



# MAIN RIDGE BOWLS & PÉTANQUE CLUB INC

## SUMMER NEWSLETTER

Vol21/Issue 2

May 2021



**\*Annual General Meeting: Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> May at 5pm\*.**

**Please support your club committee: Nominations for vacant/new positions are still open; contact Robert Hudson (Secretary: [mainridgebpc@gmail.com](mailto:mainridgebpc@gmail.com)) or any member of the Committee for more information. (see page 3)**



### Practice makes perfect: winners of the Pairs Club Championship

Cesare Bonacinia, a youthful 98-year-old and Lee Mellet of an indeterminate age, both life members of the Main Ridge Bowls Club swept away the opposition to win through to become the club pairs champions. Just proving how good bowls is for you.



### Bill Shearer: The President sets the standards

Bill Shearer won the 2020 Pétanque club championship, the shield awarded to him by Pétanque Committee chairman, Jock Macmillan. Then to keep the accolades coming, Bill won the Autumn Classic Bowls competition with two of his mates from Ballarat, this time Ian Sharkey handed out the plaudits.



### The National Pétanque Championships 2021

South Australia hosted the annual event over the Easter break this year. Club members Peter Whitaker, Catherine Crichton and Jean Claude Dufroux attended the competition. Jean Claude (L) wrote, "Saturday was my best ever results in the triple, made up of players I did not know after the QLD lockdown meant I could not play with my brother". They finished 5<sup>th</sup> overall! Jean Claude then went on to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> in the National Doubles championship. Peter (R) finished second in the men's over 60's singles, winning a silver medal. He won a further silver in the men's over 60's Doubles while Catherine (R) came second in the Woman's over 60's doubles, matching the silver ware.



## HEART SAFE TRAINING COURSE

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A Heart Safe Community training session has been arranged for MRBP members, families and friends. This will be conducted at MRBP club rooms at 1:30 pm on Friday 23rd April 2021.



All members, their families, and friends, are welcome to attend this session which will take you through CPR training and the use of the defibrillator which was installed at the club recently.

**TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST IN THIS SESSION:**

Add your name to the booking form which will be available in the club rooms, or call/email Dee Hudson 0411 245 562 / [randdhudson@gmail.com](mailto:randdhudson@gmail.com).

This is a free session, and all members are encouraged to attend. Should there be too many for one session, or members who would like to attend a session but can't do that during the day and would prefer an evening session this can be arranged.

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## Annual President's Golf Day - 13 Hole Mixed Ambrose

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It's winter soon and the bowlers are keen to keep their fitness levels, so along with pétanque and social members it's time for the annual Golf Day, **Friday 28th May** at the Flinders Golf Club, Bass Street, Flinders. Registration at 09h00, members and their friends are welcome and those who do not play golf are encouraged to join the players for lunch at the clubhouse afterwards. There is a \$10.00 entry fee for players only, which will go towards the prizes on the day.

Enquiries: John Schmoll 0419 526 075 or Helen Higginson 0409 416 450. Book soon as numbers are limited.

Registration: 28.5.21 - 09h00 - Tee off - 09h30

Prizes: Team Event (Handicapped)

Individual longest drive and nearest to pin. (Men's & Ladies)

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## Pétanque mixed triples tournament, Main Ridge - Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021

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Start practicing and begin to think about the team you will enter for the Main Ridge mixed triples. Volunteers are always welcome to help out on the day and of course supporters help to make the day more fun. There will be prizes on offer and more information will be available nearer the time.

If you wish to register your team, please contact Raelene on [raelene.shearer@gmail.com](mailto:raelene.shearer@gmail.com)



## President's Ramble – Bill Shearer

As I wrote my article for the February newsletter, we had just commenced the five-day lockdown. We all nervously waited the five days out hoping it would not be extended. Since that time restrictions have eased significantly enabling us to go about our lives in a manner almost approaching normality. We are so fortunate we live in this country and this good fortune enables us to appreciate just how difficult it is for all those countries still suffering huge infection numbers.

The eased restrictions and a safer environment have seen the Club really come to life again. The pennant bowls season, which started late, was extended through to April and we ran a very successful



Catherine Crichton winner of the Club draw – Remember you have to be there to win it!

Autumn Classic bowls tournament in March. Numbers playing pétanque have been terrific. Our Friday social evenings have been extremely well attended with the March Member's draw night attracting in excess of 50 participants. Unfortunately, the March Bunnings sausage sizzle was not a huge success as heavy rain commenced about 1.30pm and continued for the remainder of the afternoon. Many thanks to the volunteers who contributed their time on that day.

This will be the last newsletter for the Club's financial year which ends on 30 April. The Annual General Meeting is to be conducted on Friday May 14 and the Notice of Meeting together with Nomination forms for

elected executive positions have been circulated. I once again urge members to give serious consideration to nominating for a position of interest to them. The position descriptions for key positions are once again included in this newsletter.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS FOR 2021/2022:	Nominations for Non-executive positions
PRESIDENT	ASSISTANT SECRETARY - The Assistant Secretary will assist the key administrative role of the Club Secretary, with a view to nominate for that position in 2022
SECRETARY	
DIRECTOR FINANCE	SOCIAL GROUP MANAGER - The Social Manager's role incorporates meeting the Club's social needs and management of functions.
DIRECTOR PROPERTY MANAGEMENT	
DIRECTOR PLANNING AND SPONSORSHIP (BUSINESS)	
VICE PRESIDENT - will act in the President's role in the absence of the President with a view to nominate for President at the 2022 AGM	

## Bowls Director's Report - Michael Horan

This time last year bowls was in complete limbo as we all endured a sustained lockdown due to COVID-19. Word out of Bowls Victoria back then was there was little prospect of the 2020-21 pennant season starting on time, if at all. As fate would have it, we were to emerge from a state-wide lockdown of more than four months and despite starting five weeks later than normal, a full season was played.

There were no premierships this year but Main Ridge - the smallest club on the peninsula - competed superbly in both Saturday and midweek competition.



On the back of the previous season when we were cellar dwellers, this year saw our team miss the Saturday pennant finals by just a single point, while in midweek competition we reached the playoffs before losing to the eventual premier City of Frankston in the semi-finals.



Outside of pennant there were some splendid moments.

The Autumn Classic was staged in perfect weather and provided an equally perfect result when our president Bill Shearer and his team of long-time friends from Ballarat took on all comers to win the tournament.

Another magic moment was the outcome of the club's Pairs championship, where six-time singles champion Cesare Bonacini teamed with stalwart Lee Mellett to emerge the winners. "Caesar" as he is affectionately known turns 99 in August and with the young bloke Lee as a partner, they boasted a collective age of 174. Both men have shared the pairs title with other partners in the past but it was a gladsome sight to see two great servants of Main Ridge reign supreme.

The men's singles final was epic battle, with Jonathan O'Sullivan emerging after three hours and 35 ends a 26-22 victor to claim his second club singles championship. Almost as impressive was Jonathan's culinary skills after the pairs tournament, when he cooked and served traditional Spanish paella for all.



This season also saw the Zammit name gain greater representation with the arrival of Dorothy Zammit, daughter of life member Jane and the late John Zammit, a former player and secretary at Main Ridge. Along with Anne Adams, the Zammit's were integral parts of both pennant teams throughout the season.

With winter recess fast approaching, the bowls committee recently committed to coring and top dressing both greens to ensure our beautiful venue is in perfect shape for the 2021-22 calendar.

As bowls director, I extend my heartfelt thanks to our band of loyal workers, led by the tireless Bill Shearer and willing mowers/ground staff Keith Waters, Merv Prossor and Tony Cogan.

We remain a little club with a big heart, one that punches above its weight annually. May it continue to be so.



## Pétanque Directors' Report – Jock Macmillan

### Monthly Competition Winners.

					
Feb Winner – Keith Waters	Feb Winner – Helen Higginson	March Winner- Michael Phillips	March Winner- Carol Hayllar	April Winner – Jock Macmillan	April Winner – Raelene Shearer

The third Friday in February was the fifth and final opportunity for members to compete for the 2020 Club Championship. The extension into January and February of 2021 was a consequence of having only three Fridays on which to have the monthly championship during 2020 because of the lockdown. In a normal year (and let's hope that 2021 is just that), members who have played in at least five of the monthly competitions have their best five scores entered into the calculations. This was not possible in calculating the results for 2020. The judging had to be modified with results from all five playing nights being included. Only two members won 10 games. Bill Shearer was declared the Club Champion for 2020 with Les Lapozzuto as Runner Up with a delta difference of TWO. Bill and Les both make major contributions to the day-to-day preparation and operation of bowls (Bill) and pétanque (Les) at the Club. Bill was presented with the Club Champion's Shield. The Pétanque Honour Board will be updated as soon as the sign writer receives a new supply of gold ink.

At a recent meeting of the Pétanque Operations Committee (PoC), it was decided to present the past, present and future Club Champions with a small memento of their achievements (as is a common practice in many sporting clubs). Six pétanque players have been recognised as Club Champions over the five years since the Main Ridge B&P Club was formed. Previous winners were: Rick Hayllar and Kevin Wyatt in 2016; Michael Phillips in 2017; Warwick Paton in 2018; and Jean-Claude Dufroux in 2019. The winners of the monthly competition in March were Carol Hayllar and Michael Phillips. The monthly competition could benefit from having more women entrants, given that the overall numbers enrolled Club members who play pétanque is very close to 50:50.

While there has not been a rush of members choosing to play games on the upgraded pistes (Nos. 1,2 and 3), some have accepted the challenge of having to rely on lobbing each boule when pointing and watching out for flying stones when shooting. This is partly the result of not being able to have two grades of gravel delivered as a single load – it had to be one size! A number of modifications have been discussed that involve mixing fine and coarse grades to come up with a less challenging surface. Jean-Claude has taken the first steps to change the playing surface of these pistes. There will likely be further steps in the conversion process. The end of day light saving time on the 4th April has also meant a change in starting time to 3:30 p.m. (except on the third Friday of each month at 3:15 p.m.). This starting time will allow three games to be completed by 5:15 p.m. Minor modifications to the paring process before the start of each game have meant that the interval between games has been minimised. Numbers of players on Fridays in particular have been up on previous years – 30 enrolled

or prospective members rolled up on 26th March. The weekly playing fee of \$2.00 should now be paid on arrival with a \$1.00 or \$2.00 coin rather than with a \$20 note or a 50c coin.

From the French Suppliers OBUT: Available at the club

Magnetic boule lifters	\$25.00
Coche	\$3.00 each or 4 for \$10.00

Many members now have their own cochonette (or jack) as a consequence of 59 being bought for members to buy. Raelene also purchased



magnetic boule lifters on behalf of some members. These items, as well as other pétanque "gear" can be purchased on line from [www.petanqueequipment.com](http://www.petanqueequipment.com)

Planning has commenced for the Main Ridge Triples Tournament on Sunday, 23rd May. Members are encouraged to form teams and have an "at home" tournament experience. Helpers will also be required for the wide range of important tasks: catering, ticket selling, parking, etc. The funds derived from the registration fees are either dispersed as prizes to the winning teams or to the PFA. Club room catering and raffles can contribute significantly to income.

## PÉTANQUE PLAY – WARWICK PATON

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Hi All,

Jock has asked for periodic reminders relating to rules that are not observed or perhaps are not well understood.

I'll start with Article 17 (my favourite!) which starts out by stating that when a player is about to throw a boule, players and spectators must observe total silence (magic stuff!).



It goes on to say that opponents must not walk, or talk, or gesticulate, or do anything that could distract the player who is about to play.

Article 17 places no restriction on where players stand when their team is throwing. However, when the opposition team is about to throw, players must not stand in the area between the throwing circle and the jack and no closer than 2 metres from either. Standing directly behind the jack would be distracting and therefore is not permitted.

We've all also experienced situations in which a player has thrown a boule, assumed that their boule was not holding the point and has subsequently thrown another boule. They have then discovered that the first boule was actually holding the point. In this case, as long as their opponents still had boules in hand, the second boule thrown was a "Boule thrown contrary to the rules" (Article 24). That boule is "dead". It is removed and not replayed in the end in progress. It can come as a very hard lesson on the importance of going up to the jack and making sure of the current state of play.

If we observe these rules when playing socially, it will help us all feel more relaxed and confident playing in Pétanque competitions both at home and away.

## Social Committee – Raelene Shearer

The SAG (social activities group) had a very busy March. Beginning with the Eagle staff awards party on 2 March - another successful function for the Eagle group and successful again for the Club. We catered for 50 plus staff who enjoyed barefoot bowls followed by a delicious BBQ (thanks to cooks Tony Cogan and Bill) with gourmet salads and potatoes (thanks Sue S, Brenda, Margaret W and Kerri). Sue B decorated the tables with an Hawaiian theme and the guests took to the dance floor after the formalities of the evening.

A week after the Eagle function the Club hosted the bowls Autumn Classic competition. The SAG helped out with morning and afternoon teas for the 80 bowlers competing. Later that week was the Bunnings Sausage Sizzle - again manned by volunteers from bowls, pétanque and social members. Unfortunately, this was not as successful this year due to Covid restrictions plus a very wet end to the final shift. Many thanks again for all volunteers.

Congratulations to Kevin Wyatt for gaining his food safety certificate enabling him to help with the Friday Night Food service. It is great to have a man back in the kitchen and the SAG would welcome more gentlemen from bowls, pétanque and social members, to help out with this increasingly popular Friday social get-together enjoyed by the wider community.



The Eagle Barefoot Bowls and function was a great success with a Hawaiian theme and great music.

## Welcome to our New Members

			
Lloyd Hosking	Max Thexton	Sharon Judd	New Mah-jong members Jenny Rundle & Diane Miller



## Millionaires Walk – Carol Hayllar



Recipient of a Special Award at the Sorrento Rotary Art Show. March 2021

## Mah-jong – Sue Brown

It was back in 2019 that a survey identified the club members would like to see the club house used more for recreational activities and Carole Schmoll suggested Mah-jong. Results showed this was a popular idea and early 2020 we began to meet. Equipment was donated and the club committee stumped up for the tiles, with Lee very kindly making the wooden racks. Then came covid! As soon as



we could we started up again and we are beginning to have a keen core of players as well as welcoming new social members to our group. Jenny Rundle and Diane Miller are two of the new club members and we hope we will see them on Friday nights soon. Beginners to experts are welcome to join –

10am every Monday Morning (public holidays excepted). Jill Storey a local Mah-jong expert who teaches with U3a offered to come along and help us improve and we were thrilled to have her input - thanks Jill!

I would like to mention that Mah-jong is not exclusively played by women, world-wide both men and women play and if you pop into any local club or check out the cruise ships you find different genders clicking away. So, we are very welcoming of new members both male and female! Apart from being entertaining, it's a game which is often counter intuitive and stretches the little grey cells.





## Looking Back, Main Ridge – Jill Phillips.

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### 1883 – Joseph McIlroy

Got shot in the hand with a gun (2<sup>nd</sup> August 1883) and had to go to the Alfred Hospital and remained there until 3<sup>rd</sup> September. By the 18<sup>th</sup> September back at work rubbing blight of the apple trees. (Joseph McIlroy's 1883)

**1902** – Whilst chopping a limb to cut out a swarm of bees, the bough broke and Bobby Wilson fell in the way of the axe. His head was split open; a portion of the brain bare. Wilson was driven to Mornington and attended by Dr. Somers. It was thought the accident would terminate fatally but he is now much improved. The good Doctor said Bobby was lucky to have a thick skull. (The Mornington Standard, 1902)



**1908** - "We regret to announce the death of Mr. John Baldry of 'Wilwood' as a result of a fall from a horse. When he had not returned from the paddocks at the premised time a search was made, finally on the Monday the body was found in the bush paddock. The saddle was picked up with the firth broken. He died of hypothermia. (The Standard, July 1908)

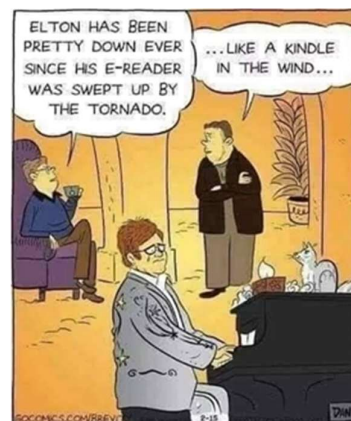
**1913** – Mr James Homes met with a serious accident. In ascending Eaton's Cutting track the chain of his motor buggy came off and both brakes refused to act, the vehicle backed down the track and over a steep bank turning completely over.



**1932** – Diphtheria epidemic: Ethel Baily was one of several children from the Red Hill South School to be admitted to the Fairfield Infectious Disease Hospital; as a five-year-old, she was scrubbed with phenol and most indignant when she has to sleep in a cot for six weeks.

## Points to Ponder

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## Around & About

		
Barman Jonathan & Kate Southall	Covid safe Kerri , with the mark to prove it	Ian, Bob & Bill - sausage sizzle friday
		
David, Keith, Colin & Robert	Jill, Gayle and Kerri	Welcome – Gerald and Pauline Touhy
		
Jill Storey - Mahjong Professor	Margaret 's first Mah-jong win!	Visitor Brenda trying out Mah-jong
		
friday night - Ailsa, Sharon & Margaret	Duncan & Jock – Bunnings s.sizzle	Bill. B. & Margaret Wyatt s.sizzle
		
paella king – Jonathan	John & Helen spruiking the golf day	Jean Claude checking the piste in the hail



## 75 years of Main Ridge CFA – President Graeme Flockart



On Sunday, 21 March, the Main Ridge Fire Brigade held a lunch at the Main Ridge Bowls & Pétanque Club to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the Brigade on the 5<sup>th</sup> December 1945. This came about following a letter sent by a number of local Main Ridge residents in March of that year, 1945, to the State Government requesting a fire brigade be formed in Main Ridge for the safety of its residents.



The Brigade started life in a very small way in a shed in a paddock across the road from the current tennis courts with some very basic equipment: some leather beaters, 2 axes, a cross cut saw and 30 enthusiastic volunteers' farmers with a small water tank on a trailer which was pulled by a local tractor – a far cry from the sophisticated appliances and equipment the Brigade has today.

At the recent lunch 48 Brigade members, partners and friends not only reminisced about the past 75 years but also paid tribute to a number of current members with the presentation of service awards recognizing their contribution over many years of membership to the Brigade and service to the local communities. Two of the service awards that were presented were to John Goodall celebrating 35 years of membership and to Ian Troutbeck after 40 years of membership with the Brigade and a special 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary gift was presented to Graeme Flockart, John Goodall, Andrew Mackinnon, Norm Rawlings and Ian Troutbeck whose combined years of service to the Brigade totalled over 160 years.

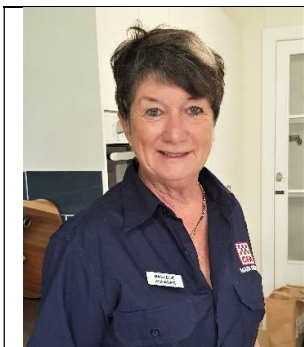
Finally, two special presentations were made, firstly after 26 years of membership Norm Rawlings was made a Life Member of the Brigade and then John Goodall, in addition to his 35-year service award was presented with the National Medal which was awarded by the Governor Generals Award Secretariate in Canberra in recognition of his service to the Brigade, the CFA, the community and the State over many years.



It was a very special day, enjoyed by all who attended and the Brigade is very grateful to the Bowls & Petanque Club for allowing them the use of the Clubhouse for this celebration



Jonathan O' Sullivan, David Markey, Graeme Flockart, Raelene Shearer, Bill Shearer, Kevin Wyatt, John Schmoll, Ian & Andrea Troutbeck are all members of the MRB&PC.



CFA secretary Raelene Shearer



Cutting the cake, Jonathan O'Sullivan, Bill Shearer, Margaret Wyatt, Graeme Flockart and Raelene Shearer looking on.



Andrew Mackinnon, Margaret Wyatt, David & Gay Markey, Marita Mackinnon,



Ian Troutbeck, Sean and Jo Kerr, Andrea Troutbeck, Rob Barfus



Bill Shearer & David Markey



Norm Rawlings, Graeme Flockart, Ian Troutbeck, John Goodall, Andrew Mackinnon



Medal recipients



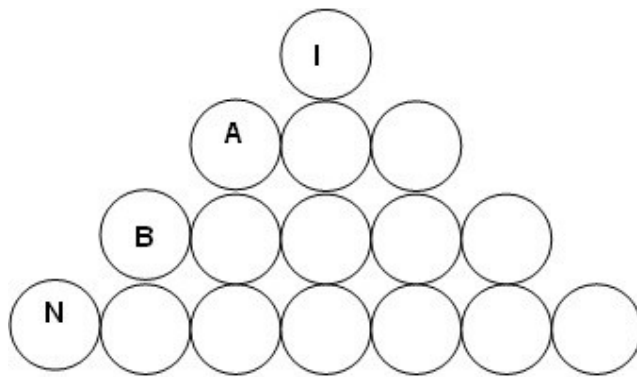
Sean Kerr, Graeme Flockart and Matt Gallace



## Brainiac

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1. A 220-yard-long train, travelling at 40 mph, enters a two-mile-long tunnel. How long will elapse between the moment the front of the train enters the tunnel and the moment the end of the train clears the tunnel?
2. Use the letters given to complete the pyramid so that one seven letter word, one five letter word, one four letter word and three words of three letters can be read. What are the words?



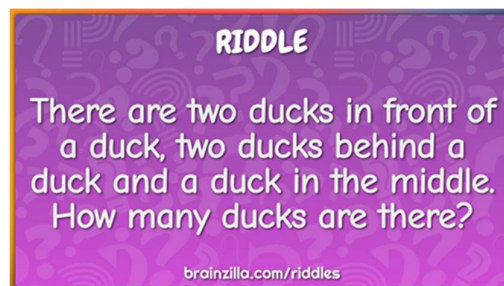
**C D D E L M O O R S U U**

3. What letter should appear next in this sequence?

**W S O K G ?**

4. If Tom gives Tim \$12 they will both have the same amount of money.  
If Tim gives Tom \$12 Tom will have five times as much as Tim.  
Who has what?

5.



6. Which country invented the game of golf?

## NEWS & VIEWS

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Good to see you back **Robert and Kaye Mellis**, you were missed on Friday nights! Kaye looking well after keeping the cardiologists busy for the last few weeks.

Welcome back, **Robert & Dee Hudson** after their extended holiday. Whilst their car travels took them far and wide, they fitted in a visit to the silo paintings at Goorambat, Victoria.



**Andrea Lee Gillies** with a track record of literary output but known in club circles as the scone maker par excellence, recently had a poem published (2020) in the prestigious Victorian Writers Journal.

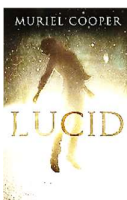
### Local Writers:

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Author, **Anthony Hill** lives with his wife on the Mornington Peninsula; he is an award-winning best seller, writing for children and adults. **The Last Convict** is his latest novel, which has been well researched and weaves the story of Samuel Speed, that last known convict to survive into the modern age. Although there is little historical evidence to work on, Sam gave an interview to a Perth based newspaper in the year of his death (1938) and this forms the basis of this fascinating tale.



**Muriel Cooper** is currently, a writer, psychologist, and blogger, following a highly successful media career which included the ABC and 3AW. Muriel now lives locally and is a committee member of the Peninsula Writer's club. **Lucid** is her first novel and explores the phenomena of lucid dreaming. Main character Rick Peterson, puts his newfound ability of lucid dreaming to work to create a nostalgic destination, a perfect country town where it's always 1959, until a grisly murder shakes his lucid world. Add a sprinkling of girlfriend, gangsters and stud farming and you have the ingredients for a great page turner.



Robert Hudson applied for the second phase of the 2020-21 Sporting Club Grants Program. As we host a number of barefoot bowls functions every year, he thought it necessary the club provided lawn bowls of the appropriate size and weight for women and younger persons. The majority of bowls that have been donated to the club over the years are men's sizes (3; 4 and 5).



His application was successful for grant of \$2,000 to purchase six sets of Henselite Dreamline XG Lawn Bowls of sizes 00, 0, 1 and 2. The monies have been received and the six sets, which were at a special price, ordered!

**Sadly I do my  
best proofreading  
after I hit send.**

My sincere apologies Jean-Claude Dufroux for the incorrect spelling of his name, not once but twice in the last newsletter ("je suis désolé"). Thanks to Raelene Shearer, Dee Hudson, Kerri Flockart, Michael Horan, Jenny Rundle & Sue Brown for the photographs. And special thanks to proof readers Bill Brown, Raelene Shearer and Kate Mallard. Don't forget to send in contributions to [bill.sue.brown@gmail.com](mailto:bill.sue.brown@gmail.com) in time for the Winter newsletter.

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 Rosebud,  
 Vic, 3939

## Answers to Brainiac summer edition 2021

### 1. Photographs -walnut, sushi, frog!



### 2. Lateral thinking: ANSWER::

The man places the fishing pole in a cardboard box measuring 3 feet by 4 feet. The pole fits in the box diagonally (Pythagorean triple 3-4-5), so the bus driver lets him on the bus since his package is only 4 feet long.

### 3. Homonyms

1. part of a meal; direction- usually by sea = **Course**
2. to make something illegal; "Westerns" had lots of them = **Laws**
3. humans; populate an area = **People**
4. a single item; closely joined = **Relative**
5. man's name; received (radio) = **Roger**
6. bad person; shepherd's stick = **Crook**
7. to be visually aware of; poster = **Notice**
8. a cooking method; huge pimple = **Boil**
9. menu; payment for bus ride = **Fare**
10. be careful!!; the part of YOU that thinks = **Mind**
11. a firearms cache; British football team = **Arsenal**
12. in a neat fashion; hospital porter = **Orderly**
13. beat until whipped; top of the milk = **Cream**
14. very small 'loaf' of bread; way of wearing hair = **Bun**
15. slide rapidly down laptop page; Dead Sea find = **Scroll**
16. GO! GO! GO!; fee for service = **Charge**
17. old word for bludgeon; relative of nutmeg = **Mace**
18. to calm and relax; a kind of rough seat = **Settle**
19. to salute with drink; lightly 'colour' bread with heat = **Toast**
20. lose one's footing; female undergarment = **Slip**
21. modern music group; not a wedding RING = **Band**
22. trouble; substance of physical objects = **Matter**
23. ebb and flow of the ocean; to see you'll be ok = **Tide**
24. head of unruly hair; clean with wet cloths = **Mop**
25. message in a story; righteous = **Moral**

(Thanks to Penny Liddiard)