



VWBC newest Life Member Joyce Sullivan with our Welfare Officer Lyn Taylor

President Rob's Message

Happy New Year everyone.

We're starting the New Year with some new events involving families. Our Family Fun Day on 28 January is just the start of a celebration year celebrating 60 years since we opened our Clubhouse. This day is a way of giving back to the community that have supported us over that time. Also on the 13 April 2024 we will be running a Kid's Movie Night on the Green. In between times we have Valentines Day activities, barefoot bowls for St Patricks Day, our monster Seafood raffle at Easter with easter eggs for the children and our ANZAC Ceremony.

Carl Hunt has reviewed our history and has pulled out a few facts that may be of interest to members and I will include these over the next few months. **"The first club house was completed in July, 1964, funded by a debenture issue to members and a Liquor Licence was granted in November, 1964, so that social functions (such as dances, bridge and euchre competitions) commenced and were held on a**

regular basis." It was a different era then, in terms of fund raising and social gatherings.

In mid-February the Board will reviewing our Strategic Plan and our Business Model to consider issues impacting the Club including costs increasing while income is decreasing. We need to consider strategies to turn this around to increase patronage and revenue in the Club to ensure we both keep bowls at a reasonable cost for bowlers and meet the ever changing needs of our broader membership base. It is our intention that once we have developed a new model to invite members both Bowling and social to a meeting to present our plans.

One last issue I would like to raise is RESPECT. Recently I was approached by a social member of our Club expressing dismay about the lack of respect shown to our Bowls Committee Members and our Bowls Coordinator when they are trying to provide information or announce bowls results. On this occasion bowling members were

President Rob's Message continued . . .

talking over the top of the announcer and as the announcer got louder so too did the members. We should all remember that the Bowls Committee are all volunteers whose contribution allows us to bowl in an organised fashion with a minimum of fuss. It does not hurt to show some respect when they

are making announcements for your benefit before and after games. In the last two weeks this has got a little better and I hope it will continue. I find it sad that I have to bring it to your attention given the generation you all represent.

Rob Gray - President.

Lakers Low-Down

Join our Men's Facebook page to see all necessary information immediately and more.

Valentine Men's Bowlers

See you on the Green

Peter Lynn - Bowls Co-Ordinator

Women's Bowls News

Last year our esteemed member Joyce Sullivan was given the honour of Life Membership to our club. Our wonderful Welfare Officer, Lyn Taylor, prepared the citation for Joyce, and presented her with her badge.

Joyce was President for one year, Welfare Officer for 4 years, on the Selection Committee for 11 years and worked on committees organising Friendship and Invitation Days. She has also sponsored the Past Presidents' Consistency Competition which began in 2006. Joyce also helped organise competitions at Soldiers Point, Nelson Bay and North Haven. She has always loved being a member of our club, working together and enjoying friendships and the sharing of the good times. Her wonderful warm personality enabled her to care for

and support others during the hard times.

Joyce was also a great bowler, winning the Minor Singles, and coming runner up several times. She gave an emotional response saying that bowling is a great sport, and because of its social nature it brings out the best in us. Joyce praised our club, saying that it is a very friendly one, where she has met so many wonderful ladies.

Our club finished the year with a Christmas Lunch and presentations for our Pennants season. The most successful team during the 2023 Pennants was Anna Harris, Barbara Bell, Sue Armstrong and Cheryn Derrick.

We also had a fun Xmas gala and a Mixed Gala, where we relaxed and enjoyed each other's company.

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Finance Director's Report

Firstly, what a great pleasure it was to see so many people enjoying the Community Family Day.

We knew we would not make a positive return for the day, but an early review of the costs and increased revenue received compared to previous Sundays show a smaller than anticipated loss.

As our President has written the Club has to do things differently, with increased costs being higher than increased revenue.

The continuing Federal government linking of liquor excise tax to CPI increases is having a negative effect on our Bar Revenue and gross margins.

This coupled with rapidly raising other costs, particularly food, and a general turndown in expenditure at cafes, restaurants and other similar venues, is presenting a major challenge for us going forward.

However, I am happy to be able to state that the Club made Net Profits after depreciation and interest in November and December.

This has brought our YTD Net Loss down to \$85K, whilst more importantly our YTD Operating Profit before depreciation is \$262K at December 2023.

Whilst it is too early for the January results we are hoping for a small net profit.

These months are normally the best of the year so we are not expecting this trend to continue.

On a positive note, if our forecast is correct, we will be in a position to reduce the loan to the NAB, which is currently \$240K, to at least \$200k by April.

Colin Taylor

Finance Director

Valentine Lions Club News

On behalf of Valentine Lions I extend the very best wishes for 2024 to all the bowlers at VBC.

I would also like extend our gratitude to President Rob and CEO Geoff for inviting our club to be part of the Family Day on Sunday held at the club to help celebrate your 60th year. Lions provided the sausage sizzle and we sold tickets in our raffle which will be drawn on our Community Day held in Allambee Park on 10th February at 10.00am.

This day is a free day for our community coinciding with our 50th year of formation.

It will be a fun day particularly for

children with a free sausage sizzle games for the children, face painting and live music and a car display. All are invited.

Our club was pleased to see so many at the Australia Day celebration which was enjoyed by all with a nice photograph and article in the Newcastle Herald.

The planning is well under way for our 50th Anniversary evening in the Function Room and I would like to thank Eleanor for all the work she is doing with our committee and we are looking forward to a very special night.

Kind regards

President John



Email your buy, sell, swap, recipe, joke or other information for the next Newsletter to:
barbara.bell1@optusnet.com.au

Snooker Club News

FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the New Year, I hope everyone had a nice break over the Christmas/New Year period.

We hope to have a few social functions organised for this year. At the moment we are looking at Twilight Barefoot Bowls and a day at Newcastle Races.

We will also have our 2024 Snooker Competition which will be held after our AGM in March. Details will be sent out to

members, once the committee has decided on dates.

The Snooker Club raffle is still being held on Wednesday nights, with tickets on sale from 6.00 p.m. to be drawn at 7.00 p.m. We have 16 meat trays, so we would like to see as many Snooker Club members come down and support the club.

Helen Hickey

Secretary.

Joking Around

01. If a bottle of poison reaches its expiration date, is it more poisonous or is it no longer poisonous?

02. Which letter is silent in the word "Scent," the S or the C?

03. Do twins ever realize that one of them is unplanned?

04. Every time you clean something, you just make something else dirty.

05. The word "swims" upside-down is still "swims".

06. Over 100 years ago, everyone owned a horse and only the rich had cars. Today everyone has cars and only the rich own horses.

07. If people evolved from mon-

keys, why are monkeys still around?

08. Why is there a 'D' in fridge, but not in refrigerator?

09. I'm responsible for what I say, not for what you understand.

10. Common sense is like deodorant. The people who need it the most never use it.

11. My tolerance for idiots is extremely low these days. I used to have some immunity built up, but obviously, there's a new strain out there.

12. It's not my age that bothers me - it's the side effects

13. I'm not saying I'm old and worn

Joking Around continued . . .

worn out, but I make sure I'm nowhere near the curb on trash day

14. As I watch this generation try and rewrite our history, I'm sure of one thing: it will be misspelled and have no punctuation.

15. As I've gotten older, people think I've become lazy. The truth is I'm just being more energy-efficient.

16. I haven't gotten anything done today. I've been in the Fruit and Vegie section trying to open this stupid plastic bag.

17. If you find yourself feeling useless, remember: it took 20 years, trillions of dollars, thousands of lives and four presidents to replace the Taliban with the Taliban.

18. I want to be 18 again and ruin

my life differently. I have new ideas

19. I'm on two simultaneous diets. I wasn't getting enough food on one.

20. I put my scale in the bathroom corner and that's where the little liar will stay until it apologizes.

21. Hard to believe I once had a phone attached to a wall, and when it rang, I picked it up without knowing who was calling.

22. My wife says I keep pushing her buttons. If that were true, I would have found mute by now.

23. There is no such thing as a grouchy old person. The truth is that once you get old, you stop being polite and start being honest.



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.

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.**

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.

Twilight Bowls - 4:30 for 5:00pm start

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

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

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

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