



SECRETARY MANAGERS REPORT

Club Hillsdale Update – 2024 / 2025

I am pleased to inform our members that during 2024 and 2025, the club undertook several major developments to enhance our facilities.

One of the key projects was the relocation of the gaming room from the back of the club to the front. The new gaming room looks absolutely stunning, and we're delighted to share that we've also added several new poker machines for our members to enjoy.

You may have noticed that we now have a new **synthetic bottom green**, which is excellent for play during wet conditions. The green runs very smoothly and evenly, and our bowlers — along with players from many other clubs — have been enjoying bowling on it when their own greens are unavailable due to rain.

The **top green** has also been renovated, with the old grass replaced by **Tiff Dwarf grass**, which provides a much nicer and smoother surface to bowl on.

By the end of the financial year ending June 30th 2025, the club made a small loss of \$32,031, this was mainly due to an increase in the depreciation figure. Depreciation now stands at \$296,597. The other factor was that we had not increased beverage prices for at least three years. Prices have now been updated, the club, so far, looks in a good position.

In February, **Club Hillsdale hosted its second Sportsman's Luncheon**. This year, we proudly partnered with **Bayside Women's Shelter**, donating half of all funds raised to support women and children affected by domestic violence — a truly great cause to be part of. The event was a tremendous success, and we look forward to hosting it again in early 2026.

Our **garden area** continues to be a huge hit with members, especially during the warmer months. The seating area, beautifully lit with **festoon lighting**, creates a wonderful atmosphere for socialising and relaxing. In November 2024, the garden grass was replaced with **synthetic turf**, which comes with a ten-year warranty and looks fantastic. Later this November, synthetic grass will also be laid on the **eastern side of the bowling green**, which will also be illuminated with festoon lighting.

The club recently hosted an **80's Party**, which was an enormous success! Many members dressed up in full 80's style — the costumes were amazing, the music was fantastic, and the photos captured the fun perfectly. Everyone had a great time, and we're already looking forward to next year's 80's Party.

Our **Oktoberfest Day** was another great celebration, featuring German folk dancers, steins of German beer, a lively DJ throughout the day, and a band performing on the deck from 4pm. Both members and staff embraced the theme, dressing in traditional German outfits — creating a wonderful atmosphere and fantastic photo opportunities.

Melbourne Cup Day is always a major event at Club Hillsdale, so don't forget to book early! Come along with your friends — you'll be impressed.

On **November 2nd**, Club Hillsdale will host a **Family Fun Day** from 11am. There'll be children's games, a jumping castle, a colouring-in competition, an ice cream van, and a variety of market stalls with great offerings. We look forward to seeing you there!

Don't miss our upcoming **Country & Western Party** on **Saturday, November 29th from 7pm**. There's already plenty of buzz about what people will be wearing! The evening will feature **line-dancing lessons from 6pm**, great country music, and a **rock revival Elvis show** — so come along with your friends for an unforgettable night.

Many thanks to our **Marketing Guru, Julia Moroney**, who continues to create and coordinate fantastic entertainment ideas and events, helping our club grow stronger and busier than ever.

Our **membership numbers** are now approaching **4,000** and are expected to reach **5,000 members** over the next twelve months — a fantastic achievement for our community.

St Patrick's Day celebrations have now been running for eight years at Club Hillsdale, with hundreds from the Irish community gathering to enjoy traditional Irish breakfasts and lunches, followed by Irish entertainment throughout the day and evening — truly one of our most enjoyable annual events.

Our **Mexican Nights** in August were a huge success, held every Tuesday and Thursday, and were loved by all who attended.

In September, Julia introduced a new idea — **Sip & Paint** — which turned out to be an amazing success! The garden area was filled with people painting their canvases while sipping champagne. It was a wonderful evening, and many have already asked when the next one will be held.

In mid-November, we'll be installing a **marquee** in the garden area, perfect for **private functions** of up to sixty people.

Additionally, the **car park area on the hill** will undergo **major construction** in late November to improve parking facilities.

Club Hillsdale is, above all, a **community club** — and that's why we host so many events to bring people together and encourage everyone to enjoy the wonderful facilities we have to offer.

Everything that takes place at Club Hillsdale comes with the support of the Board of Directors. Many thanks to our Board who always have a proactive approach to how our club will progress.

Carlos Becerra

Secretary Manager