



The Christmas Party



A great celebration was had following the last pennant games of the year, with more than 60 members and guests attending. Thanks to everyone who contributed, including:

- Everyone who "brought a plate"
- Simon and Macca for cooking the barbeque
- Dick for cooking and bringing the chicken
- Gerry, Jaki and everyone who helped serving at the bar
- Margot for organising and preparing all the raffle hampers and running the lingerie auction
- Everyone who contributed to those hampers
- Fay for making and donating the lingerie
- Christine O'Loughlin for decorating the Christmas Tree



Congratulations to the hamper raffle winners: Gabrielle Lee, Terry O'Loughlin, Bryan Kenneally, Di Eddy, Johnny Warburton, Judith Scott and John Matthews. Raffle ticket sales totalled \$570, all going to the Building Fund.

Many thanks to the lingerie auction winning bidders: Simon, Stuart and Johnny/Bob, who collectively contributed \$660 to the Building Fund. And, for those who weren't able to attend, the Board announced it has awarded two new Life Memberships: to Simon Strickland and Stuart Kollmorgen, both of whom have contributed major efforts over many years towards making our club the great club that it is. Congratulations Simon and Stuart!

Father Christmas visited the Club during a recent function

FUNCTION VOLUNTEERS

This year's functions season has now concluded, having hosted 14 events and raised around \$35k. Many thanks go to our regular crew of volunteers, who set up, coach, serve at the bar and take down at each event, plus the green and clubhouse maintenance teams that keep the place looking so good.



I found a book titled How to Solve 50 Percent of your Problems. So, I bought two.



BOWLING UPDATES FOR YEAR END

WEEKEND

At the Christmas break all three Albert Park weekend sides are within reach of finals. The firsts are 1st on the ladder 16 points clear of Middle Park in 2nd place and, with 3 home games and 2 away in the new year, we are well positioned to capitalise on the strong start. The seconds are currently 6th on the ladder, but only 1 point below Mt Waverley in 5th and 10 points behind Malvern in 4th. Again we need to take advantage of the 3 home games in the second half and 4th place and a finals play off is possible. The thirds are in 5th place on equal points with MCC in 4th and 11 points behind Melbourne in 3rd. The thirds have only 2 more home games and 3 away so will need to dig deep to stay in contention.

Thanks to all who have regularly attended Rob Huddle's coaching and training sessions. I'm sure this has assisted those members to play to their abilities or show some improvement. The selectors have attempted to minimise changes so far, particularly when a rink is performing well and winning. There have been of necessity some changes to accommodate people

away and, with the exception of the most recent round, we have had all available players in the sides. We will be missing 3 or 4 key players for the 1st game back on 14 Jan so there will be some juggling needed to balance the teams.

We look forward to finishing the season with a flourish and aiming for all 3 sides to reach finals.

Malcolm Stevenson on behalf of the weekend match committee

MIDWEEK

The first team, playing in Division 2, had a tough start to the season with just 3 wins from the first nine games including one good away win over Richmond, which leaves us 5th on the ladder with five games left to play. While it is unlikely that we will make the jump to the top 4 and finals contention, our focus for the remaining games will be to maintain our 5th spot and avoid another relegation. A total of 18 players played at least one game in the side, with three players taking part in all nine games.

The seconds in Division 4 fared somewhat better, winning five of their matches, including two away games (Richmond and

Brighton Beach) to sit fourth on the ladder, just 24 points off top placed Middle Park and nine points below third placed Melbourne. A total of 22 players played at least one game in the side, with three players taking part in all nine games.

BUILDING FUND

With the addition of the Christmas Party donations, club members have now donated over \$16k to the Building Fund (most notably Simon, as well as Wayne, Don and Tim) and we are closing in on our target, although there is still a ways to go. Efforts also continue to attract government funding to match the Council's commitment to the female facilities.

TUESDAY GOLD COIN

Please note that Tuesday Gold Coin will continue throughout the holidays – arrive by 9.45am.

JUNIOR SUCCESS

In his first Pennant game Jack Muir, aged 13, played Lead for APBC seconds side against Ashburton on Saturday making a significant contribution with intimidating draw shots. Jack's team under Skip Sally Rushworth not only won by 29 shots but also took home the glasses in a close finish against Steve Mooney's rink +28 and Lambis' rink +25. Jack learnt to bowl with his grandfather and joined APBC after attending our RollUp after school program with other Galilee RDPS students.

In November an enthusiastic group of Club volunteers concluded 13 sessions of coaching to 32 Year 9 students from Albert Park College.



President Wayne with Wednesday Group Champions Jack and Hannah



Jack pictured with Gabby Ransom, Skip Sally Rushworth and Don McGregor



Friday group's Tournament Champions Ava, Kalysta and Lucy after being presented with trophies by Vice President Graeme McDonald