



# HOTSHOT



BAIRNSDALE GOLF-BOWLS CLUB NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2025



## Tham Dynasty Turkey Triples

Our annual Turkey Triples was played on Monday December 8.

We were delighted to welcome our sponsors, Tristan and Remi, from Tham Dynasty Restaurant to present the prizes. A big thank you to them for their continuing sponsorship.

Congratulations to the winners of the day, enjoy your Christmas lunch!



The winners were Gerry Cahir (Paynesville), Janice and Alan Blackwell with runners-up Mike Manning, Lui Mosele and John Dauven (Bairnsdale-absent) with our wonderful sponsors, Remi and Tristan from Tham Dynasty Restaurant Paynesville.



## Club Mixed Fours



The Club Mixed Fours winners were Lyn Baldwin, Pat Elliott, Eric Yeates and Lui Mosele. Runners-up Paul Sampson, Sue Plowman, Jenny Holter and John Crawford.



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT—DECEMBER 2025

Stephen Mann

Hello to all members,

I trust that all golf and bowls members enjoyed their sport in December.

### PIZZA NIGHTS

The first two Pizza nights held have been a great success with many positive comments on the quality of the food served.

Jeff Graham has now allowed online booking for Thursday Pizza nights commencing on 8<sup>th</sup> Jan 26 and ran weekly. Take away foods can also be booked. I hope members support this initiative.

I thank you all for your great support to our club in 2025 and wish all members and families best wishes for 2026.

Enjoy your Golf and Bowls during January.

Regards,

**STEPHEN MANN (President)**



## TREASURER'S REPORT - DECEMBER 2025

David Pollard

Hello all, I hope you have had a joyous and relaxing festive season.

Any time you would like to chat about the figures, let me know.

### Bank Accounts – as of 8 January 2026

- Trading Account      \$250,452.87 Credit Funds
- Holding Account      \$ 7,419.05 Credit Funds
- Term Deposit          \$ 56,04810 Credit Funds

The reporting period is 01.07.25 to 30.11.25

### RESULTS V BUDGET

**Income** is under by \$7,200 (no so good)

- Competition Fees, Green Fees, Subscriptions and Bar operations are all down.  
This can be attributed to various closures.

- Raffles etc. and Pro Shop operations are all up.

- The balance of areas are showing either slight gains or losses.

**Expenses** are under \$15,400 (good)

- The only 'anomaly' is Reimbursed Wages due to our ongoing Workcover position.
- Without this reimbursement, our Expenses would have been over budget by \$4,000.

**Net Profit** (Before Depreciation) and factoring out the 'Wages reimbursements, is \$33,838 against a budget of \$45,151. While this is not ideal, we already know we had a great December and have operated through the 'Christmas/New Years' period very well.

**David**



## MANAGER'S REPORT - DECEMBER 2025

**Jeff Graham**

Hello all.

This month, I would like to highlight the tremendous contribution that volunteers provide to our wonderful club. Following a conversation and suggestion from a member who was quite astonished by the number of members who donate their time without expectation of return, he suggested that I publicise the information. I agreed it would be a good idea, and here we are!

I won't be listing individual volunteer names, that's not what this is about. I am just trying to convey the enormous contribution they make each and every day.

So how many regular volunteers are there and what do I mean by regular?

Well regular excludes those that may jump on a BBQ once a year, help run a major event (pro-am) or even attend a working bee. I'm only counting those that have regular repeat roles and effectively act as unpaid workers.

If I included all the occasional / one off helpers the below number would increase by at least 50. Below is a list of volunteer categories along with the number of volunteers involved.

<b>Role</b>	<b>Number of volunteers</b>
1. Committee of Management	7
2. Finance Committee	3
3. Executive Committee	5
4. Golf Match Committee	7
5. Course Advisory Committee	4
6. Wednesday Women's Golf Committee	6
7. Wednesday Women's Match Committee	5
8. Women's Golf Catering Committee	5
9. Tuesday Golf Coordinator	1
10. Sunday Golf Coordinator	1
11. Saturday Women's Golf Coordinator	1
12. Bowls Committee	9
13. Bowls Match Committee	5
14. Bowls Planning Committee	5
15. Bowls Greens Committee	8
16. Bowls Catering Coordinator	1
17. Bowls Pennant Committee	5
18. Thursday Men's Committee	13
19. Golf Men's Pennant Coordinator	1
20. Golf Bunker Crew	8
21. Cafe Bakers Group	5
22. Golf Driving Range Ball Collectors	14
23. General Maintenance Crew	5
24. Pizzeria Helpers	3
25. Bar Helpers	2
Newsletter Editor (last but CERTAINLY not least)	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>130</b>

Quite something isn't it.....and my apologies if I have accidentally left tasks out. We are all beneficiaries of the above, if the club had to employ the staff required to fill these roles, our fees would at least double.....literally.



Also, if you haven't volunteered at the club, please consider it.

Many of our volunteers perform multiple roles from the above list and I'm always conscious of the strain it places on them.

Lastly, on behalf of the staff and members of the Bairnsdale Golf Club, thank you.

Until next month, play well,  
**Jeff Graham**



## BOWLS PRESIDENT'S REPORT - DECEMBER 2025

**John Crawford**

A Happy New Year to all and let 2026 begin.

Turkey Day, Christmas break-up and yearly wind-up all behind us.

We now look forward to Club events, Pennant and social bowls.

The spell from bowls for a few weeks makes you keen to get back into it again.

By the time you read this the working bee will have been successfully conducted, thanks to all who attended and enjoy the fruits of your labour.

At the end of '25 we had a few members on the sick list, we hope to see you back early in '26.

The next important event for the Club is Jack Attack beginning on Friday 30th. January.

This has proved to be a great event to attract new members, PLEASE do your very best to promote it.

Jenny H and friends are doing the catering , so it will be an enjoyable and fun activity.

Pennant players, don't forget to practice. The greens are there for you to use. Be like Paul Sampson and pitch your tent there.

Have a great year and 'Good Bowling'.

**John C.**



## BOWLS CO-ORDINATOR REPORT - DECEMBER 2025

**Jan Dodson**



### Welcome to 2026

I hope everyone enjoyed their Christmas and New Year festivities and have now recharged their batteries ready for another season of great bowling.

The first Club event for 2026 is the Club Singles Championship, rounds 1 & 2 starting on Friday 23rd January, sheets are in the foyer put your names down, lets all have a go. We have set the dates for the Novice and Minors Singles events, please update your programme book:

#### **Novice Singles Wednesday 4th March 2026**

Novice Singles is open to Club members in their first two years of bowling who have not won a singles event.

#### **Minors Singles Tuesday 10th March 2026**

Minors Singles is open to Club members who have **NOT** won an Open Singles or Minors Singles Championship.

Upcoming events at other clubs are: Maffra Invitation Day Sunday 11th January; Jenny Crane Day at Howitt Park Sunday 11th January; Snowy River Open Triples at Orbost Sunday 18th January. Information sheets are in the foyer, these days are lots of fun and if we support them they support us.

Cheers,

**Jan.**



## GREENS DIRECTOR - DECEMBER 2025

Steve Beggs

Seasons Greetings to all, enjoy the short break from bowling and come back full of vigor for 2026.

The bottom green should be playable late January and the lines will require string line to ensure all are in line across the green. This requires five people for about 4-5 hours, I will ask for helpers when Craig gives me the go ahead that we can bowl on it again.

I wish to not stand as Greens Director at our next AGM so if a successor from our membership is willing, I will train you up with what the job entails so you will not be thrown in without the knowledge of what is required.

Please talk to me about this important position.

Cheers,

Steve.



WE  OUR  
volunteers



## BOWLING GREENS - DECEMBER 2025

### Craig Rimington Course Superintendent

Both Greens have improved in recent weeks with some fine weather.

Top Green has been verti cut; we will endeavor to do this again in coming weeks. The Bottom Green, post renovation, has had some setbacks with damage from Couch Mites but has responded well to treatments of additional fertilization and irrigation.

The surface is very close to a full grass cover, this green will require a light verti – cut and another sand application to help with smoothness and growing out the disease scaring.

Craig.



## Let's Test Your Knowledge



- 1) In a game of Pennant could a player use four bowls from four different sets (two each way) for the trial ends, and could the players, again, change bowls after the trial ends?
- 2) The jack is in the ditch. A running bowl strikes a 'toucher' on the green sending the 'toucher' into the ditch where it comes into contact with the jack, which bounces out of the ditch and onto the green. Should the jack be allowed to remain in its new position?

Answers:

- 1) Yes. Each player can use any combination of bowls taken from different sets of bowls. Bowls can be changes after the trial ends (but before the start of play). (Law 5.1 Trial ends 5.1.5 Each player can use any combination of bowls taken from different sets of bowls).
- 2) Yes. The jack rebounded as a result of contact with a live bowl, therefore the jack should be played too in the usual manner (Law 18 Live jack in the ditch 18.3 The position of a jack in the ditch will be validly altered if the jack is moved by 18.3.1 a 'toucher' in play).

"You're too short .. too long .. too wide .. too narrow." What about, "Good try, it's just your ability!"



Christmas lunch was, once again, held at Tham Dynasty Paynesville. It would appear everyone thoroughly enjoyed their meals and company, and was another opportunity to thank our Turkey Triples sponsors. We wish Remi and Tristan a wonderful Christmas and continuing success in 2026. (Thank you to Jenny for the photos).





# Tham Dynasty Turkey Triples



Stuart Chapman, Rod Bridgborn and Jenny Holter—some nice bowls in there!



Best 1st. Game Tony Dodson, Pam Boucher and Mark Hemming (Paynesville) with Remi and Tristan.



Happy Christmas Julie!



Best 2nd. Game Fin Ross, Peter Sutton and Mira Faithfull with Remi and Tristan.



*We wish you all a Merry Christmas  
and thank you for supporting our  
Monday Triples.*



Merry Christmas Paul and Rod.



Happy Christmas Jim.



Have a fabulous festive season Jenny.





# HANDMADE, STONE BAKED PIZZA & PASTA

DINE IN OR TAKEAWAY

EVERY THURSDAY

BOOK A  
TABLE  
ONLINE





# Weekend Pennant



Our first Saturday game **December 6** was away to Lakes Entrance. We decided to play through persistent showers to get enough ends in to constitute a game, but then the sun came out! Well, not really but it brightened up enough for a full game.

We were not looking too good for a while, but then a fight-back brought us to within nine shots at the end.

Division 3 were away to Howitt Park, but unfortunately a game was not played due to the rain. Division 4 away to Bairnsdale also had a nine shots loss.



**December 13** and we were all at home with Division 2 against Lindenow, Division 3 against Metung and Division 4 up against ladder leaders Tambo Valley. Division 2 struggled valiantly but in the end Lindenow were too good winning by 15 shots and taking fourth spot from us on the ladder.

Divisions 3 and 4 both played ladder leaders and came away with a 22 and 23 shots loss respectively.



Big thanks to Jenny, Mark, Alan and Mira for helping me out with some pictures over the season so far. xx



# Weekend Pennant



Last game for the year, **December 20**, and it was away once again to Lakes Entrance for Divisions 2 and 3 whilst Division 4 were at Paynesville. A very close game in Division 2 where we were in front until the last couple of ends. A good effort which could have gone our way, so very competitive losing by only two shots. Division 3 battled well but had a 18 shots loss. Division 4 at Paynesville also had an excellent match going down by only 3 shots.

At this stage Division 2 are 7th. on the ladder; Division 3 4th. and Division 4 in 7th. place.





# Midweek Pennant



**December 2** with everyone at home, Division 2 to Lakes Entrance 3 and Division 3 to Howitt Park. A tough day for the 2's with a 29 shots loss, however, the 3's had a good close game coming out on top by nine shots.



**December 9** and Division 2 were away to Bairnsdale 3 where a disappointing 15 shots loss was the result. Division 3 at Lakes Entrance against their number 4 side was a day to forget going down by 52 shots. A learning experience for our side on the unfamiliar carpet.



**December 16** and Division 2 had a nice 10 shots win at home against Orbost. Division 3 had a bad day going down by 46 shots to Bairnsdale 4. At the end of the year Division 2 are 7th. on the ladder, whilst Division 3 are 5th.



# Monday Triples in December



Helen Everett stretching out!



Paul Sampson bowling with  
Stuart Chapman.



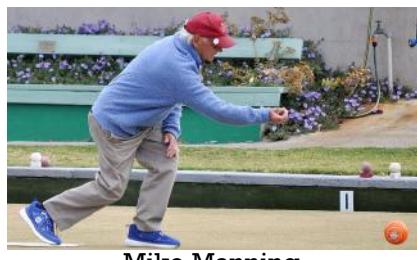
Cheryl Williams from Bairnsdale.



Jan Dodson bowling with Paul Sampson.



'Anything around here' ..  
Jenny Holter with Steve Beggs.



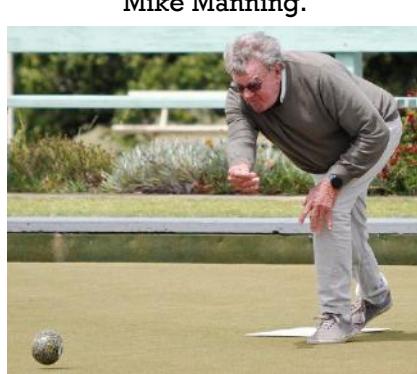
Mike Manning.



Peter Sutton in action.



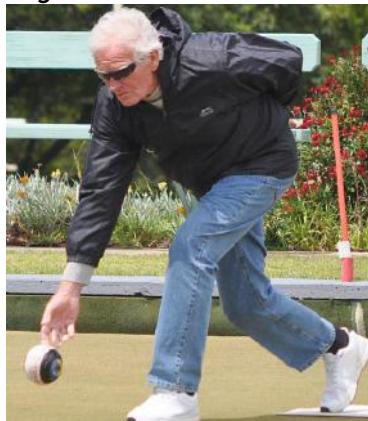
Roger Plowman with Pat Elliott.



John Crawford.



David Formby.



John Dauven from Bairnsdale.



Dorothy Slater.

Monday Triples continues to go along quite well. We are very pleased to welcome our friends from other clubs, including Paynesville, Bairnsdale and Howitt Park.

A big thank you to John Crawford and Alan Taylor for scrambling the teams together, especially when someone pulls out last minute—it must be quite frustrating for them at times but we appreciate their efforts. Thank you John & Alan.



# Monday Triples in December



Roger Plowman bowling with David Slater.



Lui Mosele and Mark Holter.



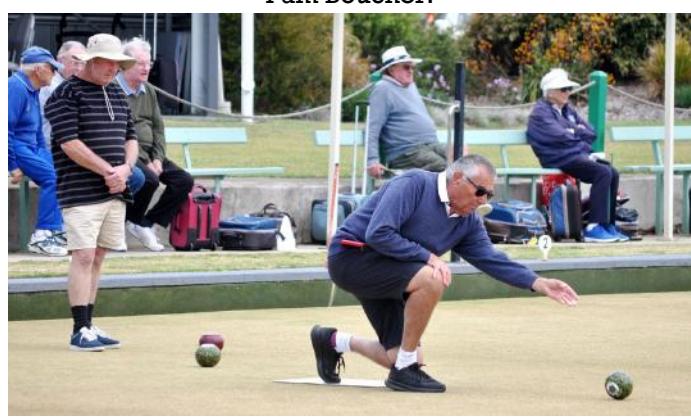
Julie Beggs and Jim Haine.



Pam Boucher.



Rod Bridgborn with Jim Haine.



Peter Sutton.

See you at the  
Bowling Club!





# FRIENDS FAMILY FUN.....

- ITS **FREE** TO REGISTER, THEN **\$20** PER PLAYER PER WEEK **INCLUDING A MEAL.**
- ENTER A TEAM OR JOIN A TEAM AS AN INDIVIDUAL
- 5-WEEK SEASON, ONCE A WEEK** **EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT. (ENDS FEBRUARY 27<sup>th</sup> 2026)**



Jack Attack is a fun and **fast-paced (60-90mins)** form of lawn bowls, aimed to encourage participation with non-bowling members of the community. Jack Attack is super easy to play! It is a modified version from the traditional form of lawn bowls, with **three players per team** who each deliver their two bowls within an end, aiming to get as close as possible to the jack.

**SIGN UP NOW!** [CONTACT THE OFFICE OF BAIRNSDALE GOLF CLUB or VISIT  
WWW.BAIRNSDALEGOLF.COM.AU](http://WWW.BAIRNSDALEGOLF.COM.AU)



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BOWLS!**  
EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT OF  
THE SEASON!  
ORDER BEFORE YOU PLAY,  
EAT WHEN YOU FINISH.

**BAIRNSDALE GOLF & BOWLS CLUB**

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CLUB: (03) 5156 6252 (JEFF IN THE OFFICE)



Registration forms can be returned to the office of  
Bairnsdale Golf Club or,  
Email Forms to [manager@bairnsdalegolfclub.com.au](mailto:manager@bairnsdalegolfclub.com.au)

**SEASON STARTS  
FRIDAY JANUARY 30<sup>th</sup>**



**It just myself and, I'm happy to join an existing team.**

Player 1:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mble: \_\_\_\_\_

I've got 2 or more players so I can enter my own team

**Team Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Team Captain:** \_\_\_\_\_

Player 1:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mble: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 2:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mble: \_\_\_\_\_

Email:

Player 3:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mble: \_\_\_\_\_

Email:

**5:30pm** Start each week.

Each player will be contacted prior to the first round, its likely we will meet up a bit earlier the first week to go over the rules and regulations of the event.

## LOOKING BACK ON THE HISTORY OF OUR BAIRNSDALE GOLF-BOWLS CLUB. PART 10... OUR BEGINNING

After a recent clean-out of our foyer cupboards I have had the privilege of going through many folders of correspondence along with minutes of committee and annual meetings.

In 2003 the Traffic Accident Commission (TAC) and the Royal Victorian Bowls Association (RVBA) formed a sponsorship and safety awareness partnership during which the TAC provided funding and the RVBA promoted road safety.

The RVBA appointed a Bowls Liaison Officer, Bob Middleton, who conducted safety awareness sessions for bowlers at many clubs as part of the sponsorship agreement.

TAC developed the "Right to Drive" Club Awards Program where \$15,000 was made available to clubs which showed initiative in their support for this program. Clubs could apply for a \$400 grant and a chance to win a further \$2,000. Our Club applied for, and secured, the \$400.

This was to finance road safety initiatives within the Club for road safety issues facing 'older' individuals and the wider community.

The criteria to be addressed was:

- must address a road safety issue relevant to older Club members
- Must be legal
- Needs to focus on driver and/or pedestrian road safety issues
- Should be sustainable initiative rather than a one-off event
- Should contain an educational or instructive component
- Should be readily transferable to other Clubs and/or the community

Keith Murray was responsible for the score boards carrying road safety messages including 'There's no winner in a dead end' and 'Good bowlers are good drivers'.

There were many more I cannot remember at this stage.

The RVBA advised us that our application had been approved and said the idea was 'innovative and hopefully gain the attention of visitors as well as club members. No doubt you will use the messages in other ways e.g. Club newsletter etc.'

Anyway, the gist of the story is that we were successful in winning a prize. Keith and his wife Brenda attended the special night in Melbourne where we were awarded our runner-up prize of \$550.



Pam Smith, Keith Murray, Bowls President Geoff Lind and Judi Hogan with one of our boards.



The same year (2003) Keith also applied for, and we received, a grant from VicHealth for the installation of the sun shelters on the west end of the Harrap Green.



# Singapore Highlights

**SOLO TRAVELLERS EDITION**

**15TH – 22ND OCTOBER 2026**

**PACKAGE PRICE  
SINGLE \$ \$6,905.00  
PER PERSON.**

**DAY 1 – 15TH OCT 2026 DEPART BAIRNSDALE / PARK ROYAL**

We meet our friendly coach driver before leaving Bairnsdale for Melbourne airport where we will spend the night at the Park Royal Airport hotel prior to our flight the following day. Tonight's dinner at leisure.

Accommodation: Park Royal Melbourne Airport.

famous High Tea. Set in the restored Grand Lobby of the hotel, you will sit among the grandeur of its floor-to-ceiling pillars bathed in daylight streaming through the skylight, a quintessential Singapore experience. You will then have some free time to look around the hotel before transferring back to your hotel with the remainder of the day at leisure. Overnight: Rendezvous Hotel Singapore

**DAY 2 – 16 OCT 2026 ARRIVE SINGAPORE (D)**

This morning we will meet as a group in the Park Royal lobby, before walking over to the airport in time to check in for our flight to Singapore. On arrival in Singapore, you will be met and transferred to your hotel for your overnight stay. This evening you will enjoy a welcome dinner at the hotel restaurant.

Overnight: Rendezvous Hotel Singapore

**DAY 4 – 18 OCT 2026 TIONG BAHRU & BUMBOAT / CHINATOWN & LITTLE INDIA (BD)**

This morning your tour takes you to Tiong Bahru, one of Singapore's oldest residential neighbourhoods, built in the 1920s, and renowned for its hipster culture and mix of architecture, boutiques and pastry shops. The Tiong Bahru Market and Food Centre, built in 1955, may be the first modern market to be built in a housing estate but still boasts some of best hawker stalls for local culinary delights. Stroll along the tour path and treat your taste buds to scrumptious local food at legendary hawker havens and time-honoured eateries. Your tour will also take you to the 90-year-old Qi Tian Gong Temple, Singapore's oldest temple which honours the Monkey God, bestowing blessing and protection to those who visit. You will then transfer to Clarke Quay for a cruise along the river on board a traditional bumboat. This unforgettable ride encapsulates Singapore heritage and modernity in one activity, spanning the iconic districts of Clarke Quay, Boat Quay and Marina Bay. Bask in the rich history of the Raffles Landing site, marvel at the soaring futuristic architecture of Marina Bay Sands, and discover the story of the river that gave life to the city. You will then return to your hotel with the afternoon free. This evening you will head out to Chinatown and Little India to view another side of Singapore. First stop will be Chinatown, filled with a sprawling myriad of shops and eateries, bustling with colorful and exciting activities set against a backdrop of rich history and heritage. Wander along the narrow lanes of the Night Market.

**DAY 3 – 17 OCT 2026 CITY TOUR / RAFFLES HIGH TEA (B,HIGH TEA)**

This morning you will enjoy a half day tour of the city. You will start with a drive around the Civic District, passing by the Padang, Singapore Cricket Club, historic Parliament House and the National Gallery Singapore. The Gallery consists of the former Supreme Court Building and the City Hall. Next stop will be at the Merlion Park where you will enjoy the impressive views of Marina Bay. Do not miss out this picture-taking opportunity with The Merlion, a mythological creature that is part lion and part fish. From here, you will visit Thian Hock Keng Temple, one of Singapore's oldest Buddhist- Taoist temples, before proceeding to Singapore's first UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Singapore Botanic Gardens. On arrival you will have time to walk through the National Orchid Garden which boasts a sprawling display of 60,000 orchid plants. You will then return to your hotel to freshen up before heading out to one of the highlights of your tour, the iconic Raffles Hotel for their

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and test your bargaining skills against street vendors selling anything from souvenirs to leather goods. You will then stop for dinner at a local Chinese restaurant before continuing by coach down to the bustling streets of Little India. Stroll along Little India Arcade at Campbell Lane, a narrow pathway through a cluster of restored shop houses filled to the brim with Indian clothing, accessories, incense and sweet shops. You will also visit one of Singapore's oldest Hindu temples, Sri Veeramakaliamman Temple for a brief review of its history. Built in 1885, this historic temple is dedicated to Kali, the Goddess of Power and the ferocious incarnation of Lord Shiva's wife. Following some time here you will transfer back to your hotel arriving late this evening.

*Overnight: Rendezvous Hotel Singapore*

#### **DAY 5 – 19 OCT 2026 GARDENS BY THE BAY/SENTOSA ISLAND (B)**

One of the Top 10 Indoor Gardens of the World and home to the World's Largest Glass Greenhouse, the Gardens by the Bay features more than 1 million plants from more than 19,000 species. Certified and awarded the SG Clean quality mark by the Singapore Government, the Gardens has put in place safety measures to make the indoor gardens a unique place of wellness. Entry to the Gardens also includes entry to the two incredible displays, the Flower Dome and the Cloud Forest. Entering a world of perpetual Spring, the Flower Dome houses 30,000 plants of over 700 species in 9 different gardens from 5 continents of the world – Australia, America, Africa, Asia and Europe. Spectacular and innovative, this is the largest glass greenhouse in the world as listed in the 2015 Guinness World Records. Next stop is the Cloud Forest where you will discover a hidden jungle as you explore the highlights amidst orchids, pitcher plants and ferns from the cool-moist Tropical Montane Region. Be amazed as you come face-to-face with one of the world's tallest indoor man-made waterfalls at 35-metres and descend through the surreal mist-filled Cloud Walk and Treetop Walk. You will then return to our hotel around lunch time with the afternoon at leisure. This evening you will transfer to the Singapore Cable Car for your crossing to the iconic Sentosa Island. On arrival you will enjoy a casual dinner at one of the eateries before some free time to explore the island. After sunset, you will meet up again to enjoy the Wings of Time Fireworks Symphony, Singapore's only daily fireworks show. This spectacle lights up Sentosa's skies with a dazzling blend of water, laser, fire, and music in a heartwarming tale of friendship set against the stunning backdrop of Siloso Beach. Expect shimmering water effects, fiery bursts, and laser magic, all set to a sweeping soundtrack, crowned by a breathtaking fireworks finale. Following the show, you will transfer back to your hotel by coach.

*Overnight: Rendezvous Hotel Singapore*

#### **PACKAGE INCLUDES:**

- Return transfers from East Gippsland.
- All flights, airfares and airport taxes.
- Return transfers between SIN airport and hotel.
- 6 nights' accommodation as specified in Itinerary.
- All meals as specified in Itinerary.
- All touring on private basis as specified in Itinerary.
- Entrance fees and boat fees where applicable.
- Air-conditioned vehicle for touring and services of a local English-speaking guide.
- Service charges, room taxes and handling fee.
- Coopers Travel tour leader.

#### **DAY 6 – 20 OCT 2026 SINGAPORE ZOO NIGHT SAFARI (BD)**

Today is a full day free to enjoy the city on your own, perhaps return to some sights you want to spend more time at, or visit the many shops for some local bargains, or just relax and enjoy the facilities of your hotel. This evening you will transfer to Singapore Zoo to uncover the wonders of the nocturnal animal kingdom at the world's first night wildlife park. Enjoy a multi-sensory journey across six geographical regions under the moonlight. Be enthralled by a pride of lions basking under the illumination of a full moon. Get up close to the free-ranging Malayan tapirs and meet Chowang, the Asian bull elephant, as you ride on board the renowned Night Safari Tram. Then follow the guide on a walking trail to view some animals at close quarters which features the largest collection of wildlife indigenous to Southeast Asia. Complete your night with the exciting Creatures of the Night Show, to witness the natural talents of fascinating creatures such as otters, civets, copybaras and more. Enjoy dinner at one of the eateries before returning to the hotel.

*Overnight: Rendezvous Hotel Singapore*

#### **DAY 7 – 21 OCT 2026 COOKING CLASS/ DEPART SINGAPORE (B)**

There is no better way to get acquainted with Singapore's many cultures than through the island's food, and this morning you will be able to take the flavours home with you following this cooking class. During this class you will learn about Singapore's food culture and discover the secret to Singapore's hawker centres, before cooking up a storm with a hands on step by step cooking lesson. You will then enjoy the fruits of your labour with a mouth-watering Singaporean lunch sampling each of the dishes you have prepared. You will then return to your hotel. As you have late check out included, you can relax and enjoy the facilities of your hotel. This evening you will transfer to CHIJMES for your farewell dinner. This historic complex was formerly a convent and girls school established in 1854, and still maintains much of its 19th century architecture. Following dinner you will transfer back to the airport for your departure flight at 11.30pm.

#### **DAY 8 – 22 OCT 2026 ARRIVE MELBOURNE/BAIRNSDALE**

On arrival into Melbourne International Airport (approx. 9.50am), Our coach driver will be waiting for our return back home to Bairnsdale/East Gippsland.

#### **EXCLUSIONS:**

- Any meals not specified in Itinerary.
- Alcoholic or soft drinks with included meals unless otherwise specified.
- Optional touring.
- Travel Insurance.
- Passport & visa fees if applicable.
- Gratuities to guides and drivers unless otherwise specified in the Inclusions.
- Items of a personal nature.

#### **TERMS & CONDITIONS/DEPOSIT:**

*\*Please note that if minimum numbers (15 passengers) aren't met, then the price may need to be recalculated and a surcharge may apply, due to non-refundable components of this tour that have already been paid for. Non-Refundable deposit of \$1,000 per person is due at time of booking. Please see Instore for further terms and conditions.*

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## Gippsland Region Board summary

The Gippsland Region Board met on Monday 8 December at Maffra Bowls Club.

The following is a summary of matters discussed, and decisions made.

### Inclement weather

The Board noted that the wet November again disrupted Weekend pennant matches. Clubs are reminded to check the inclement rules in the Conditions of Play when making decisions about abandoning matches, in particular rule 10.4

**(10.4 An umpire's decision is final and cannot be contested, disregarded, or appealed, except for matters relating to the meaning or interpretation of a Law).**

### Region Sides 2026

The Board agreed to seek an annual practice match against Strzelecki Region, preferably during the day, following the successful event at Traralgon Bowls Club on Friday 5 December. The match gave our men's and women's sides the opportunity to bond ahead of the championships in Ballarat in January.

Our men's and women's sides are in Silver Sections 1 and 2 respectively. The men play against Ballarat Highlands, Ovens and Murray and Wimmera, while the women play against Ballarat Highlands, Geelong and Mornington Peninsula. The game venues are:

*Friday 9 January – women Ballarat Memorial Sports Bowling Club; men Midlands Golf Bowling Club*

*Saturday 10 January - women Midlands Golf Bowling Club; men Ballarat Memorial Sports Bowling Club*

*Sunday 11 January – all finals Sebastopol Bowling Club.*

### Live scoring

The Board reaffirmed its commitment to live scoring, noting the GBR sits on top of the Bowls Victoria (BV) League table for live scoring implementation in pennant and state events. Jan Morton reported that to date: of 180 rinks in Weekend Pennant Premier League, 176 have live scored with Bairnsdale, Lakes Entrance, Stratford and Lindenow achieving 100% compliance

in Midweek Division 1, of 126 rinks, 114 live scored, Lakes Entrance, Stratford and Lindenow achieving 100% compliance.

### Disciplinary procedures

The Board noted advice from BV that its regulations and disciplinary guidelines are being amended to enable Regions to handle all bowls-related disciplinary matters that occur within their boundaries, not just an event where they are the controlling body (pennant, State events). It is expected the new rules and guidelines will be ratified by the end of December.

### Strategic Plan

#### Women in Bowls

Bronwyn Thwaites advised that the survey of current women bowlers has closed, with more than 200 responses received either online or via a hard copy. The results are being compiled for discussion by the Women in Bowls Committee at its next meeting on 15 December.

#### Junior development

Peter Leslie reported on preliminary discussions held with BV Southern Country Manager Mark Coleman and clubs about progressing junior development in the Region, with a focus on getting more schools involved. Mark will prepare a map showing how many schools there are near bowls clubs.

### Umpiring

The Board noted the report from umpiring coordinator, Chris Sherrin, which highlighted that since being accredited in January, the presenter/assessment team has completed the following:

12 reaccreditations

10 new national umpires

2 marker/measurers.

### Crackerjack

Peter Leslie reported he is working on a proposed end of season Crackerjack event at Sale Bowls Club involving Heyfield, Sale, Stratford and Maffra. Under the proposal, each club will select teams of unaffiliated bowlers to compete against each other in front of a crowd. If successful, a similar event may be held between east playing area clubs.

### Bronwyn Thwaites GBR Secretary

# THE COUNTDOWN IS ON



## THE NISSAN NAVARA NOW ARRIVES 13 JANUARY 2026

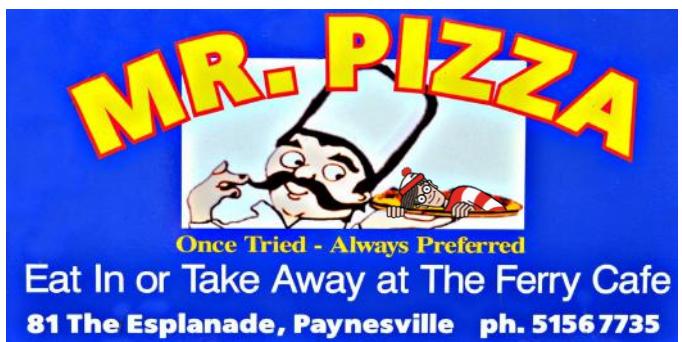
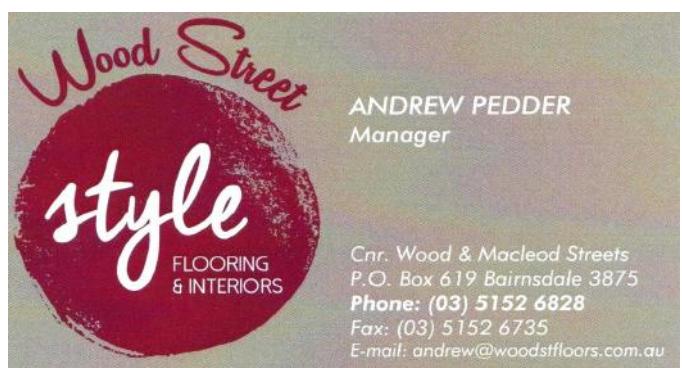
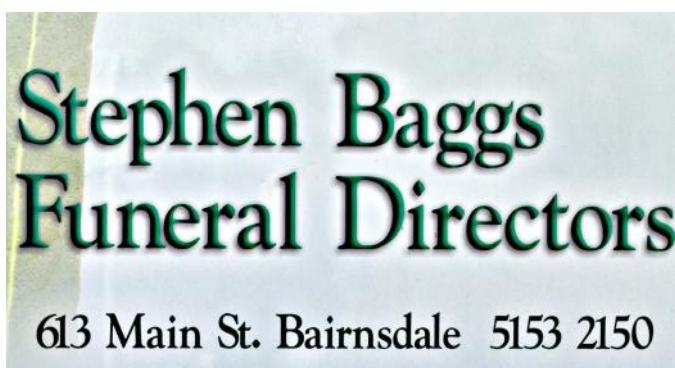
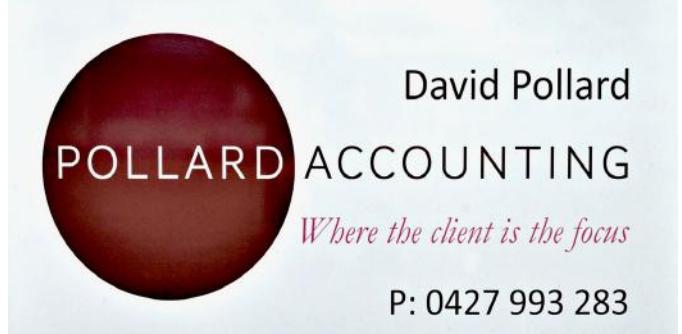
The All-New Nissan Navara is coming, and The Big Garage Nissan is giving you an **exclusive sneak peek on Tuesday, 13th January 2026**.

Come in and see the vehicle up close in-store – a perfect chance to get familiar with the latest Navara before anyone else.

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# Thank You TO OUR SPONSORS





## DO YOU KNOW THE LAWS OF THE SPORT OF BOWLS? MARKING A 'TOUCHER'

A 'toucher' in the ditch is not marked, or nominated, but when it comes to deciding the result of the end it is in the count. Should it be included?

### LAW 15 Marking a toucher

15.1 A toucher must be marked with chalk by a member of the team that delivered the bowl or the marker **as soon as it comes to rest**.

15.2 If, in the opinion of either skip or opponent or the marker, a toucher comes to rest in a position in which marking it would be likely to move the bowl or alter the head, the bowl must not be marked but **nominated** as a toucher instead.

15.3 If, **before the next delivered bowl comes to rest** or, in the case of the last bowl of an end, before a period of 30 seconds that applies under law 23.1, a bowl is neither marked nor nominated, **it is no longer a toucher**.

**This is where good sportsmanship would come into play, but technically a bowl in the ditch not marked before the next delivered bowl comes to rest, could be considered a 'dead' bowl and not included in the count. So, be vigilant and mark your 'touchers' immediately they come to rest.**

### WHERE'S WALLY?

Can you find Wally?

He is in this edition somewhere.  
This is where he was in November  
P22.



With the Festive Season upon us you may have more bottles and cans than usual? It would be great if you could continue to save them over the break and drop them in the blue bins beside the bowls shed when we come back.

The response so far has been outstanding .. keep it up everyone!  
Make sure they have the '10c' logo on them.

Don't forget to use your LOYALTY CARDS and help those who help us.



Please 'Like' us on Facebook.



Newsletter compiled by Bev Yeates.

Contact me at:

[eric.yeates@bigpond.com](mailto:eric.yeates@bigpond.com)

