



Newsletter to Members September 2022

OPENING DAY

It's not possible to let the opportunity go by without acknowledging the outstanding contribution made by so many of our members towards the success of our Opening Day yesterday.

Terry Clark had the grounds and clubhouse looking as good as they could possibly be, as well as assisting in making our delicious 'high tea'. This was in addition to the things we can easily take for granted – shopping, helping to make the sandwiches, running the bar, setting up the dining room, clearing the tables and tidying up, and taking payments for shirts. I'm sure there were many other tasks Terry capably undertook – our thanks to you, Terry, as always.

Katy Fielding oversaw the preparation of the high tea, assisted in sandwich making, made and filled those amazing scones, organised the cakes and slices, shopped for those ingredients and set the items out beautifully on dishes.

Also assisting in sandwich making were Peter McKeon and Janet Cousin. Behind the scenes Brian Rosengarten got the temperamental speaker system working, cleared the tables and assisted in clearing up (all this a day after having cataract surgery). Russell Dowling brought some delicious sandwiches and assisted in setting up the green. Heather Gerber was responsible for that amazing pavlova. Steve Graham took some great photos of the day, and they are now on the club website thanks to Ross Maver. Peter Felbel did an amazing job preparing the cards, considering the names of players seemed to be in constant motion, changing from moment to moment!

Thank you all.

Please let me know if I have omitted to acknowledge your contribution.

Thanks also to all our members who attended, to those who offered an apology, and to members who brought family and friends. All in all, a very good day and we were delighted to show off our Club to the VIP guests – MP for Bentleigh Nick Staikos, Mayor of the City of Glen Eira Jim Magee, Cr Margaret Esakoff (who attended her 18th GEMBC Opening Day), and our valued sponsors Fletchers Real Estate Sardeep Singh, Mona Battan and their colleague Dimitri Latorets.

We had our new umbrellas up and they made the entire green area look great! Although it wasn't really warm enough to warrant them being up, we wanted to show them off. Fortunately, the weather was kind and there was none of the forecast rain!

NEW CLUB SHIRTS

Please pay Terry at the bar for your order for the new club shirt. This will be noted and when you pay, you'll be given a set of the new club bowls rings with "Fletchers" on them. These must be put onto your bowls **before** the first pennant game, and it is **compulsory to first remove** your current bowls rings. The new rings must **not** be placed over the old ones. All bowls will be inspected prior to the first pennant game, and it will avoid embarrassment, stress and lots of time if this task is completed early.

CORRECT UNIFORM

We will be wearing the new club shirt at pennant and in championships and I ask members to please acquire plain royal blue or white pants/shorts. The royal blue colour actually comes in slightly different shades but that is acceptable. The old pants have outdated sponsorship on them. Also, please ensure you wear either the club jacket or a plain jacket or vest that is royal blue or white. The same goes for the colour of hats/shades and ribbon on hats. Ensure your pants, jackets and hats have the BA logo. It has been several years since we changed from the maroon colour and if we're all wearing the correct uniform, the unity and image of our Club increases very much. Let's take pride in our Club and uniform.

SAUSAGE SIZZLE

We have been very fortunate to book Sunday 30 October for a Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings Moorabbin. Please note the date as we'll be asking members to volunteer for a 2-hour shift on that day. Many hands make light work. It's an ideal time of year and we should be very busy. This is a really good fundraiser for the Club and all help will be very much appreciated. Apart from that, it's good fun!

BUILDING UPGRADE

We will soon be putting a bar in the BBQ kitchen in addition to our current bar. We look forward to using the BBQ area in the warmer months as it is a very pleasant area.

The upgrade itself is in the final stages of planning and shortly the plans will be submitted with a presentation to Council for approval. The intention is to initially convert the current men's locker room to a unisex disabled toilet and separately, some women's toilets, with minor upgrade to the remaining toilet area there. When this is completed, the wall dividing the lounge and locker area will be removed. It is likely that the bar will be (totally) replaced towards the end of the summer to minimise disruption.

Looking forward to a wonderful season

Rosemary