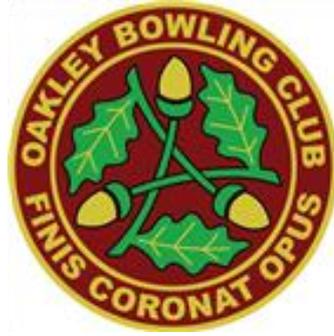


OAKLEY BOWLERS



CHRONICLE



DECEMBER 2019

ISSUE 4





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PRESIDENT'S WELCOME – MARTIN SMITH



Hello to all from your new President for the coming season. I look forward to my second time as President of Oakley Bowling Club. I hope to enjoy it as much as the first time.

First of all I would like to congratulate Lesley on her time as President, it was an honour to be her Vice President. Also thank you to Lesley for a great tour it was enjoyed by all.

On the 1st December 2019 I took my first game at Camberley Indoor Bowls Club where we managed to record two winning rinks, well done to the two winning teams, an enjoyable afternoon was had by all.

By the time the chronicle comes out we will have had our Christmas Lunch at Test Valley Golf Club, and I am sure a great time was had by all. Special thank you to Janie for organising the Christmas Lunch.

Look forward to seeing you on the green next year.



Spencer's Snippets

from Spencer Kerley, General Secretary



The AGM was held in November with turn out on a par with last year. We welcomed Martin Smith for his second term as President and were delighted that John Yarrall has taken over the Vice Presidency. The Officers remain largely as in 2019, although Barbara Goodyear has become the Match Secretary and Anji Smith joins the Committee for the first time.

Both County and District AGMs have been held in the past couple of months. For Bowls Hampshire, Kay Kerley continues as Vice Chair, I as Secretary, Mary Varndell as Northern Area Ladies' Secretary and Ric Newson as an Executive Member. Ric is also continuing as Treasurer of the Basingstoke and District BA (BDBA).

It is now the Dinner/Luncheon Season and there was excellent support from 18 members at the County Luncheon held at Fleming Park, where members picked up a record number of trophies. Hopefully we will also have good support for our prize-winners at the BDBA Dinner being held at the Basingstoke Masonic Centre on Friday 24th January. Tickets can be obtained from Bob Goodyear.

The highlight of the Dinner season is, of course, the Oakley Presentation Dinner which will be held at Test Valley Golf Club on Friday 7th February 2020. Full details of this event will be circulated shortly. Our guests for the evening will be Jamie and the Revd Sue Colman (shortly, it is understood, to become the High Sheriff of Hampshire) and the Presidents of Bowls Hampshire, Mandy Orchard from Milton Park Ladies BC and Neil Fletcher from Lockswold BC. Please make sure you have the date in your diary.

Members also went on the annual Bowls Hampshire Mini Tour in November to the Dorset Golf and Bowls Resort. Such was the success of the event that many of this year's tourists have already paid deposits for the 2020 tour. Details of the 2020 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.

It has been recently established, with Bowls England, that the Dress Regulations for their National Championships (which include County Championships) are being altered so that in 2020 it will be permissible, where a team/side is wearing a mixture of trousers, shorts, skirts, for the colour below the waist to be other than white (the shorts still need to have the BE logo). The Bowls Hampshire Regulations are being altered to reflect this change and, because some members have seen and admired the Aceit maroon shorts and trousers, this has prompted me to consider whether the Club should formally register maroon as its colour below the waist. To do so would mean that those who so wish can wear maroon for County Competitions but those who prefer to remain in white/grey may do so. I shall be asking the Committee at its next meeting to consider the matter.

Christmas Lunch



On Sunday members gathered together for the Club Christmas Lunch held at Test Valley Golf Club and organized by our Ladies' Secretary Janie Vickers.

After a drink or two in the bar to get us in the party mood we settled down at about 1.30 pm for an excellent three course meal with the starter and desserts being served at the tables and with our going up to help ourselves to our mains from the carvery. All seemed to enjoy their food and we were well looked after by the very accommodating waiting and bar staff. Mince pies and coffee followed and soon after 4 pm, well fed and watered, and after a vote of thanks from President Martin to Janie and the Golf Club, we set off for home with everyone in the festive mood. We are now looking forward to our next function, the Club Presentation Dinner at Test Valley Golf Club on the 7th February.



Captain's Log

From Barry Lee, Club Captain



Hi to all members of Oakley Bowling Club, Sandra has asked me to put in a report for the Christmas news Chronicle.

I hope all the 120 full members and the 26 Associate members get chance to see this year's report. I came to the AGM meeting on Monday 28th November hoping to see a full house, but I think Spencer said about 50 people turned up and 11 members had sent in their apologies, some may of course may have been ill or away, but the support for our club of 41 years has dropped in a big way. Two or three of the organized events had to be cancelled this year due to lack of interest. Only 66 names have been recorded having played bowls in the Friendly games during the year and 14 of that 66 only played one friendly game. A lot of people really put in extra help to encourage the Bowls

for Fun, and coaching evenings. Several competitions for Hampshire County, National, Basingstoke and District and also the Whitchurch and District games have been affected by lack of support.

Our new Fixture Secretary Bob Goodyear and his wife Barbara have kept an eye on the support over the year and have decided rightly so to reduce the number of friendly games we have over the weekends.

Over the winter months from October to March, the club have 10 indoor friendly games around Basingstoke, Winchester, Newbury, Alton, Whitchurch, Salisbury, Camberley, Reading, even Christchurch. These games are great fun we may not win many but we do meet some very nice people and to finish the afternoon we have a nice hot meal after the game. If you are interested please give me a ring.

In the past we have had a lot of support for these indoor friendly games and I have had to make sure that the members get an equal number of games except for this year, only 37 members have returned the form. We have played 4 games so far I had to reduce the Winchester game from 6 rinks down to 5 and the Palmerston game (Fareham) to 6 Triples (18) bowlers instead of 24 due to lack of players, and I am a few short for the West Berks game at Newbury for 5th January 2020 and for the rest of the indoor games. These games help to keep the club together over the winter months. Please help me to fill the next 6 games.

Let me get to happier moments of the year, in September we had the live evening entertainer singing and telling jokes and he got quite a few up on the floor dancing a great fish-n-chip supper, a real happy evening. A few days earlier we had a touring team come to play us for the afternoon on their way back to Windsor, they said it was the best day of their tour. They have since been

back on to Bob and asked if we would like to go to them next year at Windsor wow how great that will be. I am talking about “The Royal Household.”

Just to round up now, may I thank you all for playing in the Friendly games, we have had some fun be it indoors or outdoors and look forward to seeing more of you all at the Spring meeting. All the best.



Ladies Secretary Salutations

from Janie Vickers



In November three ladies attended the NHWBA AGM. Thank you to Angie and Sandra for their company. The only things to report are that Wendy Taylor of Howard Park is the new President and there is no increase in competition fees for the forthcoming outdoor season.

Just to thank all the ladies for their support this year, and to leave you to translate this very old Scottish toast!!

*"May the best you've ever seen
Be the worst you'll ever see.*

*May the moose ne'er leave your meal poke
Wi' a tear in its e'e*

*May you always keep healthy and hearty
Until you're old enough to die*

*And may you always be just as happy
-----as we wish you now to be,"*

Men's Captain's Report

From Ric Newson



This year during the Indoor Season Oakley entered a team in two mixed triples Leagues at Longmeadow Indoor Bowls Club in Whitchurch run specifically for outdoor clubs. These are held on a Monday and Friday night.

Oakley have won the Monday night League for the last two seasons and have made a good start again this year. We are once again top of the League winning 8 of the first 9 games played so far.

It is the first time we have entered a team in the Friday night League and once again Oakley are top of the League, winning all 9 games played so far.

The Leagues are now on a break period for Christmas and the New Year and will resume the first week of January through to the end of March.

The Oakley men have also entered a double rink team in the Moreton Cup competition at Longmeadow and have been drawn in a five team League played on a round robin basis against Kingsclere, Andover, Littleton and Atherley Bears. Having played two of the four games so far, Oakley are top of the League with two wins against Kingsclere and Littleton winning both games 5-0.

A successful start to the Indoor season but plenty of games still to play in the New Year.



Almoner's Notes

From Lesley Allard



Now that I have handed over the President's baton to Martin my responsibilities as Almoner can receive more attention than in the past 18 months. I am very sorry if I have missed any significant birthdays or anniversaries but I do rely on members keeping me informed of these, and notifying me if they know of any member of the Club or their close family is ill.

Brian Beswick's wife Lynn has been very ill in hospital for several weeks and we all send our best wishes to them both and hope for better news soon.

Jonathan Rouse's bad back, which caused him to give up bowling last season, has proved to be more complicated, and we hope that he gets better soon

and that he will be playing again next season.

Sadly we lost Betty Hill recently and there was a big turnout of members, past and present at her funeral.

Betty was one of the Club's best leads and was very popular with club members. Her husband, Derek, was Club President in 2001. She was also a very good ballroom dancer and still danced until illness overcame her only a few months ago.

I have attached a photo from the archive of Betty with the late Freda Dale and Peggy House. Note that we all wore skirts in those days! I'm not sure who is the young lady on the right, but perhaps someone will recognise her!



Christmas Greetings



We would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, Martin and Linda Smith

Hope you all have a very Happy Christmas, Barry and Margaret Lee

We wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year, Janie and Kevin Vickers

Have a very Happy Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year, Lesley Allard

Have a great Christmas and New Year, Ric and Sue Newson

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, Coral Wearn

Season's Greetings to the whole membership old and new, Ian Rickman

Very best wishes to all Club members, Terri Allison

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, Sandra and Chris Lee.



Jack High

From Coral Wearn



Oakley Bowling Club

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@gmail.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 sixteen years and it raises an average of £1000 per year for Club funds, I have attached a copy of the archived accounts from 2003 – 2019 which, as you will see, shows a total of **£16,993.00** raised over the last sixteen seasons.

Over the last few years we have lost several of our older regular members and therefore the monies raised has dropped, **so please consider taking part** and support fund raising for the Club. I shall be at the Pre-Season Meeting in January for members to pay their subscriptions for 2020 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 History – 2003 to 2019

	Income	Paid out in Draws	Paid to Club Funds	Paid to Club Funds Cumulative Total
2003	£2,204.00	£1,100.00	£1,104.00	£1,104.00
2004	£2,387.00	£1,160.00	£1,227.00	£2,331.00
2005	£2,184.00	£1,080.00	£1,104.00	£3,435.00
2006	£2,136.00	£1,080.00	£1,056.00	£4,491.00
2007	£2,132.00	£1,000.00	£1,132.00	£5,623.00
2008	£2,074.00	£1,000.00	£1,074.00	£6,697.00
2009	£2,002.00	£960.00	£1,042.00	£7,739.00
2010	£2,088.00	£1,020.00	£1,068.00	£8,807.00
2011	£1,944.00	£984.00	£960.00	£9,767.00
2012	£2,040.00	£1,020.00	£1,020.00	£10,787.00
2013	£2,178.00	£1,020.00	£1,158.00	£11,945.00
2014	£2,040.00	£1,020.00	£1,020.00	£12,965.00
2015	£2,112.00	£1,050.00	£1,062.00	£14,027.00
2016	£2,064.00	£1,020.00	£1,044.00	£15,071.00
2017	£1,992.00	£990.00	£1,002.00	£16,073.00
2018	£1,776.00	£856.00	£920.00	£16,993.00
2019	£1,776.00	£900.00	£876.00	£17,869.00



From the Green

From Ian Rickman

Here we are Christmas fast approaching, our Autumn renovation well and truly behind us and our Winter work schedule implemented.

After all the plaudits from the various visitors to the Green this last season I believe the Green spoke for itself, thanks due to all the hard work done by the Green Team.

At present the Green is in a good healthy condition and looks better than most other greens did all of last season. I am therefore optimistic that our Green will be in a similar bowling condition as of this season as long as Mother Nature is kind to us throughout the rest of the Winter and Spring period.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of my Green Team for all of their hard work and commitment throughout and would also wish them a Merry Christmas and Happy Healthy New Year.

Heartfelt Thanks Guys.

Clever New Mower

From Ian Rickman and Keith Turnbull

We recently acquired a new cordless G-Tech mower, courtesy of One|stop Oakley, for use on the inside surrounding lawns at the club. We have been using it for a few months and have found it very much easier to use for this smaller area than the industrial petrol mower we need for the outside grass because of its lightness and manoeuvrability.

This morning we tried to use it to top-off the bowling green (in the absence of our trusty Baroness green's mower, which is away for servicing at present). We never expected it to be successful, partly because of the large area, which could be a challenge for the battery life, and partly because we thought the lowest cutting height would not be low enough to make a difference. However, it turned out to be highly effective. A single battery charge lasted for two thirds of the green, so with the spare battery available it was well within its range.

Furthermore, we found at the end that it had removed about three quarters of a bag of grass, leaving the green much more even and easier to switch and brush.

We are very impressed with this machine's versatility and performance and would like to thank One|stop for sponsoring its purchase and Colin Statham for obtaining this sponsorship.



Tuffs Teasers

From Frank Tuffs

Christmas Anagrams

1. Restthricesam
2. Keyrut
3. Carreck
4. Imeetlost
5. Coral
6. Hayidol
7. Tenreps
8. Ridereen
9. Slight
10. Richhewasitsmass

Editor's Corner (Sandra Lee):



Happy Christmas Memories

*Do you remember Christmas' long ago
When we were only wee
There weren't phones or laptops
In the presents under the tree
We were happy with a jigsaw
An Annual or a game
A doll for the lasses
And for the boys a train
And then if we were lucky a big selection box
And sometimes not so lucky
Your Granny's knitted socks*

How many of us remember a Christmas like that?

Does anyone know what happened to the selection box?

Tuffs Teasers - Possible Answers

- 1.Christmas Tree
- 2.Turkey
- 3.Cracker
- 4.Mistletoe
- 5.Carol
- 6.Holiday
- 7.Present
- 8.Reindeer
- 9.Lights
- 10.Christmas Wishes

