



BAIRNSDALE GOLF-BOWLS CLUB NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 2020



Life Membership Awarded to Graeme



At our recent Club AGM, Graeme Piera was presented with Life Membership. Graeme has been a great servant to the Club, and golf in the region. He has been a Club member for 56 years. During that time he has attained a magnificent golfing record, including: Bairnsdale Club Champion on 12 occasions; five Foursomes Championships; three Mixed Foursomes Championships; Open Scratch Champion; East Gippsland Singles Champion; East Gippsland Foursomes Champion five times and Open Scratch Championships at Tambo Valley, Sale and Lakes Entrance. In 1968 he qualified for the Victorian Close Championships. In 1978 he qualified for the Victorian Open and was a quarter finalist in the Victorian Amateur Championship in 1979.

Graeme also has a fine record representing the East Gippsland Golf Assoc. at Country Week for 23 years. He won the Provincial Shield on three occasions and finished 3rd. in the Country Championship in 1987. He also represented our Club for a similar length of time in local Pennant.

Aside from Graeme's impressive playing career, he also inaugurated and sponsored the East Gippsland Senior Championship, and the Bairnsdale Junior Championship which he continues to sponsor.

Graeme also served on many Committees. He was Vice-President 1968-72 and 2006-2007. He also served as Ordinary Member on the Committee. Graeme also worked at expanding the reciprocal clubs' numbers. He has also been men's Publicity Officer and ran the newsletter for some years.

In recent years he Chaired the Victorian Seniors Championship, running the event at Bairnsdale very successfully. He also served on the Centenary Tournament Committee and was part of a very successful night for the Club. In the early '70s Graeme was one of the driving forces behind our first Pro-Am. These events continue to bring many fine golfers to Bairnsdale.

Graeme has done our Club proud in so many ways. He is a golfer of his generation in this Club, and district. Wherever he has represented us he has done so with great humility and respect. We could not ask for a better ambassador.

Just an aside, during Graeme's time as Vice-President he was involved in the construction of our bowling green. In fact, according to the Minutes of a Special Meeting held on May 15th. 1968, Graeme moved that the Bowling Club Sub-Committee accept the price submitted for the construction of the green by Baker & Son Melbourne, and construction should proceed immediately.



Christmas Dinner

Friday, December 18th. 2020

6.00 p.m. - 6.30 p.m.

Two-Course Dinner

\$20 per person

(payable to Joy before the Dinner please).

Fabulous Entertainment!



HAMPER RAFFLE
There is a basket in the foyer
for donations towards the
raffle, which will be drawn at
the Dinner.

BOWLS PRESIDENT'S REPORT NOVEMBER 2020

Joy Ryan



At last we are able to hold our AGM. All positions have nominations and it's good to see new faces in the line up .

Presentations which should have been held last May will now take place straight after the AGM.

Amalgamation of East Gippsland and North Gippsland.

As part of its strategic plan, Bowls Victoria has made structural changes to regions in the state to streamline governance and grow and support the sport of bowls.

Under the plan, existing divisions within regions are being removed, creating one level of governance. For Gippsland this means that over the next seven months, work will be done to dissolve the existing East and North Gippsland divisions and create one amalgamated region to administer bowls in Gippsland.

The new region will be in place by 1st July 2021.

We recently had a visit from Jimmy Whitehead, the Bowls Victoria Events and Competitions Manager, along with Nigel Plunkett, East Gippsland President.

They both gave us an informative session regarding the coming amalgamation.

I will advise members progress of this change as it becomes available.



Turkey Day.

Margaret Brooker has once again sponsored this popular event.

We thank Margaret for her generous sponsorship.

Diaries.

Our diary books have now been compiled and distributed. Big thanks to Bev, Eric and Helen for the great job they did. It has been exceptionally difficult this year with the uncertainty of dates because of Covid.

Joy



MANAGER'S REPORT NOVEMBER 2020

Jeff Graham



Hello Members,

It really feels like we are getting back to normal, but just in case we get a bit complacent, I have provided a brief listing of the current COVID do's and don'ts. Whilst the threat of COVID-19 transmission is clearly diminishing, the threat of fines for breaking the law (to the Club and Individuals) has not subsided.

COVID UPDATE:

A brief summary of the changes to the COVID-19 regulations as they relate to Club activities are listed below. These changes came into effect at 11:59pm Sunday December 6th.

GOOD NEWS

- Face masks: *We would encourage people to wear a mask wherever they can and where there is any doubt whether they could come in closer contact than the 1.5 metres," Mr Andrews said.* This means you should carry your mask with you and wear it as required, otherwise, we are face mask free!
- We can now have up to 120 people in the bar/lounge and another 20 in the Golf Shop. There are no longer maximum caps in place, it is determined by floor-space of 1 patron per 2sq meters.
- Seated service only, no longer applies. This means we can now serve alcohol for on course/bowls green consumption.
- Outdoor gatherings have increased to 100, this will allow for some regularity with event starting formats (such as shotgun starts).

DON'T FORGET TO SIGN IN (Contact Tracing):

Contact tracing is likely to be with us for months to come so please ensure you do so when you visit the Club.

Everyone that attends the Club for longer than 15 minutes must sign in:

- If you are only playing golf/bowls and NOT entering the Clubhouse (for more than 15 minutes), then your booking on the time-sheet/entry sheet is sufficient.
- If you are coming in to enjoy refreshments, volunteering or similar, then you must sign in.
- It's now mandatory that clubs use digital QR Codes, however patrons can still sign in using pen and paper. We no longer have sign in sheets on each table so if you can't figure out how (or don't want to) use the QR codes, **please sign in at the Bar or Golf Shop counter.**

VOLUNTEER APRECIATION DAY:

In the early new year, the Club is planning an event to thank and recognise Club volunteers. The plan is a Friday afternoon golf and bowls event followed by a BBQ and refreshments, run by the staff and funded by the club.

If successful, it will be an annual thanks from the staff to the volunteers for all the effort provided throughout the year. Once a date is finalised, we will provide more information and criteria.

Jeff.



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT NOVEMBER 2020

Stephen Mann



COVID-19

Although it is not a November item, I am so pleased to hear that our Premier has announced a few changes to COVID-19 restrictions on 6 December 2020. Main changes are as follows,

- Masks are no longer compulsory however members must carry one at all times
- Indoor hospitality is now measured by 1 person per 2 square metres instead of 4 square metres
- This allows us to have approximately 60 in the main clubhouse room plus 60 in the bowls room
- Jeff has changed the large table chair numbers to 8
- We are required to install the Victorian Govt QR app (Completed)
- This now means you can use your iPhone to scan the QR icon on the tables
If you do not have an iPhone, you can still use the manual sheet to register.

AGM

We conducted a very successful AGM in November during which Graeme Piera was awarded a Life Membership. This was an extremely popular award and we are sure all members will congratulate Graeme for his service to our Club over many years.

It was announced at the AGM, that we will commence the process of employing a Director of Golf in the New Year. A huge thanks to Jeff Graham for his work being the General Manager and Golf Shop Professional over the past months.

From July to November, we have been able to evaluate the potential of the Pro-Shop while Jeff had dual roles and your COM is delighted with the results where budgets have been exceeded each month so far.

The appointment of a Director of Golf will allow us to provide a further improvement in the Pro-Shop and also allow us to grow members and improve coaching services.

On behalf of the Committee of Management, I wish all members best wishes for Christmas and may 2021 be a much-improved year than 2020.

Your support for our Club during this difficult period has been outstanding and we thank every one of you sincerely.

STEPHEN MANN (President)

BOWLING GREENS NOVEMBER 2020 **Craig Rimington Course Superintendent**



The bottom green will undertake its bi-annual renovation during the week of 14th December. This will include double scarify, shave and top dress.



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GREENS DIRECTOR NOVEMBER 2020

Steve Beggs

Great to have Bev so well and back with us, you have certainly been in all our thoughts.

The greens have had plenty of play as COVID restrictions have eased, thank goodness.

Both are bowling really well but it is the time of the year for renovations, the bottom green will have a major reno this week and the top green closer to Christmas as and as always they will be slow until the reno settles down and the top dressing firms up. I know Craig, David and Brian will do a mighty job as always.

To all bowlers and golfers, I wish all a merry Christmas.

Cheers, **Beggsy.**



LADIES' MATCH COMMITTEE - NOVEMBER 2020

Helen Everett



At last, after almost a year of restrictions and isolation from friends and family, we are almost back to normal and can now get our bowls programme back on track.

The Saturday 2 Bowl Triples has been very successful with players enjoying the keen competition between teams. Thanks Don for getting this event underway and managing all aspects of the competition.

Thursday Skins is continuing with good numbers each week.

The Monday Triples continues to fill one green each week and in the new year different formats will be introduced, but probably not every week, so we will see how the players receive the changes.

Although the wind has been a problem on some competition days we have managed to get the Minor Singles event completed. The men's winner was Darren Aurisch and runner-up was John Woodhouse. The ladies' winner was Julie Beggs with runner-up Piernella Lawson. Congratulations to all.

Our usual Hot Shot Editor is back at her desk this month which is great news. It's great that she is feeling better! We thank Stephen Mann for taking over as Editor while Bev was away.

Also thanks to Jeff Graham for keeping us up to date on the Covid 19 restrictions regarding Bowls and Club rules during the Pandemic.

Our Club had a visit from Jimmy Whitehead who is now the Bowls Victoria Events and Competition manager.

All bowls event results e.g. Pennant, will now have to be sent directly to BV Bowlslink.

This new system might take some getting used to and Jimmy is keen to give us help if it is required.

Helen



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Domestic Gippsland Departures



Please note many of our Gippsland Departures are filling up quickly. We recommend to secure the best deal and to avoid disappointment you register your interest with our office at your earliest. Subject to enquiry or request additional Gippsland Departures may be added. We are also able to commit to group allocations upon request for family, friends, sporting groups and special interest groups, and apply the benefits to your group, please enquire for further details.

Enquire for any special COVID 19 Terms & Conditions for Travel relative to the following Gippsland Departures.

2021 GIPPSLAND DEPARTURES

- APRIL 10:** Tasmania in Fall Full Escorted, Easy Paced Tour – *Very limited availability remaining.*
- APRIL 20:** Grand Pacific Tours NZ – 20 Day Rail, Cruise & Coach Tour – *3 Seats Remaining.*
- MAY 19:** Iconic Pubs of the Outback – 16 Day Fully Escorted Tour – *Sold Out.*
- JUNE 1:** The Ghan Fully Escorted Rail & Land Package – Enquire for last minute availability
- JUNE 30:** Coral Expeditions Cruise & Land Package – Darwin to Broome - *Subject to last minute availability.*
- AUGUST:** Queensland Rail Getaway & 5 Day Free and Easy Cairns. Register Now – Full Itinerary to be confirmed.
- SEP 14:** Indian Pacific Rail Journey – Register Now – Full Itinerary available soon.
- SEP 17:** Iconic Pubs of the Outback - 16 Day Fully Escorted Tour – 2nd Departure Added limited availability remaining.
- SEP 25:** 15 Day New Zealand APT Travelmarvel – Limited Seats remaining – Enquire for Flex Booking T&C's.
- OCT 09:** Vietnam Highlights – APT Travelmarvel - Enquire for Flex Booking T&C's.
- OCT 27:** Darwin to Adelaide Southbound Ghan Rail Journey Package – Registration of Interest – Full Itinerary to be confirmed shortly.
- OCT 30:** 6 Day Princess Cruise – South Australia Explorer, Departing Melbourne Return.
- OCT 30:** 8 day Lord Howe Island Fully Escorted Tour
- NOV 18:** 8 day Norfolk Island Fully Escorted Tour 'Group Inclusive OR Free & Easy'.
- DEC 1:** 14 Day Princess Cruise – Queensland Coast, Departing Melbourne Return.

2022 GIPPSLAND DEPARTURES

- FEB 11:** 13 Day Princess Cruise – **New Zealand**, Departing Melbourne Return.
- MARCH 2:** 14 Day Princess Cruise – **South Pacific**, Departing Melbourne Return.
- MARCH 16:** 28 Day Princess Cruise – **Round Australia**, Departing Sydney Return – *Sold Out (Waitlist Available)*

2022 EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - Register your interest now

- APRIL 2022** Kangaroo Island & Murray River Cruise.
- MAY 2022** APT Kimberley Land Tour.
- AUGUST 2022** Coco's & Christmas Island Tour.
- Norwegian Treasures & Iceland Tour.
- South Africa, Kalahari & Botswana Small Group Tour.

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There may be some 'Bowls Members' who are not receiving the Club 'Eagle' newsletter each month. If you are one, it might be an idea to contact the Office and get your email address on the system. Everyone should keep up to date with activities in our Club.

club@bairnsdalegolf.com.au



Please 'Like' us on Facebook.

Newsletter compiled by Bev Yeates.

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