

- **Member Spotlight**
- **Committee of Management**
- **Tribute to Ken Docking**
- **Social News**
- **From the Bar**
- **On the Green**

Member Spotlight



The Member Spotlight this month is shining on the FVBC President and Treasurer, Phil Matthewson.

Soon after retiring, and looking for something to do, Phil started playing bowls. That was 11 years ago. He was living in WA at the time and one day he wandered into Double View Bowls Club and was offered a \$20 full membership. Of course Phil said, 'Where do I sign?' It wasn't long before he became Treasurer and a couple of months after that he became President. A quick rise to the top.

Phil threw himself into the club and helped out wherever he could, including rolling the greens. And there was still time to bowl effectively. He was on committee for seven years before heading over to Victoria.

Phil moved to Melbourne to be nearer family and to help out with young grandchildren. He had a look at FVBC on the web and liked the look of it so came over and met Pete Hille. The rest, as they say, is history. It wasn't long before he put his hand up for the committee and filled the Treasurer's position. He recently took up the position of President as well. He enjoys the business side of the club.

Phil spent most of his working life in the world of insurance starting his first job at 16. He began working with various companies and then in partnerships until forming his own company. After some years he was ready to retire and so he sold this business.

He has been involved with a number of social and sports clubs for most of his life and has often found himself either President, or Treasurer, or both. It seems he couldn't help himself. FVBC is now reaping the benefit of all Phil's experience. We thank you, Phil.

Committee of Management

The October Committee of Management meeting was a straightforward governance meeting, no extraordinary issues or decisions required.

Uniform Stock

The new uniform shirts and shorts did arrive but there was an error made with design. This was the supplier's error which they will rectify at no cost to the club. However this means we are now, again, waiting for the delivery which is an inconvenience to the club and those members patiently waiting for uniform items. We will keep everyone informed as best we can on a new delivery date.

Early Black Friday Sale

In order to clear stock we are discounting the uniform **long pants, track pants** and **skorts**.

- Long pants and Track pants reduced from \$70 to \$40
- Skorts reduced from \$50 to \$30

Ideal for new players and anyone wanting additional uniform options.

Please text Andrea (0417 107 178) or Bernice (0403 445 051) to make a time to meet at the club and make your purchase. Alternatively, if you see one of us at the club, just ask!

Bowls Victoria Affiliated Sports Club Briefing

Phil Matthewson (President) attended a Bowls Victoria President and Secretaries briefing last week. The purpose of the briefing was to let affiliated clubs know what is expected of them in this coming year.

Several things were mentioned that every club should have. Below is the list and you can see that the CoM has these in hand:

- A Selection Policy - FV adopted prior to 2025 season commencing.
- A review of their constitution - FV underway - draft ready for legal review prior to presenting to members.
- A Code of Conduct - FV in place.
- A Junior Development Officer/Program - appointment of Jack MacNabb as the Bowls Coordinator last month, primary focus is to formalise and revitalise the FV Junior Development Program.

The logo for Nelson Alexander, featuring the name in a bold, orange-red serif font on a dark rectangular background.

**Nelson
Alexander**

Valued Club Sponsor

CoM...

Member Portal - <https://www.barefootbowling.com.au/member-portal>

Those attending the pie night will have seen the new Member Portal now activated on the FV web page. All things bowls is here right at your fingertips. All you need is your Tidy HQ password to get in. Each week's team selections will be posted on this page under Menu/ Team Selections. We have tried to put all the information that bowlers, including new bowlers, may want on this page. Members were given printed handouts at the pie night to guide you on how to log in.

If members need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact Lynn May at secretary@fbbowls.com.au or call 0425725137. Together we will sort it.

Weekly selections will continue to be sent by text as we transition to the self-help member portal.

Tidy HQ

This is your membership record at the club and the primary membership management system. You will have received emails for renewing your membership in June through this system and at that time been asked to set up a login and password. This same login and password will get you into the Member Portal. Please go into TidyHQ to keep your contact and emergency contact details up to date. Email addresses are critical for this system to recognise you. We will support those few members who do not have an email address.

Bear with us as we continue to develop the Member Portal. As always, we are happy to receive feedback and suggestions via secretary@fvbowl.com.au.

The crazy season is almost upon us...

You will be noticing that the functions, BBQ and barefoot bowling traffic is building. Kylie and Jacqui are fulltime taking and finalising bookings—for them this means hundreds of calls and emails. December is booked out already. For you this means the clubhouse is going to be very busy and we all need to be patient, respectful and considerate of each other. Especially after pennant when we have all players in and our visiting teams as well.

At times we can feel impatient with the busyness but we need to remind ourselves that this is the season that we generate most of our revenue for the year. Please everyone, be kind to yourself, each other, our staff and the patrons visiting our club. Rohan and the team are working on the upstairs room—we are aiming to set up a members' bar to alleviate some of the pressure on members. Stay tuned.

Vale Ken 'Docko' Docking

Fitzroy Victoria's No 1 Pennant Bowler passed away last week aged 88. Ken played 433 games with FV, only slowing down in the last couple of years. He also would have played several hundred for Fitzroy BC before the merger with Victoria.

Ken was a local of Northcote and played a lot of cricket in the inner north as a wicket-keeper batsman. You can imagine him as a keeper being caring and encouraging to opposition batsmen. He was also a golfer who played well on and off the course and set up a strong social network of his golfing colleagues, including functions at FV. Another great love of Ken's was fishing at places like Moulmein where he and a few mates set up an old schoolhouse as a clubhouse. There he could



combine bowls, golf, fishing and yarning with a few reds under the stars.

Ken's working life had its core around electrical fitting and maintenance for engines and appliances, but he could turn his hand to fixing most things. As Club Secretary he looked after bowls stuff but also kept an eye on visiting tradies to check if they were up to his standards. One drawer of his filing cabinet (in Kenny's Cubbyhole as his office space was called) had a toolbox plus drills, a grinder, a small chainsaw etc. As a side manager for pennant bowls he was also a fixer. He played on Rink 5 for every home game for over 10 years!

Ken was married to Jean for over 60 years and they were superb together supporting the various interests each had. Jean was very supportive of the bowls club as well. Obviously, it is a sad time for Jean as well as for daughter Janet, son Geoffrey and his wife Peta, plus grandkids Zac & Charlotte.

Kenny's dad, Roy, was Secretary at Fitzroy BC and Kenny also had that role for several years at FV. Kenny was also a selector for many years and chaired the panel for several years. He won several club events and received the following honours during his time at FV: winner of the inaugural Ray Benson Club Person of the Year; FV Life Membership; Bill Foster Medal; and Clubs Victoria's Club Volunteer of the Year Award.

If something went wrong, Kenny would raise an eyebrow but never his voice. He would raise a question or suggestion but never ignore an alternative point of view. He was committed to making our club as good as it could be on and off the green. He would have been the first person many of our members met when they first arrived. Each of them has said he was welcoming, encouraging and informative. 'I think you'll like it here,' he often said once he'd measured someone up!

So, he is no longer vertical but he'll remain part of the fabric of our club forever. As our young star Chloe Scherger 17, who met Ken when she was eight, put it—'Rest in peace to the beautiful man. He was loved and will be missed dearly'.

Peter Hille

Social News

SUNDAY MUSIC

It's been a great year for music at the club and we have seen some wonderful performances.

With the end of year quickly approaching Sunday Music will be taking a short break over the holiday period.

Coming Up

November 2 – Pearly Shells

November 9 – The Detonators



CHRISTMAS BOOKINGS

It's time to panic! There are barely 50 days left until Christmas.

Have you booked your Christmas party yet? Look no further—we are the place you want to be.

The calendar is filling up quickly and there are limited spaces left.

Book at functions@barefootbowling.com.au



Valued Club Sponsor

From the Bar

Hello everyone! I hope you are all well.

As promised, Sim has put in the groundwork and brought in some more dynamic wine offerings to round out our wine list changes for the busy season.

You will find a new Shiraz, Grenache Tempranillo, Pinot Noir, Chilled Red, Rose, and Riesling added to the ranks this month. There are some real gems in the mix so make sure you give them all a go!

To help you in that endeavour you will now find a printed physical copy of said wine list on the bar. Just to make it a bit easier for you all to peruse the range at your leisure.



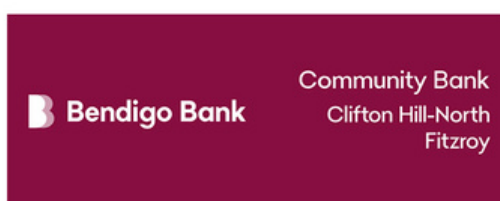
As you are all no doubt aware we are moving at breakneck speed into the business end of the year. Another reminder to anyone looking to get in with a booking—you are running out of time. We're filling fast!

Also, you will gradually be seeing some new faces added to the staff ranks. Please remember to show them your support as they learn the ropes. They won't know your preferred orders or general preferences because they simply won't even know who you are yet! Be sure to introduce yourselves. Your support and encouragement will go a long way to helping them along and making them feel like a welcome part of the club community.

Lastly, with the recent upgrade to the BBQs around the club grounds a couple of our older, well loved, but still very functional units are looking for a good home. Any interested parties, please come and see me. First in best dressed and no tyre kickers!

Best of luck to all involved in the upcoming season openers and I'll see you around the club house!

Rohan



Valued Club Partner

On the Green

PENNANT SEASON

The season is finally underway!

PLEASE—if you are unavailable for any matches kindly advise the selectors by putting your name down on the 'Unavailability' sheets on the notice board. It is important that the selectors are aware of your availability prior to selection each week.

SATURDAY PENNANT - ROUND 1

Premier Reserve hosted Port Melbourne on the FV synthetic and it turned out to be an absolute nail-biter with FV falling short by a measly four shots overall.

Div 2 were also at home and played Alphington who we beat in the Division 3 final last season. This time around, Alphington were just a bit too good on the day.

Div 4 travelled to Alphington to play their 2nd side. We were looking down the barrel at the half-way mark but all of a sudden the side dug deep and got up, overall, by two shots. A great come from behind victory. What a nice season starter for our Div 4 side.

Div 6

Newly 'promoted' Div 6 were away to North Balwyn. A valiant effort with two rinks up but just not good enough on the day.

Div 7

This was a home game against Hawthorn however it was played at Alphington. Not being on our home surface didn't deter us. A great victory was had to start the season – well done legends!

MIDWEEK PENNANT CHANGES

Bowls Victoria have amended the Tuesday and Thursday midweek start time back to 10.30am. Too many clubs complained about the change and BV listened. People power!!

You are encouraged to read the Metropolitan Pennant Conditions of Play 2025/26, or alternatively, contact Neil Ronaldson (vicepresident@fvbowls.com.au) for clarification.

The logo for KIESER, featuring the word "KIESER" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. A thick blue horizontal bar is positioned directly beneath the letters.

Valued Club Sponsor

On The Green...

PLEASE NOTE

A mistake has been noted in the fixture details printed in the handbook.

What is listed on the website in the Member Portal is correct.

Saturday Div 4	Listed as	Should be
Round 3 Nov 8 v Melbourne 3	Home	Away
Round 4 Nov 15 v Albert Park 1	Away	Home
Round 5 Nov 22 v Middle Park 3	Home	Away
Round 6 Nov 29 v North Balwyn	Away	Home

DIV 2

There has also been a BV amendment to Div 2 for round 6 Nov 29.

The away game against Thornbury is to be played at Rosanna BC.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Wendy Proimos Mario Vitellone Ned MacDonald Garry Noffs Sam Fedorra

BOWLS AUSTRALIA NATIONAL UMPIRES

We congratulate and welcome FV members Ray O'Halloran and Sam Chamberlain as recently BA Accredited National Umpires.

NGBR REGION EVENTS

FVBC hosted the NGBR Women's Triples semi-finals and will be doing same for the Final which is on Thursday October 30 at 5pm.

NGBR mixed pairs Rounds 1 and 2 were held at Kingsbury BC.

We had four teams competing with three of those teams getting through to the next round at Aberfeldie CBC.

Go well Emmett and Ali, Jack and Chloe and Megan and Barry!

Finally, some kind words worth remembering. Some (or probably, most!) days on the green it is windy. So here is a little saying that I know you won't forget. Good bowling everyone!

Wind in your face – take more pace.

Wind up your arse – take more grass.