

Welcome to Bowls 2023 Version

After a brilliant but short spell of weather over the Xmas - New Year period the rain, and especially the wind, has returned to make play tricky on our greens. Still the turnout of members to club day roll ups continues to amaze even in not so pleasant conditions.

It is great to see a steady stream of new members joining our club. By my count we have gained twenty players over the past year, most of them new to bowls, though sadly we have lost four valued members who have passed away in that time.

In Interclub and Pennants we punch above our weight. The men's and women's Interclub teams all have very good chances to make the top four finals if they continue to perform well this weekend. Best of luck to all those players representing our club.

Coming Events

January

Tue 10	BKC Open Mixed Fours
Wed 11	BKC Open Mixed Fours
Thu 12	BKC Open Mixed Fours
Sat 14	Men's & Div III Interclub Day 3
Sun 15	Women's Interclub Day 3
Tue 17	Women's Pennants R 4
Wed 18	Rotary R 4: Foxton & Beach
Thu 19	Business House Bowls begins
Sat 21	Women's & Div III Interclub finals
Sat 22	BKC Yr 1 & 2 Open Singles
Sun 23	BKC Yr 1 & 2 Open Singles
Tue 24	Men's Pennants R 4
Wed 25	Men's Triples Gala
Sat 28	Men's Interclub finals
Sun 29	M & W Tararua Quadrangular
Mon 30	Mexted Cup

Club Champions

Men's Fours	Wayne Judd (s), Paul Garner, Brian Thompson & Martin Howse
Women's Fours	Heather Stempa (s), Clare Hack, Wendy Whitelaw & Carol Turnbull

Your Elected Leaders for 2022-23

Patron	Margaret Griffin
President	Les Galloway
Vice President	Stuart Fieldes
Secretary	Grahame Law
Treasurer	Dave Grigg
Executive Members	Richard Cowles
	Liz Galloway
	Kay Lahman
Match Committee (Convenor)	Margaret Wilson
	Norman Annand
	Rob Cotter
	Wayne Judd
	Hazel Rose
	Heather Stempa
	Julie Stichbury
	Wendy Whitelaw
Club Captains Women	Bronwyn McMahon
Men	Brian Cooper
Selectors Women	Bronwyn McMahon
	Ralda Adams
Men	Ken Hayward
	Neville Turnbull

Programme Changes

- The **Golden Oldies** tournament is from Tuesday 7 to Friday 10 March, not the week earlier as indicated in the handbook.
- The cancelled **Life Members gala** will now be held on **Wednesday 05 April**.
- The **Kia Motors Super Fours** will be held on Tuesday 18 & Wednesday 19 April.
- **Clive Williams Harcourts 2 x 4 x 2 Pairs** gala will be held on Wednesday 17 May.

Another way to support our club - tickets are still available

LEVIN BOWLING CLUB - RAFFLE
BUILT YOUR OWN SET OF AERO BOWLS
VALUED AT OVER \$600-00 (NZ)



100 TICKETS @ \$10-00 EACH - CLOSES 31ST MARCH 2023 or
WHEN ALL TICKETS ARE SOLD (whichever comes first)
THE WINNER WILL BUILD THEIR OWN SET OF AERO BOWLS
NEVILLE TURNBULL THE AERO REPRESENTATIVE WILL LIAISE
WITH THE WINNER USING THE AERO WEBSITE.
EMAIL - treasurer@levinbowls@gmail.com - DAVE GRIGG
TO PURCHASE TICKET/S
PAYMENT CAN BE BY BANK TRANSFER
DRAWN AT THE LEVIN POLICE STATION.
CLUBS PARTICIPATING WILL BE NOTIFIED OF THE WINNER.
ALL PROCEEDS WILL BE USED FOR LEVIN BOWLING CLUB
IMPROVEMENTS.

New Members

**Please welcome our newest members Ken Sterne
Andrew Tupuola and Leroy Thompson.**

Condolences

Our sincere condolences to Kaye Lahman and her family on the loss of Brian after a long illness which had prevented Brian from taking a more active part in club events.



Sheldon Bagrie-Howley packs the trophy after winning the National Singles title - the first ever winner from Southland.

Competitions Progress

Interclub

This weekend 14 -15 January are the third days of play for men's and women's Interclub - Men's Premier I & II and Division III on Saturday and Women's Premier I & II on Sunday. The Men's Premier I team are in the best position to qualify for the top 4 finals as they are in second position 2 ½ points ahead of the fifth placed team. Men's Premier II lie 3rd ½ a point ahead of the 4th placed team. Div III have a much tougher task. They will need to win all their final day games to make the play offs.

Our Premier I women are in 3rd place but they have three rounds to play to catch up on cancelled games so a lot of changes are possible. The Premier II women are in a different situation. The four teams are playing each other twice and there are four games still to play and no play offs and though they are in fourth place a lot could change.

It is great to see that all of our teams have performed very creditably and been able to compete with the top clubs. Best of luck to all our teams this weekend.

Rotary

At the summer break our club is in 6th position of the six clubs. Shannon leads the way with 16 points, from Central 14, Foxton & Beach 13, Waitarere Beach 11, Otaki 10 and Levin 8. Our club's policy is to give preference in Rotary and Horowhenua Fives to our members who are not selected for Interclub or Pennants. Whether the other clubs have similar policies is not clear.

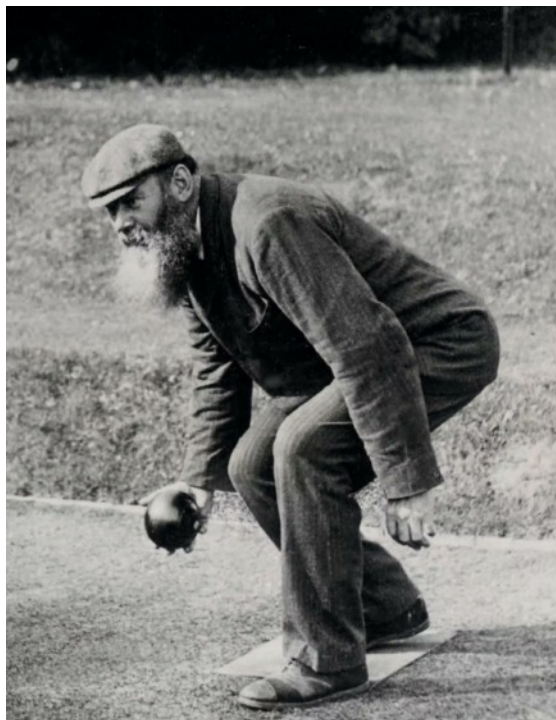
January Puzzle

Who is this bowler pictured playing his new sport in 1905?



Text your answer to the editor, The first correct answer will receive a small reward.

The answer will be revealed in the next issue.



Men's Fours champions for 2022-23: Wayne Judd (skip), Paul Gardner, Brian Thompson and Martin Howse.

Where Have All The Bowlers Gone ?

Club	Playing Members 2015-16	Playing Members 2022-23	Change (+ or -)
Waitarere Beach	31	44	+ 13
Levin RSA	58	0	- 58
Central	89	76	- 13
Levin	108	95	- 13
Levin Women's	29	0	- 29
Manakau	13	0	- 13
Otaki	30	54	+ 24
Otaki Railway	15	16	+ 1
Waikanae	159	78	- 81
Waikanae Beach	67	51	- 16
Paraparaumu Beach	160	97	- 63
Raumati (Kapiti)	95	146	+ 51
Raumati South	53	0	- 53
Paekakariki	33	43	+ 10
Total	940	700	- 240

Source: Centre Handbooks

Opinion - A Trying Season for Bowls

This season is proving to be quite a difficult season for playing bowls. Already we have lost a number of days, both at club and centre level. And, the early forecasts for the rest of the summer are not too promising. Higher than normal sea temperatures in the Pacific are a breeding ground for extra-tropical cyclones bringing heavy rain and strong winds to the North Island. Our Match Committee have had to cancel a number of days play in club championships, as well as galas, and it seems the difficult weather is set to continue. For club championships this can lead to a backlog of matches to be played at a later date (if and when there is a day available) or by arrangement among the players concerned.

Maybe there are some ways that we can make the situation a bit easier for all concerned. Some cancellations are made very early, sometimes by 7.30 am. Do we need to cancel so early? I learned during my years as a lawn mowing contractor that often early rain does not mean that it will continue throughout the day. My go-to was the Met Service's rain radar maps which enabled me to track rain patterns and plan my day. Use whatever technology is available to create good decision-making. It is more difficult if both greens are needed and the cotula green is flooded.

Perhaps the playing hours situation could be reviewed a bit later in the morning. It would mean more communication with skips by the Match Committee members tasked with running the day, but it might save some playing days. Even if it was possible to begin by 11 am or midday at least two games could still be played. Players who enter an event commit a day to the event so it is unlikely that that they will be greatly inconvenienced by a later start. We run our Business House Bowls with a start time of 5.45 but we seem reluctant to play daytime bowls beyond about 4.30. In this district often the nicest time of the day is early evening - it is warm and less windy - ideal for bowls.

And, I haven't even mentioned the lights that we have almost totally unused on our carpet green.

National Singles and Pairs

The winners of the National titles played for in Auckland and North Harbour over the past few days were:

Women's Singles:

Winners **Selina Goddard** (Takapuna)

Runners up **Tayla Bruce** (Burnside)

Men's Singles

Sheldon Bagrie-Howley (Gore)

Shannon McIlroy (Stoke)

Women's Pairs

Winners **Clare Hendra**(s)

& **Tayla Bruce** (Composite)

Men's Pairs

Gary Lawson (s)

& **Tony Grantham** (Mt Albert)

Disability Singles

Winners **Darron Wolland** (Wakari)

Disability Pairs

Graham Skellern

& **Bruce Wakefield** (Composite)

Centre Administration

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*Best performed from the southern North Island at the Nationals were the pairing of **Janeen Noble** (Takaro) and **Robyn Schischka** (Johnston Park) who made the quarter-finals of the women's pairs.*

Ken Hayward - Editor