



Morrison Avenue Bowling Club Inc
Newsletter April 2025
Canterbury Club of the Year 2021-2022

Message from our President

Dear Members

With the end of the season fast approaching, many of us are looking forward to a well-earned rest over winter and returning refreshed for the new season. That's a great thought — but before we all wind down, I'd like to make a sincere plea to everyone: please think seriously about how you might be able to help with the running of our club.

The operation of the club depends solely on volunteers, and we simply cannot continue placing extra responsibility on the shoulders of our faithful members who have kept things going year after year. While we've been incredibly fortunate to have such dedicated members, some of them will be stepping back after the upcoming AGM — and now it's time for others to step in and do their bit.

A list of Executive and subcommittee positions open for nomination is on the whiteboard in the hall. Please take a look, give it some thought, discuss with other members and consider how you might be able to contribute. Every role counts, and your involvement really will make a difference however big or small. Please also feel free to give me or an Executive member a call if there is a position you may be interested in and want a bit more information. We are also happy to change our meeting times to suit our work force bowlers.

On a different note now, thank you to all our Champion of Champions representatives who have really put Morrison Avenue on the map. There were some great games as well as successes with Simon Wilson's triples team (Simon & Trevor Wilson and Dave Dalton) progressing to the semi-final and although playing very well they didn't manage a win but well done to them. Mike Young, our mens' singles champion progressed through to the semi-finals and Mike also won the Pairs Final and although he was wearing Belfast colours in the pairs I am sure we can also claim some success! Congratulations Mike. Our women's singles champion Jeanette Brant played brilliantly and was only narrowly beaten by Mandy Boyd (a former Commonwealth Games Medallist) in the third round after leading the whole game. The mixed pairs Champion of Champions Day will be held on 10th & 11th May and Anne Caldwell and Mike Young are our Champions and worthy representatives for our club. We wish them the best of luck.

Closing Day is the 3rd May which commences with the mixed Presidents Tournament so put your name up on the whiteboard as soon as possible so that the teams can be drawn. Ray has other important dates further down in this newsletter as well as lots more information so please read on.

Enjoy the last few weeks of outdoor bowling.

Kind Regards

Trish

Along with the excellent results the club has had this season in Inter-club and Champion of Champions events the Mid-Week Friendly team skipped by Graham Low with Jan Kitchingham, Gay Moore and Ken Hughes reached the final of the annual tournament. Although not able to win it was another plus for Morrison Ave to reach a final. Well done to this team which had 3 Under 5's players. Our other team in the tournament skipped by Robin Hart with Alf Skinner, Harley Panapa and Ron MacTaggart also made finals day at New Brighton winning one game. Great that our 2 teams made the finals play offs, well done to all involved.

Our thanks must go to Graham Low and Julie Upston for looking after the Mid-Week Friendlies this season. From all reports it has been a very good season and everyone had plenty of games. The Friendlies are an important part of the bowls calendar in Christchurch giving players at all levels the chance to play bowls.

Honours Board

A sub-committee has been working hard over the last few months looking at how the club can display the winners of our club trophies. There is no space left on the current boards so it was important to come up with a solution.

After much research and discussion they have settled on displaying the names on a large acrylic sheet which can be easily updated each year. The format is used at Lincoln Bowling Club and has proved very successful for them. The first part of this upgrade is due to happen shortly with the winners from 2020 displayed. There will be some changes in the main hall but when finished it will improve the appearance and ambience. We were fortunate to receive a grant to partly fund this work with the balance coming from club funds.

Winter Bowls

It's round to the winter bowls season and the starting dates have been confirmed.

Games are due to start at **1.00pm so please make sure you are there no later than 12.45pm** so the teams can be selected.

Here is the schedule.

Men - Tuesday 6 May 1.00pm start

Mixed - Friday 9 May & Saturday 10 May 1.00pm start

Women - Monday 19 May 1.00pm start

There are a number of important events planned for the rest of the season and please take note of these.

Annual General Meeting - Sunday June 22 at 2.00pm

You will notice that the date for the AGM has been changed from late May to the new one of **Sunday 22 May at 2.00pm**. This is an important AGM for the club with much to discuss and the adoption of a new constitution. All incorporated societies must file a new constitution by April 2026 and ours will be ready for approval at the meeting. A copy will be emailed to all members shortly as well as a copy available in the club rooms.

Fendalton Duster

The annual event is to be played at **Morrison Ave on Saturday 26 April starting at 1.00pm**.

We need 24 players and you can write your name on the notice board, currently we have about 16 names so don't leave it too long. Pauline Low is organising the teams so any enquiries please contact her. To make it easy for the afternoon tea the players are asked to **bring a plate** so we can cater for all players.

Currently Fendalton are the holders of the duster so it would be a great end to the season for us to win this back.

Closing Day, Prize Giving & Monster Raffle Draw Saturday 3 May 12.30pm

Closing day this year is on **Saturday 3 May**, slightly later than usual but we have had to fit events round a late Easter and Anzac Day.

The format will be the **Mixed President's Trophy starting at 12.30pm (Names on the board please)** followed by afternoon tea and Prize Giving. We expect the Prize Giving to start about 4.30pm with the raffle draw to follow. The tickets are selling well but we still have some left. Please support the club in this fund raiser so we can generate funds to do improvements round the club.

Anzac Day Tournament - Friday 25 April 12.30pm

When we missed our Monthly Triples Tournaments in October it was decided to hold one in April. This is an open triples tournament so please make up your teams and contact Maggie Howard. This will be the usual triples tournament with the \$30 per team entry and good prizes.

Early 2026 Events

This is an early notice that the Summerset Nationals Singles & Pairs are to be played in Canterbury from Friday 2 until Friday 9 January 2026. We have advised Bowls NZ that we would be interested in hosting if required. Also Murray Wigley has negotiated that the club will host the 2026 South Island licensed trade tournament in February. Details to follow as released.

An ode to our selectors.

*Blessed are they who can play sport
Blessed are they who can still be taught
Blessed are they who accept with grace
To play in any selected place*

Recent photos from club tournaments and club trophy games.

LH Top - Gordon Taylor Trophy

RH Top - Monthly Triples Tournament

LH Bottom - Men's President Trophy

RH Middle - Trevor Umbers Trophy

RH Bottom - Over 70's Tournament

