

### **A New Season**

*A new bowls season is under way. Under the new way of thinking it is just one long season - seamless, there's no start and no end. I've been reading a bit of club history. In the 1930's and 40's the club was not usually able to open the one natural green until mid October and usually closed again by mid April - a six month season. Even when I started playing here around 2000 if the spring was wet we couldn't usually start until at least mid September, and often it was playing on scrims for a few weeks. Then when the Astrograss green was installed a much longer season was possible and the economics of running a large club suddenly improved. No longer did our premises sit idle for a long period, the bar and kitchen generated more profit, and we were able to accumulate a much larger surplus to be reinvested in our facilities.*

*And so the next stage is here and it will be up to our club's Executive to maximise the possibilities of having two greens available twelve months of the year. We will need to explore the ways clubs such as Waikanae and Raumati use their resources. The club is totally unrecognisable from what it was in 2000. The 10 Year Plan will continue to evolve the club.*

### **Your Elected Leaders for 2023-24**

Patron	<b>Margaret Griffin</b>
President	<b>Les Galloway</b>
Vice President	<b>Brian Cooper</b>
Secretary	<b>Grahame Law</b>
Treasurer	<b>Dave Grigg</b>
	<b>Chris Hogan</b>
Executive Members	<b>Liz Galloway</b>
	<b>Kay Lahman</b>
	<b>Jim Winter</b>
Match Committee (Convenor)	<b>Julie Stichbury</b>
	<b>Norman Annand</b>
	<b>Pat Brown</b>
	<b>Bill Clelland</b>
	<b>Wayne Judd</b>
	<b>Duncan Mann</b>
	<b>Wendy Whitelaw</b>
Club Captains	<b>Bronwyn McMahon</b>
	<b>Brian Cooper</b>
Selectors	
Women	<b>Chloe Eastham</b>
	<b>Kay Hogan</b>
Men	<b>Bill Clelland</b>
	<b>Neville Turnbull</b>

### **Coming Events**

#### **October**

- Wed 4 *Life Members Mixed Pairs gala*
- Sat 7 *Women's Balloted 2 x 4 x 2 Pairs p / s*
- Sun 8 *Kapiti Coast v Wanganui (away)*
- Tue 10 *Pennants Day 1*
- Sat 14 *BKC Women's Triples*  
*Men's Triples champ qualifying*
- Sun 15 *BKC Women's Triples*  
*Men's Triples champ p / s*
- Mon 16 *BKC Women's Triples*
- Wed 18 *Rotary Round 1: Levin*
- Sat 21 *BKC Men's Triples*  
*Women's Triples qualifying*
- Sun 22 *BKC Men's Triples*  
*Women's Triples p / s*
- Mon 23 *BKC Men's Triples Labour Day*



### **New Members?**

**Please welcome Adam Batty and Iraia Peni (from Central) as full members.**

### **The Foxton & Beach Challenge**

**A pity that this event had to be cancelled. Hopefully it can be revived before too long.**

## ***The First New Season's Championships***

The Men's and Women's Balloted Triples were the first of the new season's championships to be decided over the weekend 8 - 9 September followed by the Men's and Women's Balloted 2 x 4 x 2 Pairs. The size of the fields were disappointing - seven men's triples, six women's triples and then eleven for the Mixed Balloted Triples.

The idea of scheduling the balloted events at the beginning of the season is primarily to get any new members and our less experienced members to be able to interact on the green and later socially with our established members in events where they can enter and, by the luck of the draw, get teamed up with some of our top players, and, perhaps win a club title. But this did not happen this time as only 21 men and 18 women (a total of only 39 of our 108 members) took part in the men's and women's triples, and only 33 in the mixed event.

Perhaps it is time to rethink these events as our programme is so crowded that it would be good to eliminate events which prove unpopular, or maybe schedule them mid-week as we did a couple of seasons back, or spread them throughout the season. After all most Tuesdays we get more than 33 players on the green for roll up. Or, am I wrong? Maybe its just too much bowls as a result of a very full winter programme? Or is it the usual terrible weather in September? Whatever is the case we need to take another look at these events.

### ***Winners and Runners Up***



***Winners (left) the henchmen Brett, Jim and Bill, and Runners up Rob, Norm and Kevin***

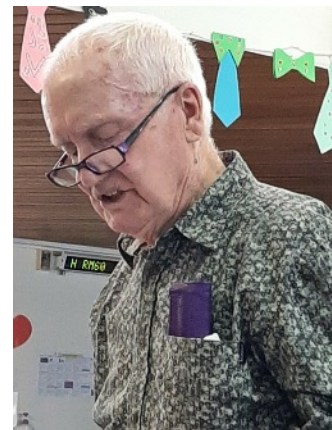


***Winners (left) me and the Blues brothers Christine, Bronwyn & Elisabeth  
And Runners up Hilary, Donna and Irene***

### ***Balloted Mixed Triples***

***Winners: Duncan Mann (s), Kay Hogan & Brett Connell***

***Runners up: Rob Cotter (s), Graeme Mathie & Lynn Cherry***



***Jimmy singing - not sure what he is singing though.***

### ***Congratulations***

The first women's rep team of the season has been announced. They play Wanganui away on Sunday 8 October. Our club is well represented with **Janet Olliver** in the senior four and **Elisabeth Glinkowska** playing the singles for the 8 Yrs and Under team with **Chloe Eastham, Erica Whittaker** and **Mary Van der Velden** in the fours. There are a couple of other U 8's who might soon be in the team.

**(Space filler)**

## **New Zealand's First Champion Bowler - William Carswell**

We've heard of the feats of the great New Zealand players of the modern era who have won a lot of national titles - **Nick Unkovich, Gary Lawson, Rowan Brassey, Peter Belliss** - there is quite a long list. But very few are probably aware of the record of our first champion **William Carswell** of the Taieri club in Dunedin.

William Carswell won 13 national titles over a period of 46 years, between 1888 and 1934. For ten years during that period he gave the sport away to concentrate on his other interests, greyhound racing and playing draughts. He was one the best in the country at draughts.

At the 1899 nationals he won the singles and pairs and was runner up in the fours. Apparently the last time he took part in the nationals in 1941 at the ago of 80 he was still a force to be reckoned with. He was the winner of the Taieri club's singles 12 times and two Dunedin's champion-of-champions winner.

His national titles:

Singles	1892, 1899, 1924, 1934
Pairs:	1892, 1899, 1902
Fours:	1888, 1891, 1902, 1907, 1908, 1922

Carswell received a lot of favourable mentions when a national team to tour Australia was being selected in 1906 but he does not appear in the team photo. Who knows why?

### **The Manawatu Bowling Clubs, 1913**

<b>Club</b>	<b>Members</b>
<b>Dannevirke</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>Feilding</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>Foxton</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Levin</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Palmerston North</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Pahiatua</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Shannon</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Terrace End</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Woodville</b>	<b>28</b>

**9 clubs 467 members**

**There was also a club at Otaki which was affiliated to the Wellington centre.**

### **Pennants 2023-24**

From this year's entry list it looks like Pennants in the centre is proving less and less popular. Levin and Waikanae United have the most teams entered, more than the largest club Raumati. I would have thought that the Paraparaumu Beach club would support the concept of any combination teams in Div III but for the second year they have made no entry in that division.

### **Club Entries for Pennants 2023-24**

<b>Club</b>	<b>No of Teams</b>
<b>Waitarere Beach</b>	<b>5 2 M 2 W 1 A/c</b>
<b>Central</b>	<b>5 2 M 2 W 1 A/c</b>
<b>Levin</b>	<b>11 5 M 4 W 2 A/c</b>
<b>Otaki</b>	<b>6 2 M 2 W 2 A/c</b>
<b>Otaki Railway</b>	<b>1 1 M</b>
<b>Waikanae United</b>	<b>11 4 M 4 W 3 A/c</b>
<b>Paraparaumu Beach</b>	<b>7 4 M 3 W</b>
<b>Raumati</b>	<b>8 3 M 3 W 2 A/c</b>
<b>Paekakariki</b>	<b>1 1 A/c</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>54 (x 4 = 216 players)</b>

### **NEW WEED GREEN OPENED AT LEVIN**

It was a red letter day for Levin's oldest bowling club (Levin) when the cotula weed green was declared open by the club president, Mr Stan Park.

In doing so, he conveyed the members' thanks to Mr Willis for his advice in the conversion of the green from lawn to cotula and to his club, Foxton Beach who supplied the weed.

The president thanked the club members who assisted by preparing the ground and planting the cotula.

Mr Park then called Mr Jim Bertram, the club's green superintendent and greenkeeper forward who,

instead of delivering a bowl was called on to unveil a package on the green.

It revealed a present to Jim as a small appreciation of the devotion and care he gave in nursing the cotula which has been acclaimed by experts as one of finest takes they had seen.

The members present grouped round the green to deliver one bowl each for a spider competition which was won by Mr Frank Campbell.

Club competitions are well under way, the first round of the Manawatu Centre Pennants resulted in nine wins and two drawn games out of 16. The triples competition is now in the fourth week being played on Tuesdays.

Many games in the singles competition have been played, last Saturday three rounds of the pairs were completed with many interesting finishes.

The match committee are endeavouring to have as many championship games as possible played during the week.

With the extra hour of daylight the committee are arranging to hold evening games to give the working members an opportunity for organised play.

**From the 'Chronicle' 1974**



## **A Huge Shock!**

*It was a huge shock to learn of the sudden death of our clubmate **Bill Clelland**. Bill played in the Life Members on gala Wednesday partnering **Julie**. I enjoyed his company over lunch and afternoon tea. Sue was able to join us as well.*

*Well we all knew where **President Les** was going to be on Saturday 9 September but I'm not sure who his mates were. This must have been taken before the game as he does not look too disappointed.*

*It was to be **Bill's** last club event as he had a stroke next day from which he did not recover. He will be greatly missed at our club.*

*Our sincere condolences to **Sue** and their families.*

## **So, Your Bowls Have a Bias!**

*Lawn bowls have not always had a bias. The first 'bowls' in various parts of the world were really shaped stone discs. Games were played with these primitive discs being rolled towards some sort of target in a number of parts of the world. The first were probably in Egypt about 7,000 years ago. From there the game was picked up by the Greeks and Romans (Italy still has a form of bowls called 'bocci') and it was probably the Romans who brought the game to England.*

*Similar games were played in the Aztec Empire in Central America, by Native Americans, in China and closer to us in Polynesia. Captain Cook wrote about playing a game in Hawaii where the 'bowls' "were about 3 to 4 inches in diameter and about one inch across at the edges, but thicker in the centre and rounded very exactly." In New Zealand **Elsdon Best** found similar stone discs on the beach in **Tauranga**, larger than those in Hawaii, and believed that early Maori played a similar game.*

*Back in England the early bowls were made of wood - yew, holly, oak, ash or boxwood, and were completely round. It was not until 1552 that the first bowl with a bias was used. The story goes that **Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk**, was playing when he split one of his wooden bowls. Needing a replacement he went indoors and sawed off the round ornamental cap on a banister. Taking it back to the green he found that it would only take a curved path to the kitty which enabled him to 'draw' around the various obstructions in his way. From then on biased bowls were developed.*

## **The Life Members Gala**

The annual Life Members Mixed Pairs gala, our first of the year, was held on Wednesday 4 October and filled both greens for the first time this season with our own players and a good number of visitors from Waitare Beach, Otaki and our ex-president **Paul Skilton's** pair from Hokowhitu.. While the weather was cool at least it was not rainy and play was uninterrupted. At the end of the the day there were only two teams with four wins - one on each green. So, the major prize winners were:

Dales Green      **Bronwyn McMahon** (s) and **Graeme Mathie**      4 wins 24 ends & 57 points

TigerTurf green:      **Timeri Sanders** (s) and **Iraia Peni**      4 wins 22 ends & 45 points

Many thanks to the Match Committee, kitchen and bar staff and our green managers who presented their greens in top condition.      *Neville, Margaret, Dianne & Ken*

