

Yorkshire Bowling Association

Welcome to the January Issue of your newsletter. Doesn't seem to be a lot going on at our outdoor greens just now does there? However, there is a lot of work going on behind the scenes to ensure everything is ready for the new bowling season. A big, HUGE thanks to the army of volunteers who work tirelessly on our behalf to make the magic happen.

Affiliation: I am delighted to say that we have two clubs that have re-affiliated this year. Wetherby BC and Stillington BC, a very warm welcome to all your members.

Unification: over the years it has become clear to me that unification means different things to different people and has led to many a discussion. To clarify, the Bowls England definition - "Unification is an administrative benefit for the County. Single financial and secretarial point of contact. There is nothing in unification that affects the playing sides, i.e. men's and ladies activity can continue: similarly mixed and/or open events may grow as they are proving to be more popular." So, from a Bowls England point of view, we are a unified county. That isn't to say that we can't aim to work more closely together and communicate more effectively for mutual understanding and co-operation. Let's make that one of our goals this year shall we? After all, we all share the love of our sport.

Bowls Big Weekend is back! This will take place over the weekend of May 24th-May 27th. Has your club signed up? I have sent detailed correspondence to all club secretaries. Last year 20 Yorkshire Clubs took part, I'm sure we can make that more this year. The WORD SEARCH this month contains the names of 15 of these clubs – how will you do?

A reminder that if there is anything you want to add to your newsletter, just let me have your articles by the last day of the month and I will happily add it for you.

Lesley Dearlove – County Administrator

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Important Date

November 10

YBA - AGM

This year will be held on **Sunday 10th November at York Railway B&SC. Start time 10:30.**

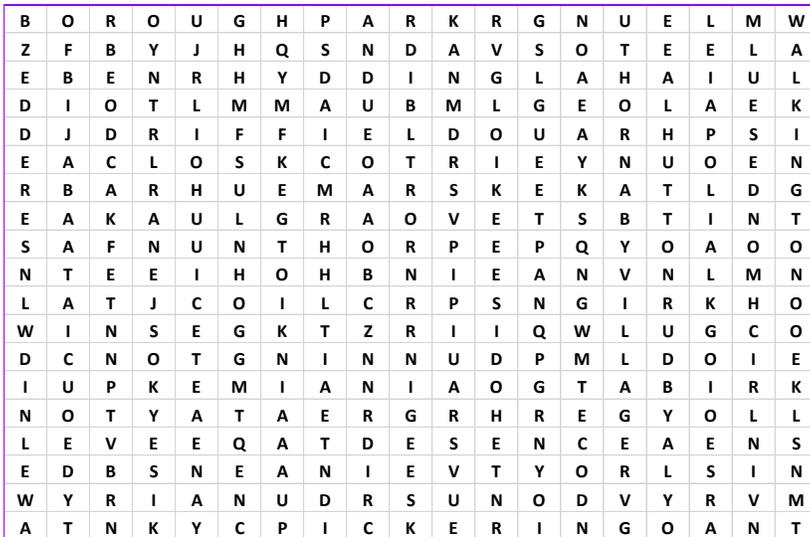
As this falls on Remembrance Sunday, we will be observing a 2 minutes silence at 11am.

Please do try to come along.

Minutes from the November 2023 AGM are available on the website. These are **draft only** and will need approval at the 2024 AGM.



Bowls Big Weekend Word Search



BEN RHYDDING	BOROUGHBRIDGE	BOROUGH PARK
DRIFFIELD	DUNNINGTON	GREAT AYTON
HARROGATE	HUTTON RUDBY	KINGSTON
MARSKE	NUNTHORPE	PICKERING
RICHMOND	THORNABY VILLAGE	WALKINGTON

Ladies' Section

Locations have been booked for our inter-county Northern Trophies matches, and we are looking forward to a successful season.

Nominations have been received and the ladies' selection committee will meet in early February to select our teams. Successful nominees will be notified accordingly.

Ladies' Dates for Diaries

Ladies' Spring Meeting

Monday April 8th at Y&DIBC. Start time 12:30. This meeting is open to all ladies from affiliated clubs however, should there be matters for voting - only the Yorkshire representatives can vote on behalf of their clubs.

Friendly v Lancashire

Tuesday 30th April at York Railway B&SC. Open to all ladies from affiliated clubs. Gives ladies an opportunity to play in a friendly, but very competitive match.

Ladies' County Day

Wednesday 12th June. Open to all ladies from affiliated clubs. Gives ladies an opportunity to meet up for a fun day with a game of bowls played on a 'jumble' basis.



Men's Section

The closing date for individual entries is **10th February**, entry forms are available on the County website.

The Men's prestigious event, namely the **Marshall Shield**, is open to all clubs with a team consisting of 3 rinks of 4 players. Harrogate won it last year after a break of 75 years, so it just shows that it could be your club's turn this year. Closing date for entries **1st March**.

Bowls England National Competitions - These are slightly different to the County Competitions in that they are organised by Bowls England details of which and how to enter can be found on the BE website - **entries close 1st March**.

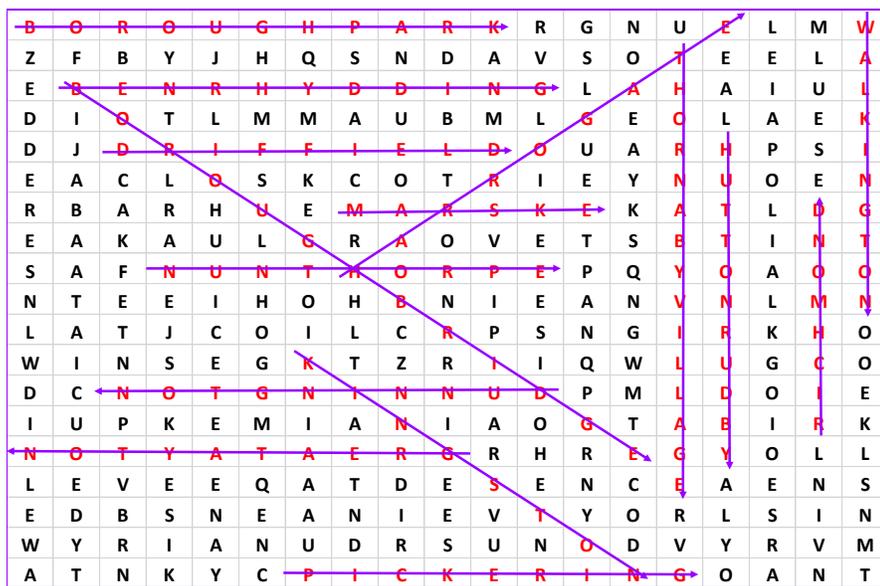
Let's raise the profile of your club and hopefully the County as a whole by you achieving success in any/all the above competitions, as the saying goes **you have to be in it to win it!**

Top Club

Closing Date: 7th February. This is an open, mixed discipline competition. Has your club entered a team? Closing date soon so get a wiggle on!

Bowls Big Weekend Word Search Solution

How many did you find? Remember to register your club for the Bowls Big Weekend Event. Registration is open **NOW**, what are you waiting for?



Some Quotes from Members

We had 20 new people turn up, ranging from 30-50 years old.

It was this event that gave me the opportunity to give it a go.

It's great for your mental health – the fresh air, the exercise and people getting together having fun.

