



Brush Bowls and Sports Club
Watermead Lane
Loughborough
LE11 3TN

MAGAZINE

September 2020

Firstly, a message from our President

Hi Everyone

It has been a tough year for everyone. My message in the March newsletter was full of optimism for the season ahead but Covid19 came along and changed everything. Since 20th May when restrictions were first relaxed, the club has tried to give everyone the opportunity to get some fresh air, some competitive bowling and the chance to socialise together.

It has been great to see the turnout on both Wednesday and Friday evenings. At first, just a few came along but now we are regularly getting 16-20 bowlers and last Wednesday we used 6 rinks simultaneously for the first time. The outside bar has proved very popular on Fridays, the weather hasn't always been kind to us, but I'm sure the effort to open has been appreciated by everyone.

The "unofficial" club comps are already in full swing. The best of luck to the 20 or so of you who have entered.

Some of you may know that we are currently working with an organisation called the Bowls Development Alliance. They are giving us advice on how we might manage the club into the future particularly with regards to membership recruitment and retention.

Thank you very much to those of you who sent your responses back for the recent questionnaire. We will be analysing and feeding back some of the findings to you in the next few weeks.

I am confident that Brush will come through this current situation in a very positive way. There are some good initiatives already underway that will make our club stronger and more appealing to everyone going forwards. Further news about these will be shared with you soon.

Mick McAuliffe

President

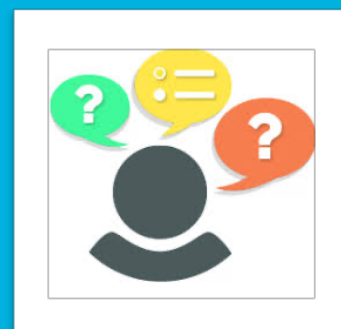
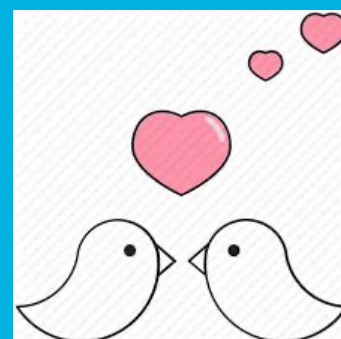
September sees us looking forward to

SOCIAL EVENTS AT THE BRUSH

Our very own **'Mr Bojangles'**, Pete Chambers has, with **June Baker**, organised a new programme of Social Events for the 'closed season', running from October 2020 through to March 2021. These events are all subject to guidance from the Government and Bowls England regarding Covid-19.

Please add these dates to you diaries and calendars and be on the look out for updates nearer each event date.

10 th October	Dance
24 th October	Quiz
14 th November	Dance
28 th November	Quiz
19 th December	Quiz
31 st December	New Years Eve Dance
9 th January	Quiz
23 rd January	Dance
13 th February	St Valentine's Day Dance
27 th February	Quiz
6 th March	Dance
27 th March	Quiz



The new Club shirt - unveiled



Don't you all look smart!!!

WOW! The new Club shirts were seen for the first time at Sutton Bonington on Saturday 20th of August. Great new look, bright, colourful and smart. Thank you to Fay and Peter Benford who had a hand in designing the new look.

The Ground Force Team

Following the success of our Gardening Day in July, another was entered in diaries and calendars for August 19th. Fences and the ladies changing room needed painting with preserve for protection over the winter months, one particular area of garden needed cutting back and general gardening was required to maintain the neatness of the ground overall.



Unfortunately, 'rain stopped play' but we did get a lot of work done. A great morning was enjoyed by everyone who volunteered their time. In no particular order, thanks go to Alex & Jenny Kirk, Mick & Lesley McAuliffe, Ann & Mick Burrow, Patsy & Norman Hockley, Sam & Debra Hardwick, Lesley Bentley, Ken Wainwright, Lea Toone & Brian Bentley.

We now have preserved fencing. The ladies changing room has had a face-lift and the over-grown area by the cellar entrance is now clear and tidy. More flowers have been planted in the borders and the beds have been weeded.



The Green remains open

To book your rink

Telephone Pete Chambers between 10.00 and 11.00 am daily on **07905 339804**

Ladies Bowling.....

Every Tuesday from 11.00 am the rinks are booked for the lady members to play pairs or possibly triples depending on the numbers of players available. Government and Bowls England social distancing guidelines are followed to keep us all safe.

Please contact the Club Ladies Captain, Lesley Bentley on **07940 305834** or lesley.bentley3@ntlworld.com

Mid-week Mixed Tonic.....

The Club continues its invitation to bowl on a Wednesday evening. Mick McAuliffe organises the evening taking into account the current Bowls England distancing guidance and restrictions. Depending upon the numbers wishing to play, we can either play pairs or possibly triples with a 5.30pm start (recent change due to darker evenings).

Inter-Club Competitions.....

Last month Mick Spencer announced Inter-Club Competitions to be played during August and September.

3 competitions are running: 2 wood singles, 4 wood handicap singles & 4 wood pairs.

The competitions are well underway, with the quarter finals now being played. Bowls England guidance allows spectators, allowing for social distancing restrictions and not more than 30 people gathered in total. Why not come along and watch?

DON'T FORGET YOU NEED TO BOOK A RINK AND BOOK A DOUBLE SLOT

Friday Night isRoll-Up Night

The Friday Night, Club Night continues to flourish with an average attendance of around 20 people. Come along and have a roll-up.

Look out for the weekly email for details

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Did you know?

Facts about the word SEPTEMBER:

It comes from the Latin word Sertum which means seven and was originally the seventh month out of a ten month calendar, the oldest known Roman calendar. After a reform that added January and February to the beginning of the year, September became the ninth month, but retained its name.

Flowers that represent September are:



Morning Glory



Aster



Forget-Me-Not

And now some exercise for the 'Little grey cells'

**It is possible to make 102 words out of the word September -
How many can you get?**

WITHOUT USING GOOGLE!!

**No prize, but send your answers to me and I'll announce 1st, 2nd &
3rd 'clever clogs' next month**

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And now for something completely different, well new

Who Do You Think You Are?

Our Club President Mick McAuliffe.....

It was always my intention to retire from work at 60 and 5 years ago that is exactly what I did. I had no idea how I was going to fill my days. I had worked long hours all my working life, I didn't know anything else. Did I think that I would be playing bowls at Brush? Definitely not! It was only by pure accident that myself and Lesley came to live in Loughborough in 2015. We were looking to move to our "forever home". By chance, I passed through the town and spotted a building site on Beacon Road. I went home to Lesley and said "I think I've found us our new home". The rest is history.



I left Gateway Grammar School at 18 years old, having done my A Levels, and got myself a job at British Shoe Corporation based in Braunstone. It was the first job I'd ever applied for and I was still there 24 years later! My career progressed well and I rose up the ranks pretty quickly. In 1998 I was awarded a gold watch for long service.



But later in 1998 British Shoe Corporation folded and I found myself working for Philip Green - ex British Home Stores. Later in my career I worked for Warner Bros. What an experience that turned out to be! I was literally working every day with amazing characters like Bugs Bunny, Tweety Pie, Scooby Doo and Harry Potter. It gave me my first opportunity to travel to the Far East, mainly China and Thailand. Having first been there on business, myself and Lesley went back several times later, to experience it for ourselves. Whilst at WB I even had the chance to share a red carpet with Tom Cruise (the movie star) whilst attending a film premiere at the Odeon Leicester Square in London.

Myself and Lesley joined the Charnwood U3A soon after moving to Loughborough. We signed up for several things that we had never done before and that included bowls. I have always been very competitive - it probably stems from being one of six brothers! We both bought second-hand bowls and within a few months we were hooked. My highlights so far are winning the 2 wood pairs with Mick Spencer in my first season, winning the Maiden singles and captaining the Peregrines to promotion last year.

Leicester City has been my biggest passion for most of my life. I started going down to Filbert Street in my teens back in the early 70's when Peter Shilton, David Nish and Peter Rodrigues were playing.





Bowls has sort of taken over our lives in the last few years. I joined the committee 3 years ago and now have the “dubious pleasure” of being your President. I must have some sort of masochistic tendency! Seriously though, I sincerely hope that I can help to move the club forwards. We have a great club and I’m very proud to be part of it. Making new friends through bowling has certainly helped myself and Lesley to settle into our new life in Loughborough.

Look out for another profile next month

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The Committee will continue to keep you updated on any changes/revisions to the covid-19 pandemic advice and guidelines that affect your use of the club facilities.



More exciting news of further Club developments next month

If any of you out there have news or information that the rest of us may find interesting, please let me know. However, the editor has the final decision on any inclusions.

