

**HAMILTON WORKINGMEN'S CLUB INC.**

## **2002 YEAR BOOK**

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# 2001-2002 HWMC EXECUTIVE



MEMBERS OF THE 2001-2002 Hamilton Workingmen's Club executive - Back row (from left): Brian Johns, Wayne Christian, Roger Donaldson, Gary Meyrick, Bruce Heapey, David Cameron, Barry McGill. Front row: Richard Shrubsall (manager), Heather True (secretary), Terry Ryan (vice president), Brian Simpson (president), Robin Riley (treasurer), Frank Haines (patron). - Bill Lindberg photograph.

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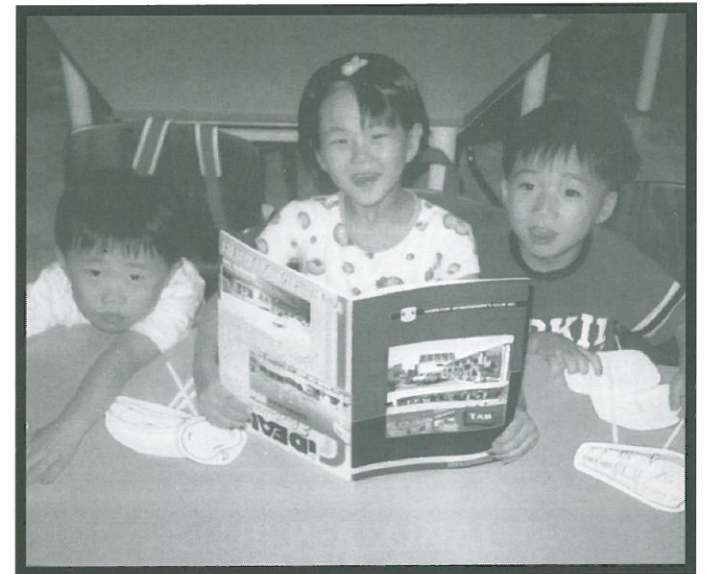
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## Our news read all over the world..!

Yes, that's right! Our year book has been discovered in all corners of the world - Alaska, South Korea, South Africa, Great Britain, Russia, United States, Australia and the Pacific Islands.

The late Bill Field took a copy with him when he toured Alaska; Grant Hooper took copies with him to South Korea, Great Britain and Russia; the Super 12 and Bledisloe Cup rugby supporters showed off our club in South Africa and Australia; while holidaymakers to the Pacific Islands and Bali found a place for the book in their luggage. Other club members have posted copies to relations and friends in the United States and many other countries. Our photo at shows South Korean children, David, Sally and Mike reading our 2001 Yearbook at the Wonderland School in Seoul.



## Club's progress continues!

Welcome to the 2002 Hamilton Workingmen's Club Year Book!

Do you realise we have been at our Frankton location for more than six years? It just seems the other day that those splendid Caledonian pipers led the parade of club members from Harwood Street to Commerce Street and the official opening ceremonies were staged. Since then the club has made amazing progress and we have become the envy of other organisations vying to attract members. Our executive and management have to be congratulated for making the right decisions re splendid facilities, top entertainment and staffing. It all adds up to members and guests feeling comfortable in the surroundings. The general harmony and good natured banter that prevails also suggests the environment is spot on while the support now given most of the sub-sections indicates more members than ever are taking full advantage of what is on offer. Overseas guests interviewed are full of praise of what we have to offer at such reasonable rates. They have all indicated we don't know how lucky we are. But our club hierarchy is realistic enough to realise we cannot rest on our laurels and so continually plan for the future. Two superb sporting stadiums have come to fruition virtually on our doorstep and we are in perfect position to capitalise on their expected popularity. Accordingly, you will see more action in and around the club as extensions and other upgrades take place. Membership has gone from just under a thousand to nearly 5000 in the six years we have been at our present location. The facilities have been placed under tremendous pressure to cope with the daily demands. From time to time hiccups do occur and when discovered are soon corrected. With such a large, and ever increasing membership, a few unexpected happenings must be par for the course. However, communication is the key. If a member

has a concern, he or she should let the duty manager know immediately so the appropriate action can be taken.

The TAB extension and upgrade have come as the result of demand as Keith Cornes' excellent team attract more and more customers. To accommodate members who previously used the King Street parking area, 80 more parking spaces, including several for the disabled, have been provided at the Commerce Street end. The club welcomes your ideas. Please forward them in written form to the front office and they will be considered by your elected executive. Include your name and membership number so further liaison, if required, can be undertaken. Comments made at last year's annual meeting have been taken on board and members will note the installation of the ITM machine and the upgrade of the women's rest areas. The management has concerns over the signing in procedures for visitors etc. Remember a member who signs in guests is responsible for them while they are on the club's premises. Some so-called 'guests' have unfortunately let the side down and club staff and other members have been placed in embarrassing situations trying to solve the resulting problems. We don't want that! Our entertainment agenda has been widely praised. The front office has entertainment calendars to keep you fully informed weeks in advance. Watch out for our advertisements in the weekly 'This Week' community newspaper while our in-house television programme also carries news of forthcoming club entertainment and sporting events. For sub-section news ensure you check the club notice boards throughout the club. They are constantly being updated and new members will find contact names on the notices to help them become involved.

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## Charity Day Once Again Proves Value

Waikato branches of the IHC and Child Cancer Foundation each received a \$10,000 boost thanks to the Hamilton Workingmen's Club's outstanding Charity Day promotion.

IHC president Val Brown and vice president Jim Price were loud in their praise of the club members and sporting personalities who gave up their time and worked hard in the interests of the charities involved. Their comments were echoed by Child Cancer Foundation representative, Margaret Baird. Rugby great Colin Meads and international cricketers Simon Doull, Grant Bradburn and Daniel Vettori contributed to a special auction which attracted a supportive bidding audience. Many businesshouses also realised the worth of the day and consequently the sponsors' board was full. Club members also donated items to the auction, superbly conducted once again by the master, David Slack, and to a garage sale which not only produced many bargains but was also a lot of fun.

The John Franklin Memorial indoor bowls tournament attracted a top field, including sports personalities from many fields, to help the fundraising. John, who was always a strong supporter of the charity day concept as a sponsor and participant, would have been proud the way his son, Bradley, represented the family. Showing splendid skills on and off the mat, Bradley made the tournament final where his team just went under to a team which had top cricketer and now Radio Sports commentator, Simon Doull, as its guest player. Frankton Junction bowling tournaments and a golf putting contest also lifted the final total.

Charity Day organisers Gary Meyrick and Bruce Heapey, who were thrilled at the response of members, fully deserved the plaudits they received from club president, Brian Simpson, and manager, Richard Shrubbsall. "It was a complete club effort," said Richard. "All sub-sections contributed in one way or another and members and their friends certainly helped the cause magnificently by purchasing what was on offer. The efforts of Gary and Bruce were wonderful." He also thanked members of the staff for their support.

\* See Charity Day photographs in middle colour section.



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## "Brum's" Drum Beats Quietly

It's a typical lunch time at the club.

Members, their friends, families, workmates and guests are taking advantage of sampling the delights of the day. It's a happy occasion, especially at one table where sounds of laughter can frequently be heard above the constant buzz of conversation.

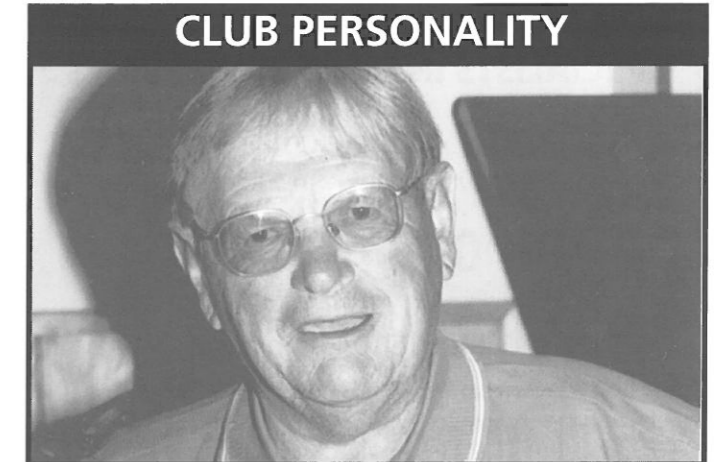
The lads are debating their usual topics, weather, health, bowls, sex, sport, the latest government decision, the attributes of tennis star Anna K and others like her, the club, who will win the big race on Saturday, bowls again, more sport, how will 'Mitch' go as All Black coach etc etc.

Through it all a highly valued member of the congregation usually sits quietly absorbing all the varied opinions. People come and go. Polite greetings are exchanged. He chuckles happily at some statements, looks at the ceiling and grimaces at others which are outside the square and utters a quiet 'help!' 'help!' when the going gets really tough. The 'boys' love his reactions and chortle accordingly.

But the bespectacled fair-headed Brian, known by and all sundry as 'Brum', Kinzett wouldn't have it any other way. He loves the company, really enjoys the club and its facilities, eagerly looks forward to his daily salad delights, sometimes with fish, and waits patiently for the discussion to turn to sport. He accepts all the good-natured banter aimed in his direction with grace. He respects other people's opinions. His ample supply of good manners means he waits quietly for his opportunity to speak. When he does offer his thoughts it

always makes sense. His amicable composure ensures he doesn't get upset when his measured judgements are challenged. He argues his point with conviction, usually with a few extra facts which tend to destroy most opposition. When he does get on top he gives a gentle smile and sits back in contented fashion and rejoices in the fact that it is the turn of the deflated to cry 'help!'

'Brum's' civil approach to life and quiet determination to always give of his all to the task in hand, has won him many friends and so it was a highly popular result when he and Graham Body won the men's championship pairs bowling title



BRIAN 'BRUM' KINZETT - being a club member means alot to him!

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## "Brum's" Drum Beats Quietly Cont...

at the Frankton Junction greens early this year. A few days later he was lead in the winning four at the Tasmandata sponsored event at the same venue with Perry Meinung, Alistair and Bruce McLachlan. He had good reason to cherish those back-to-back triumphs because his only other tournament success in a long bowling career had come many years previously!

"Yes, I was lucky enough to lead for Ralph Dutton when our Whitiara club team won the Cambridge Easter fours in the 1980s. I have come close a couple of times since, but runner-up has usually been my lot." Not surprisingly, 'Brum' was humble after his rare Frankton Junction victory. He rightly praised Graham Body's prowess as a skip. But those who were there realised just how much 'Brum's' play at lead contributed to the success.

His triumphs meant he became the subject of more comments from his lunch companions. Others gave him 'stick' as well. He didn't mind. "I rather enjoyed the exchanges. It's all part of club life."

'Brum' Kinzett came to Hamilton from Nelson in the late 1950s and soon found employment as a letterpress machinist at Clark and Mathieson Print in Victoria Street north. He was to be in the trade for 30 years. In Nelson, 'Brum' played rugby at halfback and at loose forward. He was a lower grade representative and in 1946 played as a loose forward in partnership with Bill Clark, who later transferred to Wellington and went on to become an All Black in the 1950s with his highlight being the legendary test successes against the 1956 Springboks. Otago was dominant in NZ rugby when 'Brum' was growing up. "I admired their style and their coach Vic Cavanagh. Also the way Waikato played under Dick Everest in the 1950s was truly wonderful." 'Brum' said as a youngster he followed all codes closely and his ability to 'talk sport' helped to make early friends in Hamilton.

"Just up the road from my work place was the Turners and Fows produce markets, which older members will recall virtually backed on to the Workingmen's Club's facilities on Harwood Street. The 'boys' at Turners and Fows soon became great friends.

"They welcomed me into their social group and encouraged me to participate in their many debates about sport. I found myself mixing with the likes of Don Manson, Dean Allwood, Lance and Bob West, Jack Forsyth, Ralph and Laurie Fear, Arnie Derecourt, George Liddall, Bill Gentry and company. I soon became a regular in the Turners and Fow cricket sides of the 1960s. We had a lot fun. They were memorable days."

He also found time to enthusiastically participate in badminton with the West End club and collected a couple of notable doubles titles along the way. Then the need to get 'his house in order' brought 'Brum' in contact with Larry O'Neill, a well-known Hamilton 'legal-eagle' and champion squash player.

"We also talked sport and before long I was a keen newcomer of the Hamilton Squash Club. I have been a member ever since and have enjoyed every moment, on and off the court. It has been the best sporting club I have ever been associated with." 'Brum' admired at close range the squash skills of Susan Devoy, Laurie Greene, Larry O'Neill, Barry Hughes, Lelani Joyce and others as many titles, including national and world honours, came Hamilton's way. Ack Malcolm was another imposing figure. 'Brum' received a shock, but was elated at the same time, when he was awarded life membership of the squash club. His citation said it was a just reward for his untiring efforts, usually unselfishly in the background, on behalf of the members.

He was justifiably proud of the honour. "The annual meeting had nearly finished and I was looking forward to another debate in the lounge when a life membership nomination was

## "Brum's" Drum Beats Quietly Cont...

put forward to the meeting. Suddenly I realised it was me they were talking about. It was a marvellous moment. Something to cherish."

Don Manson, who had become a close friend, suggested he also tried his hand at bowls. "So I joined Whitiara in 1966. Don and Ralph Dutton, who became my tutor, showed me the ropes. Another very supportive was Charles Frampton, who was well-known in Workingmen's Club circles. He was a real character, an inspiration and a wonderful help to me. I liked leading and played in that position in the club champs for Charlie."

In other tournaments Ralph Dutton was skip, Bill Walker three, George Pickerill two and he led.

Golf became another of his interests after cricket. "A group of us joined Lochiel and spent a lot of weekends there. There I mixed with the likes of Arthur Hampton, Laurie Hamilton, Don Manson, Pat Ordish, Nat Cleaver, Lloyd Marsh, Ray Rouse and other respected members of the Workingmen's Club." In his rugby days 'Brum' kicked with his right foot, but at cricket, badminton, bowls, squash and golf he has always been a 'lefty'. He lists those sports as his favourites while pork and, of course, his regular salad lunches are rated highly on the food menu. He enjoys light ales with the right company. His colour preference is light blue while any sport on the television gets his vote. 'Chariots of Fire' took his fancy as a movie and any music 'with a good tune' keeps him contented. Being a Workingmen's Club member means a lot to 'Brum'. "I relish the company, the lunch time sessions, the bowls, and I'm proud to be a part of a such a worthwhile organisation."

Note: Brian became 'Brum' because several of his mates back in Nelson had the same christian name and also because his late grandfather, also 'Brum', had hailed from Birmingham.

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# Visitor likes our style!

The news that our club's membership was continually rising came as no surprise to an American University 'harmony in relationships' expert, Delores Roxanne Heston.

Delores, who timed her New Zealand trip to visit Hamilton relatives to coincide with the visit of golf star Tiger Woods, said she found our club 'friendly and refreshing' with the pleasant decor and open style 'ideal for meeting people and making new friends'. She found the clubs and bars in Wellington like most of those back in the United States.

"They had little natural light and you were usually jammed in a corner or by the bar. The lights were low so you could hardly see

the person right next to you. Your club here is a happy mix. I had a lovely time watching people as we had a meal. I could see from one corner of the dance floor to the other. Everyone seemed to be having a good time."

While Delores enjoyed the band (Living Proof), she was amazed by the number of gaps in their programme. "They obviously have plenty of talent and worked hard to get the people going. However, once they had done that, they suddenly stopped and the momentum of the performance was lost. They did remarkably well to get the people enthusiastic again." When it was explained that most New Zealand bands have several breaks during their performances, she said they wouldn't last long in most states as the club owners insist on value for money for their members. "Who wants to look at an empty stage when you've come to be entertained? It doesn't make sense!"

The attitude of the bar staff impressed Delores. "They helped me sort out a cocktail and they didn't even want a tip. Back home if you don't tip, you don't get served!"

She found indoor bowls 'quaint', but looked eagerly for the 'pins' and more aggression. The fact that our women indoor bowlers can more than match the men pleased her. A Wednesday visit to the club coincided with the seniors' bowls afternoon and to see such activity from the over 60s surprised her. "My parents always watch the afternoon 'TV chat' shows. Getting breakfast and using the walking machines are their midweek exercise. They are both in bed by 8pm in time to use the pay-to-view movie channel. I think they've seen every movie ever made. They walk to their club on Saturdays, but are always home by 7pm to catch the TV sports shows. I like the way your seniors get out and about, do things, go places and use their club. That's what it's all about."

A seven handicapper, Delores had rounds of golf at St Andrews (where she shot 82), Middlemore and after the NZ Open at Paraparaumu. She said togetherness was the 'in thing' in America, especially after the happenings of September 11 last year. "Clubs are on the way back. If your interests lie in sports, music, preservation, civilisation, drinking, dancing, hobbies or even protestation, you now join a club along with your family, friends and neighbours. Individual efforts have dominated for years, but now people are rubbing shoulders again for one reason or another with the strength in unity and safety in numbers the underlying theme. Delores had planned her trip to New Zealand well in advance of the tragedy in New York. "Once I heard Tiger was coming down here I booked. I don't know why, but I thought Paraparaumu was near Hamilton and I looked forward to my uncle driving us to the course each day. It wasn't until I reached Auckland that I was told I had mucked up!"

"I took several photos at your club to show the folks back home and look forward to getting the year book. The variety you have here at such low cost makes me envious. No wonder your membership list is expanding!"

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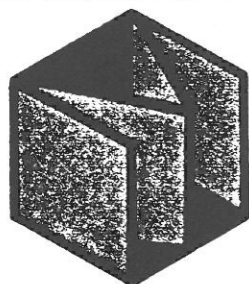
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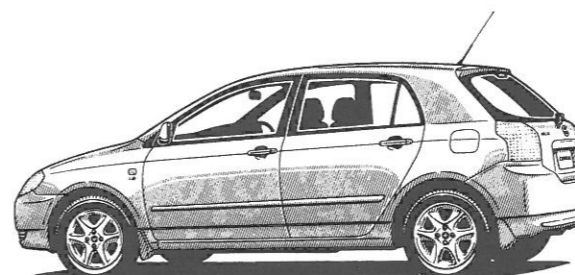
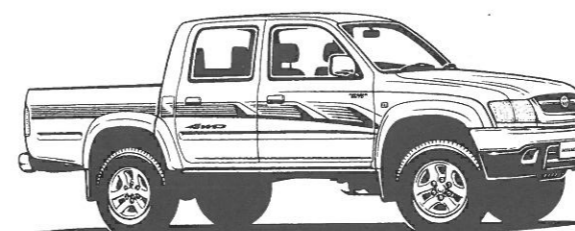
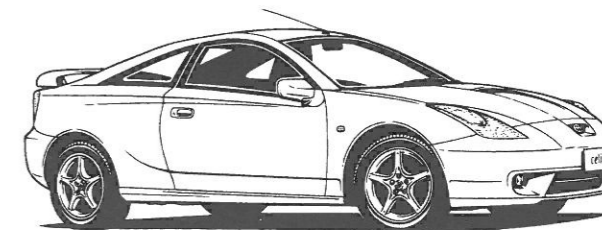
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**Let's meet some of our members**

**STEVE PEARCE**, a club member since 1979, joined because his father, Harry, was involved. He is chairman of the eight-ball section and is a keen member of the golf section. Steve, whose ambition is to be successful at whatever he does, has represented the club at eight-ball, indoor and outdoor bowls. As a youngster he won the Waikato secondary schools indoor bowls singles title and played for a successful North Island representative side against the South. He was a Waikato junior outdoor bowls representative and was a Waikato singles plate winner. In eight ball he won the Waikato-Thames Valley B grade championship at the club's old Harwood Street premises (a real special memory) while at golf he won a Waikato Railway tournament. He likes most sports and gets a special buzz by going to car meets and watching the Holdens thrash the Fords. The aspect of club life that gives him most enjoyment is annoying Richard (club manager) and others by drinking Lion Brown. Steve's favourite are - Food: Pork. Drink: Lion Brown. Colour: Blue. TV shows: 'Gimme Gimme Gimme' News, 'Whose Line Is It Anyway'. Film: 'Secret of My Success'. Actor: Rowan Atkinson. Singers: Wham, Elton John and Shania Twain.

**JOHN KING** is the treasurer of the senior members' section. He joined the club in 1992 after transferring to Hamilton from Wanganui where he had been a member of the Cosmopolitan club from 1966. His ambition is to continue playing indoor bowls for at least another 20 years as he enjoys the fellowship, especially on the Wednesday afternoons when the senior members hold their tournaments. Steak, oysters and crayfish are his favourite foods. Dixie, jazz and country and western are his music delights.

**JACK BELL** says members should really enjoy what the club has to offer. Being involved in the seniors, bowls and cards sub-sections keeps Jack busy and he looks forward to the companionship those activities provide. A member since 1996, Jack has represented the club at indoor bowls and says he has so many favourite club memories it is hard to recall them all. DB Export Lager goes down well with Jack and he looks forward to watching episodes of the TV comedy 'Last of the Summer Wine'. His favourite singer is Daniel O'Donnell.

**ESTELLE MURPHY** really looks forward to her cards and bowls - indoor and outdoor. She joined the club in 1999 for company and good fellowship and she finds that as a member of the seniors, cards and indoor bowls sub-sections. Going out for dinner, listening to music, playing cards and social drinking are Estelle's favourite leisure time activities. She enjoys seafood and wine and lists blue and green as favourite colours. 'Coronation Street' is her top TV show with 'Lord of the Rings' the best film she's seen and Julia Roberts a much admired actress. Best singers in her book are Frank Sinatra and Connie Francis. Estelle's tip for fellow members is to enjoy life. "You only live once. The house will still be there when you are gone!"

**PETRINA HOWARD** joined the club in 1995 as she wanted a change in her leisure environment. She enjoys meeting people from all aspects of life and enjoys participating in as many sports as she can. Her favourite club memory has been winning a Waikato Rugby jersey to replace her old Te Rapa club one which she wore through her six year stint as club captain, secretary-treasurer of the Te Rapa Punters' eight-ball club. Petrina, who is treasurer of the club's eight-ball sub-section, also enjoys fishing, rugby, cricket and watching most sports. She likes G and T's in a tall glass, Waikato

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*Meet more of our members...*

Draught and red wine. Other favourites are - Colours: Green, blue. TV shows: 'Coronation Street', 'Gimme Gimme Gimme'. Film: 'Pretty Woman'. Actor: Sean Connery. Actress: Julia Roberts. Songs: Anything by Abba and No Matter What by Boyzown.

**PHIL HALL** is keen to continue enjoying his snooker, darts and bowls in a social capacity. Area winner of the Super Sports in 2000 which rightly enough is his favourite club memory, Phil joined our club from the Rotorua Citizens Club in 1980 for comradeship. He was also eager to further his snooker prospects and competition opportunities. He became involved in promoting the sport within the club and was chairperson of the sub-section for two years. Fishing is another sporting love. Other favourites - Food: 'Good Kiwi tucker!' Drink: Beer. Colour: Blue. TV show: Comedies. Film: 'Grease'. Actress: Julia Roberts. Singer: Kenny Rogers.

**MARK WILLIAMS** aims to be a good fisherman and teacher and a top social grade cricketer. He linked up with our club in 1985 to indulge in 'cheap beer and good company'. Mark really enjoys social atmosphere created by his fellow fishing sub-section members. His favourite club memory is being in the club watching Waikato win the NPC rugby title. He lists pig hunting, cricket and rugby as sports he also enjoys. Other favourites - Food: Roasts, seafood. Drinks: Beer, water, E2 Energy Drink. Colour: Blue. TV show: 'Gone Fishing'. Film: 'Once Were Warriors'. Actor: Tom Cruise. Singers: U2. His handy home tip for fellow members is to get your wife to mow the lawns so you can go to the club!

**NICHOLAS KING** hopes to win major titles in snooker. He previously belonged to the City Club in Nelson. His favourite club memory is the 1998 snooker nationals while he thoroughly enjoys the social atmosphere of the club and our first-class restaurant. Ice hockey and cricket are other sports he prefers. His other favourites include - Food: Scotch fillet steak. Drink: Rum and Coke. Colour: Red. TV show: 'Friends' etc. Film: 'Midnight Express'. Actors: Willem Dafoe, Al Pacino. Singers: U2, Cars, Queen.

**ALLEN THOMAS'** ambition is to beat his son-in-law Malcolm Chandler at bowls! And those supposedly in the know consider Allen is pretty close to achieving his goal. We will watch the battle with interest. Allen became a member of our club in 1985 when he retired from work. He became a keen indoor bowler and plays throughout the year. His favourite club memory is watching the national indoor bowls singles. He also enjoys

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## Meet more of our members...

viewing other sports, especially rugby. A love of dancing and having social drinks with friends are also listed as his leisure time highlights. Other favourites - Food: Seafood (especially if he catches them!). Drink: Lion. Colour: Red. TV show: Coronation Street. Film: White Christmas. Actor: Bing Crosby. Singer: Mario Lanza. His handy tip for fellow members is to 'keep yourself occupied'.

**DIANNE SCOTT** also has an ambition to win more indoor bowls titles. She joined the club to play bowls in a social environment and gained a notable success when she won the national workingmen's women's title in 2000. Now she has her sights on more tournament wins. Walking is also a favourite leisure time activity while seafood and an occasional Khalua give her pleasure. Favourite colours are blue, black and lemon. Dianne listed Grease as her favourite film with Mel Gibson and Meg Ryan most admired performers. Listening to Barbara Streisand and Dido are two of her musical delights while the Debbie Dorday Show in 2001 remains a special club memory. A smile given freely can spread around the world - that's Dianne's message to fellow club members.

**BRYAN FAUNCH** has two favourite club memories - playing darts against the New Zealand champion and being awarded the 'most improved' prize by the dart section last year. He joined the club in 1998 after being invited to play social darts. Previously he had been a member of the Ngaruawahia RSA. Now he has represented our club at the North Island, Thames Valley, Bay of Plenty and Waikato area championships and really enjoys being involved in all the activities. His other favourite sports and leisure time activities include watching motor racing, dancing, snooker, pool, swimming and rugby sevens. Other favourites are - Food: Steak, eggs and chips; Chinese; Indian. Drink: JB. Colours: Red, white and blue. TV shows: All sports and the 'A' team. Film: Top Gun. Actress: Jennifer Gray. Singers/musicians: Shania Twain, Shadows.

**BERNARD KNEEBONE** has found his explosive media career has restricted his involvement in club affairs. However, in spite of all the new found glamour, weekly photos and tips in many papers and expert advice freely given on high rating radio shows, he somehow manages to find time each hectic day to be with his friends in the club. In between daily lessons on how to use his club swipe card, plus a quick grooming session, then signing autographs, taking calls and answering searching questions on a wide variety of subjects, he downs a few Waikato's, relates a few of his experiences with infectious humour and looks forward to the next exciting morning at the track. He has always thrived on a good debate and has never turned away from fierce competition. Associates, who saw him in action at Whangamata, remain in wonder at the advice he gave a prominent NZ rugby personality.

While his major sporting ambition remains to beat Phil Ryan at anything, Bernard has proved his skill at many endeavours. He displayed a unique approach when invited to open the batting and/or bowling for cricket teams of many levels, while he maintains he has also shone at lawn bowls. His golf has to be seen to be believed. He has graciously listed his favourite sports and leisure time activities as volleyball; petanque; having a drink with his boss, Paul, which proves there is no hierarchy in his line of work; eating KFC; drinking Joseph Kutze; and viewing Dad's Army and Melody Rules on TV. He'll travel anywhere to watch Confessions of a Window Cleaner while he has always been attracted to the style of Michael Barrymore. The signature tune from Dad's Army tops his hit parade. Luckily for members, Bernard has written two books - 'Handy Tips When at Home' and 'Secrets of Bunker Play'. See him for autographed copies.

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## Playing their cards right...

After being inactive since 1992, members decided that there was enough interest to re-establish a cards section in the club.

The relaunch came in October, 1999, with '500' every Thursday. In January, 2001, the interest was such that Euchre was included. By that time the attendance was approximately 26 for '500' and 16 for Euchre. Since then a gradual increase in both codes has seen Euchre in the mornings with around 26 players and the '500' up to 44. Many of the players are new faces in the Hamilton Workingmen's Club who have joined to be able to play cards.

The section now plays an Easter and Christmas tournament for HWMC members only and now have started sending teams to NZCC tournaments. Of particular pride to the card section was the third place taken by Dawn Thornton at the NZCC North Island singles in Hastings.

Although visitors are welcome to attend club days, they are informed of the advantages and other activities in the club and most are quick to sign up. Any members who wish to know more about the card section should approach - Warren Pearce (chairman) or Georgina Morris (secretary) or the main office.

## Classic Bowling Cup Retained with Style

Hamilton Workingmen's Club reigned supreme in its annual outdoor bowls 'classic clash' against its Auckland counterparts at the Victoria Park Bowling Club.

With the constant buzz of thousands of vehicles of all shapes and sizes tearing along the motorway virtually above their heads, the Hamilton team showed outstanding commitment and skill to dominate from the first round. Manager-coach Syd Allott's inspiring team talk saw the players hit the slow greens fired up. Once they had come to grips with the conditions, the Hamilton fours swept to a commanding lead and the 51-27 score after the first completed seven ends said it all. Because of the overall ability of the touring squad, manager Allott was able to switch his teams and rest players. The reinforcements carried on the good start and at halftime it was obvious the lead of 94-51 was too big for the Aucklanders to peg back.

The Hamilton contingent came on strong again after lunch and the final tally of 141-78 was a true indication of play on the day. Blue Worth Coachlines' excellent driver, Gordon Walker, was noticeably impressed by the quality of play and the determination by all those on the coach to have a good time. The trip was great for club spirit and hopefully the annual fixture, which now has been going for 31 years, will continue. Judging by the after-match speeches, both clubs are determined the association will carry on. Hopefully that will be the case. A homeward bound stopover at the very popular Muddy Waters Tavern at Mercer, with mine host Jamie Oliver, also went down well.

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# Employment agency does work!!

Frank and Elsie admitted to club friends before Christmas they were worried about their only grandson, Cliff.

"He can't get a job. He's been to several interviews, but has never made a short list," Frank said. "It's really got him down. Most of his mates have found something and of course it means they have money in their pockets while Cliff has to rely on his meagre savings and our goodwill."

Fortunately for Frank, one of those listening to his tale of woe was George, an old friend from their days together on the railway. "Obviously you have not been to see Noelene at the club!" said George. "Noelene? Who is Noelene?" replied Frank. "Noelene Falconer. She runs our employment agency out the front of the club. She soon found a solution for our youngster who couldn't find work. Now he's started an apprenticeship in a small motor workshop and is on top of the world. His confidence has returned, he's back playing sport instead of roaming the streets and he's even got himself a girl friend!"

Frank couldn't wait to spread his good news to his family. He made an appointment with Noelene, explained the background of his visit and arranged for young Cliff to come into the club to see for himself what was available.

Noelene related how the executive and management of the club set up the employment agency to provide employment services for members and their families and how the club gained a Government contract for Modern Apprenticeships Co-ordination.

She told Cliff - "A modern apprenticeship is your passport to a successful future in the industry of your choice. You'll find there are plenty of rewards if you are motivated to learn, hardworking and keen to give everything a go. To be eligible you must be 16 to 21 years old when you begin your apprenticeship; you must meet any entry requirements for your particular industry or business; and you must be ready to work towards National Certificate/s at levels three and four. Entry requirements vary from industry to industry."

Cliff was rapt when he learned furniture making was one of the

industries offered. As well as furniture, Noelene is the Modern Apprenticeships Co-ordinator for the motor industry (automotive engineering, panel beating, auto parts etc). Other industries offering modern apprenticeships include aeronautical engineering, agriculture, aluminium joinery (architectural), baking, boat building, building and construction, contracting, dairy manufacturing, electrical supply, electrotechnology, engineering, flooring, food processing, horticulture, hospitality, motor engineering, printing, public sector, road transport, seafood, sports turf and telecommunications.

A proud granddad heard his excited grandson tell Noelene he was ready to work and soon a personal training plan, specially tailored to his needs, had been prepared. A training agreement with an employer was secured and the agency completed all the necessary paper work. The plan set out exactly what Cliff needed to learn and how he was going to achieve his aim. Noelene related how she would monitor Cliff's progress against his personal training plan to ensure he was on target to successfully complete his apprenticeship and that any off-site training and distance learning requirements would be arranged. She stressed she would be available to deal with any questions or hassles Cliff may have during his apprenticeship and, if asked, would be available to give advice on various issues.

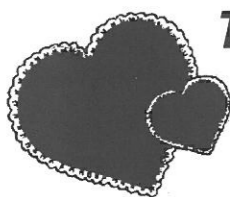
An elated Frank told his mates at the club - "The young fellow couldn't get home quick enough to get himself organised. Fortunately an experienced furniture maker was ready to take on an apprentice so contact was made and the rest is history."

Now a very relieved and thankful Frank and Elsie receive regular updates on progress and were only too happy to relate their story. After witnessing how the agency had helped their grandson they have made a plea for more business people to support the programme. "It's a wonderful asset for the club to have," they said.

So, if you know a person who would benefit from an apprenticeship or have a business which would support the programme, just make contact with Noelene Ph 847-1121 or 025-397-676 or ask for an appointment at the front office at the club.

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