



18th December 2020

THE TOUCHER

Raumati Bowling Club

1 Matatua Road, Raumati Beach

Phone: 904-7823

News from the President

As this will be our final newsletter for this unusual year, I'd like to take the opportunity to wish you all a very pleasant Christmas and New Year.

For some of us it will be a time of family gatherings and creating more happy memories, but for others, especially those club members who have lost loved ones or whose family are overseas and unable to travel there, it will be a more sombre time. I hope you all make the effort to contact friends over the festive season.

The club's Christmas Party was a wonderful occasion and a credit to all those who were involved. I loved it even though I'm not very comfortable wearing one of those little pointed hats!

So here we are at the end of one of the weirdest years imaginable. Nothing prepared any of us for the impact Covid-19 would have on the world or our little patch, and yet you all coped exceptionally well. Sacrifices were made, you all became accustomed to using the Covid App on your phone, sanitising your hands, signing in, keeping your distance and staying away if you felt unwell because you all knew what was at stake.

Covid is not beaten and we still need to take care, but 2021 promises to be more positive.

Thank you all for your wonderful support through these trying times. Keep smiling and remember to ask someone today " have you ever thought of joining a bowls club?"

Best wishes, President John

RAUMATI VILLAGE PARTY



Thanks to Laurie and Lenor for promoting the club at the recent Raumati Village party. They met some very interesting people there!





It has been traditional for Full Playing Members to be allocated a locker to store any personal effects they wish on joining the club. It has not been club practice in the past to supply keys as there has been a concern that members may arrive at the club having lost/misplaced or left their key at home and unable to get their bowls for play, causing a degree of distress.

Some members have expressed a concern about the security of their personal belongings and would like a key allocated.

The club is happy to provide a key to any member on the understanding it is their responsibility to ensure it is safely retained and available to them to access their locker when at the club.

Any member wishing to obtain a key for their locker should email Laurie Flynn at ... laurie.flynn@xtra.co.nz

Championship Events – several events have had their qualifying rounds over the past month. Congratulations to all participants in these matches – there have been some very close games and first year players have showed their talents.

Women’s Junior Singles – qualifiers – Kathy Ebney-Meechan & Sue Veart – final on 10th January

Women’s Open Singles – qualifiers – Jane Bradbury, Kathy Roe, Moira Wilson, Pat Taylor & Sue McFarlane will play in post-section competition on 16th January

Men’s Open Singles – Laurie Flynn, Neal Pritchard, Reg Goston & Ted Marshall will play the Semi & Final on 16th January

Spectators welcome for this singles final day – will be closely fought matches to watch

PATRON’S GALA – A very enjoyable gala was held on 2nd November with 36 members participating. Thanks to Bill Moffatt for his generous sponsorship of prizes and afternoon tea this day. Ted Marshall & Roger Matthews organise the teams for the progressive triples – many had not played this game before and found it very enjoyable. Top spot for each grade – Lead – Sue Veart, 2 - Laurie Flynn, Skip – Ron Snowden.

Friday night social time - Bar open from 4.30pm. Raffles. Lucky draw at 6.00pm.

Lucky number draw - Remember you need to be there to win - the pool starts at \$40 and increases by \$20 a week if not struck. When it reaches \$200 it must be won. NEXT WEEK - \$60

Results of the last month – Eddie Doran \$180, Maureen Gestro N/S, Bill Charman N/S, Milan Brajkovich N/S, Jill Doran \$100, Stuart Wilson N/S

Welcome to New members – please add these names and numbers to your handbook

Denise Garnham	10 Conifer Court, Raumati	021 97597....	Social
Michelle Macdonald	14 Te Maku Grove, Waikanae	027 089 4855	Casual

Sponsors Event – will be held in February – date to be confirmed. Play for the GOLDEN BOWL

Business House Bowls – a new initiative this year will be held on 11th, 18th & 25th March 2021. Play will be in Bowls 3Five format. Thanks to the organising team – Roger Matthews, Kip & Ted Marshall

Functions at club over past few weeks

Pat has been doing a brilliant job managing a large number of outside groups booking for Christmas functions and bowls. Many of these have been very last-minute bookings - Christmas seems to have crept up on people. Participants in each have shown real enthusiasm for our game and were delighted with the service and facilities offered at the club.

Special thanks to Pat, Don & the bar team & the helpers out on the green – welcoming these groups contributes to our coffers but even more importantly introduces a large group of often younger people to our sport. A considerable number of those who have enjoyed events have shown real interest in Community and/or Business House Bowls for 2021.



The winning team from the Wilderness Florist (Seaview Road, Paraparaumu Beach)



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Community Bowls this proved popular last summer and is again on the programme for early next year. It will commence on Monday 1st February and continue through till 8th March. This is open to anyone so you're encouraged to invite neighbours and friends to join in. It is often the first step towards membership. Thanks to the organising group for this – Dennis Hawkings, Laurie Flynn, Ross Martin & Roger Noble



Entries for 2020-21 Centre events are still being accepted. To enter paste this into your browser - www.bowlskapiticoast.com to find the "Enter Open events" tab. Members are urged to enter future Centre events – these are open to all full members (there is no special entry criteria) and provides a great opportunity to play in competitions with members of other clubs on various greens.

Upcoming Centre events post-New Year include:

Singles – year 1 & 2 players – entries close 14th January

Junior (5 year & under) any combo pairs 2x4x2 – entries close 4 March

Men's & Women's Open singles – entries close 18 March

CLUB DAYS - Wednesday & Saturday afternoons – discs in by 1.15 for 1.30pm start please

PROFILE



Often the men's talk in the clubrooms is steered towards British Football. There are several members who avidly follow the sport and let everyone know when their particular team is doing well. One of those is our new Almoner Glenn Blakey. As a youngster, Glenn played for the Manchester United under 12 team. Great things were in the wind for this talented player- until he broke his leg late in the match.

Glenn left school at 16 and started work as a typewriter technician, gaining a qualification which helped him get a job with Armstrong and Springhall when he first came to New Zealand in 1972.

He returned to the UK a couple of years later and eventually owned his own company, Delta Office Equipment which had contract with several large companies including Barclays Bank, the Daily Mirror and Kellogg's.

But it wasn't all work and no play for Glenn. He operated a mobile disco for 12 years around the Manchester area and has some 'interesting' stories to tell when the time

is right!

Glenn and his wife Karen came to New Zealand in 2005, first of all to Hamilton, then Paraparaumu and then Tasmania. Life there wasn't quite what they wanted and so they returned to Paraparaumu and of course they joined the Raumatī Bowling Club.

Both New Zealand citizens, Glenn has two sons and also a daughter and son who are step children. Unfortunately none of these family members nor their four grandchildren aged 2-17, live in New Zealand which has meant that, up til Covid restrictions, Glenn and Karen have done quite a bit of travelling to visit them.

As well as spending a fair bit of time bowling, Glenn volunteers for Aged Concern Red Cross and is very involved in Waikanae Lions. He has also competed in three marathons and two half marathons- all for charity.

SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER – CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Christmas Party saw just over 90 members, partners and friends enjoy a fabulous dinner, great company and music.

A BIG thankyou to the Social Team, raffle sellers & drawers, bar staff and everyone who contributed to making this such a success.

A small selection of photos from the night are below – you can see 3 of the happy raffle winners – Roger Matthews, Sue Muir, Bob Darragh in deep thought before selecting his prize; Jane Bradbury with sponsor Ceinwen Howard; Carol & Charles Agate, Roger & Lee Matthews & Sue Muir; John McBeth looking particularly Christmassy with his hat. AND – the stars of the dance floor – Bob and Anne Ashman

There are many more photos which can be seen on the screen at the club one day soon and also on the club website www.raumatibowlingclub.co.nz



And after the party – Steve & Rob swept the floor, wiped tables and put back chairs and tables – while being watched by a few of us who felt we should help but didn't although were suitably encouraging of their contribution.

Supporting other clubs - We receive frequent invitations for us to enter events at other clubs. Keep an eye out for these invitations. They are posted on the noticeboard in the small room next to the bar.

Our major event of the summer will be the **TigerTurf Mixed Triples** on the 13th and 14th February. There will be some very attractive prize money and other prizes from the sponsors so please enter your team asap.

Earlier in the year, many of our new members underwent some very beneficial coaching under the guidance of Dennis Hawkings. One of the parts of the programme was a visit from local **fitness instructor** Steve Lawson. Such was the interest and feedback regarding this, that Steve has produced a video for us. Each video outlines a simple exercise which can be easily done at home. All that is required is a chair. Have a look in our New Players section on the website. Thanks Steve

www.raumatibowlingclub.co.nz - Take a look at the new photos in the GALLERY – Bill Moffatt is adding to these whenever he gets photos sent. Both bowling and social photos included.

REMEMBER - The NZ Covid Tracing QR Code is on both the front and back door for your use & register if you are not using the app.

PLEASE DO NOT COME TO THE CLUB IF YOU ARE FEELING UNWELL OR IF YOU ARE UNCOMFORTABLE ABOUT MIXING WITH OTHERS AT THE MOMENT.

SANITISER IS AVAILABLE AT BOTH DOORS OF THE CLUB AND IN THE BOX WITH THE MATS AND JACKS DOWN BY THE GREEN FOR YOUR USE.

If you have any items or have suggestions as to what you would like to see in the newsletter, please let Sue McFarlane know at smcfarlane@slingshot.co.nz or 974 1314

Next Newsletter – mid-January 2021