

Established 1958

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Rye BOWls Club

Unbiased Opinion

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Edition 7

January 2017

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Welcome to the seventh edition of the
RBC newsletter



"General News"

The Christmas Dinner again proved a very popular event with over 80 people attending and enjoying a very generous meal. The annual raffle was bigger and better than ever with 24 prizes including two hams, one of which was won by Maurie, his third in two weeks. Our in-house web site creator, Oscar produced and screened an excellent character movie featuring several members in various and precarious acts. Not sure if this ignited any new acting careers, but many have requested copies. Many helpers make this a memorable night including "Mother and Father Christmas" AKA Thelma and Les Lewis. Many thanks to all concerned and those who kindly donated gifts.

The first Sippers dinner for 2017 was on January 13 was well attended which created a great and happy atmosphere.

The next one is on February 10 and at no additional cost a two-piece band has been booked, so put your name down and come and enjoy a two course meal and the music.

Why not come along for a pleasant Sunday afternoon on February 19 between 1 and 5, sing and dance to Rock N Roll music, have a bowl, make your own team! Entry is \$10, BYO snacks and nibbles.

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Club Membership is a vital component of all types of Clubs and our Club is no exception. The Committee is continually working on increasing the numbers and your help in a small way would be greatly appreciated. Maybe you could talk to a friend, relative or neighbor and advise them of the benefits of our Friendly Club, SUCH AS FREE COACHING, FREE USE OF BOWLS AND VERY REASONABLY PRICED DRINKS, USE OF THE CLUB ROOMS FOR BIRTHDAY PARTIES and many more.

"Bowls news - Women and Men"

➤ Bowls News - Women.

As previously advised we had difficulty in with filling 3 teams. This resulted in having to withdraw the Division 3/3 team. Unless there is a remarkable turnaround only 2 teams will be entered in the 2017/2018 season.

The Rye girls made their annual visit to Pt. Lonsdale and from all reports a great time was had by all.

Congratulations to Marita Lavender and Barbara Beach who played a thrilling match in the final of the Club Championship and after a very close match Marita was successful. Also Marita represented our Club in the Champion of Champions, but was narrowly defeated in a semi-final.

The pairs are well on the way to being finalized with the Proportional on the agenda for the New Year.

At this time Division 3/2 are on top of the ladder with Division 2 second to bottom. Well done ladies

➤ Bowls News - Men.

After a slow start to the second part of the season the Saturday Pennant Teams have re-bounded quite well after all losing in a previous round.

We are hopeful of at least 3 teams making the finals, including Division 1. This would be an excellent result given the challenge presented to the Club at the end of last season.



Congratulations are in order for Andy Glover for making the final of the FBD Champion of Champions. Andy played very well and was pleased with his performance but unfortunately was narrowly beaten on the day. Better luck next time Andy.

Congratulations are in order for Matt Blackwell and Joey Turner as well. These two RYE boys made it into the final of the FBD State pairs championships. Unfortunately, the RYE boys were runners up. Well done Matt and Joey to get to the finals. Better luck next time.

It appears the John Simmonds Training Program has clicked in, combined with the Coaching Classes of Alan Jones and Brian Lee are proving successful.

To all players, good luck for the remaining games leading and remember if you play a bad shot, forget it, and concentrate on the next one



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"Social News"

Barefoot Bowls re-commenced on January 12, with 50 of our regulars plus 12 extras [*holiday makers*] which is almost capacity given one green is not available. We are hopeful of converting several of this group to become members. If you have a couple of hours to spare on a Thursday night, why not call in and catch the action.

We are all aware Bowls is a pretty challenging game. All bowlers are human which continues to be true with several highly ranked and experienced bowlers losing a little concentration with a wrong bias.

Monday Triples, Jackpot Triples and Jackpot Fours are up and running again. With one less green to cater for large numbers, it is suggested you put your name down early to avoid disappointment.

Round 1 of the Jackpot Triples was won by Ian Bradley, Bob Treloar and Bill Fechner. This event was sponsored by John Collery Green Keeping Enterprises. By the way the Jackpot did not go off.

Round 1 of the Jackpot Fours was sponsored by Nepean Optical, with Bill Williamson, Ed Tomkins, David Jones and Herb Christgorgl winning in a very high scoring game by most teams.

Reg's Raffle will run for 10 weeks over the 2016/2017 Pennant season, so for those of you who missed out last year due to travel plans, you may like to secure your investment early. Tickets are available now through Kevin Lawson.

Once again the Noble Niner's Golf and Bowls day has been arranged for Friday March 24, commencing at 10.30am We start with nine holes of golf at the Dunes Cups course, followed by lunch at the Bowls

Club and nine ends of bowls. The cost is \$35.00 per head. Prizes for Winners and Runners-up. The maximum numbers of players is 40, so please be early to ensure a place. Contact Trevor Maxwell or Kevin Lawson.

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➤ 2016/2017 CLUB CHAMPIONS

The men's singles winner was Andrew Glover {a previous winner} with the runner up being John Simmonds.



Joe Turner and Matt Blackwell were successful in the men's pairs, with Alan Jones and Bryan Lee runners-up. Thank you to all participants and congratulations to all the winners. Also many thanks to all the markers.

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Managing Director



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"Behind the Scenes"

Behind the scenes a large group of our loyal and dedicated members continue to give their time to ensure our Club remains a well-respected, well managed friendly Club.

As it is with most successful clubs, success starts at the top, the Board of Management. This followed by hard working Bowls Committees, coaches and the frustrating job of the pennant selectors. There is also a competent sub-committee which continues the refurbishment and redevelopment programs on track. Members will be aware of improvements over the last 12 months.

To list all the helpers around the Club would take several pages, and the Board of Management express a sincere thank you to all. Incidentally, if you do have a little time to spare your help would be most welcome, "many hands make light work".

The Club would really would like to hear from any Ladies or Men interested in joining the Umpiring Team.

Several members of our RSA (Responsible Serving of Alcohol) are unavailable next season and we really need another 6 people to join the regular group. Please contact Maurie or Barney for further information.

➤ Redevelopment Project

Concept planning is about 100% complete, with plans and drawings prepared by Matt Hecker.

The sub-committee maintains contact with the Shire, however as advised previously all such projects take time, several months.

In order to follow Mornington Peninsula Shire's "Project Planning and Delivery Framework" we are required to prepare a Business Case and Financial Brief in addition to the Concept Documents and Cost Estimates. This will take a few months to prepare. The Shire has indicated it is willing to consider joint funding of smaller up-grade works.

David Jones & John Wilson to meet in February to prepare a Strategy and Business Plan for submission to the Shire in association with Redevelopment Plans and estimated costs.

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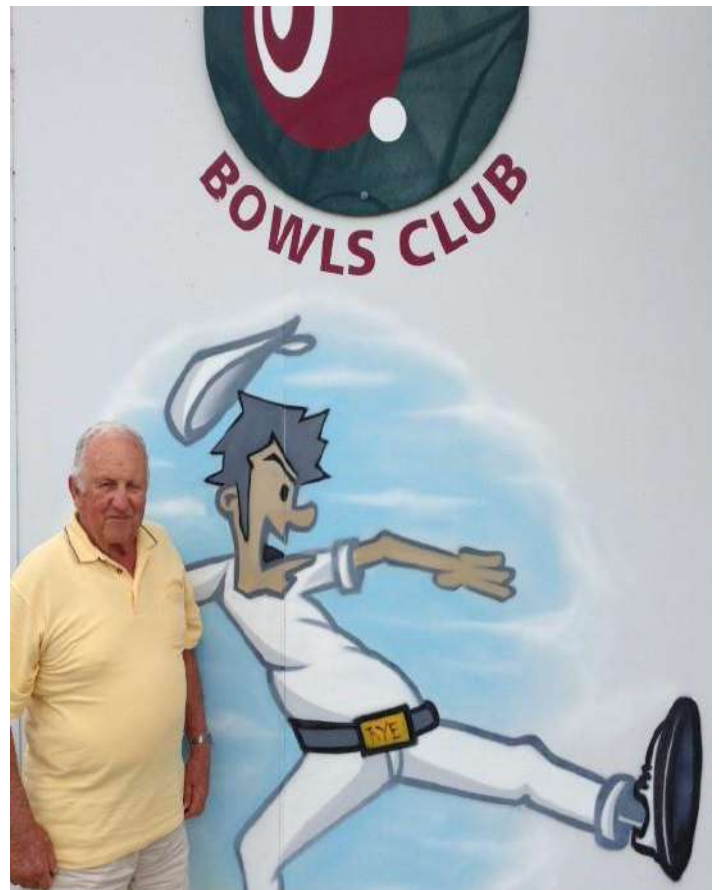
Member profile - Bill Fechner

Born in 1931 to a Farming family in Dimboola and educated at the Local Primary and Secondary Memorial High School and Longerenong Agricultural College and going on to the family business and branching out himself.

Became involved with many organisations in the local community, both civic and sporting. This included Jaycee, Rotary, School Council, Primary Producer, Masonic Lodge, Church Vestry, Cemetery Trust and holding office in most of them. Playing member in Football, Rowing, Tennis, Golf, Swimming, Water-skiing, Badminton, Shooting -Clay birds, Open range and Small-bore, and Bowls. Had a single figure golf handicap for one afternoon, then it went out again owing to poor form. Married Lyle in 1955 and had three children, a boy and two girls. Doug, our son lives in Brunswick and plays bowls for them (secretary) and has won a championship. Judy, our late daughter gave us four grandchildren, the only girl there having two of her own to give us two great granddaughters of which we are very proud. Our other Daughter Helen, has recently gone to live in Tasmania so that will take us there for visits

In the farming field, had flood, drought and disease which we could not control.

Some were good and other years-----yuk, but won crop competitions with the local Agricultural Society.



Ran a contracting harvesting business for a while, and when we had poor seasons, drove trucks for sand and gravel contractors, egg board operators, and stock transports, and even worked for the Lands Department for Drought Relief work eradicating rabbits and noxious weeds.

Had the misfortune to lose an eye in a farm accident in the early 60's, but life goes on.

In 1978, we sold our farming interests, and lived in town, where we had built a new home, and after taking a holiday here in Rye in 1979, and liking it so much that within a week we sold our Dimboola home and bought another in Maori St. We built again in 1983, then moved recently to another one on flat ground in Rosebud West.

Lyle was a teacher, and managed to get a transfer to Red Hill but she decided to resign when our elder daughter got a teacher's position. I did green keeping in Dimboola for a while, and after being in Rye for a short time, got the Greenkeepers position at Main Ridge where I stayed for ten years.

In the Club I have been Umpire, Coach, Greens Director, Director of the Cooperative to raise money for Club improvements. Bowls Secretary, Pennant Selector and Competitions Committee Member for the now defunct FBA.

Successes in Bowls:

I came to Rye as the Minor Champ of Dimboola.

Won 8 Singles at Rye, and 5 runners-up.

Won Champion of Champions of FBA and Group 7 3 Pairs with Tom McKinley, Terry Allen, and Bob Treloar, runner up twice.

Won Handicap Singles and 100up, numbers not sure.

Runner up FBA Pairs with Albert Haworth Runner up FBA Veteran Pairs with Terry Allen

Played in Division 1 Pennant mainly as skip, giving place away to younger and "better" members. Now play in Division 3 as 3rd.

Have never played in 4's before this year, but once as skip, we won.

Played in the Rye RSL Edinburgh Shield Teams on several occasions.

The most fulfilling win was last year Winning Pennant Division 3 with my fellow players, the only side win in over 50 years of bowling.

The RVBA conferred a Service Badge on me in the late 1990's, and the Club Life Membership in 2001. But as I have said to a lot of new bowlers when they join bowls, they immediately get a thousand new friends.

J. W. & R. J. ARMSTRONG

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"Joke of the Month"

A couple were having dinner one evening when the husband reached across the table took his wife's hand in his and said "Beth soon we will be married for 40 years and there's something I have to know. In all of these 40 years have you ever been unfaithful to me?" Beth replied, "well Charles, I have to be honest with you. Yes, I have been unfaithful to you three times during these 40 years, but always for a good reason" Charles was obviously hurt by his wife's confession, but said I never suspected. Can you tell me what you mean by " good reasons ". Beth said, the very first time was shortly after we were married, and we were about to lose our little house because we couldn't pay the mortgage. Do you remember that one evening I went to see the Bank Manager and the next day he notified you that the loan had been extended. Charles recalled the visit to the Banker and said "I can forgive you for that" Charles then said what about the second time? "Well do you remember when you were so sick and we didn't have the money to pay for the heart surgery, I went to the Doctor, and if you recall, he did the surgery at no charge". "I recall that" says Chuck and you did it to save my life, so of course I can forgive you for that. Now tell me about the third time." All right ", Beth said. So do you remember when you ran for President of your Bowls Club and you needed 49 more votes.

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