

## Newsletter for

## Beach Haven Bowling Club

beachhavenbowls@hotmail.com



### The President's Report

Our season is rapidly drawing to a close, but there is still plenty of activity at the Club. The Contract Landscapes sponsored tournament, while not drawing as many participants as usual, due to other commitments, was greatly enjoyed by those attending, with many compliments from our visitors. Congratulations to our own men for coming out winners. We still have the Bob & Marie Ray, AMCAL Chemists, and Waipapa tournaments to play, as well as the Bone of Contention - judging by the comments last week this is going to be a fiercely contested event this year, and should make a fitting start to our Closing Day programme.

Hope to see you all on Closing Day.

*Ian Cowley*

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### The Vice- President/ Match Convenor's Report

5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> March saw two full days of bowling and the crowning of our club champions in our blue ribbon events. A big "Thank you" to all our markers who in very hot conditions gave up there time to add enormously to the successful running of the event it was great to see so many of the guys who benefited from the hard work of the ladies on Saturday reciprocating on Sunday no singles event can ever really go smoothly without you so well done the markers.

Secondly as per usual thanks to Mo who got up at the crack of dawn on both days to prepare a green that played beautifully on both days also thanks to Ray A and Gerry for their assistance along with John Rooney and grandson for their assistance.

Thirdly as per usual Gwen who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make sure that everyone was fed and watered and who also stepped down from bowling herself on Sunday (as did Bernadette) just to make the job of tournament organiser easier.

OK now on to the congratulations. Saturday awesome bowling of the highest quality as 4 players battled through the group stages to make the semi finals with Mo and Ian Little just squeezing past Ray G and Richard Ponting before Mo successfully defended his title wining 17-14.



Ian and Mo

The ladies event was equally exciting with all 8 entrants playing some excellent bowls. Despite stiff competition from Eileen and Nola who both won two of their three games Pam and Mandy advanced to the final unbeaten. Over the first few ends of the final Pam and Mandy traded single shots before Pam stepped up a gear finally triumphing by 17-11.



Pam and Mandy

15<sup>th</sup> saw the Junior Singles Championships being played. Four ladies battled it out with Bernie and Carole coming head to head in the final with Bernie finally triumphant.

The men had three groups with extremely high standard of blowing seeing Rick and Richard and Ray G and Martin in the semis. The final saw Richard and Ray playing some stunning bowls. Ray eventually won.



Richard and Ray



Carole and Bernadette

All four winners played at Centre on Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> April and, although all played really well, did not go further than the first round. They were well supported by fellow bowlers from Beach Haven.

St Patrick's Day saw a great evening of fun, laughter, Guinness and lots of green outfits. Barry organised a great evening of bowls, along with superb weather. The eventual winners were:



Mo's happy winning team

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# The Beach Haven Bowler

Issue: April 2008



## Junior Interclub

Well, the Junior Interclub went well and, although we didn't win, the players did us proud and participated really well. Results table not available at time of going to press:

Thanks to Hak who coached the juniors and for those stalwart supporters who cheers on the troops. Here's to next season...

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## STOP PRESS\*\*STOP PRESS\*\*ST

The next sausage sizzle will be on Saturday, 31 May (Queen's birthday weekend). Full details will follow but any help will be gratefully appreciated.

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**Advance notice** - So that Morris can re-seed the green as soon as seed is available, we have decided to move Closing Day forward to **Saturday, 26 April**. Format for the day will be :-

**The Bone of Contention** will be played first (9am for 9-30am start), 3 games with lunch after 2nd game.

Partners, friends & invited guests arriving from 2-30pm, (afternoon tea already on tables) followed by speeches and prizegiving at 3pm. This will be followed by a BBQ and further fun bowls for those who wish to stay.

Bowling can continue after Closing Day with the approval of the Greenkeeper

**This change will also mean some of our other programmes will have to be rescheduled - read on for more details.**

## Lite Quiz Nite

Fancy hot popcorn, chips and a good movie that is a bowls comedy based on a true story? Well, on **Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May** at the Club house, **Blackball**, a true story about Cliff starkey (Paul Kaye) a young pretender from the wrong side of town is daring to up against Torquay's reigning champion Ray Speight (James Cromwell - 'Babe'). Armed with his sexy bad-boy persona and a flashy American agent Rick (Vince Vaughn), Cliff is fast turning Lawn Bowls into the biggest spectator sport in England and wants to go up against the Australians. Ian and Mandy have seen the film and confirm that it is very enjoyable. There will be food available and a short quiz. So we can organise catering, please register your attendance by May 1<sup>st</sup> to Mandy or Gwen.

## Twilights, Aggregate & Roll Up

These will continue for a few more weeks until advised otherwise. Please make use of the facilities whilst the clubs green is open.

## Club Tournaments

The ALEXANDER PLATE competition was played on **SUNDAY 2nd March**.

Although the weather was a little bit challenging at times, a great day of bowls was had by all.



Winners: Carole & Rick



Runners-Up: Julie and Ray

On **Sunday 6th April** we held the re-scheduled **Bob and Marie Ray Memorial Plate** competition which is drawn mixed pairs. It was a very successful day with 10 teams participating in great conditions. Four teams won three of the four one-hour games but the eventual winners were Bernie and Ian who won all four games. Carole and Rocket Ron came second with Richard and Mandy coming in third.

**Waipapa Bowl Trophy** has now been postponed until next season.

## Anzac Day

Milford has an annual open triples tournament at 1pm on Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup> to raise funds for Hospice. Team entries need to be in fairly promptly so please put your name down on the Notice Board if you would like to participate.

## Other Clubs

There are usually open competitions from other clubs which you are welcome to enter. These are

displayed on the Club's Notice Board. Please feel free to enter.

## Name Badges

The Club is about to put in an order for name badges. They cost around \$10. Anyone interested should contact Gwen.

## Entry to Club Competitions

You can now enter any Club competitions three ways - by leaving your name and which competition you are entering by:

**Phone:** 482 0338 and leaving the details on the answer-phone

**E-mail:** [beachhavenbowls@hotmail.com](mailto:beachhavenbowls@hotmail.com)

**In person:** names on the board in the Club House.

Please remember that deadlines are now being set to make it easier for those organising events and catering - so keep an eye out and act accordingly.

## Contract Landscapes Sponsored Tournament

The latest of the clubs sponsored tournaments took place on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March and was a closely contested event with incredibly 3 of the 8 teams finishing the day unbeaten in their 4 games. The tiebreaker therefore came into operation and even then things were tight with the three teams separated by only 2 ends. The eventual champions though were the Glowkoski gang Ray and Wayne aided and abetted by Rocket Ron Ferguson. Well done to the chaps and a big thanks to Terry and team at Contract Landscapes for their continued generous support of the club.



1<sup>st</sup> Place

In 2<sup>nd</sup> place was Colleen, Mary and Lilley's team and in 3<sup>rd</sup> place was Carole, Mandy and Mo. Colleen gave a lovely speech to thank the sponsors for supporting the club and providing a great day's bowling entertainment.

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respectable 7th in the 32 strong field finishing the weekend a combined \$50 wealthier and 50kg heavier than they started it well done guys.

## Unsung Hero...or in this case Heroine

In the first of an occasional series we highlight an unsung hero / heroine of the mighty Beach Haven Bowls Club. On match days high profile figures such as top quality match conveners, caterers, green keepers and bar staff always get a thank you and a round of applause, but in the background beaver away to ensure the club runs smoothly are many others who rarely get a mention so the Beach Haven Bowler is going to put that right.

The first of our heroines is Pam Bostock the club house keeper who after all our events returns to the club and cleans it up, vacuums around and leaves it spick and span ready for the rest of us to mess up again next time we are there. So a BIG THANKYOU to Pam.

## Bits and Bobs of Interest

### A little bit of bowling history

No one ever speaks about the history of bowls without referring to Sir Francis Drake, playing at Plymouth on 19<sup>th</sup> July 1588, when Captain Thomas Flemming advised that the invading Spanish Armada had been sighted off the Lizard. His response has gone down as one of the most famous lines in history: "There is plenty of time to win the game and thrash the Spaniards too". However, almost 300 years earlier, the Southampton Bowls Club green is reputed to have been laid and in regular use since 1299. Chesterfield Bowling Club claims their rink dates from 1294 and, certainly in the early part of the 14th century, Edward III banned the playing of bowls so that the 'Bowman of England' would practice their archery. It does seem that bowls has not always been associated with the gentle art as we now know it, and during its early years the game was prohibited and quite high penalties could be levied by magistrates, if anyone broke the prohibition.

There is no real evidence as to the style of game, although during the reign of Richard II, bowls was then referred to as "gettre de pere" presumably Norman French for "jetter de pierre" and so obviously describes throwing a "stone". So there is not

much doubt that the original bowls were made from stone. They would be as round as possible, nothing like the shape we now use. Sometime after 1409, we do not know the actual date, bowls of wood were used, made from Boxwood, Holly, Yew or Oak. It is presumed that Lignum Vitae was introduced in making of bowls during the 16th century, after the discovery of the Santo Domingo in 1492. Santo Domingo is in the Caribbean Sea, where the best Lignum Vitae is sourced, which is still true to-day.

According to anecdotal evidence, the introduction of bias to the design of bowls seems to have been by accident. It is said that in 1522, Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, whose bowl split in two on striking another bowl, rushed into the house and took off the spherical knob from the banister post to provide himself with a replacement bowl. The flat cut then caused his substitute bowl to roll with a bias. Observing this effect, the Duke experimented by curving his bowl around others. He passed on his knowledge to his friends, and so, in the course of time, biased bowls came into general use.

Later, bias was produced by loading the bowls on one side by inserting weights, and some players think that this is still done today; so it is that even now we occasionally find bowls, which have been brought in for renovation or re-adjusting, to have been loaded by inserting metal or lead on one side of the bowl.

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### A Few Rules of Bowling

#### Foot Faulting

At the moment of delivering the jack or bowl, the player should have part of one foot on or above the mat.

#### When a toucher is not a toucher

If a bowl is not marked or nominated as a toucher before the next bowl comes to rest, or in the case of the last bowl of an end, before a period of 30 seconds after the bowl has come to rest, the bowl is no longer a toucher.

#### Player Positions

Do not go into a neighbouring rink where play is in progress or go into or walk along a neighbouring rink, even if it is not being used, while an opponent is about to deliver a bowl.

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### Wrong Hat Ruins Chances

Over the weekend of 29th – 30th March Hak, Richard, Martin and Ian L took part in the Birkenhead fish tournament a gruelling combination of hard fought bowls and overeating that is not for the faint hearted.

On the Saturday despite Richard having broken team orders by staying out to 3.30 am the previous night the boys were unbeaten winning 3 and drawing one of their games to put themselves in the hunt for the big prize.

On Sunday however game one was a disaster with the unbeaten record shattered, over a 5 course morning tea a full inquiry was held to ascertain the reason for the collapse in form but it was only on returning to the green that the mystery was solved. Hak had changed his lucky hat for a clearly inferior model, the excuse claimed by Hak was that his hat had been stolen by a jealous defeated opponent the real reason, he had lost it at the bottom of his bag.

On returning the proper cover to his head normal service was resumed but regretfully for only 1 of the 2 remaining games. Despite the haphazard hat incident the guys finished a

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## Fund Raising

Judy has kindly offered her time and wool to crochet some lovely white bowling pin pockets (to hold chalk/coin etc). We have decided to charge \$4.00 (or more if you feel inclined). Enquiries to Gwen please. A huge "thank you" to Judy.

## Get Well Soon

Pat Vercoe is going into North Shore Hospital again in April for another operation. Pat is currently staying with her son and our best wishes go to Pat for a speedy recovery and relaxing recuperation.

## Mislaid

1 blue sleeveless bomber jacket with zip front and pockets. If found, please contact Ian Cowley.

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## Your Committee

### Next Committee Meeting

If you have any items or points of note you wish to be raised at the next committee meeting (Wed, 9<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm), please contact a member of our committee before the next meeting.

The AGM will be held on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> June. Details will following the next Bowler.

Here are the details of your committee, listed in alphabetical order:

**President:** Ian Cowley  
**Vice-President:** Ian Little  
**Secretary:** Carole Simmonds  
**Treasurer:** Gwen Eady  
**Executives:** Julie Baker

Eileen Ponting  
Martin Hoani  
**Green Super:** Morris Pita  
**House Manager:** Pam Bostock  
**Match Convenor:** Ian Little  
**Match Committee:** Barry Milne

Rick Marcovina  
Pat Vercoe

**Delegates to Centre:** Pat Vercoe

**Patrons:** Ann Hartley  
Marie Ray  
Stephen Dil

Terry Donnelly  
**Bar Manager:** Murray Baker

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Any news, articles or comments, please e-mail them to the editor at:

[beachhavenbowls@hotmail.com](mailto:beachhavenbowls@hotmail.com)



St Patrick's Day – Not the usual attire we see on a bowls green!!



This photo just shows off how superb our bowling green truly is – taken during the match on 30<sup>th</sup>



Not entirely sure whether Mo's shoes could be any brighter!



St Patrick's Day – Nola won *Best Dressed Lady*; Ron, Mo, Richard and Geoff were a sight for sore eyes but Ron took the prize for *Best Dressed Male*



An afternoon of spectator bowls – watching the Junior singles

