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Killara Bowls News

June
2022

Killara Bowling Club
Limited
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Est. 1916 106th year
EDITION #79

Top Spin and Bias

Featuring

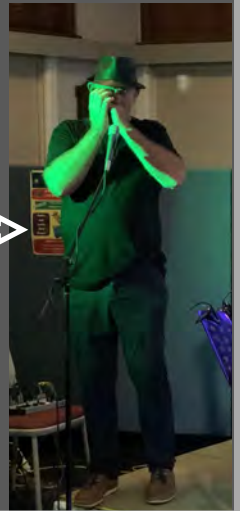
Dave, Carlos, Brian, Adriaan,
Emily, Roger, Mario and
Enlai (Elvis)



TOP SPIN AND BIAS : GREAT EVENING

105 members, neighbors and friends attended the joint Bowling/Tennis Clubs for music, singing, laughter and yes, even dancing! Congratulations to all concerned. The proceeds were shared between the clubs. Some of the happy faces who enjoyed the “knees up” are on pages 4 and 6.

Performers included our own Blues Brother. →



Also at the clubhouse:
celebrations for . . .
Barbara Cotton's 94th
birthday in February;
and **Jono York's** 43rd in
April.

Picture Glen Turnbull



As every member is well aware, our club is rapidly approaching a definitive decision on our future. The letter from our Board dated 6th May expects a General Meeting in September which will decide whether we amalgamate

with Norths Collective or go into administration.

No other options are currently on the table.

So in September, a relatively small group of people, our membership, will make a momentous decision.

To continue bowling at Killara by amalgamating or see the club close and the assets sold. The latter course will have a huge impact on the community of Killara. *So have you done your homework!* There is a relatively easy way to assess what is on offer from Norths Collective. *Make a visit to Beecroft.* This writer and two members did this May 25th. Our observations are on page 3.





PRESIDENT *John Lockard* *First Report*

This is my first contribution as President and I feel my first statement should be to thank my predecessor, **Tony Gale**, for the manifold contributions he has made to the Club.

As President, I am also a member of the **Joint Management Com-**

mittee, and I would like to acknowledge my fellow members are **Chris Fay** – Bowls Secretary and **Grahame South** – Zone 9 Representative. We are a much smaller group than previously, and would welcome offers of assistance particularly from our lady members.

Social Bowls: Will continue to be held on Wednesday/Thursday/Saturday this year. We struggled at first with people gaining the confidence to return to bowls after the difficulties of COVID. Then as COVID became less of a threat we had the seemingly never-ending wet weather to cope with. Numbers on the greens were well down on our usual expectations and also our regular visitors to the Thursdays' First National Johnson Jackpot were impacted.

However, it seems that we might have turned the corner. This Saturday just past we had 24 players on the green, enjoying a beautiful sunny Autumn day.

Mid-Week Challenge: was held in February and March...KBC fielded two open-gender teams:

A joint Grade C team with Chatswood BC and an a Grade D team. The weather was a real problem. Our Grade C team performed well and the cooperation with Chatswood was very successful.

Pennants: Men's Pennants this year will be held August/September, with the first round on Saturday, 13th August and the last round on Saturday, 17th September.

It will be a 6 round competition and KBC has entered a single side in Division 4 – the equivalent of the previous Grades 6 & 7. Pennants will return to an Open Gender format next year – with the competition being scheduled for February/March/April/May 2023.

Langker Painting Match: Every year KBC plays Warrawee BC twice for the honour of holding the Langker Painting for another 6 months. The most recent event was held on Wednesday, 25th May (the 98th iteration!) and Warrawee were our very convivial hosts. KBC fielded four Triples teams.

The competition was reasonably close, with one good win to Warrawee and one good win to Killara (congratulations to Tony Gale's team); the other two matches were close, but also went to Warrawee..Overall, Warrawee was victorious by a small margin, and the Trophy remains with them.

Internal Competitions: The JMC recently met and decided we would hold the following internal competitions this year:

Competition	Approx. Start Date
Minor Pairs	Early June
Major Singles	End June
Major Pairs	Mid July
Minor Singles	Mid October
Place of Origin	End October
Gissing	Mid November
Club Pairs	End November (handicap event)

We do not propose to have any Triples or Fours competitions as the team count is likely to be too low to enable a worthwhile competition.

We will also need to try and fit in the **Cyril South**, and expect to hold this over to early next year when both greens are back from refurbishment.

Social Events: KBC has held two very successful Social Events this year in conjunction with our good friends next door – the Tennis Club.

The first was a Trivia Night on 10th March and a second May 13th . . *Top Spin and Bias Revue*.

Both nights had the Club filled to capacity, and were also notable for the major contribution to both by our Chairman, **Brian Shirvington**. Who knew he had such musical talent!

Unfortunately, the second night was also notable for being a COVID super-spreading event – including our Chairman and your scribe! However, everyone impacted seems to have recovered well.

If you missed these events, make sure you book early for the next one. They contribute to our finances, but also are part of a strategy to bring new people to the Club and foster new membership.

Membership: The new Board has a major focus on gaining new members (particularly bowling members), and seeks to do this (in part) by reaching out to our community. To do this the Board has relaxed the conditions in regard to participating in coaching being a pre-requisite for approval as a member.

Our new philosophy is to get people committed to playing and mingling with existing members first, then offer them coaching to improve their skills.

This appears to have had some initial success. Three new members were approved last month and a further three applications are currently up on the noticeboard.

If you have friends or acquaintances who you think might be interested in joining the club, please invite them along to bowls or to one of our social events. All categories of membership are open: Full : Associate : Social : Junior

Until next time,

John

FAREWELL OLD FRIENDS

In the period since our last newsletter the writer has been advised of the passing of two current and one former members.

In February, **Peter Brassil** at age 87. Peter joined in 2016, bowled socially. Always an affable companion.

In May, **Ian McClelland** at age 82. He joined in 2018 from another club and was a very good bowler. Some of us knew it was his last day before he began his treatments. He made his farewell with a smile and a wave.

Also in May, **Ken Shelley Jones** at age 97.



Visit to Beecroft



Visitors with former Director Geoff.



Beecroft BC was established in 1913, three years before us so it is not surprising that their traditions and practices are very similar to ours. Nor was it a surprise that they, like so many other Bowling Clubs, had to confront a decline in active bowlers and the reluctance to participate in administration. It was the latter which convinced their Board to follow the course that we are now on.

A significant difference however was that they were not confronting bankruptcy; They had \$700,000 in the bank when they amalgamated with Norths Collective! Anyway, this report is not about what Beecroft BC did but what has happened since the amalgamation.

Ian Calder, Don Reade and the writer chose to go to Copeland St. on a Wednesday as it is one of their bowling days.

We timed our arrival for 12.30 and found their modest car park full, however we were able to park in the street close-by. Some 30+ bowlers were assembling for call of cards as we arrived at the clubhouse. Most were in casual attire. The two greens (used to be three) were in very good condition and are managed by a greenkeeper chosen by NC.

We had an excellent and very reasonably price meal

in the Verandah Restaurant - a very impressive facility seating 100 inside and probably another 50 outside under awnings. NC spent \$2 million in the club refurbishment and it shows.

On Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights it is essential to book for a meal. NC have established an excellent website for the club: beecroftbowlingclub.com.au After our meal we sat down for a 30 minute chat with **Geoff** who was Vice Chairman at the transition. The Amalgamation occurred in 2020 and the refurbishment was not completed until December 2021. Even though the work was extensive, bowling continued with members accommodated in a canvass pavilion (shown to the left of the picture above) There were some issues, however Geoff said NC have been proactive and that members are settled and happy. A recent drive supported by NC gained 9 new members (overall 130). There are typically 50 bowlers on Saturday. There are a large number of bare-foot bowlers on weekends. Barefoot bowling is the responsibility of NC and there was friction at the beginning with children on greens and some unruly behavior. Stricter supervision has eliminated the problem.

Beecroft BC has undergone a transformation from an establishment catering to bowlers 3/4 times a week to a fulltime operation 9am to 10pm seven days a week providing local residents with a first class recreational venue.

Beecroft bowlers say they have made the right decision and that NC have performed as promised. They feel secure and can focus on what they enjoy. . being on the green without any other cares or distractions.

Conclusion:

Money does not work magic when running an old model bowling club.

You have to change the model.





With thanks to **John Lockard** and **Bruce York** for photographs of this function.
More pictures page 6.



The RSM noticed a new squaddie and barked at him, "Get over here now".
"What's your name soldier?"
"John" the soldier replied.
"Look, I don't know what bleeding Army you think you have joined son, but I don't call ANYONE by his first name" barked the RSM, scowling, "It breeds familiarity, and that leads to a breakdown in authority". "I refer to my soldiers by their last names only. Smith, Jones, Baker or whatever, and you are to refer to me as "Sir". Do I make myself clear?"
"Yes, Sir"
"Now that we've got that straight, what's your last name?"
The soldier sighed heavily, "Darling. My name is John Darling, Sir"
"OK, John, here's what I want you to do..."

**I tried to re-marry my ex-wife.
But she figured out I was only after my money.**

She wanted an iPad



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More pictures page 4.

KILLARA BOWLING CLUB

Barefoot Bowls



Get your feet on the grass and have fun with casual bowls.

Just the thing for an occasion.

We provide bowls and basic instructions, including bowls suitable for children. We can cater for up to 80 persons. BBQ or more formal meals, all at reasonable cost.

NEW! ONLY \$15

Casual bowls
FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH- 2.00 TO 5.30PM

Details: 9498 2633, our website or email admin@killarabowlingclub.com.au.





The Director of the George Washington University School of Medicine posits the brain of an older person is much more practical than is commonly believed.

When older, the interaction of the right and left hemispheres of the brain becomes harmonious, which expands our creative possibilities. That is why among people over 60 years of age you can find many personalities who have just started their creative activities.

Of course, the brain is no longer as fast as it was in youth. However, it gains in flexibility. Therefore, with age, we are more likely to make the right decisions and are less exposed to negative emotions. The peak of human intellectual activity occurs around the age of 70, when the brain begins to function at full strength.

Over time, the amount of **myelin** in the brain increases, a substance that facilitates the rapid passage of signals between neurons. Due to this, intellectual abilities increase by 300% compared to the average.

Also interesting is the fact that after 60 years, a person can use 2 hemispheres at the same time. This allows you to solve much more complex problems.

Professor Monchi Uri, from the University of Montreal, believes that the old man's brain chooses the path that consumes less energy, eliminates the unnecessary and leaves only the right options to solve the problem. A study was conducted involving different age groups. Young people were very confused when passing the tests, while those over 60 years of age made the right decisions.

Now, let's look at the characteristics of the brain between the ages of 60 and 80:

1. Neurons in the brain do not die, as everyone

around you says. The connections between them simply disappear if one does not engage in mental work.

2. Distraction and forgetfulness arise due to an overabundance of information. Therefore, it is not necessary for you to concentrate your whole life on unnecessary trifles.

3. From the age of 60, a person, when making decisions, does not use one hemisphere at the same time, like young people, but both.

4. **Conclusion:** if a person leads a healthy lifestyle, moves, has viable physical activity and is fully mentally active, intellectual abilities do NOT decrease with age, they simply GROW, reaching a peak at the age of 80-90 years .

So do not be afraid of old age. Strive to develop intellectually. Learn new crafts, make music, learn to play musical instruments, paint pictures! Dance! Take an interest in life, meet and communicate with friends, plan for the future, travel as best you can. Do not forget to go to shops, cafes, shows. Don't shut up alone, it's destructive to anyone. Live with the thought: all good things are still ahead of me!

SOURCE: *New England Journal of Medicine*.

NOW LET'S TALK ABOUT MEMORY!



Picasso and the Nazis

During the Nazi occupation of Paris, Pablo Picasso was taken to be "interrogated" by a special branch of the Gestapo that had been set up to handle intellectuals and artists.

The officer who confronted Picasso, in spite of being a Gestapo thug, was almost polite, spoke a good French and even seemed educated. A rarity.

The Nazi policeman gestured Picasso to sit in front of his desk, then he produced a photo of the now world famous "Guernica", the large painting that depicts Picasso's take on the Nazi bombing of the Spanish town of the same name during the Spanish Civil War.

With that facial expression that at the same time betrays tolerance toward a recognized genius and anger for a misdeed of the same genius, the Nazi pointed at the photo and said with a harsh voice:

"Picasso! Did you do this?" Picasso's bold reply was worthy of a Nobel Prize, a Pulitzer and an Oscar... He said: "No, you did it! I only painted it."





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We have sailed through our first rise in interest rates in around 11 years and have also ushered in a new Prime Minister.

The local real estate market has been incredibly resilient in the face of change and is continuing to move along smoothly.

We have recently listed some appealing family homes within the Ku-ring-gai area and are receiving a very healthy level of buyer enquiry. There are a massive amount of people looking at our on-line marketing. We recently sold a house prior to auction and had nearly 7,000

page views *on realestate.com*. The happy vendor gave us a great reference stating *'Professional from giving advice on upgrading the property to get it ready for sale, giving feedback after open houses to concluding the sale. Great service. Thanks Matthew'*.

We recently sold a couple of 3 bedroom luxury apartments and achieved the highest recorded price for the whole complex. The vendor of one of these properties also wrote a glowing reference stating *'I found Matthew to be very professional, courteous, and thorough. I would have no hesitation in using his services again. Nothing was too much trouble and he made my sale very easy'*.

We will be delighted to assist you if you are thinking of selling or leasing your property this year and can provide you with a FREE market appraisal. Also we would like to offer our valued club members a special deal. We will provide FREE marketing (worth around \$5,000) and FREE partial styling (worth around \$5,000), when you Exclusively list and sell your property with First National Real Estate Johnson.

We warmly wish all our friends at Killara Bowling Club the best of health and prosperity over the coming months!

Regards, Matthew and Noelene



first national
REAL ESTATE
Johnson

BIG DAY TRIPLES

EVERY THURSDAY AT KILLARA
WINNING RINK \$75
RUNNER-UP \$45
JACKPOT TO \$500



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