



# The Bee Express



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The Birkenhead Bowling Club

Thursday, 17 February 2016



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## On The Greens This Week & Bit Further

Wednesday 17 February— 9.30am Wednesday Tournament (OACT)  
Thursday 18 January - 10am Club Day (AC)  
- Entries close 5pm Men's Championship Triples  
- Entries close 5pm Women's Championship Pairs  
Friday 19 February—1pm 2-4-2 (OACP)  
Saturday 20 February— 9am Men's Championship Triples  
- 9am Women's Championship Pairs  
Sunday 21 February— 9am Men's Championship Triples  
- 9am Women's Championship Pairs  
Monday 22 February— 6pm United Travel Birkenhead Social Bowls  
Wednesday 24 February - 10am Club Day (AC)

## Saint Sapucci to the Rescue

By Jerry Belcher

It was a Saturday morning in Orewa, heart rates were rising, palms were getting sweaty and it was soon to be all on for young and old. The reason...a bowling battle for the ages, Gerry Sapucci vs Robbie Henson, mate vs mate, state vs state.

The first game in section play at the Men's Centre 1-5 year Singles between these two juggernauts was 20 minutes out and Gerry receives a text, or what some might call an "SOS", "Mayday Mayday", "Man down" (words fail me) distressed message from Robbie.

Gerry being the kind hearted person he is, quickly jumped to his feet, explained the situation to the Centre Event Director and was off in a flash to rescue Robbie. Out of the carpark Gerry sped. A turn to the left, another left then a right, then stopped at an intersection...only to see Robbie drive past him in the opposite direction. It was the prank of all pranks.....and what made this text for help more realistic was that Robbie's car had a flat battery at Sunnybrae bowling club a week earlier...a fact that Gerry knew.

Eventually with both men back at the Orewa club, the bowling tussle took place and after



Distressed text message from Robbie

a hard fought battle it was Robbie who came out on top...possibly because Gerry's blood pressure never really returned to that of a normal human. But, justice did prevail, good did defeat evil and Gerry was the overall winner of the section and successfully progressed through to Sunday's post-section play.

Later that Saturday afternoon in the Birkenhead club, Robbie took all the "constructive feedback" from club members re his pre-game tactics on the chin like a champion and after being "encouraged" to feed the fish with a gold coin, stepped up and dropped the big \$10...nice work Robbie. As they say, at the end of the day, bowls was the winner, but it was closely followed by drinks, laughs and all round humour from those involved.



Robbie helping out Hospice with \$10

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## Almost There

Men's Centre Singles, Men's 1-5 Year Singles and Women's Centre Triples all played last weekend with Birkenhead hosting the final day Sunday.

Curtis Ennor the only Birkenhead men's singles player to reach Sunday's post section unfortunately dropped out losing to Northcote's Kenny Moran in the first game.

The Women's Triples fared better with both Denise Samuel and Collen Sexton teams through. But as the draw would have it they played each other in the first game with Sexton's team coming away the victors. Semi finals time and Sexton with team mates Mavis Smith and Adele Ineson took on Sunnybrae's Mary Guldbrandsen and came away with a one point win, but that is all it takes to reach the final. The final saw Sexton up against Mairangi's Colleen Griffith and co. As it turned out it was Mairangi's day with Sexton coming in runner-up.

The Men's 1-5 year singles. First game Sunday Jimmy Heath went down to Mairangi's Jack Green, Gerry Sapucci played Jerome Rusk with Rusk the victor by one point. Rusk and Green clashed in the semis with Rusk progressing to the final with a 21-19 win. Rusk up against Mairangi's Michael Jelly and defending the title he won last year. Jerome got out to a handy lead, but Jelly plugged away to eventually win 21-19.

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## Spotlight on Sponsors

This week it's our friend Graeme Rutherford's Wheels On Wairau. Wheels On Wairau have in past years sponsored a Sunday Tournament. This year they are sponsoring the Seafood Tournament. Many club members have purchased cars and regularly use the vehicle service centre at Wheels On Wairau in recent years and the reports back are all good. Thanks Wheels On Wairau for your continued support.  
 From *Wheels On Wairau* website

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