



# Harperbury Bowls Club Newsletter 1955 - 2023

## April 2023

*Members are reminded of the club ethos of respecting the right of all club members to participate in club activities free from harassment, abuse and intimidation.*



## And we are back!

What a glorious opening weekend. Lots of members, lovely sunshine and two fun afternoons of bowls.



### Welcome back!

A lovely opening weekend of bowls.  
Hope you all said 'good afternoon' to our two spruced up members on your way in.

Geoff C has done a fab job of giving this pair some much needed TLC.



## The Isle of Wight.

We knew we were going to have a great few days when we needed some sun screen on when on the ferry going over to Fishbourne from Portsmouth. On arrival on the IOW most of us went straight to the Crab and Lobster eatery and had their fabulous crab sandwiches.

On the Tuesday we all went to the IOW indoor bowls club in Ryde for an indoor match. What a lovely lot! Nothing was too much trouble and we had a lovely lunch with them after the game. We got mullered but had a fab morning.

Everyone did their own thing on the Wednesday so 6 of us went to Newport and had 9 holes in the sunshine. Tough course, bit hilly, but a lovely morning.

The Thursday was the same so 5 of us popped into Ryde for another 9 holes. The course was a challenge but another lovely morning. Others went on train rides, explored and basically enjoyed the sites on the IOW.

The food was lovely with a carvery every night or A la carte and the breakfasts were plentiful. In the evening we had a few dances and some line dancing followed by a show most nights. A few of us could be found playing table tennis or pool after the show in the games room just to finish the nights off. On the Friday morning at breakfast we celebrated Peter's 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday. A great week.





We helped Peter Celebrate his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday on the Friday morning at breakfast with a cake and a chorus of Happy Birthday to you!



I have provisionally booked for the 4<sup>th</sup> March next year as there is an indoor open 4's bowls comp that week. The sheet is up in the club house if you fancy joining us. A standard room is £195 pp with the Ferry being £25 per car and bowls £40pp. There will be 3 games 1.5 hours long during the 4 days, they do not play in the eve. One day will have 2 games the other will have 1. We enter in teams of 4.

Obviously, you do not have to bowl you can pop off and explore no problem at all or just chill and relax, even play golf if the weather allows. We need 20 people to get the group discount and need to let them know by the end of April please. It will be a £10 pp deposit until 12 weeks before when the full balance needs paying.

Jan has been keeping a few members active during the winter this year with her lovely walks and pub lunches



The March quiz night was a great night and the money raised allowed us to purchase the new patio tables and chairs.

The next one is FRI 19<sup>th</sup> May. The sheet is up the club for team entries.



Why is it during the winter months the outdoor bowls season seems yonks away, yet as soon as you get back on the green it feels like it was only yesterday that we were there. Bizarre or is it just me? It feels good to be back.

I am, once again, looking forward to this season and your support with playing in friendlies, and for some, taking some of the games for me.

The first lot of selection sheets are up on the board and the North Mymms one has now been picked. I am using WhatsApp this season or text for those not on WhatsApp to let you know if you are selected to play so a simple thumbs up lets me know you have the game in your diary. The team sheet will be displayed in the normal place if you want to see the selected triples. If you CANNOT play, for whatever reason, please let the captain of the day know as soon as possible so a sub can be found.

The opening weekend, apart from a slight hiccup with players playing in the chocolate drive on the Saturday and thank you for your patience whilst it was sorted out, went really well. Jill A won the chocolate drive helped along by a 17 – 0 win in her first game. Well done Jill.

There were a few players pulled out of the Capt V President last minute but Dave and I managed to jiggle teams around and a great afternoon was had followed by a cream tea. Oh yes and the captains team won 78 – 69 by the way.

A small plea.....If you have your name down for any of the friendly games, internal comps, club fun nights or any game and then find out you can't make it please let the captain of the day or the organiser know ASAP. We appreciate that unless you have ever organised things like these games you probably have no understanding of the organisation that goes into getting the teams right, the draw right and the rinks allocated. But, It is a lot of hard work so the more warning you can give us the more chance we have of finding a sub.

Sue O has been working hard doing an audit of the clubs bowls in the shed. We have put out several shouts for our bowlers to return any woods that have been borrowed please. We are a few sets down from last year.

***The Club has it's open day is this SATURDAY.***

***If you can spare an hour or so to meet and greet and provide any visitors with a cuppa between 10 – 3pm please pop down.***

***If you have any friends or relatives that have been talking about having a go at bowls – bring them down. They just need flat shoes.***

## Committee News

- The committee have decided that any new members who have not bowled before will be asked to join as associate members for their first year whilst they decide if they enjoy bowls. After a four week initial period, when they can attend the coaching sessions, they will be asked to fill in the application form and pay their £20, if not already done so.
- It was highlighted last season that bowlers who visit us from other clubs confined to wheelchairs could potentially have an access issue when it comes to using our bathroom facilities. Dave Leggatt has donated a wheel chair that will fit through the doors into the large toilet in the ladies changing rooms. This toilet will be dual access for ladies and gents with mobility issues confined to a wheelchair. If a man needs to use the bathroom facilities please make sure that the changing room is empty and remains empty whilst the bathroom is being used. The donated wheelchair is for use within the club house only please.
- **The contact list, cleaning rota and tea rota will now be kept in the front of the pink booking diary.**
- Members are encouraged, after a run through of using the Defib and CPR over the weekend, that it would be useful if your bowls bag contained an ICE form – In Case of Emergency. These contain next of kin details, medical history and regular medications. The form should be in a sealed envelope and clearly marked ICE. If there is ever an accident or an emergency and we need to contact your next of kin or ambulance crew need to know medical history this information will be very helpful.
- Bowls bag should be kept in the changing rooms please. They are a trip hazard when left on the patio.
- There will be a new lock fitted to the bar in the next few weeks as we have a few bar keys unaccounted for. The keys will be allocated to members by the committee keeping the numbers to a minimum.
- All subs should now be in. We have 36 men bowlers, 23 lady bowlers, 20 associate members, 3 playing life members and 2 life members that no longer play. A total membership of 84 members. It is lovely that so many of our new bowlers from last year have joined as full members this year.
- Members are reminded to look on the Herts County and District web sites for details of any competition details.
- THURSDAY 4<sup>th</sup> MAY is polling day at the club. The club house is out of bounds but the green can be used for roll ups using the mats and jacks in the outside box as members will be unable to get the keys out of the club house for the equipment shed.
- Ladies are encouraged to put their names down for 2 district games this year so that they can enter district comps next year. The first few games selection sheets are up on the district board in the ladies changing rooms. We have two games being played at Harperbury this year if you want to put down for those let Sheila know.
- When cleaning the club please ONLY use the cleaning products supplied by the club as COSHH sheets have been completed for these. We are required, by law, to control substances that are hazardous to health. On the COSHH sheets the health and safety officer has to list chemicals that are hazardous to health, decide how to prevent harm, provide control measures to reduce harm to health and provide info and instructions on how to use the chemicals safely. These have to be reviewed each year so we stick with the same products to make the process easier.

## Committee News continued

- The County coaches are coming to Harperbury on MONDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> MAY to run a skills workshop for all members covering lots of different areas of the game. These are very informative sessions and all members are encouraged to come along if you can make it. The session will be about 3 hours in the afternoon and will cost £3 per person. Please add your name to the list at the club and support this session if you can. If well attended we could book more covering more specific areas of the game.
- The draws for all the Single competitions has taken place and will be on the competition board within the next week. Please note the play by dates and make sure, if you are the challenger, that you arrange your game by the said date.
- The new competition 75 fixed jack trophy will be played on THURS 18<sup>th</sup> May. As there were so many entries there will be a ¼ final on Fri 19<sup>th</sup>. If you can mark on Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> please let Sheila know.

## The Club's Coronation Celebrations on SUNDAY 7th MAY

*Our celebrations will start at 2pm with the planting of a tree to mark the occasion.*

**A bowls match will start the afternoon's fun activities**

**Kings Charles team V Queen Camilla's team**

**The afternoon/evening will have some dicey horse racing a Royal Buffett and live music.**

**Please add your name to the list at the club if you would like to come along and celebrate with us.**

**We have two new internal competitions this year and the rules are as follows.**

**NEW ENTRANTS' COMPETITION** - Mid-season, in consultation with the Membership Secretary, the Competition Secretary will agree the members who qualify to enter the competition and if the competition shall be played as singles or pairs. New entrants that qualify are those that joined in the current playing season and have no previous bowling experience and those who joined the previous playing season who had no previous experience and still require regular coaching

### **Over 75's Singles Competition – Short Jack. –**

The 75 Short Jack Trophy is played as a fixed short jack over 18 ends . From the edge of the green, the front end of the mat is fixed at two meters and the jack is fixed at four meters throughout the game. The game is played alternate ends. If the jack is moved during play it is replaced back on the spot, if a wood is on the jack spot then the jack is replaced as near as possible to the spot past the spot. If two woods of opposing players rest on the jack at the conclusion of an end, the end is declared a tied end with no score awarded. It is not possible to kill an end by striking the jack off the green. If there is a draw at the conclusion of the 18th end, an extra end is played to obtain a winning result.

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