

Hello Marilyn and fellow members of Wanaka BC,

We are overwhelmed by your generosity, Bowlers! Thank you just isn't enough to convey how grateful we are for your donation towards our recovery from Cyclone Gabrielle. The Bowling Community has been incredibly supportive of our plight, especially when so many bowling clubs, and other sporting facilities, have been lost or severely damaged. Within weeks of our loss, the Ponsonby Bowling Club in Auckland, who were awaiting remedial work of their own from the Auckland Anniversary weekend floods, gave their place in the queue of works to be done by Fieldturf, to us because we are a one green Club. Porangahau BC, here in CHB, and Ngongotaha BC, Rotorua, have also donated funds to date.

We managed to get the carpet lifted before too much more rain fell but the base was damaged, so the remedial work has been done, the new carpet/underlay/sewing machine are on site, we await one more ingredient for the silicone sealant to arrive and we hope to see some more progress this week. It was a heart-breaking event for us after only 7 months play on the new surface laid in July 2022, so we are pretty familiar with the drill now! We salvaged the surrounds and rink markers and our new vacuum cleaner survived water through the shed. Miraculously our Clubhouse was left high and dry, but the three surrounding astro tennis courts were also lost.

However no lives were lost, our members are safe and counting down until they can get together back on the green. We have had a number of Pot Luck meals to keep everyone connected and up to date on progress.

We have created a 'Flood Relief Heroes' board which will be attached to the outside wall of our Clubhouse, recording those who have helped us, and Wanaka BC will be proudly added to the 99 (so far) other heroes who have come to our aid.

If any of your members are ever passing through Waipawa, we would be delighted to have you call in so we can thank you personally!

Please pass on our most grateful thanks to **all** your members from **all** our members for your thoughtfulness and support.

Yours most sincerely,

Marie Allerby
President, Waipawa Bowling Club.