

## Family that bowls together...

By: *YVETTE McGUIRE*

IT was only a matter of time before Vicki Baker donned the bowls gear and got out on the green.

With a husband and three children all rapt in the sport, it only seemed logical.

"I always go and watch so I decided to give it a go as well," she said.

Husband Shane started the family trend six years ago when he joined the Beltana Bowls Club. "The boys (Daniel, 17, and Josh, 15) used to go and watch their dad and one day they were short of players and filled in and it started from there," Vicki said.

Since that time the family has moved to the Derwent City club where Daniel and Josh are both establishing themselves as division one regulars while the baby of the family, 13-year-old Mikayla, plays in the mixed pennant on Saturdays.

Shane's form has improved so much this season he has been promoted from division four to division two.

Although the family affair is a good way for the Bakers, of Lindisfarne, to spend time together, bowls is just one of the sports they are involved in.

"The kids all play basketball and the boys play football and Mikayla also plays soccer," Vicki said.

In fact Josh was in the state under-16 basketball squad earlier this year and Daniel has also represented the state in softball.

All three children have been in state teams or squads for bowls as well.

Vicki said it was fine to fill in where needed but was quite happy to keep practising at this stage with plenty of family members to turn to for advice.



Left to Right: Mikayla, Shane, Vicki, Josh and Daniel