



TALK OF THE TOWN

Newsletter January 2025



As we step into a new year filled with promise and excitement, we are thrilled to welcome you to our first newsletter of 2025! This year marks another chapter in our club's history, and we are eager to make it one of our best yet.

Whether you are a seasoned player or a newcomer eager to learn the game, our club is committed to fostering a friendly, inclusive, and competitive environment where everyone can enjoy the sport of bowls. We have an exciting calendar of events planned for this year. Stay tuned for updates, news, and stories from our members. We also invite you to contribute by sharing your experiences and ideas, as your involvement is what makes our community thrive. Here's to a fantastic year of bowls, camaraderie, and success!

Matthew Rixson (Newsletter Editor)



The **BTBC EGM** will take place on **Friday 21st March** with a **6.30pm** start. Please make every effort to attend.



We will combine the EGM with a **Fun Quiz Evening** and a warming supper. Frank will be hosting the quiz. The cost for your quiz entry and food will be no more than £5-£7. Please do come along and support our EGM and have a bit of fun afterwards. We will need to know numbers for catering and will send out a WhatsApp poll nearer the time. The club fixture books will also be available for collection at this event .

2025 CAPTAINS

We have two new captains this year. **Anita Christian** is the ladies captain and **Martin Cullis** is the men's captain. Anita and Martin will shortly be putting out a players' questionnaire so that members can indicate their intention to play in friendlies and leagues. If this could be returned to them or any committee member as soon as possible, either online or via a printed copy, it'll be a great help in deciding on numbers of teams to enter this year.



Please feel free to email them if you want to discuss the new season ahead.

E-mail addresses: Anita - mrsachristian@live.co.uk

Martin - martincullis@icloud.com

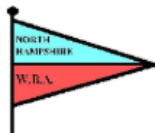


There has been a good response for the **Bowls Hampshire** external county competitions. Men's entries are up 60% from last year. It's not too late to enter.

Please email Malcolm (men) malcolmchr42@gmail.com or Anita (ladies) mrsachristian@live.co.uk if you haven't done so already.

If you are entering an age specific event they will need your date of birth. Payment is made to Basingstoke Town Bowls Club. Can you please make sure that you include the competition on the money transfer e.g. Your name, COUNTY fees.

Club Social and Competition Entry Evening



Friday 21st February
from 7.00pm

District Competition Entries will be collected in February. On **Friday 21st February** from 7.00pm come and sign up for your competition entries to the Whitchurch, BDBA and North Hants Ladies competitions. We will combine this with a **fun evening** of chat, drinks, skittles, darts and any other games you fancy playing. If you are unable to attend and want to enter any of the above competitions please contact either a club captain or the relevant district representative (Malcolm Christian - BDBA, Carol Scott - NHWBA, TBA - Whitchurch).

Call out for all **novice bowlers** have you considered entering the novice competition. This is a really good opportunity for newer bowlers and we will support those that apply with coaching and mentoring.

Anita has circulated information on what's app about the Foundation Pairs, a **Bowls England** event where anyone with less than 3 years experience can partner any player who hasn't ever reached National Finals. If you are a new bowler it's not too late to enter. Email Anita and we will look to buddy you up with an experienced player.

Bowls England offer several different individual competitions- please check out their website. There are several entries from our members already.



NEW SEASON

The new season starts the weekend of **19th and 20th. April.**

Club preparation and spring cleaning will take place on **Saturday 12th April at 10.00.** Caz promises to have plenty of tea and coffee on the go. **Please come along to help out** as 'many hands makes light work'.

MEN'S GAMES

We are already receiving dates for men's matches. Following a successful trip to the South Coast last year, New Milton Men will be visiting The Town for a return match on **Saturday 26th April.** This will be a great way to start the season – it will be a fun but competitive game against a strong New Milton Team so we need as many men as possible for this game – likely six rinks. Please let Martin know if you would like to play. Please email martincullis@icloud.com or message on 07974587312.



We still have some vital positions to fill before the start of the season. All vacancies will need be filled at the EGM. If you would like any more details about any role please contact one of the committee.

- ◆ Club Secretary
- ◆ Whitchurch Representative
- ◆ BDBA Monday evening triples league manager (x2)
- ◆ Friday evening BDBA rinks manager

Please consider these positions and step forward if you want to be more involved. We need you!

SUBSCRIPTIONS 2025



As you will all be aware, costs have continued to rise during the past year and will continue to affect our outgoing payments during the coming year, therefore we have had to increase to our subscriptions. At the AGM members agreed that subscriptions should be increased as follows: Full membership £85; New members £40; Juniors £30 & Social membership £25.



Subscriptions are due by **31st January 2024**. This year we have to submit our playing numbers and names to Hampshire by the middle of February so payment by the end of January is important. **Please refer to the recent email for payment details or contact Caz with any queries.**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September – BTBC Competition Finals Weekend

Saturday 4th October – Club Presentation Evening and Dinner

Sunday 30th November at 10.00am – AGM including coffee and bacon rolls.



FUTURE NEWSLETTER CONTENT

As we gear up future editions of our Bowls Club Newsletter, we are reaching out to you for content that showcases the vibrant spirit of our club! Here are some ideas for contributions:

- **Match Reports:** Share highlights from recent games or tournaments. Let us know about the most exciting moments, standout performances, and any lessons learned.
- **Tips & Techniques:** Got a useful tip or technique that has improved your game? Share it with your fellow members to help everyone up their game.
- **Event Recaps:** If you've attended any club events recently, we'd love to hear your thoughts and see any photos you have to share.
- **Community Corner:** Share any community news or upcoming events that might interest other members.
- **Photos & Memories:** We always love to feature photos from around the club, whether they're from recent games, social events, or just fun moments with friends on the green.

Please send your contributions to mjrixson@gmail.com Whether it's a full article, a few lines, or just a photo, your input is highly valued and helps make our newsletter a great read for everyone.

