

The Falcon: May 2019

The Girls Go Marching On

The finals of the WP Ladies Fours, played yesterday at Bergvliet, was an all-Constantia affair. In the semis, the team of Flo George, Taz Bright, Jenny Wade and Liz Maisel accounted for a team from Edgemead while the other team of Cheryl Saunders, Laurie Keevy-Venter, Liz Hudson and Colleen Marshall was victorious against a Pollsmoor team.

In the finals, the team skipped by Cheryl Saunders was just too good for their colleagues, taking the game by 20 shots to 9.

The Club is, once again, extremely proud of all of you and wonders what the next trophy is likely to be.

Constantia Classic

The annual staging of this event, sponsored by Warwick, allows our Club to exhibit to the larger bowling community all it has to offer in the way of resources, both physical and human. And there is no doubt that our Club rose to the occasion. Masterminded by Alan Lofthouse and assisted by an enthusiastic and competent team, the Classic was a resounding success.

After a one year break in 2018 due to our "B" green being out of commission, 36 teams comprising 144 players enjoyed two days of good bowls, good weather (phew) and great food. The winners of the competition were Stefan Koen, David Thies, Grant Jason, and Marnus Potgieter from Helderberg who won the R8000.00 first prize.

In 2nd place was Robbie Piketh, Theo v d Walt, Richard Truter and Francois Trotskie from Edgemead.

3rd place went to Kevin and Carol Nash, Dianne and Alan Bennett from WPCC.

The "B" section was won by Rob McIver and team from Edgemead and in the "C" section Allan Hobson and team from Constantia prevailed.

The success of the tournament is reflected in the following comments from participants:

"The best Constantia Classic ever" (Peter Brown)

"Loved it, will be back next year" (Keith Hey)

"All 144 players were royally looked after" (Mike Connolly)

"The flow of the tournament, good greens, great food, made this weekend one you can all be proud of" (Peter Todt).

After the first day "Can we get an invite for next year" (Tersia Parker).

To Alan, John Stamper, Gary Roach, Roy and Lynn Clark and all the many members who volunteered their support over the two days, the Club is most grateful – and very proud!

What impressed me most was the incredible spirit that prevailed throughout, both on and off the green.

We look forward to next year's Classic.

The Abba Show

Thanks to Heather Cawood's efforts, a sell-out crowd of more than 200 supporters of McCully Workshop enjoyed an excellent rendition of Abba classics on Sunday 28 April. Resident chef Haydn, wife Mandy, Craig and Steven provided sustenance for the attendees, Pinias helped to lubricate the throats of the sing-a-long crowd and the band, thanks to the efforts of Carl Marshall, had a wonderful stage from which to entertain. It was also reported that the behaviour of our Golden Girls, Ciel, Doreen and Louisa, was exemplary this time around.

Grateful thanks to all the members of the team, including Roy and Lynn Clark, Butch and Lyn Liebenberg, Peter Cawood, Paddy Goncalves, Sharron Dunt and Sharon and Renee who contributed in one way or another to the success of the evening.

Forthcoming events

26 May	Autumn Long Table
31 May	Music quiz
7 June	Personal Trust Cheese and wine
16 June	Potjiekos competition.

Autumn Long Table

The previous "Long Table" event, which was reported in a previous Falcon, was much enjoyed by those present. This one is scheduled to take place on Sunday 26 May at 12:30 for 13:00 with Autumn as its theme. Booking for this event is essential.

Autumn Midweek Trips

Thanks to the support of our members and those from neighbouring Clubs, this event, sponsored by Personal Trust, is fully subscribed. Gary Roach, who is running this event, has appealed for contributions towards the Raffle Table, which traditionally has a wide and impressive selection of prizes.

Cheese and Wine

The annual Cheese and Wine party, sponsored by Personal Trust, will take place on 7 June. Please support this Club event by buying your tickets from Roy Clark.

Getting to know

In the last Falcon, I mentioned the very interesting member I met when I first joined the Club. He had been a member of the Dam Busters crews but I had forgotten his name. Thanks to Eddie Curtis, we were able to identify him as Harry Spragg. Do some of the older members remember him?

Constantia Primary

As part of the marketing initiative for Bowls, contact has been made with the Principal and staff of Constantia Primary with a view to introducing bowls to the youngsters. Taz Bright will be running introductory sessions at the school (on their astra) throughout this week. On Friday 10 May, members of their staff will visit the Club and be given the opportunity to play the game. Thereafter, we hope to set aside an hour or two on Thursday afternoons to coach those pupils who may be interested in making this their school sport. The Principal, Mr Adams, and the Sports Coach, Mr Kleyn, are highly supportive of this initiative.

Viewpoint

There is a saying, which I was obliged to confront in my management days, that went as follows”
*“The reasonable man attempts to adapt himself to the world;
The unreasonable man attempts to adapt the world to himself;
All progress depends on the unreasonable man!”*
I often think of this when I look at the decreasing number of bowling clubs throughout the country; I think of this when I look at Clubs trying to survive with 20 to 30 members. I think of this when I hear Butch Liebenberg say “Why did I not take up this sport years ago?

I know it is a generalisation when I suggest that, like the dinosaurs, we seem to have ignored the signs around us of a changing world. But the reality is, the status quo is no longer good enough. If we wish to survive, we need to think outside the box, we need to listen to the some of the “**unreasonable**” suggestions of others as to how best to make our sport, and our facilities, attractive to a different market. Forget about what we think, what does the younger target market think about the game as it exists. Should Fours be relegated to the dustbin? Is a 3 –hour game too long for a generation that seeks instant gratification. Should we, as a Club, instead of getting others to adapt to our game, not be proactive in finding out what they would like to see, what changes might appeal to them?

Sick Bay

After a brief scare, which required his being fitted with a stent, Jet Clark is now fighting fit and ready for his overseas holiday. Bon voyage, Jet.

Birthdays

Brett van Eyssen	9 May
Darryll Edwards	11 May
Martin Crossland	12 May
Carl Marshall	26 May

Greens

While the greens are running well, and should provide good surfaces for the five weeks of our Autumn Trips, the banks took a bit of a hammering during the Classic. Because we have tried to repair some of them during the past week, we would ask for your cooperation in not stepping on the edges. We will try to put down red and white ribboning to indicate the fragile areas.

Tabs draw

We are aware of the preference many members have for playing trips, rather than fours, during Tabs. Unfortunately, the numbers often preclude this arrangement, resulting in broken rinks and/or Fours. Some of the members have indicated that they would prefer to play Pairs rather than Fours on a Tabs day. We suggest that in future, when entering your name for Tabs, you inform the Duty Officer of your willingness to play Pairs, should the situation allow it.

Club members

We acknowledged the efforts of a number of our members in the previous issue of the Falcon. We excluded mention of Inge Freddi who, for the past 20 years has been taking pictures of event winners and other celebrities. The quality of her pictures is such that she receives requests from wide and far to provide copies of these pics. And all at her expense.

“Why do you do this, Inge?”

“Because I love my Club,” she says. And we love you, Inge.

And almost finally

Could one of our members have said this?

“I enjoy a glass of wine each night for its health benefits. The extra glasses are for my scintillating conversation and flawless dance moves!”

And finally

This comes from Maureen, so please don't accuse me of chauvinistic intent.

An Irishman who had a little too much to drink is driving home from the city one night and, of course, his car is weaving violently all over the road.

A cop pulls him over. 'So,' says the cop to the driver, 'where have ya been?'

'Why, I've been to da pub of course,' slurs the drunk.

'Well,' says the cop, 'it looks like you've had quite a few to drink this evening.'

'I did all right,' the drunk says with a smile.

'Did you know,' says the cop, standing straight and folding his arms across his chest, 'that a few junctions back, your wife fell out of your car?'

'Oh, t'ank heavens,' sighs the drunk. 'for a minute there, I t'ought I'd gone deaf.'