

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NEWCASTLE DISTRICT BOWLING ASSOCIATION (ZONE 2) INC. WILL BE HELD AT ASSOCIATION HEADQUARTERS, "WAL YOUNG HOUSE", ON THURSDAY, 21st JULY, 2011 COMMENCING AT 7.45 PM.

BUSINESS

- a. The roll of attendance shall be recorded for all Annual General Meetings by the Secretary.**
- b. Confirmation of Minutes of the Previous Annual Meeting and of any Special General Meeting held during the year.**
- c. Consideration of the Annual Report, Balance Sheet and Auditor's Report.**
- d. Receipt and consideration of the statement required to be submitted to members pursuant to Section 26(6) of the Act.**
- e. Declaration of ballot for Officers and Permanent Sub-Committees and election to fill any vacancies.**
- f. Appointment of Auditor who shall be a Registered Practicing Accountant.**
- g. Business of which due notice has been given.**

- Notice of Motion

PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD

The highlight of our bowling year was the playing of the Alley Shield, the Marj Morris Trophy and the Super Six Series at Nelson Bay B.C. I commend the club for its initiative in hosting this most prestigious event and the time and effort that went in from all levels at the Club to both prepare for and organise the event. Chairman Ian Spencer and his club members can be well satisfied with their efforts that brought great credit not only to their Club, but to Zone 2 and bowls in general.

Soldiers Point Bowling Club with State Championship week, Raymond Terrace Bowling Club with the State Rookies Singles and Pairs, Nelson Bay with the Interstate Series between NSW and Victoria and Belmont with the AER Mixed Pairs State Finals also hosted events on behalf of the RNSWBA and provided great hospitality for our visitors to Zone 2.

Bowlers from Zone 2 performed with great credit during the year with Terry Antram (Nelson Bay) and Matthew Baus (Swansea) being part of the NSW Side that won the Alley Shield and the NSW Side in Test Series against Victoria and ACT. Subsequently Terry Antram has been named as a part of this year's Australian Squad, we look forward to his regular representation for Australia. Neville Downes (Soldiers Point) was selected as part of the NSW Senior Side that travelled to Perth for the Interstate Senior Sides Championship. Matthew Dow (Redhead) was a representative for NSW in the Junior Interstate Quadrangular Series and Tayla Conway and Shaun Richards were selected in the NSW U18 Squad for 2011.

Zone 2 Bowlers also experience success at State Championship level with the following performances:-

- Andrew Yeomans (Bar Beach) – Runner-Up in State President Singles.*
- Owen Jefferson (Kahibah) – Runner-Up in State Senior Singles.*
- Ed Hedley/Geoff Horton – Semi-Finalists in State Senior Pairs.*
- John Jenkins (New Lambton) – Winner of State Multi-Disability Pairs.*
- Brian Bateman/Terry Antram – Runner-Up State Pairs.*
- Matthew Baus – Semi-Finalist Champion of Club Champions Singles.*
- Bar Beach Bowling Club – Runner-Up in Blue Division of Bowls NSW Club Challenge.*
- Raymond Terrace Bowling Club – Minor Premiers and Runner-Up in Premier League .*
- Lou Bund/Jason Horn – Winners State Rookies Pairs.*

On the representative scene, Zone 2 won both the Pat Geary Memorial Shield (Zones 2, 6, 14 & 15) and the four way fixture between Zones 2, 4, 9 & 16. Our Junior Representative Team was Runner-Up in the State Junior 7-A-Side Competition. The Representative Uniform sponsored by U-Design continued to impress all Zones.

Nelson Bay provided two winners at the NDBA Bowler of the Year Delegates, Executive and Sub-Committees Christmas Evening. Terry Antram and Brian Bateman were respectively adjudged the Bowler of the Year and Most Improved Bowler of the Year Award winners. Two new categories were also a part of the presentation with Shaun Richards (Raymond Terrace) being Junior Bowler of the Year and Warren Boyd (Redhead) the inaugural Coach of the Year. Many thanks to Windale/Gateshead for their fine hosting of this important occasion.

During the last 12 months three of our well known Bowling Association members passed away. Life member Bert Owen, former Selection and Junior Committee Noel (Twiggy) McKenna and Barry Starrett who was a current member of the NDBA Coaching Committee. Each of these gentlemen served not only the NDBA, but their respective clubs over a long period of time.

The NDBA/Zone 2 website again provided a very useful asset to all clubs and bowlers. The updating of information on this site is just one of the multitude of tasks performed by our office staff of Denis, Lee and Louise and we are indebted to them for the great level of service that they provide.

To the Executive and Sub-Committee members who perform their roles so well, I offer you my thanks and also those of the bowlers in Zone 2 for the volunteering of your time in the service of the Association. A special thank you to Treasurer Alec Wright for managing the financial affairs of the Association. We generated a profit of \$6364.00 for the last 12 months.

Lastly to the good lady who waits patiently for me to attend to all my Presidential tasks, I say thank you Gai for all your support and assistance.

*John T. Smith
President*

***HEREWITH A REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
NEWCASTLE DISTRICT BOWLING ASSOCIATION (ZONE 2) INC.
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 2011***

CLUB MEMBERSHIP:

There are 51 affiliated clubs within the Association. As at 31st March, 2011 (end of the NDBA financial year) there were 7,202 Full, Multiple and Junior Members as against 7,678 in 2010.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

2010-2011 saw John Smith re-elected as the President of the Association. Vice-Presidents Brian Carling, Mark Conway, Lin Coulton, Alan Hextell and Keith Rearden retained their positions, while John Jordan & Eddie Milton were the newly appointed Vice-Presidents replacing Kevin Aspery (touring Australia) and Col Burns (work commitments) who did not seek re-election. Alec Wright was re-elected unopposed to the position of Treasurer.

Brian Carling was successful in the ballot to replace Col Burns as the State Councillor for Zone 2. The Chairmen of the Permanent Sub-Committees were as follows, viz Advisory, Brian Carling; Coaching, Alan Starrett; Greens, Alan Hextell; Juniors, Brian Jenkins; Match, David Gilday; Membership, Brian Cooke; Selection, Terry Blow and Umpires, Lin Coulton.

The members of the Executive have had another extremely busy schedule throughout the year attending functions at Clubs and other Associations. On some occasions they met nine commitments on the one day, whilst on others the President was only able to fulfil all requests by enlisting the services of members from the Sub-Committee.

SUB-COMMITTEES:

ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Over the past twelve months, our Committee has been involved in producing a number of Advisory Pamphlets as guidance to Club Administrators on the Best Practices and Procedures to apply within a Club and on the Green.

We now have Nineteen Pamphlets that can be viewed on our website www.ndba.com.au. Although they are designed for our Zone 2 Clubs, other Zones throughout NSW have taken them on board and are grateful for the information being available.

Other activities have been in assisting a number of clubs to update their Constitution to incorporate the current version of the Registered Clubs Act (7 February 2011) and the Associations Act (2009). Our Committee recommends that all Clubs should review their Constitution every five years as Procedures and Practices are continually changing within this industry.

This year we have been able to expand our services by providing “Financial Advice” to a Club who may feel the need for an outside view of their Accounting system would be of value to them throughout a Financial year.

To the Committee, thank you once again for the dedication and support you have shown despite a smaller number of members to work with in the past twelve months. I have enjoyed being your Chairman.

B. Carling, Chairman

COACHING COMMITTEE:

The NDBA Coaching Committee has been most active during 2010/2011. In particular, the Committee has worked in conjunction with the RNSWBA Coaching Committee to provide courses and seminars to assist in fulfilling coach education in Zone 2.

Several coaching seminars were conducted at New Lambton BC and these provided opportunities for current coaches to update their skills and widen their use of coaching aids.

Following positive feedback from coaching courses held throughout 2010, it was indicated that there was preference for specific dates to be scheduled so that aspiring or re-accrediting coaches could plan their attendance. In 2011, Bowls Australia Presenters and Assessors will be attending Raymond Terrace Bowling Club to conduct the following:

Club Coach Course:	Saturday & Sunday	July 23 rd & 24 th	
Information Sharing	Sunday Evening	July 24 th	
Reaccreditations	Monday		July 25 th

The Coaching Committee's initiative of conducting a Bowlers Arm Pairs Tournament at Beresfield BC during 2010 again proved highly successful with the number of entries doubling with participants coming from many parts of the State to compete.

This has been further expanded with the support of *Bowls NSW* and Beresfield Bowling Club to conduct the NSW Bowlers Arm Singles Championship. A team of 15 is to be selected to play Victoria at Frankston in October 2011.

A highlight of the year was the inaugural Zone 2 Coach of the Year which was fittingly won by Warren Boyd. Anticipation is held for wide spread nominations from the many fine NDBA coaches.

The support to the Committee from *On the Green* has been greatly appreciated. Each month the Editorial Team has assisted in disseminating the latest information and news about the issues concerning coaches in improving the skills of bowling members.

My thanks and gratitude is offered to the members of the Committee, as they assisted throughout the year to ensure the quality of the Coaching Committee's accomplishments.

A. Starrett, Chairman

GREENS COMMITTEE:

Again this year the Greens Committee have carried out four inspections on all greens in our Zone.

The results of our inspections have been very pleasing, with the majority of Clubs having not only good bowling greens, but exceptionally good surround and gardens. This is something that I am certain helps to make your Club successful and attractive to visitors.

Unfortunately some Clubs have to rely on voluntary labour. To you people I really commend the work that you are doing for your Club and bowling members, congratulations.

Currently, we have 51 Clubs in our area with a total of 106 greens. An interesting statistic is that of the 51 clubs, 26 now have one or more synthetic surfaces, three of which are under cover. At the time of writing this report I have no doubt that other Clubs are contemplating the installation of synthetic surfaces. Please give your decisions plenty of thought and investigation, as there are currently Clubs who are not happy with the selection and installation of their green.

This year saw four new members elected to the Greens Committee. They being John Jordan, Neil Gibson, Brian Cooke and Mick Purcell. To all of you along with Dave Carroll and Kevin Doyle I would take this opportunity to thank you all for your support and assistance throughout the year.

To all the Clubs, greenkeepers and staff I again take this opportunity to thank you for the support and assistance shown to myself and all Greens Committee Members. Your support really makes our inspections simple and easy to conduct.

A. Hextell, Chairman

Firstly, a special thank you to Secretary Denis and the office staff of Lee and Louise whose work is second to none in fielding questions and performing all the day to day tasks from the front firing line.

Secondly, to my committee of: Mick Abrook, Mark Conway, Des Skinner, Dave Wright, Warren Shipley and not to mention John Smith. I would like to give a special mention to outgoing committeeman Dave Wright for his years of service to the Match Committee and wish him well for the future now he has retired.

Thirdly, to all the members of the Executive and Management Committees and the many Club Officials who have hosted events on behalf of the NDBA to all of you we say thank you. Along with our pennant result recorders Pam, John, Louise and Gai who give up their time on Saturday afternoons to answer the phones to accept all the results for pennant and place them in the newspapers and our internet website for your viewing.

The Saturday Pennant winners for 2011 are listed as follows:

Grade 1: Nelson Bay
 Grade 2: Raymond Terrace
 Grade 3: Hamilton North
 Grade 4: Swansea Workers
 Grade 5: Water Board
 Grade 6: Redhead
 Grade 7: Redhead 1

To all these sides we wish you good fortunes at the upcoming State Pennant playoffs.

The Midweek Pennant winners for 2011 are listed as follows:

Grade 1: Raymond Terrace
 Grade 2: Cardiff
 Grade 3: Raymond Terrace
 Grade 4: Carrington
 Grade 5: Redhead

The first of our District Championship events was concluded on Sunday the 20th February 2011 with the District Fours final being played at Beresfield Bowling Club. Congratulations to the team of Lou Bund, David Gilday, Kevin Robinson and Terry Antram (Nelson Bay) defeating Jason Price, John Jennings, Shannon Rowe and Jack Littlewood (Redhead) 22 to 14 in the final. This was followed on Sunday, 13th March, 2011 by the District Triples Championship final which was played at Soldiers Point Bowling Club. Congratulations to the team of Laurie Wright, Sam Laguzza & Mathew Baus (Swansea) defeating Chris Ramage, John Collins & Neville Downes (Soldiers Point) 27 to 24 in an entertaining final.

2010 Three Three's winners were:

No.1 Grade Raymond Terrace
 No.2 Grade Swansea Workers No.2
 No.3 Grade Boolaroo No 1

Some Interesting Aspects Were

- Nelson Bay winning its first ever No.1 Grade Saturday Pennant Flag
- Nelson Bay winning its first ever District Fours Championship
- Swansea winning its inaugural District Triples Championship
- Raymond Terrace making it back to back No.2 Grade Saturday Pennant Titles
- Soldiers Point and Kahibah still equal on six consecutive No.1 Grade Pennant wins
- The October long weekend saw the staging of the 2010 NSW Section of the Rookie of the Year Singles & Pairs Championships played at Raymond Terrace Bowling Club. Congratulations to Lou Bund and Jason Horn (Nelson Bay) on being crowned Pairs Champions.

The Charity Shields contested during the 2011 pennant season were won by:

- Ralph Cotterall Memorial Shield - Lambton No.1 Grade
- Albert Smith Memorial Shield - Boolaroo No.2 Grade
- Pepper Memorial Shield - Burwood Colliery No.5 Grade

The year to come will still be full of challenges for the Match Committee at both Zone and State level. We are confident that we can continue to provide a good service for the bowlers of Zone 2.

D. Gilday, Chairman

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

The Association followed the State wide trend of a 5.1% drop in membership. This is of major concern to the Executive Committee and the Committee is currently addressing this issue.

I am always available to assist Clubs in the recruitment of new players, to enable them to increase their membership. Also available from the Royal NSW Bowling Association is a booklet on how to recruit successfully, which I have found to be very beneficial when discussing recruitment with Club Recruitment Committees.

If any Clubs have any enquiries don't hesitate to contact me and I will try to assist you in any and every way possible.

B. Cooke, Chairman

SELECTION COMMITTEE:

On behalf of the Selection Committee, we wish to thank all players who represented the NDBA/Zone 2 for the past year. They can hold their heads high with regard to their sportsmanship, friendship & the way they played all representative games in the past 12 months.

I would especially like to thank my fellow co-selectors (Terry Murphy, Ian Barrett, Phil Brockbank & Dave Gilday) for their support & attendance at meetings & representative games. Thank you.

Listed below is a record of all representative games for the last 12 months:

Inter-Zone versus Zone 13 at Swansea BC on 4TH July, 2010.

Zone 2	107 – 107	Zone 13
Zone 2	2 – 4 rinks	Zone 13 draw

State Senior Inter-Zone Sides Championships at Wagga Wagga RSL BC, 20TH & 21ST July 2010.

Zone 2	lost	59 – 63	Zone 12
Zone 2	won	63 – 48	Zone 7
Zone 2	won	64 – 45	Zone 11 Zone 12 won section.

Inter-Zone Series versus Zones 2, 4, 9 & 16 at Nelson Bay BC on 24TH & 25TH July 2010.

Zone 2	won	141 – 70	Zone 4
Zone 2	won	109 – 108	Zone 9
Zone 2	lost	98 – 118	Zone 16 Zone 2 won on count back

Inter-Zone Series (Pat Geary Memorial Shield) versus Zones 2, 6, 14, & 15 at East Cessnock BC on 7TH & 8TH August, 2010.

Zone 2	won	122 – 116	Zone 6
Zone 2	won	109 – 102	Zone 15
Zone 2	won	129 – 106	Zone 14 Zone 2 won

State Inter-Zones Sides Championships at Fairy Meadow Bowling Club on 10TH to 12TH September, 2010.

Zone 2	won	91 – 72	Zone 4
Zone 2	lost	69 – 90	Zone 13
Zone 2	won	83 – 57	Zone 11 Zone 13 won section

Three Test Series Zone 2 versus ACT at Tuggeranong Valley BC on 15TH & 16TH January 2011.

Zone 2	won	123 – 107	ACT	
Zone 2	won	146 – 115	ACT	
Zone 2	won	116 – 119	ACT	Zone 2 won

Senior Side Challenge Zone 2 versus Zones 6 & 15 at Wallsend BC on 7TH March 2011.

Zone 2A	won	101 – 92	Zone 15	
Zone 2B	won	94 – 88	Zone 6	
Zone 2A	won	109 – 84	Zone 6	
Zone 2B	won	121 – 89	Zone 15	Zone 2B won.

NDBA Zone 2 versus Western Australia at Soldiers Point Bowling Club on Thursday 31ST March 2011.

Zone 2	won	68 – 49	Western Australia.
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NDBA Zone 2 versus South Australia at Raymond Terrace Bowling Club on Friday 1ST April 2011.

Zone 2	lost	39 – 66	South Australia.
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NDBA Zone 2 versus New South Wales at Soldiers Point Bowling Club on Friday 1ST April 2011.

Zone 2	lost	49 – 60	New South Wales.
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Other matches played during the year were:

NDBA Reserves versus NDBA Under 25's at Raymond Terrace on 27TH August, 2010, with the U/25's winning 82 – 70.

Inter-Zone versus Hunter at Lorn Park on 7TH November, 2010. Washed out.

NDBA Zone 2 Reserves Red versus Reserves Blue at Soldiers Point Bowling Club on Friday 1ST April 2011.

Zone 2 Red	lost	55 – 96	NDBA Zone 2 Blue won
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Inter-Zone Reserves Side Challenge Zone 2 versus Zones 6 & 15 at Halekulani BC on 1ST May, 2011.
Postponed.

T.J. Blow, Chairman

UMPIRES COMMITTEE:

We have had a busy and probably difficult year. All had hoped for a satisfactory transition from the previous Law Book governing the playing of our great game, but unfortunately this was not to be as the replacement Law Book is little better than the last. Bowls is such a simple game and yet there is always some who seek to complicate and change it.

This year the NDBA Umpires Panel increased in personnel to ten (10) members, to allow a better coverage of clubs in our large district, and I thank each of those members for the wonderful dedication they have displayed. Our district has 450 Level 1 Umpires and 10 Level 2 Umpires and is the largest by far in this State.

At the recently conducted Australian Sides Championship held at Nelson Bay, our umpires carried out their duties in an exemplary manner, and contributed in no small way to the success of that wonderful Championship.

Umpires Classes are being held throughout this district and any interested person is invited along to either participate in the class or just to observe with the object of becoming more familiar with the laws of the game.

John Breadner, an outstanding tutor and examiner, has indicated his intention not to stand for re-election to the Umpires Committee this year. He is well-deserving of our thanks and gratitude for a great job well done, and he will be sadly missed.

I also pay tribute to Donald Taylor who for many years was a member of the Umpires Panel as a Level 2 Umpire, and has now decided not to seek re-accreditation. Many thanks, Don, you will be missed.

The biggest thanks goes to the hardest working trio, District Secretary Denis and the wonderful Lee and Louise who are always able to make our task so much easier. Thank you.

L. Coulton, Chairman

MATTARA COMMITTEE:

The 50th Anniversary Mattara Carnival was well presented by Host Club Belmont (Les Parrott Memorial Open Singles and Restricted Singles) and Lambton for the Traditional Carnival. Entries for the Carnival totalled 1162 which was up on 2009. The striking of a special 50th Anniversary badge was well received, with many past winners of Mattara events also being presented with a badge. Congratulations to all clubs who hosted the sectional and post-sectional play to help in keeping the "hand of friendship" alive and well in this Carnival.

Sponsorship for the Carnival once again was provided by the Greater Building Society Ltd and this greatly assisted with prizemoney and the costs associated with producing the Mattara Book. As well the Newcastle District Women's Bowling Association agreed to provide the prizemoney for the 2010 Open Mixed Pairs and on an ongoing basis for this event, we thank them for their generosity.

Entries in each event were as follows:

Les Parrot Memorial Open Singles – 84
 Restricted Singles – 136
 Frank Neat Memorial KO Club Nominated Triples – 42
 Mens Open Fours – 76
 Mens Open Pairs – 128
 Mixed Open Pairs – 128

Winners of each of the events were:

Les Parrott Memorial Open Singles – Sam Laguzza (Swansea)
 Restricted Singles – Aaron Cobbin (Catherine Hill Bay)
 Frank Neat Memorial Classic KO Nominated Club Triples – Clay Parker, Jason Stokes, Lennon Scott (Raymond Terrace)
 Mens Open Fours – Adrian Berry, Gary Martin, Terry Crook, Trevor Aitchison (Cardiff)
 Mens Open Pairs – Ryan Steel, Craig Thompson (Lambton)
 Mixed Pairs – John Vesenjak (Wallsend), Sarah Vesenjak (Raymond Terrace)

On behalf of the Association may I thank all of those who participated in the Carnival and we look forward to your participation in our 51st Mattara Carnival.

J.T. Smith, Chairman

R.N.S.W.B.A. REPRESENTATION:

Col Burns resigned as the State Councillor for Zone 2, due to transferring interstate for work reasons. Brian Carling defeated Mark Conway in the ballot for the vacant position and now represents Zone 2/the Association at RNSWBA Board Meetings.

John Smith is the Association Delegate to the RNSWBA General Committee Meetings and is also the State Match Committee Chairman. NDBA Umpires Committee Chairman Lin Coulton is a member of the State Umpires Committee; NDBA Coaching Committee Chairman Allan Starrett is Chairman of the State Coaching Committee and Terry McCabe is a member of the State Selection Committee.

OFFICIAL VISITS AND FUNCTIONS:

The year was highlighted by one Goodwill visit. A party of fifty-two mixed bowlers from the Nepean District Bowling Association visited our region on the 10th & 11th July, 2010. Bowls were played at Boolaroo and Charlestown Bowling Clubs, with both Clubs extending outstanding Novocastrian hospitality to our guests.

Our scheduled Goodwill Visit to the Southern Tablelands District Bowling Association on the Easter weekend was postponed to 2012, due to Anzac Day clashing with Easter.

The third combined NDBA Delegates' Day & President/Secretaries Day was held at Stockton Bowling Club on Saturday, 18th September, 2010. It was a very successful day with in excess of 80 attendees.

On Sunday, 28th November, 2010 Belmont Bowling Club hosted their inaugural Royal NSW Bowling Association and Newcastle District Bowling Association Executive & Sub-Committees Fixture. Belmont Bowling Club were excellent hosts and appreciation was expressed by both Presidents, viz. Ian McKnight and John Smith. The Royal NSW Bowling Association players displayed all their skills in retaining the Les Parrott Memorial Shield.

The annual match between the Executive and Sub-Committees from the Hunter and Newcastle Districts was played at East Maitland Bowling Club on Wednesday Evening, 23rd February, 2011. Everyone enjoyed a most pleasant evening.

The Delegates, Executive and Sub-Committees Christmas Function was held on Thursday Evening, 9th December, 2010 at Windale/Gateshead Bowling Club. A highlight was the presentation of the NDBA Bowler of the Year Award to Terry Antram (Nelson Bay) and the Most Improved Bowler of the Year Award to Brian Bateman (Nelson Bay) by Ian McKnight, RNSWBA President, and Des Skinner, Bowls Australia Director. Raymond Terrace youngster Shaun Richards won the inaugural Zone 2 Junior Bowler of the Year title and former Zone 2 Junior Committee Chairman Warren Boyd was named the inaugural Coach of the Year award winner. Warren was employed as the Head Coach of Redhead Bowling Club and introduced a number of initiatives and programs. It was a great evening and attendees spoke highly of the meal and outstanding guest artists provided by the Association at a nominal charge. The Association would like to express its thanks to Windale/Gateshead Bowling Club for its assistance in organising the evening, especially the President Frank Botham, Secretary/Manager Wendy Smith and the Club's catering staff.

STATE REPRESENTATION/EVENTS: Terry Antram (Nelson Bay) and Matthew Baus (Swansea) were the only Newcastle players selected in the State side during the year. Matthew Baus also played in the State Under 25 Team and was a member of the State Side for the Country (Indigenous) Tour. Neville Downes (Soldiers Point) was a member of the Senior (Over 60's) State Side. Four Newcastle players played for Country in the Annual Three Test Series against City, they being Terry Antram, Matthew Baus, Brendon Baker (Valentine) and Jason Pietraszek (Soldiers Point). Newcastle was well represented in the NSW Legends V NSW Turf Craftsmen fixture with Neville Downes, Bob Dunn (Soldiers Point), Ian Barrett (Warners Bay), Kim Jaques (Toronto Workers) and Bob Fishlock (Lambton) all playing.

VETERANS' AND SUPER VETERANS' DAY: Adamstown Bowling Club hosted a combined Veterans and Super Veterans day on Thursday, 25th March, 2010. In excess of fifty Veterans and Super Veterans enjoyed playing bowls, whilst others unable to play bowls attended for an enjoyable social day. Trophies were sponsored for the second time by David Lloyd Funerals.

CHARITY SHIELDS AND BOB-IN DAYS: A total of \$2600 was collected for Charities on these days. RNSWBA Flood Relief Fund, Cystic Fibrosis, Helicopter Rescue Service, Newcastle Legacy and The Weeroona Association (Newcastle Crippled Children) each received \$300. The Hunter Melanoma Foundation and Newcastle Mater Palliative Care Unit each received \$250. Autistic Association of NSW, the Salvation Army and Newcastle City Mission each received \$200. Clubs winning the Charity Shields have been named in the Match Committee Report.

PUBLICITY: Denis Broad, Association Publicity Officer, submits information received from Clubs and Association news to the RNSWBA journal “Bowls NSW” and has a column in the local magazine, “On The Green”, published by Colleen Mannis and Dean Nicholson. Trevor Aitchison (Cardiff) has a radio segment on radio 2NUR-FM on Saturday mornings at 7.45am. The Association receives valued support and publicity from John Gilmour (Bowls Reporter) and Kevin Cranson (Sporting Editor) at the Newcastle Herald, James Gardiner Sun Herald, Milton Harvey Sunday Telegraph and Mike Rabbitt & Mitchell Hughes NBN Television. They provide coverage, not only of Association events, but of tournaments conducted by Clubs and to them our sincere thanks.

OBITUARIES: The Association has again been saddened by the loss of many bowlers, who, throughout the years, had made outstanding and valuable contributions to bowls. Their names have been recorded and respects paid at the monthly Management Committee Meetings.

The Newcastle bowls fraternity was deeply saddened by the passing of three long serving NDBA officials in Barry Starrett (November, 2010), Noel “Twiggy” McKenna (April, 2011) and Bert Owen (May, 2011). Barry Starrett was a member of the inaugural NDBA Coaching Committee in 2007 and was still an active member of that Committee when he passed away. Noel “Twiggy” McKenna was a former long serving member of both the NDBA Selection and Junior Committees. Bert Owen was awarded Life Membership of the NDBA in 1995 after giving in excess of 20 years outstanding service, both as a member of the Greens and Umpires Committees (including many years as Chairman of the Umpires Committee).

GENERAL: The Association gratefully acknowledges the support of the Greater Building Society Ltd in sponsoring the Mattara Carnival, plus the following Clubs that sponsored Pennant Finals and District Championships:

- Soldiers Point (No.1 Grade Saturday Pennant & District Triples Championship)
- Kotara (No.2 Grade Saturday Pennant & District Major Singles Championship)
- Hexham (No.3 Grade Saturday Pennant)
- Redhead (No.4 Grade Saturday Pennant)
- Warners Bay (No.5 Grade Saturday Pennant)
- Lambton (No.6 Grade Saturday Pennant)
- Hamilton (No.7 Grade Saturday Pennant)
- Lowlands (No.3 Grade Mid-Week Pennant)
- Beresfield (No.4 Grade Mid-Week Pennant & District Fours Championship)
- Edgeworth (No.5 Grade Mid-Week Pennant)
- Nelson Bay (District Pairs Championship)
- Kahibah (State Senior Singles & Champion of Club Champions Singles Championships)
- Windale/Gateshead (State Presidents Singles Championship)
- Alder Park (State Senior Pairs Championship)

The Association was represented at a number of major celebrations during the past twelve months. The highlights being:

- The Beresfield Bowling Club 60th Anniversary Celebrations
- The Alder Park Bowling Club opening of new synthetic green
- The Teralba Bowling Club opening of new synthetic green

We congratulate the Officials and Members of these Clubs on these milestones.