



Beaumont Bowling Club Inc.

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Beaumont Bowling Club Newsletter No. 66 – July 2021

Dear Members

Time is well and truly marching on. Before we know it the pennant season will be upon us.

Our opening day this year is Saturday 11th September so please put that in your diaries.

Trial games have been arranged with Blackwood, Prospect/Broadview & Kensington plus a couple of internal games. Trial games availability sheets will be up on the notice board soon.

Our first pennant game is Wednesday 13th October and the draw should be out soon

New Members

A big welcome to some new members who have joined the club since the last newsletter.

- Shane Neal (from Croydon)
- Bob & Liz Ormston (from Lockleys however Bob & Liz were previously members here at Beaumont)
- Margie Chubb (a night-owler for some years)

New Fixed Shade Structures

Since the last newsletter, Leonie & John have almost completed our next grants submission – just in the process of incorporating support material & information from Burnside Council.

We haven't heard any news regarding our lights submission as yet. Leonie is going to make contact on Monday.

Bistro

Since the last newsletter, there have been some movements regarding our caterers.

For some time now there has been some dissatisfaction with the quality of the meals being served. Although Leonie had provided the relevant feedback to them, things did not improve.

As a consequence we have agreed to part ways with our current caterer. Some might say "oh dear what are we going to do now?"

Rest easy; Leonie has been in touch with our original caterer Janet who has agreed to come back on a permanent basis. She will recommence Thursday 22nd July.

Each week there will be a set menu with the addition of three specials.
Book early with Leonie or through the web site to avoid disappointment.

Pennant Selection Matters

Availability forms for Pennant Bowls have all been returned and collated by Mike Miller and table below is the final status: -

Competition	Require	10% uplift	Received	Fill ins
Wednesday	56	62	59	9
Thursday	32	35	38	9
Saturday	68	75	80	4

The numbers are all healthy with the exception of Wednesday where we are a bit light on. I'm sure with fill-ins we will get by.

The call for nominations for pennant selectors has now closed. Whilst the Board is encouraged by the response, we could do with a couple more. A planning group will meet within the next few days to consider some options going forward.

The pennant availability sheets including trial games will be posted on the notice board in the hall soon.

Working Bees

We will have a skip delivered on Monday 26th July for the removal of excess grass clippings etc from the area behind the fence on the western side of "A" green.

I will be calling on a few people to assist in the next few days.

Club Member Interview

A new initiative raised by Merv Leaker at our first Board Meeting was to conduct a candid interview with one of our members on a regular basis & publish the interview in the newsletter.

Well Merv has been in touch with me and suggested that the first interview should be with me as the newly installed President. Here we go: -

So you think you know Dave Thomas?

ML When & where did you arrive on this earth?

DT I was born in Adelaide on 6th October 1950 the first of four siblings. I have a sister & two brothers.

ML Where did you spend your early years?

DT Dad was a GP and we first moved to Barmera for a year and then to Port Lincoln. There I had my early schooling, then the family moved back to Adelaide in 1961. I was fortunate to be able to attend Prince Alfred College for my secondary schooling and still have fond memories of my time there.

ML Where did you live in Adelaide?

DT When we moved back to Adelaide from Lincoln, we lived in a few places before my parents bought a block of land on the corner of Sturt Place & Dashwood Road Beaumont in 1964. My Grandfather was a builder and he built us a house there. I still remember my first sighting of someone rolling the greens at BBC (at that stage I had no idea what the machine was or what it did). Little did I know that some 50 odd years later I would be sitting on the same machine!

ML What was your first job?

DT My first job was a Trainee Car Salesman at Motors Limited. They had a new car showroom in Gawler Place opposite the Earl of Zetland hotel. It only lasted 12 months having decided the car game wasn't for me.

ML What did you do then?

DT I was asked if I wanted to work for my Uncle who had moved his building business to Alice Springs. I had only just become engaged to the First Lady (Jud), however she was taking up her first teaching post at Langhorne Creek for a year so it was an opportune time for me to spend a year in the Alice.

ML When did you get married?

DT Jud and I got married in January 1973 and moved to Alice to live a couple of weeks later (not something that Jud particularly wanted to do however after I convinced her that we would only be there for a few years she reluctantly agreed to the move).

ML How long did you spend in the Alice?

DT 18 years

ML That's a long stint – you must have enjoyed it?

DT We did. We made a lot of good friends & most of those we still see today. Jud taught Primary school initially then became a teacher/librarian. After my Uncle sold his business to the John Holland Group in 1976, I stayed on with them until 1981 then was offered a job as manager of another local building company. I stayed with them until 1987, then in a brain fade I bought into a real estate firm (not the best decision I ever made). In the middle of 1989 we made the decision to move back to Adelaide so our two daughters could continue their secondary & tertiary education.

ML What did you do in Adelaide?

DT I applied for a job with Baulderstone Hornibrook (now LendLease) as a contract administrator and stayed with them for 15 years, then a 2 year stint as Commercial Manager with Broad Constructions followed by 10 years with Badge Constructions. I retired from Badge 5 years ago but have continued to do some consultancy work for them from time to time (thus the Thomas Consultancy tag that accompanies my emails).

ML What other sports have you been involved with apart from Bowls?

DT Rowing was my passion when I was at school and is something that I took up again when we returned from the Alice. Water skiing has also been a passion since I was 14 & I still skied up until my 60th birthday, when common sense prevailed. Golf also took up a lot of my time mostly when we lived in Alice. I was Captain of the golf club twice & vice-president once during my time there. I was greens manager for most of that time and heavily involved with the transition from scrapes to the grass course that it is today. I joined the Mt Lofty Golf Club when we returned from Alice and was Captain there for a short period. I gave golf away some 12 years ago having become totally frustrated with the game.. I must admit that I find bowls equally frustrating at times but it's a lot easier on the body.

ML I believe that the music played during night owls this season is your compilation?

DT No – the music was provided by Lyn Witt this year but she & I have similar tastes in music.

ML What is the wallpaper on your mobile phone?

DT It's a photo of Jud & me and our gorgeous little granddaughters.

Birthdays

Some milestones during the month of July

Happy Birthday to: -

- Graeme Langsford
- Viv Leaker
- Howard Melbourne
- Tony Myles
- Jane Nehmy
- Phyl Reuter
- Selwyn Stevens
- David Tse
- Rob Warhurst

Congratulations & best wishes for many more.

Apologies if I have missed someone.

Vale - Ian Lumsden

As mentioned at social bowls last week I was very saddened to hear of the passing of Ian Lumsden.

Ian joined Beaumont back in 1994 and was a member of a few successful pennant sides during his time with the club. Sadly, Ian developed dementia in his later years however that did not stop him playing pennant & social bowls up until about three years ago.

For social bowls his wife Jan would drop him off and Jock Jamieson would usually drop him home. The only problem with this arrangement was that Jock would be half way through his first beer when Ian would saunter up and say "come on Jock it's time to go home".

Ian will always be remembered by those who knew him as a very gentle person who always had a big smile on his face.

Our thoughts & prayers are with Jan & family during this sad time.

Vale – Winston Armstrong

I was saddened to hear the news of the passing of Winston Armstrong, a life member of the club. Winston passed away yesterday in Northern Ireland just short of his 80th birthday.

Winston and his wife Eleanor were longstanding members of Beaumont, joining after they immigrated from the UK, where Winston had been a member of the Metropolitan Police Force in London, working particularly in providing security at the House of Lords.

Winston was a keen bowler, playing both Wednesdays and Saturdays, including in a number of pennant-winning sides. He and Eleanor were also wonderful workers for the Club, successfully running the Night Owls competition for a number of years, while Winston also spent many hours helping with general maintenance around the Club.

Winston was also as an invaluable contributor to the Club's bar profits, renowned for consuming the more-than-the-occasional can of his beloved Guinness and being a regular attendee at Friday afternoon social get-togethers.



Although they moved back to Winston's birthplace of Northern Ireland in 2012, many of their friends have kept in contact and some have visited, catching up on shared memories from their valued membership of the Beaumont Bowling Club.

Our thoughts & prayers are with Eleanor & family during this sad time.

On a brighter note.....

Best wishes, stay upright, keep warm & keep on bowling.

Dave