



# 2-Wide 2-Heavy

## The Newsletter of Olveston & District Bowling Club

July 2023

[www.bowlsolveston.co.uk](http://www.bowlsolveston.co.uk)

### The Chairman's Message

Once again, we welcomed a number of new members in April, some absolute beginners and others with a little experience. It's pleasing to see that the vast majority have entered into club activities with enthusiasm, especially Club Night and Friendlies. They are clearly going to be a great asset to the club.

Through the winter we do seem to have had an unusually large number of members feeling unwell or needing surgery. Some are already back playing which is good to see, others are on a steady path to recovery and one or two await surgery. But if you're not quite ready to return then I wish you a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing you when you do come back. If needed our Safeguarding/Welfare Officer, Jean Lambourne, is always on hand to offer assistance and advice in confidence.

One of those not too well is our Greenkeeper. Thankfully John is one of those heading in the right direction and hopefully will be back soon. Even though he has been unwell John has had regular updates from his team on green matters and has visited the club (usually around tea break time) to give instruction and advice. His team, too, has taken a bit of a hit with illnesses leading to those still fit and able carrying out more rink cutting shifts than usual. Thank you all, including those trained but not on the regular rota that have stepped up and done their bit.

Club Night has been well supported throughout the first 3 months and thanks, Ian and Tricia, for turning out every week to do the admin. Please, help Ian and Tricia by arriving in a timely manner so they can quickly work out how the rinks may be allocated. The allocations are usually made 10 minutes before the start so arriving after that does cause problems. Thank you also to County and National Competition players who have 'tolerated', on a number of occasions, the green being set for 7 rinks. It does present a challenge playing on unfamiliar rink markings but thankfully results for our players have, in the main, been positive.

It wouldn't be a normal Chairman's message without a moan about something. This time it's Dress Code. Like it, or not, we do have a dress code, which is printed in the Rules section of the Handbook, and I'm sorry to say the standard is slipping. If you're not sure, please, read through this section. Items I mainly pick up on are incorrect dress for club comps by both players and markers, outerwear that is not white or Zapkam blue/green and caps that are not an approved colour. Please help me by following the rules. And yes, I know, and accept, that there are occasions when situations arise and you don't have the appropriate item to hand e.g., you step in to mark a comp because the booked marker hasn't turned up. That's fine. (Soapbox put away again).

Rink Diary has been operating all season and hopefully most will have now mastered at least the bits they need to master. If you still have concerns about using Rink Diary, please, don't fall by the wayside. Those with Admin access will get you signed up for games or you can ask a friend to assist. Please, don't think you'll be thought of as silly if you ask an 'obvious' question. If you don't know something you'd be silly **not** to ask and many times the answer is straightforward. I admit that I had concerns about using Rink Diary exclusively from day 1 but my fears have been shown to be ill founded and it is so much easier to use the system wherever you are. If you don't have access at home there are access terminals in the Office and the Clubhouse ready to use. Thanks Steven, you did a great job getting this to where we are and thanks also to those that have assisted.

As I indicated above, a number of members and teams are progressing well in their National and County Competitions so to them and all those competing, whether externally or internally, I wish you good luck in the remaining rounds of your competition.

Enjoy the second half of the season

Geoff Cook



## Our President's Message

It was a great honour to host President's Day on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July and lovely to see so many Members present.

As you know my chosen charity is BUST, the Breast Cancer Unit Support Trust, which is a Bristol based charity founded by patients for patients to support the work of the Bristol Breast Care Centre at Southmead Hospital. Jenny Wookey from BUST was present and she had an enjoyable time and was so pleased that over £400 was raised by the members on the day.

I am also very appreciative of those members who also helped with the catering, the bar and setting up the green. Nigel also took some photos which you can see below.

If you would like to find out more about the work and support of BUST then further details can be found at: <https://www.bustbristol.co.uk/>

Thank You

Tom





## Treasurer's Update

To mark our 90<sup>th</sup> year, there is a magnificent sign attached to the fencing, and commemorative pens and bowls stickers have been distributed to members.

We have spent £4,500 on major expenditure items. On the patio, the gazebos have been repaired and the seating replaced. The storage container fitting out has continued, and additional machinery purchased for maintaining the green. A roller shutter is to be installed for the kitchen opening and a PA system has been bought so that we won't be able to sleep through all those important announcements any more.

There remains a substantial sum of ringfenced donations, which is earmarked for greenside seating. Initial deposits have been collected for next year's Tour and the deposit for the hotel in Torquay has been paid.

Additionally, I remind you that we have sufficient monies in our reserves to cover the major projects that are referred to in the Facilities Manager's article.

An enjoyable and well attended President's Day raised £450. When added to several successful social events over the winter, this now takes the total for his Charity BUST to nearly £850. Well done Tom.

Kevin Dann

Treasurer



## Welfare and Safeguarding – Jean Lambourne

You may have noticed the term 'Safeguarding' is being used more alongside 'Welfare' within the club. The two go hand in hand & to help explain The Oxford Language Dictionary has the following definitions.

Welfare- the health, happiness & fortunes of a person or group.

Safeguarding- protect from harm or damage with appropriate measure.

Bowls England have informed clubs that a Safeguarding Officer will be a requirement in 2025 and not just advisory. As a club we are already on the way to fulfilling this requirement, safeguarding notices are on the noticeboard in the corridor & I hope to complete suitable courses, as a club we all support each other. To help promote Safeguarding/Welfare the notice board will include information on various topics, including Child/Adult safeguarding, DBS (Disclosure & Barring Service), Bullying & Harassment & social events. Also, a Perspex leaflet stand is on the worktop in the main clubhouse for safeguarding & welfare information only. John Paton has kindly donated some leaflets for the Macular Society & is very knowledgeable, if you would like to include any information approach myself or a member of the MC.

Thank you, Annie Muldoon, for helping to update the first aid boxes, these can be found in the kitchen & office along with an incident book. Please make sure ALL incidents are recorded however minor. As always take care when entering the green, whether you step over, use the gap or corner steps.

I am pleased to share with you that some members who have been unwell are improving or now well, we will be able to put out a 'bionic' team soon due to knee/hip replacements! For those members who still need our support, we wish them well & are thinking of them & their families. If you are aware of anyone who may need support, contact myself or a member of the MC.

Thank you to those who came to the Coffee & Chat at the beginning of the year, I was hoping to fit in another one during the season, incorporating our lovely coaches, obviously that has failed as everyone is playing bowls, would you believe it! Let's aim for the end of the season when we can reminisce about our amazing bowls & a pre-Christmas morning (sorry to mention that word).

Take care & sending best wishes to you all.

Yours

Jean

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### Safeguarding Bowls

## Fixtures & Rink Diary

If you have wondered why I had not been about much earlier in the season, it's because I spent the majority of May in the States. We have been driving (technically, I did all of the driving!) thousands of miles along Route 66 covering eight States - California, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri and Illinois. It was a brilliant experience. We met loads of great people, visited some iconic locations and took loads of photos. If you follow me on Facebook - sorry!

Anyway, onto what I am supposed to be telling you about here...

**Fixtures** - There is another full programme of over 90 friendly games for you this season. Yes, unfortunately, we have lost a couple of ladies-only games, as we have previously lost men-only games. Unfortunately, this seems to be the way many clubs are going. Many have smaller memberships and therefore are only looking to play mixed games. Alternatively, more clubs are only interested in playing a smaller number of rinks. Neither situation is ideal for us.

I hope though that between friendlies, competitions, roll-ups and Club events, you will find sufficient opportunities to enjoy your bowls this season.

**Rink Diary** - I hope that by now everybody who has needed to book a rink, or sign up for a game, has been able to do so. If you have not been able to do so yourself, then I hope that you have an arrangement with somebody who can help.

I must say that I am pleasantly surprised at how well Rink Diary has generally been accepted. I hope that the combination of live demos, written guides and our helpers has helped you. I'm well aware though that this is a big change for some but I'm happy to go through anything with you. As well as myself, if you need any help or assistance, please chat to Nigel, Derek or Jill.

Finally, thanks to those that have offered kind words about what I, and my little team, have done to introduce Rink Diary. It's much appreciated.

Steven Wharram

Fixtures Secretary



## Maintenance & Facilities Update

The 2023 season started with a bit of a mad dash to ensure the facility was ready. Perhaps the teams had spent too much time in the winter on bigger projects like the work on the new storage container, decorating both changing rooms and the toilets, various plumbing activities, winter care of the green and our bi-weekly task of cleaning and rubbish removal. However, with the aid of a good number of members we had a great morning spring clean and preparation for the start of the season.

We did have one minor mishap when trying to erect the two gazebos where we had significant rips in both covers. After they had been repaired, we were advised that we should have been regularly soaking the canvas throughout the hot dry summer of 22 to maintain the cloth. We are now performing the drenching every couple of weeks and maybe looking to purchase new covers for the 2024 season.

We must be particularly grateful to the green team who picked up the management and maintenance of the green whilst our greenkeeper John was indisposed. Fortunately, we are extremely pleased to see John on the mend and already spending time with his team. We are also grateful for the support given to the regular team by other members in preparing the green for play.

Just before the season started, all the good work during the off-season was threatened by a significant infestation of leatherjackets, the larvae of the crane fly. They can cause devastation to closely managed lawns and we were lucky that a timely dose of chemicals drove the larvae into the ditches where it was all hands to the pump to scoop them up into buckets for disposal. The hot dry spell then caused more issues as the irrigation system was out of commission and we were unable to water the green. We have since installed new pipework to the storage tank and watering is now available as necessary.

Although possibly not at its best yet, the green team with John back in the lead will be working hard to ensure our green is back to being one of the best in the area.

Our list of outstanding maintenance/development tasks continues to grow and in the next few months as well as our regular bins, bar waste and rubbish removal, the team will concentrate on installing a new kitchen counter shutter, progressing the fit-out of the storage container, replacing the stand-pipe facility near the main gate, treatment to the main gate timbers, fence painting, and clearing unwanted furniture and other detritus from the premises.

Meanwhile we have contractors completing the two new honours boards and updating the others with 2022 winner and working on estimates for the green-edge work. Meanwhile we are investigating options for displaying club honours.

Our future plans include covered seating for the green edge.

The maintenance team operates throughout the year on Monday and Friday mornings and work closely with the greenkeeping team to maintain and enhance the Club facilities that make all our activities safe, enjoyable and in keeping with one of the best bowling facilities in the region. Please consider helping us by contacting me to have a chat about how we can use your talents.

Bob Phillips



## Men's A Team – Alan Tregoning

We have now reached the half way stage of the Bristol and District league season and I am delighted to say that we sit top of Division 1 with a record of played 8 won 8. We are 11 points ahead of both GB Britton and Bristol.

Picking league teams is not easy and I'm so grateful for the support I have received from all the players selected to represent our club. So far, we have used 19 players this season and there are some big games ahead, so keep doing what you are doing and hopefully at the end of the season we will have something to celebrate.

I am also grateful for the help and support of the other Team Managers who are helping me settle in to this new role, I didn't realise the amount of time they devote to the Team selection process, so thanks again to Ian, Dylan and Rob for all their help.

Alan Tregoning  
Team Manager Olveston Ospreys

## Men's B Team – Ian Barton

This season the B team/Kestrels have switched leagues from the North East Division 1 to the Bristol & District Division 3 with the intention of playing and bringing on half a dozen of our newer players, and in doing so giving them the chance of playing with some more experienced league players to help with their development and bring them on to a better standard.

Thankfully, they have stepped up to the plate and are improving and getting more experienced as the weeks go on.

At the midpoint of the season, we are currently Top of the league on 69 points out of a possible 80. Our nearest challengers are 23 points behind, BUT we won't rest until the league & promotion is won!

Thanks

Badger

## Ladies League B Team & Ladies Friendlies – Carolyn Bovill

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Division has grown this year to include 9 teams which means our season has been extended and we play 16 matches. At the time of writing, the B team have made a strong start to the first half of the season and were in top position after 7 matches. A couple of our early games finished in the dark but since then we have enjoyed our matches in the warm evening sunshine. We have welcomed new permanent players into the squad and are looking forward to the second half of the league season.

The ladies also have a busy fixture list this season with 22 friendly matches against other clubs and 6 "Alternative Home Fixtures" (matches between ourselves on those weeks without an arranged match). All have proved to be extremely successful, and it has been wonderful to see so many new players signing up to these. I would encourage you to continue to do so as it is the ideal place to learn the game by playing

alongside more experienced bowlers. Most matches have been oversubscribed, so please bear with us if you are not selected for every game.

The Ladies Captains Day will be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> August at 2pm where we shall play a little bowls and enjoy a nice tea. Non-playing members are also very welcome to come along. We will have the usual raffle and Bring and Buy Sale to raise funds for my charity Alzheimer's UK. Please sign up on the Rink Diary or let either Angela or myself know if you would like attend. More details to follow.

Thanks

Carolyn

## Ladies League C Team – Sam Harper

The 3rd team has had a bit of a slow start to the season, with few regular players. However, over the last couple of matches the teams have come together and last week we celebrated our first win and are currently 5th on the league table. Thank you to all those who have played, especially the new ladies who stepped up to the mat, however daunting it may have seemed, well done. Onwards and upwards!

Thanks

Sam

## South Cotswold League B Team - Phil Tellwright

The journey continues...

Following on from our successful inaugural season last year we were somewhat trepidatious and uncertain about what to expect in Div 3. We weren't sure even as "Dolphins" that we might not be a little out of our depth!

We need not have worried: we soon realized that an upswelling of ODBC interest in the Cotswold League had resulted in a number of some of the best players in the Club being available for the A team. As a consequence, the B team has been in the fortunate position of having a wealth of talent from which to select. That has brought its own challenges in selection, but so far, the results have been excellent. To date we have fielded 26 different players over the first 6 fixtures.

The craziness, however, has not abated. Our first game of the season was against Cam Mills and Kevin Dann pointed out that it was exactly 80 years to the day since the RAF's historic "Dam Busters" raid on 3 dams in the Ruhr valley. Following a 7-3 victory that evening, it was almost inevitable that the moniker "Cam Busters" would follow. So, if you see players around the Club sporting their "Wings" it's all down to us. There have been a small number of Honorary Wings awarded (for a variety of reasons) including those to John Arrowsmith, John Paton and Sue Latham. We even have our own theme tune... yes, that one...

On the green, it's been tougher than last year – the standard is certainly higher. However, at the time of writing, we have reached the midpoint of the season and we are top of the league having won 5 of the 6 matches played. Inevitably, we shall be a target from now on and consequently there's likely to be a tightening of selection policy. But I do hope that we will be able to hang on to some of the craziness which has contributed so much to the esprit de corps and got us so far.



Special thanks go to Ian “Badger” Barton and Alan “Fruity” Lambourne for their unfailing support and patience with me and finally to Joe and his A Team with whom we’ve established a great working relationship. I remain in awe of their achievements in the 1st Division – well done guys! (I would point out that they haven’t lost yet and that they’re top).

ODBC is certainly a great place to start and grow a new bowls team!!!

Come on you O’s and may all your bowls be chalked,

Flipper



## Sunday Friendlies – Angela & Harry Greenslade

Sunday friendly matches have been very popular and well supported. They are always played in good spirit and this year we have some new venues to visit. It is pleasing to see so many new members signing up and enjoying the games. We have played 9 games so far and have won 6 of these. We look forward to the rest of the season.

Angela & Harry

## Monday Night is Club Night

This season as with others, Monday Club Nights seem to go from strength-to-strength numbers wise.

Most Mondays, all rinks are full as we are averaging 40 to 50 players many of whom are newer members.

With plenty of sponsor nights organised by Tony Cullen, there are many happy members walking home with a bottle of wine - much to Ted's annoyance!

Let's not forget Beattie’s hard work in providing Hot Dogs on a regular basis - Thank you Beatrice!

Thanks to ALL the members who help to set up every week & last but not least to the likes of Geoff Cook who step in & organise it when we are away.

Tricia & Ian.

## Summer Lotto Bonus Ball

Thanks to everyone who participates and well done to the lucky ones who have won so far this season.

If you are not one of them - don't despair! We all have many more chances to win between now and the end of the season.

Good luck

Tricia & Ian

Below is a list of the winners so far this season:

Week 1 – Di Pleass

Week 2 – Derek Olive

Week 3 – George McDowall

Week 4 – Geoff Cook

Week 5 – Lawrence Oliver

Week 6 – Ian Gauld

Week 7 – Tracey Campbell

Week 8 – Di Pleass

Week 9 – Sam Aghaei

Week 10 – Tony Iles

Week 11 – George McDowall

Week 12 – Margaret Mayor

Week 13 – Janice Leach

## Umpire's Corner – Jamie Campbell

The outdoor season is well underway and as I mentioned last year the 'little red book' Crystal Mark 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition has now been replaced by Laws of the Sport of Bowls, Crystal Mark Fourth Edition.

It wasn't all plain sailing however, as a couple of the 'new' Laws caused such a furore that the World Bowls Laws Committee had to issue a memorandum to rescind these Laws (37.1.3 and 37.1.5.3).

*"Despite a clarification document published on the World Bowls Website in September 2022, it has become very clear from communications that the two laws have caused a great deal of confusion and have resulted in games being forfeited incorrectly following players innocently stopping bowls from entering the ditch.*

*Having considered several options to improve the intent of these two laws, the World Bowls Laws Advisory Group have concluded and recommended to the Board of World Bowls to rescind them."*

So, the question you might be asking now is, 'what if someone decides to stop a bowl at any time?'

Well, the answers are; if a team or player deliberately stops a bowl to gain an advantage, then your only recourse now is to apply Law 36; Deliberate non-sporting action, which will require an appeal made to the Controlling Body within 24 hours.

If the bowl is stopped accidentally, displaced or prevented from entering the ditch, then refer to the Laws of displacement (37), or just apply common sense, because as we know, stopping bowls entering the ditch is quite a regular occurrence and usually to prevent further incident, especially if the bowl is travelling at speed!

A question from Phil 'Flipper' Tellwright:

Whilst the No3's are deciding who has won an end and by how many, although it is very clear that Red have the shot wood, if not more, the Blue No.1 starts to collect up the bowls with the pusher and collects a couple of woods, one Blue and one Red. The Red No. 3 believes that the Red wood collected might have been in the count. The original position of the Red wood collected is of course unknown. What happens?

Answer:

The Skip of the Red team must have the displaced bowls replaced to their former positions. If the No3 was so sure it was in the count, he (she) should be able to advise the Skip of its former position and then decide the outcome.

*Law 37.1.5 Displacement of a bowl at rest.*

*37.1.5.1 If a bowl at rest or a toucher in the ditch is displaced by a player and it has not disturbed the head after it is displaced, the opponent must put the bowl back to its former position.*

*37.1.5.2 If a bowl at rest or a toucher in the ditch is displaced by a player and it has disturbed the head after it is displaced, the opponent must put the bowl back to its former position and replace any part of the head disturbed after the displacement.*

If you have any questions about the Laws of the Sport, please feel free to email me at [tracy2jamie@virginmedia.com](mailto:tracy2jamie@virginmedia.com)

Jamie Campbell



## Bar Update – Derek Olive

We continue to reap the benefits (and challenges) of a “Member’s Bar” with more and more members becoming familiar with pulling pints and using the card machine. As I travel to other clubs I see smaller, less well stocked bars with higher prices. I also see bars that are closed and/or shuttered until the on-duty member turns up. I also see queues longer than we ever have!

I know I have thrown my toys out of the pram on one occasion, but I can honestly say that this had the desired affect and the bar is generally now left in a very good state – thank you!

We have had some issues with the waste disposal / recycling which have caused some pile ups outside the cellar door. Please be assured that we are aware of this and the whole situation is under review. Please do continue to separate the bar waste into the labelled boxes whilst we try to understand what we can change to make things easier and more consistent.

My thanks as always to the “few” who often step in to help when things get busy or a gap appears in the rota. You are known and your efforts are noted and appreciated!

I am always available on 07778375508 to answer any questions you may have and help resolve issues if I am not actually on site. The camera system in the cellar has been very successful in enabling me to see the status of the draught beer system and give advice when needed.

One thing to remember if you are ever behind the bar is to check the drip trays under the beer pumps, emptying and rinsing them out in the sink to keep them clean.

Lastly, if you have not been involved in serving behind the bar yet and would like to do so then please let me know and I am sure we can get you started!

**Derek**

## Coaching Update – Ken Tudor

**Bowls England Awards Evening:** This being my first opportunity of the season to provide an update on the Coaching side of things, I must first of all thank all those at the Club who were instrumental in the submission of my nomination in the “Coach of The Year” category, at the Bowls England Awards Night. It was a great honour and privilege to make the final four in this prestigious event and whilst I did not win, that accolade fittingly went to fellow Gloucestershire Coach David Rolls, who has helped me in my own development over the years, I was immensely proud to have been lucky enough to have been short listed. However, I would not have had that opportunity without the support of so many individuals, especially the Coaching Team here at Olveston, who we as a Club, are so very lucky to have within our ranks.

Bowls England did a tremendous job in putting the event together, held at the Athena Centre in Leicester, it was rather like the Bowls equivalent of the Oscars and following the success of the Commonwealth Games, it was attended by many of our medal winning stars.

I would also like to make special mention to Derek Severs, Chris Blake, David Wiggell, Ian Gauld, Joe Hardwick and Debbie who took the trouble to travel to Leicester and stay over for the evening to support me, it was really special to have them there to share the experience.



**Beginners Course:** The Club’s Coaching Team delivered a 4 Week Beginners Course at the Club during the first few Saturday mornings at the start of the season. The Course was attended by 19 individuals and many on the Course have gone on to join the Club, several are now regularly playing in Club Nights, Friendlies and some are already competing in competitions and leagues, which is very rewarding for us as coaches to witness.

**Wotton- Under- Edge BC Development Day** – Coach Dave Lewis was recently approached by one of the Captains at Wotton-Under-Edge regarding providing some sort of Development Sessions for his club members. Dave and I pulled together a set of skills and discussions, around Head Reading, Shot Play, Rink Management, Tactical Scenario’s etc which was attended by 16 or so Wotton players. When you get feedback from them as we did below, you know the time was well spent.

*“Just to say that the coaching course on Sunday with the two coaches from Olveston was extremely worthwhile. They both know the game inside out and took us through simple graded activities, which lead to improving our techniques*

*with achievable and satisfying goals. They also had some illuminating tips on match play. I think the end result was extremely happy bowlers all of whom had gained confidence and enjoyed the afternoon.”*

*“Please can you pass on my thanks to Ken and Dave who ran the coaching session at the bowls club on Tuesday. The whole afternoon I found very helpful and I was given loads of tips that will hopefully help improve my game. All of the practical information about delivering the jack and the wood with regard to body position, stance, arm and leg action I found very useful. They spoke about mental preparation prior to a game and before playing a shot, this was something I hadn't previously considered too much. All in all a very interesting, informative and enjoyable afternoon. Many thanks to both of them.”*

*“I thought that the coaching yesterday was excellent, I liked how the information provided was easy to understand, with the results almost instant. **I think that all clubs would benefit from such training.**”*

*“Thank you for organising the coaching session. I found it not only interesting but so informative, and appreciated the way in which Ken and Dave put their knowledge and experience across to us. I'm sorry that I didn't have the opportunity to experience coaching of that calibre soon after I started bowling, and would encourage all serious bowlers to consider taking part in such a course if the opportunity arises. Look forward to applying what I've learnt.”*

**Bowls England “Bowls Big Weekend”** – The Coaching Team was again on hand to help the Club with its participation in this Bowls England incentive to bring new players into our sport. The “Bowls Big Weekend” is a nationwide event that many Clubs across the country take part in – We held our event on the morning of Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May. We had 21 adults and children attend, to have a go, with some very capable potential on display. One gentleman just happened to be in the play park with his young son, noticed something was going on and they gingerly walked through the gate, in no time they were invited onto the Green and were soon having a father v son target bowls competition.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable morning for the coaches and I'm sure the participants went away thinking that Bowls might just be a sport they could get involved in and hopefully we will see them back at some point.



**In House Caching** – The Coaching Team have been busy providing sessions to Club Members as and when they request assistance. Around 35 Members have so far taken up the opportunity to meet with a Club Coach and receive either one-2-one or small group sessions.

We are in a very strong position at this Club having so many coaches, with a vast array of experience in the sport here to help – if you feel you need some help with your delivery, game play or simply wish to gain a better understanding by way of a discussion then, please contact one of the following, to arrange a session:

The Team are: Myself, Jean Lambourne, Alan Lambourne, Trevor Graham, Dave Lewis, David Wiggell, Annie Muldoon, Chris Blake and John Paton.

**National Finals @ Leamington Spa** – If you have registered to receive Newsletters direct from Bowls England, you will already know that tickets are now on sale for the National Finals that commence on 10<sup>th</sup> August and will run for just over three weeks.

From a development opportunity this is a great chance for you to go and see some of the very best bowlers England has to offer and I would highly recommend that anyone who wants to improve their own game, go along and watch what the very best can do. You will learn a lot from watching better bowler perform and you may also realise that you might not be that far from making it there yourself.

As you know, we have two teams of Men's Fours from Olveston that have already qualified and will be playing their first matches on Saturday August 19<sup>th</sup> at 9.30 pm, Paul Bryant, Ian Gauld, John Smallwood and Joe Hardwick, along with Alan Tregoning, Ken Tudor, Ian Curtis and Lawrence Oliver, your support up at Leamington on that day would be very welcome.



Fingers are still crossed that our Club might yet have a few more qualifiers, before the Finals start.

Also, on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> August the Gloucestershire Men's Under 25, 2-Rink, White Rose Team have qualified, so another opportunity to watch some great bowls and support your County.

You can pay on the day, but tickets can be purchased a little cheaper in advance – Here is a link that provides detail of ticket process and what events are on which day: [eventim.co.uk](http://eventim.co.uk)

**Enjoy your Bowling and remember practice with a purpose, play with a passion.**

**Ken Tudor**

Club Coaching Co-Ordinator  
"Coach Bowls" Level 2 Qualified



## 2024 Club Tour Update – Derek Olive

Thanks to those who tried to get the 2023 Foreign Tour organised, but having failed to get the number of members needed to sign up and pay deposits it was just not possible to continue. In contrast, there was a large number of members who expressed interest in a UK based tour next year, and once the basics were arranged and deposits requested, the tour filled up within 3 days! We currently have 9 members on the Standby List and I am happy to add others if you contact me and ask to be added.

The Tour will start on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August and return on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September and be based in Torquay. The price includes Bed/Breakfast and Evening Meal plus 4 hosted matches. Full details of matches etc. will be communicated much nearer the time.

Thanks

Derek

## A New Members Perspective – Pauline Beddoes

At one time we have all been new members so please spare a thought for our newbies and make them feel welcome. Here is a personal view from Pauline Beddoes who was a new member last season and wrote this following her first few months after joining the Club.

This is my personal insight re becoming a new member of the club.

With great trepidation I approached the club house to attend my meeting with members of the Bowls committee. What form would the questioning take and would my eagerness to join be apparent ??

I was met by a very friendly man called Geoff who guided me to the meeting area where two members, Angela and Sue were waiting to greet me. I immediately felt reassured and my confidence returned as they were very friendly, their questioning being very applicable and enlightening. Explaining my reasons for wishing to join I was also able to resolve any queries I may have, the whole experience being very informal.

Being accepted as a new member was just the first stage of my integration into the club. Encouragement and coaching helped me on my way to be able to participate in club nights and friendlies. Also being able to purchase the correct size of bowl from Dave aided my game enormously 🏏 🏏

Brenda (then Ladies Captain) has been a tremendous support and mentor throughout the process always guiding me and clarifying any queries I may have, and there have been many!

Etiquette plays a big part and this has been an ongoing learning process. I have erred a few times and have been suitably chastised! Angela has proved to be a fountain of knowledge in this area explaining the reasoning and clarifying any grey areas I may have had.

The social aspect of the club provides a meeting place alongside the competitiveness and the friendliness shown to me has been magnificent. This aspect of the club provides a haven for many and radiates a positivity and a motivational atmosphere.

I am looking forward to still more many happy encounters and to continuing to improve my skills. Thank you all for a super, fun summer 😊

Pauline

## External Competitions

It would be remis of me not to mention our Ladies recent Top Club victory at Tewksbury and a significant milestone by Paul Bryant who on 8<sup>th</sup> July received his 100<sup>th</sup> County Cap Badge for Gloucestershire in the Middleton Cup match against Devon. Well done and congratulations.





# And Finally..... More President's Day Photos





