

# **OAKLEY BOWLERS**



## **CHRONICLE**



**JULY 2016**

**ISSUE 2**

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## From our President – Mary Varndell



At the time of writing this the first thing that comes to mind is Phew.....Its rather hot! Still we must not moan as our Summer may only be for a few days more. I hope everyone has kept well and not be affected by the heat; the main thing is to drink plenty – of water of course, and use plenty of sunscreen. Enough on the weather!

I have played in some lovely friendly games – some we have won and some we have lost – but most of all we have enjoyed them. I know Barry will have all the results and statistics in his report. The club has had its ups and downs in both local, county and national competitions and they have been most ably documented by our very good web team who keep us up to date with all the results. A very big well done to those who have been winning and a “hard luck, well done for trying and there is always next year” to those who came second. The outcome of these events are on the web and I am sure will appear in the captains’ reports in this issue.

But I do have to say a big congratulations Heather, Nicole and Ashley who have progressed and achieved so much this season. They are the club’s and bowling’s future - and with encouragement and support could go far.

Also congratulations to Ruth Bown who has this year made her first appearance in the Bowls Hampshire Ladies Double Rink Team – The Walker Cup. Well done Ruth.

The tour to the Lake District is fast approaching and I will be sending out details – pickups, itinerary etc. in the next few weeks. I am really looking forward to it and I hope you are too.

Enough of my spiel – I wish you all well in whatever you do and more importantly happy bowling.

# Captain's Log

from Barry Lee, Men's Captain



To start this report may I thank Sandra for taking on the task as editor and publisher of the important news letter which keeps us informed of what's going on within the club.

I have just entered into my log book friendly game number 17. The team for last Sunday were from Woolston & district, 6 rinks of men who like a drink or two and some a bit more. They arrived by coach at about 1.30pm with 9 ladies to keep them under control a fairly noisy afternoon and they really enjoyed themselves.

I said 17 game but we have only played 14. Thatcham cancelled by e mail as they were a few short, WE had to cancel the Southampton old Green game because we only had 5 names down. With a membership of 120 plus sorry not a good advert for the club, finally the charity group called the Berkshire Granfers had to cancel due to lack of support and it looks like they might fold through lack of members. A great shame as they started to raise money for all charities as far back as 1954.

The men had entered several national competitions as well as Hampshire County competitions. Men's double rink, men's top club which comprises of singles, pairs, triples and fours. The Tony Alcock Trophy, Hampshire mixed top club and the County 16's all of which we are now out of. Still there is always next year.

One of my main jobs for the club is the weekend friendly matches, mainly mixed and this is where, I think, is the best way to get to meet all of Oakley members and to play a friendly but competitive game. So far 68 members have played on a Saturday or Sunday and they may not know this has been in the company of approx 350 other bowlers from Hampshire, Berkshire and Wiltshire. The games are good fun and you get to chat with so many people. I try and keep a record of all the games and the scores and especially the highest rink of the day. So far Ric Newson, Martin Smith, June Harvie, Peter Stewart, Keith Turnbull, Stan Mond, Bob Goodyear have all had a highest winning rink but one person has won 7 highest winning rinks so far and its 'Jocky' Wilson. Wow must be down to team selection.

As the season is over halfway through I hope to start another favourite game called 'yardstick'. I am hoping to start this on Tuesday 2 August. It will be played on Tuesdays and Thursdays right through to Thursday 15 Sept but not on the 6 Sept or the 8 Sept as the club will be away on tour with President Mary to the Lake District. So please all members are welcome you don't have to be an expert. It's just a drawing game to get th the jack or within a 'yard' (3 feet). It's fun and you will be mixed with players of all abilities and a different team each game. There will a total of 10 games and I will record your score each game and count the highest 6 games played.

On another note the Social Committee, of which I'm one, were very disappointed with the number of names put down for the race night. This was the reason it was cancelled. It is a great night and lots of fun. If you have any other ideas on fundraising and or fun evenings please talk to Ric Newson or one of the social committee.

# Spencer's Snippets

from Spencer Kerley, General Secretary



The Club's congratulations go to Ashley Nethercliffe on his Middleton Cup debut and to Ruth Bown on her Walker Cup debut.

Our efforts to attract new members have been quite successful and as at the 25<sup>th</sup> July full membership stood at 129. Thanks go to all those who helped with the Open Days and to those involved with the PlayBowls4Fun course, particularly our coaches and Peter, who, in my absence, undertook much of the organisation.

Our Facebook Page [www.facebook.com/oakleybowlingclub](http://www.facebook.com/oakleybowlingclub) continues to give us a useful amount of publicity with a recent article featuring Ashley's Middleton Cup debut being viewed by more than 1500 people. The website also attracts a good deal of favourable comment and as far as I can judge the problems we were experiencing with the Alert System have been resolved. If, however you are not receiving alerts, to inform you the website has a new item, please let me know.

The Bowls Hampshire Presentation Lunch will this year take place on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at Fleming Park Bowling Club. The Menu is Vegetable Soup, Roast Beef, Fruits of the Forest Meringue, Cheese and Biscuits and Coffee. Cost remains at £17.50 which is remarkable value for money for an excellent meal. Please put this date in your diary and join fellow members for a very enjoyable afternoon.

As reported in the last newsletter, the Committee is looking to achieve "Clubmark Accreditation" for Oakley Bowls Club. Peter Bown has spent a good deal of time in reviewing and, where necessary, producing a set of formal policies and procedures and at its last meeting the Committee agreed a "Club Mark Approval Document", covering 15 documents which need to be in place if we are to achieve accreditation. We now need to make our submission and, if successful, we think we may well be the first outdoor bowls club in Hampshire to gain such recognition.

The Bowls Hampshire Finalists, who will represent the County at the National Championships in August, are now known and for the Northern Area Men it has been a vintage season with both representatives in the Singles, Pairs and Triples and one representative in the Fours and Junior Singles coming from our Area. Interestingly, although the Galacticos of Cove are well represented they did not dominate as Pyestock(3), Alton and Alton Social all will be present.

Bowls Hampshire's Men have for the third time in four years reached the semi-finals of the Balcomb Trophy, the Inter County Double Rink Competition. They play Northumberland on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August. Let us hope they can repeat their 2013 success.

Bowls Hampshire is currently trying to work out how it will fit into its programme the new Senior Fours events for players over 55.

The new display unit in the bar has proved successful and we are now offering a wider range of drinks. Bar profit, which after subscriptions is our biggest source of income, have been affected by a number of clubs failing to turn up for friendlies and by the lack of support for the Race Night, which had to be cancelled. However, we are hopeful that by the end of the season we shall have made a similar amount to last year. Thanks go to all who buy stock, serve the drinks and maintain the accounts.





# Ladies Secretary's Salutations



**From Lesley Allard, Ladies Secretary**

How time flies! I have just received the selection list for the last three North Hants WBA Outdoor Friendly games for this season. This is now on display in the ladies' cloakroom. Thank you to all the ladies who support these games, especially as Oakley's Averil Adams will be the President of NHWBA next season. All Oakley ladies are eligible to play in these games and it is a great way of getting to know ladies from other clubs in a friendly other than competitive atmosphere. There will be opportunities to play in Indoor friendlies during the winter months.

Many congratulations to Nicole Rogers on her recent selection for the winning England Ladies Junior Team! What an achievement for a player in only her second season as an outdoor player! Our other Junior lady player Heather is another star in the making, having played in the Amy Rose Inter-county competition this year, fitting in all competitions with her school examinations. Well done Heather!

Congratulations to all ladies who have reached finals of County and North Hants competitions and especially to Laura Butler, who won the Dolly Anstey two wood singles. Great work Laura!

Best wishes to all who have been unwell and unable to play this season. I am sorry if I have not been as attentive as I ought but my husband Barry has been rather unwell and taken up much of my Oakley Bowling Club time.

President Mary's tour to the Lake District is not far ahead and we hope for good bowling and fine weather on the tour. Have a great tour Mary!

## *Congratulations*

A Very Happy 90th Birthday to Mavis Titheradge (Mave the Rave!) and Many Happy Returns of the Day. Keep well and smiling Mavis!

## *Happy Anniversary*

John and Val Ryan will celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary in early September. Congratulations to them both!

# Champion of Champions



Winning teams from 2015 assembled at The Dorset Bowls Resort for the fifth running of the popular Champion of Champions weekend.

Played in a round robin format the winners of the groups and the runners up from the two groups completed in the play offs to determine the top four teams.

In Division A, the eventual winner was Hazel Marke's Rink from Hampshire Select, (including Ric Newson, Mary and Terry Varndell) who won through all their round robin games.

Division B was won by Steve Gibson's Rink from Bishop Duppas.

The grand finale saw all eight players deliver some excellent woods and it was true to say that it was difficult to guess who was going to win.

At the start of the match Steve Gibson's team went into an early six shot lead, only for Hazel Marke's team to gradually put the scores back and with an excellent last end, finally pulled in front to win by two shots.



# Amy Rose

**From Janie Vickers**

On Sunday, 10th July, 8 Oakley ladies played 8 members of the Amy Rose Team.

This Team consists of young ladies from around the County and they will represent Hampshire at Leamington Spa.

The reason for writing this is to say what a pleasure it was to meet and play against such lovely young people.

Their Manager thanked us for raising a team to play them but I feel, and I'm sure all the Oakley ladies would agree, it is us who should be thanking them for the enjoyable experience of playing them.

We wish them good luck in their future competitions.

# Amy Rose Bowl

**From Colin Statham**

## **What does being in the Amy Rose Bowl (U31 ladies) Squad Involve (alternative title - M&D's Taxi and Banking Services)**

For those who may not be aware, once again Oakley has two representatives in this year's Hampshire Amy Rose Squad – Nicole Rogers and Heather Statham. Whilst an U31 team the Hampshire squad is a very young squad and very much work in progress with only 3 members over 18 and the youngest aged 12. The squad can comprise up to a maximum of 10 but this year Hampshire have only 9 players, although next year more girls are expected to become available as more youngsters from Lodden Vale are trying outdoor this year. The Amy Rose Bowl is played solely at the National Championships as a county knockout competition at Royal Leamington Spa with 2 rinks playing 15 ends and the total aggregate score determining the winner.

The team is managed by Maxeen Fletcher from Loxwood Bowls Club (with the help of a number of other background helpers/organisers). This year's squad comprises 7 players from last year's squad and 2 new members. Most of the girls know each other well as most play on the indoor circuit also. Squad members are from all 3 corners of Hampshire from as far away as Bournemouth, Hook and Lee-on-the Solent so how do they meet and train?

The prime training site is Banister Park in Southampton as a central location so generally twice a month the squad meets up for coaching and internal practice games on Sunday mornings during the outdoor season. This gives Maxeen the chance to play with positions and rink set-ups. In addition, training matches are organized against teams from clubs wherever possible. Again this year all 3 corners of Hampshire have/are being used. Things such as holidays, exams, progress in other comps and even this year a squad member is getting married this month, all conspire against having the full squad together everytime! As you see with a young squad various M&D's taxi services are in full swing across Hampshire on Sundays clogging up the roads.

One can see already the improvements in the young ladies since last year where most had a baptism of fire at Royal Leamington Spa never having played in a large and noisy spectator environment before and losing an experienced skip in her last U31 year to injury on the day was a big blow to them.

This year's campaign kicks off at 2.30 PM on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September on rinks E1 and E2 against what is expected to be a strong Kent A side in the second round, having had a bye in the first round. The girls are targeting getting through this round into the Sunday to show the County improvement from last year. It will a tough first match so any members who are in the Royal Leamington Spa on the afternoon of 3<sup>rd</sup> September your support for the girls and especially Nicole and Heather would be much appreciated. Bring your Xmas hooters etc along. Nicole is expected to be a lead or number 2 and Heather a number 3.

Finally thanks has to go to various Oakley League captain's/friendly selectors who are supporting the girls by trying to play them in a position close to their Amy Rose position to give them practice. Playing a 3 is very much a new concept for Heather and a very steep learning curve so continued help, support and advise is always welcomed.



The Club's congratulations go to Nicole Rogers, who made her Junior International debut in the game against Scotland.

# Oakley Juniors at English National Championships 2016

This year Oakley has an increasing presence of the club's junior members at the National Championships. Below is a current detailed listing as to when they are playing their first round matches for any members attending the Championships who wants to support them.

- **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August** – Women's Junior (u25) Singles – Hampshire A represented by Nicole Rogers vs Derbyshire A on rink B4
- **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August 11.30AM** - Sutton Winson U18's singles first round – Heather Statham
- **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August 3.30PM** - Sutton Winson U18's singles first round – Nicole Rogers
- **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August 5.00PM** - Sutton Winson U18's singles first round – Ashley Nethercliffe
- **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> August 1.00PM** – Women's Junior (U25) pairs – Hampshire represented by Nicole Rogers and Heather Statham vs Herefordshire on rink C5
- **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2.30PM** – Amy Rose Bowl (U31 ladies) 2 rinks – Hampshire squad including Nicole Rogers and Heather Statham vs Kent A on rinks E1 and E2.

Here's hoping they make it through the early rounds and into the second and final day of each competition and just maybe some silverware finds its way back down the M40/A34/A339. Good consistent bowling and stamina is needed. Up to 3 full games a day may need to be played in the U25 and U31 games. A tall order for the long term experienced players let alone young juniors.

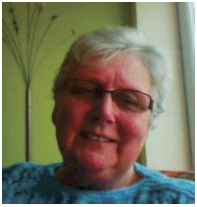




# News from the North!

From Jan Foster and Dave Huyton

## Hello again from a sunny Knott End on Sea!



Hopefully you are all enjoying a good season on “the flat”? We are well into our season up here in Crown country – in fact we’ve gone past the turnaround of the season in all the leagues that we play in. Playing Bowls is helping us not only to meet new people, but also to find our way around our new part of the country! You can save miles on a journey when you know that you can go down Knitting Pin Lane, Kilcrash Lane, Burnthouse Lane or Green Dicks Lane as an alternative route! (These are just a few examples of some of the very strange road names around here!)

Dave has had some very good games, and I now have several wins and some near misses to my name, so I think you can say that I’m getting the hang of this very different game of bowls! When I first started, I kept forgetting to let my opponent know which “peg” I was sending the “Block” (Jack). You have to show your opponent the Block and say “Thumb Peg” or “Finger Peg” before you send it across the Green – people can get very annoyed when you forget - as I’ve found to my cost!!

As I’ve said before, Stalmine Green has a “Double Crown” which can really catch out opponents, particularly on wet days, as you have to make a great effort to get the Block up and over the Crown. Some Greens up here are almost flat, and, as a consequence of having played on flat Greens, we are able to use some tactics which are rarely attempted by other players up here e.g. sending your second wood on the opposite peg to your first. They think you’ve gone mad, but they don’t laugh so much when you get the Block!!

We are well into Gala season up here. Every village and small town has a Gala or Show with either a Gala Queen or Rose Queen being crowned. (I was Lydiate Rose Queen 1965-66!). Our local Gala was 9<sup>th</sup> July. The weather could have been better, but a good time was had by all I think. I have recently joined the Over Wyre Community Choir, and we performed at the Gala and really enjoyed ourselves. Whether the audience enjoyed it as much is unknown!!! I think we have a way to go before Britain’s Got Talent comes knocking!

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July was Fleetwood Tram Sunday. We went over on the ferry and were overwhelmed by the size of the whole event. It was absolutely amazing – Norman Frost mark this event in your diary for future reference!! You needed a week to see all the exhibits, never mind a day!

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July is Lifeboat Day. We have just received a new lifeboat, courtesy of an elderly local lady who died recently and left over a million pounds in order that a lifeboat could be launched locally. It has been named after her late brother who unfortunately drowned. We are expecting a lot of activity in the Bay with eight lifeboats going through their paces as well as the Coastguard and Search & Rescue helicopters etc.

We are playing in the Bob Cookson Memorial Trophy this afternoon (24<sup>th</sup> July). This is a mixed knockout competition staged each year between Stalmine and Out Rawcliffe Bowling Clubs. It’s our Home fixture this year, so we’re hoping for good things! Keep your fingers crossed!

We expect that you are now on the countdown towards your Tour to the Lake District. We'll try and organise good weather for you!! We hope that you enjoy bowling in the North as much as we do! Perhaps you may get to have a go on a Crown Green whilst you're up here? Whatever, we wish you all well.

Well I think that's all for now. With our very best wishes to you all for the continuing season.



## Tuffs Teaser

from Frank Tuffs

Use the letters in each six letter word to make ten, four letter words.

1 – Bowler 2 – Carpet 3 – Depart 4 – Garden 5 – Remand 6 – Search



# Editor's Corner (Sandra Lee):

Welcome to my first edition of the Chronicle and first attempt as Editor.

Thank you to everyone who has kindly supplied articles for the July issue and if you wish to supply me with any items for the next issue in September these would be much appreciated.

I would like the Chronicle to include articles from all members, not just the Committee, so please do send me anything you feel would be of interest. This is after all your Chronicle!

If you have any comments on my first attempt as Editor, good or bad, please feel free to contact me.

## **An enjoyable game followed by a good meal**

### **From Val Ryan**

Just thought I would tell you about a visit to St. Mary Bourne recently. It was a NHWBA game of 4's with Camila, Jo, Laura and myself. Although not a successful one, it was enjoyable against four very nice ladies, who afterwards provided us with a lovely supper of quiche, assorted sandwiches, cheese scones (Joyce's) and a jam and cream sponge. Delicious.

We wish them luck in their next round, although not too much, as they are up against another team of our Oakley girls.

## **QUOTES BY FAMOUS PEOPLE**

"Nothing is impossible. Even the word itself says "I'm Possible"

(Audrey Hepburn (1929-1993)).

"When it is obvious that the goals cannot be reached, don't adjust the goals, adjust the action steps"

(Confucius 551-479 BC).

## **DID YOU KNOW:**

Colman's of Norwich, famous for its mustard, set up a canteen 148 years ago, where workers could get a hot meal for a minimal cost.

## **A suggestion for the next issue from Colin Clarke:**

Do any members have other hobbies that they would like to share with us?



## Tuffs Teaser Answers

### Possible Answers

1	Blow, Bore, Bowl, Brow, Brew, Wore, Lobe, Lore, Robe, Role
2	Carp, Care, Cape, Acre, Rate, Rapt, Peat, Pace, Pact, Trap
3	Dear, Dare, Dart, Peat, Pare, Pear, Read, Rate, Tear, Tare
4	Gear, Aged, Rang, Rage, Read. Dear, Dare, Dean, Drag, Near
5	Read, Rend, Ream, Mane, Made, Mare, Name, Dame, Dare, Dram
6	Sear, Scar, Each, Arch, Race, Rash, Care, Cash, Hare, Hear

## And Finally (from Chris Lee)...

