

It's Still Tournament Time

“Lovely shot, Dave Roberts!” the congratulatory comment rang out from a neighbouring rink. It was directed not at our very own Dave Roberts, but his namesake from Salisbury, as his bowl ricocheted off a wide bowl back into the head to snatch the shot away from his opponents, having been three down with only his last bowl to come.

Thirty-two teams contested the prestigious Men’s Fours Medley Tournament at Tranmere on Monday 26 October. Only two teams secured wins in all four games and, with both teams earning 103 points, it came to shot difference. Claus Schonfeldt, Stewart Loch, Barry Handke and John Feddersen prevailed and won the day over Des Benson, Jeff Hollis, Alan Walker and Brian Lines.



Tranmere appreciates the support of its sponsors for the day – **Ken Hall Plumbers, Magill Motor Bodies, Magill Recycling & Salvage, Vintage Decor** and **International Ceramics Supplies**.

Ken Hall and Annick Raz, from Ken Hall Plumbers, (pictured above with the winning team) were on hand to present the winning prizes to all teams. “This is a new one on me,” Ken said before handing out the major prizes. “A tournament where everyone gets something, whether they win or not.”

“Tranmere does it really well, and we are very pleased to have been invited to sponsor this tournament again this year,” he went on to say. These days Ken Hall Plumbers provides support to a number of clubs across the metropolitan area, but Tranmere has been one of its longest continuous associations.

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Our next tournament, on Monday 30 November, is now a **Cosmo Triples** event. It's not too late to get your team together and enjoy the fun. Entries on the notice board, or contact Jack Cowles.

Melbourne Cup Day



Melbourne Cup Day 2015 was a day to remember, not just because the Cup was won by a female jockey for the first time, on a 100:1 shot, but because Pat Miller, who never wins anything, collected four times in the sweepstakes! No wonder she's all smiles. Darryl Willson couldn't believe his luck when he drew Prince of Penzance in the big sweep, and Kathlyn Starkie won as well.

Remarkably, the expected downpours held off and 45 players enjoyed a two-game *Scroungers* match before lunch and the big event.

Scroungers is a bit of fun, where a total of 10 points is up for grabs on each end played. The closest bowl scores 4 points, next scores 3 and so on. A penalty of 3 points is incurred if the jack or any opposition bowls are hit out of bounds; you can drive into the head, but you need to be careful in doing so.

Players had different team mates in each of the two matches and each team mate earned the team score for their games. Greg Ferris proved the strongest stayer in the men's section, running out a convincing winner with John Feddersen and Bob Gilby dead-heating for second. Shirley Willis won from Denise Abraham



in the women's section. They were amongst several of the players who got into Melbourne Cup dress mode.

Sue Sanders and her fellow master chefs, Val Hill, Marg Potter and Bev Cowles, prepared another fabulous lunch for all to enjoy. Everyone had a great day. Well done to Mike Porter and his band of organisers for the excellent job they did.

Tranmere Taylor Cup Teams

Buoyed by the success of the Bronze Team in the past two seasons of the Taylor Bowls Super Challenge, Tranmere has entered three teams for the 2015-16 competition. Our teams are competing in the Gold, Silver (North) and Bronze (Central) divisions. The Taylor Cup has teams competing in a 10-a-side format with singles, pairs, triples and fours played in separate rubbers. A tie-break (3-end singles) is played if teams win two rubbers each. Each team uses a 12-player squad, with rostering off if needed.



Tranmere Silver: Back row: Max Duggan, Max Davidson, Stewart Loch, Eddie Dolan, Guy Stanley; Front row: Roger Kairl, Peter Damiani, Tom Lycett, Di Ferris, Nick Cirocco; Absent: Brenda Porter, Darryl Stanton

Our Gold team opened the season with a narrow loss, winning two rubbers, but going down in a hard-fought tie-break. In its second match it was competitive but lost all four rubbers against a super-strong outfit from Ascot Park.

Our Silver team has started the season with two competitive matches, winning two rubbers in both, but narrowly losing the tie-breaks.

Tranmere Gold: Back row: Brian Hodkinson, Augie Centofanti, Greg Ferris, Justin Parkinson, John Feddersen, Claus Schonfeldt; Front row: Dino DeCorso, Tim Huston, Claire Pope, Mike Porter; Absent: Mary Feddersen, Bob Taylor





Tranmere Bronze: Back row: Bob Gilby, Ian Abraham, Peter Douglas, John Bartram; Front row: John Daire, Anne Lippis, Libby Bartram, Sue Sanders, Terry Sanders; Absent: Bob Bussenschutt, Ann Ellis, Richard Ellis, Darryl Hemsley, June Hodgkinson, Darryl Willson

The Bronze squad had a bye in the first round and then had quite a few unavailable from the squad for its first match. Thanks to Anne Lippis as well as Sue and Terry Sanders for filling in. The squad got off to a great start by winning all rubbers.

And, Speaking of Gold

Congratulations to Ann and Richard Ellis, who celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on 6 November this year.

“I never thought I’d be married to the same man for 50 years,” Dianne Harmon wrote in a recent article in *The Huffington Post Australia*. “According to Google (and it must be true!) only 5-6% of marriages last that long.” In fact, the average duration of marriages in Australia nowadays is about 12.1 years, which isn’t all that long, but it is up from 10.7 years in the early 1990s.

Well done to Ann and Richard for being in that 5%. Where did it all begin? In February 1961 Richard was posted to Woodside, SA, as a teller for The Bank of Adelaide. This move was fate, as it was there that he met Ann. They both played for the local tennis team and the mutual attraction was immediate. No sooner had the romance begun when, in 1964, Richard was transferred to Streaky Bay, an 8-hour drive away. This move was going to prove whether the relationship would last; and last it did.

On 6 November 1965 at 4.00pm they were married at the Woodside Methodist Church, with a reception to follow for 100 guests in the Woodside Institute. Next day they climbed

aboard their trusty Volkswagen and drove to Sydney on their honeymoon.

They purchased their first house in Melrose Park and soon enough the family had grown to five with the birth of two daughters and a son. Their nomadic bank life then began with moves to Warooka, Ceduna, Port Lincoln and Waikerie. Richard played his first game of bowls at Ceduna in 1976 and was fortunate enough to win the club’s triples championship. At Port Lincoln, while playing golf, Ann had a hole-in-one during a match play championship ... she was so excited she promptly lost the match!

They had lots of fun times in the country and met many people through their involvement with sport, the church and the schools. Many lasting friendships were made.

Later in life when Richard left the bank, they jointly operated a newsagency on Walkerville Terrace, Walkerville.

Now in retirement they are busy at bowls and their involvement with their seven grandchildren, all of whom live in Adelaide.



What’s the secret of a lasting marriage? “Am I glad we stuck it out?” wrote Dianne Harman. “Oh yes. Sappy as it sounds, he is still my best friend.” And there you have it, a sentiment echoed by both Ann and Richard as well.

According to Wikipedia, the historic origins of wedding anniversaries date back to the Holy Roman Empire, when husbands crowned their wives with a silver wreath on their twenty-fifth anniversary, and a gold wreath on the fiftieth. In modern times it has become much more commercialised and many more milestone anniversaries have been added to the list.

Volunteer Of The Year

Last month's edition of the Tranmere Times highlighted the community volunteer work of a number of our club members, amongst them, Graham Williamson. Shortly after it was published, Graham was recognised by the Rotary Club of Gawler as the *Senior Volunteer of the Year* in the Gawler region. Graham was surprised; he isn't a Rotary member. But, he was chuffed all the same. Graham was presented with his award by Member of Parliament, Zoe Bettison, at a ceremony on Monday 26 October.

In addition to the work with the graffiti busters mentioned in last month's Tranmere Times, Graham has been a driver for the Gawler Health Service, ferrying patients for their treatments, and President of the Gawler Bowling Club.

Christmas Dinner

Friday 18 December



See what you missed out on last year. Scary, isn't it?

But seriously; it was a fun night, with superb food, great music by the Johnny Cole¹ band, dancing and a mass sing-a-long with the Tranmere Choir performing our very own version of *The Twelve Days of Christmas* and *Jingle Bowls*.

Jack's back by popular demand and some new surprises are in store.

Don't be disappointed – book now!

¹ Johnny Cole is Jack Cowles' stage name (see TT August 2014).

Know Your Rules

In a recent pennant match, after both lead bowlers had failed to roll a legal length with the jack, the skipper of the team that had won the previous end placed the jack about half-way along the rink between the back and front mat-lines at his end, and asked his lead to place the mat two metres in from the back mat-line at the other end. Is this acceptable?

No, it's not. Luckily, the skippers on the neighbouring rink noticed this and were able to advise on the correct procedure before any bowls were bowled.

Law 10.3 covers this, as follows:

If the jack is improperly delivered once by each player in any end, it must not be delivered again in that end. Instead, it must be centred with the nearest point of the jack to the mat-line being 2 metres from the front ditch, and the mat must be placed, as described in law 6.1.1, by the first player to play.

Law 6.1.1 requires the mat to be placed as you would expect it to be, namely on the centre-line anywhere between the back and front mat-lines at the bowler's end. For those who love detail, the back mat-line is 2 metres from the back ditch, and the front mat-line is 23 metres from the front ditch.

What would have been the correct procedure had the mistake not been picked up until after a bowl had been bowled? Play would continue without the jack being repositioned.

Claus' Conundrum

The answer to last month's conundrum is - 34 women bowlers have nominated to play on both Thursdays and Saturdays.

This month your challenge is to solve the following, for which the answer is **not** 6.

1 3 5
2 4 ?

Isn't it great to see Barb De Conti back on the rink? Barb, a past club champion (see TT February 2015), has found it too demanding health-wise to play regularly. But, she's happy to help out occasionally when the ladies are short, and she's done so a few times this season. She skippered her team to a 35-6 win in her first match back.