

TICKLED PINK

By Rachel Loveday

Wiseman Park Bowling Club in Wollongong was transformed into a sea of pink for the second annual Pink Bowls Day.

Men, women, children, young, old, amateur and experienced bowlers came together on Sunday October 17th 2010 for an afternoon of bowls to raise money for the McGrath Foundation.

The McGrath Foundation, founded by cricketer Glenn McGrath and his wife, Jane who tragically died from breast cancer in 2008, raises money to place McGrath Breast Care Nurses all across Australia as well as increasing breast cancer awareness in Australian women.

The event was organised by Wiseman Park Bowling Club staff members; Renae Perry, Julie Kay, Jan Joils and Robyn Cody who have had loved ones affected by breast cancer.

Bowling Club Insurance Brokers (BCIB) worked with Wiseman Park Bowling Club in 2009 for the first Pink Bowls Day, however Ms Perry stated that they had to work with the McGrath Foundation for this year's Bowls Day.

"We rang the BCIB, but they weren't doing the Pink Bowls Day, so we rang the McGrath Foundation and we've thrown our own Pink Bowls Day," she said.

The day commenced with Bowls from 1pm to 4pm, with an auction following in the club bar.

All three of Wiseman Park Bowling Club's greens were filled to capacity for the whole afternoon before members and guests came together in the club bar for an auction of memorabilia from celebrities as well as local artists and donors. The profits from the auction totalled over \$6000.

The day was again successful and Ms Perry believes this is because everyone who attended has been affected by breast cancer in some way.

"There have been so many people, members with this club that have been affected by breast cancer in more ways than one, everyone knows someone that has been affected by breast cancer. That's why everyone got in behind it."

"The generosity from the public for this event has been unbelievable."

PINK BOWLS DAY FACTS:

-Tickets for the event cost \$15 per person and that money was donated to the McGrath Foundation.

-A total of \$2500 was raised in ticket sales.

-There were eight items up for auction, each item sold:

1. St George Illawarra Dragon's Guernsey autographed by the 2010 Premiership Team.

Sold for: \$2000

2. An autographed framed picture of cricketer; Adam Gilchrist.

Sold for: \$350

3. An autographed Parramatta Eels Guernsey.

Sold for: \$300

4. Cathy Freeman Autographed Framed Poster of her 2000 Olympics Gold Medal Win.

Sold for: \$270

5. A Painting by local artist Misha Harrison.

Sold for: \$500

6. Sydney Roosters Framed 2010 Grand Final Team Picture.

Sold for: \$1500

7. Autographed shorts from the 2010 Premiership Team St George Illawarra Dragons

Sold for: \$1500

8. Belmore Basin painting by local artist.

Sold for: \$100

-The total amount of money raised from the auction was \$6520.

-An anonymous donor gave Renae Perry a \$1000 cheque.

-The total amount of money raised from the auction, tickets and the anonymous donor was \$10,020.