

July Newsletter 2023



Hola mis amigos,

July has been a very challenging and frustrating month. The weather has been disappointing and very changeable. We have had to cross our fingers on several occasions and work around most of the rain. Our green has stood up well to the battering it has taken, it has been saturated for over a month now and unsafe to play on several times. Our Green Maintenance Team have done a great job of keeping the green in good condition despite the unfavourable weather. Huge thanks to them for their continued efforts during all the challenges they have faced. Our green has looked like the photo several times in the last few weeks and it is getting there again today. We have had several major events this month, not least the Centenary Celebration Day, with a game against a Bowls England. We also enjoyed and the rearranged BBQ.



I would like to welcome to all our new members to the club and I hope you are all settling in ok. Should you have any issues or questions feel free to get in touch with me or speak to any member.

Centenary Celebration Day



Our Centenary Celebration Day was by far the best day I have experienced at the Club. I cannot sing the praises enough, for everyone that was involved in any way in the day. From setting up in the morning to clearing away at the end of the day everything ran smoothly. Everyone pulled together to make it a memorable and enjoyable day, even the sun came out to play. I would like however, to give a special

mention and thanks to the Social Committee. The job you did for the Club was magnificent. The care taken over little details setting out the Memorial Hall, the flower displays, and the food were exceptional, and they made the occasion very special indeed. Also, thanks to Bernard Wright and Carolyn for the display of the history of the Club that was put up in the



clubhouse. The friendliness of the club and the atmosphere that was generated by everyone present was commented upon by many members of the Presidential Team. One member of their team told me the Club has a lovely feel to it and the surroundings are very pretty.

For the match itself we selected a team of members who had contributed to the life of the club over the



years or who were now giving up their time to carry out tasks to the benefit of all.



We did not just choose our better players to participate. It would have been great if everyone that wanted to play was able to, but sadly it was not possible. However many

of you joined in the Jumbles afterwards, so you did get a game of bowls in and enjoyed the fine weather for once.

The match was fiercely contested (the Presidential Team did not come to lose), but in a friendly and relaxed manner. The scores on the rinks were very close on most of them but when the sums had been done and the ink had dried, Ponteland were the winners by 100 shots to 89. It is a creditable achievement for our team, that they scored a hundred shots to honour the one hundred years of bowling at the Club.

BBQ Jumbles



Thankfully we managed to have some decent weather so both the game and the BBQ could go ahead without any issues. Huge thanks to the Social Committee for their dedicated hard work again and to everyone that helped to set up and take down all the gazabos and move the tables

and chairs etc. Also, thanks to Jeanette Tinnion and Phillip Peacock for organising and running the event. The game went off very smoothly with the new style score cards working very effectively. Congratulations go to Steve, Harry, Wendy & Tom who came first and Peter, Linda & Andrew who came second after a very tight count back.



Whilst most members had a fun and relaxing afternoon, there were a few dedicated members of the social committee that were hard at work both during the day and days in advance

buying, storing, and preparing all the food. I cannot help but wonder if there is a better way of running an event like this, so it is less of a burden on the Club and the same members, and to allow them join in a little more on the day. If for example, we arranged with a local restaurant to deliver a load of pizzas and made the event an "Italian Day". We could also speak to the mobile Chinese restaurant in the Memorial car park and perhaps have an "Asian Day". I muse over this as it comes back to the specific



issues, we set out to address as a club - increasing membership and the number of volunteers to run things. We have made great strides on increasing the membership of the club and secure its future. The other to minimise the work load on members so tasks are not too onerous, so members are then more willing to "do a bit" help run our Club and various activities. We have started to look at sharing the workload out more, but we also need to look at working smarter as well. If anyone has any ideas on how we could run the jumbles and social events more efficiently in the future, so we still have the same social and bowling benefits but with less input required from the Club, please share them with myself or any member of the GPC.

Joint President's Day

The rearranged Joint Presidents Day will now "hopefully" be held on Saturday 19th August - 1.00pm for a 1.30 start. There is a sign-up sheet on the General noticeboard, please sign up if you wish to play - everyone is welcome. There will also be a faith tea on the day - so bring a plate of something to share. If you are a new member and are not sure about any of the arrangements for this event, please ask someone.

Lockers

All lockers are now working. We had to replace a few locks in the women's changing room as the locks appeared to be damaged. We suspect this is the result of new keys being cut from keys that had already been cut, and over time the shape of the key had changed and using these eventually damaged the locks. Thanks to Carolyn for her work organising the women's lockers.

Hot Shots

Congratulations to Ann, Jean and Amanda who got their hotshot badges and certificates for scoring maximum points in an end in a North-East Ladies league game earlier this month. They had to send them a photograph so that it can be included in their monthly magazine. If anyone wants information about how to get a hotshot badge and certificate Ann would be happy to explain it to you.



Irrigation System and Water Tank

It is perhaps ironic that we have a problem with our irrigation system, and we need to pay to get it repaired, given the weather we are having. Our water tank has a leak. This has been caused by leaves laying against the sides of the tank and rotting over many years, which has resulted in the tank rusting through. We are waiting for quotes from the company that looks after our system but are also seeking some independent opinions also. The guestimate we have initially had is around £2,500 to replace the tank.

End of Season Dinner

Our End of Season Dinner will be held on Thursday 21st September at the golf club. The golf club have a new chef taking over and as soon as we have agreed a menu and the arrangements for the evening, we will let everyone know so they can sign up and choose what they would like to eat.

League Results

Our games this month have been impacted by the weather. A few games have had to be postponed due to the rain and the greens being dangerous to play on. Thanks to everyone that has turned out to represent our Club and to all members of the selection committees for organising teams.

North East League

Tues 4th July home to Whitley and Monkseaton Won 2 rinks and game	10pts
Thurs 6th July home to Newbiggin (re-arranged) Won 2 rinks drew 1 rink and game	11pts
Tues 11 July away to Morpeth won 1 rink lost 2 rinks and game	2pts
Tues 18th July - Bye	
Tues 25th July home to Seaton Sluice won 2 rinks and game	10pts

Collins and Shipley Div 1

Wed 5th July away v Alnwick won 3 rinks and game	12pts
Wed 19th July no game Rain	
Wed 26th July away v Morpeth won 1 rink drew 1 rink lost game	3pts

Collins and Shipley Div 2

Wed 5th July home v Cowpen and Crofton won 1 rink lost game	2pts
Wed 19th July away v Gosforth West Ave lost all rinks and game	0pts
Wed 26th July postponed Rain	

The women's triples took place on July 8th and was won by Ann Pearson and Eleanor Leiper. Unfortunately, they were one player short, but it was decided to go ahead with the competition.

Knight

4th July v Astley Park at home	Won 14pts to 0 pts
11 th July v Innesfree away	Won 12 pts to 2 pts
18 th July v Bye	
25 th July v N.S,W,Eat home	Draw 7 pts to 7 pts

Parliamentary

6th July v Bye	
13 th July v Cramlington home	Lost 11 pts to 3 pts
20 th July v Gosforth Garden Village away.	Won 12 pts to 2 pts
27 th July v Benfield home - rain postponed.	

Public Utilities

Awaiting update for July

Future Events - dates for your diary

Friday, 18th Aug - Quiz night, bring along some drinks and nibbles.

Saturday 19th - Joint President's Day & faith tea

Saturday 26th - Finals Weekend Day 1

Sunday 27th - Finals Weekend Day 2

Monday, 28th - Mixed Jumbles and bring a picnic & drinks

Club AGMs

Women's section AGM Friday 25th August at 2.00pm - in the clubhouse

Men's section AGM Thursday 14th September at 6.00pm- in the clubhouse

Full Club AGM Friday 22nd September at 2.00pm - in the clubhouse

Club use of Facebook and Website

For our new members, we use our website as our public face - a shop window so to speak. Where we can give information about the club and give an indication of the social and bowling opportunities on offer. It is the place where members of the public seeking information on the Club would go to. Facebook is used to celebrate and showcase events that take place over the season. If you have a Facebook account please like and share our posts as this is a very helpful way of promoting the Club to the wider community.

Bowling Schedule

Please be aware that the bowling schedule that was sent out covering the remainder of the season will have some changes made to it as we progress through the next few weeks. This is due to the bad weather and the many cancelled games that will now need to be rearranged and fitted into the next few weeks. Any changes will be written on the Schedule on the clubhouse wall and will appear on the rink booking sheets. So please check these regularly.

*If anyone has any feedback or comments on what we are doing, please get in touch. I regularly chat to members when I am out and about and discuss various aspects of what we are doing with them, to make the club more fun, friendly, supportive, and most importantly **sustainable - fit for the future**, and ready for another 100 yrs.*

regards GPC