

OVER THE HEDGE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ROMSEY BOWLING CLUB



AUGUST 2026

www.romseybowlingclub.com

THE PRESIDENT'S DAY dawned with a spattering of rain which quickly cleared to offer up a bright sunny day. Kevin welcomed Ella Sagers from Mountbatten Hospice who gave a small presentation while members enjoyed their Pimms around the Green. This was followed by a Spider which was won by Di Stevens.

The President Versus Vice President match was a closely contested game, played in good spirits, with an overall win, of course, to the President. Needless to say, the Green played extremely well due to hard work on the part of the Green Team. Members then retired to the Dining Room where they all enjoyed a hearty meal with wine followed by some delicious desserts. Many thanks go to the catering team for all their hard work, and lovely flower arrangements thanks to Chris Dennis.

All monies raised on the day were donated to the Mountbatten Hospice – thank you to everyone who made my President's Day such an enjoyable one.

—President Kevin Stokes.



KEVIN WITH MOUNTBATTEN HOSPICE
COMMUNITY FUNDRAISER ELLA



THE WORLD CUP SWEEPSTAKE was won by Daphne Reid, who drew Spain and won £50; the runner-up was Les Braybrook, who drew Argentina and received £25. Well done to both of them!

The winning cheques were presented by Kevin and Tina Stokes after the Dave Condon Triples games on Monday the 27th of July. Les very kindly donated his winnings to the President's Charity.



SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS BILL REID (ON BEHALF OF DAPHNE) AND LES BRAYBROOK ACCEPTING THEIR WINNINGS

A reminder regarding this year's **Christmas Draw**: we would like to fill up as many pages of numbers as possible. The last time the draw was run, members bought over £300 worth of numbers and we had 65 prizes—let's see if we can beat that this year!



THE DROUGHT OF 1976

RBC FOUNDER MEMBER SHEILA BRIGHTMORE RECALLS: Back in 1976, along with Britain's shrivelling crops, the Romsey Bowling Club's newly laid Cumberland turf was rapidly dying. A heatwave along with a record-breaking drought had forced the government to impose a hosepipe ban which was to last for months.

Although in 1973 it was the Romsey Borough Council that had financed the new bowling green for Romsey, in 1976 it was the Test Valley Council that was responsible for its maintenance.

As the drought worsened across the country, the council decided there was no alternative but to pump vast quantities of water from the nearby River Test onto the green.

Unfortunately, this proved devastating when, together with the river's water, the river's weeds also flooded the green and quickly flourished!

It was to be some years before the weeds from the river were completely eradicated and the green properly restored. Let us hope, with global warming looming, the club is never faced with such a decision again.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Bank Holiday Drive

There are plans for a Roll-Up on the Bank Holiday Monday of August 31st, replacing the Dave Condon Triples. Members are invited to just turn up on the day to enjoy a game, with tea and biscuits as usual.

Finals Weekend

The dozen games of the RBC Internal Competitions will be played across the weekend of the 5th and 6th of September, with tea, coffee, and homemade cakes available for sale. All spectators welcome.