

# The Falcon: July 2019

## **Annual General Meeting**

This will take place on Sunday 28 July at 09:30. The annual report has been sent to members via email. If you have not received it, for one reason or another, please let Jet Clark know.

## **Club Management**

Despite numerous appeals, a number of critical positions on Exco remain unfilled. It would be unfortunate if we had to arrive at the AGM with the situation unchanged. Experience has shown that this is not the place to urge Joe or Wendy sitting next to you to volunteer.

It would be far better to use the next two weeks to establish what the various duties of the unfilled positions entail and then encourage one of your co-members, with an offer to assist them, to make themselves available.

Better still, why not make yourself available. Years ago, during management training, it was instilled in us that, if you wanted a job done, and done quickly and effectively, you looked around for the busiest staff member! It proved to be reliable advice.

The trouble at a Bowls Club like ours, and many others, is that the 90/10 principle kicks in, with 10% doing most of the work. Take the time to look around you at what goes on at our Club and look who is making it happen.

## **Gardens**

Just to reinforce the comment referred to above, a request was put out via last month's Falcon for someone to take over the role of Gardens Supervisor, recently relinquished by Harvey Havenga.

With so many having commented positively on the roses, rockeries and succulent beds, we would have been forgiven for anticipating a deluge of offers. Guess what? None – except from one of the 10% who handles two other time-consuming portfolios! As the saying goes, "It makes you think".

## **Mens Nationals**

The vast Editorial Department that puts the Falcon together has failed its readership dismally. They failed to record the outstanding effort of

Peter Harvey and JC Latter in reaching the semi finals of the National Pairs.

Public apologies have been demanded but if I had my way I would sack the entire Falcon staff.

## **July Long Table**

Despite the very enthusiastic feedback from those who attended previous "Long Tables", the Christmas in July event has had to be cancelled. The numbers of those wishing to attend were insufficient to make it worthwhile.

This is disappointing.

## **Social events**

We have acknowledged on numerous occasions our indebtedness to Heather Cawood for her efforts in providing a series of social events for the members. One of our newer members told me last week that she found the range of quizzes, cocktail parties, imported shows and food events a particularly attractive "add on" aspect of our Club.

We know that everything Heather arranges is excellent. And she seems to find the time and the enthusiasm to put these events together while holding down a demanding full time job.

But I sense her disappointment that the support she gets is confined to a relatively small section of the Club.

Heather intends doing an email survey soon to plot the way forward.

## **Coaching Corner**

The "off season" is a good time to work on one's game. Without the pressures of WP or Club competitions, it provides the opportunity for you to reassess aspects of your game.

We are fortunate to have the services of Ian Rohtbart who is more than prepared to offer advice where possible. He has provided the following thoughts for this month's Falcon.

"During competitive play the utmost concentration is required. However, one must make a clear distinction between concentration and stress. Concentration is good but stress will have a negative impact on your bowling. A good sense of humour can help relieve some of the stress.

There is a degree of luck in bowls so sometimes you cannot control what happens to you but rather what is vitally important is how you react to what happens to you.

You need to allocate regular periods to proper practice and to learn how to train your mind by testing yourself.

There is a booklet, *The Etiquette of Bowls*, available at a nominal price. All new bowlers, as well as some of the established bowlers (I will refrain from the great urge to name a few names) should make sure that they are acquainted with the contents of this publication.

Coaching is available on most Friday afternoons but please confirm your attendance at least a day in advance."

### **Forthcoming events**

Mike McCully 80s Show: 1 September

Around the World Lunch: This will depend on there being sufficient host chefs and participants. Heather will be following up on this fairly soon.

### **Snowball**

Alan Lofthouse was away this past Saturday so handed over the running of the event to Geoff Perrow and myself. He gave strict instructions to ensure that there would be a carry over, thus building up the prize money and making it more attractive.

Well, we let him down badly, allowing the R2 000 Jackpot to be won by JC, Linda S and Peter C. Difficult to get good help these days, Alan!

### **Mixed pairs**

This Saturday will see the final Club competition being completed, the Mixed Pairs between Roy and Lynn Clark and Nic Cambitzis and Liz Maisel.

### **Membership**

We cannot take our eyes off this ball. Snowball time is the ideal time to introduce potential new members to bowls.

If just 20 of us brought someone new to Snowball, or Friday Tabs, it could make such a difference in swelling our numbers.

We should not leave it to the organisers of the Business League to attract a few new bowlers each year.

### **Greens**

If B Green has recovered sufficiently from a fungal outbreak, we will close A Green at the end of July.

This will give us sufficient time to renovate the green and have it ready for the beginning of the new bowling season in October.

As soon as A Green is ready for play, we will close B Green.

This means that we will have two greens only for our Spring Midweek, as was the case last year.

Our priority is to have all three greens in reasonable playing condition in time for Flag Day on Sunday 24 November.

C Green will be closed for renovation directly after Muter Day on Saturday 30 November.

We are still looking for a member to join our Greens Team and supervise weekly preparations when both Trevor and I are not available.

If you live reasonably close by, and would like to help out on occasions, please let me know.

### **Sick bay**

During last week's Tabs, Vince Taylor gave us a fright by collapsing on the green. With the help of Geoff Perrow and Tony Kandan he was whisked off to hospital where he underwent a series of tests.

The good news is that the MRI and other tests revealed nothing too serious.

According to Vince, it was "just something passing by." I hope it wasn't one of the ladies from the gym, Vince.

### **Reminder**

Please remember to clear your table after drinks – bottles to the Bar and glasses to the trolley. Makes such a difference.

### **Novices**

Good luck to the four teams of novices participating at Mowbray over this weekend.

### **Birthdays**

Best wishes to the following:

Roy Clark and Gary Nash	19 July
George Wilson	20 July
Carol Barker	21 July
Sharron Dent	30 July

George will be 87 and still going strong, very strong, on the green. What a treasure you are, George.

### **And finally**

"I am proud to announce that I have completed the first item on my bucket list. I have the bucket!