



# Harperbury Bowls Club Newsletter 1955 - 2023

## AUG 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.*



We are very excited to welcome the Potters bowls shop to the club this month.

They will have everything from spray chalk to new bowls.

This is the same night as fun bowls and supper.

We look forward to seeing you all there.

Potters Bowls Shop will be bringing our roadshow to

**HARPERBURY BC**  
**TUESDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST**  
**2PM - 6PM**



# Some of the recent Top Rink Peeps.



Top Rink Positions. Top 3 so far.  
 Jill (9) Michael (6)  
 Dave L (6)



Winners of the July Club  
 Night. Dave L, Chrissy  
 and new bowler Frank



Winners of our Martin Daly gala this year beating 17 other teams on points were – Aaron, Dave N and Del. Well done fellas.



## Club Night & Supper - TUES 29<sup>th</sup> August

Last shout out if anyone wants to join us. It will be 12 ends of various challenges in triples or rinks (4's) depending on numbers. Remember it is a bit of fun!

We will have a mild chili and rice after the game with zaz it up sauce for those that like a chili that bites the back of the throat! I have one veggie chili on order (Val).

**Bowling** – Derek, Gillian, Peter, Jill, Barb, Ray, Chris E, JP, Val, Jan (no food), Paul L, Dave L, Geoff G, Mark S, Kathy, Mitch, Jean E, Keith W, Eileen, Chris W, John W, Brenda, Graham, Robert, Mags Long, Les, Paul W, Sue O, Jean M, Liz A, Tony P, Joan H, Brian H, Carol, Barry, Deb.

**Food Only** – Nigel, Michael, Aaron, Mo P, Lynne M, Laurie & Jackie.

It is £5 for all and we will have a raffle as well.

Remember if you can't make it please let us know ASAP as numbers are really important when we are trying to work out a playing format.

## Club Finals Day Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September/ Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Sept

The competitions are finishing off now with quite a few finals already decided and up on the competition board. Your support for the members in the finals is so important on finals day so if you can make it we would love to see you. It all usually kicks off at 10 and goes on throughout the Saturday and possibly the Sunday morning this year. Sheila will be putting the playing format up before the day so you can see who is playing when.

Traditionally there is a lunch on offer on finals day of home-made Veg soup and a roll followed by cheese and biscuits. There will be list on the wall so we can make sure we have enough of each on the day. Please PRE ORDER!

It does look like we have a few of the same members in a few of the finals this year so Sheila may well be using the Sunday morning to spread them out a bit. Bacon rolls and a cuppa to encourage members along to support!

## Sylvia Reed Trophy with Bucks Fizz Breakfast to start.

This is an end of season tradition for us. We start at 9am with a cooked breakfast and a glass of bubbles and the bowls internal comp usually kicks off between 10 and 10.30. The format is usually drawn triples playing different triples over 4 lots of 4 ends with the triples being mixed up for each session. At the end of the morning the player with the biggest net score (take your shots against from your shots won and the difference is either a + or a -. The biggest + score wins the Trophy. Sounds complicated but it isn't really. The list for names is on the board.

## Ladies V Gents

This game finishes the season off for us and is usually very friendly but quite competitive as you can imagine. There are a lovely lot of names down but at the moment the gents have more than the ladies – come on girls get your names down I really don't want to have to put some gents in skirts!



My last few games as club captain are rapidly approaching and I would like to say a massive thank you to those that have regularly put your names down for the friendlies. It makes such a difference. I have really enjoyed my time as your club captain but I will not be standing next season. I want to play more golf, fish a bit more and get away more often next year now we have re-gained our passion for camping again. I am not saying never again as I have really enjoyed it, well most of it but for now I am done. If anyone would like more info about being club captain please come and find me.

Let me tell you about the role of Club Captain in case someone is interested. Firstly you do not need to be the best bowler in the club! As Club captain I take care of the friendly games. The ladies captain and men's team manager take care of all the really competitive games like district or county club games. So, for me the friendlies are about getting a well balanced team out, including new bowlers and experienced bowlers wanting to try out new positions.

As club captain when putting new bowlers in it is important that they are supported on their rink by someone who isn't going to try and coach them but support them. Show them what is expected of them, where to stand, the etiquette of the game etc. For those that have gone through all the coaching with Jan and her team, if Jan says they are ready to play you can rest assured they just need some confidence building.

They will know how to put the jack up, line it up etc but might need a little reminder as playing in a game is a bit different to a roll up. Jan even takes them through measuring and using a score card. They are ready they just need match experience. I am really excited about next season and playing along side some of the new bowlers from this years intake in the friendlies. Indeed there are still some newish bowlers from the 2022 in take that still have to enter the world of friendly games so whoever is club captain next year you should not be short of names for the friendlies.

The rotation on reserves is also important as club captain. It needs to be as fair as possible when there are more names down than are needed. For me it is not about picking your strongest team, unless it is a trophy game like the Ron Grey Trophy or the Stuart Mather Trophy. For these games I openly encourage and badger our experienced players to put their names down.

We only have a certain amount of players willing to play skip so these players are not down as reserves too often. But we are lucky to have quite a few fab leads in the club and lots of confident players able to play in the middle. This involves talking to the skip and working out who is holding the shots and measuring if needed. If we are over subscribed for a game I do try and get the other captain to up the number of triples so everyone can play. This is not always possible. I have said before, if you are reserve it is not because I don't feel you are good enough I am just rotating players and you will play the next game you put your name down for. So as club captain you need to be organised with a methodical system for keeping a record of who plays and who the reserves are for each game. I use an excell spreadsheet.

As club captain I contact the other teams to confirm the details about a week before the games. Everyone has seen the role of the captain on the day. Writing the cards out with the other captain, deciding on when to have tea and if there will be trial ends or 1 on the first two ends etc. Then we stand on the green and welcome the other team and if at home pointing out the safety aspects and reading out the teams. If we are away we thank the home team for their welcome wish everyone a lovely afternoon and read the teams out. After the game or mid-way sometime we stand up and do the thank you's, usually the green team, bar person and members doing the teas and announce the result and give out top rink prizes. You can also add a toast – good luck in rest of your comps, healthy rest of the season etc. Well that is what should happen lol. I seem to do it differently each time! Either adding bits or forgetting bits. Another sign I have been doing this role too long. So, if you fancy having a go and want to shadow the captain of the day in the last few games let me know. The role is SO much easier if you have a supportive Vice captain willing to take some games for you. I have had just that in Keith. I do know that Keith will not be standing as vice captain next year either so that role will also need to be filled. We are not a club that follows the Vice captain automatically becomes Club Captain – Unless they want to put their name down of course.

Thanks again for your continued support      Debs

## Committee News.

### Massive electricity bill

As you all know the committee received a massive electricity bill recently for nearly £6,500 since April 2022. We have been receiving break downs of where the power is being used. The sub committee are still looking at ways that we can make the club more energy efficient.

We are having to pay over £300 a month at the moment for the electricity supply until the tariff is sorted out so the committee with the Trustees are looking at ways to increase the monies coming in to match the monies going out for next season.

### Shirts



The sample shirt has arrived, as modelled by Chrissy the other day.

You will shortly be asked to cast your vote. The sample shirt is hanging in the club house. It is a medium and you are welcome to slip it on or have a feel of the material.

It is important that club members use their vote in this decision as it will be carried by the majority.

### Committee positions

The signup sheets for the committee roles for 2024 will be going up on the main board soon. At the AGM the club's 2023 committee step down and a new committee is voted in.

As I have already mentioned we will need a club and vice captain for the 2024 season and I know Gillian is stepping down as club secretary as well. These are all pivotal roles within the club.

There may be other committee members that would prefer not to stand again as we have all been in post for a while now so please have a look at the sheet when it goes up. If you are interested in getting involved in the running of the club, on behalf of the membership, then please come and speak to a committee member to find out more.

The club will not run without a committee.

**Mo P and friends will be running a Macmillan Coffee morning with a bring and buy sale from 10.30 on FRIDAY 29<sup>th</sup> SEPT at the club.**

**Please pop along if you can, bring a friend if you can and support a great cause.**

## Saturday Night's alright for dancing!



A fab night was had by all with good food, good music and lots of dancing.

SO nice to be on the patio dancing the night away.

A real summer eve, one of few this year.

Hoping to repeat the experience next year!

## Hot off the press!



It has come to my attention that **SOMEONE** has a secret weapon when it comes to playing bowls!

Lucky Socks!!!