



Established 1958

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Rye BOWls Club

Unbiased Opinion

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Welcome to the seventh edition of the
RBC newsletter



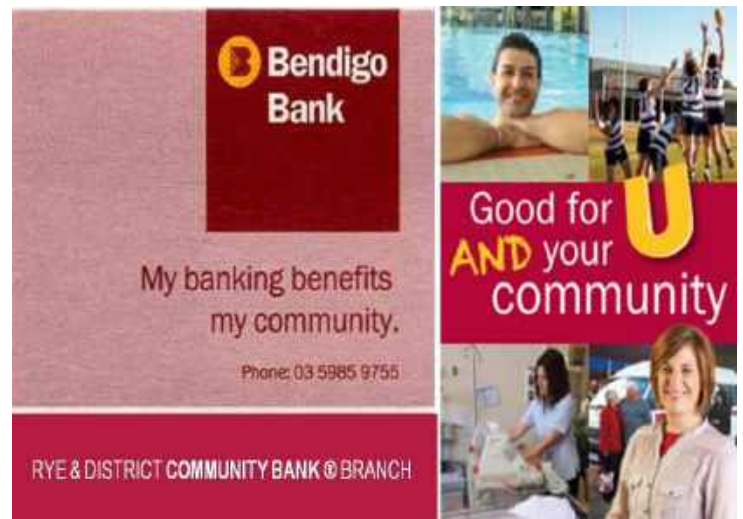
"Editor's Notes"

I hope this edition finds everyone well and coping with these exceedingly difficult times. By the time this is received by you the end will be in sight and we hopefully, can look forward to getting back on the greens in whatever format is available to us. Planning for the coming season is very much up in the air, but rest assured the Match Committee will do everything possible to get you back onto the green as soon as possible. In the meantime, stay safe and mentally rehearse those amazing shots that you know you are capable of.

RYE RSL CLUB



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"President's Report"

Greetings all, Both Denise and I hope that everyone is dealing well with the current restrictions on movement and activity and that you all can get back on the green as soon as possible.

It is with a somewhat heavy heart that we will be leaving Rye on or about 10 Nov 2020 for hopefully warmer pastures. Yes, we have sold the house and plan to downsize in the Echuca / Moama area.

We take this opportunity to thank all Club members for your trust, support, and wonderful camaraderie during our involvement with the club, and pass on our very best wishes to all for the future.

I would expect a BIG party to take place once we have gone.

"Secretary's Report"

Bowls Activities

During May and June, thanks to the efforts of our Match Committee, a series of highly successful matches were able to be held.

We look forward to a resumption of activities in September.

Annual General Meeting and Presentation Night

Despite two attempts, due to restrictions on gatherings, the AGM and Presentation Night has had to be postponed.

The 2019/2020 Annual Report, including the audited Financial Report, has been prepared and was distributed to all members in early May.

An AGM will be convened as soon as current restrictions on large meetings are relaxed.

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Greens and Surrounds

We have been able to keep John Collery fully employed throughout the restriction periods (with the assistance of Jobkeeper allowances and a Permitted Worker Permit) and the greens and surrounds are in great condition. We eagerly await to be back on the greens as soon as possible.

The Board has commenced an investigation into the potential of installing a synthetic green at the Club. We have received a quotation from Berry Bowling Systems and have appointed Equipment Solutions Plus to source available grants in order to fund at least 50% of the overall installation cost. A feasibility study is being concurrently prepared, and members will be informed as more details develop.

Business Plan

The Business Plan, which was prepared in 2018, is being reviewed and updated to focus on the Club's strategic direction for the next 3 years.

The objective of the Business Plan is to document the objectives and measure the success of the strategic direction.

Bowls Victoria and Mornington Peninsula Bowls Region News

MPB, despite being impacted by current restrictions, have developed some possible scenarios for the coming season in terms of Pre-Pennant events, Pennant calendar, Pennant format and State events.

The possible scenarios for Pennant are:

Scenario 1 - Saturday Pennant start on 31 October 2020 and Midweek Pennant start on 4 November 2020 as currently scheduled.

Scenario 2 - Saturday Pennant start on or close to 5 December 2020 and Midweek Pennant start on or close to 8 Dec 2020 and complete 14 rounds.

Scenario 3 - Saturday Pennant start on 9 Jan 2021 and Midweek Pennant start on 12 Jan 2021 and complete 14 rounds with the finals in early May.

Scenario 4 - if we get a severely interrupted season, that a seven (7) round competition plus finals be played.

Although all scenarios may be very premature depending on what future Government restrictions will comprise, the emphasis on clubs and bowlers will be flexibility in how and when we play our games.

Bowls Victoria have cancelled the 2020 Victorian Open.

"What's been happening"

Garden/Maintenance

In the off season, as far as lockdowns permitted, our terrific maintenance/gardening team were busy with many improvements to our club facilities and surrounds. The major work achieved was the installation of new shelters which match existing designs, thus enhancing the overall appearance of the club. The window frames of the club were all repainted, the benches at the Western side of the green refurbished and the top of the bore made safe. Of course, the garden is an ongoing task and should look fabulous come Spring. Many thanks to Peter Cuttriss and his team. Any member interested in helping with the team should contact Peter.

Covid-19 Cup

In between lockdowns we were able to conduct extremely limited bowling activities which saw the advent of the COVID cup. The competition was very well attended with most sessions enjoying the maximum attendance permitted. After 5 weeks of intense competition, our Secretary David Jones was named the well-deserved winner, although many said that his success was achieved by attending the most days. The trophy is displayed below although the cup itself is partially hidden under the seat. Well Done David! Another one for the cabinet?



Membership

A 'Membership Promotion Committee' has been formed to determine how best prepare for the future of the club in terms of gaining new membership and meeting the needs of existing members. It has been decided that rather than sitting back and waiting for prospective members to approach us, we need to



be more proactive and 'sell' the club to the community. This may mean holding 'open days', engaging with other local clubs and groups, or even hosting Community days. There are many ideas on the table to be examined, and the club seeks ideas and thoughts as to how the aim might be achieved. The aspect of retention of current members is also a topic of discussion, and the committee also requests your input as to the ways members needs might be met.

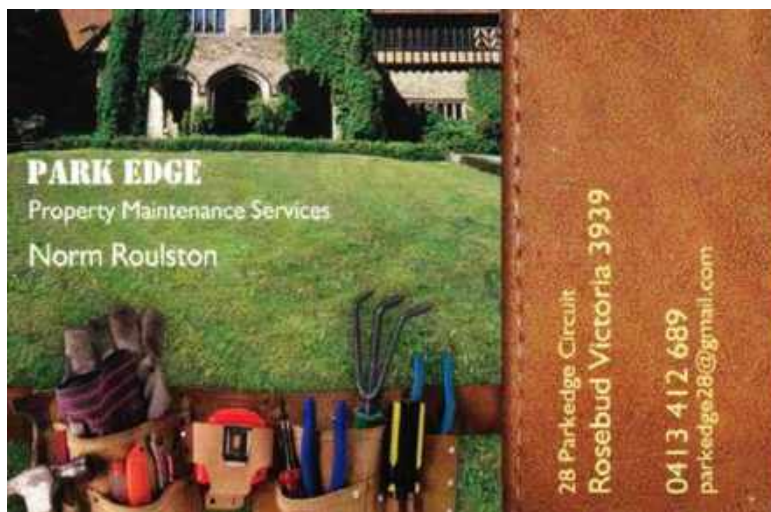
Survey

A survey is being prepared and will be forwarded to all Club members in the near future. The ultimate aim of the survey is to develop a strategy to attract new members. This will be an excellent opportunity for you to input positive and constructive ideas.



Sad News

We have received notice that Lorraine McLeod, a past Club member for several years, passed away on 28th July 2020. Lorraine's son, Greg, advises that Lorraine and her husband Don, both enjoyed their days with the Club, made many good friends and enjoyed the teamwork, the sport, the camaraderie, and the social activities. Apparently, Lorraine would often say, "I love my bowls".



Coaching

The Board is presently negotiating the appointment of a professional coach for the Club. A preferred candidate has been interviewed.

The candidate is very keen to accept the position and the Board is very keen to appoint him. Finalisation of an agreement is anticipated once the impact of COVID19 restrictions on the 2020/2021 Pennant season are known. It is intended he will be a "Playing Coach", be included on the Pennant Selection Committee and conduct training for all Pennant players during the week. Further information will be made available as it comes to hand.



"DO YOU KNOW"

Were he still alive, the World's most famous bowler, Sir Francis Drake, would be 480 years old this year. The English consider him a hero, the Spanish say he was a pirate, and considering he died with an accumulated wealth of US\$136 million in today's terms at age 56, it appears that the Spanish just may have been right. Certainly, there are some members at Rye who do their best to emulate him in terms of villainy.

Our "Know your Member" segment is missing for this issue as our trusty reporter, kel, is taking a break during stage 4 Covid restrictions. See you for the next edition kel.

"Have a Laugh"

A MONK'S LIFE

A young monk arrives at the monastery. He is assigned to helping the other monks in copying the old canons and laws of the church by hand. He notices, however, that all of the monks are copying from copies, not from the original manuscript.

So, the new monk goes to the Old Abbot to question this, pointing out that if someone made even a small error in the first copy, it would never be picked up! In fact, that error would be continued in all the subsequent copies. The head monk, says, "We have been copying from the copies for centuries, but you make a good point, my son."

He goes down into the dark caves underneath the monastery where the original manuscripts are held as archives in a locked vault that hasn't been opened for hundreds of years. Hours go by and nobody sees the Old Abbot.

So, the young monk gets worried and goes down to look for him. He sees him banging his head against the wall and wailing.

"We missed the 'R'! We missed the 'R'! We missed the 'R'!"

His forehead is all bloody and bruised and he is crying uncontrollably.

The young monk asks the old abbot, "What's wrong, father?"

With a choking voice, the old Abbot replies, "The word was... **CELEBRATE!**"



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