

New Beckenham Bowls Club

Founded 1899



The Last 25 Years (1999 – 2023)

New Beckenham/RBS/NWB Bowls Club - Honours List 1999 - 2024

	Men						Ladies				
	President	Chairman	Captain	Secretary	Treasurer	Champion	President	Captain	Secretary	Treasurer	Champion
National Westminster Bank Bowling Club											
1999	Simon Lee	Captain	JM Moore	AG Miles	MM O'Brien	D Hilley	A Saunders	V Moore	J King	J Rouse	M McCafferty
2000	Roy Manning	T Martin	BF Murphy	AG Miles	MM O'Brien	DR Cross	A Saunders	V Moore	J King	J Rouse	C Sullivan
2001	Roy Manning	T Martin	BF Murphy	AG Miles	MM O'Brien	DI King	V Moore	A Bailey	J King	J Rouse	S Riley
2002	Roy Manning	T Martin	MM O'Brien	AG Miles	BF Murphy	GP Bailey	V Self	C Cook	J King	J Rouse	K Mitchell
2003	Roy Manning	T Martin	MM O'Brien	AG Miles	BF Murphy	RE Riley	C Cook	J King	S Riley	D Woods	S Riley
2004	Roy Manning	T Martin	LA Chant	AG Miles	BF Murphy	DM Jones	J Rouse	J King	S Riley	A Bailey	A Saunders
2005	Roy Manning	JM Moore	LA Chant	AG Miles	BF Murphy	DI King	J King	C Sullivan	S Riley	A Bailey	S Riley
Royal Bank of Scotland Bowls Club											
2006	Roy Manning	JM Moore	R Bunn	AG Miles	BF Murphy	N Perkins	M McCafferty	C Sullivan	S Riley	A Bailey	M McCafferty
2007	Roy Manning	JM Moore	R Bunn	AG Miles	BF Murphy	LA Chant	C Sullivan	A Saunders	S Riley	A Bailey	A Saunders
2008	Roy Manning	JM Moore	M Saunders	AG Miles	BF Murphy	DI King	S Riley	A Saunders	S Riley	J Rouse	C Sullivan
2009	Roy Manning	JM Moore	GJ Harper	AG Miles	BF Murphy	AG Miles	A Saunders	P Cheeseman	J King	J Bessant	A Saunders
2010	Roy Manning	JM Moore	GJ Harper	AG Miles	BF Murphy	M Noble	A Saunders	J Rouse	J King	J Bessant	C Sullivan
2011	Peter Rawlins	JM Moore	GJ Harper	AG Miles	BF Murphy	K Coomber	J Rouse	J Rouse	J King	J Bessant	C Sullivan
2012	Peter Rawlins	JM Moore	GJ Harper	AG Miles	BF Murphy	M Noble	J King	P Turner	J Thomas	J Bessant	C Sullivan
2013	Peter Rawlins	JM Moore	MM O'Brien	AG Miles	BF Murphy	K Coomber	P Turner	S Stacey	J Thomas	J Bessant	J Bessant
2014	Peter Rawlins	JM Moore	MM O'Brien	D Branch	BF Murphy	S Lovell	P Turner	S Stacey	J Thomas	C Sparkes	C Sparkes
2015	Peter Rawlins	JM Moore	J Borrow	D Branch	BF Murphy	S Lovell	P Turner	S Stacey	J Thomas	C Sparkes	V Scudder
2016	Peter Rawlins	JM Moore	J Borrow	D Branch	M Thomas	K Coomber	S Stacey	V Scudder	V Dorset	C Sparkes	J Thomas
2017	Peter Rawlins	JM Moore	DM Jones	D Branch	M Thomas	M D'Apice	S Stacey	V Scudder	V Dorset	B Longhurst	M Dick
2018	Graham Harper	JM Moore	DM Jones	D Branch	M Thomas	DM Jones	V Scudder	S Stacey	V Dorset	B Longhurst	C Sparkes
2019	Graham Harper	JM Moore	KA Turner	D Branch	M Thomas	S Duncan	P Turner	H Ingram	V Dorset	B Longhurst	C Sparkes
2020	Graham Harper	JM Moore	S Duncan	D Branch	M Thomas	Covid	P Turner	S Stacey	C Unwin	B Longhurst	Covid
2021	Graham Harper	JM Moore	S Duncan	M O'Leary	W Derham	DM Jones	P Turner	S Stacey	XXXXXXX	XXXXXXX	H Ingram
New Beckenham Bowls Club											
2022	John Moore	KA Turner	S Duncan	M O'Leary	W Derham	B Shaw	XXXXXXXXXX	S Stacey	XXXXXXX	XXXXXXX	V Mutucumarana
2023	John Moore	KA Turner	S Duncan	M O'Leary	W Derham	DM Jones	XXXXXXXXXX	C Sparkes	XXXXXXX	XXXXXXX	P Youd
2024	John Moore	KA Turner	S Duncan	M O'Leary	W Derham		XXXXXXXXXX	S Stacey	XXXXXXX	XXXXXXX	

New Beckenham Bowls Club 1899 – 2023

The last Quadranscentennial (1999 - 2023)

The Bowls Club's first 100 years is very well documented in the Centenary booklet and it lists the activities scheduled for 1999, our Centenary Year. A full programme of league and friendly fixtures ensured all members had a very busy bowling season including our first entry into the LX League where we were to finish 5th. What follows were the highlights of the Centenary Season and it should be said refers to the Men's events unless otherwise specified. Apologies to BHAF and BB & DBA Winners, too many to list, other than in Centenary Year and for the many inevitable omissions.

John Moore

Centenary Year - 1999

Pre-season on January 16th we started our Charity fund raising with a Race night organised by Mike O'Brien in the main Pavilion. On March 22nd a party travelled to Okehampton to enjoy an entertaining weekend with everything from bowls to curling to archery to picture framing etc.

We acquired from the Private Banks Club at Catford Bridge a Summer House which was installed at the end of our Green and its rear portion converted into our equipment hut.

After our Opening Day on 24th April we built up to the highlight of the season, our match against The E.B.A. (English Bowling Association) on 26th May. We were fortunate to have excellent weather and The Club was proud to record a victory (details on photo in Club Room) against E.B.A. President Jim Thompson of Durham. A splendid dinner was enjoyed by all in the Main Pavilion but strangely enough, perhaps the most memorable feature of the day was that it was the first time coloured (bright blue) bowls were seen on our Green. They were "managed" by E.B.A. Senior Vice President John Austin of Oxfordshire, but Jim quickly pointed out, soon revealed any shortcomings in their/his delivery! (It's worth noting that it was not until October '99 that KCBA approved coloured bowls).

The 31st May saw the introduction of a new and still popular addition to our mixed Club Competitions – the 100 Up Centenary Cup, designed for mathematicians!

Our next major event was Centenary Day on 6th June when members were encouraged to dress in the styles of 1899 with prizes for the best male and female. The Centenary photo album shows the members' enthusiasm and ingenuity to embrace the challenge. The eventual winners were President Roy Manning disguised as a turn of the century railway man and Ellen West, in period bathing costume! A great fun day was rounded off by an hilarious Old Time Music Hall performed after supper by West Wickham Operatic Society in the Main Pavilion.

On 9th July the Sports Club organised a celebration of the Club's opening by Lord Harlech on 8th July 1899. 500 people attended of which 100 were Bowlers and their guests. £10 per ticket bought several choices of buffet, a disco, a barn dance and a Jazz Band. All drinks were a £1 and the evening culminated in one of the biggest fireworks displays seen since November 5th.

President's Day on 13th July saw President Simon Lee in his first game of bowls winning and being skipped by England International and World Pairs Champion, Gary Smith.

July 21st and a coach outing and pub lunch to another Bowls Club celebrating an anniversary, but what an anniversary! Southampton Old Green was founded in 1299 and so was celebrating its Septcentennial, its 700th anniversary, the oldest bowls green in the world! It was a great privilege to play bowls and win on all rinks at such an ancient Club and learn something of its history and traditions, including meeting the "Knights of the Green".

Our first visit from a County side led by Kent President, Vic Steeple, occurred on 26th July when we lost by 7 shots to his Past Presidents team. However, on his return on 4th August with his President and Council team, roles were reversed and the Bank won out winners by 36 shots. Details are on a photo in the Club Room.

On 1st August it was Captain's Day attended by a record 40 players and rounded off with a curry supper with plainer fare available for the less adventurous.

The Club continued its regular fixture commitments and on 21st August we played our last Private Clubs League match of the season against Old Colfeians. With the last bowl of the match Denis Cross's rink tied its game and the point so won gave NatWest Bowls Club its first ever victory as Champions of the PCL League. What a fantastic result in our special year and what a great send off for our Centenary Tour!

On 23rd August the majority of the Club with a few guests including some players from Norbury BC, from which the Bank had withdrawn in 1997, flew to Toronto for the start of an incredible Canadian Tour. We were overwhelmed by the hospitality we encountered, most times being greeted by our hosts forming an aisle to greet us and shake hands as we stepped from our coach and not unusual to have the local press and Mayor present.

Some Clubs even had special commemorative cakes baked for our visit. We had been told that our hosts would wish to play mixed bowls which was fine until we discovered that included mixing the 2 sides together in triples! As we had quite a large party we had invested a lot of time in pre-selecting mixed rinks so a lot of diplomacy got called upon when we discovered they would usually have 90 bowlers all wishing to play our 41!

Generally, we were pleased to win most (if not all) of our matches but still found time for some incredible excursions including the ladies taking pictures with a Mountie at Niagara before we plunged into the Falls on “The Maid of the Mist”. Evening Dinner at the top of the Toronto Tower was another memorable occasion.

After a week we then flew to Vancouver for another round of matches and incredible hospitality. Amongst the trips was a boat ride to Vancouver Island during which we were fortunate to spot whales. We visited the beautiful Butchart Gardens and braver souls traversed the famous 450 foot Capilano Suspension Bridge. Some of our party hired a seaplane to soar over the glaciers and land on a mountain lake before returning to Vancouver Harbour. Our last and winning match of the Tour was against the Stanley Park Club set in the famous Park with its towering totem poles. A fitting end to a wonderful experience. Many of the party stayed on for their own extended tours but on our return to the UK with a number of important matches still to play, we were greeted with some very unwelcome news.

1st September – it was confirmed that M. Corby now had a 60 year lease on the Sports Ground. The Sports sections were granted a 15 year User Deed which theoretically protected their occupation at the Ground and obliged M Corby to maintain it at least to the standard applying at the time of the lease.

On 20th September we played the renowned Dennyside Bowling Association. The Dennyside was established in 1936 by Leonard Denny and since its founding remains dedicated to help and encourage bowls clubs to raise funds for their nominated charities. Their members come from many parts of England across a region stretching from Lincolnshire to Bristol and the team was made up of bowlers from all over the south of England. We won on all rinks and with nearly £960 collected on the tables, £640 donated by Dennyside and £3400 collected through the season by Charity raffles organised by Reg Johns and Bunny Bunn, we were able to present at the after-match dinner, to the 2 very surprised representatives of Demelza House and St Christopher’s Hospice, cheques for £2350 each. We also sent a cheque for £500 to St John’s Badgers in memory of Roy Follett.

We were very pleased and kept very busy hosting a bowls week for visiting clubs between 21st & 24th September which was unfortunately marred by bad weather. However, we were fortunate to be allowed to transfer our Finals Day on Friday to Crystal Palace Indoor Club where the eventual winners were Old Colfeians.

After a match with the Ladies on 26th September which was narrowly won, we closed the Green on what had been a tumultuous year with our traditional Overs & Unders Game on 2nd October, won by the Unders.

In this of all seasons, County competitions produced some outstanding results, with the following members all reaching Divisional Finals: - Denis Cross in the Badged Singles, Geoff Bailey and Dave Hilley in the Pairs and Mike O'Brien, John Moore, Geoff Bailey and Mike Saunders in the Rinks so earning County badges. Sadly, these players were unable to clear the final hurdle and it was left to David King to make it all the way to the County Final of the 2 wood competition. David was also set to become the Beckenham, Bromley & District singles Champion and it was a pleasure to see Roy Skivington and Arthur Illingworth reach the Pairs semi – finals of that competition. Congratulations once more to all concerned.

The Centenary Year was brought to a close with a magnificent dinner attended by over 100 members and guests, held at The Selsdon Park Hotel, presided over by President Simon Lee.

The final match results were: Played 85 Won 52 Lost 28 Drew 5

Points For 5358 Points Against 4650 Net +708

2000 – 2023: A Random Journey

The pages that follow simply seek to identify some of the note-worthy events that have occurred over the last 24 years and do not claim to be comprehensive so apologies to those who feel equally important events have been omitted.

Tours

Our annual Tour has always been an important and highly enjoyable part of our bowling calendar and here are details of our destinations during this period:

2000 – 2001 Marlborough

2009 – 2011 Newmarket

2002 – 2003 Ross-on Wye

2012 – 2013 Banbury

2004 – 2005 Alton

2014 – 2019 Newmarket

2006 – No Tour

2020 – Covid

2007 – 2008 Faringdon

2021 – 2023 Newmarket

2000 – Joan King, President KCWBA EWBA Centenary.

Additional Joint Committee Meetings with Ladies Club established.

Kent Pairs Winners Sylvia Perkins/Ellen West. Men 2nd in Private Clubs League.

Our Bowls Club Week was won by Baker Bexford. First Coutts Bowls Day.

November – Supper and Old Time Music Hall at Players Theatre, Charing X

2001 - Club reached last 16 of EBA Two-Fours. Private Clubs League Winners.

David Jones won Kent Badge with Geoff Bailey, David Hilley in Triples ¼ Final.

2002 - Kent Triples Winners – Suzanne & Joyce Barnes, Kate Mitchell.

Kent Badges – Sylvia Riley, Ann Saunders. Ladies Belle Trophy Winners.

Coloured Club Shirts. NatWest Bowls Festival - Our sides finished 1st and 3rd.

Len Chant organised a Club Trip and Competition at Potters.

2003 – 11th August – hottest ever temperature in U.K. 38.5C (101.3F) recorded in Kent.

Jonny Wilkinson's last minute drop goal defeats Australia to win World Cup!!!

2004 – Kent Singles Winner – Carol Sullivan.

Kent Triples R.U. Suzanne & Joyce Barnes, Kate Mitchell.

Kent Pairs Semi-Final - Geoff Bailey & Dave Brown.

2005 – Kent Singles Winner – Joyce Barnes. Kent Pairs R.U. Suzanne & Joyce Barnes

Kent 4's R.U. Ellen West, Sylvia Riley, Anne Bailey, Ann Saunders

Special General Meeting of Men's and Ladies' Clubs agreed to change of name
from National Westminster Bank Bowling Club to Royal Bank of Scotland Bowls
Club to become effective in 2006.

2006 – Kent Singles final - David King. Kent Singles Semi-finals Kate Mitchell

Kent 4s Runners Up - Ron Riley, Dennis Cross, Geoff Bailey & David King.

L&SC Pairs Winners Ron Riley, Dennis Cross.

Life Vice Presidents – Don Brookfield, Goff Miles.

Goals, Gambado, Fitness First on site. Planning for Swimming Pool.

2007 – 31st January: M Corby buys Sports Ground. User Deed 15 year commences.

Kent Triples Winners Sylvia Riley, Carol Sullivan, Ann Saunders

Kent 2 Wood Winner Carol Sullivan reached National Q/F

2008 – Pat Cheeseman, President KCWBA. EBA & EWBA merged to Bowls England.

National Pairs R.U. at Leamington - Kate Mitchell & Joyce Barnes.

Kent Singles Quarter-Finals - Geoff Bailey. Beckenham Jubilee Cup Winners

2009 - David King selected for all Kent Middleton Cup matches.
 Geoff Bailey reached Singles Quarter Finals.
 Cliff Smith became Green Keeper taking over from Phil Clarke
 Beckenham Jubilee Cup Winners.

2010 – Club Room partition removed. Men’s Changing divided to create
 Ladies Changing Room.

2011 - Roy Manning made Honorary Life Member K.C.B.A.
 Kent 4’s Winners Suzanne & Joyce Barnes, Carol Sullivan, Ann Saunders
 Coach Excursion to Westerham Brewery and The Grasshopper at Westerham.

2012 – KCBA & KCWBA unified as KCBA. Graham Harper 4th year as Captain.
 £987 from ¼ share sale NW Sports Trophies.
 Annual Sub increased £50 to £60. Club Licensed Premises Cert. granted.

2013 – RBS withdraw subsidy. Bill Rouse & Goff Miles - County Merit Certs.
 Bill Rouse, Peter Rawlins & Goff Miles elected Life Vice Presidents.

2014 – Annual Dinner at Sundridge Park Golf Club from Park Langley Tennis Club.
 Bowls England Finals moved to Leamington Spa from Worthing.
 Brian Murphy receives County Merit Certificate. Joan King - Hon Life Member.

2015 - Crystal Palace take short lease. Beckenham Jubilee Cup Winners

2016 – Bowling for Pig at Beckenham Fete. Annual sub £80. Joan Rouse-Hon Life Member
 Kevin Clarke – Green Keeper.

2017 – Don Brookfield Life Vice President.

2018 – New website – RBSBC.com. Annual sub £100. Rugby Club leave site.

2019 – Crystal Palace sign 75 year lease. AGM held at Selhurst Park.

2020 – Covid Year. Matches cancelled. Limited internal comps. played. Zoom AGM.
 30th Anniversary 200 Club. £4696 grant received from Sport England.
 RBS Group plc changes name to NatWest Group plc 22 July.
 David Branch Life Vice President

2021 – AGMs/Special GM agrees Unification & Change of Name to New Beckenham B.C.
 £2000 from NatWest for rebranding + £500 sale of memorabilia donated by Bank.

2022 – Lease signed with Crystal Palace FC for renewal 1st December 2030.
 Tony Kirby - Kent Singles semi-final. Carol Sparkes County Merit Certificate.
 Annual sub £130 President’s Trophy – 1st Winner Marco D’Apice.

2023 – Tony Kirby and Dave Jones Kent Pairs semi-finals.