

## HISTORY

The Yarraville Footscray Bowling Club was formed in 1998 with the amalgamation of the Yarraville & Seddon Bowling Clubs and the Footscray City Bowling Clubs. The Yarraville Seddon Bowling Club was formed in 1939 and situated in Whitehall Street, Yarraville. The club moved to the current site in August 1967. The former club house has since been demolished and the greens transformed into parkland. Footscray City Bowling Club was formed in February 1900 and was forced to cease in 1998 when the land on which it was situated in McNab Avenue, Footscray was not able to be re-leased. The club house burned down shortly after and little remains to identify the location of the club. Rivals in the past, both with long and proud achievements, members from both clubs have united to continue the traditions and successes of lawn bowling at club, state, national and international levels.



Bowling at Yarraville & Seddon c. 1950

Among the successful bowlers that we are proud to have had playing for our club include a legend of the game in Norma Massey, who achieved successes at international, national, state and club level over a 47 year period. Mick Reynolds was a stalwart for the Victorian side, among his achievements the Australian Fours Championship. Judy Nardella won the World Indoor Singles title in 2007, Wayne Roberts, Alan Dove and Graeme Edwards won the Australian Open Triples title in 2006 and Edith Grinham winning the national Champion of Champions Singles title in 2004. The achievements of our bowlers are able to be viewed in our Honour Boards and Achievements Page.

## NORMA MASSEY – BOWLS LEGEND



NORMA MASSEY commenced her bowling career in 1953 and her name appears prominently on the Honour Boards at Club, Victorian, Interstate, Australian and World Bowls Championship levels. Her achievements, sportsmanship and concentration are an inspiration to bowlers at our club.

Norma joined Yarraville Seddon Bowling Club (now Yarraville Footscray Bowling Club) in 1953. Her service to our club includes:

Committee for 13 years.  
Vice President for 2 years.  
Secretary for 4 years  
Selector for 17 years.

Apart from the service to her club, she also served on the Victoria Ladies Bowling Association Council for 7 years.

She became a life Member of the Club in 1984. In 1992-93, the No. 1 Green was named as the Norma Massey Green.

She was named as Sportswoman of the Year in 1974-75.

In 2006, she was awarded the OAM.

Norma's achievements include:

Won

Gold medal in World Bowls Triples, Silver Medal in World Bowls Pairs and Fours.

Gold medal in Triples and Silver medal in Fours at Pacific Games.

Member of winning World Bowls Team in England and Melbourne.

Represented Australia in 104 games.

3 x Australian Singles and 2 x Australian Fours titles.

1 x State Singles and 5 x Metropolitan Singles titles

3 VLBA Proportional titles and twice runner up

4 x State Champion of Champions titles and twice runner up.

2 x State Pairs titles and 2 x Metropolitan Fours titles.

2 x Helen Bridgford Shields, 2 x Metropolitan Charity Shields and twice runner up.

Represented Victoria for 34 years – 31 consecutive.

28 Club Championships and 6 x Runner Up

20 Proportional Club Championships and 5 x Runner Up

Won many Club Pairs, Triples and Mixed Pairs titles

20 x Masters titles – Singles, Pairs and Triples

Won Singles, Pairs and Triples at Sunshine Coast Winter Carnival and named Player of that Carnival.

1993 and 1994 Won Singles, Pairs and Fours in the Mildura and Merbein Carnivals.