



# Howick Bowls Buzz

## March—April 2017



*Men's World Singles Champion Shannon Mcllroy playing for Stoke in the final of the National Interclub.*

### **2017 National Interclub Finals. Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March.**

**Howick was the headquarters** for this exciting 3 day event, on the first 2 days we hosted teams of 7 players from 24 different NZ wide clubs who had won their centre titles, then 12 clubs on the Sunday for the knockout quarter, semi and exciting Finals.

Catering for this many visitors does not simply 'happen' so a special thanks to those members responsible for helping in so many different ways especially the early starts for those setting up the greens (and clearing up after play each day) and the group who made the delicious sandwiches, rolls and slices to feed the players and spectators. Many members marked the singles, with 8 am starts on the weekend matches.

The current World Men's Singles Champion Shannon Mcllroy won his 3 singles games on Sunday although his team from Stoke lost the final 2/1 to the **Eastbourne Club**, representing Wellington. The Women's title was won by a self-described 'small country bowling club' from Waikato, the **Hinuera Club** who beat Victoria from Wellington also 2/1.

To the club members who had to use the artificial greens for the Friday 2/4/2, Saturday morning coaching and Saturday roll up, we thank you for your understanding. We will again have Bowls NZ back all Easter as we will be hosting the National Under 18 and Under 21 tournament so will again be asking for volunteers for that. Please offer your services, it really is fun to be involved. **Markers required See Page 9.**





## Gordon Smith Cup 2017



*The co-sponsors and winners Evan , Paul, John, Warwick and Bob.*

Another very successful **Gordon Smith Tournament** was held early March, with 48 triples teams from our members and several local clubs. **Pax Vermuelen** worked very hard filling the 3 greens so each could have 6 cash prizes, with the 3 winners taking home \$300 per team.

The overall winner of the Gordon Smith Cup was a Howick team of **Warwick Alexander, Paul Hickey and John Formston**. Thanks to all involved, especially the co-sponsors, our own **Bob Holt and Evan Murdoch**.



Recently Joy Baughan was honoured by Bowls NZ as the **NZ Official of the Year** for 2015-6.

A morning tea was held and Jeanette Sinclair from Bowls NZ came to present the award.

There was a very good turnout of members, including all the Men's Executive and several of Joy's family members.

*Last year Joy was awarded the Auckland Bowls Official of the Year and it is a wonderful achievement to see the hours of officiating at Club, Centre and International level has been recognised at an even higher level.*



## Club Captain's Report

Well the Summer season is drawing to a close, while it has not been the best of summers weather wise, it has still been a busy season.

Firstly I would like to mention **Joy Baughan's** winning Official of The Year. A well-deserved Award, Joy puts so much energy and effort into whatever she does. Congratulations - Well done Joy.



Another event that comes to mind was the **National Interclub**, played at our club, which was the headquarters for the week. Well done to all members who helped make this event a big success. I would also like to mention the **Gordon Smith** and all the others, well done to **Warwick Alexander, Maurice Turley, Frank Walmsley and Pat Hindle** for the running of these events.

A big thanks to **Paul Hickey** and his great team of helpers, we all know who they are, as one great man said so much is owed by so many to so few. Well done team.



Malcolm

I would like to mention three other members, **Malcolm Jacobs, Harry Williams, and Danny Belsham** these members have been working on the roof on D Green Toilet Block, it has been a big job. They have done a mighty job that roof will never leak again. A big thank you to you.

A big Get Well to Paul Hickey, we wish you a speedy recovery after your two hip replacements.

To finish off, I would like to congratulate all our new bowling champions for 2017 and well done to all the runner ups.

Thank you all.

*Peter O'Flaherty*



Harry



Danny



Some of the Lunch Ladies at the National Interclub Days.

*Thanks to all volunteers.*



As reported on **Page 6** in the previous buzz (tap [Bowls Buzz Jan-Feb 2017](#)) the Men's Champs were played up to the Finals stages in January.

*Unfortunately the much anticipated Finals Day coincided with the weather bomb which hit the North Island 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> March and these finals will now be played at times mutually agreed.*

### **Men's Championship Singles**

Before upwards of 40 spectators the rescheduled final of the Men's singles between **Les Brown and Michael Savage** was played on Tuesday 14 March. It was an absorbing match up with Michael's "old" wide bowls against Les with his extra narrow "new" bowls. The game was an even match up with Les gaining the early advantage leading 11-6 after 10 ends only to see Michael even the score at 11 all after 13 ends. Over the next 4 ends Les managed to secure 5 shots to lead out 16-12 but to be fair Michael had started to eliminate his short bowls with Les having to draw close with one bowl to secure a shot. Light rain fell and this seemed to be the catalyst for Michael to out draw Les with the latter's weight control faltering. Over the next 8 ends Michael was able to win 7 of these and lead 19-17 after 25 ends. Les did have a chance with his last bowl on the 24<sup>th</sup> end to trail the jack into the ditch to secure the 4 shots and the win – his narrow bowl stayed wide! Les did pick up a shot on the 26<sup>th</sup> end to narrow the score to 18-19 but after Les had bowled a front toucher with his first bowl and stayed close Michael with his second bowl was able to draw the shot and then with his last bowl was able to secure the win – this last bowl topped off what was the fine display by both players in what was a game worthy of the final.



**Congratulations to Michael (left)  
who is the Howick Men's 2016-17  
Senior Singles Champion.**



### **Junior Men's Singles**

Finalists **Tony Mitchinson (left) & Wally Mearns** are pictured here before they started, with Junior Convenor **Maurice Turley**. This is Maurice's last year as a junior and he has been a tower of strength in so many aspects of the club.

The final was rescheduled to mid week so the winner could represent our club in the Junior Champ of Champs the next weekend. Tony started strongly to lead 8/1 before Wally made a remarkable comeback to win 21/8.

**Congratulations Wally Mearns, Junior Champion 2017**

## Women's Championships Results

**The Women's Junior Singles** were held on the weekend of 4/5th February.



Eight ladies started in the competition, four of whom were first year players.

It was really wonderful to see these four ladies playing in their first championship event.

After three rounds had been completed, four players remained,

**Diane Klomp (2 lives), Christine Steel, Liz McFarlane and Alison Irvine** all with one life.

**Christine and Liz** both won their next round, leaving Liz to play Diane, while Christine had the bye.

**Diane was the winner of that game, and she then played Christine in the final.**

Both players played great bowls, with **Diane (left) emerging as the Junior Singles Champion.**

### Women's Championship Triples

Nine teams started this contest on 11/12th February, and once again it was wonderful to see juniors amongst the more senior players.

After 3 rounds five teams remained **with Betty, Joy and Jo and Phyllis, Sophia and Irene being the two lifers and Val, Alison and Helen, Sue, Estelle/ Barbara and Cecilie, and Diane, Joanne and Joylene all with one life.**

In the subsequent round Val had the bye, while Betty defeated Phyllis, and Sue lost to Diane. Round 5 saw Diane play Betty with a win to Diane's team, and Val won against Phyllis.

Diane then had the bye and Betty and Val played. A win to Betty.

The final between Betty's team and Diane's team was a very close contest all the way, with **Betty's team winning by one point.**



**Congratulations to the winners Betty Rush, Joy Baughan and Joyce Joe.**

Runners up **Diane Harris, Joanne Stanton and Joylene Young.**

A special mention for third place Val Gaudin, Alison Irvine and Helen Ongley, a great effort by you all.





## Women's Championship Fours

Six teams took to the greens on the 18/19th February.

As the heavy rain arrived on Friday we were lucky to get 2 rounds in on Saturday starting at the later time of 11.30.

Overnight rain again meant another late start on the Sunday.

At the conclusion of the 4 rounds three teams remained.

**Kay** had the bye, while **Betty and Diane** played, which resulted in a win for Diane.

Diane then had the bye and Betty and Kay played, with a win to Kay.

***The final was won by Diane's team.***

Congratulations to the winners, **Sue Peters, Cushla Ralph-Smith, Jo Stanton and Diane Harris** (left)

Runners up **Rosemary Ackerley, Diane Klomp /Val Gaudin, Cecilie McIntyre and Kaye Griffiths.**



## Women's First Year Singles

This year there were 6 entries for this and at the time of writing it has not been concluded.

There have been some high quality games, all played in a wonderful spirit with the final to be played between **Christine Hanton & Val Lofthouse.**

Pictured here, from the left:

**Pip Burns, Helen Ongley, Christine Hanton, Maureen Lumsden, Val Lofthouse and Carol Barr.**

*Late result.....*

**Congratulations to Val Lofthouse.**

**The winner of the  
First Year Singles Championship.**

**Val, right, beat Christine Hanton 21/14 in  
a very good final.**



## Men's Championship Pairs

The delayed Championship Pairs between the title defenders the “**Fisher**” brothers verses **Michael Savage (s) and Ming Fong** was played on the evening of Wednesday 22 March 2017.

The game was fairly even over the first part with Neil the stand out player with his excellent draw shots. After 5 ends the brothers lead 7-2 but with 3 singles drawn by Michael over the next 3 ends the score closed to 7-5. From then on Neil & Ian took control with a 2 then two 4s – the second of which Ming was holding 3 close shots but Neil with his first bowl trailed the jack back to 2 of Ian's waiting bowls, he then added a 4<sup>th</sup> shot. Michael went for the kill but to no avail. He did however kill a subsequent end and Michael and Ming went on to win two more ends but the game was conceded after 16 of the 18 ends with the score 19-7!

**Congratulations to Neil and Ian who retained their pairs title with Neil skipping this year.**



### Tuesday 21 February

### **Veteran Pairs**

The first day of the championship and the weather was ideal for bowling. With 13 entries we had 2 sections of 4 teams and 1 section of 5. The format was, all teams with 2 or 3 wins qualified for the 1 life knock out competitions at the end of the day's play. **9 teams had qualified - Agnew/Mason, Tindill/Walmsley and McIntyre/Smith from Section 1; Alexander/J Taylor and Mitchenson/Mearns from Section 2 and Formston/Marlin, Holt/Dumper, Weir/Ludbrook and Spencer/J H Taylor from Section 3.**

The elimination of last year's champions **Brown/Meyrick** was probably the biggest surprise.

### Tuesday 28 February

Again the weather was ideal for bowling, a light covering of cloud kept the temperature down a little, and there was just a gentle breeze.

A preliminary round was played to eliminate any byes, which resulted in a win for **Mitchinson over McIntyre**. From the resulting quarter final draw we had wins for **Mitchinson over Formston, Holt over Weir, Agnew accounted for Tindill and Alexander over Spencer**.

Both the semi final games resulted in big wins for **Alexander and Mitchinson**.

### Tuesday 7 March

A much cooler day with a threat of rain. The two teams which had played the most consistent bowls throughout the championship rightfully contested the final, which resulted with the game of the tournament. Alexander holding multiple shots on numerous ends only for Mitchenson to snatch the end away with superb draw bowling. Going into the 15th end 1 shot down Alexander managed to hold the two shots needed to win.

Congratulations to both teams led by **Wally Mearns and John Taylor**, skipped by **Tony Mitchinson and Warwick Alexander**. A game of top quality bowling.

Once again thanks to Paul and his tireless crew for preparing the greens for us.

## **Frank Walmsley    Convenor**







Another volunteer to work away quietly every Monday is **Ron Sprague** who comes to re arrange the tables and chairs downstairs and make sure the tables are cleaned. ***It's these small tasks which are appreciated.....***please think what YOU can do even in a small regular way to help make our club buzz along. Thanks Ron.

## Mens' 1st Year Singles.

The qualifying Rounds of this Championship were played on Saturday 18 March, with 5 new players entering their first Championship Event. 4 of these players would advance to the Knock Out event. Unfortunately **Peter Roylance** injured himself and had to withdraw during his third round game. This meant that the remaining four players qualified.

**Tony Williams** was the top Qualifier with an unbeaten record with **John Hanton** the next best qualifier followed by **Bob Loudon** and **Gordon Lumsden**.



John, Peter, Gordon, Tony, Bob.

The Knock Out event was played the following Saturday with Tony playing Bob and winning well and saw John coming from behind to beat Gordon 21-16.

**The Final was won by Tony Williams 21-7** and this result was indicative of Tony's play throughout the Championship.

Unbeaten, the hours of practice he put in were well justified. Thanks must go to the **coaching and support the Club's Coaches** have provided throughout the year. They have found the Club some real talent. *My congratulations to these new Members.*

**Maurice Turley Junior Convenor.**



**Wally Mearns, Greg Standon and Greg Holt** playing in the 1-5 year Auckland Reps at Papatoetoe in February.



Val Lott brought her Homestay visitors to Twilight recently.

They loved their first taste of bowls!



## **Urgent Request to Members.**

Our Club needs to 'supply' a minimum of **25 Markers** PER DAY for the **Easter tournament in April**. These youngsters will come from all over NZ to play in this event, 2 days for each and they are always grateful to the markers.

The Under 18 will have 3 rounds on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> and 2 rounds on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup>.

The Under 21 will play 3 rounds on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> and 2 rounds on Monday 17<sup>th</sup>.

Please phone **Joy Baughan Ph 537 4978** if you can assist on any of these days.

*Markers will be provided  
with lunch.*

**Thank you !!**

Entries for the **Grandparents'** tournament to be held on Thursday 6th April have been open since 15th March at the Men's notice board, and will close at 1 p.m. on Wednesday 5th April 1 p.m.



**Format is 3 bowls singles, and scoring is on the target system i.e. 3-2-1**

Three rounds of 45 mins each, plus mark at least one round .

*As well as prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd, there will be 3 lucky dips, and 1 secret score.!!*

*Entry fee is \$4, and check in time is between 8.30 a.m. and 9.00 a.m.*

*Bring your lunch and money for raffles.*

**This is for both men and women Grandies and is something NEW.**

**Convenor Henry Perkins.**

**ENTRIES CLOSE ON  
WEDNESDAY 5TH 1PM  
DON'T DELAY !!**

## **Why Not Whist !!**

Every Thursday upstairs. 10 am Start  
An easy card game, help given if needed.



**Phone  
Mary Bird 534 9675**

## OCTOGENARIAN SALVER

This year was something special. For the first time it was a mixed tournament.

We were lucky it was an ideal morning with a light cloud cover and only a gentle breeze.

**We had 28 entries, so it made it ideal for pairs.** After the skips were selected it was a blind draw for the lead. Before morning tea 10 ends were played, then we retired to the club house for the delicious morning tea supplied by the Ladies Club. After a very cordial break the players decided that they could manage another 10 end game.

The winners at the end of play were **Tony Karpick (skip) and Selwyn March (lead).**

It was good to see a few retired members attending to catch up with some of the more mature members. A special thank you to the ladies who supplied the morning tea, organised by President Di Harris.

The playing green was, as usual, a credit to the club, thanks to the ground staff.

**Frank Walmsley Convenor**



Selwyn & Tony



Our summer season of Twilight Bowls again proved a resounding success and we are grateful to Heartland for the sponsorship, which allows 'Twilight' players a welcome steppingstone between coaching and competition. The Club benefits hugely from our 'newbies' enjoying a gentle transition into a more formal bowls environment and we thank those more experienced bowlers who are willing to attend regularly and share their experience.

Although this summer's weather demanded several cancellations, we are all glad to have enjoyed so many social summer Thursday evenings. The good-natured banter during results announcements, and the level of chatter during the ensuing light meal has been heartwarming, and clear evidence Twilight is valued. Our special thanks to those who prepare the greens and to our green keeper Paul Hickey who never fails to see we get to play on the best available greens each week.

Thank you to Heartland and all who participated.

We look forward to seeing many of you at  
**Burgers & Bowls** on Sundays later in the year.

**Maurice and Irene Turley**



## Syd Campbell

I wonder how many of you saw Syd, our hard working Life Member who now lives in Christchurch, popping up on TV last month. He was offering to share the courgettes he had grown with those helping after yet another clean up in that city.



Better news from Ken & Joan Ransom.

**Joan** is recovering in hospital and we wish her a speedy recovery. They appreciate the flowers which Paulene sent.

**Greg Holt** has also been able to return from Sydney to Auckland hospital.

We hope to see him back playing soon.

Good luck to club members who have entered the **World Masters Bowls** events. Other members will enjoy watching.

These are being held from **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April till Friday 28<sup>th</sup>** with no play scheduled for Anzac Day Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Carlton Cornwall Club is the Headquarters with greens also being used at Mt Eden and Remuera Clubs.**

**Did you know this is the World's LARGEST multi-sport event??!!**

**There will be 25 000 participants from 100 countries competing in 28 sports and 45 disciplines.  
Auckland will be buzzing !!**



## Obituary Heather Low



**Heather was President** when I as a very junior member of the Howick W B C and being very much the old school she instilled in us the 'correct way' to dress and behave on the bowling green. Over the years I came to admire her standards and we became very supportive in our various jobs in the Club. Heather was a dab hand in the kitchen and taught me how to make the delicious pin wheel sandwiches that were her signature dish when required to bring a plate. I found it very telling that Diane asked me to show how to make these sandwiches and we were meeting in my kitchen for a 'lesson' on the very day Heather passed away.



The Howick Women's Bowling Club was a very important part of Heather's life and to us older members she will be remembered for being part of our club history as President and a valued member.

**Maureen Ransley, Immediate Past President**

### New Kitchen Downstairs



Thanks to those involved with these improvements.

### **Reminder to ALL VOLUNTEERS!!**

If you have performed Voluntary Services at Howick Bowls during the past year of any nature then this invitation is for you.

The Men, Women and Nixon Park Bowls Board Executives are inviting you to join them for free drinks and nibbles on **Monday 3rd April from 4 pm to 5 pm** at Howick Bowling Club as a thank you for all you have done for your clubs during the past year.

We look forward to seeing you there.

### **Contributions to Bowls Buzz are welcome anytime.**

Don't forget to look at our club website [Howickbowls.nz](http://Howickbowls.nz)

On this you can open any of the previous Buzz editions and read more about our club.

On behalf of the committees.

Cecilie McIntyre

[cecilie@xtra.co.nz](mailto:cecilie@xtra.co.nz)

