

HEATHMONT
Bowls
CLUB INC.

AMAROO

NEWSLETTER



February 2024

www.heathmontbowls.com.au

9 The Greenway, Heathmont, 3135. {Reg. A0012905M}

“EASTERN RANGES WINS LADIES REGIONAL GOLD CUP”



Eastern Ranges converged on Ballarat on the weekend of 13 and 14 Jan to compete against other Victorian Regions.

The format of play has changed going from playing 6 games to section play and playing 3 games on Saturday and finals on Sunday.

Eastern Ranges men and ladies are in the gold section.

We were up against Mornington Peninsula, Sandbelt and Bendigo Campaspe Goldfields regions.

The results were ERBR 50 31

Mornington, ERBR 43 33

Sandbelt, ERBR 48 29 Bendigo

This qualified us for Finals play against the other ladies gold section, which was Ovens and Murray.

Final score was ERBR 45 39 Ovens Murray.

Unfortunately the “Men's” side did not fair so well.



Heathmont were represented by Karen Barton, Sandy Elliot, and Carol Protopapas



“The Cup” on display at the club this week.

ERBR Reporter

KAREN BARTON



SAMMY

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BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Hi all and welcome back to bowls for 2024. With only 3-4 weeks to go, we have some teams looking at finals and some fighting for their lives. Best of luck to you all in the next few weeks.

Coaching Program

A big shout out to Barry Ward, Club coach, for setting up this program. We have many dedicated club coaches happy to be paired with members looking to improve their games. In just over a week, 15 people have jumped on board. I spoke to a bowler in their 80's this week who said that the program had given him new insights and initiatives. Another bowler had a coaching session with Baz which, he feels, has ironed out some bad habits. Barry and the other club coaches are keen to help you with your game. Call Barry 0415 956 058 to be matched up with a coach. (see next page for details)

Christmas Dinner

A great night was had by the 90 plus people in attendance. A great meal from Sheila's Catering, so many raffle prizes!! Thanks to our sponsors for their generous donations, together with many club member donations.

What a great night recognizing Mark Vezey for 30 years (plus 3 years as an apprentice) as our fabulous greenkeeper.

Club Cleaning

The Board engaged contract cleaners 2 years ago with the aim of improving the cleaning at the club. It proved to be a very expensive exercise that did not improve the cleaning, in fact we found that we were much worse in that the contractor consistently failed to provide the promised service. The Board cancelled the contract late last year and has had the unenviable task of trying to cover cleaning over the last few months.

What we are seeking: A new club cleaner available for 8-9 hours during bowls season and approx. 6 hours in the off season. This could be by direct employment or via contract with an ABN. This could suit someone looking to supplement their pension or just looking for a part-time role. Please contact me or pass on my details to anyone interested.

Volunteers

It's impossible to thank everyone but, a shout out to Leon who has been changing lights and globes over, all of the cleaners, referenced above, Ken, Craig and all of those helping with the gardening program.

During November and December, we had heaps of social functions. Thanks to Charlie for bookings, bar staff and all of the people helping with barefoot bowls.

Best of luck for the rest of the season.



Santa and his helper wave "Goodbye"

MEMBERS DRAW

Don't forget that we are having a member's draw every Thursday @6:30pm. The cash prize is \$50 per week, and jackpot's if unclaimed.....

YOU HAVE TO BE THERE TO WIN!!!



Terrie Verberne

Board Chair



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BOARD SECRETARY REPORT

Hello members, I wish to advise that Terry Anderson and his wife – Nola, were in a serious car accident recently. Terry has broken ribs and a fractured sternum, there is also concern regarding his knee. Nola has multiple scratches and bruises but is otherwise okay. Terry will be in Donvale Hospital for some weeks. Get well soon!!

Our next bistro night is Saturday 3rd February – please come along and support the Club and enjoy the company of your fellow bowlers.

Thank you to all those members who have helped with cleaning, we should have a new cleaner shortly.

Board Secretary

Peter Verberne



COACHING

Do you ever feel your bowls delivery is not quite right or you are not consistently controlling line and weight (and who hasn't from time to time)? Perhaps a one on one coaching session with an accredited club coach would be helpful.

The club has introduced a **Club Coaching Program** co-ordinated by our Director of Coaching, **Barry Ward** (0415 946 058) awardplaster@bigpond.com. Club bowling members who would like individual coaching are invited to contact Barry who will then liaise with participating coaches and arrange a coaching session at a mutually convenient time. Further sessions if needed could then be agreed by the member and the allocated coach.



For information the participating accredited club coaches are (alphabetical):

Craig Bryant, Nick Dawe, Mike Kaczynski, Darren Mays, Matt Ottobre, Carol Protopapas, Graeme Sanders and Norm Whitehead.

The Board/Bowls Committee hope that this initiative will be embraced by members who will take the opportunity to hone their game (at **all** levels from beginners to club champions – the best bowlers in the world have coaches). The **Club Coaching Program** will complement our group coaching program **Skills & Drills**.

Bowls Secretary

Greg Pullen



plus
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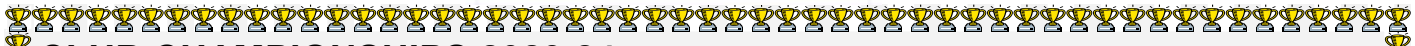
ERBR Ladies Triples
 "Runners Up. Sandy Elliot,
 Ex Monter Vicki Hudson, and
 Pan Arnot (Croydon)

Earlier today, I saw a bumper sticker that said "I'm a veterinarian, therefore I can drive like an animal." Suddenly I realized how many proctologists are on the roads...

SUMMER FRIDAY GAMES



Don't forget you can play every Friday in our 2-4-2 competitions. Numbers have been low over the holiday period, so its time to get your "pairs" team back together, and put you names on the entry list NOW!! All games start at 12:30pm, and prize money is on offer. Manager details are on the entry lists.



CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023-24

With Christmas and most Regional games over...we are getting towards the pointy end of the Club Championships

On **Sunday 4th February** the Men's and Ladies Singles Finals will be played at **2.00pm**

Ladies Final-**Sandy Elliott Vs Annette Ruffle**

Men's Final-**Nick Dawe Vs Lucas Protopapas/Mark Aylward** (game being played this week)

Be great to see a huge crowd down for those two games

The Triples is down to the Final with the team of **Taylor, Boyd and Jeffery Vs Barrett, Whitehead and Ottobre**

This game is to played on a Friday in the coming weeks (keep an eye out for the date)

Congratulations to the team of **Lee Fletcher, Lorraine Siddles, Paul Dodd and Alan Kinniburgh** for winning the **Drawn Fours Final**

Just a quick reminder to everyone that you don't have to wait to the last minute to play your game

Everything now is **PLAY BY DATE**

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Greg Boyd



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A BIG THANK YOU To-

- All of our sponsors who provided prizes for the raffle.
- All those who bought tickets.
- Well done to the lucky winners we hope you have, and are enjoying your prizes.
- To Graeme for his efforts in asking and getting the prizes from our sponsors
- Please thank are sponsors by supporting them during the year.
- The raffle made a profit of \$863.00 for the club.

CATH BIRD

NIGHT PENNANT REPORT

"Tuesday Night Pennant has been running pretty smoothly this season.

We only had enough players for one and a half teams which meant only entering one team this season.

This has made things easier on one hand as there have always been sufficient players available each week, although on the other hand, it's been a little bit tricky rotating the roster.

Last week saw our first win for the season, a very exciting one shot win over Lilydale!

We have three weeks to go so let's hope we can finish off the season well with some more good results."



Karen Tanti

Night Pennant Co-Ordinator



Will Fowles MP
 State Labor Member for Ringwood

44 New Street, Ringwood 3134
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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Please make our new members welcome when you see them around the Club:

Name	Bowling Category	Previous Club	Phone Number
Kane Ibbott	1 st year bowler		0401 879 147
Ian Mosley	1 st year bowler		0415 850 341
Gavin Simondson	1 st year bowler		0403 061 314
David Tocci	1 st year bowler		0407 545 758

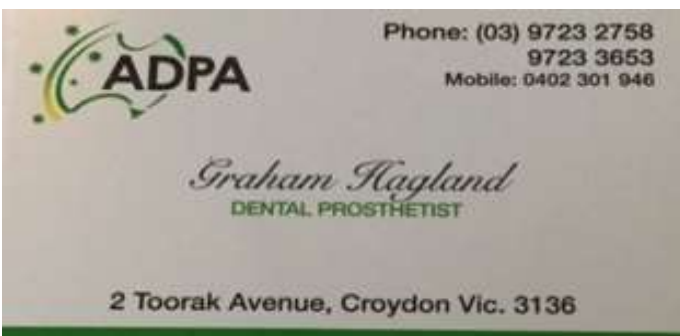
Please add these names and numbers to your members' handbook plus check that you have the correct details below:

Heather Rae	0414 306 544	Michael Rae	0406 933 391
Andy Ross	0427 528 852	Mel Williams	0413 351 227
Dennis Jay	0413 020 585	John Ryan	0421 519 517
Barry Ward	0415 946 058		

These details have been published before but it appears that some of you did not receive this updated information.

Thank You

Membership Officers-Janice (Jan) MacGregor (Bowls Committee) ,Terri Verberne (Board)



SPONSORSHIP REPORT



We have lost one of our long term sponsors in OKKA PIES they have been placed into liquidation due to the current financial situation. They will be sadly missed by us and many other clubs which they also supported in and around our area. We wish them all the best for the future and hope that all turns out ok for them.

Jen from Flower Power Florist in Heathmont has sold her business, Jen has been a long term sponsor of our club and we wish her a happy retirement . The good news is that Sammy has taken over the business and she has committed to sponsor us going forward so we need to support her in all our florist requirements

The other good news is that UTSAV Indian restaurant are again suppling vouchers for our weekend and midweek raffles so if you need a good curry please try them.

I would like to acknowledge they generosity of our sponsors as our Christmas raffle was a huge success, without their support it would have been just another raffle so a big thank you to all the sponsors who contributed .

So again without sounding like a broken record PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS as they need us as much as we need them.

Good luck to all our weekend and midweek teams for the remainder of the season and good luck in the finals

Sponsorship Officer
Graeme Eslick



CLUB ELECTIONS

Nomination Notices for positions on the Board, Bowls Committee, and Selections Panels will shortly be posted. Its time for you to consider what you can do to help make "YOUR" club better.



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BOWLS PRESIDENT REPORT

Region Sides: (see front page for photos) The Region Sides Championships were held on the weekend of 13/14 January 2024 at Ballarat and I'm happy to report that the Women's Side won the State Title overall!!! Huge congratulations to all the players for this very exciting achievement & of course especially to our own representatives Carol Protopapas, Karen Barton & Sandy Elliott. Sandy was Emergency and also performed a fantastic job as Team Manager, but ended up playing in the final on the Sunday as Olivia Slade was unwell (she is now on the mend thank goodness, best wishes to Olivia). The "gold cup" is currently being circulated around the relevant clubs so we hope to see the cup at Heathmont soon.

The Men's Side unfortunately did not have the same success, but we were ably represented by Nick Dawe & Fintan McLoughlin.

Region events for 2023-2024:

The **Pairs** finals were held at Heathmont on 22nd November, with Steven Weber and Fintan McLoughlin playing in the Men's Pairs Final against CJ Snary and Luke Lamont (Lilydale). Unfortunately they lost by one shot 15-16 – so close! Congratulations to them both.

The **Men's Singles** final was held at Lilydale on 18th December with Norm Whitehead winning 25-24 over Zac Woning (Mitcham) – what a fantastic win, well done Norm!

The **Women's Singles** only commenced last Sunday 21st January at Pakenham, but so far we have 3 HBC players advancing after winning their sections – Karen Barton, Angela Bonutto & myself. Let's hope we can do well next Sunday (at Pakenham).

Men's Triples were also held last Sunday 21st January at Upwey-Tecoma, and our representatives going through are Michael Griffin & Gary Girvan (with ex-member Mark Lord); Paul Dodd, Leon Verkuyl & Norm Whitehead; and Mark Slade, Rod MacGregor & Nick Dawe. Good luck fellas!

Novice Singles: ERBR were debating whether to hold this event at regional level, considering that Bowls Victoria are conducting a separate Novice Carnival in May, & that there had many low numbers in recent years. However, the response from many clubs was overwhelming – 42 male entries and 18 female entries! How exciting to have so many new and eager bowlers in our midst!



ERBR Men's Singles Champion Norm Whitehead, with the "John Snell Trophy", and Zac Woning

Heathmont was ably represented by Dennis Jay, Craig Walker, Jeff Stanton, Lee Fletcher, Gary Meyers, Nigel Page & Natasha Walker.

Jeff Stanton won his section in the **Men's Novice Singles** and Natasha Walker in the **Women's Novice Singles**, whereupon they both played at Boronia on Monday 15th January in Round 1 of the finals. Both played really well, with Jeff advancing to the quarter finals on the 17th January, only to lose that match.

All at Heathmont are really proud of our novice players and their willingness to step up & give it a go! Go 'Monsters! (Report Con'd on next page)

BOWLS PRESIDENT REPORT Con'd

New Pennant Shirts:

A further order of the new pennant shirts has been received and will be distributed shortly. Please see Terri Verberne or myself if you have any queries.

Jack Attack: The last Jack Attack program was completed on 20th December and once again the participants really enjoyed it. Also once again huge thanks to Ken Barnhill for wonderful organisation and enthusiasm. Registration for the next season is on Wednesday 31st January at 6.00 pm, followed by 7 rounds after that on Wednesday evenings.



Left– The “Jack Attack Crew Of 2023”, and Right– Ken Barnhill the “Jack Attack” coordinator, well done Ken.

Bowling Functions: The club hosted many functions leading up to Christmas and beyond & I wish to thank all those who volunteered to help with the bowling component: Russell Hall, Louise Whitehead, Paul Dodd, Terri Verberne, Peter Verberne, Peter Allen, Nigel Page, Stephen Coles, Robyn Anketell, Annette Ruffle, Rob Ruffle, Jeff Stanton, Gary Girvan, Marlene Storer, Michael Rae, Angela Bonutto, Pat Wilkinson, Peter Woodstock, Shirley Christiansen, Linda Gahan, Craig Walker. Your help is appreciated.

Christmas: A great night was had by those who attended the club Christmas Dinner on the 13th December, with a special presentation to our greenkeeper Mark Vezey for 30 years service, we are so lucky to have Mark looking after our greens and club surrounds, thank you Mark.

Eastern Ranges Bowls Region - please check the latest newsletter on their website.

Best wishes to all players as we near the end of the pennant season and especially to those sides playing in pennant finals.

See you on the green and around the club.

The Heat is On!



BOWLS PRESIDENT

Janice MacGregor



Ian de Blaquiére

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MID-WEEK PENNANT SELECTORS REPORT

With four weeks to go H1, 2 & 5 are in finals. H4 could either be relegated or get into finals, that's how close the middle scores are. Sadly, barring a miracle, H3 will be relegated, not too surprising after facing up to all #1 sides and 1#2 side. Well done on a valiant effort.

Thanks to all who have been moved around or missed a game to enable us to maximize eligibility for finals.

Mid-Week Selection-Chair

Terri Verberne



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The **AMAROO** is edited and prepared by **Brian Siddles**

Your next issue will be the **March** edition - Closing date for copy will be March 4th
Articles can be handed to the editor, or emailed to **blsiddles@bigpond.com**