

GLADYS BARNES - 90 years young



When one is asked to write a piece about a person who has reached the iconic status of Gladys Barnes in the ladies' bowls community, one could be forgiven for feeling a little overawed at the prospect of doing justice to this fine Lady of Women's Bowls. Recently Gladys has celebrated her 90th birthday with friends and fellow bowlers who were privileged to enjoy some reminiscences of Gladys.

Gladys was born on 20th August 1928 a time of great economic hardship worldwide. She was just eleven years old at the outbreak of WW11. Gladys' Dad fought in both world wars, he was captured and perished in the Sandakan POW camp towards the end of the second world war. Gladys has a great dedication to her father's war memory and commemorates his life and those who served with him each year at a special ceremony at Burwood Park.

Gladys was married to Col who passed away in 2007, she often relates happy stories of her marriage to Col, many of her times with him at bowls, anyone who knows Gladys will also be aware of her big heavy brown (and lethal) bowls.

Another of her achievements outside of the bowling world is her 51-year membership with North Ryde Golf Club where she was once touted with having made a "hole in one".

Gladys joined Greenlees Park Women's Bowling Club in September 1991 and in these few twenty-seven years she played and won numerous Pennant and Club Championships.

A snapshot, of some of the successes she has achieved, Gladys has won:

1998, 2001, 2013 - 2015, 2017 & 2018	Women's Four Club Champion
1997, 2000-2003, 2010 & 2011, 2015, 2017	Women's Triples Club Champion
1999, 2008, 2015 & 2016, 2018	Women's Pairs Club Champion
2015	Women's Singles Club Champion
2000 - 2011	Women's Consistency
2011	Macquarie District Singles
2013	Macquarie District Open Pairs
2013	Major District Grade 3 Pennants
2015	Macquarie District Senior Fours
2016	Macquarie District Pennants G3
2017	Macquarie District Pennants G2
2017	Regional Pennant Playoff G2 Mixed Pairs (3 years)

Gladys has held office in all positions at Greenlees Park Women's Bowls Management Committee: -

1992...	Social Committee
1999, 2000 & 2001	President
2002	Treasurer
2003,04,05,06 to present	Secretary

Extraneous to her club duties Gladys is:

Macquarie District Delegate	Match (Chair)
Hon. Secretary	NSW Women's Bowl for Others
President	Travelling Bowlers - Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL Club
President	Women's Past Presidents
Secretary	Men's Past Presidents
Umpire	Women's Bowls NSW

Awards

	State Merit Pin NSW Women's Bowls
2006	Life Membership Greenlees Park Women's Bowling Club
2006	Received the first Brian Huttly Trophy
2017	Night of Champions District Administrator of the Year Women's Bowls NSW



Gladys has been generous and thorough with her knowledge of the game of bowls and her never ending energy to fulfil her administrative duties, she carries knowledge of the etiquette, rules and processes which are so useful and essential for the ongoing success and even survival of the game as women have enjoyed playing over time. Gladys is dedicated to the integrity of the game and never hesitates to make her point/s in any debate where there is a need for someone to 'speak up'.

For the members of Greenlees Park Women's Bowling Club and the ladies bowling community at large - past, present and to come - Gladys presents a shining example of how to succeed with skill, grace and a keen competitive instinct, retaining full and dedicated friendships across her far-reaching bowls community.

Thanks to you Gladys for all you have given to the bowls community and with the hope that you will continue to enjoy the sport you have embraced so well. Congratulations!!

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