

## Augie Centofanti Day



Players came from far and wide to contest the Augie Centofanti Men's Fours Medley Tournament Day at Tranmere this year. Modbury, in particular, came *en force*, saw off all comers, and conquered first and second prizes. The team of John Nelsen, Dave Carter, José Gill and Pat McGuinness was the only one to win all four games and there they are receiving their winning 'cheques' from Daphne Centofanti and her daughter Lisa.

Ken Hall from Ken Hall Plumbers, our major sponsor for the day, was on hand to present the various prizes and

we thank him, as well as Berry Bowling Systems, Magill Motor Bodies and Magill Salvage for their fabulous support.

Players not only enjoyed a great day on



the greens, but yet another delicious lunch prepared by our kitchen team of Val Hill, Judy Brooks, Brenda Porter, Di Ferris, Bev Cowles, Maree Holland, Alana Lomax, Anne Lippis and Julie McGirr led by team 'chef', Sue Sanders.

A funny thing happened in the Augie Centofanti game; you had to see it to believe it! While we have been accustomed to the mysterious ways in which our Darryl Hemsley plays, there he was on the back green, doing his normal dazzling display of weighted shots. His fellow teammates Peter Holland and Gerry Carr were amazed to see him chasing a magnificent bowl down the rink (like a scene from *Chariots of Fire*), running alongside his bowl, coaxing it to a better position,

only to suddenly (as if he'd been shot) pull up sharply, grab his thigh muscle, then waddle stiff-legged to the head, with many unsympathetic quips from the surrounding players. To his credit, after incurring a sizeable tear to his hamstring and having some impromptu first aid treatment, Darryl heroically continued for the remainder of the day.



### Winners Are Grinners

Fifty-two club members and friends made their way to the Tranmere Bowling Club on Melbourne Cup Day this year to enjoy a fun day of bowling, racing revelry and noshing on delicious food and drinks in splendid company. The weather was excellent and players were randomly drawn into a scroungers match of three players per rink contesting two games of seven ends. In a hotly contested event, Jack Cowles and Peter Richards proved to be the strongest stayers, dead-heating for first with 65 points each, just ahead of Dave Roberts in third place only 1 shot behind. A smorgasbord of delicious

food was prepared by our fabulous kitchen staff led by Anne Lippis. All eyes focussed on the big screen to witness an epic two-horse war over the final 300 metres of the Melbourne Cup and, when Almandin stuck his nose out at the right time, Bob Rudolph couldn't believe his luck. Bob, a former Tranmere club member, collected quite a few sweepstake wins. As *Hot Chocolate* once sang, 'everyone's a winner, babe' and so it was at the Tranmere Bowling Club on Melbourne Cup Day. All who attended left the club grinning happily after a great day's enjoyment.

## How It All Began

How effective are letter-box campaigns in attracting new members, I hear you ask. One of our recent club champions, Claire Pope, began bowling as a direct result of a letter-box invitation to come and try lawn bowls.

In 2011 Claire, living just around the corner from the Walkerville Bowling Club, responded to just such an invitation. One year later she had won that club's ladies singles title and two years after that she won the Tranmere title.

Sadly, Claire had lost her husband to cancer in 2005 and, when the letter-box drop arrived, she thought, 'why not?'

"I was living just around the corner and needed to get out and do something," Claire said. Colin Whyte, also at Walkerville at the time, took Claire under his wing and, as a qualified coach, helped her to improve her game sharply as a night-owl bowler. One day he asked Claire if she would be interested in filling in as a temporary in winter social bowls at Clearview, where Colin's wife bowled.

Claire again thought 'why not?' "I'd really enjoyed the game from day one," she told Tranmere Times. "I felt chuffed that Colin thought I bowled well enough to substitute in a proper side." Claire hasn't looked back since, becoming a regular pennant bowler first at Walkerville and, since late 2012, at Tranmere.

**Interesting fact:** In a serendipitous turn of events, Claire met Bob Bussenschutt while both were working as volunteers at the local council depot. She was sure she had a second cousin with that name, but had never met him. Bob Bussenschutt is not your common garden variety name and sure enough this was the right one. They were both delighted to connect and have been great friends ever since.



Claire and her son Craig bowled at the Paddington club in London and showed their class to beat two locals.

## Know Your Rules

When deciding who has shot at the conclusion of any end and, particularly when more than one shot is in the count, quite often the shot bowl and any further counters will be progressively taken out of the head. Occasionally, unless the counters are systematically placed in a specific spot, doubt may arise as to how many have been counted or whether a particular bowl has already been included in the count.

Don't say this can't happen because I've seen it. The women bowlers often adopt a handy practice of placing a bowling cloth on the ground and systematically putting the agreed counters on that cloth. That's an excellent practice to avoid any disputes, no doubt initiated as a result of past experience.

It is, however, only a practice and not a rule or law of the game. You may wonder why this last point is getting a mention. Well, in a recent Thursday ladies match, the umpire of the day had to be called upon to settle a dispute between two thirds when the third of the losing team insisted on a score of just one shot even though she had conceded three shots. The basis of her argument was that only one bowl had been placed on to the grounded cloth.

In the end, all three shots were counted, but this 'incident' serves as a timely reminder to all thirds to never remove a counter from the head until your opposing third has agreed that it is a counter, and never declare the head until the declaration has been agreed with your opposing third.



Jack Cowles, Dave Roberts and Peter Richards - top bowlers in the scroungers match on Melbourne Cup Day.

## Taylor Bowls Super Challenge

Tranmere has again entered three sides in the Taylor Bowls Super Challenge Series. For the 2016-17 season, we have one side in the Silver North division, one in the Bronze North division and one in the Bronze Central division. The squads for the three sides are:

Silver North	Bronze North	Bronze Central
Dino De Corso	Bob Bussenschutt	Denise Abraham
John Feddersen	Nick Cirocco	Ian Abraham
Mary Feddersen	Eddie Dolan	John Bartram
Greg Ferris	Veronica Dolan	Libby Bartram
Dianne Ferris	Max Duggan	Kirstie Blaskett
Brian Hodgkinson	Ann Ellis	John Daire
Tim Huston	Richard Ellis	Pam Fullarton
Julie Ludlow	Roger Kairl	Bob Gilby
Justin Parkinson	Tom Lycett	Darryl Hemsley
Claus Schonfeldt	David Mealor	Sue Sanders
Bob Taylor	Brenda Porter	Terry Sanders
Geoff Thomas	Mike Porter	Darryl Willson

In the opening round, Payneham defeated Tranmere Silver by 4 rubbers to nil; Salisbury defeated Tranmere Bronze North by 3 rubbers to 1 and Tranmere defeated Glenelg Bronze Central by 4 rubbers to nil.

## What's In A Name?

If you've played winter bowls at Tranmere you're likely to have heard Dave Carter's battle cry of, "You're the man, Santa," when praising yet another great bowl from his pairs partner, Kerry Schulz. With Kerry it's easy to see how he got that nickname; his stature and bushy flowing beard.

It's also easy to see why Claus Schonfeldt was nicknamed *Santa*, amongst other less printable options, during his university days. Santa Claus is so unimaginative.

Not quite as obvious, but clever as so many Aussie nicknames can be, is *Rusty* for Greg Ferris, which is what his friends called him in high school. If you know your chemistry, you will no doubt have made the connection with the play on the homophones Ferris and ferrous, realising that rust is oxidised iron, or ferrous oxide.

Then there's *Fred*. No; not Fred Burns, but, believe it or not, John Feddersen. *Feddo* and *Hyphenated* are two nicknames you may have heard mentioned for John, especially over the winter social bowling days. But *Fred* is one you've probably not heard. *Fred* goes back to John's national service days in the early 1970s. His army mates couldn't get their heads around Diestel-Feddersen and who can blame them? Calling him John was just too boring, so, in the good old Australian way, he was *Fred*, short for *Freddo*, a bastardisation of *Feddo*.

All three sound entirely plausible, don't they? But only two are real. Can you guess which is the odd one out?

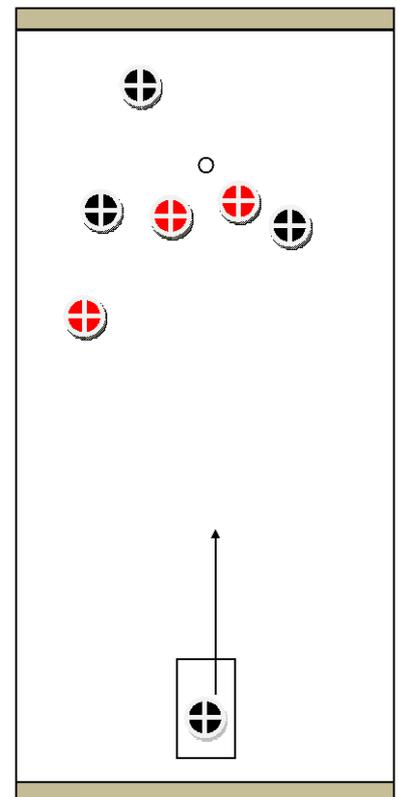
## What Shot?

Drill practice sessions are the only real way for you to improve your skill level. A friendly roll-up with fellow bowlers is fun, but doesn't help all that much with ironing out little problem areas or in establishing a comfortable and confident routine for the more challenging shots, especially those that may arise only occasionally in a match.

Mike Porter and Colin Whyte have put a lot of thought into a range of practice drills for such shots. Here is one for you to consider.

The perfect delivery is a slightly weighted shot played on the forehand (for a right handed bowler) to hit both red bowls nearest to the jack in such a way that they cannon out of the head without hitting any of the black bowls and your bowl remains in the count.

Every bowler is welcome to use a set of our many night-owl bowls to set up a practice drill. Some of our members already use these bowls to set up drills they wish to practice. It's best if you do this in pairs as you can assist each other to reset the heads after each attempt.



## Claus' Conundrum

I know you're going to cuss me for this, but last month's challenge was so, so easy. If you are the skipper, the colour of the skipper's eyes, is the colour of your eyes. All the rest of the information was a simple misdirection.

This month, your challenge is to identify the shy club member hiding behind the newspaper.



## ♪♪ I'm Dreamin' of a Whyte Christmas ♪♪

For an extra bit of fun, below are the surnames of nine of our club members and ten little witticisms. See if you can fit the names of the nine members to their correct places and then try to identify the name of the member that would fit the witticism for which there is no name provided.

**Blank, Born, Butler, Daire, Day**

**Loch, Porter, Sandon, Thomas.**

1. Who \_\_\_\_\_s wins.
2. " \_\_\_\_\_ it in, Eddie."
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ did it!
4. Doubting \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Make mine a \_\_\_\_\_ Gaff.
6. Not the \_\_\_\_\_ est tool in the shed.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ to win.
8. Point \_\_\_\_\_.
9. \_\_\_\_\_, sand off.
10. One \_\_\_\_\_ at a time.

## We're A Funny Lot

There's nothing better than a spontaneous outburst of laughter to make your day. Seeing the funny side of any situation can be a very healthy trait.

Having rented a hire car in some foreign land halfway around the world; having had the intricacies of the keyless entry operating system explained carefully to you; having

trekked to the holding bay where your chariot awaits, how would you react if the keys you'd been given failed to open any of the doors? I'll bet, "Hmmm, this is a bit perplexing," doesn't immediately come to mind. More likely a quick, "WTF?" followed by further cussing and more furious button pressing. But not our Shirley Willis; she went with 'perplexing' and her fellow Tranmere travelling companions spontaneously erupted into fits of laughter.

## What Am I Reading?

"I'm a nerd," Claus said when Tranmere Times asked him what he likes to read. "Popular science and politics are my standard fare," he confessed. "Right now I'm reading *The Good, The Bad and The Unlikely* by Mungo MacCallum. It's about Australia's twenty-nine Prime Ministers and, in a witty and entertaining style, Mungo shows that everyone has a story worth sharing, whether their term was eight days or eighteen years."

One of Claus' favourite books is *Zero – The Biography of a Dangerous Idea* by Charles Seife. *Zero* examines the number zero from its origins as an Eastern philosophical concept to its struggle for acceptance in Europe and its fundamental role in mathematics and nature. Zero was at the heart of the struggle between religion and science. As natural as zero seems to us today, for ancient peoples zero was a foreign and oft frightening idea.

Tranmere Times also asked Meredith Parkinson, wife of Graeme and mother to Kirstie and Justin (all bowlers extraordinaire) what she likes to read. She is 'poles' apart from Claus, as most of you would imagine.

"I enjoy reading stories written by Australian women authors," she says. "I have just this week finished Judy Nunn's *Tiger Men* about convict settlement in Tasmania and how they wiped out the Tasmanian tiger." She went on to say, "I attended the launch of Susan Duncan's latest novel, *The House on the Hill* on the 26th October, and although I purchased the book, I won't start to read it until the New Year, being that it is a Christmas present. I have read her two previous memoirs, *Salvation Creek* and *The House at Salvation Creek*, so I am very much looking forward to her new book."

