

HEADLINES

Newsletter of the Dalkeith-Nedlands Bowling Club December 2023

Women's team leads the way

As we go to the Christmas break the Dalkeith-Nedlands 1 team in in Division 2 Lime shows the way at the top of Saturday's ladder with only one loss a bevy of the team at the top of the player ladder.

Dalkeith-Nedlands 2, which plays in the same division, is understandably 9th.

The men's teams are holding up remarkably well when you consider that six players from last year's Division 2 pennant winning team are unavailable for various reasons.

The loss of this talent flows through to all teams. We are fortunate that David Fitzgerald, Mike Joyce, Simon Gazia, Todd Allen, John Shaw and Lindsay Richardson have stepped up, and we have gained popular Billy Owen (and his dog Gus) from Mosman Park.

The 1 Blue South team is 3rd on the ladder, with 3 Blue 6th and 5 Purple 4th.

On Thursdays the 1 Blue South team is 5th, 2 Gold 4th and 4 Gold 9th.

On Tuesdays, the Womens 1 Green North team is 7th and the 3 Green team 6th.

After the break all teams need to consolidate and improve on their first half performances. It would be great to win another pennant and for none of our teams to drop a division.

Peter Collins' funeral

A reminder that Peter Collins' funeral is a 2.45pm on Thursday at Karrakatta with a wake at the club from 4pm.

The club has paid tribute to Peter in a death notice and email to members.

His legacy for the club is a number of pennant bowlers who started with community bowls run by Peter on Wednesday evenings.

Mike Joyce is one of them. In the space of one season he has gone from community bowls to the Division 1 South team.

Peter had an eye for talent and encouraged those with it to play more seriously.

We need to find a replacement because the club benefits in many ways from community bowls.

Who's who

Mike Joyce

Where were you brought up? I was born in Melbourne (Box Hill) and raised in Blackburn, then Glen Waverley.

What schools did you attend? Blackburn South Primary, Camberwell Grammar (3 years) then Monash High School, then I studied Geology at Monash University (1976-79) and University of London (1985-6).

What sports did you play in your younger days? I played junior footy for the Box Hill Pioneers, and cricket for Clayton Methodists and Monash Uni. I also played cricket wherever work and opportunity took me (Tenterfield, Kalgoorlie, UK). I also used to hack around golf courses until the kids arrived.

If you have moved to WA or Perth, what was the reason? I was transferred through work to Kalgoorlie in 1983. Most geologists in Australia end up working in WA at some stage...

What is your work history? I worked for 20 years for Aberfoyle Resources exploring for minerals initially in western Tasmania, then every other state and territory!, and then spent another 20 odd years managing Giralia Resources and its stable of small cap junior explorer spin-offs in Perth.

Do you have a family and children? I am happily married to Nada, and we have 2 daughters Sophie 28 and Lauren 25 (One is an Audiologist and the other a Speech Pathologist but can't plug their services as they don't work for our sponsors!)

When did you take up bowls and why? My daughters bought me a membership at DNBC last Christmas and I started bowling in February this year through Peter Collins' Community Bowls. I got hooked, and played in the off season social bowls, and have now been 'dropped in the deep end' in my first Pennant season.

Why are you playing at Dalkeith-Nedlands? We live dangerously close to the club in Dalkeith

What interests do you have outside bowls? As a recent retiree, I still follow the share market very closely, mainly the small cap explorer-discoverer space, in the vain hope that I might have some specialist knowledge that would give me an investing advantage. It is a high risk hobby. Other than that, and sport (see below) I am kept busy slashing weeds and cutting/ mulching trees at our block down south.

What other sports to you now follow? I follow the AFL closely (Go Cats!), and cricket. I have some interest in basketball since my daughters both played as juniors. I watch way too much sport...

Sue Harris

Born in Narrogin then, Northampton, Bunbury, Corrigin, Sydney, Ayr (NQ'ld), Melbourne and Adelaide.

Primary schools from Corrigin to Melbourne then Shelford CEGGS in Caulfield Vic. Played vigero, tennis, squash, netball, basketball, lacrosse, golf, volleyball etc.

Moved to WA (Kellerberrin) to purchase the Pharmacy then to Perth, (via a small farm in Bindoon and a station on the Paynes Find Sandstone Road), to educate children. My parents were by then living in Perth.

Worked at NAB, South Australian Cricket Association, teaching in SA, Victoria and at Kobeelya WA before entering the life of pharmacy. Ran a gift shop, did the town engraving and key cutting, had a business wholesaling party supplies then a newsagency.

Four children - 3 boys and 1 girl and 7 grand children.

Was never going to bowl but following the sudden death of my husband, Richard, and came along with friends from Cottesloe Golf Club - about 7 years ago.

Knew little about it and had only been there once for my father's wake! Pleased I came, though!

Family in particular, grand children. Bridge, gardening, travelling and spending time with friends.

AFL - members of both Richmonds and the Eagles, golf, tennis and really, most sports largely due to having three sons and a son in law who are dedicated sports devotees.

Health – club member goes under the Cyberknife

As we age health becomes more and more important with club members keeping GPs, phlebotomists, orthopaedic surgeons, cardiologists and urologists busy.

One member wanted to share his story about dealing with prostate cancer. It is not the normal route that most take.

Many fellows one talks to hear the saying "Don't worry about prostate cancer, every bloke gets it sometime and most men die with it, not from it".

This may well be true but an awful lot of men who do nothing do die from it. If left the cancer can spread through the body and into the bones, the blood or other organs.

I would like to tell you my story.

Three to four years ago I was finding it difficult to urinate and after persevering I finally trotted off to see my GP.

My PSA wasn't too high but it had risen somewhat since the previous test so he sent me off to visit an urologist who, after an MRI determined that whilst my prostate was very enlarged it was clear of any signs of cancer. He offered me a TURP (commonly known as a rebore).

However, I wasn't ready for that and was content to continue taking drugs that eased the symptoms for the next three years.

Three different drugs were prescribed to me at different times. These were Flomaxtra, Tamsulosin and Cialis, each having different side effects, some of which were quite unpleasant.

My next PSA showed a sharp rise – back to my urologist.

My urologist, Dr. Tyler was a young man and prior to going into medicine he had graduated in mechanical engineering but decided to follow a new and very different path. He had a most pleasant manner and he was easy to talk to.

After another MRI, a bladder ultrasound and a cystoscopy, a biopsy was taken and it was determined that there was cancer within my prostate.

It was explained to me by my urologist that it wasn't urgent but some form of treatment was necessary and that I had one of three options open to me.

- a) I could have a total prostatectomy (removal of the prostate gland),*
- b) I could have radiation treatment of the prostate or*
- c) I could do nothing and continue to monitor it.*

Being a surgeon he was keen to see the prostate removed.

In one of the pamphlets I had been given it clearly stated that before making a decision on the preferred treatment; go back and have a good discussion with your GP.

My GP advised that there are pros and cons for each form of treatment. However, he strongly advised against surgery (removal of the prostate) and brought to my attention a very new process called Cyberknife which was the only fully robotic radiation delivery system available in Australia at that time and seems to have been pioneered here in Perth.

It allows the delivery of a very narrow band of accurately targeted radiation beams from many different directions while minimising radiation to nearby healthy organs and tissues.

Having discussed the various options of treatments in detail with my wife we decided to follow up with the Cyberknife.

At the time of my treatment there were only two of the Cyberknife machines in Australia Both of which were here in Western Australia: one at Charlies and the other at Prof. David Joseph's 5D Clinic along Stirling highway in Nedlands.

Before starting the process Dr Tyler still had his way with me and carried out the TURP (rebore) as this procedure is not always possible after radiation. He also inserted a set of four very tiny gold locators within the prostate and a bladder shield to protect the bladder and bowel from the radiation. I was assured that the shield would slowly dissolve after the treatment.

Finally, after all this preparation, the day for the radiation arrived. This involved five visits to the clinic, each one week apart where an enormous machine was carefully positioned then it proceeded with much acrobatics as it circled my body firing a very narrow band of high intensity radiation at the diseased portion of the prostate. I actually went to sleep during the first session.

Twelve months after my treatment I was pleased to learn that my PSA had slipped down to zero.

I'm pleased I took this option but everyone must make their own choice.

The main thing is not to be shy about talking to your mates, be sure to talk to your GP and think seriously about the "do nothing" option.

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year to everyone.

Show peace and goodwill to the selectors.

And a special thank you to Peter Prout and his team of volunteers for running corporate bowls that brings in valuable revenue, keeping our subs down.