Honour Boards. It is true that we face a decision with what to do with our Honour Boards (present and future) going forward. We are faced with running out of room to display all Honour Boards, particularly as some of these are now full and new boards are required. Also, the professional art of gold leaf lettering is a skill set that is not as prevalent amongst sign writers today and will be less so as time moves on. So the question is whether the new Honour Boards are designed with traditional gold leaf lettering in mind or do we move to the more modern approach that uses vinyl lettering. These same issues are faced by many sporting clubs. The plan going forward is to form a sub-committee to present recommendations back to the Board on:

- What Honour Boards should be displayed;
- Where to display full Honour Boards and in what format; and
- What style do we adopt for new Honour Boards and what information is displayed.

It is recognised that our Honour Boards represent the history of our great Club and is something that will not be lost when recommendations are being made on their future. Members will be informed prior to implementation of any of the recommendations presented to the Board.

You may have already noticed that our web site has changed appearance. This change was brought about by Bowls Australia changing the technology platform from SportsTG to a new technology platform known as BowlsLink. As the SportsTG platform was no longer going to be supported, bowls clubs using this platform needed to transition their content to the new platform. According to Bowls Australia *"Through the BowlsLink system, all 1,873 affiliated bowls clubs nationwide will have access to a modern, new website, utilising the WordPress content management system, provided free of charge."* Over the past 5 weeks Michael Woods has worked on migrating and updating content onto the new web technology platform. We are indeed grateful that Michael volunteered to take this task on. The plan was to have Henri continue managing the content once the new web site went live. However, after some consideration, Henri thought that the change to the web site was an appropriate time to hand over the baton to Michael. I'd therefore like to take this opportunity on behalf of all our members to thank Henri for the considerable years that he has been the mainstay of our web site in what is a very specialist job. Henri is another one of our unsung heroes who goes about giving his time to the Club doing something that a lot of members would not be aware of. Our club recently hosted rounds 2 - 4 of the Sandbelt Men's Open Singles

event. This was an excellent opportunity to showcase our fabulous greens. A big thank you to Bill Bushby for organizing markers and umpires for these rounds and to those enthusiastic members who took the opportunity to take up an officiating role. Whilst on the subject of Sandbelt Championships, we had quite a few members represent our Club in numerous events with some advancing quite deep into the draw. Well done to all those who participated and especially to Mick Supple and Bruce Willett who won the Over 60 Pairs Championship. In saying this, I received mixed reports on who carried who to get across the line! With Christmas rapidly approaching, we've once again had numerous requests to hire out our facilities to host private Christmas functions. At this time we've accepted 5 bookings. A booking schedule will be placed on the notice board. To run Christmas functions successfully we need members to volunteer time to assist in running and supervising what happens on the green as well as behind the bar. These functions do raise good revenue for the Club from which we all benefit. If you can offer some time, please see Graeme Langdon, Mick Supple or Greg Woods so that we can make up a volunteer roster.

On that note, I'd like to extend warm wishes to all our members and their families for a very happy and safe Christmas and all the best for a wonderful New Year.

From the Head Coach - Haydn Smith

The Story So Far

It is with great pleasure that I accept the invitation to make this contribution to the Parkdale Newsletter.

Upon being advised that I had obtained the position as Head of Coaching at Parkdale I was filled with a sense of excitement and enthusiasm. During my interview for the position, the people that I met gave me the impression that this club was progressive. The "powers that be" had the club members at heart. They wanted to do the best for their club in producing better bowlers and playing at the highest level. There was a positive vibe.

I also felt that the club, while progressing, had not lost sight of its history. Because you don't know what direction you are heading, if you don't know where you've come from. Nearly four months later I have not lost that feeling of enthusiasm or excitement. There are challenges ahead of us to achieve what we want as a club. There may be challenges ahead of you, to achieve what you want as bowler, whether that be as an individual or in a team environment. But if you wish to accept those challenges you don't have to face them alone. The network that the 'The Board' has put in place is there to assist you. I am but one fibre in that network and I am available if you have any issues.

ALL TEAMS are in a healthy state. As I write this, our Saturday Division 2 side has had some narrow losses and are 3 wins from 6 games played, with a total of 58 points. They sit 6th on the ladder. Having had a reasonably hard draw until now, they have 3 games to be played before the return fixture begins and will play 3 of the bottom 4 sides. Although these games cannot be taken lightly, there is every chance our position will be improved at the half-way mark.

Saturday Division 4 are in a very similar and healthy position as the aforementioned side. Sitting 5th on

the table, also with 58 points, they too have 3 wins from the 6 games played. They next play 4th placed Mordialloc, 10th placed Noble Park and Cardinia Waters who sit 7th. Their destiny is in their hands.

Saturday Division 7 have a healthy 89 points and also have 3 wins from 6 games and are 5th on the ladder. With a bye, Beaumaris (7th) and Burden Park (2nd) before halfway, they too could be in the four.

Our Midweek teams are also very viable prior to the commencement of the return fixtures.

Division 2 are placed fifth with 3 wins, 4 losses and 52 points and meet Cheltenham (3rd) and Keysborough (4th). The challenge awaits.

Division 4 are in 6th position on the ladder. 3 wins, 3 losses and a draw. 55 points. They play Armadale (6) who are 5th and Armadale (7) who are 9th. A couple of wins here will hold them in good stead for the return bouts.

The Six-A-Side crew are our highest ranked team sitting 4th on their ladder with 59 points. They next meet 7th placed Hampton RSL and then have a challenge against 2nd placed Black Rock. They too should be thereabouts at the halfway stage.

As can be seen by the current situations of all Parkdale pennant sides, there is plenty to be pleased about. Combine that with the large number of entries for club games, full rinks for Barefoot Bowls on Thursdays, the healthy numbers of members attending Thursday afternoon training and the Friday night members draw and great social events. What's not to get excited and enthusiastic about?

Parkdale Are Go!
Haydn Smith

Social Committee report - Linda Bowkett

The Social Committee has been very active over the last few months organising social events and liaising with tournament organisers for catering purposes. From the positive feedback received it sounds like everyone who has participated has enjoyed themselves.

The 'Trivia Night' was a resounding success in October. BIG thank you to Brenda and Bill for facilitating the event. Brenda and Bill have also informed us that was their last 'MC'ing' of the event, as they would like to be future participants. On behalf of Parkdale Bowling & Social Club we would like to thank you for your organisation of many past Trivia Nights.

Our 'Opening of the Bar' event also went well. Many members attended. Our finger food went down well. Congratulations Charlie Borg for having your name above the bar, 'Charlie's Bar', in recognition of your tireless 'efforts and manning' of the bar in past years.



Bobby and Fran Sheehan winning the Kettle BBQ at the Bar opening night.

The 'Melbourne Cup Day Luncheon' was successful, even though the heavens opened and soaked the greens.



Therefore, the bowling was cancelled but the lunch continued. The food from Parkdale Chicken shop was tasty, plus the numerous sweets made by Lorraine Gray. Thank you to John & Maureen Watson assisting us with the organisation of the BIG sweep prior to the day, Jeanette Williamson for organising the sweeps throughout the day and Brenda Bushby manning the bar on the day. Congratulations to Brenda who won the Sweep, 2nd was Darren Sherriff and 3rd was George Soumalis. All club members!



The Social Committee in the kitchen on Melbourne Cup Day.

Last event for the year is our 'Christmas Function' Friday 7th December. Fliers are on display in the clubrooms outlining details of catering and entertainment on the night. The cost of the event will be **\$40 per person**. This amount needs to be paid

by **Monday 3rd December** (no refunds) to Linda Bowkett or pay directly to the club by direct deposit (BSB: 633-108 Account NO: 109997288). Ensure you state on the transaction your name and Xmas event deposit. We need to have at least 60 members attending to cover our costs.

If you have specific dietary needs and not indicated this, please see a member of the social committee ASAP so we can arrange.

The function starts at 7pm, with a complimentary champagne on entry. For those who are struggling to get away from work early, please note that the actual meal will not be served until approx. 7:30pm.

This year we have decided to have three Xmas Hampers ranging in sizes. Don't forget to buy a raffle ticket in the clubrooms. Buy some for yourself or family. There is over \$200 worth of goods to win. **\$2 for one tickets or 3 for \$5.**

We would like to wish everyone a Safe and Happy Festive Season.

Barefoot Bowls report - Bill Bushby

Once again the Barefoot Bowls Program is proving to be popular with participants. We are running at full capacity with twenty teams playing and having no room for eight others. Our formula seems to be working for the time being.

As things currently stand our next season will commence on Thursday 31st January 2019 and conclude on 5th April 2019 giving us one introductory week, eight weeks of competition and one week for finals. On behalf of all the barefoot bowlers I would like to thank the team of workers who make this program the success that it is. They are Agnes,

Sheena and Hazel in the kitchen, Ian who cooks our BBQs, Francis and Bruce Gilbert who show new people what to do, Henri for keeping our ladder, Malcolm Pepper for making sure we have enough rinks to play on, and Brenda for registering players each week. And thanks also to all those people who fill in from time to time when we are short-staffed.

I would also extend a special thanks to Maureen and John Watson and Ray Ellis who have worked with us since the inception of the program and for a variety of reasons are unable to continue. Thanks so much for your hard work over the past five years.

Bill Bushby
Coordinator

Welfare Report - Jane Ford & Erica Jones



It is with great pleasure that this year we have been able to celebrate a very special birthday.

In September we were able to enjoy celebrating with Jack Royce as he turned 100 years, our very first centurion at the club and still bowling, well done Jack.

We were very sad to hear that George Newell (husband of Margaret Newell) passed away in November. As well as being an active player, George was very active in maintaining the club. He would even come by train from Chelsea each week to ensure the club bins were placed outside - just one of the many things he did!

A card was sent to the Powell family on Tony Powell's passing. Tony was an ex president of Parkdale Bowls Club.

We have had several back injuries and we are reminded again about the value of warming up before exercise. Meg Watkins and Jane Ford are recovering from back problems.

We are pleased to see that George has recovered from his Bakers Cyst and is back and playing in the championships, well done George for getting straight back into it.

We have recently had two members who have had falls, we hope that Greg and Erica are recovering from their cuts and bruises and managing to stay on their feet !!

Brenda has been unwell with pneumonia and we hope she has fully recovered her strength.

It is great to see valued members John and Maureen Watson back around the club from time to time. We are always pleased to see their lovely smiles.

We wish everyone a safe and healthy break throughout January.

Jane and Erica

*"Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss it, you will land among the stars".
Lester Louis Brown - Journalist 1928 - 2013*

*"You never get a second chance to make a good first impression" -
Anonymous*

A FEW OF OUR CLUB SPONSORS AND FRIENDS - THE PEOPLE TO GO TO FIRST!



William Belt
Licenced Estate Agent
williamb@buxton.com.au
Mobile 0412 353 310

Buxton (Mentone) Pty Ltd
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99 Charman Road
Mentone VIC 3194
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Facsimile 9584 6680
buxton.com.au

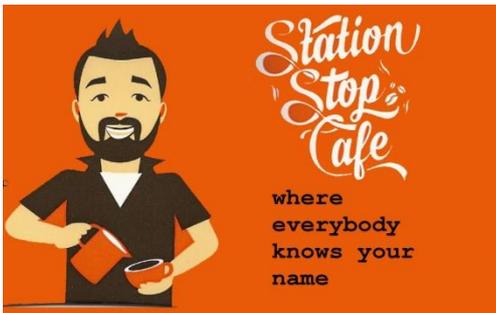
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