



# TALK OF THE TOWN

## Newsletter April 2025



The start of the new season is almost upon us. I am sure you cannot wait to get out on the green. The official opening of the green takes place on Saturday April 19th 2025. The green will be formally opened by our 2025 President, Keith McEwan in his 60th year as a member. All members are invited to the Opening Drive. Please arrive for 2pm for a 2.30pm start. I look forward to seeing you there.

Matthew Rixson (Newsletter Editor)

**THANK YOU** to everyone who came along to help set up the green and get the changing rooms and clubhouse ready for the new season. Your help was much appreciated. What a great team effort!



### IN MEMORIAM

It is with sadness that we acknowledge the passing of three cherished members of our bowling club since the end of last season: Dougie Morgan, Mike Sawyer and Keith Belcher. We remember their contributions on and off the green and their love for the sport. Their absence will be profoundly felt. Our thoughts and heartfelt condolences go out to their families and loved ones. May they rest in peace.

### OPEN DAY

We will be holding an **OPEN DAY on SUNDAY 4th MAY** to entice new members to join our wonderful club. **Have a think about who you could invite to come along.**

**BOWLS' BIG WEEKEND** is an annual national event, designed to introduce more people to the sport of bowls, offering free taster sessions. The club will be holding an event on **Saturday 24th May 10.00am-4.00pm**. We will need your help so please note the date.



## INDOOR SUCCESS - COUNTY CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to **Zach Miller** and **Adam White** who were successful at the recent county indoor championship finals. Zach was crowned the county U25 Singles Champion and Adam was a member of the winning triples and fours teams.



## MATCHES

The date of our first weekend **mixed friendly** is **Sunday 27th April v Three Mile Cross** (home). Our sign up method has changed this year, and we are asking you to sign up for the various matches including club days on the sign up sheets between the changing rooms. The captains of the day will post a team sheet nearer to the game to confirm the team selected and specific match arrangements. **Please sign up next time you are at the club.**

**We still need players** for the match against an **Essex Touring side** at 1.30pm on **Tuesday 6th May**. Please email: [martincullis@icloud.com](mailto:martincullis@icloud.com) if you can play.

The first round of the **Bowls England Men's Top Club** is against Oakley on **Thursday 22nd May at 6.30pm**. Please come along and support if you are not playing. We narrowly lost to Oakley last year so we are looking to make amends this year. It should be a great game.

## REMEMBER THE FOUR 'R's

### RECOGNISE

Be aware of the signs of abuse, neglect, or exploitation, such as physical, emotional, or sexual abuse

### RESPOND

Keep calm and reassure the individual, if you believe there to be immediate danger, call 999

### REPORT

Report the safeguarding concern to your Club Safeguarding Officer as soon as possible or submit your concern to the Bowls England Safeguarding Team via [BowlsEngland.com](http://BowlsEngland.com)

### REFER

The information should be referred to the Bowls England Safeguarding Team immediately, await a prompt response

## SAFEGUARDING

Matthew Rixson is the Safeguarding Officer for the club. If there is a time where you have a concern or want to know more about safeguarding at the club, then please do get in contact.

The Bowls Development Alliance (BDA) works in partnership with the National Governing Bodies (NGBs) of bowls to build a safe environment for young people and adults to enjoy playing bowls. Such initiatives include safeguarding policies for Adults and Children which we have adopted. They can be found here, alongside other safeguarding information: [Safeguarding Policies - Bowls England](#)



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



**Saturday 19th April** - Opening Drive arrive at 2.00pm for a 2.30pm start  
**Saturday 26th April** - Men's match v New Milton (H)  
**Sunday 27th April** - Mixed Friendly v Three Mile Cross (H).  
**Sunday 4th May** - Club Open Day. Please invite potential new members.  
**Tuesday 6th May** - Match v Essex Touring team  
**Thursday 22nd May** - BE Men's Top Club v Oakley (H) 6.30pm  
**Saturday 26th May 10.00am-4.00pm** —Bowls Big Weekend event at BTBC  
**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.

## CLUB KIT

We have been working with our kit supplier to add new elements of kit ahead of the 2025 season to complement our existing shirts. This includes waterproof jackets, technical quarter –zip tops and a gilet. Our supplier Karuta are in the process of setting up an online club shop where members can order items directly. We will let you know when it is operational. There are samples on order which will be with us very soon. We have plenty of club shirts in stock. Please contact Matthew if you would like to purchase a club shirt or have questions about the outerwear.



## EXTERNAL COMPETITIONS

The draws for the county and district competitions have taken place.

The county draws are on the new portal: [Bowls Hampshire Online](#)

Whitchurch draws are here: [Whitchurch annual competitions](#)

Basingstoke and District Draws here: <https://www.hugofox.com/community/basingstoke-district-bowling-association-10136/competitions1/>

Information about North Hampshire Women's BA: [North Hampshire Women's Bowling Association, Farnborough](#)

## FUTURE NEWSLETTER CONTENT

If you would like something feature in our next newsletter please email the details and any photos to [mjrixson@gmail.com](mailto:mjrixson@gmail.com) by Friday 9th May. Thank you. We are always looking for interesting content. Please get in touch.

