



From the Chairman

A warm welcome to you all at the beginning of the 2022 bowling season.

This is our first newsletter since April 2020 and I am very grateful to Sheila Cude, as editor, and Paul Young, as the designer, who have volunteered to produce quarterly editions.

The rink booking diary will be operational again and I am also pleased to report that Stav Partou has taken on the role of administrator.

We are grateful to John Callen who instigated the rink diary booking system back in the early COVID days. He acted as administrator until the end of last season but has now stood down.

Update on the men's changing room

You will recall that your committee is looking into two options to replace it. One would be a prefabricated wooden construction and the other a brick

construction. Plans and costs for the first one will be provided by the manufacturer but we have had to instruct an architect and structural engineer to specify plans for the brick alternative.

These are currently being drawn up and once they are finalised we will be able to obtain costs from builders. Your committee will then publish the alternative costs and plans and arrange a meeting to agree the way forward.

Planning permission will have to be obtained but we do not see this as a problem and are hoping that the new building will be ready for our next season of bowling.

I am looking forward to meeting you all on the green shortly. (N.B. I am assured that the usual cheese and biscuits will be provided again after bowling on Friday Club nights!)

Mick Hine

From the Secretary

I'm pleased that the newsletter is up and running again and gives me an opportunity to explain some of my duties as the Club's Secretary.

Today, I will concentrate on how the Club's assets are protected and what is done to avoid liability to third parties falling on individual members. This latter point is very important because we are not a limited company, and each of us bears a responsibility if things go wrong – for example a visitor sustaining a serious injury while on the Club's premises.

The first thing is to make sure the premises are properly maintained in accordance with the advice of our Health and Safety Officer, including appropriate checks on the services. That might not be enough, however, which is why we also have a very comprehensive insurance policy, which is reviewed and discussed with our specialist brokers every year.

Our policy includes our possible liabilities to third parties, as well as loss or damage to our buildings, contents and the machinery used by the Green Team.

It covers not just fire but also special perils such as storm and tempest. You will recall we had to make a substantial claim two years ago when part of the clubhouse flat roof was ripped off in a gale. This was settled in full and without argument.

The premiums are not cheap because of the need to maintain full cover and we update them on a regular basis, to reflect not just inflation, but also new assets as they are acquired. Two years ago we even employed a specialist firm of valuers to make sure that we were fully insured. If we were underinsured, the result would be the Club bearing a substantial proportion of any claim which would defeat the object of the exercise.

I work closely with our brokers to make sure all of us can rest easy that the Club's assets are fully protected, and that no potentially expensive liabilities fall on any of us.

David Haywood

From the President

The first three months of my year as President have seen a relatively quiet winter social programme due to the resurgence of the Omicron variant of COVID during December.

This resulted in the temporary closure of the Club and the cancellation of several events, including our usual Christmas Show with the WHBC Players and Choir and the New Year's Eve party. Fortunately, Garry and Sue (with their team of talented and musical pantomime players) were able to re-programme the pantomime at the beginning of February, but without the carols and WHBC Choir – it was a very special event and much appreciated by all.

So, we can be proud to have Garry as our master of ceremonies when it comes to the Christmas Show. In addition, Sue Jarvis and her team of helpers were able to arrange some really memorable social events when COVID allowed.

Over 30 members will be travelling to Cyprus for some early bowling practice ready for the season to begin, combined with lots of sea, sunshine, good food and companionship.

We all look forward to the start of the bowling season later in April. The final work continues in preparing the green for the start of the bowls season, and it is looking in really good condition thanks to all the hard work that has been put in by Ron Wright and members of the Green Team throughout the winter.

This year President's Day will be on 13 August and the President's Dinner will take place at Enfield Golf Club on 12 November, so please make a note of the dates in your diaries.

My charity for the year is Noah's Ark Children's Hospice in Barnet, which provides care for children with a life-limiting or life-threatening condition, living in the core catchment area of Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Haringey, Herts Valley and Islington. I hope that you will support the charity during 2022, with lots of your bowling having a wrong bias!

So I wish you all a happy, sunny and enjoyable season. Remember – we may not have it altogether, but together we have it all: a wonderful Club of which I am proud to serve as your President.

Mike Laurie

Club shirts



This is a reminder that from the beginning of the 2023 season you will need to wear a club shirt with the traditional badge when representing the Club in external matches.

I will be taking orders from the beginning of this season.

They are £26 each and come in a wide range of sizes with

options of cotton or sports fabric.

The ladies have a choice of a short or cap sleeve.

It is best to order as soon as possible as it is taking a long time to receive the shirts from the supplier (Brexit/Covid!?)

Look out for my emails.

Di Hine

Ted Skeffington Trophy

The first internal competition of the season is the Ted Skeffington Trophy. Why the name?

In 1996 this Trophy was presented to the Club by the family of Ted Skeffington. Ted was President of WHBC in 1982, the Club's Golden Jubilee Year.

It is generally played on the opening day of the season and mixed teams are selected randomly. An award is presented to the winning team on trophy night.

Michael Dady

I spied a spider

Traditionally the competition is preceded by the 'Spider'. A jack is placed in the centre of the green. Everyone stands round the green, with one foot in the ditch, and bowls one bowl. Whoever lands nearest the jack wins a prize.

Welcome to the 2022 bowling season

Soon after some of the Club members are back from their trip to Cyprus the 2022 bowling season will be upon us.

The new season starts on Easter Saturday 16 April. As this is Easter weekend the first competition of the season, the Ted Skeffington trophy, will be played on the following Saturday 23 April at 2.00pm.

Anyone who wishes to play in the competition will have to arrive to put their names on the list no later than 1.30pm on the day, to give the captains time to sort out the teams.

Those who wish to play on 16 April should book a rink using the rink diary system.

All members have been sent a copy of this year's fixtures, so make sure you put any games you wish to play in into your diary now. You will be getting a new

handbook soon. There is also a copy of the fixtures on the ladies' and men's notice boards in the lounge.

All internal matches have now been drawn and are shown on the ladies', men's and mixed noticeboards, and also on the Club website at www.whbowlsclub.hitstennis.co.uk

Please ensure you check whom you are playing and by when the game has to be played. If you have any problems, however, please contact Dave Waller asap. Don't wait for your opponent to contact you, be proactive and contact them, especially if you are limited as to when you can play.

Don't leave it until the last week to arrange your game as rinks can be booked up well in advance and then you will have a problem fitting it in.

Changes for the 2022 season

Club nights

Wednesday and Friday evening Club nights and Sunday morning will remain mixed sessions.

Wednesday nights will be more structured, with the captains/vice-captains picking the teams to try to ensure these matches are more competitive. It may be that some nights there are some men and lady only games depending on the attendance. Friday night will remain the same as it is now.

There is no longer a 50p charge for playing on a Wednesday night. The recording of Wednesday night points has been stopped, however, the players in the overall winning team, highest shot difference, will each receive a bar voucher worth £3 in recognition of their achievement.

Dress code

There is no longer an official dress code for any casual roll-ups on Wednesday and Friday nights and Sunday mornings, although bowlers who wish to continue to wear the Club uniform on these occasions are perfectly entitled to do so.

Official dress code, grey or white below the waist and white polo shirts or Club shirts, must be worn for all internal matches and Club shirts for external matches. Every match will have the relevant dress requirement either in the handbook, on the selection sheet, or on the website.

Club shirts with the new badge must be worn from 2023 season onwards.

Bowling shoes are required for all matches and roll-ups.

President's Charity

A reminder that 50p is payable to the President's charity for a wrong bias. This year it is the Noah's Ark Children's Hospice and you will find a collection tin on the bar.

Club matches

Keep an eye on the fixture calendar for all Club weekend matches and look out for the notices on the notice board in the main clubhouse. Last names are usually the Wednesday night before a weekend match to give the captains time to sort out the teams.

External competitions

Please put your names down for some external matches. Newer or less experienced bowlers look out for the friendly competitions to start with and then perhaps try the Sunday league.

There is nothing like playing in a match to help improve your game and your understanding of the game strategy, but most of all your overall enjoyment.

The most important thing is to enjoy playing and make the best of any opportunity to improve your play. Both captains and vice captains are here to help so don't be afraid to ask.

Both Lionel and Pam are looking forward to catching up with you all on the green very soon. Let's hope that 2022 will be a successful year for Winchmore Hill Bowling Club.

Lionel and Pam
Your 2022 Captains

Editor's Introduction

First I'd better introduce myself — I'm Sheila Cude and I and my partner, Paul Young, have volunteered to edit and produce this newsletter. I am the Editor, and Paul deals with the design and layout. The newsletter will come out quarterly in April, July, October and January.

There are a few other introductions in this issue as well including a preview of the new Club shirts and, with newer members in mind, an introduction to the use of the rink diary.

The Club is not all about bowls of course, there is an amazing social programme which keeps everyone together over the winter and a range of other activities.

What makes the Club so special, however, is the members. Everyone I have met is friendly, welcoming, supportive and inclusive. For Paul and I to produce this newsletter is a way to give something back to the Club.

Finally, thank you to everyone who has contributed to our first issue.

Get in touch...

What would you like to see in your newsletter?

I would always welcome contributions, ideas and suggestions for articles.

Please contact me by email

sheilacude@blueyonder.co.uk

Landline 020 8340 1928

Mobile 07491 672 546

Rink Diary booking

We will continue to use the rink diary booking website for rink bookings. Using the website is easy so do not be daunted. See the website at <https://www.winchmore.rinkdiary.co.uk/>

| WINCHMORE HILL BOWLING CLUB RINK DIARY | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Monday 21st Mar 2022 | Tuesday 22nd Mar 2022 | Wednesday 23rd Mar 2022 | Thursday 24th Mar 2022 | Friday 25th Mar 2022 | Saturday 26th Mar 2022 | Sunday 27th Mar 2022 |
| 10:30 AM TO 12:30 PM | 1 | MAINTENANCE | | MAINTENANCE | | | |
| | 2 | MAINTENANCE | | MAINTENANCE | | | |
| | 3 | MAINTENANCE | | MAINTENANCE | | | |
| | 4 | MAINTENANCE | | MAINTENANCE | | | |
| | 5 | MAINTENANCE | | MAINTENANCE | | | |
| | 6 | MAINTENANCE | | MAINTENANCE | | | |
| 12:30 PM TO 2:00 PM | 1 | MAINTENANCE | | | | | |
| | 2 | MAINTENANCE | | | | | |
| | 3 | MAINTENANCE | | | | | |

If you have not used the website before you will need to register for an account (you only need to do this once). To register, click 'Sign In' at the top right of the page and enter your name and email address in the fields on the right hand side of the registration page. You will also need to choose and confirm a password that you'll need to access the website. Click the 'I'm not a robot' box and then 'Register Now'.

You will receive an email to confirm your registration, which will include your username. You will need this username and the password you chose to login. If you do not receive the email, check your spam folder, the email does not arrive immediately so please give it a bit of time.

When you have your username, visit the website and click 'Sign In'. Enter your username and password on the left hand side of the webpage and that's it. You may choose to allow your computer to save your username and password for that website, that's up to you.

Once you are logged in you will see a diary that allows you to select the week/day that you are interested in. Do this by clicking the 'Next Week' button on the top right or by using the date selector by clicking the date field above that.

Most of the sessions are two hours, their times are:

- 10:30 - 12:30
- 12:30 - 14:00
- 14:00 - 16:00
- 16:00 - 18:30
- 18:30 - 20:00 and later

There are six slots in each session, one for each rink available. You will see how many slots (rinks) are available for the session you are interested in. If you think you will need longer than the time in one session please book two sessions.

To book a slot, click on it and a booking form will appear showing your selected date and session time. Choose the number of slots (rinks) you wish to book, the type of booking (e.g. roll-up) and additional information and the name of the opposition (if there is one) or just enter 'practice' Then click 'Request Slot', you will receive an email confirming your booking. The booking does not allocate a specific rink, please see information at the Club on the day.

BOOK YOUR SLOT

SUNDAY 17TH APRIL 2022 10:30 AM TO 12:30 PM

PAUL YOUNG (WINCHMORE HILL BOWLING CLUB)

CHOOSE SLOTS: 1 CHOOSE GAME NAME: Roll-up

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

NAME OF THE OPPOSITION (OR PRACTICE):

PROVISIONAL BOOKING

(This is a Provisional Booking and if not confirmed within the period it will be auto deleted)

* REQUIRED REQUEST SLOT

Please remember to cancel any bookings you no longer require. You can do this by clicking on the booking and clicking on 'Delete Slot'.

We have a new administrator for the rink diary, Stavros Partou. If you have any questions you can contact him at stavros.partou@gmail.com

The Green Team

A view from the Green

It's not long now until the start of the season, but before then I would like to thank everyone who came along last October to help with the spreading of the top dressing. I am pleased to say your efforts have paid off and the green has come through the winter in good shape.

Surprisingly, despite all the wet weather and grey days, there is very little moss growth which means we should have a healthy sward to play on. Also thanks to all the members of the Green Team and Gardening Team who have been working hard on your behalf throughout the winter to prepare the green and grounds for the coming season. Well done to everyone.

We will open the green on Easter Saturday 16 April for roll-ups for the first week, with the Ted Skeffington trophy competition being held on St George's Day Saturday 23 April.

I am now working on the difficult task of adding back just the right number of dips, bumps, runs and squiggles to make the outdoor game a challenge and to give everyone, whether you are a new bowler or old hand, the perfect excuse to blame the green for your loose shots.

But seriously – I hope the green performs as well as it did last year and we all have an enjoyable bowling season.

Just a reminder, we mow the green on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings, if you arrive early please wait until the mowing has finished before starting your match.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Club.

Ron Wright
Green Ranger

Coaching Sessions

Markers Course

Thursday 14 April at 10.30am

Run by Mike Dady this will take place whatever the weather as it can be done indoors if necessary. Members should not agree to mark unless they have been on this course, or a similar one, recently.

Coaching

Mondays – starting on **25 April**

At 10.30am – 12.30pm

The captains and vice-captains will be running the sessions. Depending on numbers the ladies and men might be run separately.

One-to-one coaching sessions can be arranged at other times, if required.

Green Greeny...

A newbie tries his hand at mowing the green

As a recent recruit to the Green Team, I was pleased when Ron was trusting enough to let me have a go at mowing the green.

Mike Laurie showed me how to operate the mower and for some reason felt confident that I was capable of keeping to an accurate line.

My right hand firmly on the dead man's handle, I pulled the accelerator lever and the motor kicked in sharply and lurched forward with a lot more force than I expected.

Mike, standing in front of the potentially flesh-shredding beast, simultaneously leapt to one side and backwards over the ditch as I grappled to bring it under control.

First lesson well-learned. It's not good practice to start up the mower when someone is standing in front of it! Now, whenever I get within six feet of Mike, he knows to move out of the way.

After a few rows back and forth across the green I noticed a line of Green Teamers observing my performance. As subsequently I haven't been asked politely to go and sweep up leaves it seems that I have passed the initiation test.

Since then I have managed to avoid both maiming someone and creating a crop circle. I don't know if wavy lines in the cut affect the run of the bowls, but if it does you will know who to blame.

By the start of the new season however I hope my cutting lines will run perfectly parallel...and I say that without any bias.

Paul Young

For the record

Ladies have been bowling at WHBC since 1987.

Pam Waller, in 2021, achieved the unprecedented treble of winning the Two Wood, Handicap and Championship *in one season*. This is the first time a lady bowler has achieved 'The Treble'.

Pam now lies third in the table of all time major singles wins. See table below. (Excluding the Victrix Ludorum)

| | Two Wood | Handicap | Championship | Total |
|-------------------|----------|----------|--------------|-----------|
| Brenda Houghton | 3 | 6 | 11 | 20 |
| Hazel Kinsler | 8 | 1 | 3 | 12 |
| Pam Waller | 2 | 5 | 4 | 11 |

Incidentally, men have been bowling at WHBC since 1933 and no man has achieved the treble to date.

The Victor and Victrix Ludorum... how it works

Most clubs – tennis, rugby, football etc. – have a player of the year and Winchmore Hill Bowling Club is no exception.

Where we differ is that our champion is not a subjective choice but an objective one based on merit rather than 'in the opinion of'.

The Victor Ludorum (men) and Victrix Ludorum (women) trophies are based on the three singles competitions; the Championship, the Handicap and the Two Wood (known as the majors). As you are aware, every player in the Club has a handicap, from the Club champion, who has a handicap of 14, to the lowest handicap which could be 1.

During the ensuing rounds of the three major singles competition, the winner takes on the handicap of the person he or she has beaten.

So if player 'A' beats player 'B', who has a handicap of 6, 'A' scores 6 points. If player 'A' then beats player 'C' whose handicap is 9 in the next round (in any of the three major

competitions) then 'A's combined running total is 15.

At the end of the season all the scores are added together to find the overall Champion of Champions, the Victor and Victrix Ludorum.

If two or more players have the same score the trophy is shared (this has only happened once).

It therefore follows that the winner of the Victor/Victrix Ludorum need not necessarily be the winner of the Championship or the Handicap or Two Wood but the one who progresses furthest through the rounds.

The winners of the Victor and Victrix Ludorum are kept secret and announced on the Club presentation evening. The current holders are Tony Redondo and Pam Waller.

Michael Dady
Custodian of Club Records

Diary dates

Thursday 14 April
10.30am

Markers Course

All bowlers should attend one of these courses before they mark a match.

Saturday 16 April

New season start

The green is available for bookings using the rink diary.

Wednesday 20 April
6.00pm

First Club night

Arrive at 5.45pm to sign in.

Saturday 23 April • 2.00pm

Ted Skeffington Trophy

Arrive at 1.30pm to sign in.

Monday 25 April
10.30am

Coaching

Approx. 2 hour sessions.

Saturday 28
& Sunday 29 May

Big Bowls Weekend

An open weekend for potential new bowlers. A countrywide initiative sponsored by Bowls England.

Thursday 2 June

John Scott Trophy

Followed by barbecue and musical entertainment celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Saturday 13 August

President's Day

Saturday 12 November

President's Dinner

At Enfield Golf Club.

Saturday 19 November

Club Trophy Night

The season is nearly upon us and the bar is stocked and ready to welcome and serve all members.

What has changed? The Committee supported the concept of leaping forward into the 21st century with the introduction of an EPOS cash register. No more struggling to find and press the right key. Coupled with this, we have also purchased a Sumup credit card reader for those members who wish to go cashless.

Further good news is that prices have been held in line with last year. The possible exception is draught beer and lager as the brewery has yet to announce its 2022 prices.

One further change is that the Club is now moving forward environmentally having contracted with Biffa for the recycling of all glass. The Ferrari red bin is located just outside the fire exit from the ladies' changing room.

The rota for staffing the bar will be published in the next couple of weeks and, for the first time, will include both players and social members. If your name is not on the schedule, my sincere apologies. Just drop me an email if you wish to be included. Training sessions will be organised.

Just leaves me to say, enjoy the socialising as much as the playing and I will be delighted to receive feedback on the changes, and whether there are other areas where the bar can make a difference.

Mike Griffin

mikegriffml@hotmail.com

Card Games



As we find ourselves coming through the pandemic, it's been interesting to see – in card terms – how we have all coped with the isolation.

It's been heartening to see Club members helping so many out with online bridge and canasta and then latterly inviting members round to their homes to keep playing.

As we opened up the Club, it's great to see so many new people wanting to learn canasta and Friday afternoons in particular are very popular.

The duplicate and Chicago bridge evenings will now stop as the bowling season starts.

Games continue throughout the summer. New players are always welcome. Just turn up!

Sue Crane

Social bridge, canasta, crib and other games

Second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 7.00pm.

Canasta

Friday afternoons
2.00 – 5.00pm.

Walking Group

Tony Redondo and I, both members of Winchmore Hill Bowling Club (the Club), have been walking together for a number of years.

In January 2019 the Club had a regular four day break on Hayling Island. Tony and I saw this as an opportunity to go for a walk when a number of others asked to join us. Those who came enjoyed the walk from the east to west of the Island and return.

This has since developed into an Independent Walking Group, the majority of members being from the Club. During the COVID lockdowns we had to vary the style of our walks.

With the regulations being relaxed we have managed to get back to our original format.

The walks are normally around five miles and take about three hours. We try and build in an escape point for anyone not wanting to complete the walk. Some are local and others further afield.

On occasions we have varied our 'walks' which have seen us



Club members line up for an impromptu 'conga'.

canoeing on the Grand Union Canal and going up Sky Garden.

The next walk is set for **Friday 22nd April 2022**. This will be round historic Greenwich, led by Bob Gowlett who was born and

bred there. Bob and I have already scoped this walk out.

I am certain that this will be a great day with a return from Greenwich to central London on a Thames Clipper.

David Valentine



Canoeing on the Grand Union Canal.

Come and join us

If you think these walks might suit you send an email to davidvalentine1@yahoo.com

or ring me on **07952 665150**

I will put you on my mailing list to receive details of future walks.

It will be a matter of turning up on the day and putting your best foot forward.

There is no need to commit to the walk beforehand – just turn up and go.