



From the President

Looking out of the window at leaden skies one wonders where one of the hottest summers on record has gone. The bowling season is now finished and so much has happened since the last newsletter.

Back then I was writing about enjoying the Queen's Jubilee celebrations, not knowing that less than four months later we would be watching her coffin lying in state in Edinburgh and London, followed by the funeral in Westminster Abbey and committal service at Windsor.

The pageantry and the processions were something of which we, as a nation, should be justly proud. A visit to Green Park to see the flowers and messages was a truly thought-provoking and emotional experience.



President's Day

President's Day on 13 August was forecast to be one of the hottest days of the summer so the bowling competition was adapted with an additional cooling refreshment break.

Fortunately, it was slightly cooler than forecast and 48 bowlers had a fun afternoon with a charity spider and some great bowling. This was followed by a cream tea attended by nearly 80 members.

Some fantastic cakes had been made and provided by various Club members, including many of the Green Team. After a Bake-off competition judged by all those present, the cakes were cut and enjoyed by all, with Ron Wright's winning Dundee Cake kept back as an extra prize for the raffle.



The winning team and runners-up on President's Day with Mike Laurie

The Charity Raffle organised in aid of this year's charity, Noah's Ark Children's Hospice, had some fantastic prizes donated by members and a number of local businesses, including vouchers for travel, restaurant meals, beauty products, bowls equipment, food and wines.

Due to the remarkable generosity of our members, ticket sales raised over £800 which, together with the spider and some additional donations, meant that the total amount raised for the day reached over £1,000. Thank you everyone for this amazing result!

Prior to this the annual match between teams representing the President and Vice President saw 40 bowlers pitting their skills against each other, followed by a pleasant social tea. Although I thought the result was too close to call, the Vice President did, however, claim victory.

In mid-September more than 30 members went on a very enjoyable and sociable Club tour to Sussex.

Unfortunately, our match against the Parade Bowling Club in Eastbourne was rained off, and the following day, in the match at Newick, the results definitely favoured the home side (see page 7).

As I draft this item plans for the President's Dinner on 12 November at Enfield Golf Club are being finalised, and I hope that this will be a most enjoyable event for many of our members.

Mike Laurie



The top table enjoying their cream tea on President's Day

Chairman's Report

Now the bowls season has finished I must thank my very hard-working Committee for all their input, and also the many members who have helped to organise other events. I look forward to saying more about this and thanking individual members in my report for the AGM.

We have had a very successful and enjoyable bowling season, complemented by social activities, and we can now look forward to our full winter social programme.

I have just received some high-level indicative costs regarding the new men's changing room. Once we have a more complete breakdown the building subgroup will produce a detailed paper for everyone to read, so that you are able to make a decision on the way forward.

Unfortunately other work is also required. Some of you may have noticed that the brick wall holding back the earth and shrubs to the right of the entrance to the car park has major cracks in it. This will be very

expensive but we have no option but to repair or replace it.

Another problem that must be addressed is that the drain pipe for the green has collapsed and will require excavation and repair.

In addition the two water tanks that are used to irrigate the green have reached the end of their life and need replacing. These together with the demolition and replacement of the new building will cost the Club well in excess of £100,000.

Fortunately we have planned for this eventuality and we have in the region of £130,000 in the bank. I would anticipate that, at worst, only limited fundraising will be required. Depending on the final figures it may be worth considering applying for grants.

Finally, I am looking forward to meeting you all when participating in what promises to be a very enjoyable winter social programme.

Mick Hine

Trustees Day

Did anybody, including the Trustees, really understand what we were doing?

Well it was simple really. Thirty-six players were divided into groups of three, each player was numbered 1, 2 or 3. Half of the groups were designated as white, and the other half were black. We went to our first rinks and played three ends. The playing order was 1, 2 and 3.

That was the easy part. After the first three ends it was all change. The white groups all moved down a rink (or was it up?) and the black groups moved the other way so that everyone was playing a different group of people.

The playing order was changed as well, it was now 2,3,1. The jacks were set each time by the Trustees, who were also on hand as umpires.

Then we moved again, in the same direction and the playing order changed again, 3, 1, 2. Confused? So were we.

Everyone played 18 ends, three ends on each of six rinks. We kept our own individual scores, marked in the same way as a normal 3, 2, 1 game; 3 points for shot, 2 for second wood and 1 for third wood.

The overall winner was Stav Partou who accumulated 31 points, with Mary Castro coming a close second. (I can't remember my lowly score, but it was certainly nowhere near that.)

Congratulations to both Stav and Mary and many thanks to our hard-working Trustees for a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon.

Sheila Cude



The overall winner Stav Partou (clutching more prizes for his drinks cabinet!)



Our Trustees – Mike Dady, Cliff Woolley, Pat Burn and Ray Webbing

Winter social programme

The bowling season is at an end and our Winter Social Programme is now starting.

Come and join us. We look forward to seeing you all and keeping in touch during the winter.

2022

Saturday 15 October

Bootleg Bee Gees Tribute Band

Saturday 29 October

7.00 for 7.30pm

Quiz Night

Saturday 12 November

President's Dinner at Enfield Golf Club
With Alan Becks

Saturday 19 November

Trophy Night with fish and chip supper

Saturday 26 November

Bavarian Evening with Martin Smith

Wednesday 7 December

Salvation Army Christmas Concert
at The Royal Albert Hall

Thursday 8 December

AGM

Saturday 10 December

An evening with The London Bonnevilles

Saturday 17 December

The Old and New Christmas Review

Saturday 31 December

New Year's Eve

2023

Saturday 14 January

A musical evening with Tricks of the Trade Duo

Monday 23 January

Warners Bembridge Isle of Wight
Four days holiday

Saturday 4 February

Military Whist evening

Saturday 11 February

Jimmy Jemain Tribute to Cliff Richard

Saturday 25 February

60s and 70s Disco with DJ Grant Roomes

Saturday 11 March

Quiz Night

Barblah

Well it has been an experience managing the bar. I didn't really appreciate how many bottles of rosé wine the more discerning members could consume during the hot summer months. You have surprised me! The Mateus Rosé has been an unqualified success.

Come on you beer and lager drinkers, a bit more arm-raising is required. Not a bad effort though: nine barrels of Southwold Bitter have been drunk and six barrels of Stella Lager.

My thanks go to all the members who have taken their turn behind the bar and to all the members who have propped up the bar.

The playing season is nearly over, but don't worry; the bar will remain open, serving quality drinks at very competitive prices, during the closed season.

Mike Griffin

Editor's mat

If you see this column you are a third of the way through our third newsletter, and both Paul and I very much hope that you are finding our productions enjoyable and of interest.

A number of people have complimented us on them, and I would like to thank everyone for their kind words.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped us with contributions. Some of you write articles for us, either at my request (I hope the twisted arms get better soon) or unsolicited and I am very grateful to all of you.

Other people help with pictures, which again are very gratefully received. It is sometimes difficult to decide which pictures to use, so my apologies if you have sent something which hasn't been included.

So what would you like to see in future newsletters. Suggestions and ideas are also always welcome. It is, after all, your newsletter so do get in contact at any time with requests.

Contact

Email	sheilacude@blueyonder.co.uk
Landline	020 8340 1928
Mobile	07491 672 546

Winter season indoor bowling

For new bowlers who may be wondering about playing after the summer season closes we have put together information about three nearby clubs offering indoor facilities.

Bounds Green

The Bowls Cub is part of the Tennis Club centre. There are three indoor rinks on the first floor of the club. The rinks are a little shorter than those of WHBC and the ceiling is low compared to The Lawns and Glebelands.

There is a spacious off-road car-parking area.

Indoor membership only

Adult £335.00

Fee payment dates 2022-23

Indoor membership only October 1 – 15.

No rink fees.

There is no online booking system.

Roll-ups

Mondays 10.30am

Thursday 6.30pm (Club night)

Location and contact

Bounds Green Bowls and Tennis Club
Brownlow Road (entry from Goring Road)
Bounds Green, London N11 2BS

Phone 0208 889 9850

Website <https://bgbtc.co.uk/>

Glebelands

Glebelands is an all-year-round, indoor club with eight rinks. Restaurant and bar facilities are available but with restricted availability times. The playing area is comparable in size to The Lawns.

There is a car park but it can be crowded.

Associate membership (winter season)

October 1 – April 30 £40

+ rink fee £3.50 per session

Access restricted to these times

Tuesday and Thursdays 4.30 – 6.30pm

Saturdays 10.00am – 12.30pm.

Associate members can participate in the Sunday morning 'Open League', but internal Club and external competitions are excluded.

There is no online booking system.

Location and contact

Summers Lane, Finchley, London, N12 0PD

Phone 020 8446 2090

Email glebelandsibc@gmail.com

Website <https://glebelandsibc.co.uk/>

The Lawns

The Lawns indoor Bowls Club is located in the David Lloyd Leisure Centre in Carterhatch Lane, Enfield.

The Centre has bar and café facilities and a large car park. The car park does get full at times but there are usually spaces available.

There is an automatic barrier on entry to the car park and a key code to exit the car park.

The David Lloyd membership card can be used to exit the car park and is also required to gain access to the bowling rinks.

Membership

£49 per month. No rink fees.

Applications should be made at the Centre reception.

Subscriptions can be paid by monthly direct debit or a one-off payment.

There is no online booking system.

Season

October 1 – March 31 or April 30.

Minimum 6 months membership.

Roll ups

Mondays, Fridays & Saturdays 10.00am – 12.00pm

Wednesdays 7.00pm – 9.00pm

Restricted access at the following times

Council 50+ sessions

Tuesday 10.00am – 12.00pm

(See <https://www.activeenfield.uk/>)

Parkinsons group

Thursday 10.00am – 12.00pm

Blind and partially sighted group

Thursday 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Location and contact

David Lloyd Leisure Centre, Carterhatch Lane
Enfield, EN1 4L

Phone

Non-members 0208 364 4332

Members 0208 364 5858

Email

enfield@davidlloyd.co.uk

There is no website for The Lawns and the David Lloyd website does not offer any information.

Neighbours

As the popular song goes 'Neighbours, everybody needs good neighbours'. That simple sentiment is very important for our Club. One of my duties as Secretary is to make sure any possible arguments with our neighbours are quickly resolved.

Google maps show that we have about 25 neighbours who share boundaries with the Club, including the car park. These include seven sets of Club Members, and an electricity sub-station, so quite a mix.

Having so many Club Members as neighbours is a real bonus. They gladly act as our ears and eyes. We quickly get to know if there are suspicious individuals hanging around, unlawful parking on our access road is monitored, and even potentially dangerous hanging branches on our trees are highlighted.

As to the others, the main potential issue is that of who owns, and therefore should maintain, boundary fences. You may think the title deeds clarify this point, but sadly they rarely do. In the last few months a Ringwood Way property fence fell down, and I needed to contact the owner to suggest that he repaired it. You will have noted the new fence he erected, and I can report he did so quickly and

without acrimony. From my property experience, I can tell you that was an exception to the rule.

Another important point with a Social Club like ours is that sometimes we can be noisy. Some neighbours can be very difficult over excessive noise, and quick to complain to the Environmental Health Office. You and I always have difficulty contacting Enfield Council, but seasoned complainers seem to know exactly who to speak to and what buttons to press. The last thing we want is an order that our social events must end early in the evening, which could happen. The moral of this story is that we must engage with our neighbours in these situations and never react in a confrontational way. At another Club I know, they find the best tactic is to invite the neighbours to join in the event. Who knows, we may recruit some new bowling members.

Always be aware of any potential neighbour issues and let me or another Committee member know if there is a problem.

David Haywood
Secretary

Beavers return to Enfield

Bank Holiday weekend saw a number of WHBC members join David Valentine and Tony Redondo on one of their walking group outings.

This was a short circular walk including Whitewebbs Park and Forty Hall, and ending at the Rose and Crown pub at Clay Hill.

The walk was notable as it passed the newly-established beaver enclosure in Archers Wood, part of Whitewebbs Park. This is a joint enterprise between Capel Manor College and Enfield Council, and the first time beavers have been reintroduced to London for over 400 years.

It is a five-year project to enable students at Capel Manor College to gain experience in wild life introduction. Unfortunately the male beaver has died, but hopefully another one can be introduced.

David and Tony have been walking together for many years and are always pleased to invite WHBC members to join them.

David Valentine

If you would like details of future walks please email David Valentine davidvalentine1@yahoo.com who will add you to the mailing list.



See Beaver enclosure <https://whitewebbspark.org.uk/beaver-enclosure>

Also a short video <https://youtu.be/yEhtoHKx-yo>

Please note that the walks are organised by David and Tony, but they are not WHBC activities.

Our Sussex bowls tour

Our annual September tour, consisting of two matches, was due to start at the Parade Bowling Club on the Eastbourne front on the Wednesday.

Our party of 33 had travelled down to our hotel in Alfriston on the Tuesday so we were all primed and ready to bowl. The heavens had opened, however, and some of our party, including Freddie Williams and Chris Daly, reported that the green was under water. So, following a call from their Captain, the match was called off, the first time this had happened in our six years of touring.

The afternoon allowed party members to visit locally or watch a film organised for us by the hotel. We also had a visit from Ron Pye and Carol Edwards who brought an old member, Daphne Stirling, to see us. Daphne had moved to Eastbourne some years previously and looked very well indeed.

The first picture shows some of our party tucking into breakfast before our second match at Newick Bowls Club some 20 miles away. We all planned to arrive at Newick at about 1.15pm for a 2.00pm start, but

Bob and Vicki Gowlett were some 20 minutes late, a new phenomenon for them as they are always on time. The reason they were late is that some fool, namely me, had given them the wrong post code for their Satnav.

What a change in the weather, it was now bright and sunny. We played on seven rinks and our 27 players had an enjoyable match although we suffered an overall defeat. We had tea and biscuits after nine ends and a pleasant drink afterwards. As we have found on all our trips the people we meet are a really nice crowd.

After the match some of our party went directly home and others went to a second hotel some 15 minutes away near Uckfield. Following an evening meal we gathered for coffee and a night cap.

Another enjoyable September break and so to 2023. Who knows where we might travel, but I am sure it will be fun with more new friends to meet.

Alan Jarvis



The history of bowls

Part 1 - Ancient Egypt

It appears that the origins of bowling date back to ancient Egypt, possibly as much as 7,000 years ago. There seems to be some uncertainty, however, about exactly how the game might have been played. Not having an ancient Egyptian to hand I consulted that source of all knowledge, the internet.

Unfortunately that source of all knowledge seemed to be as confused as I was, with different websites giving slightly different information. Certainly the ancient Egyptians may well have played a number of different bowling games. The simplest, so possibly the earliest, may well have been played on a dirt surface with sticks as targets.

Some time during the 1930s Sir Flinders Petrie discovered what seemed to be bowling equipment in the grave of an Egyptian boy, dating from 5200BC. These included nine pieces of stone and a stone 'ball'. It seems the 'ball' was rolled towards the stone targets, but first had to pass through an arch made of three pieces of marble.

Another variation could have been rolling a 'ball' through a similar arch into a hole in the ground. One website suggests that some bowls games were small enough to be played on a table top.

Another discovery seems to indicate a more sophisticated game, played at Narmouthos, in the Fayoum region some 90km south of Cairo. This game dates from the Roman period, probably during the second and third centuries AD. It was played in a spacious room, in which there was a bowling lane, some 4 metres long, with a square hole at its mid point. The game, for two players, was played with two stone bowls, of different sizes. The smaller would easily enter the hole, the larger would block it. A player would stand at either end of the lane, one with the smaller bowl, the other the larger, which they would throw towards each other at the same time. The object of the game was to throw the smaller bowl into the centre hole, before it was blocked by the larger bowl, and the winner was the player who achieved this the most times.

Other ancient civilisations undoubtedly played forms of bowling including the Romans, who spread the game throughout their Empire, and whose game eventually evolved into modern-day bocce.

To be continued...

Sheila Cude



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Military whist

Atten...shun! Present arms! Charge!

Well, perhaps not quite like that, but after a short introduction by our Sergeant Major, Malcolm Gorman, we were ready to do battle.

The occasion was an evening of Military Whist, organised by Sue and Colin Crane, on 10 September. Eleven tables with teams of four players were lined up, waiting for our first command.

Whist itself is quite straightforward. Each player lays a card on the table, following suit unless they can't, and the highest card wins the trick, unless it's trumped. I am sure there are subtleties to the game but I have yet to discover them.

In Military Whist, as in all good military campaigns, there are attackers and defenders. For each hand of whist two players move to another table. They are the attackers, and they are given a goal to achieve. The defenders, who remain at their own table, must try to stop them. If the attackers achieve their goal they can return triumphantly to their own table bearing the spoils of war, in this case little plastic flags. If they are defeated they get nothing. Each team starts with 30 flags and the team with the most flags at the end of the evening is declared the winner.



In case this sounds a little daunting everything is set out on a card: which players are to move and how many tables, trumps for each hand, how many flags they can win and, most importantly of course, their goal for that campaign.

So, my first sortie seemed fairly straightforward, move eight tables and win more than seven tricks. My partner and I sat down full of confidence, but what can you do with a hand full of threes and fours and no trumps. We returned flagless. Our defenders had held the fort however and we had not lost any flags.

Military whist however is 'Whist with a twist'. Our next goal was to win fewer than six tricks. Based on previous experience that sounded easy; but spades were trumps and, as I gazed at a hand full of spades, I realised it wasn't. Once again we were flagless.

The game was played over 15 hands with various goals set. The winning team was Sandra and Ron Wright with Carol Valentine and Mike Sibthorpe with 40 flags. We ended up with 17. But, win or lose, the evening was immense fun and a huge thank you to Sue, Colin and Malcolm for all their hard work in organising this and running it. I'm looking forward to the next one in February.

Sheila Cude

Card sessions

Traditionally our card sessions were only played in the winter, but there is enough interest now to play throughout the year. Just to remind you our Canasta sessions are every Friday afternoon at 2.00pm and the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 7.00pm.

This year we set up a Summer Canasta League – just to test the waters – and we are pleased to say it has proved very successful. It has been so good for members to play people they don't usually play, with an added a frisson of excitement at the same time.

The winners were Bobbie and Nigel Motley – well done to both of

them. The Winter Canasta League started at the beginning of October and players can sign up at any time. A list is on the Club notice board.

We still play social Canasta, of course, mixing and matching players as best we can. Newcomers are always welcome and we are happy to teach anyone who hasn't played before.

Duplicate and Chicago Bridge nights also commenced from the beginning of October on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 7.00pm.

Sue Crane



Winners of the Summer Canasta League, Bobbie and Nigel Motley, with their cash prize and Canasta Champion mugs.

Green Team Signature Cakes

Guinness cake... with chocolate



Ingredients

For the cake

250ml of Guinness or any other good quality stout
250g unsalted butter
75g cocoa powder
400g caster sugar
150ml sour cream
2 large eggs
1 tablespoon vanilla extract
275g plain flour
Two and a half teaspoons bicarbonate of soda

For the topping

300g cream cheese
150g icing sugar
2 Teaspoons cornflour
125ml double or whipping cream

It's black and moist and looks like a pint of Guinness. You cannot taste too much of the stout but there is just a hint of bitterness offset by the sugar content.

It always sinks a bit on top but that is good because it means there is more room for all that cream cheese frosting.

I suggest that you don't have a large meal before having a slice – or two. It's a wonderful cake for the winter months and is much loved by all the family – a 'special treat' cake that makes you feel good.

Method

- 1 Preheat the oven to gas mark 4/180C or 160C fan. Butter and line a 9inch tin
- 2 Pour Guinness into a large saucepan, add the butter, heat until butter melts. Whisk in the cocoa and sugar. Beat the sour cream with eggs and vanilla and then pour into the saucepan. Whisk in the flour and bicarb.

- 3 Pour the cake batter into the greased, lined tin. Bake for 45-60 minutes. Leave to cool completely in the tin on a cooling rack as the cake is quite moist.
- 4 When the cake is cold and a little sunk in the middle sit it on a flat platter or cake stand and proceed with the icing.
- 5 Lightly whip the cream cheese until smooth, sieve over the icing sugar and cornflour. Beat to combine.
- 6 If using double cream, add it and beat until you have a spreadable consistency. If using whipping cream, whisk first to soft peaks, add a couple of spoonfuls into the cream cheese mixture and once this is combined, fold in the rest.
- 7 Ice the top of the black cake (filling in the sunken middle!) so that it resembles the frothy top of the famous pint.
- 8 Step back and admire your artistry. Fridge it for a bit then slice.

The Green Team welcomes new members but you must pass the cake baking test first.

Remember to obtain the Green Team's approval at 10.30am every Tuesday. We will eat it all to confirm that you can now join the Green Team. (Only joking!).

Please join us on Tuesdays or Thursdays to help us continue to provide the best Bowling Green in the world (so Ron says).

Thanks to Nigella and all my staff! I couldn't have done it without you.

Bob Gowlett

Scrapbook



Sheila Snelling
was swept off her feet
by her new broom.



Mike and Sue Laurie
on President's Day.



Long-standing members Margaret and Jack Reynolds on
President's Day. They recently celebrated their Platinum
Wedding Anniversary (70 years).



"I can't bear to watch
anymore..."



Mike Dady gets down
to some serious
measuring.

Ladies Captain's report

This will be my last report as Ladies' Captain as Jacqui Thompson will be taking over in December. I have enjoyed my two years but have found it increasingly difficult to get players, especially ladies, to commit to playing in competitive games. I hope Jacqui has more luck next year.

On a more positive note, the ladies have done reasonably well this year in outside competitions.

Winchmore Hill finished third out of 10 teams in the local ladies Brigg League. Potters Bar were outright winners with Selborne, coming second, getting two more points than we did.

In the annual Tripartite Competition between, ourselves, Selborne and Cockfosters, we retained the trophy by a winning margin of just under 100 shots over all three games, a magnificent achievement. Well done to those who took part you should all be proud of yourselves.

Unfortunately, we did not fare so well in the Sunday Mixed League finishing a disappointing sixth out of seven teams, after a promising start. We will have to try and improve on this next season.

We had varying success in our Middlesex competitions. I got through to the quarter finals of the two-wood singles competition and Jacqui Thompson and Sally Woolley also reached the quarter finals in the pairs.

In the newly formed Finchley and District and North London Ladies Association we had more success. Our triples team, consisting of Jacqui Thompson, Sandra Wright and myself, were runners-up to Bush

Hill Park in a thrilling final, losing by only one shot on the extra end.

I won the ladies singles beating Liz Lederhose, from Grovelands, by 21 shots to 10.

During our finals weekend we saw some excellent bowling and some close matches. It was lovely to see some of the new or newer bowlers win a trophy or two, or even 3! Well done to everyone who took part in finals weekend, including all players and helpers. Luckily the weather was good to us,

The winners of the recent Club competitions are as follows:

John Scott

Wendy Goodman, Margaret Reynolds, Freddie Williams and Sheila Snelling

Webb's trophy

Mick Hine, Cliff Woolley and Caroline Lawson

Ladies Invitation

Sandra Wright and Colin Crane

Ted Wright Pairs

Pam Waller and Sandra Wright

Asian Cup

The Ladies won by 5 games to 3 (well done ladies)!

Trustees Day

Stav Partou

Club nights were well supported right up to the end of the season. Congratulations to those who won vouchers on Wednesday nights. Thanks to Di Hine for



Asian Cup...the ladies carry away the trophy (again)



Ladies Invitation winners – Sandra Wright and Colin Crane

the constant supply of bread, cheese etc on a Friday evening.

Thanks also to Sue and Alan Jarvis for organising the after finals eats, in the form of fish and chips and the meal at Petite Auberge, both were very filling but lovely!

We played a home match against our friends from Fordingbridge on 9 September. We were lucky with the weather as it tipped down just after we got off the green. It was a lovely afternoon with Winchmore Hill winning by 94 shots to 71. However, the result was immaterial as we all had a good time and enjoyed each other's company. We are hoping that we will meet them again next year or the year after at Fordingbridge or Winchmore Hill.

My thanks to all those who have helped and supported me over the past two years. Special thanks to the Green Team who have made the green a pleasure to play on all year. Thanks to Jacqui for her support and good luck for next year. However, my biggest thanks go to Dave who has supported me over the past two years while doing the challenging job of Competition Secretary. I know from bitter experience that many hours go into preparing for the internal competitions, especially as I usually do the typing!

Finals weekend is a particular challenge especially when, as has happened in recent years, the same players are in more than one final and, in some cases, two, three or even four. Well done Dave and keep up the good work.

Let's hope 2023 will be a good year for the Club and that it continues to flourish and grow with new and improving bowlers. As I have always said the most important thing is to enjoy your bowling and everything else will fall into place.

Pam Waller



Ted Wright Pairs – runners-up Paul Young and Stav Partou and winners Sandra Wright and Pam Waller

Mens Captain's Report

Well another season has come and virtually gone. I believe that 2022 has been one of our best bowling years. We have had success in our external competitions, showing that WHBC is now a truly competitive bowls club and a force to be reckoned with. Also the new bowlers of 2021 and 2022 have shown great promise and will help us enhance our future bowling reputation among the other clubs in our area.

Our main external competition is the mens VETS League. We scored a record number of points (92), winning 13 of our 14 fixtures but were just pipped by Broomfield who managed 93 points.

The annual Mens Tripartite competition between Bush Hill Park, Selborne and ourselves is played over three evenings with each club hosting one game. We just lost to Bush Hill Park by five shots but we are expecting to regain the shield next year.

In the Finchley and District competitions, Dave Waller and I (*pic right*) reached the Officers Cup final, which Dave narrowly won. Tony Redondo reached the Tudor Cup

(Champions of Champions) semi-final and one of our teams reached the Triples semi-final.

In the National Competitions (Mens Top Club) we drew with Bounds Green and then had to send our triples team out to play an extra end, which we just lost on the final bowl of the end.

It was encouraging to see the Wednesday and Friday Club nights so well attended, including many of our new bowlers.

The mens Monday evening Oakey's league was battled over 10 games throughout the season and was eventually won by team Radcliffe (Tony Redondo, Colin Crane, Andrew Chase, Stav Partou, Roger Biss and Neil Chapman).

I have enjoyed my year as Captain and would like to thank all the members who have fully supported the Club by playing in the many fixtures that are arranged, including the friendlies against other clubs. This helps to make my life easier.

Looking forward to an even better bowling season in 2023.

Lionel Reisman

