

# Roll Up

**The Blockhouse Bay Bowls Monthly Bulletin**  
**Sent to all members with a registered e-mail address**

## From The President

As our summer season once again draws to a close we can all reflect on a very active and enjoyable time spent on our excellent greens (well done to Warwick and Andrew).

To all our winners and participant's in our championship and Club competition's a big well done.

You would all have noticed our Club-house roof now has a new coat of paint, two new shelters and seats have been erected on the B green. Also, various maintenance issues attended to internally. All of these are a part of ongoing maintenance required to keep the Club up to a high standard.

It is timely to confirm to members that all planned Club events take priority over any requests to use our greens for Auckland Centre or National events. We will not allow outside events to impinge on Club activities including the prior preparation of our greens for outside events. This has always been our Club policy.

Our Friday night meals have been well received. Well done to Laurie, Mary-Lynn and helpers. Please members we do require your ongoing support of the Friday night meals to guarantee continuation. USE IT - DON'T LOOSE IT. Don't forget our Friday night 6.00 PM raffle. All financial members' names are entered; but you must be present to win the money.

Your committee is looking closely at how we can improve the office management of our Club (to maintain profit). We are also hoping to implement further initiatives regarding sponsorship and participation from local businesses and identities etc.

You will already be aware that the hall is being used more for private functions, thus bringing further revenue to the Club.

Please remember new nominations for club positions and any remits will be called for at the end of March.

As I will not be standing as your President next year due to family and business commitments I wish to thank all the committee and members for your support over the past year.

Robin

## Your President

Robin Cross is a gentle giant with a heart of gold. Few members realise just how dedicated and devoted Robin Cross is to the very existence of Blockhouse Bay Bowls.

Robin was born in Mt Roskill in March 1941. He was a foundation pupil of both Wesley Primary School and of Wesley intermediate School. He then attended Mt Albert Boys Grammar School where as a "solid" lad he took up playing Rugby League. This was his passion for many years and he played for Mt Albert/Pt Chevalier as well as playing in the Auckland representative teams through the various grades.



His career was with the NZ Railways for thirty-

one years. He trained as a mechanic/fitter and worked out of Auckland Central Station to maintain the "Permanent Way". This involved taking care of trucks, bulldozers, and the huge variety of machines used for track maintenance. The Auckland depot was responsible for rail track maintenance from Helensville to Frankton in the South.

In the meantime in 1977 he operated a milk round when we Kiwis still had our daily milk delivered to the "front gate" in bottles. Do that now and it would soon be "hot property".

He also took on a "Herald" agency in 1982 and quickly learnt some lessons and ideas on how to keep in touch with potential customers for the sale of Real Estate. He also ran a flourishing car repair and maintenance service from his own home.

Eventually "Rogernomics" overtook the NZR and the infrastructure was dismantled in 1987. Robin took redundancy and moved out West to Blockhouse Bay. Maybe Roger Douglas was aware of some "moonlighting" going on in the NZR. Robin, of course was always very diligent about putting in a fair day at the NZR. After all it was Robin's "Permanent Way".

So he opened his "Real Estate" career with Harveys and ten years later, after obtaining his full "Real Estate License", opened his own Real Estate office under the L J Hooker banner in 1997. After eight years he changed his allegiance to Harcourts and then three years later he sold his Real Estate Company. He now works for Barfoot and Thompson as a Real Estate agent.

Robin was married in 1962 on 7<sup>th</sup> April at St Mary's Anglican Cathedral in Parnell. In those days this rather large wooden building was on the opposite side of the road in Parnell.

He and his wife parented three boys and a girl. They in turn have given Robin and his wife ten grand children, three live in Gisborne, two in Gore and two siblings live in Auckland with his other five grandchildren. So he is a lucky man to have his whole family so close and he loves taking the time to keep in touch with them all. He is a real "Family Man"

Robin's other passion in life is Blockhouse Bay Bowls. Robin joined our Club in 1987. At that time he was a frequent visitor but never a

serious playing member because he was still committed to his business in Real Estate. In an unobtrusive way he has become a major player in helping our Club to become the friendly and successful Club that it is today. In the days of the Men's Bowling Club the constitution restricted Social Club members to 10% of total membership. Robin was instrumental in amending this rule to allow unrestricted social membership which included women members from the Women's Bowling Club. This must have earned him some "brownie points" among the ladies who promptly made him their Patron.

He was the instigator of the plan to throw open our Club facilities to Bay Olympic Soccer when they lost their grounds and clubhouse in Whitney St. We still have a solid core of ex Bay Olympic players who either play or are regular social visitors. Robin was the "prime mover" in getting Poker machines up and running in our Club. To cap this lot off, he was a "Monday Boy" for 7-8 years during which time he used his engineering background to work with Tom Vincent on the repair and maintenance of the Club's mechanical equipment.

In 1998 Robin was a committee member and then one year later became President for the first time.

As President he sponsored the Installation of Sky Television, and also sponsored paid Bar Staff. That's because he had had enough of working behind the bar and cleaning the clubrooms without pay himself. To cap all this off, Robyn has been a regular sponsor of Club Tournaments and Projects.

Robyn is very proud of the fact that we boast the second biggest membership of all Auckland Bowling Clubs. We have picturesque surroundings with excellent prospects for growth and development in the future.

Ed

### **Women's Club Captain**

Roll-ups are continuing their popularity for a relaxed and social get together and enjoyment of bowls. We have been fortunate with the weather this season, although

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sometimes a wee bit too hot. But no doubt we will wish it warmer in July and August.

Good bowling for the remainder of the season.

Paula Crawley

### Women's Match Convenor

It's hard to believe that we have started our last mid-week competition for the season, the handicap singles, with only the 1 – 5 Singles to come at the weekend.

I would like to mention our Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> "roll up". We had decided to have a mini tournament for a change where we paid a \$2 entry and were to play only 3 short games. Then, as the horror of the Canterbury Earthquake was on everyone's mind, it was suggested that we donate our entry fees to the Earthquake Fund instead of having prizes. From there it just grew!!

My committee members offered to provide morning tea for which members would pay \$3. Then several members offered to do more baking, so we decided to set up the trading table to sell what was brought along. Also it was decided we would have a raffle. We also wore red hats and/or red shirts or ribbons which added to the fun and looked very smart out on the green. So, altogether with everyone present, about 35, helping out we made \$610 for the Fund.

So with each one doing a little bit trying to help the Christchurch people we also had a happy day together.

Fay Jacomb

### Mens Club Captain

#### **Mens Club Championship Results**

2010/2011

#### **1-5 years Singles**

Winner : Brian Moffat  
Runner up : Graham Smith

#### **Champ Singles**

Winner : Tony Holdsworth  
Runner up: Doug  
McNamara

#### **1-5 years pairs**

Winners: Sean Hird Kaarem Aldarra  
Runners up :Garth McFarlane Geoff Trainer

#### **Pairs**

Winners: Doug Vague Garth McFarlane

Runners up : John & Daniel Geaney

#### **Triples**

Winners : Tony Holdsworth  
John & Daniel Geaney  
Runners up: Warwick Frederikson  
Reubin

Lines, John Lines

#### **Fours**

Winners Graham Growcott , Ray Brown,  
Peter Hurle ,Nick

Thomson

Runners up George Weller

Laurie,Stothard ,

Tony Holdsworth , Doug

McNamara

It has been a wonderful year for Bowls the weather has been great when most of the games have been played.

Sadly the bowling year is coming to an end. I am sure all the winners of our games would agree that the Club competition is tough .

#### **"Labels" can be Misleading**

I saw a TV News report about a Lesbian protest march and the report said, "Coming up, a lesbian demonstration". .

My first thought was, "Cool, I always wondered how those things work"

Michael Dane

(If you struggle to find the joke then ask John Leckner to explain it. – Ed )

#### **The Sea Captain**

*Radio Transmission to Navy Ship.* "Please divert your course 15 degrees to South to avoid a collision"

*Reply* " I Recommend you change your course 15 degrees to South to avoid collision"

*Response* "I say again, "Divert your course" . This is USS Lincoln, the second largest ship in the US Atlantic fleet. DIVERT YOUR COURSE NOW!"

*Response* "This is Lighthouse, your call".

John Leckner

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## Tournaments

All has been going well with good turnouts at all of our tournaments

Twenty-six teams played on Sunday the 20<sup>th</sup> March. Such good “turn-outs” are due in part to the popular lunches we provide. Our grateful thanks must go to Paula, Claire, Ruth, Margaret, Josie and I can not forget Ray. (I think he peels the spuds, apart from being the pick-up man from the Supermarket. (Keep an eye on that Margaret Shipper too, she had twenty years running the Foodstuffs café in Mt Roskill, were she turned on roast meals to sandwiches every day for a staff of approx 400.-Ed) Business House Fours are coming up on 17<sup>th</sup> April. This is always a “fun day”. Don’t worry about the business bit, just make up a team of four and include one or more novice bowlers. Entry forms are on the shelf below the notice board We still need a sponsor for the last Hong Kong Pairs. If anyone knows a business that may be willing to sponsor please give me a ring. Good bowling for the rest of the season

Doug Vague – Tournament Convener

## Greg Ruaporo – Success

Gregory Ruaporo is stringing together some impressive playing successes

In January Gregory Ruaporo won his most prestigious Open Tournament, partnering Shaun Scott of North East Valley Club winning the Steward Buttar Invitation pairs. Held at the Burnside Club in Christchurch,

Gregory and Shaun lost only one of their five section games to progress through to two sections of four “play-offs”. After winning their post section the pairing were matched against Canadian International Ryan Bester and New Zealand Representative Matt Gallop, the winners of the other section. Gregory and Shaun won a tight final 15-11 to take out the title.

In February Gregory’s good form continued when he won his first Auckland Open title in the Auckland Open Singles. Gregory won through the rounds in impressive style and has since gone on to win the Northern Region Singles play off. Gregory will now play for the National Singles Championship in Wellington on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> April.

Allan Smith

## Misprints

Club Handbook

The Hong Kong Pairs are on Sunday the 3<sup>rd</sup> April not Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April.

Centre Handbook

Hong Kong Pairs are on Monday the 25<sup>th</sup> April not 24<sup>th</sup>

## Law Books

The new books incorporating the Law changes from 1 April 2011 are now available from Allan Smith at a cost of \$6.00 each.

## Coaching

The Winter Coaching at Blockhouse Bay is set down to commence on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2011 and will continue until 6<sup>th</sup> August 2011 All 1 – 5 Year players are urged to attend these very informative sessions. At the conclusion of the coaching all members of the Western District who have attended, will be invited to play in an Auckland wide 1-5 yr competition. Please contact Ray Keen (Telephone 626 4311) if you wish to attend.

Allan Smith

## Committee Notes

### Break-In

Two separate “smash and grabs” within four days. We must be a seasonal target.

The first was a loner who decided that he needed our television more than we did.

The second was a “gang”, intent on taking the cash from the poker machines. Hard to stop but the security is tighter than before.

### Driveway Subsidence

We are at loggerheads with the City Council over who will retain the subsidence of the driveway giving access to the Club Parking area. Legal advice is being sort to determine if we have any strength to our argument.

### Wicked Wicks

Who enjoyed the entertainment at our Club Christmas Party? A Melodrama produced and “Chaired” by Graham Smith and his troupe of fine actors?

Actually for the money we paid and considering it was their first show, we had a good night’s entertainment. Maybe, next time, they could shorten it down a little and Graham could learn his patter without reading it. Boo!! Boo!! (I will come again, Graham, if you polish up your act. Ed)

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Ron Harris wanted to know how I managed to sing all those old songs without reading the words!!!!!! (Good question, Ron) "There was I waiting at the Church", "Anytime you're Lambeth way" "Where did you get that hat"

**Les Wilson** looks really dapper when he's polished up. He turned on an engagement party for his daughter to AD at the clubrooms but didn't invite any of his "mates" from the Bowling Club.

**Bill Harvey** was seen playing again after a couple of years. Did he ever stop playing? He was just too accurate.

**Dave Arthur** was kicked out of hospital for rejecting their best treatment. Survived to tell the tale and keeps coming back to play the pokies, if nothing else. Good work and good luck Dave.

**Peter Stavrianos** now has a much easier name to remember – "Peter Stuffitupforus" (It's True).

**Rosalie Vodanovich** should be banned. She comes along and turns on an act with that stick of hers and then promptly puts all her shots on the "jack".

**Len Blackman** says he is "On again and then off again" What's he like to live with???

#### **Defection**

Has anyone noticed that the fast talking "mad busman" has disappeared? It seems he has moved to new surroundings in a Henderson retirement village. (What's the attraction to these places???) He can now walk to the Henderson Bowling Club and avoids going by bus.

He is still our Vice President, by name, if nothing else.

#### **About The Greens** (No, not that lot of Greens)

As the long hard season draws to a close the greens are in reasonable condition. There are thin patches developing around the outsides but that is to be expected. Both greens are still running well although they are just starting to slow down.

This winter we will finish the plinths around B green which will stop the bowls running off the last foot or so. We will not do too much this winter as the supply of seed from the South Island is very doubtful. Most of it will go to fixing Christchurch greens. Our main effort will go into making the coverage on "A" green even. We are collecting starweed seed from all over and using various methods to get it growing.

Next year the nationals will be in Auckland so we want to make a special effort to show greens in Auckland can be as good as anywhere in New Zealand.

Happy bowling.—  
Warwick

#### **Obituaries**

It is with sadness that we must record the passing of two of our women members.

##### **Elaine Beatty**

After a long illness, Elaine will be sadly missed.

##### **Rayma Smith**

Rayma had deteriorated gradually with Alzheimer's. She passed away on 19<sup>th</sup> March and twenty-one of our members attended the funeral the following Wednesday. Although she was a good player, she maintained contact with the Club as a social member in recent years.

Some members may not realise that Barrie Smith met Rayma at a BHB Club social in 1984 and they became betrothed in 1985. (Second time round for both)

#### **The Gay Ranch-Hand**

A successful rancher died and left everything to his devoted wife. She was determined to keep the ranch, but knew very little about ranching, so she placed an ad in the newspaper for a ranch hand. Two cowboys applied for the job. One was a gay and the other a drunk.

She thought long and hard about it, and when no one else applied she decided to hire the gay guy, figuring it would be safer to have him around the house than the drunk. He proved to be a hard worker who put in long hours every day and knew a lot about ranching. For weeks, the two of them worked hard and the ranch was doing very well.

Then one day the deceased rancher's widow said "You have done a really good job, and the ranch looks great. You should go into town and kick up your heels." The hired hand readily agreed and went into town on Saturday night.

He returned around 2:30 am, and upon entering the room, he found the rancher's widow sitting by the fireplace with a glass of wine, waiting for him.

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She quietly called him over to her. "Unbutton my blouse and take it off," she said. Trembling, he did as she directed. "Now take off my boots." He did as she asked, ever so slowly. "Now take off my socks." He removed each gently and placed them neatly by her boots. "Now take off my skirt." He slowly unbuttoned it, constantly watching her eyes in the fire light. "Now take off my bra." Again, with trembling hands, he did as he was told and dropped it to the floor.

Then she looked at him and said: "If you ever wear my clothes into town again, you're fired."

### Worst Business Jargon Phrases

According to a British Survey

1. Thinking outside the square
2. Touch base.
3. At the end of the day.
4. Going forward.
5. All of that.
6. Pie in sky.
7. Out of the bag
8. Credit crunch.
9. Heads up.
10. Singing from the same song sheet.
11. Pro-active
12. Downsizing.
13. Ducks in a row.
14. Brainstorming.
15. Thought shower.
16. 360° thinking.
17. Flag it...
18. Pushing the envelope.
19. At this moment in time.
20. In the loop.

