

# OAKLEY BOWLERS



*Merry  
Christmas*

## CHRONICLE



DECEMBER 2018

ISSUE 4

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# FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT - LESLEY ALLARD



## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM YOUR NEW PRESIDENT



Hello everyone

I hope that you like the picture of me in my regalia! This chain is only worn on special occasions and I had not realised that it is both long and heavy! I am honoured to be President for 2019 and delighted that Martin Smith has agreed to be my Vice President (He is a glutton for punishment. having been President only five years ago).

Our Fortieth Anniversary year is drawing to a close and most will appreciate that the Club has experienced some sad and difficult times but also some celebratory ones and pulling together, we have come through to the other side. Special thanks are due to Spencer who has juggled County and Club matters magnificently and deserves a good rest! Enjoy your Christmas Spencer and Kay!

Thank you too to Barry Lee who works indefatigably as Club Captain at keeping the Friendly games going. Please support Barry and try to play at least one or two weekend games in the Summer and, I believe he is still short for some of the Winter Indoor games.

I am looking forward to 2019 and will do my best to make it a happy and prosperous year for the Club and its members. My tour to Norwich and Norfolk is taking shape and numbers have increased recently to over 40. However, we take a large coach and it would be good to fill more seats with both players and non players. If you would like four days holiday in a good hotel on a half board basis, all travel and two lunches thrown in; in addition to the opportunity to play bowls in friendly country villages, all for under £400, do not delay in contacting me as rooms in the hotel are filling up fast. (There is no single supplement if you decide to come alone) You will be among friends!



Many Congratulations to Nicole Rogers who, in the past week, been selected for the Bowls England Ladies team and also won the World Indoor Singles Championship.

Have a Happy Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

# Captain's Log

from Barry Lee, Men's Captain

## BARRY'S BANTER FOR THE CHRISTMAS CHRONICLE



My last report was in September after the closing game Vice President v Past President. When the Vice's team just won the day by beating the Past President team by 37 shots. I also mentioned about the "Yardstick" Game which was won this year by Mary Turnbull scoring 204 shots and only 13 shots behind her in 2<sup>nd</sup> place was Gavin Spearpoint with 191. Keith Turnbull tried to catch Mary but came 3<sup>rd</sup> with 187 and Jamie Fewtrell was 4<sup>th</sup> with 185. Congratulations to all the players for making 10 happy evenings, oh and a pint after.

Well it was not long ago we all got together again to play the first Indoor Friendly, This was at "Riverside" in Winchester on the 7<sup>th</sup> October. Vice President Lesley Allard could not be there as she had a Harvest Festival to attend, so Past President Jim kindly took the game. All 24 bowlers had a nice afternoon and a very nice meal after the game. Unfortunately we lost the game overall by 85 shots, well it was our first indoor game since last March. Rink 1 Kay Kerley's rink had a great day winning by 13 shots, 23-10 well done the team, a warm welcome to our new member Steve Devonish, helped by Pat Fitzgerald and David Gunton.

Our second game was on 11<sup>th</sup> November at Palmerston (Fareham) while Margaret and I were on holiday in the Canary Islands. We could only raise 5 rinks and Vice Captain Jim kindly organised the day for Lesley. Unfortunately for us again we lost overall by 78 shots. The best rink again was Kay Kerley's this time losing but by only 4 shots. Well done Kay, Malcolm, Linda, Lesley.

Our third game was on 18<sup>th</sup> November at Chawton Park, Alton, we were just home from holiday, but Margaret while on holiday having tripped over breaking her nose and face, lots of stitches to her face etc together with the news as we got home that her father was in hospital with pneumonia and an infection I asked the Vice Captain again to organise the day for me. Many thanks Jim. This was a better day for bowling but still losing overall only by 35 shots. Well done Bob Goodyear and his team of Paula, Arthur, Lesley winning by 11 shots 23-14 also well done Val Ryan's team, with Derek, Lesley, Barbara, getting a draw 19-19.

Now comes our 4<sup>th</sup> game 2<sup>nd</sup> December at Camberley. Oakley have made history to go in my Record book. We made the highest loss ever on 6 rinks 49 to Oakley 192 to Camberley that's -143. The green was so fast most bowlers had a real task to control the woods. This was the first game for Lesley our new President. Stan Mond was the skip with Mary Varndell, Ian Rickman, and Lesley and the Rink only lost by 4 shots 14-18 I won't mention any more of the rinks scores just put it down as not the best day for Oakley!!

That's it before Christmas, our next game is on 6<sup>th</sup> January at West Berks, Newbury, I have got a few more names than 24 so will check and have for the first time to put reserves down and if I can, ask the reserves to play at our 6<sup>th</sup> game which is at East Dorset, Christchurch.

That it from me, very many thanks for putting your names down I really hope you all have a happy Christmas and New Year, will be in touch very soon and may see a lot of you at the Christmas lunch (mine's a pint if your asking).

# Spencer's Snippets

from Spencer Kerley, General Secretary



The Club's congratulations go to Nicole Rogers who has become the first player from the Club to represent England at full international level. Currently playing her indoor bowls at the Exonia Club, Nicole will make her England debut at the Falcon Club from 8<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> March. Congratulations go also to Ashley Nethercliffe who recently won the English Bowls Youth Development national title.

The Oakley Presentation Dinner and Dance will be on Friday 1st February 2019 at the Test Valley Golf Club. Our invited guests for the evening are the Bowls Hampshire Presidents Lesley and Keith Taylor, as well as Mr Jamie and Mrs Sue Colman. It is always a good evening so, if you have not been before, come along and enjoy yourself. Places can be reserved at the Pre-Season Meeting.

Do not forget also the Basingstoke and District Dinner at the Basingstoke Masonic Centre on Friday 25th January. After our best ever season in BDBA competitions, this is your chance to support our prize winners. Full details have been sent to all those people on email.

The Bowls Hampshire Luncheon and Presentation was held at Fleming Park. Twelve Oakley members were in attendance and they had a very enjoyable afternoon. Members also went on the Bowls Hampshire Mini Tour in November to the Dorset Golf and Bowls Resort. Again, such was the success of the event that many of this year's tourists have already paid deposits for the 2019 tour. Details of the 2019 trip will be circulated in the New Year but if anyone is interested in joining the party please contact Kay for details. You do not have to be a County standard player to participate, anyone can take part so why not get together a group of six to share one of the well-appointed, all en-suite chalets.

At the Bowls Hampshire AGM in November, Mandy Orchard of Milton Park Ladies and Neil Fletcher of Lockswood were elected as the 2019 Vice Presidents. From Oakley, Kay Kerley continues as Vice Chair, Spencer Kerley as Secretary, Mary Varndell as North Area Secretary (Women) and Ric Newson is an Executive member.

Occasionally and for reasons that elude me names disappear from the club's Google groups distribution list. This is an important means of communicating with members and currently our circulations go to 115 email addresses covering 136 playing and associate members. If anyone is on email and feels they may have been missing out on emails, please let me know.

# LESLEY'S LOG-IN

From Lesley Allard, Almoner



What have some of our ladies been up to? Falling off bicycles, slipping off electric scooters, slipping on a ball while playing football with grandchildren, and falling in the drive before going out to lunch, all resulting in broken noses and limbs! Stick to bowls ladies, it's much safer!

Mercifully most are on the mend now but we hope that Gladys Clewer will be better soon.

Some of our older members will remember Brian Morgan (Morgan the Piper). Brian passed away at his home in Germany in November at the age of 87. He and his late wife, Ursula, moved to Germany from The Drive in Oakley to be nearer to their daughters some years ago. A card of condolence was sent to the family.

Now for some good news: Congratulations to Eric and Patricia Lamkin who celebrated 60 years of marriage and to Roger and Jenny Butler who celebrated their Golden Wedding recently. Flowers and cards were sent to the happy couples on behalf of the Club

Our good wishes go to Alf McCarthy who has recently undergone heart surgery. Get well soon Alf!

If you know of any members who will be celebrating significant birthdays or anniversaries or, indeed, are unwell and would appreciate greetings from Oakley Bowling Club, please let me know and I will arrange for the appropriate message from us all.

Keep smiling and have a very happy Christmas and good health and happiness in the New Year.

I hope to see you all at the Pre-Season Meeting in January.

# LADIES SECRETARY

From Janie Vickers



There is very little to report this month.

I attended the NHWBA AGM at Old Basing Bowling Green. This was all fairly routine apart from the fact they have no president for the forthcoming year.

The new Vice President is Wendy Taylor from Howard Park BC and the new Match Secretary is Jenny Harvey from Fleet United BC.

The competition dates are arranged and the draw will take place at Cove BC on 21st March 2019.

The Patrons List for BE/BH has been circulated.

Our two annual ladies friendlies versus Hook BC and Hawley BC have been booked and are in the diary.

Huge congratulations must go to Nicole for being chosen for the Senior England International Team and also for being the new indoor World Junior Champion----- both wonderful achievements.

Finally a reminder about our Christmas Lunch at Basingstoke Golf Club on 16th December 1pm for 1.30 pm. Looking forward to seeing you all at the lunch.

Wishing everyone a lovely Christmas.



## On the Green

From Ian Rickman

For those members who do not know anything about me and my past working history.

I have been in or around green keeping since the age of fourteen before starting an apprenticeship at Ferndown Golf Club, Dorset at the age of sixteen, back in those days there was no such thing as designated green keeping courses, you just had to learn about everything from golf greens, bowling greens, cricket wickets, football and rugby pitches basically being in a college full of parks department students and just for good measure I had to learn about flowers too! But still it put me in good stead for later in life. There was light on the horizon, my golf club booked me on a month's course at the Sports Turf Research Institute, Bingley, Yorkshire and I went out on loan to other golf courses for a month at a time. And doing a course on aboriculture.

As years went by and several different positions at golf clubs I ended up here in Basingstoke in 1981. Then I joined OBC and started playing bowls at Carpenters Down until we moved to Malshanger where I had the privilege of overseeing the construction of the Green, after which I packed up bowls because of work commitments. But then as you all know I came back in 2015. This is where I can let you into a secret I had no intentions of rejoining the Club I only came up to the open weekend to see the green But! The welcome I received from certain members and you know who you are. It was as if I had never been away from OBC for almost 35 years, so you never say never.

Joining the green team in May this year, volunteering to make teas and coffees for the team to save someone not finishing a job before tea break time, it was during this period when Trevor asked me if I would be doing this on a regular basis and if so, would I be prepared to advise the green team should any problems arise, leading on to just before he passed away, when he expressed his wishes for me to replace him as co-ordinator as a green keeper how could I refuse, taking over in August. Unfortunately the extreme hot temperatures presented it's own set of problems but I think after a few tweaks to the sprinkler usage hopefully it will not be a problem again.

Another problem which raised it's ugly head was an early outbreak of Fusarium disease due to the temperatures during the day and staying warm and muggy in the night. But thanks to having Keith Turnbull and his newly acquired spraying certificate, disease problems are dealt with quickly once identified and subject to weather i.e. wind or rain.

Now it was time to start thinking about the Autumn renovation once the green closed, so it was time for advice from our fertilizer and chemical suppliers who suggested we hollow core again this year as well as our usual scarification for thatch control it would also give the chance to clear out the moss areas which had been treated earlier in the season and could not be dealt with yet again because of the hot weather we experienced this year.

After the mechanical work of hollow coring and scarification was completed. Which was delayed by a drive belt breakage! but with thanks to Russell Jordan of M+S Enterprises and a few helpful hands we were back operational again, the green was then over seeded paying a lot of attention to the poor grass growth areas which in turn needed a lot more top dressing than anticipated. Finally I'm pleased to say the seed has germinated well and should put us in good stead for the new season.



Other points of interest, a regular maintenance programme has been re implemented for all machines used, along with a fortnightly Tinning and Sarrel rolling programme to help with aeration and to promote more root growth.

As you can see by reading this, it's very much a myth about the green being put to bed for the winter, regular maintenance goes on all year round. I would like to thank all the regular members of the green team for their continued work and support and I would welcome and be delighted to hear from anyone who could come and lend a hand at any time. Finally, thank you to all of you who responded to the plea for help during the Renovation week you know who you are please accept this as a personal thank you from me and the regular team.

# OAKLEY BOWLING



## Jack High

From Coral Wearn

## JACK HIGH



The 'Jack High' is a Fund Raiser for Oakley Bowling Club and makes significant financial contribution.  
If you are not already a member and would like to take part please contact:-

Coral - Tel: 01256 353704 or  
Email: [coral.wearn@virginmedia.com](mailto:coral.wearn@virginmedia.com)

The Subscription cost is £2 per month - £24 paid annually.  
The draw pay-outs are dependent on the amount of subscriptions collected to the date of each draw.

The average pay-out is 1 payment between £30 & £50 per month  
and between 3 & 5 payments of £10 per month.

### THE MORE MEMBERS THE HIGHER THE PAYOUT.

**Hi Everyone** – I have run the 'Jack High' draws for the past fifteen years and it raises an average of £1000 per year for Club funds, I have attached a copy of the archived accounts from 2003 – 2018 which, as you will see, shows a total of **£16,993.00** raised over the last fifteen seasons.

I shall be at the Pre-Season Meeting in January for members to pay their subscriptions for 2019 Season, if anyone who is not already a member would like to join I shall have with me a list of vacant number for you to choose from, and I can enrol you then.

### Jack High Archive – 2003 to 2018

| Year | Income<br>£ | Paid Out Draws<br>£ | Paid to Club Funds<br>£ | Cumulative Total to<br>Club Funds - £ |
|------|-------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 2003 | 2204        | 1100                | 1104                    | 1104                                  |
| 2004 | 2387        | 1160                | 1227                    | 2331                                  |
| 2005 | 2184        | 1080                | 1104                    | 3435                                  |
| 2006 | 2136        | 1080                | 1056                    | 4491                                  |
| 2007 | 2132        | 1000                | 1132                    | 5623                                  |
| 2008 | 2074        | 1000                | 1074                    | 6697                                  |
| 2009 | 2002        | 960                 | 1042                    | 7739                                  |
| 2010 | 2088        | 1020                | 1068                    | 8807                                  |
| 2011 | 1944        | 984                 | 960                     | 9767                                  |
| 2012 | 2040        | 1020                | 1020                    | 10787                                 |
| 2013 | 2178        | 1020                | 1158                    | 11945                                 |
| 2014 | 2040        | 1020                | 1020                    | 12965                                 |
| 2015 | 2112        | 1050                | 1062                    | 14027                                 |
| 2016 | 2064        | 1020                | 1044                    | 15071                                 |
| 2017 | 1992        | 990                 | 1002                    | 16073                                 |
| 2018 | 1776        | 856                 | 920                     | <b>£16,993.00</b>                     |



**I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.**

I shall not be sending Christmas Cards this year but will instead be making a donation to St Michael's Hospice in memory of Trevor. Best Regards to you all.

## **The Club Outing to Bath Christmas Market on 6<sup>th</sup> December**

From Barbara Goodyear

It had proved more difficult this year to get sufficient people wanting to sign up for our trip to Bath Christmas market. Partly this was due to the Oakley WI running the same trip the week before. A number of our members were booked onto that and they obviously wouldn't want to do the same trip twice in two weeks. We needed 40 people to break even and I'm glad to say we got 41.

The weather leading up to the day was particularly miserable with Wednesday 5th being absolutely foul. I began to think that those not coming might have made the right decision. However the day dawned if not exactly bright at least dry and definitely not freezing cold.

We got to Bath in good time which allowed everyone over 5 hours to enjoy the market and everything else Bath had to offer. The market was really excellent this year, loads of lovely stalls with some really unusual gift ideas. I felt that the market was also more spread out this time so it wasn't quite so crowded and more comfortable for browsing. There were also lots of places to have lunch and rest the weary feet before starting the second round of shopping.

Just before 4pm we boarded the coach for the return journey. From the number of bags that people had with them there had been plenty of shopping. The only blip on the day was when the rain finally arrived on our journey home and the coach's windscreen wipers failed. Fortunately we were close to a service station where Peter our driver was able to stop and change the required fuse.

It was lovely to hear how much people had enjoyed the day and I'm so glad we managed not to get wet.

# Tuffs Teasers

from Frank Tuffs

## Anagrams of South Coast Cities and Towns

1. Or Ring Boges
2. No Teas
3. My Lop Hut
4. So Mount Path
5. When Evan
6. Stop Hot Rum
7. Why Me Out
8. Big Thorn
9. Thou Rob Mon
10. Tree Ex

## Editor's Corner (Sandra Lee):



I have received many compliments from members saying how much they enjoy all the news in the Chronicle throughout the year and I do hope that members will continue to send me their news in 2019.

Here is a funny Christmas quote:

"I'm dreaming of a White Christmas, but if it runs out I'll drink the Red"

*Chris and I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

## CHRISTMAS QUOTES BY FAMOUS PEOPLE

"Christmas is a season not only of rejoicing but of reflection", Winston Churchill.

"Christmas is a day of meaning and traditions, spent in the warm circle of family and friends", Margaret Thatcher.

## Tuffs Teasers - Possible Answers

1. Bognor Regis
2. Seaton
3. Plymouth
4. Southampton
5. Newhaven
6. Portsmouth
7. Weymouth
8. Brighton
9. Bournemouth
10. Exeter

