



# Nambour Bowls Club

## Celebrating 90 Years: 1932 to 2022

### News and Views

#### Winter 2022

#### Welcome

The heavens were certainly looking after us on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August when the Nambour Bowls Club celebrated its very special 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. After months of awful and unstable weather, the cloudless sky was illuminated with brilliant sunshine, the winds and rain had moved far away, enabling the 30 teams from across the Sunshine Coast, Tasmania and New Zealand to experience our great little club's facilities at their very best.



Club Patrons Mavis Balkin (Life Member) and Jack Ingham share in cutting the cake watched by fellow Life Members Graham Morton, Ray Capper and Margaret Thorogood. Other Life Members also attending the event were Joan Ormes and Lyle Gibson.

A special thank you and three cheers is extended to Men's President John Scotney, Ladies' President Joy Brown and Games Director Derek Tomkins for their tireless efforts in promoting, presenting and managing all aspects of the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event.

#### The Birthday Catering Team

The event involved 150 players and guests, the majority of whom were visitors from other clubs. A large support team was needed to deliver the all-day event, many of whom were working behind the scenes. The huge catering task was organised by Club Provider Margaret Thorogood and ably handled by her amazing team of Nambour ladies. Well done and thank you all.



Margaret Thorogood (left) and Ladies President Joy Brown (right) along with many of their catering colleagues.



A truly magical day on the bowling greens

## Birthday Boys – Ray and Jack

Two of the Club's stalwarts over many years had good reason to reflect during the recent birthday celebrations. Life Member Ray Capper celebrated his own birthday on the day while Patron Jack Ingham's own 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday also falls in August but his dear wife Hilary apparently beat him to the winning line by just a few days. Happy Birthday and best wishes Ray and Jack for your contribution to the Nambour Bowls Club and the sport of lawn bowls.

## Funding Acknowledgements



### Community Partnership Funding Program

The Nambour Bowls Club duly acknowledges the ongoing support from Sunshine Coast Council under its Community Partnership Funding Program for the three year period 2021/2023. Financial assistance under this program helps reduce the cost pressures on the Club from essential services such as insurance, electricity, rates and water/sewerage charges.

### Replacement Shades Project

The accolades and praise keeps rolling along for the Club's new shade structures. What a difference they have made, not only to the level of sun protection and safety for players but the overall visual appearance.

The Club is delighted with the project offer and work undertaken by Allan Newman and his team. Well done boys.



The Nambour Bowls Club duly acknowledges the funding support for this project which was generously extended by Sunshine Coast Council under both its Major Grant and Councillor Discretionary Funding Program.

The Club is most appreciative of Division 10 Councillor David Law's support for both the Club and this costly project which will benefit lawn bowlers and members for many years.



Proudly supported by  
Sunshine Coast Council's grants program

The Club has also acquired a number of modern scoreboards to complement the new shades. Neil Brown has kindly modified the base of the units so that they may be fitted into the ground more securely. The new scoreboards can incorporate advertising, an opportunity for local businesses to promote their services, so members are asked to promote the message around town.

## Reflections – Nambour Bowling Club 1934



## Greenkeeping in the Early Days

Bob Dixon was the Club's first greenkeeper serving from 1932 to 1958 and it is fitting that a little of his story is told.

A World War 1 veteran, handicapped by blindness in one eye and partial deafness, the only fulltime job he had gained was cutting prickly pear at Biggenden. En route to Brisbane, he had a chance meeting in Nambour with Mr J T Lowe who offered him the greenkeeping job at the new Nambour club.

With countless hours of toil and tools in scarce supply, Bob Dixon quickly developed an old farm paddock into an excellent bowling green.

For the first four years, the green was cut by hand mower. In the growing season, assistance was required and a willing helper pulled the mower along by a rope from one end while Bob pushed from behind. The roller was water filled and weighed about six hundredweight.

Bob Dixon gained a reputation as “one of the best” and was highly regarded for his ability. The couch greens were once described as like the surface of a billiard table and this can be attributed to his philosophy that “greenkeeping is an art rather than a job” He is also quoted as saying that a good green was “like a pretty woman”.

## Garden Mulch Movers



Featured helping move the extra large load of wood chip mulch from the carpark and spreading around the gardens are Lex Campbell, Greg Baker, Judy Silwood, Margaret Groves, Les Groves and Steve McLean. Great job!!

## Showtime Parking

Four of the most popular events on the Sunshine Coast have been held at the Nambour Showgrounds this year;

- June = Sunshine Coast Agricultural Show**
- July = Home Garden Expo**
- July = Antique Car Club Swap Meet**
- August = Caravan and Camping Expo**

These have provided excellent opportunities for the Club to raise valuable revenue through paid Car Parking on its property. With short 2-3 hour shifts on each of the show days, members can easily make a difference by volunteering to assist on the roster. Thank you to those who helped this year, especially John Scotney who has committed to opening and closing shifts throughout.



The financial reward to date this year has been most encouraging so **please consider helping out** and lightening the load on others when show time comes.

## Upcoming Club Events

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September (all day)**

### Nambour Ladies Fiesta

Ladies Fours

**Thursdays from 22<sup>nd</sup> September**

### Cullen Shield

Thursday Night Open Fours Competition

6 Weeks commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> September

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October (all day)**

### Rex Thorogood and Jim Britten Memorial Day

Open Fours

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November (all day)**

### Scorpio Day

Open Fours

## 85 Years of Pennants

In 1937 the Club was instrumental in the establishment of the first interclub competition between the only bowling clubs on the North Coast at that time, namely Nambour, Palmwoods, Mapleton and Maroochydore.

The suggestion was raised and unanimously endorsed at a Nambour committee meeting during which Mr William Whalley offered to donate a Pennant Flag for the competition. The competition proved very popular and led to moves in 1939 to form a North Coast Bowling Association. The District names may have cycled through to Maroochy, Nambour and Sunshine Coast but the competition format itself has survived 85 years.

## Thursday Teachers Reach 60 Year Milestone

The Thursday Teachers Bowls Group can be traced back to 1962 when a small informal group of members played “consistency” bowls at 3.30pm on school Thursdays. Over the years many of the players have had educational backgrounds but other bowlers have been made welcome to enjoy the unique games and great comradery.

Teachers Club stalwart Howard Purdon has expressed some concern about the declining numbers. Now might be an ideal opportunity for members to touch base with friends, colleagues and teaching staffers from any area who might like to join the thirsty (*oops Thursday*) teachers.

This is another amazing achievement (60 Years) which needs to be duly recognised and supported well into the future. We can and must keep it going with your help.

## Come and Try Days

In the warmer months leading up to Christmas, keep an eye open for news of the Club’s involvement with Bowls Queensland’s successful “Come and Try Day” program. The Club will also be considering evening corporate bowls along the lines of “Jack Attack”, aimed at generating interest and involvement from newcomers.

## Sponsorship

Sponsorship is an integral part of successful business and sporting clubs today. Not all sponsorships involve big money and can be directed to one-off or regular events. It might consist of cash, products or vouchers and is tailored to suit both parties.

Sponsors are encouraged to attend events and offered an opportunity to display promotional material and to speak about their business. Please help where you can.

Syl Fisk and Bev Krome have shown what can be done by door knocking around town as they have been quite successful in securing good prizes for raffles and events.

**Major sponsors** of the Club's Birthday Event were  
**Churches of Christ Care**  
**McGrath Estate Agents**  
**COYO (Yoghurts & Ice Cream)**



Among the 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday guests were Henry and Sandra Gosling from COYO and Len Bebbington representing the Nambour RSL Club.

## Venue Hire

As we move ahead from the dreaded days of extensive lockdowns and disruption to recreational and social activities, it is time for us all to focus on increasing the hire of the venue for regular and casual activities and social functions.

The modern restroom amenities, air conditioning and dance floor greatly enhance the appeal of the Club to community groups and individuals seeking a suitable venue for their activities. The popular Drag Queen Bingo has found the facility ideally suited for its entertainment.

Please mention the Club with your network of friends and family so we can attract more functions and venue hire.

## Bar Help Wanted

More help behind the Bar is essential on all playing days and special occasions so please consider volunteering to help lighten the load. It would be especially helpful to have more of our volunteers hold or obtain a Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) Certificate.

## Focus on Health and Recovery

While the strict rules which applied during the peak Covid period have been relaxed, members are requested to adhere to prevailing community health guidelines, policies and practices at all times. Stay alert, think of others, family and friends and protect those long awaited travel plans.

Reduced patronage and revenue from bowls and other venue related events during the pandemic was significant yet major overheads continued as per usual. Members are asked to support the recovery process in all ways possible.

## Vale Glenys O'Meara

It is with great sadness that we notify the recent passing of the Club's Treasurer, Glenys O'Meara. Glenys offered to accept this key role at the last AGM and had mastered the role quickly. She was a newcomer to the Nambour Club and was committed to improving her game by regularly attending coaching sessions.

Sadly Glenys quickly succumbed to her medical diagnosis and was taken from all of us too soon. Her commitment and contribution will be cherished and our thoughts are extended to husband and fellow club member Brian O'Meara during this difficult time.

## Monday Training and Coaching

Training and Coaching sessions are scheduled on Monday afternoons from 3.00pm and other times can be arranged to suit individual circumstances. The sessions suit beginners and anyone interested in training drills so come along and join in the fun experience.

## Jump on Board

The achievements of our pioneering members clearly show what results from teamwork, commitment and sharing the load. With an ageing demographic and declining membership within the sport of lawn bowls, it is imperative that members work as a team and lighten the load so that everyone can enjoy their retirement interests.

With this in mind, members are reminded that the Annual Meetings for both the Men's and Ladies' Divisions will be coming along soon while the Club's Board of Management AGM will be scheduled for early December. The Club can ill afford to approach these meetings without nominations for all positions.

Members are therefore urged to consider how they might unite to share the workload and assist in a wide range of duties. The Nambour Bowls Club remains heavily reliant on volunteering so please Jump on Board when the time comes and help your mates.



*Where the good times roll*



Overall Winners = Club Maroochy team  
 Marianne Kuenzle, Sheryl Atkinson, Mark Atkinson  
 and Bede Connelly



"3 Draws on the one day is enough to turn me to drink"  
 According to skipper Greg Baker



Runners-Up = Pelican Waters team  
 Shane Gooley, Bill Sullivan, Tony Carter  
 and Graeme Simpson



"So much travelling up and down stairs at my age  
 is enough to make you really thirsty and tired"

"These aren't mine, I've just been collecting the empties"  
 Margaret Thorogood is quick to point out.



Fourth Place = New Zealand team  
 Gary and Angela Johnstone, Ian and Linda Milne



The Guys and Gals from Tasmania  
 Waiting for a "Pick Me Up"



Picture Perfect  
**HAPPY BIRTHDAY NAMBOUR BOWLS CLUB**