2004 YEAR BOOK

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'MYSTERY TOURIST' ALMOST KNICKED ALL THE GLORY

The club's mystery tour in mid-December proved another outstanding success.

Arranged by Colin Sarjeant and his team of willing helpers, the 61-seater Blue Worth coach left the club right on 9am.

With Waikato's best coach driver, Gordon Walker, at the wheel, the 57 on board were soon heading through Hillcrest. However, a left turn toward Matangi and then into Woodside Road made the 'tourists' realise they were en route to one of Waikato's sporting treasures, the Robinson Museum.

The Robinsons, Mark and Karen, who were regular visitors to our club before their museum life took off, have created a wonderful asset on their Matangi farm. Those who hadn't been to the complex for more than a year were astounded at the work that they have undertaken. The buildings house outstanding displays of what has gone before. The new main building displays local and national memorabilia from many eras.

A popular stopover was the 'Bully Point' - a pub on this particular day with no beer while the lake and the sand beach also attracted attention. The billiard / music room, which actually is part of the family home, appealed to those with memories of juke box tunes. The Robinson Sporting Museum is certainly worthwhile visiting. Just give them a ring.

Driver Gordon then went through the back roads to Cambridge where the 'Club Bar' awaited us. As we satisfied our thirst and food needs, a musician, who had returned to the venue after entertaining the night before, found time to provide us with 45 minutes of his repertoire. It would certainly be an idea venue when the trotting was on.

Colin then advised Gordon to head for Morrinsville, then Te Aroha and Paeroa with the Thames Workingmen's Club the objective. The Thames club was celebrating Christmas lunch with their 'golden oldies' and the place was full of festive joy.

It didn't take long for our musical talents to emerge. Dave Winitana led the way and as confidence grew more and more of those on the bus trip had their turn on stage. The singers did our club proud and when the deadline came the locals didn't want us to go.

One of the welcoming Thames barmaids 'pleased' many of the visitors when she bent over backwards to make us feel at home and displayed, several times it must be said as the cheers got louder, the words 'Merry Xmas' which were printed on her white knickers.

Just to prove how well some of the participants did get on with the locals, one 'young at heart mystery tourist' received a hearty cheer he proudly showed off the aforementioned 'knickers' on the bus as the tour was about to leave Thames.

When the applause died and 'our mystery tourist' had regained his composure, he reminded all and sundry - 'what happens on tour, stays on tour!' We all agreed with that and promised we wouldn't mention it again.unless someone asked!

Note: The Year Book editors are pleased to report the 'festive knickers' were returned to Thames by our 'under cover' agent.

SNOOKER 'POT STAR' SHOWS HIS SKILLS

Dene O'Kane's visit to the club was one of the season highlights for the club's snooker players who had the chance to test their skills against New Zealand's best.

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REMEMBER 50 YEARS AGO. 1954 ? continued..

for Waikato included Hemi and Ponty Reid (Frankton); Mick Hourigan, Rob Watson, Len Connolly, Gaine Carrington (Marist); Bryce Cowley, Don McKenzie, Reg Smith (Old Boys); Jim Roberts, Don Grant, Pat Greene (Technical Old Boys). Dick Everest was Waikato selector. Technical Old Boys won the Stag Trophy. The council signed a new lease of Rugby Park for 175 pounds for 33 years.

Hamilton was the venue for the athletic nationals with Morrie Rae and Don Jowett dominating the sprints, Bill Baillie and Murray Halberg supreme in the middle distances and the Taylor twins of Hamilton starring over the hurdles. Waikato's Joy Crotty and Dot Parker showed the way in the women's sprints. In May Englishman Roger Bannister broke the four minute mile barrier with a 3m59.4s. Halberg had won the NZ title in 4m15.4s.

Hamilton's cycling brothers Ritchie and Warren Johnston continued their reign at the top of their sport with Neil Geraghty also prominent. Waikato teams were the best at both the track and grass championships.

Fishermen remember being informed C Hopkins had landed a 331lb striped marlin on a 20lb line in the Bay of Islands.

Bob Charles won the NZ Open golf crown and became NZ Sportsman of the Year while Hamilton's Tim Woon was the national amateur matchplay champion and Mesdames P Granville and H McDiarmid won the LGU anational autumn foursomes.

Australian Stan Jones won the NZ Grand Prix in a Maybach Special with Roy Roycroft the first New Zealander home in his Alfa-Romeo. Hamilton's George Palmer, in the Palmer Special, became the beach race champion.

In rowing Don Rowlands was national single sculls champion and Mercer's Parker and Douglas dominated the double sculls and pairs at home and overseas.

Kihikihi won the Savile Cup polo tournament at Claudelands; while John da Silva was the heavyweight wrestling champion; and Andrew Berryman continued to star on the rugby league front. In May, 1954, the South Auckland Rugby League announced it was keen to develop the Forest Lake arena into a top stadium and called on the public to help them raise 3000 pounds. Leading lights in the campaign were M R Elvey and G R Hall. Rugby league club games were played at Hinemoa Park with Forest Lake, Railways and Albions clubs fielding teams. Rovers and Wanderers kept the soccer flag flying while Kaipaki, Old Boys, Old Technicals and Railway prominent hockey clubs.

Leading Hamilton cricketers included Eric Petrie, Jim Everest, Tom Puna, Allen Lissette, Ron Hemi and Colin Agnew. Talk of a Northern Districts association was also gaining strength.

The May shooting season opening was considered 'only fair' with H E P Gardiner, K R Smith and C Cummings among those to report early limit bags.

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CHARITY RESULTS SHOWS CLUBS...

CHARITY DAY was another huge success for the club. When the Order of St John made their request for assistance in raising finance for a number of much-needed defibrillators the club hierarchy rallied to support the cause. The club's attitude attracted the support of members, indoor bowlers, combined Hamilton Lions clubs and Frankton and Hamilton businesses. The auction was again a key component of the day with many great bargains being snapped up by the good attendance. The celebrity guests, which included Hamilton West MP, Martin Gallagher, showed their skills as indoor bowlers. * Pictures by KEVIN ROLFE.

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CUP DRAWS OUT THE BEST!

MELBOURNE CUP day was another special feature of the club's year. Once again some members and guests really dressed up for the occasion and made the most of the special enclosure. Cup sweeps were popular while the TAB outlets throughout the club were kept busy. Cameraman KEVIN ROLFE was on hand to capture the glamour of the day.

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REMEMBER 50 YEARS AGO 1954 ? continued...

Victoria Street, known as the 'Golden Mile', other matters such as bridges, roading, the upgrade of the Frankton Junction railway yards, the possible lowering of the railway line, the need for more sporting facilities and accommodation for visitors started to appear regularly on the meeting agendas.

Dominion Breweries announced its intention to build a hotel between London and Rostrevor Streets on land formerly owned by the estate of the late Edward Jones. The project was later dropped. Main street hotels were the Hamilton and Commercial (J Prosser) with the Riverina (B R Langley) and Royal servicing Hamilton East and the Frankton (W M Nairn) looking after the railway population.

Television made its debut in Hamilton in May of 1954. Cameras photographed traffic at the corner of Hood and Anglesea Streets and transferred the pictures direct to three standard household receivers. The exercise drew many excited observers and predictions were made that the first sets wouldbe available in the city within 18 months.

Country women institute meetings were held regularly in the rapidly expanding Te Rapa, Forest Lake - Maeroa, Fairfield North and Fairfield suburbs with service organisations also offering advice on how to cope with the rising population and the quicker pace of life. A special boost to mothers was the availability of fresh bread on Saturdays with the bakers organising vans and bikes to meet the delivery requirements. A campaign to ensure children had a wholesome breakfast before they went to school was well supported. The promoters of Lane's Emulsion broke new ground when they hand delivered advertising material to all Hamilton households. That new style of marketing soon appealed to food chains and has been with us ever since.

Vandalism in new areas became a problem with the 'understaffed' police unable to respond to many calls.

The building of a kiosk and the erection of lights added to the attractions of the lake, especially at nights when families found they were able to take their children to enjoy the expanding playground.

There was unrestrained elation when popular Hamilton swimmer Jack Doms repaid the faith the district had in his ability by winning gold in the 220 yard breaststroke and a silver in the medley relay at the 1954 Vancouver Empire and Commonwealth Games. Doms had been told by the hierarchy of the Olympic and British Empire Games Association that although he had qualified to go they did not rate him as a likely winner so he had to find the 500 pounds needed to cover his expenses. Doms' boss, Jock McLintoch, of paint merchants Booth and Chapman, and Eric Grocott, president of the Waikato Swimming Centre, got together and with the help of the local radio station raised the money in just over 24 hours. Waikato was the top swimming centre with Doms, Jim Blackwood and Marion Roe to the fore.

Hamilton's National Government MP Hilda Ross and Waikato rugby fans welcomed home Ron Hemi and Ian Clarke from their highly successful 1953-54 tour to the British Isles while Canterbury held the Ranfurly Shield. Hamilton players to play

continued page 43

BOWLING MEMORIES TO CHERISH

The staging of a bowling tournament in memory of Arthur 'Pop' Rogerson (pictured top left) was a poignant feature of the Frankton Junction club season. Mrs Rogerson and other members of the family attended the extremely successful day. David Baird skipped the winning four. Another moment to cherish for HWMC bowlers was the winning of the national men's title at Wanganui by David Wallace, David Selby, Ray Finlay and Jim Hill. Pictures at right of the Wanganui final were taken by Jimmy Dick.

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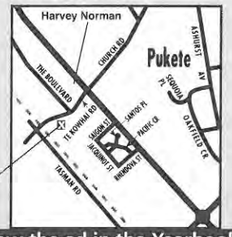

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COUPLE OF CHAMPIONS continued...

Women's handicap pairs: Colleen Congdon, Shirley Dempsey, 1; Sylvia Hall, Marlene Osmond, 2.

Other results included -

Opening day – Noel Pennell Plate: Jimmy Reid, Doug Hapi, Arthur Rogerson, Brenton Mills, 1; Staff Smith, Frank Greene, May Chittick, 2. OTB Stag Trophy: Alistair McLachlan, Ray Mills, Marlene Osmond, 1; Jocelyn Wallace, Jeff Russell, Brenton Mills, 2. Club optional pairs: Perry Meinung, Eddie Knox, 1; Phil Morgan, Jack Sowerby, 2. HWMC open optional triples, Sept 28: Neil Congdon, Colleen Congdon, Hugh Doak, 1; Gary Edgar, Gary Meyrick, Paul Bradding, 2. HWMC open optional triples, October 10: Syd Millar, Dennis Crean, Arthur Rogerson, 1; Jim Hill, Kerry Mangan, Jean Hill, 2; Fred Birch, Ted Norris, Russell Johnson, 3. Veteran singles mixed: Mick Hewitt, 1; John Anstis, 2. OTB, Oct 25: Colin MacKenzie, Elizabeth Watson, 1; Wally Blair, Grant Dempsey, 2. Pre-Melbourne Cup day triples: Mick Hewitt, Fay Fletcher, Fred Subritzky, 1; Jack Sowerby, Eunice Hunt, Dianne Clemett, 2. OTB - Sunday, Dec 21: Colin MacKenzie, Jack Sowerby, Mary Mills, 1; Syd Millar, William Bennett, Shirley Dempsey, 2. Men's pairs - Boxing Day: Mick Hewitt, Bede McLachlan, 1; L Ashby (Kihikihi) 2; Neville Herbert, William Bennett, 3; Max Wright, Barry Humphries, 4.

Pairs – New Year's Day: Sue Broadbent, Elizabeth Woodill, 1; Robin Sowerby, Glenda Norris-Palmer, 2; Dave & Sylvia Hall, 3. Veteran drawn pairs: Hugh Doak, Toni Hislop, 1; Brian Fletcher, Ray Mills, 2. Open optional fours – Jan 18: Max Wright, Bruce McLachlan, Barry Humphries, Jimmy Dick, 1; Ray Finlay (Hillcrest), 2; Andy Anderson (Ngaruawahia),

OTB President's and Patron's Day, Feb 1: Fred Clayton, Eddie Knox, Jan George, Wendy Sissons, 1; David Baird, Val Meredith, Barry Humphries, Mary Mills, 2; Hugh Doak, Ray Mills, Pam Fleming, 3; Colin MacKenzie, Mike McLuskie, Joyce Wairere, John Mills, 4; Brian Fletcher, Gabriel Henry, Ron Carmichael, Joyce Blair, 5. Women's drawn pairs, Feb 8: Colleen Congdon, Dawn Rose, 1; Eunice Hunt, Dawn Reid, 2. HWMC open optional pairs, Feb 22: Dennis Crean, Stan Alker, 1; Dave Hall, Sylvia Hall, 2; Frank Hancock, Noelene Hancock, 3. HWMC optional triples, March 19: N Cottrell (Te Awamutu) 1; Jim Hill (Hillcrest) 2; Dave Hall, 3; R Carll (Beerescourt), 4. Three-day tournament, March 26-27-28: Dennis Crean, Tony Fletcher, Fred Clayton, Hec McDonald, 1; Neville Herbert's four, 2; Peter Stephens and J Thomas, equal 3. Plate: Greg Morris, 1; Phil Morgan, 2; Ray Finlay and Mick Hewitt, equal 3. Consolation: Jeff Foy, 1; Perry Meinung, 2; Barry Humphries and Fay Fletcher, equal 3.

Arthur Rogerson Memorial: David Baird, Mike McLuskie, Ken Steggalls, Keith Wallce, 1; Ray Heappey, Jack Sowerby, Flos Morell, Jean Cutfield, 2; Jeff Foy, Frank Greene, Bill Bishop, Jimmy Dick; and Neville Herbert, Errol Robinson, Jocelyn Lutz, Marlene Conn, equal three. Booby prize: Ed Knox, Jim Reid, Paul Moke, Fred Potae. Lucky draws: Hec McDonald, Greg Russell, Paul Bradding, Gary Rule; and Barry Cuff, Sylvia Hall, Jim Flood, Eddie Chappell; Alistair McLachlan, Gary Cooper, Barry Humphries, Jack Mitchell; Dave Hall, Pam Fleming, George Grindlay, John Anstis.

Easter tournaments – Good Friday: Gary Braithwaite, John Dicks. Easter Saturday: Syd Millar, Chrissy Colgan, Mike Cagney. Easter Sunday: Gary Braithwaite, Trevor Harris. Easter Monday: Gwen Dwayne, June Thomas, Clive Thomas.

Grandma pairs: Joyce Ward, Mary Mills. Keith Phillips drawn pairs: Mike McLuskie, Eddie Chappell, 1; Perry Meinung, Mary Mills, 2.

Closing day OTB triples: Brian Cathro, Frank Greene, Gary Meyrick, 1; Neville Herbert, John Mills, John Rose, 2; Murray Long, Jim Brady, Mary Mills, 3.

Hamilton combined clubs competition selections – Men top 10: Dave Wallace, Dave Hall, Brian Osmond, Stan Alker, Murray Long, Colin MacKenzie, Mick Hewitt, Peter Stephens, Fred Subritzky, Robin Sowerby. Manager: Brian Johns. Women top five: Noelene Hancock, Lyn Hewitt, Sylvia Hall, Rose Harris, Jocelyn Wallace. Manager: Edna Herbert. Pennant teams, A section – Junction Gold A: Noelene Hancock, Lyn Hewitt, Toni Hislop, Dawn Reid. Blue A: Peter Stephens, Val Meredith, Jean Hill, John Reid. Maroon A: Mick Hewitt, Dave Hall, Fred Subritzky, Marlene Conn. White A: Staff Smith, Mike McLuskie, Dianne Clemett, Raewyn Falconer. B section – Gold B: Fay Fletcher. Eunice Hunt, Phyl Smith, Mona Keavell. Blue B: Eddie Knox, George Mather, Wally Blair, Dawn Rose. Maroon B: Hugh Doak, John Mills, Roy Carmichael, Brian Smith. Reserves: Joyce Ward, Edna Herbert, Neville Herbert.

Women's teams to national championships at New Plymouth – Joyce Ward, Marlene Conn, Audrey Connolly, Eunice Hunt; Jocelyn Wallace, Rose Harris, Colleen Congdon, Shirley Dempsey; Noelene Hancock, Mona Kearvell, Dianne Clemett, Toni Hislop.

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REMEMBER 50 YEARS AGO 1954 ?

By 1954 Hamilton had emerged from the shadow of Auckland and had become a strong business and sporting community in its own right.

The turning point for Hamilton and the Waikato, according to many our senior members, came when Waikato won the Ranfurly Shield off North Auckland in 1951. That really boosted the overall spirit and confidence of the district. The new belief that the area had the business and sporting talent across the board to match those north of the Bombay Hills quickly spread. Hamilton started to market itself to all and sundry and the response was encouraging.

A warning that Hamilton firms needed to purchase new electronic office equipment to keep pace with progress was heeded with new typewriters, photocopiers, cash registers and new styled telephones purchased in big numbers.

Those fortunate enough to have access to overseas funds, usually between 350 and 500 pounds, were able to purchase new vehicles without too much trouble.

Others were those fortunate enough to have access to overseas funds, usually between 350 and 500 pounds, were able to purchase new vehicles without too much trouble. Others were forced to go on a seemingly ever-growing waiting list.

The national news media, fascinated by the spirit generated by emergence of

Mooloo and the fabulous parades attended by thousands of happy fans of all ages, began to investigate what made the district tick. The resultant publicity attracted newcomers into the area and suddenly the city council, under the guidance of new mayor, Rob Braithwaite, David's father, came under pressure to provide more facilities to cater for the population increase.

Councillors around at that stage included H E Annett, J R Baird, H E Calcott, D Cunningham, A J Denz, H H Fow, A R Griffiths, D E Menzies, H A Milne, N Pomeroy, A Robinson, E G Scrimshaw, A L Tompkins, B E Woodhams and F M Yendell. Messrs Calcott, Yendell, Fow, N Pomeroy and Griffiths were to the forefront of the Mooloo club.

Hamilton's population raced past 30,000; new schools, such as Maeroa Intermediate and Woodstock Primary, opened; the city boundaries, especially in the Hillcrest and Melville districts, had to be extended; the total value of permits issued by the city council went from $375,000 to $938,000. It was proudly announced that more than 300 state houses had been built in and around Hamilton in the previous 12 months and that a new power board depot would be situated in Claudelands. While much of the council's decisions continued to centre around

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EX-JOCKEYS RIDING HIGH IN OUR CLUB continued...

VERN SIMPSON was rated New Zealand's number one jumping rider in the 1950s and 1960s. Associated with the powerful Ivan and Roy Robinson Matangi stable, his impressive CV shows he has won every major jumping race in the country. He was regarded as an Ellerslie specialist. Vern, who keeps in great condition and enjoys returning to his fields of former triumphs, is one of the club's bus drivers so if you are a racing fan, make yourself known as he takes you around town.

MARK PHILLIPS was yet another graduate from the central districts into the riding ranks and he saluted the judge for riding winners at Ellerslie as well as other North Island tracks. Now domiciled north of Te Rapa where he prepares a small, but select team of horses. He is best remembered for bringing the top galloper Ali Boy to the stage of a preparation where he was a contender, although unplaced, for two Melbourne Cups. He had qualified impressively for the mighty race with some eye-catching winning performances across the Tasman. Although he only prepares a small team, Mark is highly regarded with a great strike rate of winners to starters.

DANNY KEENAN is the man for the 'dinkum oil'. He came via Takanini to Te Rapa where he became prominent for the Ray Cotter stable. Danny hit the headlines when he rode Somain to a major upset win in the Queen Elizabeth wfa at Paeroa prior to the Christmas. Danny, who has been involved in the service station industry in the St Andrews area, has been a close friend of Freddie Blackburn, who was another Workingmen's Club regular before he found his own 'oil' in Taranaki.

JOHN MOLLOY was widely known by punters as 'Long Shot Molloy' because of his ability to get the big-priced outsiders past the post first. One of Jim Gibbs' early apprentices. John just inches out Murray Long in the height stakes. Remember to be aware of the unexpected quinella happening if the Malloy-Long combination gets together again.

TREVOR HUNTER is the veteran of this classic jockey line-up. In the immediate post-World War Two era, he was recognised as an apprentice with huge potential as he posted winners throughout the North Island where racing was on a much smaller scale than today. Like Vern Simpson, he completely belies his weight-for-age appearance.

HARRY PEARCE served his apprenticeship in the Manawatu area where he had close association with Awapuni trainers. Hurdle riding was his forte and he became well-known to Waikato racing fans when he trained and rode a horse called Brush which tried to live up to its name and get in 'real' close to the Te Rapa fences. Unfortunately Brush soon found the wooden obstacles would not bend in his favour very often. Harry was another who became a better than average bowler and for many years was coach at the Frankton Junction Bowling Club.

HEC McDONALD was an apprentice in Hawke's Bay and had first race day ride at the tender age of 14. He really enjoyed his early riding days, but after three years increased weight saw him revert to another of his loves, farming. Hec has been highly successful at other sports, especially outdoor bowling where he has several tournament victories.

If the proposed ex-riders' race had gone ahead, GARY RULE would possibly have been rated the 'smokey' in the field. He enjoys having a 'Swell Time' which just happens to be the name of his favourite racehorse which won the Caulfield Cup as well as other prominent events. 'Golly' was apprenticed to Te Rapa trainer Bill Winder and was involved with many other top gallopers from that stable. As well as undertaking a promising career with the Waikato Times, he continued to ride trackwork at Te Rapa well into the 1990s. He is also a keen bowler who trains 51 weeks of the year so he is at his peak for his annual outing at the national chartered clubs bowls.

WARREN PEARCE served his time in the central districts with one real long shot winner at Otaki being the highlight of his early career. When he moved to the Waikato he joined the stable of the late Clarrie Davis, father-in-law of former Matamata trainer, Dave O'Sullivan. However, increasing weight decided his future. Away from racing he soon became prominent in indoor bowls and now organises the club's thriving card section.

BRUCE ROGERSON is now well-known for his plumbing expertise and his cigar smoking ability. However, it was as a former flat and hurdle amateur jockey that he first made his mark as he rode extensively throughout the North Island in selected events. When weight caught up with him, he dedicated himself to 'golden oldies footy' where he made an impact as a hooker. Bruce would have been favoured in any proposed race on breeding alone as his late father, 'Pop' and younger brother, Graeme, have kept the family name to the fore in racing for decades.

JIM BOOTH was apprenticed to the late Jack McDonald at Te Awamutu in the same era as the famous Riordan brothers, Des, Noel and John. Like his counterparts he could immediately recall a long shot winner at Te Aroha early in his career. He became closely associated with the McDonald stable star, the mighty Mainbrace, who was only beaten twice in his career. The glamour galloper of the 1950s, Mainbrace had an amazing run of 17 wins on end. Jim is now well-known as a taxi driver and for his feats in the club's snooker sub-section.

WAYNE FOOTE, probably the youngest in our classic field, was the latest to retire. Another graduate from Bill Winder's Te Rapa team of horses and apprentices, he moved to Te Awamutu where he emerged as a prominent hurdle jockey good enough to be involved at Great Northern Steeples level and to ride over fences in Melbourne. He enjoyed several successes, but, like so many others, increasing weight counted against him. He has now moved back to Hamilton.

BRIAN and JOHN WEBB were born at Guersey, Chanel Isles. When the twins were 16 they came to New Zealand with their parents where they soon commenced their apprenticeships with Otaki trainer B A V (Mick) Preston. Later, Brian became indentured to Southland trainer Ray Pankhurst at Invercargill, while John linked up with Awapuni trainer-rider Maurice Campbell, highly respected as the regular rider of the 1970's galloping star Balmarino. Aligned with their successes in the saddle, Brian enjoyed 20 years as a soccer coach and has been a relieving school teacher at Fairfield Intermediate and Te Awamutu College, while John has found his niche, in later life, with the major Waikato firm NDA at Te Rapa.

+ Note: Former members who were jockeys who have transferred away from the club include John Potter, who won four Great Northerns, two hurdles, two steeples; and two other outstanding jumping exponents and characters, Keith Lawrence and Fred Blackburn. If you can remember any others please let Colin Sarjeant know.

COUPLE OF CHAMPIONS

Frankton Junction bowlers had another highly successful season with increased membership and a further rise in the overall standard. The Wallace husband and wife combination, David and Jocelyn, struck a noteworthy double with their championship singles victories. Veteran Syd Millar added more club titles to his record list.

The value of increased competition saw several other women bowlers come to the fore. Chrissy Colgan was runner-up in under five years Waikato champion of champions and was selected, along with Dawn Reid and Dawn Rose, in Waikato women's under five representative team. Another consistent performer was Sylvia Hall who was named in the Waikato academy squad.

Greenkeeper Kevin Boothby again produced outstanding surfaces and the Waikato centre held several of their events at the venue.

The deaths of life member Rex Clemett and stalwart Arthur Rogerson were major losses for the club.

Results championship events –

Men's singles: Dave Wallace, 1; David Baird, 2. Men's pairs: Brian Cathro, Albie Cathro, 1; Max Llewellyn, Gabriel Henry, 2. Men's triples: Syd Millar, Colin MacKenzie, Gary Edgar, 1; Brian Cathro, Albie Cathro, Cliff Frangos, 2. Men's fours: Neville Herbert, Frank Hancock, Eddie Knox, William Bennett, 1; Jimmy Reid, Albie Cathro, Brian Cathro, Frank Greenslade, 2.

Women's singles: Jocelyn Wallace, 1. Women's pairs: Jocelyn Wallace, Chrissy Colgan, 1; Noelene Hancock, Marlene Osmond, 2. Women's triples: Jocelyn Wallace, Tony Hislop, Chrisy Colgan, 1; Fay Fletcher, Eunice Hunt, Mona Kearvell, 2. Women's fours: Jocelyn Wallace, Toni Hislop, Mona Kearvell, Chrissy Colgan, 1; Joyce Ward, Jean Hill, Marlene Conn, Shirley Dempsey, 2.

Mixed pairs championship: Max Llewelyn, Val Meredith, 1; Jocelyn Wallace, Dave Wallace, 2. Mixed triples championship: Jim Brady, Gary Edgar, Jan George, 1; Dave Hall, Sylvia Hall, Marlene Conn, 2. Mixed fours: Perry Meinung, Alistair McLachlan, Toni Hislop, Pam Fleming, 1; Neville Herbert, Colin MacKenzie, Murray Long, Floss Morell, 2.

Women's junior singles: Chrissy Colgan, 1; Dawn Rose, 2. Women's junior pairs: Chrissy Colgan, Dawn Reid, 1; Dawn Rose, Joyce Wairere, 2.

Men's junior singles: Paul Bradding, 1; John Rose, 2. Men's junior pairs: Winston Hooper, Mike Cagney, 1; Grant Dempsey, Rhett Dunn, 2.

First year singles: John Rose, 1; Grant Dempsey, 2.

Men's handicap pairs: Tony Fletcher, Greg Russell, 1; Cliff Frangos, Mike Cagney, 2.

EX-JOCKEYS RIDING HIGH IN OUR CLUB

A number of retired jockeys have become members of our club. Because of their regular presence, some members suggested they show their skills of the past in a special race around the block. The suggestion was weighed up by the club's stipendiary stewards who rightly determined there would be too much interference, dodgy tactics, swearing and other unsavoury acts. They considered the race 'fixing' would not make good reading in the national news media while the court cases would ruin some careers. However, to satisfy the needs of the punters, the year book editors had a quick chat to the former riders and hope the results will pay dividends with the memories of our readers.

The first interviewed was the popular and very possibly loudest talker in our field, MURRAY LONG, who won the Wellington Cup in 1967 on Michael Molloy. He reckoned his current form was excellent, but his lips were sealed on his future prospects. Friends consider 'Muzza' as a solid trackworker who bowls up to the bar at every opportunity. They said if he played his cards right he could again get his name on the winners' board. Seriously though, there are many who consider Murray, the rider of the most $100 plus winners in the country, would still be able to hold his own with the best around today. If you have a spare hour or two, ask him what he thinks.

NOEL CROMBIE will always be remembered for winning the 1948 Auckland Cup on South Island galloper Frances. However, for those, including his anxious mother, listening on her radio to a youthful race caller Syd Tonks, Frances never featured because the new announcer had , right through the two mile event, mistaken the stablemate The Grate as the horse handy to the pace. It wasn't until a few minutes after the race that Syd Tonks apologised to the thousands of listeners for his error and there was one very proud and relieved 'Mum' in Riverton who had wondered why her son's mount had not raced as prominently as she should have. Noel had two other outstanding achievements. The first came on his debut race day at Beaumont in 1943 when he won on his very first race ride. He ended his exciting day by posting two further winners plus a second and a third from his only five mounts, a feat that possibly has never been repeated. Another memorable event for Noel came when he was associated with the champion Whakatane owned galloper Rising Fast. Noel had the first six rides on the stayer and then was on board when the feats of the star, which included Melbourne and Caulfield Cup successes, were recognised in a massive parade down the Bay of Plenty town's main street. Noel, like Murray, has been a highly successful outdoor bowler and features prominently on the honours board at Frankton Junction.

BARRY LONG has had to put up with being related to 'Muzza' since a very early age. He was a promising young jockey on the flat and over fences before he turned his hand to training at Te Rapa. Barry always has an interested audience when he starts to relate his wide repertoire of enjoyable racing stories. In spite of injury, he obviously has spent far too much time on the links at Ngaruawahia as his handicap remains in the single figure category. He also shows a dab hand on the snooker table.

RAY FINLAY, now of outdoor bowls and race starting fame, was a top apprentice jockey who went on to become a successful flat and hurdles rider. Last February Ray played at two in the winning Hamilton Workingmen's Club outdoor bowls four at the national chartered clubs' tournament in Wanganui. His skills as a taxi driver indicates he has more than a 'fare' show in succeeding at any sporting activity.

NEIL TREWEEK was a highly respected rider who had successes in major jumping races, such as the Grand National, Great Northerns and Wellington Hurdles. He was a co-owner of the 2003 Grand National winner Cool Water. He has been course manager at Te Rapa for many years. His presentation of the course for the million dollar carnival is recognised throughout the racing world as he now knows the track like the back of his hand

GORDON COLVEN emigrated to New Zealand from England after serving his time in 1950s and soon became established as an outstanding lightweight rider in the Waikato and Auckland districts. He was associated with many fine gallopers and was recognised as a rider of long priced winners carrying the minimum weight. He has been enjoying retirement on his life style block at Te Kowhai.

GREG CHITTY's surprise win on the Ivan Robinson-trained Bardall in the prestigious Foxbridge Plate in the early 1970s is still well remembered by the successful jockey and patrons who were at Te Rapa that day. Two Avondale Cup wins were other major highlights of his career. Greg, who has been course manager at Waipa for more than 20 years since he retired from race riding, has also built up a splendid reputation as a fisherman 'over the bar' at Kawhia. With his wife Pam (nee Carson), Greg is a regular Tuesday night diner at the club.

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Members keen to join the successful Dart & Social Section should contact Don 856-7649 or Stu 846-3409 or enquire at front office reception

HWMC Cricket Club

SEASON FROM OCTOBER TO MARCH

- Weekly matches in Hamilton - Wednesday night competition 5.30pm start
- Annual tournament with Waikato and Bay of Plenty Chartered Clubs
- Social matches - home and away

New Members Welcome

Contact Terry Ryan, Craig Morrison or Peter Ward or enquire at front office reception

HWMC Golf Club

- Opening Day (February)
- Monthly tournaments (including qualifying for National N.I. Chartered Club Championships)
- Christmas tournament
- Social trips
- North Island Chartered Clubs Championship (Qualified players and supporters)

New Members Welcome

Please contact Peter Lee Ph 07 855 8774

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HWMC Indoor Bowls

- Club night every Wednesday open to all HWMC members - $2 entry - names to committee by 6.50pm
- Championships on some Mondays & Tuesdays (winners represent HWMC in Waikato champion of champions.
- Tuition for beginners
- There is also the opportunity to participate in chartered clubs' bowls tournaments.

If you enjoy meeting people in a friendly atmosphere - then please contact MALCOLM CHANDLER 847 9481 GARTH McCORMICK 849 8889

HWMC Card Section

Enjoy playing cards?

- Each Thursday - Euchre 10am - noon
- Progressive 500 1pm - 3.30pm
- Other table games
- Names please 10 minutes prior to starting time

All Members Welcome

Please contact Warren Pearce or Georgina Morris or enquire at front office reception

HWMC Outdoor Bowls

It will be the best ten bucks you will ever spend when you join the...

Outdoor Bowls Section

Contacts - B McLachlan (president) B Johns (treasurer)

OR AT THE MAIN OFFICE AT THE CLUB

HWMC Fishing Club

- Subsidised chartered fishing trips (Whangamata, Coromandel, Raglan etc)
- Annual own-boat fishing tournament
- Special events

Meetings... 1st Tuesday of Month

New Members Welcome

CHECK THE MAIN NOTICEBOARD FOR NAMES OF CONTACTS

Frankton Junction Bowling Club

New Members Welcome

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HWMC Seniors Section (60 and over)

Don't wait to be asked... join in! You will certainly enjoy the company

- Excellent bus trips to many destinations
- Visits to other chartered clubs
- Weekly indoor bowls on Wednesday afternoons during the season
- Special annual functions - dinners etc

Please contact Dawn King or enquire at front office reception

HWMC Snooker Section

- In-house tournaments each Wednesday evening
- Regular home and away tournaments
- Club championship tournaments as advertised

New Members Welcome

Please contact Ron Boyles, Bryan Gordon, Bruce Harper or ask at front office

HWMC Gun Club

- All disciplines: Sporting - DTL - Skeet - Trench
- Regular NZCC competitions
- Regular club shoots throughout New Zealand
- Practice night Thursday during daylight saving at Waikato Gun Club

New Members Always Welcome
(from novice to experienced)

Please contact Richard Shrubsall Ph 07 847 6476 or enquire at front office reception

PETER THE MAJOR AWARD WINNER

Peter Ward won the John Franklin Memorial Cup for catching the most meritorious fish in the fishing section's annual competition in April. Peter's award winning John Dory weighed in at 2.540kg.

On the Saturday of the competition weekend Peter also took the prize for the 'average weight snapper' with a catch of 0.920kg.

The Sunday competition results were – **Roger Gill Marine Cup, overall snapper:** Gary O'Keefe 3.140kg, 1; G Campion 2.860kg, 2; Merv Peden 2.480kg, 3. **Overall kahawai:** Dave Hunter, 2.260kg, 1; Mark Jackways, 0.620kg, 2; Andrew Smith, 0.260kg, 3. **Overall trevelly:** Ken Clear, 3.360kg, 1; Peter Ward, 3.180kg, 2; Tony Challis, 1.620kg, 3.

A Touch Of Ireland

Into a Belfast pub staggers Paddy. He looks as though he's been run over by a bus. His arm is in a sling, his nose is broken, his face is cut and bruised and he's walking with a limp.

"What's happened to you?" asks Sean, the bartender. "Jamie O'Connor and me had a fight," says Paddy.

"What did he hit you with to do all that damage?" asks Sean. "A shovel was what he had," says Paddy.

"Well,; says Sean, "you should have defended yourself. Didn't you have something in your hand?"

"That I did," said Paddy. "Mary O'Connor's breast, and a thing of real beauty it was, but useless in a fight!"

****

Mary Clancy goes up to Father O'Grady after Sunday Mass and she's in tears.

He says: "So what's bothering you, Mary my dear?"

She says: "Oh, Father, I've got terrible news. My husband passed away last night."

The Priest says: "Oh, Mary, that's terrible. Tell me, Mary, did he have any last requests?"

She says: "That he did, Father."

The Priest asks: "What did he ask, Mary?"

She says: "He said 'please Mary, put down that damn gun...!"

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LET'S REMEMBER, BUSES THERE TO BE USED NOT ABUSED

Want a good laugh? Then ask one of the club's bus drivers about some of the antics of their passengers.

Some of the stories will make your hair curl, but cannot be printed as under the strict rules of the Privacy Act, so most of what happens on the bus, stays on the bus!

Want to be serious? Then consider the great service the buses provide for our members, their guests and affiliated visitors.

Okay, okay we know from time to time you may have to wait a few extra minutes or get a sightseeing tour of the city, but that's the luck of the draw. Just consider the alternatives if you decide to take the risk on the way home, get pulled up by the law and asked to breathe into the dreaded bag if you have had a couple more than allowed.

Hefty fines (some talk about $2500!), loss of employment, unwanted publicity, or even a spell behind bars loom as probabilities. Then there are the chances of an accident to consider. Imagine how you would feel if someone is injured or.....

It's not even worth thinking about!

Unfortunately it's common knowledge some 'thirsty' members regularly bypass the service offered and test the law of averages. Some even gloat about it to their mates the next day!

The balance sheet proves it's a costly business providing the bus service, but the club chiefs rightly consider it well worthwhile and simply ask it is properly used, not abused.

The bus drivers themselves are there to do members, their guests and affiliated visitors a favour. All they ask for is patience and tolerance.

Overall the drivers praised the response and behaviour of members and said they enjoyed the friendly banter between themselves and their passengers. They said if a problem arose it was regularly caused by guests or visitors who have overstayed their welcome and don't understand the rules of the club or the regulations in regard to the buses.

Therefore it is pertinent to remind members who 'sign in' guests and /or affiliated visitors in good faith that they are responsible for them while they are on club premises. The rules are clear. When you leave, they must leave. Don't put yourself in a position where circumstances get out of control and you cop the blame.

By the way, members who do seek a ride home are asked to make their way to the foyer so when the bus arrives at the front door they are ready to board. It also would be very helpful if would-be passengers had the right change. Please remember the first priority of the drivers is to get members to their home

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LET'S REMEMBER, BUSES THERE TO BE USED NOT ABUSED continued...

addresses, not to take others to various inner city entertainment outlets.

A few bus bits we can release.- A: Some passengers have a habit of falling off seats. B: Some passengers go to sleep, miss their designated drop-off point and are taken back to the club because no-one can wake them up. One person, who was supposed to get off with a group of visitors, snuggled up out of sight on the back seat and went around the city a couple of times before being awoken. C: Some passengers remember their suburb, but then have no idea of their street name or number or how to get there. It just makes you wonder!

The bus hours -

Monday: 1pm to 8.15pm. Tuesday: 1pm to 10.15pm. Wednesday: 11am to 10.15pm.

Thursday: 1pm to 10.45pm. Friday: 1pm to 12.15pm. Saturday: 11am to 12.15pm

Sunday: 12pm to 8.15pm. There is a $3 charge per person to and from the club Tuesday to Saturday. No charge Sunday and Monday.

It is strongly recommended you use the service and don't abuse it!

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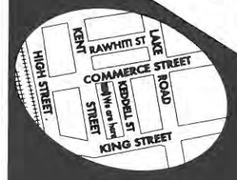

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HAMILTON FOUR BOWL 'EM OVER'

It was a bowling moment to treasure.

Let's set the scene. The Hamilton Workingmen's team was down on the first extra end of the national chartered clubs' fours tournament final in Wanganui.

The good-sized Friday afternoon Laird Park attendance, especially those with Hamilton connections, was tense. The final had been a close affair under sunny February conditions. Hamilton had held the lead, but after 21 ends it was all square, 17-all.

The slick green and cross wind had troubled all eight bowlers, but now only one bowl was left.

Hands were clenched and unclenched as Hamilton's debonair skip, David Wallace, walked purposely from the head back down the green and stepped up to the mat. Hamilton number three, David Selby, who had discussed various last play shots with his skip, tugged nervously at his jersey. Hamilton number two, Ray Finlay, and team lead, Jim Hill, also tried unsuccessfully to disguise their anxiety.

It was also difficult for the Hamilton supporters to contain their emotions. They had delayed their four hour trip home to watch the semis and final. The four on the green had appreciated that tremendous team spirit and support. Would they be rewarded?

All eyes were on Wallace.

He had chosen to draw on the forehand rather than blast apart the tight group his rival skip, Brian Hubert, from Tauranga Citizens, and his team had built around the jack. Hubert had played what appeared to be the perfect block. Wallace had overshot the mark once.

"He had put in a very good block. I decided to just ignore that bowl and go for it," Wallace said.

And go for it he did.

There was not a sound as the bowl veered toward the head. Wallace stopped in his tracks and waited for the bias to fully 'kick in'. Messrs Selby, Finlay and Hill knew it was going to be close. Their obvious excitement inspired others to stand up to get a better view. Wallace did a jig as he realised his shot was close and then leapt in the air, arms raised in triumph, as it came to rest just where he wanted. Victory had been achieved, 18-17.

The relief of the victorious four was understandable. They rightly responded to the cheers and applause of the happy Hamilton contingent. They modestly accepted the congratulations of their extremely gracious Tauranga opponents. They proudly posed for photographs taken by a very energetic Jimmy Dick and then headed for the presentation area.

Wanganui Chronicle Sports Editor, David Ogilvie, highly praised Wallace's final bowl as it seemed Hamilton 'had nowhere to go after the team's earlier bowls went well wide of the mark and the end could not be killed.'

The winning skip explained to Ogilvie– "I absolutely took the block bowl out of my mind and said to myself– 'if I hit it, I hit it'. It just ducked under it so I was a lucky man."

Ogilvie wrote Wallace's victory bowl was deserved because his team played the whole game rather more consistently than the Tauranga outfit. "And Wallace,a former Waikato representative, played as well as most. His team included former hurdles jockey Ray Finlay at number two and David Selby, who was Wanganui's rugby halfback between 1970-73, at number three. But probably their steadiest was lead Jim Hill."

Hamilton sent 11 teams, the most of any club, to the tournament. Teams were (skips first) – D Baird, M Long, G Rule, S Alker; R Heappey, G Cooper, E Robinson, G Meyrick; M Wright, B Humphries, B McLachlan, J Dick; P Meinung, P Morgan, M Llewelyn, D Winitana; D Wallace, D Selby, R Finlay, J Hill; M Hewitt, D Hall, B Osmond, M McLuskie; N Herbert, F Hancock, F Greene, K Wallace; P Stephens, W Blair, W Hooper, M Cagney; J Leathart, F Claydon, H MacDonald, B Johns; D Millar, C MacKenzie, B Mills; N Congdon, D Hapi, K Steggalls, R Mills.

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The card section continues to blossom.

In a 'most enjoyable' year the section has hosted tournaments with players arriving from near and far. While entries for the Thursday morning and afternoon sessions are slightly up on last year, there is still room for more. Intending members should check at the front office for card executive contact names. Members are reminded to have their names in for tournaments at least 10 minutes prior to starting times.

The section ran its first open euchre tournament with 120 entries from throughout the central North Island and decided it will become an annual event. The trophy for the winner was kindly donated by the club's executive.

In February the section ran the first ever open '500' tournament with 80 entries which included visitors from New Plymouth, Auckland, Tauranga and Rotorua clubs. After there had been a couple of initial hic-cups with the rules, 10 clubs were represented at a most successful meeting held during lunch. The meeting formulated a set of 'tournament rules' which will adopted by all clubs.

The section had mixed results in open tournaments but worthy of mention are – Dawn Boyles, winner of the Hamilton Combined Services euchre; and Doug Hapi, runner up in the Tauranga '500'.

Club members Jack Bell won the Hamilton Workingmen's Club '500' tournament with another club member Jack Musto third.

Sub-section members also finished in minor placings in euchre tournament, a fine effort considering some of these events attracted 140 entries.

A talented member of the card section penned the following to sum up their season -

Our card section held their first Euchre tournament
Invitations to almost 20 clubs were sent
June the eight, was the tournament date
Not many entries at first, even three arrived late
Workers were at the Club, early in the morn
Warren, Doug, Georgina, Betty, Wally. Joyce, Beryl and Dawn
Tresseles and chairs, had to be set up just right
Not enough tresseles and a few baize cloths light
From North came Pukekohe, Papakura, Waiuku and Weymouth
With Tokoroa, as well as Taupo from the South
Tauranga and Ngaruawahia, along with three local teams
Rotorua arrived late, they lost their way it seems
Richard opened the tournament with a welcoming address
The tournament started with 114 players, unfortunately two less
Betty set up teas for morning, afternoon as well
Joyce Ward and Beryl had raffles to sell
Wally, Maureen. Betty, Joyce Ward marked losers, dabbed with a spot
Joyce Blair. Dawn, Ernie, Doug punched winning tickets,
Doug's timing right on the dot
Warren and Georgina had the job, with the rest of the crew
Adding up totals when each round was through
Brian Simpson presented prizes to those that had won
Open tournament successful, went smoothly, a job well done.

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Mistaken Relaxation

A drunk staggers into a church, enters a confessional booth, sits down, but says nothing.

The Minister coughs a few times to get his attention, but the drunk just sits there.

Finally, the Minister knocks three times on the wall.

The drunks mumbles: "Ain't no use knockin, mate, there's no paper on this side either!"

FORMER HAMILTONIAN ENJOYING TAB CHALLENGE, ENVIRONMENT

James Cunneen is enjoying the challenge of running the Frankton TAB, one of the busiest in New Zealand.

"It's great being back in Hamilton." Because of the TAB's close proximity, many of our club members have daily business dealings with James and his team. "I welcome any comments and suggestions from members re the TAB. I'll always listen," he said. "I love being a member of and being involved with such an active and alive club. I enjoy sharing a passion for sport and racing with so many others. The club staff have been very supportive and that proved a big help during my settling in period." James took over 'our' TAB on November 10 last year. So members would get to know him better, he agreed to answer a series of questions -

A: What is your TAB experience? First agency of my own was Matamata. I had the Birkenhead TAB on Auckland's North Shore before moving here to Frankton. I became involved in the TAB scene through my best friends, the Milich family (they trained gallopers at Avondale) who had a West Auckland TAB. I helped out as an 'extra' to chip away at my mortgage.

B: Where did you spend your early years? I grew up in Hamilton. My Dad was with the Justice Department. I attended the old Marist Intermediate School in Hamilton East and did all my secondary education at St John's College in Hillcrest. After a year at Auckland University, I completed a degree in Melbourne during a 10 year stint in Australia.

C: Are you involved with racing yourself? I had a share in that infamous pony 'Mass Attack' (four wins in a period of two months). It's now been sold. We have two two-year-olds coming through, a Colombia colt and a Seven Figures filly.

D: Who are your favourite racehorses past and present? The greatest horses I've seen have been Kingston Town and Sunline. My favourite horses from the past were Execute (he could jump, sprint, stay all in the same week) and Sailing Home. Favourites at present would be King's Chapel and Lonhro.

E: What are your favourite sports and leisure time activities?: I love rugby league as a spectator sport and I have a passion for rugby. I follow the Chiefs in Super 12 and North Harbour (sorry Waikato!) in the NPC. In my leisure time I like getting to the races and catching up with the Matamata crowd.

F: Who are your favourite sportspersons – past and present? John Walker (athletics) and Joyce Edgar-Jones (racing trainer of Sailing Home) from the past and former champion jockey now racing presenter Lance O'Sullivan and All Black number seven Richie McCaw.

G: How about your other favourites? Food: Roast lamb dinner. Drinks: Bourbon and coke, Merlot. Colour: Green. TV shows: Coronation Street, Trackside. Films: Dead Poet Society, Good Morning Vietnam. Actor: Robin Williams. Actress: Julia Roberts.

OUR CRICKETERS BOWL OPPOSITION

A last over away victory against Otahuhu in the annual clash was a highlight for the Hamilton Workingmen's Club cricketers.

That success, plus participation in the inter-club matches at Tauranga, and several victories in the Wednesday night businesshouse competition, ensured the players involved again had an eventful season.

With Northern Districts not faring well in the one-day series, there was a rumour that ND selector Bruce Blair had been keen to watch our lads in action on Wednesday night. Unfortunately that story proved to be unfounded. However, had he seen them doing their stuff no doubt he would have been impressed with their overall skills and possibly one or two names would have been noted for the future.

One keen observer rated the team's batting as always aggressive, providing the ball hit the bat; the bowling fiery, as long as the ball was kept on the wicket; and the fielding unusual, with some brilliant catches been taken.

At the end of season function the much sought after annual trophies were won by Craig Morrison, who surprised everyone, including himself, by collecting two; Nick Astrella; Bryan Irving; and Andy Clear.

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DARTS PLAYERS CONTINUE RUN OF SUCCESSES

The darts sub-section members continued their high success rate in their busy tournament schedule.

Once again Waikato and Hamilton titles were won while John Dodunski made the last eight at the Clubs NZ national championship.

Dodunski, Brian McLuskie and Des Tyler were prominent in most events while Don Evans and Stu Campbell again led the tournament organising committees with skill.

Don (856-7649) and /or Stu (846-3409) are the men to contact if you are keen on linking up with the sub-section. They said there were darts for serious and social players and suggested the Friday night drawn pairs competition was a good way to start. Names need to be in by 7pm. Entry fee $3.

• Upcoming fixtures .- **Rotorua Citizens Club** - Sunday, 23 May. **Thames Valley - Bay of Plenty - Waikato Area Mixed Threes** – Saturday, 29 May. **Ohaupo** - Saturday, 12 June. **Ngaruawahia** - Saturday, 3 July. **Clubs NZ Nationals** - 7 /10 July. **Whakatane** - Saturday, 7 August. **Ohaupo** - Saturday, 28 August. **Dinsdale** - Saturday, 11 September. **Thames Valley - Bay of Plenty - Waikato Area Open Mixed Pairs** - Saturday, 18 September. **Tauranga Citizens** - Sunday, 26 September. **Thames Valley - Bay of Plenty - Waikato Area Championships** – Saturday, 2 October and Sunday, 3 October. **Indoor Bowls / Darts** - Saturday, 16 October. **HWMC Pairs Championships** - Saturday, 6 November. **HWMC Singles Championships** - Saturday, 20 November. **John Lyons Memorial Trophy** - Saturday, 4 December. **Xmas Windup** - Saturday, 11 December

• Tournament results -

Hamilton Workingmen's Club - Ladies Pairs: Winners, A.Terry and F.Faunch. Runners up, V.Tyler and M.Henckel. Men's Pairs: A.Telford and R.Wynd. Runners up, B.McLuskie and J.Dodunski. Ladies Singles: Winner, S.Bridges. Runner up, V.Tyler. Men's Singles: Winner, B.McLuskie. Runner up, A.Telford. John Lyons Memorial Trophy: Winners, D.Evans and S.Daji. Most Improved Player: K.Faunch. Personality of the Year: M.Henckel.

Thames Valley - Bay of Plenty – Waikato area - Pairs: Winners, J.Dodunski and B.McLuskie. Singles: Winner, J.Dodunski.

Hamilton Darts Association - Tynan Mixed Pairs: Winners, J.Dodunski & T.Wilson (Cossie). Runners up, D.Tyler and A.Terry.

Hamilton DA club fours – first division: Runners up, HWMC 2 D.Tyler, A.Telford, J.Hughes, R.Wynd. Second division: Winners, HWMC 2 D.Evans, M.Synnott, S.Campbell, G.Harris. Runners up, HWMC 1 A.Terry, T.Jones, C.Wells, R.Kemp.

Divisional Championships – First division: Winner, J.Dodunski. Second division, A.Terry. Third division, J.Dunne. Overall winner, J.Dodunski. Pairs championships: Winners, J.Dodunski and B.McLuskie. Singles championships: Winner, J.Dodunski.

Waikato Darts Association – Mixed pairs: Runners up, J.Dodunski and T.Wilson (Cossie). Married pairs: Runners up, D and V Tyler. Waikato pairs: Winners, J.Dodunski and R.Furmage. Runners up, A.Telford and R.Wynd.

SENIORS ARE VERY ACTIVE

All members who are 60 plus are very welcome to join the Seniors' Sub-Section. At a subscription of $2.00 per year it enables our seniors to participate in all our activities.

Indoor bowls are played on Wednesday afternoons which involves a lot of hilarity and fierce competition for the booby prize.

Bus trips are organised approximately every six weeks which are very popular because of the varied and interesting destinations. Lunch is always arranged at a club in the area visited.

Mid-year and Christmas lunch tickets are eagerly sought after as everyone loves a 'sing-a-long' plus dancing to tunes of the past.

Snooker tournaments are staged twice a year.

All information, plus names of committee members, is posted on the 'Seniors' noticeboard and is updated every week.

QUALIFYING ROUNDS TESTING FOR GOLFERS

Golf section chairman Peter Lee is looking forward to another successful season. The sub-section runs a monthly Sunday tournament while members play a variety of courses during the year.

The first qualifying round for selection in the team to compete at the North Island chartered clubs' event at Mt Maunganui in November will be staged at Walton in May. Other qualifying rounds will be at Lochiel, Cambridge, Ngaruawahia and Te Awamutu.

Proposed list of events – May 23 or 30: Walton. June 13 or 20: Waitomo or Waikare. July 18 or 25: Lochiel. August 22 or 29: Cambridge. September 12 or 26: Ngaruawahia. October 10 or 17: Te Awamutu. December 12: Christmas tournament, venue to be announced.

Chairman Lee said members should regularly check the golf notice board for date and venue updates. He said newcomers to the club should make themselves known to a committee member as soon as possible if they want to be considered for the qualifying rounds. Officers elected for the year were – Chairman, Peter Lee; vice chairman, Owen Sigley; secretary, Daryl Cameron; treasurer, Owen Sigley; club captain, Phil Morgan; vice club captain, Don McKnight; handicapper, Wimpy Potts; committee, Craig Dufty, Rod Bowie, Robbie Ngaia, Derek Freeman, Peter Walker.

2003 trophy winners – Breweries Salver, best of six netts: Daryl Cameron. Rouse Cup, best 4 of 5 gross: Tony Bernard. Oliver Cup, best five of six stableford: Barry Robinson. Nett Trophy, best of 4 of 6 netts: Owen Sigley. Keith Hart Memorial, best combined nett at North Island tournament, Rob Ngaia. Turner Tray, ladies stableford, best 4 rounds: Anne Marie Clare. Fellowship Cups: Peter Walker, John King. Gib-Stein Shield, best 4 of 5 nett: Peter Lee. Santa Cup: Phil Morgan. North Island tournament team: Rob Ngaia, Barry Robinson, Malcolm Nash.

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However, in 2003 two of our indoor bowling teams did just that.

Malcolm Chandler's team successfully retained their fours title at the North Island championships and at the chartered club's ladies championship in Oamaru, Dianne Scott's triples team did the same thing. Well done to all concerned!

Another notable achievement came when the Workingmen's Club champion fours team of Joyce Blair, June Pearce, Ken Steggalls and Dorothy Coombes won the Waikato Champion of Champions. The victory gave all players their first ever Waikato title. The in-house winners were well spread around and the chartered clubs events saw our club well represented in the finals and semis of various events.

Club results .-

Championship singles: Winner, Jim Herbert; runner-up, June Pearce. **Championship pairs:** Winners, Greg Williams and Noeline Hancock; runners-up, Dianne Scott and Clare Hill. **Championship triples:** Winners, Alan Solly, Joyce Ward, Barbie Williams; runners-up, Joyce Blair, Brian Johns, Alley Terry. **Championship fours:** Winners, Alan Solly, Bronwyn McCormick, Ken Steggalls, Elizabeth Watson; runners-up, Joyce Blair, Donna Reynolds, Dorothy Coombes (three person team). **Sammy Peters fours:** Winner, June Pearce, Lynn Griffiths, John Rose, Yvonne Longman. **Club singles:** Winner, Kelly O'Neill; runner-up, Joyce Blair. **Handicap singles:** Winner, Tony Fabling; runner-up, Garth McCormick. **Bain pairs:** Winners, Dianne Scott, Donna Reynolds; runners-up, Alan Solly, Tony Fabling. **Murray Steele triples:** Winners, Jack Bell, Clare Hill, Ngaire Rowlinson. **Points trophy:** Jack Bell.

Outside events results.-

Central Area championship triples: Runners-up, Malcolm Chandler, Kelly O'Neill, Clare Hill; third equal, June Pearce, Relda Middleton, Bronwyn McCormick. **Central Area championship pairs:** Winners, June Pearce, Bronwyn McCormick; runners-up, Joyce Blair, Dorothy Coombes; third equal, Kelly O'Neill, Clare Hill. **Chartered Clubs' North Island championship fours:** Winners, Malcolm Chandler, Kelly O'Neill, Dick Zinsli, Clare Hill. **Central Area championship fours:** Runners-up, Malcolm Chandler, Kelly O'Neill, Warren Pearce, Clare Hill; third equal, Wally Blair, Bob Finlayson, Brian Johns, Elizabeth Watson and Peter Stacey, Dianne Scott, Kathy Gibson, Donna Reynolds. **Waikato Champion of Champions fours:** Winners, Joyce Blair, June Pearce, Ken Steggalls, Dorothy Coombes. **Chartered Clubs' ladies nationals triples:** Winners, Dianne Scott, Joyce Ward, Dorothy Coombes. **Hamilton Champion of Champions fours:** Winners, Alan Solly, Bronwyn McCormick, Ken Steggalls, Elizabeth Watson.

Men's team to represent HWMC at Timaru – J Bell, W Blair, M Chandler, B Finlayson, G McCormick, K O'Neill, B Ritchie, D Hapi, J Rose, K Steggalls. **Women's team to represent HWMC at Pukekohe** – J Blair, D Coombes, C Hill, Y Longman, B McCormick, R Middleton, J Pearce, D Reynolds, D Scott, J Ward.

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BUTTER BOX HELPS ELEVATE EDDIE TO WORLD CROWN

Snooker legend 74-year-old Eddie Charlton enjoyed his visit to our club.

He displayed his elegant style against several club members and then gave a demonstration of trick shots.

The 'Pot Black' star of years gone by showed a real professional approach when he reminded those who sought tips on how to play various shots that his three books were available at leading book stores.

Eddie started his career as an eight-year-old on his grandfather's billiard table. He had to stand on a butter box to play some shots. Three years later he was deemed good enough to play in exhibition matches and he resigned from his job as an engineer fitter to turn professional just after his 18th birthday.

Although he became Australian professional champion, he wanted more. In 1965 he had beaten the great Englishman, Fred Davis in Sydney. Davis told him to prove he was the best in the world he had to go to England. The world title was then by challenge only – a head-to-head clash over 73 frames – so in 1967 Charlton wrote to the world champion John Pulman to ask what money he wanted to defend his crown.

Pulman replied and Charlton immediately posted off a 200 pound cheque as requested by the world champion. Charlton's departure for England on January 21, 1968, hardly caused a ripple of publicity.

"When I went to England the game was on its knees. Only three pros were operating – Pulman, Davis and Rex Williams. It was a case of an Australian going to England after all those years the Lindrums had stopped going there.

"The game at that time was feuding with the Billiards Association and the Control Council and the world championships were not being played. The match play title was the main title."

The match was set for Bolton, Lancashire, from March 4-9, 1968. Temporary tiered seating to accommodate 800 was erected in the co-op hall. I had never played an afternoon session before and had never played in a six-day match. I didn't know how to pace myself, but knew I had to maintain my concentration."

The tall, bespectacled Englishman was supremely confident, but still had to share the first day's play – six frames all. Charleton said later - "Pulman and I became good friends away from the table, but I didn't like playing against him because he was always distracting. He would curse when he missed a shot and he would not move away from the table. By the time I moved up to play my shot he was still there and it would throw my concentration."

Pulman won 4-2 in the afternoon of the second day and held that advantage through the night session to be ahead 13-11 after 24 frames.

Charlton got square, 18-all, after the third night. Pulman's temperament showed. "At one stage he missed an easy shot and he threw the cue and the rest down the table, scattering balls for a foul."

The fourth day didn't go well for Charleton and he found himself 28-20 down. He held Pulman on the fifth day, but needed 11 of the last 13 frames to win on the final day. It proved to be too much and Pulman retained his title. They decided to play out the 73 frames and Pulman finished 39-34 ahead.

However, the match really rekindled interest in British snooker. The previous conflicts were put aside and the game boomed. Rex Williams became world open champion and visited Australia to play Charlton at the St George's League Club. Charlton took the title and the match reportedly drew a world record audience of 14,000. That started a resurgence in Australia. Soon a circuit was organised in Britain and Charleton, Ray Reardon, John Spencer and Gary Owen began to star. Then the Pot Black television show started, Ted Lowe whispered his way into lounges all around the world, and the rest became history

One of Eddie Charleton's proudest moments was being inducted into the Australian Sports Hall of Fame in 1993. Other sports he played during his youth included rugby league, boxing, tennis and soccer while his Swansea Belmont surf boat crew won an Australian title. In spite of being successful at those activities, snooker remained his first love.

A club member asked what was the best way to keep fit for snooker. "Walking, walking and more walking" was the reply.

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- He who laughs last thinks the slowest
- Beauty is in the eye of the 'beer' holder
- Forward I'm heavy, backwards I'm not - NOT
- What occurs once in every minute, twice in every moment, yet never in a thousand years? – the letter M
- It's smart to pick your friends, but not to pieces!
- Why don't we ever see the headline: "Fortune teller wins lottery!'
- Why is it that what doctors do is called a practice?
- Why is the man who invests all your money is called a broker?
- Why is the time of day with the slowest traffic called the 'rush hour'?
- Why are they called apartments when they are all stuck together?
- You know the indestructible black box they have on aeroplanes...why don't they build the plane out of the same stuff?
- Why is the word 'abbreviate' so long?
- Why do you cut a tree down and then cut it up?
- Why isn't nostalgia what it used to be?

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ALLEN'S RIGHT ON CUE TO BECOMING 'HOT POT' continued...

* 2003 – represented New Zealand in VNEA World Junior eight ball championships in America.

* 2003 – Ranked number one in New Zealand for junior eight ball and nine ball.

Allen was very humble when asked about his skill on the table. However, he had high praise for the Hamilton Workingmen's management and executive who gave him permission to practice his craft on the club tables.

It came as no surprise to discover his favourite sportspersons were Alex ('Hurricane') Higgins and now Stephen Hendry, two greats in the snooker world over recent decades.

Away from the tables, Allen enjoys watching Police 10/7 and Holla Hour on C4. Films which have impressed him have been Pool Hall Junkies and Colour of Money. He listed Adam Sandler as his favourite actor with 50 Cent his chosen singer.

Allen says he is very partial to 'Butter Chicken and Macaroni Cheese' while Vanilla Coke and orange juice go down well with him.

Those with years of experience at snooker rate Allen highly and his early record indicates his potential has obviously been recognised by those outside of the club and the Waikato.

His devotion has to be admired and all club members will follow his career closely and wish him well in his endeavours.

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ALEX HIGGINS | STEPHEN HENDRY

STEPHEN HENDRY was only 14 when he made his debut on television – in Junior Pot Black 1983. Then he was 4ft9in lad from Scotland, happy and proud to be wearing his first pair of long trousers. Before long he was 6ft, being proclaimed as the best around and the second millionaire snooker player. He started the game when his parents brought him a small table for a Christmas present and he never looked back.

His likes...having a chauffeur drive his Mercedes....investing in stocks and shares... buying property in Spain....and living in a luxury flat. Dislikes...practising six hours a day. Hendry turned pro in 1985.

At 22 years and 11 months, ALEX HIGGINS became the youngest world champion when he won the title at his first attempt in 1972. Higgins had been an apprentice jockey before he took up the cue for a living.

Controversial, self-destructive, unpredictable, sometimes aggressive but then can be extremely pleasant. He had undeniable talent and, love him or hate him, he has always been a star box office draw. His quick thinking gave him a natural flair for the game and was capable of playing for hours on end. He was completely self-taught. He soon got a rebel status and made no attempt to conceal pathos or dejection in defeat.

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SNOOKER CHIEF HAS REASONS TO BE PLEASED

A rise of around 25 per cent in membership plus a sound financial position has pleased snooker sub-section chairman, Bryan Gordon.

"It seems that the general format and running of the section continues to find favour," he comments in his report. He said club nights continued to be popular while a full programme of tournaments generally attracted good fields. Three new events were introduced. Because of the increased membership plans for a 'D' grade tournament have been announced. The section was represented by two teams at the Over 60's at the Cosmopolitan Club, three teams at the Over 50's at Napier and by one player at the Chartered Clubs' national singles at Auckland.

Bryan stated he was concerned only a relatively few members seemed prepared to help with the raffles. "Assistance on the raffle trolley is a pre-requisite for funding for external tournaments and for preferential entry to those internal tournaments where numbers have to be limited. It may be necessary to introduce further restrictions to ensure those who do assist are not disadvantaged compared to those who do not."

The report also noted. -

- Two members, Allen Bain and Rick Daji, passed their referees examinations.
- A trophy will be awarded for the best break in any official event – tournament, club night or inter-club.
- The section has reverted to the more traditional handicapping system of working in multiples of seven. The highest handicap will be plus 42 with the lower level being open ended.
- The inter-club team faded to finish third equal after it had led the competition right through the round robin section.
- A handicap billiards tournament may be added to the annual programme if enough interest is shown.
- Dress standards for tournament play will be strictly adhered to. Players who have the section waistcoats will be encouraged to wear them at all tournaments.
- In house tournaments each Wednesday evening.
- Intending members are asked to contact Bryan Gordon, Ron Boyles and Bruce Harper.

The 2003 event winners were – **A grade** – Winner, A Tonge; runner-up, J Booth. **B grade** - Winner, A Mathews; runner-up, A McLachlan. **C grade** - Winner, B Gordon; runner-up, T Kingi. **Open pairs** – Winners, S Thomas, B McLuskie; runners-up, G Adcroft, J Booth. **Handicap pairs** – Winners, G Shalders, B Harper; runners-up, A Tonge, P Hall. **Over 50s** – Winner, B McLuskie; runner-up, L Bidois. **John Franklin Memorial** – Winner, G Adcroft; runner-up, G Shalders. **Handicap singles** – Winner, P Hall; runner-up, B Clinch. **The 'skot'** – Winners, B Clinch, M Budd; runners-up, R Daji, J Booth.

* A gold medal in snooker came the way of club member Winston Sorensen when the South Pacific Masters Games in Hamilton in February. He also collected a silver in the pairs events and bronzes in the billiards and eight ball pairs – a noteworthy effort.

ALLEN'S RIGHT ON CUE TO BECOMING 'HOT POT'

The band for the night was warming up and testing the hearing capabilities of members; coverage of the major race of the day had those around him urging on their chosen ones as the excited commentary on the galaxy of TAB trackside televisions reached its crescendo; the club's public address system was advising various members they were wanted on the telephone; but oblivious to all those distractions was an intense young fellow poised over a centre pocket of a snooker table.

Allen Bain - Aiming for the top

For young Allen Bain the only thing that mattered was to pot a tempting red then position the white so his break would continue. Like so many of his heroes he had watched closely on television, Allen took a deliberate stance as he chalked his cue and summed up his options. Decision made, Allen went into his practised routine, lined up his cue, and played his shot. A nod of approval from his opponent indicated it had been successful and young Allen went onto tackle his chosen colour completely unaware of what was happening around him. The break went on and on.

Those with an eye on proceedings just had to be impressed. Those who knew the well-built young man, born March 17, 1985, said that display of concentration was typical of what Allen went through day after day as he diligently chased his dream of making it to the top of the snooker tree

Now only in his fourth year at the game, Allen achievements are already very impressive.

Take a look at this outstanding record.-

* 2000 – won junior eight ball champs at Waikato Snooker and Eight Ball Club.

* 2000 – won junior nine ball Waikato club champs

* 2000 – won open snooker Waikato club champs

* 2001 – won Waikato Junior Open nine ball championships

* 2001 – won Dunedin Junior Open nine ball championships

* 2001 – won Auckland Junior Open nine ball championships

* 2002 – won Dunedin Junior Open nine ball championships

*2002 – won Christchurch Junior Open nine ball championships

* 2003 – won South Island Junior Open eight ball

* 2003 – runner-up North Island Junior Open eight ball

* 2003 – represented New Zealand in under 21 world snooker championships

CLUB SHOWS ITS HEART IS IN THE RIGHT PLACE! continued...

The club was proud to have assisted our city with such a worthwhile charity effort. By the time you read this article, it was hoped the city would have 20 available. The first allocated went to the Hamilton Workingmen's Club; University Recreation Centre, Knighton Rd; Centreplace, Victoria St; Hamilton Cosmopolitan Club; Sky City, Victoria St; Waterworld, Garnett Ave, Te Rapa; LMW Insurance, Tristram St; Fire Centre Trucks, Central, Anglesea St; Fire Service Trucks, Pukete, Vickery St; Fire Service Trucks, Chartwell, Crosby Rd; ISIS Fertility Clinic, Waikato Hospital; Vercoe Rd Clinic, Vercoe Rd.

As manager Richard Shrubsall said: "We hope we never have to use it, but it is good to have one for our members, guests and visitors. If we save one life the whole effort will be very well worthwhile."

The format of the charity week is continually being assessed. Because of the amount of goods to be sold, the Sunday auctions, held between rounds of the indoor bowls, go into the early evening and test the patience of the eager buyers. It's also a 'huge' day for organisers and their durability must be admired. One suggestion from a member received by the year book committee is for the first stages of the auction to be held on the Friday and Saturday evenings and that the bowls qualifying for Waikato players be held during the week with invited visitors from outside the Waikato centre area qualifying for a certain number of places on Sunday morning. Suggestions received in writing will be considered by the incoming charity committee in conjunction with the indoor bowlers who no doubt will have some updated ideas of their own.

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A Man's Job – the Outdoor Barbecue ....

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1: The woman goes to the store. **2:** The woman fixes the salad, vegetables and dessert. **3:** The woman prepares the meat for cooking, places it on a tray along with the necessary cooking utensils and takes it to the man, who is lounging beside the grill. **4:** The man places the meat on the grill. **5:** The woman goes inside to set the table and check the vegetables. **6:** The woman comes outside to tell the man that the meat is burning. **7:** The man takes the meat off the grill and hands it to the woman. **8:** The woman prepares the plates and brings them to the table. **9:** After eating, the woman clears the table and does the dishes. **10:** The man asks the woman how she enjoyed 'her night off'. And, upon seeing her annoyed reaction, concludes that there's just no pleasing some women!

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$30,000 REASONS TO BE HAPPY

St John Midland health services manager Kim Osborne was high in her praise of our club.

Interviewed by the Waikato Times only days before our club president, Brian Simpson, handed representatives of St John a cheque for $30,000, Kim said the project to place defibrillators throughout Hamilton was one of a kind in New Zealand.

"There had never been anything done on the scale planned for Hamilton and we thank the Workingmen's Club for their drive in ensuring the exercise was a success. We hope to eventually have 10 machines installed throughout the city so that if someone has a cardiac arrest there is a defibrillator close by that can save their life."

The St John brochure says if a person near you goes into sudden cardiac arrest, dialling 111 and performing CPR is not enough to ensure they survive. Every minute that ticks by reduces their chances of living. You need a St John defibrillator. It can strike anyone, anytime, anywhere. Sudden cardiac arrest kills thousands worldwide every year. It is caused by a malfunction of the heart known as ventricular fibrillation. It can strike anyone of either gender, all ages and occupations, regardless of weight or level of fitness. The most effective treatment is to apply a short, powerful electrical shock to the heart, allowing the heart to regain its natural rhythm. Until now, the defibrillators have been difficult to use and required highly specialised training. Not anymore. The St John defibrillator is fully portable, safe, effective and easy to use and will significantly improve the victim's chances of survival. If you have responsibility for a safe workplace, shopping centre, tourism site or public area, it would be a good idea if you asked your staff to do a St John first aid course and endeavoured to get a defibrillator on site. They have been specially designed for use by those with little training. The defibrillator tells the user exactly what to do. It is safe to use even though it may use an electric shock to help the patient survive. The electrodes are pre-connected and the user simply follows the diagrams to apply them to the patient. In automatic mode, the machine does most of the work itself. If the person is not breathing or conscious, simply push the release button to open the lid of the defibrillator and activate it. An automated recording will talk you through checking the patient for life, placing the electrodes and operating the machine. Pull the handle to access the electrode pads and stick them to the victim's chest. The defibrillator will analyse the victim's heart rhythm. If a shock is required, you will be told to push the flashing red button.

To find out more about purchasing a St John defibrillator and to arrange a demonstration by a St John representative, phone toll free on 0800 FIRST AID (0800 34778 248).

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TITLES TO CHERISH

Ola Sullivan allowed herself a quiet smile and continued to serve up a splendid morning tea.

Our conversation had turned to one of her favourite leisure time pursuits, indoor bowls, and mention was made of the fact she was the proud holder of three Australasian titles in the sport.

In her typical modest fashion, Ola tried to divert attention away from those successes, but those outstanding achievements, one in Australia and two in New Zealand, little known outside of family, friends and the sport itself, must surely be ranked highly and recognised accordingly when the history of Waikato sport is finally written.

Victories in the Australasian singles in 1975 and 1976 and then success in the mixed fours in 1978 confirmed Ola as among the best in the sport and an obvious New Zealand team selection. She was also awarded the Truth Cup for being the woman who made the most progress in various national championship events.

However, before that she had established herself as a class player by being runner-up in the New Zealand singles at Wanganui in 1968 and then being part of the title-winning fours combination along with husband, Matt, and fellow Hamilton bowlers, Brian Guy and Roy Cumberland. Ola rates that fours victory as her favourite indoor bowls memory.

For a while selection in national, North Island and Waikato representative teams became a regular occurrence while there was also time to win many local club and centre tournaments. She has 10 Waikato championships to her credit while success at NZ Chartered Clubs' (Central Area) level was also achieved.

Ola was one of the first women to join in 1991 when the club's AGM voted in favour of woman members. She had previously belonged to the Hamilton Cosmopolitan Club.

Membership of the senior members, cards, outdoor and indoor bowls sections ensures Ola continues to meet friends in the friendly club atmosphere.

Tennis has been another sport she has enjoyed over the years with 'Pistol' Pete Sampras her favourite sportsperson.

Other favourites include – Food: Crayfish. Drinks: Tea and coffee. Colour: Red. TV programme: Coronation Street. Singers: Kiri Te Kanawa and Howard Morrison.

'CORO' STILL STREETS AHEAD!

A survey of members have again confirmed Coronation Street as by far the most popular television programme in their eyes. Coronation Street was named as first choice by 80 per cent although many said they wished the script did not get too raunchy and reverted to promoting more old fashioned values. Who Wants to be a Millionaire and Parkinson were the next most popular with the Living Channel, UKTV, Prime and Discovery Channel rated ahead of TV One and TV3 in everything but the 6pm news bulletins. The Disney channel kept the visiting grandchildren contented.
Other rated programmes were - Super 12 Rugby; Trackside; Home and Away; Frasier; Criminal Scene Investigation; Blue Heelers; Celebrity Homes; Antiques Roadshow; Water Rats, Oprah Winfrey; Changing Rooms.

CLUB SHOWS ITS HEART IS IN THE RIGHT PLACE!

There were plenty of raised eyebrows when club manager Richard Shrubsall announced his charity week ambition was to raise $30,000 to help the Order of St John purchase much needed defibrillators for the city and Waikato.

Richard's confidence was built on two major platforms – A: The usual outstanding support of club members. B: The backing of the Frankton and Hamilton business communities.

The chosen 'Heartsafe' week was from Monday, October 13, with Sunday, October 19, the designated charity day.

The Hamilton combined Lions' clubs indicated their support and so the stage was set. The Waikato media were, at first, suspicious of our projected $30,000 target, but once they met with Richard and other organisers and sensed the purpose within the ranks, they gave the much-needed publicity.

The Order of St John were rapt. They knew full well the city needed the defibrillators (which give shock treatment to the heart) in major supermarkets, shopping centres, stadia etc to help save cardiac victims' lives. The defibrillators, with Canada one of the main examples, had proved outstanding successes overseas.

Manager Shrubsall put the call out for donations of goods and services for the usual auction and garage sale and instigated a major raffle. Many members responded immediately and helped spread the word. Lions club members ran the nightly raffles at the club and were amazed how our members and their friends responded.

By the time the weekend had arrived the auction floor was packed with a magnificent array of items, big and small and for all age groups. The garage sale attracted many entries and the potential buyers had great fun sifting through the bargains.

Neil Rendle... One of the instigators of charity day

With master auctioneer, Dave Slack, one of the many long time supporters of the club's charity week, again in splendid voice, the buyers were in good hands and the spotters were kept busy taking the bids.

It was a tired, but happy, group which celebrated quietly at the end of a long day. When a few weeks later all had been sorted out, manager Richard happily announced the $30,000 target had been achieved.

Once again the indoor bowlers staged their eagerly-awaited tournament. The bowlers, who were again prominent amongst the purchasers, initiated the charity week more than 30 years ago and have fully supported the concept ever since, It was fitting one of the original committee, Neil Rendle, received a presentation in recognition of his tireless contributions throughout that time. Others on the initial committee were the late Cliff Thompson, Dave Gatland and Warren Pearce.

HARD TO MATCH

Did you know there was a 'striking' world of pleasure all boxed up in a 10ft x 6ft Hamilton garden shed that would be difficult to match anywhere?

While that statement may fire up doubters and inflame conversions, it is a fact and we will let club stalwart Matt Sullivan enlighten you.

"For more than 20 years I have been collecting matchboxes and I display items from all over the world in my garden shed. I have been fortunate to have friends who have travelled the world and thought of me while they have been away. Others, from many walks of life, have also contributed and so the collection has plenty of variety. I have uncovered some unusual exhibits myself as organisations, firms and sports mark celebrations with a special 'matchbox' which they give to clients etc. I am extremely proud of the display."

And rightly so. The presentation of the items adds to their appeal. All available spaces on the garden shed walls and shelves have been utilised while several groupings hang from the ceiling. Amazingly, while there are thousands on show, there are hundreds, possibly thousands, more still in cartons waiting their turn to be seen.

Matt's devotion to his hobby is plainly evident. He enjoys seeing the reactions of unsuspecting guests who are visibly stunned by the wide range of exhibits that would be difficult to match anywhere.

It's certainly a 'world of pleasure' to admire.

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CHAMPION PAIR HELPED SPARK POLICY CHANGE continued...

the companionship and the pleasant drinking environment...

"Keith soon introduced me to such well-known characters as Waikato rugby representative, Johnny O'Hearn, and the Cameron brothers, Colin and Jock, who were also connected with various sports."

"I soon became involved in indoor bowls. Frank Haines was the section president and guiding hand. We played on a raised mat in the snooker area. Because there was only one mat, the tournaments, championships etc went on and on."

Both Matt and wife Ola excelled at indoor bowls. Titles and recognition in and outside of the Waikato soon came their way.

Their indoor bowls CV is a highly impressive document.

Matt went on to gain representative honours for Waikato and NZ Maori. He has achieved his NZ chartered club (central area) gold star with five titles. He has won 10 Waikato titles and skipped ('my best result') the winning four at the New Zealand championships in Wanganui in 1968. Ola was also in that four. In 1971 Matt and Ola won the Bob Malcolm Trophy for the married couple having most success in the national pairs.

Matt considers being runner up in the NZ singles as another favourite sporting memory.

His work on behalf of indoor bowls with the Central club in Hamilton has ensured that club has survived more than 50 years.

While indoor bowls naturally has taken up most of his leisure time, Matt has also been involved in snooker, outdoor bowls and cards and has represented the HWMC at snooker as well as indoor bowls.

He lists his favourite sports as indoor bowls, cricket, tennis and rugby.

His most admired sportspersons are Colin Meads and Rob Waddell because "they were the best at their chosen sports."

The affable Matt has several interesting stories to tell regarding trotting and racing. He relates, with a great deal of pleasure, several visits, both near and far, to New Zealand trotting and racing meetings. "Claudelands trots had special appeal. It was a shame they had to go."

Watercress and brisket and any roast meal go down well with Matt.

'DB' and diet Coke and water are drinks he enjoys while his favourite colour is red.

He gets great pleasure out of viewing 'Who Wants To Be a Millionaire?' on the television and listening to the voices and songs of Dean Martin and Howard Morrison.

Aspects of club life which appeal to Matt include participation in club events, the companionship and meeting people.

He is very positive about aspects within the club. "In my view the club executive, manager, staff and dining room are right up with the play. The future certainly looks good."

A GALLERY OF BOWLING CHAMPIONS

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MOVING WITH THE TIMES continued...

within the club. Racing followers appreciate the improvements in their special area and the TAB 'team', with a number of new faces, continue to serve our members well.

The Charity Day campaign was again a highly rewarding exercise. The feat of raising $30,000 for the Order of St John to purchase defibrillators was a mighty effort. We sincerely thank the many members who assisted on the big day. Donations of goods and services by members and the business community made the auction special. The indoor bowlers again made a huge contribution to the day. It is to be hoped the other sub-sections will give more thought to how they can help on future occasions.

There continues to be many 'hits' on the club's website. Tell your neighbours and your relations and friends from outside of Hamilton that they can find out all about us at – www.hwmc.co.nz

We hope you will continue to enjoy our club facilities. We must move with the times so please do what you can to help our club progress.

Good reading!

Winston Hooper – HWMC Year Book Editor.

Worth noting – Brian Phillips writes. "An Oxford University creative writing class was asked to write a concise essay containing these four elements – Religion, royalty, sex and mystery. The prize winning essay read: "My God," said the Queen. "I'm pregnant. I wonder who did it?"

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CLUB COUPLE OF THE YEAR!

Ola and Matt Sullivan - shining stars of indoor bowls

CHAMPION PAIR HELPED SPARK POLICY CHANGE

When Matt Sullivan stood up to speak at the Hamilton Workingmen's Club annual meeting in 1990 he hoped he may be able to help sway some of his fellow members to support his important cause.

When he sat down just over four minutes later it was to a rousing ovation, a notable achievement in itself at any gathering, let alone for a speaker at an annual meeting.

His impassioned address from the first floor balcony of the Harwood Street premises contained many pertinent facts why his wife, Ola, and other women should be able to become full members of our club. His measured comments certainly had the desired effect he had sought and the overwhelming vote in favour revealed for all to see just what impact he had made.

Matt has no hesitation in rating that victory as his favourite club memory.

"I was proud to be have been partly responsible for the major policy change. Like me, others obviously realised the time was right. The change had to be made. My wife Ola was a member of the Hamilton Cosmopolitan Club, but up to then could not gain the same important privilege at our club. Our ladies were allowed in only at certain times and, like others, I felt we were letting them down.

"I suppose I was somewhat emotional, but it was well worth it as fortunately the message got through."

Colin Sullivan, who later became club president, remembered the occasion well.

"Matt was magnificent. He made his points clearly and succinctly and the vast majority for the motion to allow women to become full members was certainly a reward for his effort."

Eric Whiting, who was club president at the time, told the meeting mixed membership was also the recommendation of the executive. Others said woman members would enhance the club profile and that a name change was not needed

Matt Sullivan has now been a HWMC member for 47 years. "We came to Hamilton in the mid-1950s via Ohakune and Wellington. I had belonged to the Ohakune Pioneer Club so I knew what chartered clubs were all about.

"I eagerly accepted an invitation from fellow railway worker Keith Russell to go in for a drink and soon joined up because I enjoyed

2003 - 2004 HWMC EXECUTIVE

MEMBERS of the 2003 – 2004 Hamilton Workingmen's Club executive – **Back row (from left)** Brian McLuskie, Richard Wymer, Wayne Christian, Bruce Heappey, David Cameron, Roger Donaldson, Petrina Howard. **Front row:** Richard Shrubsall (club general manager), Heather True (club secretary), Terry Ryan (club vice president), Brian Simpson (club president), Gary Meyrick (club treasurer), Frank Haines (club patron).

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MOVING WITH THE TIMES

Welcome to the 2004 Hamilton Workingmen's Club year book.

Once again we are pleased to report a successful 12 months.

The various sub-sections have again conducted their full range of activities with aplomb with many members heavily involved in one or more of their leisure time pursuits. The funding from raffles weeks is vital to the future fortunes of all sub-sections. The outstanding support from members and guests has been a feature of the year. It is essential the finance is spent in a responsible fashion so it is good for all members to know the executive and management are constantly monitoring the various balance sheets. Everyone realises sporting clubs throughout the country are under real financial pressure and several have unfortunately already gone by the wayside. The constant updating and revising of policies and inner workings of our club soon makes sub-section leaders realise what opportunities are available if the various situations are handled correctly.

A special message to our many new members. Every sub-section will welcome your interest and support. All you have to do is read their adverts in this year book, check their various notice boards or ask at the front office for a contact name.

The seniors are always active with their regular trips and weekly indoor bowls. The companionship and good fun the seniors provide should encourage more into their ranks. As they so rightly say… 'Don't sit back and wait to be asked, get yourself motivated!'

The outdoor and indoor bowlers continue to bring sporting successes our way with many triumphs in and outside of the club's environment. Special congratulations to the outdoor bowlers who won the national chartered club tournament in Wanganui. The businesshouse outdoor bowls experiment again paid dividends with new members signing up. Our indoor bowlers have built up an outstanding record over many seasons and we are pleased to report that has continued with major titles retained and others won for the first time.

Snooker numbers have increased significantly with the visits from top professionals being extremely worthwhile to their members.

The keen golfers also spread their wings with visits to many outside courses while our energetic cricketers again enjoyed their weekly competition jaunts and their inter-club fixtures.

Our highly ranked group of darts exponents have maintained their high competition rankings with their well-organised tournaments always popular.

The card section has also expanded its horizons by successfully hosting and sending players away to tournaments.

Reports from the fishing and gun club sections indicate their exercises are going well, but like all the others they will welcome expressions of interest re their activities from members.

We sincerely thank all our subsection sponsors for their backing and we urge members to support our year book advertisers.

The daily demands of club life continues to place our facilities under constant pressure. From time to time hiccups occur, but overall we do well and endeavour to move with the times. However, communication remains the key. If you have a concern please advise the duty manager so the appropriate action, if required, can be taken.

The new smoking regulations will test the loyalty and patience of some members. Please remember the new laws, which come into force at midnight, Thursday, December 9, were not drawn up by our executive, management or staff. Moves are in place to 'soften' the change so those members can still enjoy what the club has to offer. Watch for developments.

The wide variety of artists and general response to our entertainment calendar shows we are 'in tune' with members' requests. Remember to check the club notice boards re the upcoming entertainment and to ask for a calendar at the front office. Bar, dining room and bus hours are also published in the calendar.

Ads in 'This Week' community newspaper and on our in-house TV will also keep you up-to-date. Our radio programme on AM 1206 from 7.30 on Saturday mornings contains club information as well as giving you the latest sport comments.

'Live' TV coverage of the Super 12 and NPC rugby and NRL matches has ensured the sporting fraternity are well catered for

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