



Howick Bowls Buzz

January – February 2017



Club Christmas Party

HOWICK BOWLING CLUB CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION MONDAY 12TH DECEMBER 2016.

Always with such events it takes a team effort to make a successful function and our Christmas Dinner was no exception. The Clubhouse looked amazing and I know everyone who attended this special night enjoyed all the Christmas trees and table decorations produced by our own Palmer family. Marion, Roslyn, Verity, Rohan thank you for all your work and for helping to make this night a very special event. Instead of Christmas crackers there were exciting little packages on every table for every guest and the contents gave us lots of fun on opening. I don't know if there was a message there for me but I got a wooden spoon.

Our catering team were amazing and I would like to thank, Val Gaudin, Janet Scard, Lyn McKay, Betty Rush, Nola Turner, Christine McDonald, Alison Irvine, Glennis Davey, for all the many hours you spent at the club preparing the food enjoyed by us all.

Our Choir Master Maurice Turley gathered together talented singers from our club members and led us all in singing some of those lovely carols we know from days gone by. Thank you all so much.

Thank you to Paulene Murdoch for the raffle prizes and to Kay Griffiths for running the raffle on the night. Our MC on the night was Malcolm Martin, specially chosen for his sparkling wit and big voice, thank you Malcolm.

The Bar was run by John Taylor and Gary Finnemore and in spite of the beer being a bit lively because we were opening the cool room to get food out managed to supply everyone with their chosen drink. Thank you both for all your hard work. I did promise to do roast potatoes, a promise we will keep for another time.

A very special thank you to the clean-up team at the end of a very successful evening. And thank you members for all your lovely comments, we all know it takes a lot of hard work to accomplish anything but at the end it is all very worthwhile. Have a great 2017 everyone,

Regards Maureen

Club Captain's Corner

Well another new year is here but before we get into 2017, I would like to look back on our Christmas Party, and Ham Tournament for 2016.

The Liquorland Ham Tournament once again went off very well indeed, thanks to the great organising by Pax Vemeulen. Malcolm Martin and Pat Hindle. Well done to all. The thing that sticks in my mind about the Ham Tournament was that Gary Finnemore won a ham, and put it up for auction, all monies raised went to Hospice. Well done Gary.

The Christmas Party, well the decorations said it all, it created the perfect atmosphere for Christmas Dinner. The meal was outstanding, it just gets better each year. Thank you to the ladies who prepared the delicious meal, and the ladies who decorated the upstairs lounge.

Well the 2017 Season has started with some good numbers for our Wednesday and Friday Tournaments. Keep it up.

Dress Code: There are a number of members concerned about the standard of dress of some of our members, or should I say *lack of it*. I understand the dress code is white, or club shirt with white or navy trousers/shorts while playing domestic games at home. When playing away as a Howick Club team, the dress code is the new club shirt and navy trousers/ shorts. The shoes must comply with the bowling standards.

We are the best Club in Auckland, we feel we need to maintain this status and take pride in our club. If anyone has any questions on our dress code please contact myself or Flemming Andersen.

I would like to finish off by saying have a safe, and healthy 2017 and a great year bowling.

Peter O'Flaherty



A little addition from the editor!

Thank you Peter for your unfailing good spirits and help with running both the Wednesday and Friday tournaments. You are a great example of the wonderful volunteers we have at Howick Bowls.



Upcoming Events

Octogenarians Salver

This was set down for Thursday 19 January but for organisational reasons we have shifted it to **Tuesday 31 January starting at 9-15 am.**

Frank Walmsley is the Convenor. The tournament is open to all male and female members 80 years and over and ex-members over that age. Frank has put an entry sheet on the tournament holder by the Men's Notice Board or you could phone him on **534 8816**.

BE QUICK THOUGH THIS IS NEXT WEEK !!

A delicious morning tea will be provided.

GORDON SMITH TOURNAMENT

Pax is working hard to get this very popular annual event filled, with first preference going to our Howick Members and then players from other local clubs. 6 PRIZES PER GREEN !!

Please don't delay, get your team together, and the money, and enter as soon as possible.

Details below.

HOWICK BOWLING CLUB

GORDON SMITH TOURNAMENT

**THREE BOWL ANY COMBINATION TRIPLES
FOUR GAMES – 9 ENDS - NO TIME LIMIT**

**WEDNESDAY 1 March
9.30 am START**

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-------|----------------|
| • 1 st Prize | \$300 | for each green |
| • 2 nd Prize | \$210 | for each green |
| • 3 rd Prize | \$150 | for each green |
| • 4 th Prize | \$75 | for each green |
| • 5 th Prize | \$60 | for each green |
| • LUCKY DIP | \$60 | for each green |

All PRIZES (based on 48 teams)

ENTRANCE FEE PER TEAM \$45.

Limited to 48 teams - Morning Tea provided
Bring your own lunch - Raffles - BBQ

OUR THANKS TO Bob Holt and Evan Murdoch - joint sponsor with Howick Bowling Club

ENTRANCE FORM – HOWICK BOWLING CLUB GORDON SMITH TOURNAMENT

WEDNESDAY 1 March 2017 9.30 START (first 48 entries accepted)

ENTRANCE FEE PER TEAM \$45

SKIP _____ Phone Number _____

TWO _____ LEAD _____

ALL ENTRIES TO TOURNAMENT MANAGER : Pax Vermeulen phone 09 5757448 or send to
PO BOX 38789 or DIRECT DEBIT TO 123040-0809641-00(please state Gordon Smith
TOURNAMENT with payment)



JUNIOR INTER CLUB

1-5 year inter club will be held on **February 25th and 26th.**

Day one is qualifying, day 2 post section.

FORMAT;

Teams of 6, playing singles, pairs and triples. Teams can be mixed and the selectors will decide on the team composition.

Entry is free, as the club pays the team entry.

Please enter on the sheets at the club. there is one on the men's side and one on the ladies, or phone Diane 5344428 or 0211281020.

Entries close on 3rd. February

NZ Bowls Interclub National Finals.

A section will be held at our club on March 4th —6th

Many of you will recall the exciting bowls we saw at last year's finals which were held at Howick.

Help from members will be required in many areas, from setting up the greens to kitchen help.

Please offer your services, if you haven't assisted much before you will enjoy the contact with other club members as well as being around to watch some great bowls.

Over Easter, the Kittyhawk event will be played at our Club. This will be another interesting time to watch and help where you can. It is a single-entry tournament for Under 21 and Under 18 year olds, with entries expected from around NZ and possibly further afield.

More details later.

Please follow the handbook and watch the Notice Boards to enter the

remaining **Women's Club Championships.**

Entries close the previous Wednesdays and play begins at 9 am for Champ events.

Junior Singles	February 4th-5th
Triples	February 11th-12th
Fours	February 18th-19th
First Year Singles	March 18th

Mixed Pairs	March 19th (Griffiths Cup)
Handicap Pairs	Drawn Partners after single entry March 25th

Championship Mixed Pairs 2-4-2 April 8th-9th.

Future Men's Championship events

Veteran's Pairs	Feb 21st 25th and March 7th
First Year Singles	March 18th

Mixed Pairs	March 19th . (Griffiths Cup)
Championship Mixed 2-4-2 Pairs	April 8th-9th



Over the next 2 long weekends (Anniversary Day and Waitangi Day) on the Sundays **BOWLS & BURGERS** will be played from 3 pm. These are a lot of fun, single entry, watch for the notice boards to add your names, or Phone Irene 532 8454.



You can phone **Irene or Maurice** any time up till Middy on the Sundays, this gives her time to buy the right number of Burger buns !!

VETERAN PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP

Feb. 21st and 25th . March 7th 2017

Start Time 9 am

15 ends – 3 bowls

Entries close 4 pm Friday 17th February

PLEASE NOTE

The days, dates and starting times have been changed from the information printed in the Handbook. **(NOT Feb 25th)**

Conditions are listed on the sign on the Men's Notice Board.

FORMAT It is proposed to draw the entries into sections of 4 teams. Each team plays the other 3 on the first day. The eight teams with the best returns on the first day based on wins - ends and points go into a one life knock out competition on the second day.

Junior Men's Singles Championship

Progress report

The qualifying Rounds of the Junior Singles Championship were played last weekend. Due to the need for players to act as markers the entry of 15 players meant that these Rounds would have all players playing 2 Games and marking 1 game each day .. i.e. No Byes. However one player had to default because of illness which meant at least 4 Byes were created. Play commenced with the 14 players, 8 of whom were either first or second year Juniors who all competed extremely well.

The top 8 players went in to the Knock Out using points differential.

The Knock out will be held on **Saturday 28th February** commencing at 9.00 am

The Qualifiers are :- **Maurice Turley V Wally Mearns, Lex Calder V Danny Belsham, Greg Holt V James Drummond and Tony Mitchinson V Allan Parker.**

Come along and see how our upcoming players are performing. Thanks also to Harry Williams and his coaching Team who have given most of these players great coaching.

Maurice Turley Junior Convenor.

Kitchen Renovation IMPORTANT

The downstairs kitchen will be unusable from February 20th.

The current kitchen will be removed on the 22nd Feb. and whilst the new kitchen will be installed over the next couple of days, there will be NO bench top, NO water or power.

PLEASE DO NOT TRY AND USE ANYTHING IN THERE UNTIL COMPLETION.

Notification will be sent once all the crockery etc. has been replaced and the kitchen is ready for use, expected to be around the 15th March.

Any queries, please phone Diane 534 4428 or Lyn 533 8858

We are grateful to have received a grant from Pub Charities which covers approximately 1/3 of the cost.

Junior Tournament On January 8th a Junior mixed progressive pairs was held for players from both Howick clubs. There were 10 ladies and 14 men, with 3 men in reserve. A very good level of participation.

The weather was good, the bowls likewise! With some very strong performances.

Prize winners were, **Alan Pearson, Liz McFarlane, Antonio Sanna and Barry O'Brien.**

Consolation prizes went to **Val Lott and Paul Blitvic**

Watch your emails for further Junior Tournaments.

Diane and Lyn.

MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP SINGLES

The weekend of 14/15 January saw 28 players enter the singles. The start was not without drama with a player having to pull out on the Saturday morning and a big thanks goes to John Formston who agreed to be the late replacement and therefore avoiding a bye in the section play. Still more drama (senior moments!) when one player who had entered failed to remember and another who thought he had entered but had not – the latter taking the former's place in the draw!

Now to the bowls: the first round saw notable wins by Ming Fong 21-18 over Kevin Hurren, Lex Calder 21-16 over Ross Spurdle and Allan Parker 21-8 over Derek Standen . Round 2 saw close games with Kevin Dumper 21-19 over Wally Mearns, Warwick Alexander 21-18 over Tony Mitchinson, Michael Savage 21-17 against Bill Brown, Ming Fong 21-19 over Alex Mason and Richard Ludbrook 21-17 over Bruce Hickman. Round 3 was close wins to Norman Spencer 21-18 over Ian Fisher, Ivan Agnew 21-18 over Paul Tindill and Bruce Hickman 21-16 over John Formston.

The key Round 4 match ups saw the following gaining the much-needed win to qualify namely, Bruce Hickman 21-20 over Murray Martin, Bill Brown 21-17 over Gary Finnemore and Norman Spencer 21-14 over Paul Tindill – those to miss out were John Formston 19-21 lost to Richard Ludbrook and Ian Fisher 18-21 lost to Ivan Agnew.

14 players went through to post section on Sunday with Kevin Hurren and Paul Hickey gaining first round byes. The marquee game of the first round was last year's Champion Warwick Alexander against the previous year's winner Les Brown – Les got off to a commanding start securing a 12-3 lead after some wayward driving from his opponent – Warwick did come back to close the score to 12-14 after 18 ends but Les again took command to close the match out 21-12. Other games saw wins to Ivan Agnew over Bill Brown 21-16, Norman Spencer 21-19 over Malcolm Jacob, Kevin Dumper 21-19 over Ming Fong, Bruce Hickman 21-5 over Lex Calder and Michael Savage 21-11 over Richard Ludbrook. In the quarter final games winners were Paul Hickey 21-18 over Kevin Hurren, Les Brown 21-14 over Ivan Agnew (Ivan led 11-5) , Norman Spencer 21-13 over Kevin Dumper, Michael Savage 21-5 over Bruce Hickman.

Both semi final games were clear cut wins to the two form players in **Les Brown** 21-7 over Paul Hickey and **Michael Savage** 21-6 over Norman Spencer. This now sets up an intriguing final match up with the contrasting bowls on display – will it be a victory to the old wide bowls or the new narrow bowls?? This will be played on finals day on Saturday 11 March 2017 (Reserve Day Sunday 12 March).

A special thank you for the additional markers who helped us out on Saturday namely Grant Watson, Colin Harris, Rick Meyrick, Graeme List, John Black. Also to those eliminated players who came forward to mark the first post section games on Sunday. All very much appreciated.

Warwick Alexander
Convenor



MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

The men have now completed most of their events or reached the FINAL STAGE.

Thanks Warwick for these excellent reports.

See P 11 for the order of play on March 11th.

FOURS : The men's 2016 championship fours were played over the weekend of 26 & 27 November in what proved to be very difficult conditions due to the strong and gusty winds. Seven teams entered this year and the four qualifiers were teams skipped by **Gary Cotton, Bill Brown, Malcom Jacob & Warwick Alexander**. There were some close games with Gary winning 14-13 against Malcom and with the same score Bill prevailed against Les Brown after a running shot by Les proved fatal as Bill's side was gifted 4 shots to enable them to draw level playing the last end which they won. Malcolm Jacob needed to win his last round game against already qualified Bill's team and did so in style winning 16 -8.

A special mention goes to **Dave McGowan** who agreed to skip junior players James Drummond, Derek Standen and Greg Holt who although defeated enjoyed the experience

Now to post section on the Sunday where Gary's team this time had a comfortable win against Malcolm's side of Tony Mitchinson, Wally Mearns and John Walkden 22-7. The other game was close throughout which Bill Brown playing some exceptional run shots to keep their team in contention. After 11 of the 15 ends the score was 11-9 to Warwick but scoring 5 shots on the next 3 ends saw Warwick extend this and Bill with a 3 on end 14 the gap close to 3 playing the last but his team ended up short with an 12-18 final score.

In the early stages of the final at 11-2 after 8 ends it looked like Warwick's team was going to have another comfortable win as in the qualifying a 17-0 scored had occurred. However Gary Cotton, Bryan Chapman, Ian Fisher and Rick Meyrick had other ideas and after a rain break came back strongly winning 5 ends on the trot to close the gap to 9-11 with 2 to play. The penultimate end proved vital as Warwick drew the shot with his last bowl gaining a 3 shot advantage going into the last end which proved enough as they won 13-9.

Congratulations to **Warwick, Paul Hickey, Richard Ludbrook and John Formston**, the **Club's Championship Fours winners for 2016.**

For John, it was his first senior title and reward for his exceptional bowls during the event.



PAIRS : This year 19 teams entered the Champion Pairs with the qualifying rounds played on Saturday 10 December with the weather looking ominous. However, it was not until the third round that the "light" rain started and with warm conditions and the greens playable every game was

played out to its conclusion – some adapted to the conditions better than others! At the end of the days play 10 teams had the required 2 or 3 wins including junior bowlers **James Drummond and Derek Standen** as well as veteran bowlers **Bill Brown and Paul Tindall, Norm Spencer and Frank Walmsley (Frank's first Championship event for 7 years!)** and **2015 winners Warwick Alexander and Rick Meyrick**. Surprise non-qualifiers were the multi “ham” winners Mark Griffiths and Pax Vermeulen and Les Brown and Bruce Hickman (great to see Bruce back playing Championship bowls after a 10 years plus absence).

Now to post section with 6 teams having byes into the quarter final matches, 4 teams contested the last 2 spots! **Paul Hickey beating Norm Spencer 23-16** after Norm managed to whip out his closest bowl to drop 6 shots! And in a close game **Kevin Hurren beating James Drummond 16-14**. The four quarter final games proved relative easy wins for all four teams – **Bill Brown 21-10 over Murray Martin, Ian Fisher 23- 9 over Warwick Alexander, Michael Savage 23-9 over the “bye king” Malcolm Jacob and Paul Hickey 22-13 over Kevin Hurren**. The two semi-finals were both closely contested over the early stages with **Bill and Ian** at 7-9 after 11 ends then the **Fishers** pulled away for a 19-12 victory. While in the **Hickey v Savage game**, the score was 9-10 after 8 ends with a 6 and a 4 helping **Paul and Richard Ludbrook** stay in touch. Both leads traded ends with **Richard and Ming Fong** both playing well in what were very windy and gusty conditions. After 16 ends Hickey led 19-16 but a fine metre over shot by Michael moved the jack to secure 2 shots to bring them back to within one. Ming had a fairly close shot on the last end but Michael was able to draw 2 more closer with Paul failing with his 2 draw shots and resorting to an up shot with his last bowl which went wide, the 3 shots enabled Michael and Ming to win 21 -19.

Congratulations to both teams with **Neil (skip) and Ian the defending champions who will play Michael and Ming (first time Howick finalists) on finals day** on 11th March 2017 !



TRIPLES : The **pre-Christmas weekend** saw the triples played with only 8 teams entered which was a disappointing number and hopefully next year we can avoid scheduling championship events at this time! Despite the small number there were some close and competitive games with **Warwick Alexander beating Malcom Jacob 15-14** then the former losing on an extra end to **Richard Ludbrook's team skipped by Michael Savage with John Taylor** at lead.

The shot was held by both teams during the extra end with Warwick drawing the shot with his penultimate bowl only to have Michael draw inside his bowl and Warwick's drive to win the game just missed.

This result meant that **Warwick, Ian Fisher and Paul Hickey** needed to win their last round game against **James Drummond's team of Derek Standen** (skip for this game) **with John Formston** lead. The game after 11 ends was tied up 11 all then Derek's team gained the ascendancy with John Formston now having the upper hand at lead and both James and Derek able to capitalise on this. They raced to a 16-7 lead after 15 ends but the opposition came storming back with a 5, 1 and a 2 to close the gap to 15-16 at the end. This win was a fine effort from the 2 juniors and John to win against last year's triples runner up! Another close game was **Bruce Hickman's win 16-14 against Norm Spencer's team of John Hector -Taylor and Frank Baughan** (great to see Frank back playing again). **Malcolm Jacob** gained his qualifying win against a team skipped by **Russell McKay, Vern Patterson and Barry O'Brien** – it was a close game with the scores locked at 13 all after 14 ends but Malcolm pulled away to win 22-13.

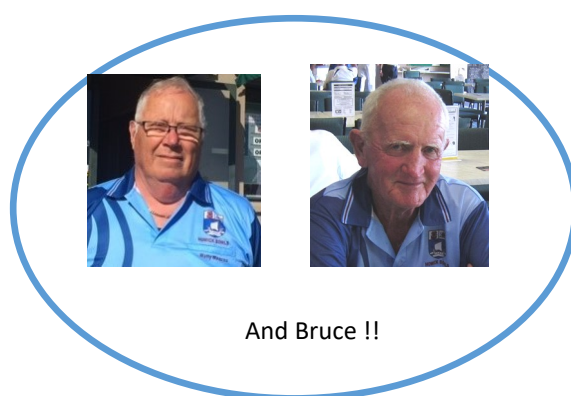
Now to post section with three teams gaining the 2 or 3 wins to qualify with the team entered by **Richard Ludbrook** drawing the bye and therefore entry into the final to be played on 11 or 12 March 2017.

That left Malcolm Jacob to play **Bruce Hickman for the other final place. Bruce's team of Ivan Agnew and Wally Mearns** made no race of it after gaining the maximum 6 shots on the end 6 to take a 9-2 lead they never looked back and secured their win 17-8 over **Malcolm, Tony Mitchinson and John Walkden**.

It proved to be a perfect weekend for bowls with fine warm condition with a "fairly" light breeze – we can all look forward to the final in March.



**Men's
Triples
Finalists**



And Bruce !!

2016 Men's Veteran SinglesDark Horse makes Final

There were 18 entries, so 3 sections of 6, with all playing 2 games and marking 1 on each of the first 2 days. The top 2 in each section qualified along with the best two 3rd placed.

The first day 24 November ended with 6 winning both their games. At the end of day two on 1 December we had 6 qualifiers with 3 wins each and the final 2 qualifiers with 2 wins each. There were no 4 winners, some very close games, some upsets and surprise results!

Qualifiers with 3 wins were: **Warwick Alexander, Kevin Dumper, Ken McIntyre, Maurice Turley, Ivan Agnew, Gary Finnemore.** The qualifiers with 2 wins were **Richard Ludbrook, and Tony Mitchinson.**

The final day with 4 quarterfinals, 2 semi-finals, and Final, was a perfect summers day with a gentle SW breeze, on 15 December.

Some great bowls were played on all 3 days, impressing some knowledgeable spectators!

Veteran Singles continued.

In the quarterfinals Warwick Alexander beat Tony Mitchinson

Ivan Agnew beat Maurice Turley 18-15

Ken McIntyre beat Gary Finnemore 18-17

Richard Ludbrook beat Kevin Dumper 18-14

In the semi-finals Ken McIntyre beat Richard Ludbrook 18-16

Warwick Alexander beat Ivan Agnew 21-13

In the Final Warwick Alexander was a clear winner over Ken McIntyre 18-6

Warwick lost only 1 game, on the second day to Gary Finnemore.

With thanks to Paul and his helpers for setting up B Green each day and thanks to the volunteer markers for the quarterfinals on the morning of day 3.

John Hector-Taylor Convenor



The Women have only completed 2 of their Championships so far.

Women's Championship Singles.

On December 14th-15th the Championship Singles were played in very trying weather. Very overcast, showery with strong winds.

9 players started the competition, and some great bowls were played. One notable game was between **Estelle Hickey** and **Lynette Baigent**. A very close game with Estelle finally winning.

Another exciting game was between **Diane Harris** and **Cecilie McIntyre**. Cecilie caught up from a long way back to trail Diane 17/18. She was holding 4 shots, enough to take her to the win. Diane managed to cut it to 3 shots which left Cecilie leading 20/18. Again she held shots to seal the win before Diane killed the end, and with very good play Diane emerged the winner 21/20.

By the following day only 3 players remained, Joylene Young with 2 lives, **Estelle** and **Diane** with one each.

Joylene had the bye, and Diane defeated Estelle.

Diane then played Joylene and won 21/8. The result was then reversed in the final game which Joylene won 21/16.

Congratulations to Joylene on being the HWBC SINGLES CHAMPION for 2017



Championship Pairs. January 14/15th.

It was very pleasing to see some of the junior players taking part in the Champ. Pairs.

A total of 12 teams started in fine but windy conditions, with some wonderful bowling on display.

Sandra and Nola had a particularly close and interesting game only losing by 1 to **Betty and Joy**.

Another team playing really well was **Joylene and Valmai** (only a fourth year player), they only just lost in the semi final to **Paulene and Cecilie**.

Lynette and Joyce were also playing great bowls, and also only lost at the semifinal stage.

Champ Pairs continued.

The final was a close game with **Estelle and Sue** securing a narrow victory over **Paulene and Cecilie**, by this time the wind was very strong and tricky.

It was very close all the way, with Paulene and Cecilie holding 2 shots to tie the score at 14 all going into the last end, but a brilliant bowl from Skip Estelle took the jack back to give them a buffer in the 18th end which they won, still holding 2 lives.

Well done.

Congratulations **Estelle and Sue**, Championship Pairs winners 2016/2017 for the second year in a row.



MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS DAY

**SATURDAY 11 March 2017
(RESERVE DAY SUNDAY 12 MARCH)**

ORDER OF PLAY

9.30 CHAMPIONSHIP TRIPLES

**Bruce Hickman (s) Ivan Agnew Wally Mearns
V**

**Richard Ludbrook Michael Savage (s) John
Taylor**

***Not before 12.00* CHAMPIONSHIP PAIRS**

**Ian Fisher Neil Fisher (s)
V
Michael Savage (s) Ming Fong**

***Not before 2.30* CHAMPIONSHIP SINGLES**

**Les Brown
V
Michael Savage** **Marker : President
Flemming Andersen.**

The Club will be putting on a sausage sizzle from around midday. Our President Flemming and the Executive extend a welcome to all members and friends from both Clubs to come and support the finalists.

Auckland Centre Events

MEN'S AUCKLAND SINGLES CENTRE EVENT

The last of the Centre events was played on the weekend of 21 & 22nd January 2017. Six Howick members entered the field of 156 with those qualifying being Ian Fisher (finding much easier to qualify in the National and Auckland singles than the Club event!). Warwick Alexander and Neil Fisher with all gaining three wins in section play. Those to miss out were our Club singles finalists' Michael Savage, Les Brown and Gary Finnemore.

With Warwick and Neil gaining byes into the last 32 Ian was required to play the first round which unfortunately for him he played a local Pakuranga player on their artificial green and lost by the familiar score of 5-21. Warwick and Neil both comfortably won their first games which were back on the natural surface but played on a slow green in very windy conditions. Warwick was beaten 14-21 in the last 16 round with Neil winning 21-19 before beating Warwick's previous opponent 21-4 in a commanding display.

The **semi and final** are to be played on the Auckland Reserve weekend of 11 and 12 February 2017. Day and Venue to be announced on the Auckland Bowls web site www.aucklandbowls.co.nz and in the "Friday Flash" publication. **Good Bowling Neil !!**

Auckland Centre Women's Pairs.

In the last Buzz we reported that **Diane Harris and Sue Peters** made it to the final of this event, but they lost to Pt Chev's Aggie Motu and Kirsty Hill in a very close game. Diane and Sue led 12/7 before a 5 in the 13th end tied the game and the Pt Chev team went on to win 18/13. A great effort though from our players .

COACHING is a vital part of our Club, and an excellent way of bringing new players into the fold. Many thanks to the Coaching Team who help the potential and existing members on Tuesday and Saturday mornings . It gets them off to an excellent start. The convenor of the Coaching Group (Harry, Gary, Mary, Malcolm and others) this year is Ralph Pemberton who shares his knowledge here with ALL MEMBERS .



This group were with Gary Finemore last Tuesday .

Ralph's Bowls Buzz Coaching Tip

DEALING WITH PRESSURE IN A GAME OF BOWLS

Consider what happens when the pendulum of a game swings against your team and you are trailing on the board by say 6 shots with four ends to go. This may have been prompted by the opposition playing better, change in weather conditions to which we have not adjusted or a huge slice of bad luck. Anxiety, worry, tension, pressure or whatever sets in and this normally translates into poor performance.

With some players the resolve to win becomes more intense, consequently their focus and game performance moves to another level, these sportsmen are rare. For most bowlers our skill level reduces. Why is this? Firstly we should recognise the effect on us:- In an effort to turn the table we rush our game. You may have noticed that a player or team trying to catch up are inclined to rush onto the mat, almost pushing their opponent, and deliver their bowl without going through their normal routine.

The pre-shot routine goes out the window and sometimes we will attempt shots we have not mastered, with unsuccessful result. A common fault when trying to catch up in a game is short bowls. We all understand that if we are to influence the head our bowl must reach it. Why then do we bowl short? I believe the game tension (pressure) we feel at that time translates from our mind to the muscles of our bowling arm and we push rather than deliver the bowl which comes up short.

Remember you can't control what your opposition does, but you can control what you do or what may affect you. Having identified the problem, what shall we do?

- Avoid becoming upset or emotionally involved if things are going **wrong**.

KEEP CALM, RELAXED AND FOCUSED ON YOUR GAME. Let others look after theirs. This is something we need to practice in addition to the technical aspect of bowls.

- Deep breathing can be a useful tool to help you relax. Greater intake of oxygen will slow down the heart rate and relax your muscles.

" **SLOW DOWN,SLOW DOWN,SLOW DOWN**". This is the singular most important suggestion I can give you. -

Pre-shot routine: The ingredients of a successful pre-shot routine will be revisited later in our sessions.

In summary, the pre-shot routine prompts the mind and body that the delivery is about to follow and let's make it a great one.

-Other considerations

Positive thoughts

Commitment to shot

Relaxing bowling arm and shoulder.



What a HERO!



When All Whites legend Adrian Elrick collapsed playing bowls yesterday, he was lucky Sam Dockary was on hand to perform CPR and use a defibrillator to save his life.

Elrick – part of the history-making All Whites 1982 World Cup final squad – paid tribute from his hospital bed last night: **“When I talk to Sam I will say thanks for saving my life. If he hadn’t been there, I wouldn’t be here.”**

Full story p2



Sam Dockary.
Andrew Warner

Did you read this ? It is proposed to hold another session on the use of our Club Defibrillator, kindly donated last year by **Ormiston Hospital**. Please make a major effort to come along to this, you just never know when you could be needed, and the new system ‘talks’ you through each stage, much easier to use than previous models.

Thanks for this contribution from Graham Warner.

WORLD BOWLS on YOUTUBE !

If you've not seen the World Bowls finals played at Burnside, Chch last December - or want to see them again - tune into Utube on the Internet, enter **"World Bowls NZ 2016"**, and search, and select the one(s) you want to watch. The comments of players and commentators are also interesting.



Also now on Utube is **World Indoor Bowls Championship 2017** which started on 13th Jan. World indoor bowls is played on full sized carpet rinks, so that flat lawn bowls is available all year round especially in UK. Only breeze is when someone leaves a door open!!! All post qualifying rounds of the Pairs and singles are shown live on Utube with many live on UK TV.

This has resulted in an increase in Bowls Club membership in UK - whereas in NZ.....? The programmes are played over a 2 week period but take about 3/4 months to view fully - unless you tune into live viewing! Some players who appeared in Chch - Tatty Marshall, MBE (Made Bowling Easy)!, and Rob Preston, both from the UK are examples - and qualifiers from around the world including NZ, will play. I have been watching bowls on Utube for a few years now and the "highlights" of other major sports finding this service very interesting and informative.

Good Viewing,
Graham Warner

World Bowls NZ Men's Fours World Champions.

It doesn't happen very often,
but our Men's Fours just
blitzed Australia in Chch in
early December.

*Graham mentioned how you can
view these matches on YouTube.*

Sky TV are also currently
showing, as a short filler, the
final couple of ends of
**Shannon McIlroy's Singles
Final, quite dramatic!!**



Ali Forsyth who Skipped the winning team.



There are times when chalk seems to
disappear from the boards !

Next time you are passing a \$2 shop go
in and buy yourself a big box of chalk,
great value.

Bar Volunteers are still needed.
Thanks to those who have trained.

Please phone **Matt Pirie** 273 2505
or convenor **Henry Perkins**
Ph 535 4039



The new Drinking Tap is
proving very popular
with fresh cold water.

This is on the side of
the shed on B Green
and the committee will
arrange for a hose
holder beside it to keep
the hose off the path
beneath it.



*Advance Notice for the Grandparents' Tournament to be held **Thursday 6th April.**
Entry forms will be available from 15th March.*



Octogenarians Salver
Tuesday 31 st January.
Check on Page 4 for the
upcoming events to enter .
Saturday & Tuesday
coaching 9am

Plus our weekly bowls:

Tuesday mornings 9.30 –12.30

Wednesday Open Triples 9.30— 4

Friday 2-4-2 1pm –4.30

Saturday Roll Ups 1pm -4.00

*It is important you are ready 15
minutes before these starting times
to enable the convenors to play too.*

Contributions are welcome any time.

Remember to look at our club website howickbowls.nz

On behalf of the committees, Cecilie McIntyre

cecilie@xtra.co.nz