

## NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2014

### Presidents update

Finally, it is spring and all we need now is the weather to go with it. Even though it has been a fairly wet winter, our trusted and true volunteer base have achieved a lot over the winter period and the following is an update as to completions and work in progress.

- Cladding to the roofs and backs of the six shelters at the far end of both greens has now been fully completed – Robbie's boss (Sid) came and helped with the roofing which was greatly appreciated.
- Another bag of shredded tyre chips has been purchased and has been used to "top up" the ditch surrounds.
- A meeting has been held with Corrections Department and we now have the weekend services of a community services person with 127 hours to serve – Pat Bourke has drawn up a list of duties and it is already under way and already he has washed the exterior of the clubrooms and cleaned all the windows, inside and out. One of the departmental conditions that we have to observe is that this person requires supervision whilst working at the club – this is not an onerous task, just one of time. If you are able to assist for a few hours please let Pat know and he will arrange a mutual date and time.
- I am pleased to advise that after many hours of work by various club members the new season's diary has now been printed and is ready for distribution. Traditionally, it is provided with your membership card after payment of the annual subscription.
- The halyards on the flagpole have been replaced which necessitated the lowering and re-raising of the pole. Whilst down, it was repainted – many thanks to all who helped. It would have made a great photo lifting the pole back up as it could have reminded one of "Iwa Jima" at Guadalcanal.
- Eric Moses has also completely re-stained both decks of the clubhouse

Whilst there will always be items requiring attention, all in all, the team have done a great job in having everything looking good for the start of the new season. Since my last newsletter we have held another successful Housie evening (called by Ian) and even though there was inclement weather which affected attendance it was a great evening none the less. Barbara Bowyer and Ros Benton are in the process of planning a fashion parade which is scheduled to take place towards the end of October – don't be surprised if you are approached for a modelling role!

Our 30<sup>th</sup> (Pearl) anniversary dinner was held last Friday evening and was a resounding success in terms of attendance (close to 100) plus goodwill and fellowship. The decision to take the pressure off club members by utilising outside caterers proved to be a sound decision. Pickles Catering provided an excellent menu and service. Two of our key sponsors (Heartland Bank and Harcourt Coopers) also attended and entertainment

from the Barbershop quartet topped off the event. The raffles generated in excess of \$550 for the club.

Opening day was marred due to the vagaries of the weather – the forecast for Saturday was for severe wind and rain and prudence prevailed with cancellation and transferring the opening to Sunday ( the sun shone and the wind dropped during Saturday afternoon but how can you know ???). Sunday proved to be similar with no bowls. Instead, we met at 2.30 pm at the club on Sunday afternoon (in whites) and enjoyed an excellent afternoon tea and good fellowship.

With the new season underway, things are now picking up and starting to happen so please refer to your bowling diary and the tournament sheets (around the corner by the bowls polisher).

- Don Niven, who is also the Bowls North Harbour Coaching Convenor has been successful in introducing the Rosmini collegiate bowlers to our Club and will be convening their first session at the club on Monday, 22 September.
- Roll ups begin – 1.00 pm Tuesday, 23 September (Mufti)
- Jackpot Pairs – Saturday, 27 September
- Coaching commences on Monday, 29 September at 2.30 pm – please talk to Barbara Davis for additional information and assistance.

In conclusion, everything is looking positive for a successful season – our team of volunteers (and we need more) have the greens and surrounds looking pristine. The Match Committee have the programmes well set out and have done a great job in talking with neighbouring clubs in order to avoid conflict with open tournaments and as members we have an obligation to support both our own club and our neighbours at these tournaments – it can only be to the benefit of all concerned!

I have already mentioned in my Presidents message in the diary that we have 36 junior members and it is so important as a club that we provide the proper infrastructure to support the development of these as well as new members in every way possible.

Have a great season and good bowling.

Trevor Duffy

President