



Club Newsletter

February 2023

Gwen Gould has been nominated for
The Lake Macquarie Senior of the Year and
Volunteer of the Year.

Read her story in this newsletter.



President Rob's Message

Happy New Year to all our Members and Patrons, we are all looking forward to a successful 2023.

At our Board Meeting in January the Board decided to allow the wearing of hats in the Club. Sleeveless shirts in the basketball style are also allowed to be worn provided they are clean and presentable. The wearing of work singlets is not permitted. Arrangements are currently being made to reflect the new dress rules on signage in the Club.

Tuesday 14 February is Valentine's Day and the Club is hosting a romantic 3 course dinner in the front veranda area of the Club at \$70.00 per head with a glass of bubbles included. Full details including the menu are on the Clubs Facebook Page. Book at the Bar and bring your Valentine to Valentine's Day at Valentine BC and score some brownie points.

On 24 February the Board will be meeting to review and update our Strategic Plan. Due to Covid and the associated reduction in available funds during this period the Club has not made significant inroads into our current plan. I'm sure members have ideas of what could be included in

our new revised plan and the Board would appreciate hearing your ideas. Please speak to our CEO or a Board Member prior to the workshop about ideas you may have that can be considered for inclusion in the plan.

I'd again like to thank the staff for their amazing efforts in continuing to provide a high level of service to members. We are always, though, on the lookout for more similarly committed staff in what is a difficult labour market. If you are aware of anyone seeking employment in hospitality please encourage them to contact management at the Club. Also thanks to the members who heeded my call to arms to return their empty glasses to the Bar to allow staff in busy times to spend their time serving drinks as opposed to collecting glasses, Your efforts are most appreciated.

Finally, congratulations and best wishes to immediate past President Ted Elks and Jenny who celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in January. Jenny must be a patient, compassionate and understanding lady.

Rob Gray, President.

Lakers Low-Down

Happy New Year everyone.

Welcome to the club's new members and bowlers in recent months – David Brown, Jared Holloway, Terry Dowsett, Barry Wark, Steve des Forges, David Bourke, Ode Gold and Eileen Blackmore. I trust you are all enjoying the bowls and friendship this great club offers.

Open Gender Pennants and the Club Challenge competition are about to start at the end of February. Team selections and trials are ongoing.

The **Mixed Fours** final was played in November 2022. The finalists Cheryn Derrick, Gary Morgan, Glenda Morgan and John Derrick were narrowly defeated by Noelene Wilson, Kel Wilson, Wendy Lesniak and Craig Godbee 23-22.

Handicap Pairs honors went to Ross Morris and John Roberts (+24) who defeated the fancied duo of John Bullock and Mark King (+19). Ross and John won the match 24-19.

Mixed Pairs final was also completed with Barbara Bell and Bob Hathaway defeated by Jenny Baldwin and Andrew Hanlon 21-12.

Veteran Pairs final was played during November. Bruce Boyle and Peter

Steel defeated Bill Lyon and Eric Roach in a close one 17-14

2022-23 Men's Minor Singles Championship has also been completed. In the final, Andrew Hanlon proved too strong for Kel Wilson in a competitive match 25-15.

Zone Fours and Singles will be played during March and April 2023. The Senior Singles rounds will be played here at Valentine. Entries are still open until 17th February.

The Zone Minor Singles draw is also out. We'll be represented by Andrew Hanlon, Kel Wilson and Col Screen. Matches commence on 12th February 2023.

Zone under 25's Singles is also drawn. Andrew Hanlon will be representing the club at Beresfield on Friday 10th February 2023.

Wishing everyone the best of luck and bowling ahead.

Don't forget to follow our Facebook page "Valentine Men's Bowlers"

See you out on the green.

Peter Lynn

Bowls Coordinator

Women's Bowls News

Valentine Ladies finished the year in style at our Christmas Party in December. Our wonderful catering and social committees worked hard to make the day a success. Judy Percival once again wove her magic in the room, and the result was amazing.

The LMDWBA Open 4s was won by the Valentine team of Trixie Stauble, Alina Miklosi, Wendy Morrin and Maggie Johnston. This was Trixie's first competition with Valentine, as she recently transferred to our club from Boolaroo. Congratulations ladies on your outstanding effort.

The final of the LMDWBA Seniors and Open Singles will be held at Valentine on Friday 10th February, and we hope to have some supporters from our club on the day.



Our library cupboard which is near our snooker table is available for all our members to enjoy, so please continue to make use of this great facility.

Valentine farewelled Life Member Betty Searant who passed away in December. Betty was a former President, Vice President and coach, and she held many other positions on our committee. She will be missed by everyone at Valentine.

Congratulations to Jenny Baldwin and Andrew Hanlon who defeated Barbara Bell and Bob Hathaway in the Club Championship Mixed Pairs final. They all played very well in sweltering heat.

Gwen Gould has been nominated for the Lake Macquarie Senior of the Year, and Lake Macquarie Volunteer of the Year. Gwen has worked tirelessly for our club, and is always there to support other members. Good luck Gwen. Valentine is cheering for you.

Donna Owen

Valentine Lions Club News

Valentine Lions Report

Will someone put the brakes on this year its already the end on January, feels like yesterday I was watching the 9.00 fireworks in Sydney on the TV. Didn't make the 12.00 need the beauty sleep.

Our social get together in the park got rained out but our dinner meeting was a great success. Thanks to Marg Turner for saving the night with her quiz which had everyone enthralled.

Australia Day what a success lots of locals at Allambie Park with a sea of Blue shirts. Managed to give away the lamingtons and lots of snag sandwiches. The thong throwing competition was a great success which I hope will continue into the future. A big thanks to Mike for playing the tunes and the microphone. Good to see members of the club that we don't often see, the 2 Bruce's especially.

We catered at the Lake Macquarie Festival cooking Bacon and Egg

sandwiches. Great exposure for our club with a few membership enquiries. Lots of laughs and red faces over the heat of the BBQ. All stall holders ran out of food. LMCC catered for 1000 people and with people coming back for seconds and thirds it didn't take long to run out of food. In hindsight was a good thing as it was just too hot. We donated the left over drinks to The Valentine Heated Pool as a we have no other BBQs booked for the year so far. The cans of soft drinks go off in the shed due to the heat. The pool were very appreciative of the donation.

What's ahead? Social dinner on Wednesday at Ocean City at Belmont 6 for 6.30,. Our dinner meeting at VBC on the 18th is also our nominations night. Anzac Day planning is well under way and the committee has met already and the grant for the day has been approved.

Pres Pete

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Gwen Gould

Nominee Lake Macquarie Community Awards 2023

For over 60 years Gwen has been an enthusiastic and energetic volunteer in the Lake Macquarie District. She has contributed to a vast array of Community Organisations involving the young, aged and residents with Disability. As a mother of two girls she has sought to develop and empower women of all ages. Her latter and current years have been as an administrator of the Valentine Women's Bowling Club. She has been given Life Membership of this organisation as well as Life Membership of Lakeside Netball. For her efforts she has been recognised on a local, Regional and State level. A true icon of the Lake Macquarie District.

During her 2 daughters School years (1962-1970) Gwen was a member of the School Mothers Club and Volunteered on the School canteen. In 1964 she joined Lakeside Netball Association and coached Junior, Cadet and Senior Club representative sides. She was a registered badged Umpire for all

Grades and Representative fixtures.

In 1975 she was awarded Life Membership for Lakeside Netball after holding several Administrative positions on the Executive Committee.

She served on the Swansea Belmont Swimming Club Committee assisting in programming club and Carnival events.

Gwen held the position of Publicity Officer for 6 years with Belmont Lantern Club (a sub-committee of the Royal NSW Institute for Deaf and Blind Children) and included assisting in organising the syllabus and programming the Lake Macquarie Dancing Eisteddfod held annually.

In 1996 she joined the Valentine Bowling Club where she held positions on the Social/Catering Committee (3 years) and Match and Selection, Secretary for of the VWBC for 12 years and President for 3 years. Gwen was Vice President and delegate to the LMDWBA for 2 years. She also was an accredited Umpire for 6 yrs.

Gwen Gould continued . . .

**She was awarded Life Membership to the VWBC in 2013 **.

In 2014 she was awarded a BowlsNSW merit pin for Service to Bowls.

Her latest involvement was the organisation of the Flag Unfurling for Valentine Blue Grade, winners of the LMDWBA Grade 2 Pennants in November 2022.

Gwen has served to make life better for children by funding Educational resources in Public Schools. She has contributed to the health and well-being of young athletes - both swimming and Netball- and supported those with Hearing and Sight Disabilities. By organising Eisteddfods she has ena-

bled young dancers to follow their dreams.

Gwen has contributed to a sport which encourages the older generation to enjoy a healthy and sociable lifestyle. Our Bowling community looks up to her for guidance and mentoring .

Over 60 years of volunteering there have been 3 generations of people who have benefitted from her work in the Lake Macquarie District.

Gwen has been nominated for The Lake Macquarie Senior of the Year and Volunteer of the Year. Awards will be announced in March 2023



Email your buy, sell, swap, recipe, joke or other information for the next Newsletter to:

barbara.bell1@optusnet.com.au

Snooker Club News



Happy 2023 to all of our Snooker Club Members.

Our Barefoot Bowls Day held last month was a great success and thank you to everyone who attended. Thank you also to our members who helped out on the day, organising and running the games and the cooks for the barbecue. Hopefully we can have another Barefoot Bowls Day in the not too distant future.

We will be holding our Annual General Meeting on Sunday 19th March, 2023, which will be followed by a barbecue lunch. Membership fees (still \$10) will be due and payable by the end March and can be paid at the AGM. I will be sending out an email later in the

month with a copy of the Agenda for the AGM. In the meantime, if anyone would like to nominate for an officer or committee position, please contact me.

Just a reminder that Membership Cards must be presented to obtain the snooker balls if you wish to play. Anyone playing snooker must be accompanied by a Snooker Club member. If you are a recent new member, your membership card is being held behind the bar, so please ask the bar staff for it, and present your Valentine Bowling Club Membership Card to retrieve it.

Helen Hickey
Secretary.

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- You can put cash onto your membership card and use it like a Debit card at the bar and bistro. This saves time at the bar, and also saves getting a pocket full of coins. And you ensure you get the membership discount on your purchases too!



Weekly Activities At Valentine Bowling Club

Monday : Happy Hour 5:00pm til 6:00 pm

Tuesday : **Ladies Gala 9:30 am Mufti**

Trivia on Tuesday evenings, starting at 6:30 pm. Come and join the fun.

Wednesday : **Men's Gala Mufti 9:30 am start and 1:00 pm start.**

Men's raffle 1pm

Happy Hour 5:00 pm til 6:00 pm.

Texas Holdem Poker. Register at 6:00 pm and games start at 6:30 pm.

Snooker Club Raffle sales from 6:00 pm drawn at 7:00 pm

Courtesy Bus runs 3:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Thursday : **Ladies Gala 9:30 am Mufti**

Texas Holdem Poker. Register at 6:00 pm and games start at 6:30 pm.

5:00 pm Twilight Bowls - mixed, mufti, during daylight saving.

Valentine Lions Club raffle tickets on sale 5:30 pm. Drawn at 7:00 pm.

Friday : **Men's Gala. Mufti. 9:30 am Men's raffle 1 pm**

Texas Holdem Poker. Register at 6:00 pm and games start at 6:30 pm.

Raffle tickets for our Social Golf and Fishing Clubs on alternate Fridays go on sale from 6:00 pm.

Membership draw is between 6:30 pm and 7:30 pm

Courtesy Bus runs 4:00 pm to 9:30 pm

Saturday : **Men's Gala 1:00 pm start. Uniform Men's raffle 5pm**

Texas Holdem Poker. Register at 6:00 pm and games start at 6:30 pm

Sunday : Meat raffle tickets on sale from 5:00 pm drawn at 6:00 pm

Membership draw is after the raffle

Courtesy Bus runs 3:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Our Courtesy Bus phone number is 0423 456 225

Club Phone No. : 4946 7232

Club website : valentinebc.com.au

Find us on Facebook