

THE RAMBLER

MARCH 2025

CAMDEN BOWLING CLUB (since 1939)

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GENERAL RULES

AT CAMDEN BOWLING CLUB

Our Club and Greens are managed and are maintained to a high standard for your use and enjoyment. You can assist in keeping this high standard by:

- 1. Bowls shoes or thongs (roll ups only) to be worn on greens
- 2. Bowling the bowls ensuring no damage to the greens
- 3. No running or skipping on the greens
- 4. Stepping in or walking in the sand ditches is NOT permitted
- 5. No sitting on the banks or standing close to the plinths
- 6. Smoking is not permitted on the greens or surrounds
- 7. Drinking and eating is NOT permitted on the greens
- 8. Roll ups are only permitted outside of organised event times and not before 10 am and on the furthest available rink
- 9. Children are to be supervised by a Member at all times

BOWLING GREENS ARE CLOSED ON MONDAY

EDITOR RAMBLINGS

Members,

We completed a couple of Championship events this month. Congratulations to Gary Clarke and Guy Wilton...Major Pairs winners and to the father and son team, Josh and Shane Woods, who took out the hotly contested Minor Pairs competition

Also congratulations to Karl Szynal and Sandra McBlain on winning the mixed pairs.

The Challenge Pairs is nearing its conclusion and the Club Triples start early April.

In the Pennants, the 2s are out but all other grades have a chance, especially the 4's and 5's, who are leading the competition at the moment.

Our 6 monthly meeting was held this month and it was great to see a big turnout for the meeting, especially by the women's club. We are very lucky to have such a competent board leading the Men's club at the moment.

Cheers,

Dennis Crouch

Rambler Editor









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APRIL

DATE	DAY	EVENT		
1	Tue	Bowls NSW State Championship Starts		
		Social Bowls am		
2	Wed	Ladies Bowls am		
3	Thu	Social Bowls pm		
4	Fri	Handicap Pairs Qtr Finals		
•	•••	Camden Show		
5	Sat	Club Triples Sectional starting 9am		
6	Sun	Camden Show		
		Bowls NSW State Championship Finish		
8	Tue	Social Bowls am		
9	Wed	Ladies Bowls am		
10	Thu	Social Bowls pm		
11	Fri	Friendly Friday am		
		Handicap Pairs Semi Finals		
12	Sat	Open Pennants Round Round 9		
13	Sun	Club Triples Championship Knockout		
14	Mon			
15	Tue	Social Bowls am		
16	Wed	Ladies Bowls am		
17	Thu	Social Bowls pm		
18	Fri	Easter Friday		
19	Sat	Easter Saturday		
20	Sun	Easter Sunday		
21	Mon	Easter Monday		
22	Tue	Social Bowls am		
23	Wed	Ladies Bowls am		
24	Thu	Social Bowls pm		
25	Fri	ANZAC DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY		
26	Sat	Open Pennants Round Round 10		
27	Sun	Club Triples Championship Knockout		
28	Mon			
29	Tue	Social Bowls am		
30	Wed	Ladies Bowls am		

AROUND THE GREENS

MAJOR PAIRS



Congratulations to Guy Wilton and Gary Clark winning the Major Pairs.

Also, to Steve Finnerty and Mick Everingham, runners up. A good crowd on hand to watch some great bowls.

MINOR PAIRS



Conratulations to the father and son team, Josh and Shane Woods, who took out the hotly contested Minor Pairs competition





"THREE BEERS" IS NOW TO BE KNOWN AS "ONE SOCK"

NEW MEMBERS



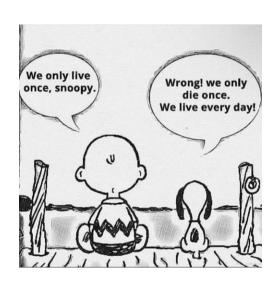
Meet Bob Brixby

THE
LIGHTER
MADRASES

Matrix, the Universe continue of the con

For those wanting new clothes in anticipation of spring, look no further than these 1970s gems









MEMBER PROFILE - FRANK RAE

Frank Rea was born and grew up in Belfast, Northern Ireland attending Springfield Primary School and Everton Intermediate School where he played Rugby Union, Hockey and Soccer. He excelled at soccer playing with the Belfast Boys team in the Northern Ireland Schoolboys International. This opened the door for him to trial with English professional clubs and over the next few years he trialled with Sunderland, Exeter City, Newcastle, Sheffield Wednesday and Wolverhampton Wanderers. But the Irish boys were only given a month's chance against the locals six months or more, so they had to stand out immediately. Unfortunately, Frank did not have the necessary flair, and the locals were not keen to assist someone trying to take a place they coveted. He returned home to play with Irish Premier League club Glentoran-Linfield and work with vehicle spare parts supply.

In 1970 Australia, Canada and New Zealand were all seeking tradesmen, so a schoolboy friend decided to emigrate, and Frank came with him. Australia was the choice as he already had a sister and brother here. He intended to stay only long enough to fulfil the two-year residency clause of his ten-pound-fare but as his parents came out two years later he stayed a bit longer. He came for two years and has been here for fifty-four only returning once for a brief holiday.

Even though the Troubles were largely over by then the situation was still fraught and he was happy to return to his adopted home. Here he was once again working in automotive spare parts supplying parts for busses and cars. He found he had an aptitude for the work and could easily remember the numbers and locations of the stock.

On arriving in Australia, the Government Employment Agency offered him work at Camperdown and he took it not knowing where Camperdown was. He soon found he had to travel a fair way to work each day via a lift with brother-in-law then bus then train so when an opportunity for work closer to home presented itself he jumped at it.

When he arrived, he had a clearance from the Belfast Glentoran Soccer Club so began playing with first Division Sydney side St George Budapest, but the travel made attending training three days a week very difficult. He decided to drop back to the amateur league and played all age soccer for Kuringai. He was also coaching juniors at the time and some of the dads played Over 40's soccer so he was encouraged to join them.

Back at work Frank was often in trouble with the senior employees as he could remember the part numbers they had to look up in the catalogue. This meant he could serve customers more quickly and efficiently. He was warned in no uncertain terms not to show off in front of management. Head hunted to Hornsby as a parts manager he stayed for several years until the company folded.

He was working a middle management job with Jaguar-Rover Australia when the government increased the tax on imported luxury cars and Frank was laid off. A friendly neighbour informed him of a job at Macquarie University setting up for the upcoming exams.

For a simple labouring job like that Frank still had to appear before a panel of five academics and justify his application. He must have appeared suitably learned for he was taken on and stayed at the university for the next eight years working casual short-term contracts on the financial side. A restructuring in 1999 allowed him to apply for a permanent job as an account manager. He stayed for 24 years.

Part of the social side of the university was the staff versus students' soccer competition which Frank played in but as he got older found the young players too energetic so gave the game away.

Frank's in-laws played bowls, and he rolled up with them on occasions so had an appreciation of the game. The RSL club was his watering hole, so he was encouraged to play there but due to work did not take it seriously. However, in 2017 and newly retired he moved across the road to CMBC and began playing in earnest. A tip on his grip from Bruce Turton improved his game and he went from strength to strength. During those early years Frank spent a lot of time on the green practising and playing with his game constantly improving.

He was in the Grade 7 flag winning team in 2017 and was Runner Up in the Handicap Pairs. Two years later he took out the Rookie of the Year. 2019 he was runner up in the Club Senior Singles. 2021 he was once again in the pennant winning side and played off in the State Reserve Fours. 2021 Frank was Runner Up in the club Championship Fours team and 2022 he was Runner Up in the Consistency Singles. His latest big achievement was to make the final of the Zone 5 Open Reserve Triples as skipper with Bob Wareham and Keith Pocock. Frank has been runner up many times but with increased experience is looking forward to that big win just over the horizon.

Frank Rea was a ten-pound om who came from Northern Ireland intending to stay a couple of years and stayed for fifty-four. He has lived all over Sydney but now calls Camden home. He enjoys his game of bowls but mostly he enjoys the company of a great bunch of blokes at the Camden Bowling Club.

The Scribbler







THE CAMDEN FLOODS

Flood History

Floods have occurred in all months of the year. The highest recorded flood at Camden occurred in 1873, when a height of 16.5m was recorded on the Camden gauge (approximately a 200yr ARI). Other major floods occurred in 1860 (14.1m), 1867 (14.0m), and 1898 (15.2m). In recent times, major floods have occurred in 1964 (14.1m) and 1978 (13.5m) with moderate to major flooding occurring in 1975 (12.8m) and 1988 (12.8m).

Date	Peak Gauge Height (m)	Date	Peak Gauge Height (m)
Oct 1860	14.19	Aug 1963	10.95
June 1867	14.02	June 1964	14.08
Feb 1873	16.53	Nov 1969	11.00
Feb 1898	15.21	June1975	12.80
June 1949	12.62	March 1978	13.45
June 1950	12.46	April 1988	12.80
July 1952	11.48	Aug 1990	10.65
Feb 1956	12.42		7

Table 1: Historical Flood Levels at Cowpasture Bridge⁷



This flood evacuation plan was found during one of the three floods we had at the club in 2022. It had been up on the wall in the steel shed.



LARGEST TREE IN THE WORLD Location : Giant Forest of Sequoia National Park in Tulare County, California, USA.

It is estimated to be around 2,300 to 2,700 years old.





In 1875, the Great Whiskey Fire of Dublin took the lives of 13 people. None died from burns or smoke inhalation; all succumbed to alcohol poisoning from drinking whiskey flowing through the streets.

The King Of Cool showing off the first GoPro on the set of his 1971 movie, "Le Mans"





What 5 megabytes of computer data looked like in 1966.



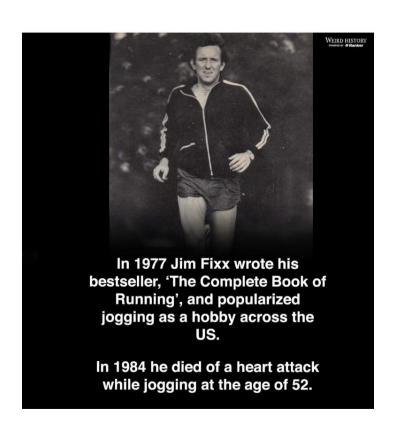
The Medical Centre's IBM 7904 mainframe computer system, circa 1969. The entire computer once took up almost half a building, the other half was the air conditioning



CRICKET IS QUITE SIMPLE



ROAD IN ARIZONA





During the Battle of Messines in 1917, the British detonated a complex system of mines they had burrowed for two years under German lines in Belgium. The resulting explosion was heard over 150 miles away in London, and killed over 10,000 German soldiers. Their joint explosion ranks among the largest non-nuclear explosions of all time.



During WWI, Marie Curie developed mobile X-ray stations that traveled to the front lines to assist army surgeons and prevent amputations when limbs were still intact. It is estimated that over one million soldiers were X-rayed using her units.



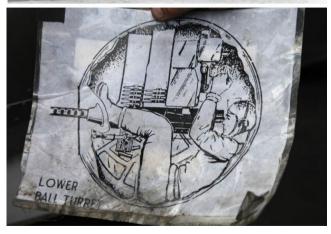
When France was occupied by the Germans in 1940, Citroën was compelled to produce vehicles for them. The company decided to lower the fill line on their oil dipsticks, which caused the trucks to seize under stress due to insufficient oil levels.



American soldiers in the Pacific theater of WWII often used passwords containing the letter 'L' due to the Japanese mispronunciation. A word like 'lollapalooza' would be used, and upon hearing the first two syllables come back as 'rorra,' they would open fire without waiting to hear the rest.







A B-24 ball turret gunner

1930 Huntington Beach



LOS ANGELESOIL RIGS





THIS WAS LAS VEGAS IN 1947

MOUNT PANARAMA: A LEGACY OF SPEED AND SKILL



In the late 1930s and early 1940s, "Mount Panorama", located in Bathurst, New South Wales, Australia, was already carving out its place in motorsport history. The pit straight,

lined with rudimentary pit crews and a rugged charm, was a hive of activity as mechanics and drivers worked tirelessly to push their vehicles to the limits. These early days of racing at Mount Panorama laid the foundation for what would become one of the most iconic motorsport events in the world.

The legacy of Bathurst was further solidified with the birth of the "Armstrong 500" in 1960. Originally held at the Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit, this 500-mile endurance race tested both man and machine. In 1963, the race moved to Mount Panorama, Bathurst, and quickly became a permanent fixture, drawing international attention. The shift from a 500-mile format to the 1,000-kilometer distance in 1973 marked the evolution of what is now known as the Bathurst 1000, a true test of endurance, strategy, and skill.

From its humble beginnings to its status as a premier motorsport event, the Bathurst 1000 has been a stage for some of the greatest rivalries and most thrilling moments in racing. The unique challenges posed by Mount Panorama's undulating layout, including the steep climbs and tight turns, make it one of the most challenging circuits in the world. As spectators fill the stands and teams prepare in state-of-the-art pits today, it's important to remember the early pioneers who laid the groundwork for this incredible event. "Every legend begins with a single lap; Mount Panorama proves that greatness is earned mile by mile."

WOODSTOCK



Jerry and Judy Griffin met when her car broke down on the way to the legendary music festival.

Jerry and Judy Griffin had what they call an "instant connection."

"At that moment Jerry, who was caravanning to the festival with a group of friends in two VW Beetles, thought his luck had definitely changed for the better. "I thought, 'Okay, this is definitely unusual. We just picked up this really cute girl. And I'm going to Woodstock and I've got a tent and she doesn't.

"For 50 years we've been looking for a picture of ourselves, and out of the blue one shows up," he says. "We'd known each other less than 48 hours when that was taken."

The festival was only three days, but the connection between the two lasted much longer — they've been together ever since and now have two sons and five grandchildren.



Margarita Flowchart









Me thanking the Delta flight attendant while exiting the plane











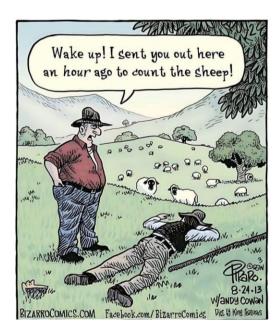












Keith Richards teaching Willie Nelson how play guitar



This is Me in My room as a teenager according to My Mother.







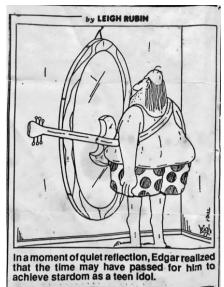


"Wait! Glenda! The remote! Toss me the TV remote!"









This is the only way to pick out your furniture...





















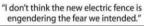


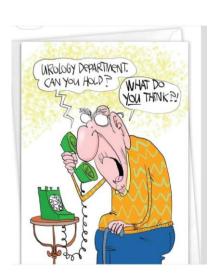




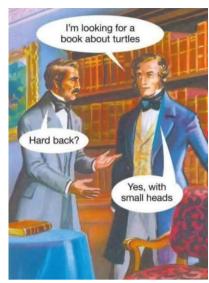
























That moment when you're about to join the revolution and you realize you had promised to take the kids to the park







FUNNY OF THE MONTH



DAD JOKES

If laziness were an
Olympic sport,
I would come in 4th just
so I wouldn't have to
walk up to the podium.

SAD NEWS! I BROKE UP WITH MY GIRLFRIEND LORAINE. SHE FOUND OUT I WAS SEEING ANOTHER GIRL, CLAIRE LEE. GOOD NEWS THOUGH! I CAN SEE CLAIRE LEE NOW, LORAINE IS GONE!

I told my wife I wanted to be cremated. She made an appointment for Tuesday. A shark swims faster than me, but I probably run faster than the shark. So in a triathlon, it all depends on who is the better cyclist.

My wife took off her top during an argument where I was winning. It was a booby trap. My doctor told me my prostate was good. I was deeply touched.

So my rum and raisin cake is gluten free. It's also raisin free. And cake free. OK it's just rum.

How do you tell the gender of an ant? Put it in a glass of water. If it sinks it's a girl ant. If it floats it's buoyant. Thirty days sober folks.

Not consecutively, but here and there over the years.

I'm estimating.

When you go into court, you are putting yourself in the hands of twelve people, who weren't smart enough to get out of jury duty.

I took the kids to the zoo last week. I am going back this week to see how they are settling in. Dogs aren't the only animal you can train. I had a goldfish that could breakdance on the carpet...but only for like 20 seconds





































