



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.

Harperbury Bowls Club Newsletter 1955 - 2021

JULY 2021



I just wanted to remind you all that the captain's charity this season is Pumping Marvellous. This was my chosen charity in 2020 as well and it felt right to carry on with it in 2021.

My friend Julie was a staunch supporter of this charity. She had a serious heart condition for many years and was waiting for a heart transplant. She became heavily involved with Pumping Marvellous providing support for people with heart conditions and their families and spreading the word about transplants.

If you have a quick look at their website www.pumpingmarvellous.org you will see the great work they do. There are guides as to what heart failure is, what support pumping marvellous can offer, podcasts from people living with heart failure, managing heart failure and what's new in the treatment of heart failure.

If diagnosed with cancer we know the organisations that can support us like the Macmillan nurses etc. But if we have heart failure problems how many people know about Pumping Marvellous?

After waiting MANY years for her heart transplant and having an 'electric pump' handbag working as her heart for the last 2 years and then 'living' in Harefield Hospital for the last year of her life Julie finally got her heart transplant in 2020. Sadly, however, she did not regain consciousness after her operation as her worn out other major organs could not cope with the new heart and she passed away at 60 years old. I think about her every now and then with fond memories of our midwifery training and I know those of you that met her at our quiz night agree that she was a cheery, positive lady and made a great impression on everyone she met.

So please support the events for the captain's charity . Thank you

Committee news.

First aid Box

A MASSIVE thank you to Jan who has re stocked the first aid kit.

Martin Daly Gala – Saturday 14th August.

The committee have been working hard on our gala and are pleased to say we have 18 teams. If you have entered a team you should have the info by email or post by now. As always, we rely on the bar, raffle and tea and cake stall to boost our club funds. If you can pop a cake up the club by Friday or donate any raffle prizes during the week that would be brilliant.

As always these days would not run without a lot of help so a MASSIVE thank you to those who have offered their help on the day. Sheila, Joyce, Deb, Maggie L and Margaret Lee in the kitchen and cake stall, Maureen Plum and Hilary on the raffle and all over really lol. All the members who will be keeping a watchful eye on the bar, collecting glasses and washing up etc. Ken has a team in the gala and would appreciate some time to chill in between rounds I am sure. Thanks to Dave, Peter, Deb and Gillian who have sorted the gala and who, on the day, will hopefully be joined by Rob M who will be in the control hub making sure all is going well. We hope to see a few of you on the day There will be hot sausages in rolls available from 8.30 till 9.30 on the tea and coffee stall to start the day off.

CCTV

Plans for negotiating a deal and installing CCTV are under way to try and provide some extra security around the club. We will also be installing alarms on the sheds to try and protect our machinery and equipment.

Club Fun Night

The next committee run fun bowls eve with supper is TUES 31st AUGUST. We will be having 12 ends of fun bowls followed by a Mild Chili Supper £3.50.

The list will be going up soon on the notice board.

Flower Beds

The committee would like to thank everyone for their efforts with the fabulous flower beds this season and hanging baskets. They really do set the surrounding green area off. The flower bed on the right as you look from the club (full of gladioli at the moment) is looking for a new 'owner' to take it over. If anyone is interested please let us know.

Internal Competitions

These are going very well on fixed dates with a lovely 2 woods day on 31st July. The day was rounded off with a delicious chicken and chip supper cooked up by Robbie.

The Semifinals on the 4th Aug saw Dave G and Tim A go through to the 2 woods final. Well done to all.

Saturday 21st August is the last fixed date competition this season and is for the mixed pairs. The draw has taken place with some pairs getting a bye through to the afternoon games and others playing the first round in the morning and a win will mean they play again in the afternoon. The draw is up the club on the competition board with the format etc.

Presentation Lunch – Friday 26th November

We paid a visit to the Masonic Lodge in Radlett to check out the venue for our presentation lunch. It is a building steeped in Masonic history. We have booked for FRI 26th NOV 12.30 arrival for a 1.30 lunch. It will be two courses at £18.

We thought we would start the Christmas season off early this year as we missed out SO much last year and have roast turkey with a vegetarian roast option followed by profiter rolls, choc sauce and cream or a fruit salad. I need to know if anyone going for the vegetarian option or fruit salad option please. If you can put a V for vegetarian option and FS for fruit salad that will help me.

The sheet is up on the social board in the club by the door if you want to add your name. Payment will be by 1st Nov please. Numbers are limited and 31 names down so far.

The Ray cup

The club hosted the semi finals and finals of the Ray cup this month. The day started with a bacon roll cooked by Robbie and the action was soon forth coming. A lovely buffet lunch was enjoyed and It was so nice watching players in their 20's and 30's enjoying playing the game of bowls.



Captains Report.



Subs in friendly games If you have stepped in as a last minute sub recently – thank you. As Captain's taking the games both Keith and I are very grateful. If you find you can't make a game you have been picked for PLEASE contact the person taking that game as soon as possible so a sub can be sorted. If you are picked to play in a game PLEASE tick your name on the sheet up the club so we know you have the game down and we don't have to chase you. These little things will make our roles a bit easier to carry out.

We have had another busy month both in members own personal District and County comps and in club games and friendlies. Both Tim, Judy and myself have struggled in some games to get full teams having to ring round or text for players so we can put a team out. In some of the men's games we have had to give the game away as Tim was unable to get the required players.

I have had to cut down the number of triples in friendly games some of the time as we can't field the full complement. If these games had been rinks it would have been an even bigger struggle. This leads us to look at our membership numbers and next seasons fixtures and competitions until we can build up our bowling members again.

Ladies District Competitions

Ladies District semi finals are on 1st and 2nd of Sept either at Townsend or Welwyn Garden city BC and we have a few Harperbury representatives. Judy plays in the District singles, Deb in the Officers singles and Deb, Jenny and Jan in the District Triples and if successful the finals are on SUNDAY 12th SEPT at St Albans Bowls Club Clarence park. The dates and times of the Semi finals have yet to be confirmed.

Men's District Competitions

After a tricky season KEVIN SPECK has successfully reached the final of the men's Champion of Champion's singles comp winning 21 – 20. The final will be played on SATURDAY 11th SEPT at NORTH MYMMS. I am sure Kevin would appreciate some support if you can make it. Times to be advised.

The Future of Bowls at Harperbury.

I appreciate we are not the only club struggling to get committee members or to put teams out for some games but it does make me wonder if Harperbury Bowls club will be around in future years.

We have had vacant positions on the committee all season and probably will have more once this committee step down after the AGM. Most of us have 2 positions as it is.

We all have busy lives but we also choose to be on the committee, all 6 of us, because we want the club to survive and do well and we want it to be a great place to play bowls. There are a few of my family on the committee which makes it look a bit 'clicky' I agree- I am on the committee, Dave is and my mum is but if we didn't stand on the committee who would - would you? We would love to be able to step back and let others take some of our roles but nobody comes forward. Whilst a massive thank you goes out to those that do get stuck in to support the club I do worry about the future of Harperbury Bowls Club sometimes and the apparent reluctance in our membership to get involved.

Speaking to other clubs as we meet them through the season some have similar problems but some seem to be recruiting quite a few new members. This is something we need your help with for 2022 - to get Harperbury bowls club out there a bit more and get new members in to secure our bowling future.

Club National Competitions in 2022

If you are a bowling member you will have probably, during the season, received a call from either Judy or Tim asking you to play in either one of the National, County or District club games as they were short of players.

The committee have recently discussed the National, County and District competitions we enter as a club and how hard it has been to field teams for some of them especially the Club National comps. The committee need to make plans as to what we enter in 2022. The proposal was put forward that we take a break from the National Comps in 2022 and focus on the Herts County league and district league(s).

Before a decision is made the committee would like to ask our bowling members :-

A) How many men and women bowlers are willing to support the National games next season if Harperbury enters them? These are the games that require the most players 10 or 11 for a match.

B) For the men, do we need to be in 2 district leagues if we are struggling putting teams out?

If you can email me your thoughts and, if all being well, whether you would be willing to put your name down and support these games in 2022 I will pass them onto the committee.

Whatever the decision for 2022 it will be reviewed at the end of that season to see where we are ready for the following season. Especially if our membership has grown.

Finally, is anyone interested in taking up the role of men's team manager for 2022? Without one the decision as to whether we enter anything, as far as the men's team goes, is probably an easy one to answer.

Survey Results re friendly games and tea and cake/biscuits

We had 33 replies to the email survey we sent out asking for your thoughts around the friendlies and refreshments so thank you to those who replied.

- Overall, 94% were either extremely satisfied, very satisfied or satisfied with tea/biscuits and cakes and 2% were not satisfied.
- 55% say stick to what we have been doing this season 21% want meals back 24% don't mind either way
- 63% agree meals for the big games 36% say no meals at all.
- 100% are extremely satisfied or very satisfied with the way the committee handled the covid events.

The committee will be going with the majority and plan to carry on providing tea and cake/biscuits for the friendly matches in 2022.

For the Ron Grey trophy, Stuart Mather and London Welsh games meals will be provided.

For comps and league games the refreshments will be decided by the captains taking the games on discussion with the opposition. If food is required the ladies normally sort themselves out and for the men the tea rota will be in play and the captain for the game will need to contact the members down for that game to let them know if food is required.