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CDS delivers cash and connection at Hamilton bowls club

Members of the Hamilton Bowls club are enjoying the benefits of a new green thanks to Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme (CDS Vic).

West Zone operator TOMRA Cleanaway has installed a Reverse Vending Machine (RVM) at the club which has encouraged members to work together to raise funds for the bowls club through the scheme.

Since the scheme started in November last year, close to two million eligible containers have been returned through the RVM in a total of 26,000 transactions.

Russell Sherren Hamilton Bowls Club Member says it has meant they don't need to rely on traditional fundraising methods, like raffles, that aren't always an easy sell.

"This has really been an easy way for us to work together as a club and raise the funds we need," he said.

"We find that members of the community are happy to give us their empty cans and bottles because it means their bins aren't as full and they are also supporting us."

"When we get together to collect and sort, it's another excuse to have a coffee together afterwards. I have also noticed there aren't as many cans and stubbies on the roadside since the scheme started."

The club initially set themselves a target to raise \$2,000 this year and have already exceeded \$5,300.

VicReturn CEO Jim Round says the club shows how CDS Vic has flow on benefits to regional towns and community organisations.

"The Hamilton Bowls club is a great example of how the scheme helps community groups. They can receive containers from supporters, host a container collection drive or apply to run their very own refund point," he said.

"On top of this we are also reducing litter off our streets and diverting drink containers headed for landfill."

VicReturn is the Scheme Coordinator appointed by the Victorian Government to run the Container Deposit Scheme. There are three Network Operators who manage refund



points and ensure customers receive their 10c refund. TOMRA Cleanaway is responsible for the West Zone, including Hamilton.

To find out more, including the location of your nearest collection point visit [cds.vic.org.au](https://www.cds.vic.org.au)