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Member Spotlight



The Member Spotlight this month is shining on Neil Ronaldson, a long-time member at FVBC. When Neil was in his thirties he used to listen to his brother, a good bowler, and his late mother talking about bowls. They used salt and pepper shakers to demonstrate their strategies from previous games. He had no interest, just wondering, 'When's the meal going to start?'

Some years later a neighbour invited him to have a roll at Moreland Bowls club. To his surprise he really enjoyed it and actually put some good bowls down. Moreland Bowls club was closing down so he

joined Princes Park but after playing there for some time he thought FVBC would better suit his ambition to play in higher levels and he came across.

Neil had a successful and satisfying career in the world of office furniture which took him around the world attending furniture fairs to keep up with current trends. He developed his own business and ran it successfully for many years before retiring.

He participated in running as his main sport, including running a couple of marathons, and keeping himself fit doing gym work.

Neil's attention turned towards lawn bowls again at this point. He thought, 'This club provides many things for the members and I want to give back after enjoying the benefits and so I joined the committee to see how I could contribute. My main focus was, and still is, the bowling aspect of the club and the members'. He has also joined the Selection Committee and contributed much to these endeavours.

Something to know about Neil. He holds the position of School Crossing Supervisor on the corner of Bell Street and Sydney Road, a very busy intersection. He loves the people and they love him. He has a strong community on that corner. It says a lot about Neil, still giving back and being committed to creating community and goodwill for the people in his life, especially the members of FVBC.

Committee of Management

Annual General Meeting

Thank you to everyone who turned up in person for the AGM. We achieved our quorum and were able to complete our business. It was a very succinct meeting allowing those who wanted to stay on and socialise to enjoy a light meal and good chat. Thanks Steve for the bar food and to the staff for your attentive service.

Life Membership Nominations

The CoM nominated two members for life membership which was supported by the meeting.



Jo McMahon

Jo has been a member of the FV Bowls club for about 20 years and has played over 300 games for the club and is a multiple club title winner. She is a former club Vice President and a Northern Gateway Region Representative and Official.

Jo was the founder of the very successful FV Bowling Clubs Annual Winning Women's Tournament and the Inaugural Chair of the Women's Advisory Group.



George Matoulas

George joined the club in 2013 as player number 366. He has played 213 pennant games with the club and has been coaching for seven years. He is an active connector of FV to several other clubs including Princes Park Carlton, Albert Park, Alphington and St Kilda. He has been President for three challenging years and three successful pennant years. As Chair of the Recruitment Committee he has supported FV Bowls getting back into running tournaments.

The 2025 - 2026 Committee of Management

President: Phil Matthewson

Vice President and Head of

Bowls: Neil Ronaldson

Treasurer: Phil Matthewson
(doing a double shift)

Secretary: Lynn May

Ordinary members (not so ordinary)

Ann Haynes

Ed Lyle

Brett McDowall

Dan Jordan

Dobe Newton

Selection Committee

Neil Ronaldson

Rodney Draper

Ali Copley

Steve Webster

Geoff Sims

Thank you all for nominating and taking on governing and selection roles. Our club cannot function without the generosity of members who make it all happen. There is a copy of the Annual report on the notice board for those who are interested.

The first meeting of the new term is September 18

CoM...

160 years of Bowls in Fitzroy

Twenty-five Gold, Life and Social members attended the 160 Year Anniversary dinner at the Kelvin Club. The Governor of Victoria was in attendance and our Peter Hille gave a snap shot of the history of bowls in Fitzroy. We are in discussion with the Kelvin Club Executive exploring what mutual affiliation benefits we can offer our members. Stay tuned.



Alessi, Eridani and Neil with the Margaret Gardner, Governor General of Victoria

 Bendigo Bank

Community Bank
Clifton Hill-North
Fitzroy

Valued Club Partner

Social News

GREENS CLOSED

All greens will be closed for maintenance from Monday September 1 – Wednesday September 3.
Greens will be open for playing on Thursday September 4.

GIG GUIDE

Coming Up

August 24 The Pearly Shells ten-piece Big Band

August 31 Andy Swann Blues Collective

September 7 The Detonators

September 14 The Collard Greens and Gravy (CD Launch)

September 20 Ezra Lee and his band featuring Jumpin' Jethro Whittaker

BUSHWACKERS

Time to get excited!

The Bushwackers are returning to play at Fitzroy Victoria on **Friday 31 October**.

Club stalwart Dobe Newton on lead vocals will be joined by the rest of the Victorian family: bass, drums, guitar and twin fiddles.

50+ years of songs, bad jokes and bush dancing.

Special discount for Gold and Social members. Book at events.humanitix.com and enter FITZMEMBERS in the discount code box to get an additional \$10.00 off ticket prices.

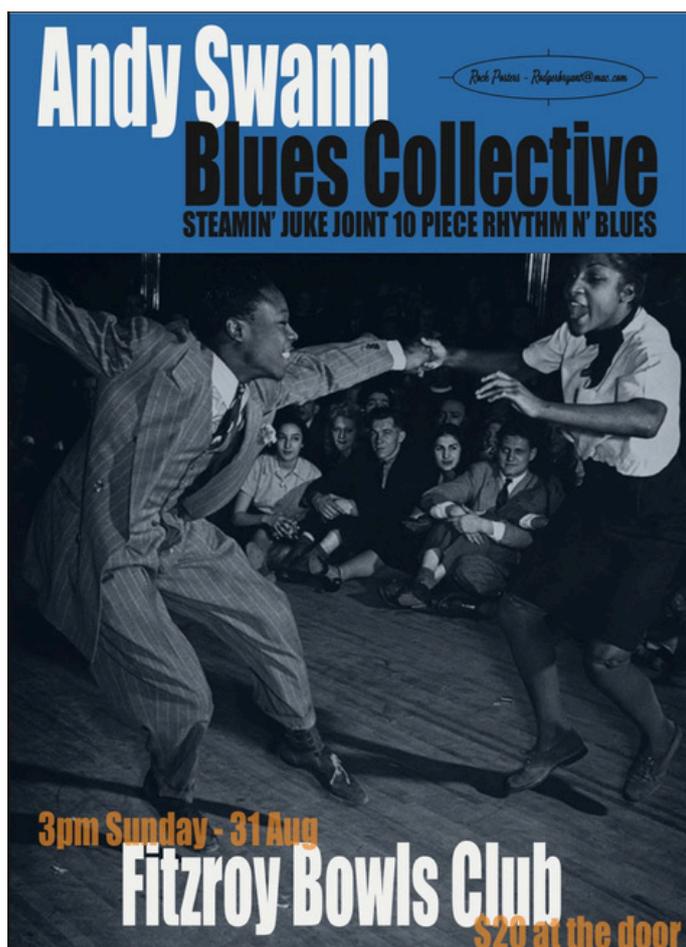
Beverages and food available from 6:00pm.
Show starts at 7:00pm.

Book Now!

CHRISTMAS BOOKINGS

The calendar is filling up quickly. Fridays in December are almost closed.

Book in your functions at functions@barefootbowling.com.au



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Social News...

TEACHERS' GAMES

The club will be holding the Teachers' Games in September and we are looking for some volunteers across the three days. Sunday September 21st - Tuesday September 23rd.

Roles that we are looking to fill are:

- **Barbeque cooks** – we are looking for some volunteers to get on the tools and cook up a storm on the barbeque.
- **Bowls helpers** – helping with the matches, guiding people to their rinks and helping with scoring.
- **Bowls experts** – people with a great knowledge of bowls who can offer help to players on the day.

To register as a volunteer email Kylie functions@barefootbowling.com.au

BEYOND THE GLASS

Passionate local winemakers Cron and Noah from Beyond the Glass came down to the club for a wine tasting at our members dinner. It was a fun and successful night with some wonderful wines on offer. Cron will be back in soon for another wine tasting. Don't miss out!

FOOTY FEVER

The Young Henry's Footy tipping is coming to an end this week. The winner and prize will be announced shortly.

The finals begin and all games will be shown at the club on all TVs. We will be showing the Grand Final on the big screen in the clubhouse. Come on down watch the football action and grab yourself a schooner of Young Henry's. At \$8.00 you can't do much better than that.

BOOT SCOOTING

You might have seen some familiar faces on The Block recently. The lovely Kitty and Lu travelled to Daylesford to teach the blockheads how to do the Big Ol' Hammer. Special guest Ro Allen, Commissioner at VEOHR, took over the dance floor with a two-step session. What a treat for everyone! Kitty and Lu have taken a short and well-deserved two-week break. Classes will still go ahead with special guest Kath Ebbs taking the classes.

Every Friday night from 6:30pm-7:30pm.

Book tickets at

www.DiscoRodeoBootScooting



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Social News...

THE GIGS THAT WERE

We saw some wonderful vibrant performers come to the club in August.

The stage was extended so that we could welcome the wonderful Pearly Shells (a ten-piece swing jazz big band) who played some great music that had the crowd dancing.



And we were lucky enough to have Jittery Jack and Amy Griffin direct from Boston, USA, perform at the club for their only Melbourne gig.



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1 ROTARY MEETING	2	3	4	5 BOOT SCOOTIN' 6:30PM	6 GENERAL KENNY TOURNAMENT	7 SUNDAY SESSION (BAND) 3.00PM
8	9 FFC MEETING	10	11 MEMBER'S BISTRO	12 BOOT SCOOTIN' 6:30PM	13 VS TORQUAY HOME GAME (ALL DIVISIONS)	14 SUNDAY SESSION (BAND) 3.00PM
15 ROTARY MEETING	16	17	18 COM MEETING	19 BOOT SCOOTIN' 6:30PM	20 VS GLENROY (PREM RESERVE DIV 4 - HOME, DIV 2 - HOME, DIV 7 - HOME)	21 SUNDAY SESSION (BAND) 3.00PM
22 NEIL'S BIRTHDAY	23 VS KEILOR AT KBC (MIDWEEK - DIV 1, 4, 6 - A-SIDE)	24 FV VIC TEACHER'S BOWLS TOURNAMENT	25 MEMBER'S BISTRO FV VIC TEACHER'S BOWLS TOURNAMENT	26 BOOT SCOOTIN' 6:30PM FV VIC TEACHER'S BOWLS TOURNAMENT	27 AFL GRAND FINAL	28 SUNDAY SESSION (BAND) 3.00PM
29 ROTARY MEETING	30					




From the Bar

Hello all,

Hope you have all had the opportunity to enjoy some of the sunshine we have seen of late and recharged your batteries. Let's hope it holds out!

I'm happy to report that 15 new social members have jumped on board with us since our last newsletter which is a great result. It's always nice to see fresh faces around the club house.

The Wolf of The Willows Amber Ale has arrived on our taps and is pouring as I type. So come on in, wet your whistle, and give it a try.

Lastly, just a friendly reminder to all that, despite having a kitchen we have a commercial arrangement with our caterer. As a result, while dispensation is given to members preparing food for bowls events, the products in the kitchen are all our caterers, paid for out of their pocket. As such they not for use without permission.

With that said, it has highlighted the need for a few extra odds and ends to be available for members to use! I will be giving the tea station a little update over the coming weeks for everyone's convenience so keep your eyes peeled. If anyone has a favourite condiment that I might miss let me know as I am happy to oblige.

P.S. I am a sauce in the fridge person and I will die on that hill, so that's were they'll be once I grab some!

See you around the Club House!



Walk in only and a schooner of beer at members' prices.



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On the Green

With the pennant season just around the corner, the last couple of weeks have seen State and other games in action that have included FV bowlers.

UNDER 18s TRI-SERIES

Our very own Chloe Scherger was part of the Victorian side against NSW and Queensland at Club Sunbury. Held over three days, Chloe literally starred, mainly as a skip, in pairs, triples and fours. Swapping from the indoor carpet to the outdoor grass green was a challenge that the youngsters took on and showed their expertise.

The future of bowls is looking damn good!!

And well-done Chloe. You did yourself very proud with what you achieved over the three days.



VICTORIA v NSW

Two Fitzroy Victoria pennant players, Cody Packer (NSW) and Tris Doolan (Victoria), represented their home states during a recent 'test' series at Dandenong Club.

Cody, one of our 'Marquee' players, was part of a 'gun' NSW rink who were way too good for the Vics. Tris (our current 'Permit' player) was part of the Victorian women's side.

The NSW side was filled with Australian representatives and were too good overall.



BPL - AUGUST 17 AT FV

BPL is a Bowls Australia initiative at club level. FV had five of the ten teams competing on Sunday August 17. We can announce that the rink of Steve Webster, Rodney Draper and Jo McMahon have advanced to the next round on Saturday September 13 at Caulfield Park Alma.

Good bowling guys!

DEVELOPMENT SQUAD TOURNAMENT

This is a great initiative created by Joe Acuri and Peter Hille to encourage, predominantly, new bowlers in a triples format over three games of nine ends.

The weather gods were with us along with a great day of bowls. We had 30 bowlers taking part on the day plus a BBQ sausage sizzle cooked by Ray 'Razor' O'Halloran at the lunch break.

The winners on the day were the team of Peter Sarteschi (skip), Christine Joy (a brand new bowler!) and Win Ott.

Well done to all those that took part and to Joe and Peter for the idea and organisation.

On The Green...

PRACTICE MATCHES

Practice match sign-up sheets are on the noticeboard inside the clubrooms.

To all Pennant playing members, please ensure you get your name down in as many games as you can in the lead up to the new season. Our practice match calendar is now fully booked.

The opening of the greens is the General Kenny Day on September 6.

This day also celebrates two great stalwarts of our club, Ken 'Docko' Docking and Graeme 'The General' Blamey. Ken and Graeme became club members No.1 and No.2 when Victoria BC merged with Fitzroy BC back in 2001. This is always a great fun day for current and new members.

The pennant season first round for Saturday pennant is October 25 2025.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome new bowling members for the top and second side Brad Fothergill and Josh Bradley to FVBC. Both Brad and Josh bring with them experience and skill on the green.

Brad has been bowling for 14 years and began at Ballarat BC. He was there for 11 seasons with last six of these skipping in their top side. Most recently Brad was at Geelong BC where he represented both Ballarat and Geelong region. Brad is also a cousin of Nathaniel Campbell who joined us last season.

Josh is a local who played predominantly at Flem-Ken BC. He also did a small stint at Princes Park Carlton BC and most recently was coach at Footscray Park BC. Josh is mega-keen and can't wait for the start of the season!

Selectors for Season 2025/26

Just confirming the Selection Committee for the upcoming season:

Ali Copley, Rodney Draper, Neil Ronaldson, Geoff Sims and Steve Webster.

You are encouraged to read the Selectors Policy and Guidelines document that is on the noticeboard.

Should you have any queries on selection for the upcoming season please do not hesitate to reach out to any of the above persons.

Bowls Merchandise

The club is in the process of making available 'casual' items for sale: T shirts, stubby holders, bucket hats, polo shirts, scarves etc. These items will be branded with the FV logo and will be available very soon. We are also about to replenish our stocks of FV club uniform items.

If you are looking for a new set bowls and/or accessories we recommend that you contact:

Active Bowls Melbourne (formerly Hensilite) 52 Sparks Ave, Fairfield 3078
9488 0478

melbourne@activebowls.com.au

activebowls.com.au

NATIONAL OPEN DAY

Saturday 13 September 8am – 3pm

All Clinics Across Australia

Invite your friends and family to step inside Kieser at our first ever National Open Day.

Our Open Day is their chance to:

- Trial our Swiss-engineered strength machines
- Connect with our university-qualified health professionals
- Learn how strength training can help reduce pain, prevent injury and support lifelong health
- Join free presentations by our physiotherapists, exercise physiologists & exercise scientists.

It's the ideal opportunity to discover how strength training can support every body, at any age, and with any injury or condition.

With 31 clinics across VIC, NSW, QLD, TAS, SA and the ACT, getting started at Kieser is easy.

Be the reason someone takes their first step toward better health – **invite them to the Open Day.**



KIESER

PHYSIO | REHAB | STRENGTH

*Strength Starts at
Kieser Collingwood*

NATIONAL OPEN DAY

Saturday, 13 September 8am – 3pm

1/370 Smith Street, Collingwood



Learn about the power of strength training for every body, at any age and with any condition at Kieser.



WIN A 12-WEEK MEMBERSHIP

Scan the QR to register your interest, go in the draw and view full T&Cs.

