



Herd on the Green

Issue: DECEMBER 2019

Tweets from the President

PARALLEL UNIVERSE

Many of you might remember the Twilight Zone which was Rod Sterling's iconic TV series set in strange places with even stranger happenings. After 3+ months as President I see our Club in a somewhat similar vein.

We have a Bowling Club with its bowlers and we offer a range of social activities which are designed to generate income for the Club and provide a social amenity for both our Bowling and Social Club members. The Club has recently cracked the 200 member level (up from about 150 six months ago which is very positive). However, we are a mere shell of what we used to be. I recently viewed some old Club trading figures from 2009 – Bar Turnover \$593,000 compare that to 2019 – Bar Turnover \$204,000.

I know that most members joined the Club to bowl (exactly as I did) but we need your support on a wider front. We encourage you to do this by attending Club night on a Friday and bringing your family and friends, attending a function, buying a raffle ticket at Bowls, buying some Club offered wine specials, volunteering to assist groups booked in for barefoot bowls – it all helps. **Remember, if we don't use and support the Club, we will lose it.** Please help in any way you can and our grateful thanks go to those who are doing just that. Together we will grow.

John O'Brien, Club President

COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The recent Council Elections have seen a change of guard with George Gear elected as Mayor and a number of new Councillors for the City of Melville. The Club immediately wrote to all Councillors and the Mayor wishing them well and looking forward to working with them to **secure the Club's future.**

As a result a meeting with two of the Councillors (Ms. Sandford and Mair) and representatives of the Tingara Netball Club was held at which a range of issues were discussed. Subject to future negotiations, etc the Netball Club and Councillors are broadly supportive of a plan which could see the 450 member Netball Club relocating to our site. **being in conjunction with the Club's** facilities being upgraded to accommodate the extra numbers and installation of synthetic greens and covers. Along with these steps, the Club has said that any loan balance must be written off and a new long term lease negotiated.

The Councillors have also offered the services of someone who can assist the Club in preparing a formal Business Plan.

It's early days, but we are on the way.

Hope to see you at the Club soon!



Much more than a bowling club. The best and friendliest place to be south of the river.

Championship Events

Congratulations to all winners of our recent Championship events.
Well done on your achievement.



Mixed Fours Champions

(played 27/10 & 3/11):

- John Bryant,
- Margaret Kermode,
- Pat Gilbert and
- Arthur Peters



Men's Triples Champions

(played 17/11):

- Kevin Swan,
- Geoff Thorn and
- Barry Ellis



Men's Fours Champions

(played 1/12):

- Geoff Thorn,
- Bob McDonald,
- Barry Ellis and
- Kevin Swan



From the Raffle Guys

Unfortunately our raffles have suffered a little, due to myself and Ian often being away on the same days (Pennants) but thanks to your support - we are getting there. Up to now we have raised \$2450 which has gone into the Club's coffers.

Next a couple of **thank YOU's**. First to Ron Jeffrey for the donation of a bottle of Johnnie Walker black label whiskey, which has been given to Mark Lee to add to the Christmas raffle. Plus thanks to Peter Purves' good lady Helen, for creating this newsletter, where members are informed as to what is happening in our club. **And lastly, we wish you all a Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you in the New Year**, when we hope to coax some coin and notes from your wallets.



All the best, Gerry & Ian

Ladies President Report

Our ladies although small in number, once again have put their shoulders to the wheel for our club. On Monday, December 2nd, **six ladies catered for the Banker's Christmas lunch.** Thirty seven members enjoyed the festive air with holly and Christmas crackers provided by Harold Arnold. All diners still young at heart donned paper hats and shared the jokes. Oysters and prawns were followed by the main meal and dessert. Harold as usual had kept a detailed record of who had played how many games over the last year. George Nankiville and Ursula Byatt were the winners, each having played 71 games.

After washing up what seemed like thousands of dishes, the ladies then turned their attention to preparing for the next event three days later, being The Mt Pleasant Ladies Gala Day with 112 bowlers from other clubs. Unfortunately as the forecast temperature was to be 41 degrees, with Duty of Care in mind, the day had to be cancelled. As usual, the ladies had put in a lot of work behind the scenes planning various stalls and raffles which are always well patronised. They will now be raffled for Christmas at the club. A variety of salads would have been produced by the ladies to accompany the ham sliced to perfection by Gerry Naylor. No doubt these planned salads will be enjoyed in various homes instead!

Jana Fuller, Ladies Bowls President

Pennant season Break Bowls

Come and enjoy a game of bowls, after pennant season finishes on 14th December and recommences again on 9th January 2020.

POP STICK / 2 BOWL TRIPLES / ANY GENDER - \$10 ENTRY FEE

- ⇒ Tuesday 17th December - 12.30pm for 1.00pm start.
- ⇒ Thursday 19th December - 12.30pm for 1.00pm start.
- ⇒ Saturday 21st December - 12.30pm for 1.00pm start.

GREAT PRIZES

1ST , 2ND & 3RD Beer and wine prizes

**** Plus ****

A DOOR PRIZE OF \$50 CASH TO A LUCKY BOWLER EACH DAY.

Christmas Comes Early

"An 8 Badge to Remember"

A visiting 5th Division team thought all of its Christmas' had come at once during a recent match.

It's the first end, tensions are high, you could cut the air with a knife and away they go!

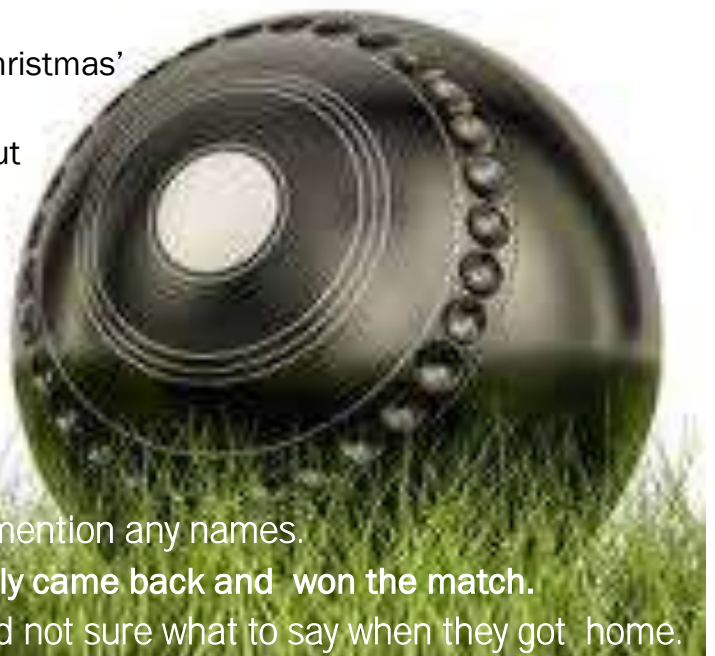
Was it the wind, the speed of the green, past ghosts of the Club??

Wait for it, at the completion of the first end **our boys had 7 in the ditch & 1 out of bounds...**
8 non counters!! Surely a record!!!

I promised not to mention any names.

But to be fair Peter's team actually came back and won the match.

The opposition left shaking their heads and not sure what to say when they got home.



Melbourne Cup Lunch



What a success! Over 80 people (about 10-15 bowlers) attended.

The day, at an admission price of \$25 per person, owed a lot to the following people:

- Mark Lee, Gerry Naylor and Lesley Davies did a first class job with the food.
- Jill and Hedley Bond put together an imaginative Club Melbourne Cup Race which was won by a horse ridden by Arthur Peters and team. Jill with her erstwhile assistant Hedley are to be congratulated.
- Barry Ellis (the Club's resident bookie) had a winning day and left the punters lamenting.



There were many other helpers.

Thank you all for contributing and helping us make nearly \$3,500.

Friday Night Community Bowls



Mt Pleasant Bowling Club has introduced Community Bowls on Friday nights.

Bowling on a warm summer evening is perfect and is a lot of fun too.

We would like to welcome everyone to come and play. **The entry fee is just \$5.**

You can come down solo, with a friend or as a group. You can just do your own thing or if you want to be in a competition we will make up teams. If entering the competition then be at the Club by 5.45 p.m. to sign up and get your bowls.

Competition games start at 6.15 p.m. and a helping hand is provided. Wear bowling shoes or play in socks or bare feet. We will play 10 ends with a 2 end play off to determine the winners if needed. Club meals are available and the beer and bubbles are cold.

We bowl each Friday night during the summer months.

Come along weekly or whenever you can.

From the Secretary

Welcome to our newest Members:

Full

- Peter Munday

1st Year

- John Godley
- Bruce McMahon
- Cheryl Smith
- Roman (Romano) Wojcik

Social

- Geoff Cleeman
- Tracey Cleeman
- Gaynor Hollins
- Katherine Huck
- Zoe Laupard
- Ian Menzies
- Barbara Paterson
- Roy Paterson
- Evelyn Readhead
- Elizabeth Robinson
- Dawn Sanderson
- Heath Schmidt
- John Sendziuk
- Andrian Sutanto
- Craig Wearne
- Hanne Wearne
- Tim Wisewould

Thank you for joining and we look forward to seeing you at the Club!

KITTY AND JACK

My husband took up bowling
And he bragged upon the phone
About some dame called Kitty
Whom he couldn't leave alone

He played with Kitty
He stayed with Kitty
He picked her up without a hitch
He missed Kitty
He kissed Kitty
He even laid beside her in the ditch

So I took up bowling
To win my hubby back
And found that what he could do with Kitty
I could do with Jack



"BEFORE WE START LET'S GET THINGS STRAIGHT —
AS MY LEAD YOU KNOW NOTHING, AND YOU SAY NOTHING!"

Mens' Bowls Report

We have now completed 6 rounds which is a third of this year's pennant season. We are not travelling very well on Saturdays, but our Thursday teams are doing quite well with our 4th Division White side 3rd on the ladder, only 2.5 points away from top spot at the time of writing.

We are looking at several initiatives to try to lift our positions on the ladder.

The first one is we are looking at holding a coaching session for thirds and skippers and we are fortunate to have the services of former State Coach Brian Jeppersen, who will run this session on the roles of the thirds and skippers and some training on how to read and call the head. This session will be by invitation and limited to 6 up and coming players.

The second initiative is to look at holding a single practice session to reinforce each role in the team and the importance of playing the team game.

Watch this space !!!

Tony Gooch and I have met with Jeff Hall (Greenkeeper) and we will be able to use A green for the season. It will be taken out of action over the Christmas break. It will be fertilised and left to grow, **before being brought back into action after the break. This "spell" should enable us to get through to the end of the season.**

We have some new bowlers who have joined the Club and have put their hands up to play pennants. These include Peter Purves, Greg Samson, Howard MacCallum, Reg Lowe (and his wife Sue) and Bruce McMahon. Please make an effort to introduce yourself to these new members as we pride ourselves on being the friendliest Club south of the (Fitzroy) river. !!

Just a reminder to put names in the book if you are unavailable or travelling direct (plus your \$10), to the venue.

Thank you to those who have been doing the above as it makes the **selectors and manager's jobs much easier.**



Merry Xmas and Happy New Year.
Arthur Peters, President Bowls

Consistency is what we are striving for with our Bowls.....or should be !!!!

If you are having difficulty you could try these suggestions;

- Blame your Bowls.
- Blame the greenkeeper.
- Blame the wind.
- Blame your team mates.
- **OR SEEK COACHING.**

Plastic Cups

Members, please be aware that the supply of plastic cups at the water fountains will be discontinued after the end of the calendar year. We will use current supplies but once exhausted we will not be ordering any more. We encourage the use of personal water bottles or containers.

XMAS DINNER & WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS NIGHT

Xmas dinner was held on Friday December 6 with a special invitation to attend going out to our new Members to say hello and welcome them.

Lots of members attended both old and new and we hope that it saw the beginning of new friendships, some good conversation and a sense of belonging to our bowling Club family.

Thank you to the wonderful people who helped make the evening so special. John Logan who entertained us with Xmas carols. Mark & Judy Lee, Armando Paterniti and Terry Ridley who produced a delicious Xmas meal. We are enormously thankful of your efforts.

We wish all members of the Club and your families a very Happy Xmas and all the best for the New Year ahead!



Bar Trading Hours

Monday	3pm to 6.30 pm
Tuesday	3pm to 6.30pm
Wednesday	3pm to 6.30pm
Thursday	3pm to as required
Friday	3pm to as required
Saturday	3pm to as required
Sunday*	Closed
	*12.30 if bowls scheduled

Christmas New Year Hours

Wed 25 th Dec	closed
Thur 26 th Dec	closed
Fri 27 th Dec	3 p.m. to as required
Sat 28 th Dec	closed
Sun 29 th Dec	closed
Mon 30 th Dec	closed
Tuey 31 st Dec	closed
Wed 1 st Jan	closed

Looking for a venue?

Please contact our Bar Supervisor, Ellie Graham, to quote for your next celebration or special event. As a member you may consider having a family gathering, get together with a group of friends or a work function at your club.

B a r e f o o t B o w l i n g
\$10 per person for a 2 hour session.
Great fun and all equipment is provided.
Just ask for more information at the bar!

First FRIDAY each month **The Dinner Club**

Due to the New Year the
Next Friday dinner is
Fri, 10th January

Happy New Year

DELICIOUS HOME COOKED MEALS and very well priced.

Bring your friends and family.

Booking is preferred and it would guarantee you a meal

.....**just in case we run out!**

It also helps with costs, catering and avoiding wastage.

Book: by email - secretary@mtpbc.org.au; by phone 9364 4662

or by putting your name down @ the kitchen door.

A man was walking down the street when he was approached by a particularly dirty and shabby-looking homeless man who asked him for a couple of dollars for dinner.

The man opened his wallet, took out ten dollars and said, "If I give you this money, will you buy some beer with it instead of dinner?"

"No, I had to stop drinking years ago," the homeless man replied.

"Will you spend this on nomination fees at a bowling club instead of food?" the man asked.

"Are you NUTS!" replied the homeless man. "I haven't played lawn bowls in 10 years!"

"Well," said the man, "I'm not going to give you the money. Instead, I'm going to take you home for a hot shower and a terrific dinner cooked by my wife."

The homeless man was astounded. "Won't your wife be furious with you for don't that?"

The man replied. "That's okay. It's important for her to see what a guy looks like after he's given up drinking and bowls."

Mt. Pleasant Bowling Club Inc.

TRADING COMPARISON

4 months

From 1 July 2019 to 31 October 2019

	\$2019	\$2018
BAR SALES	69,540	68,229
<u>Less</u> Cost of Sales	(33,515)	(37,350)
Gross Profit %	36,025 (51.8%)	30,879 (45.2%)
<u>Less</u> Bar Wages/Super	(26,577) (38.2%)	(36,916) (54.1%)
	9,448	(6,037)
<u>Less</u> Other Bar Expenses	(1,241)	(393)
BAR PROFIT/ (LOSS)	8,207	(6,430)
OTHER INCOME		
Green Fees	10,922	8,316
Subscriptions	10,801	8,315
Raffles / Special Events	11,821	7,922
Hall & Kitchen Hire	5,658	1,624
All other Income	<u>5,545</u>	<u>4,639</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>52,954</u>	<u>24,386</u>
LESS EXPENDITURE		
Administration	13,268	11,161
Building Maintenance	13,206	12,173
Greens Maintenance	22,039	20,552
All Other Expenses	<u>9,948</u>	<u>5,002</u>
	(58,461)	(48,888)
OPERATING LOSS	(5,507)	(24,502)
CITY OF MELVILLE – SUPPORT	21,154	-
SURPLUS AFTER SUPPORT	15,647	(24,502)

Comments:

Bar result has improved immeasurably.

Profit margin up, labour costs well down.

The bar cost us \$6,430 last year, this year it made \$8,207.