

NHBC NEWSLETTER

New Herrington Bowling Club - January 2024

We are delighted that Neil Hixon Property Services (NE) Ltd kindly sponsor our team kit.

Call 0191 520 2224 for more info, or email: neil.hixon@icloud.com



NOTE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

... and so in a blink of an eye it's 2024! Hope you and your families have had a wonderful festive period filled with joy and laughter, copious amounts of turkey and nasty pop. Wishing you all a very happy, healthy and prosperous new year and continued success to our amazing club - bowling!!

Chris



WELCOME

2024 has arrived, we are at the end of January already, which means we only have to get through February and March and before you know it, we will be back on the grass. Lets hope for a long, warm, and dry summer. Like last year, we have entered teams in all the SDBA leagues, Earl Cup, Swan Cup, Harold Howey Vets (2 teams) Storey Bowl and the Grindon league. That plus the in-house competitions that Colin will no doubt be arranging means we are going to be busy.

MEMBERSHIP

It's the time of year when I begin to get on people's nerves. But do I care? Yes I do, but unfortunately it's my job to be really irritating. So just to remind you of the membership fees:

DAILY MEMBER

Joining fee £20.00 for the year, commencing April 1st.

£3.00 green fee every time you play, whether it be a roll-up, an in-house competition or a league match.

£2.00 to enter any in house competition (£2.00 per competition)

FULL MEMBER

Joining fee £20.00 for the year, commencing April 1st

Plus £50.00 green fee (payable at time of joining) which covers all roll-ups, competitions and home matches. £3.00 if playing away in league match

£2.00 to enter any in house competition (£2.00 per competition).

JUNIORS

Junior (16 and under) membership is free, we simply ask for £1.00 each time they play

GUESTS

Guests are of course welcome to play as often as they wish, the first visit is free and then the cost is £3.00 every time. Guests are not eligible to enter any competitions.

The season is approximately 20 weeks so if you play just once a week that equates to £60 for the season plus your membership fee of £20.00. Therefore "Full Membership" represents excellent value for money.

All membership fees should be paid before April 1st please. You will find our bank details overleaf.

If for some reason you do not wish to rejoin or are unable to re-join the club, please let me know, by text or email.

THE LEAGUE STARTING DATES.....

<u>COMPETITION</u>	<u>TEAMS</u>	<u>START</u>	<u>END</u>
EARL CUP	10	22/4	19/8
SWAN CUP	8	8/5	7/8
HOWEY VETS DIV 1	14	16/5	8/8
HOWEY VETS DIV 2	15	9/5	15/8
STOREY BOWL	6	11/5	17/8
GRINDON LEAGUE	9	10/5	9/8



SHIRTS & BADGES

The club shirts have now got the excellent badge designed by our very own John Sproston (Sprossy). The feedback has been excellent Please get in touch with me so that I can arrange to get your shirt to you. I will also take them to the club Coffee & Cake afternoons

BEDALE

I'm delighted to confirm that our annual trip to Bedale Bowls Club has been arranged, and the date is **SUNDAY MAY 5th**, so put it in your diary. If you are interested in playing please let Colin know.

Last year we managed to field a full team of twenty so played mixed four ball across 5 rinks. We donated the Herrington/Bedale shield back in 2022 and won it, quite convincingly, in 2022 and 2023. So why should 2024 be any different? Those of you who have been to Bedale before will know that they look after us extremely well.



Secretary:	Barry Thomas	YOUR COMMITTEE	Safeguarding::	Les Todd
Treasurer:	Lorraine Galley	Chairman: Chris Blake	Maintenance:	Howard Smith
Captain:	Colin Watson		Facilities:	Linda Watson

The Wick (Or Herrington Glide) we learn a bit about HOWARD SMITH

I left school at the early age of 15 with no qualifications, I thought, "who needs them". I got a job straight away working in a garage. This was to last just 9 months. The boss asked me to move his car and I crashed it by reversing it into his brother's car. Consequently I got the sack, which was a bit harsh I thought. I was still only 16.

Then I got a job as an apprentice fitter and turner at Sunderland Forge. After 4 years of fitting and turning I left to be a junior engineer in the Merchant Navy at the age of 20½. It was while

UPDATE FROM SDBA
 At the November AGM the following motions were approved
 A) The proposed "Code Of Conduct" was approved and will be added to the constitution.
 B) It was agreed that all clubs will increase green fee to £3.00 for league matches.
 C) It was agreed that the two Trial Ends in league matches will remain.
 D) Yours truly was elected to be "Membership Development Officer" responsible for helping clubs to increase their membership.
 E) It was agreed that clubs are allowed two delegates at the AGM but only one vote per club.

I was on leave that I met a young lady called Cath at Wetherells night club in Sunderland. I travelled the world in the navy for 4½ years and then left and married Cath.

Within 2 years we had 2 children Tracy and Gary. During this time I was working at Plesseys and Cath had a part time job. Together we bought our first house near Thompson Park. Things were going well for a while but then in 1974 the Prime Minister, Mr Edward Heath, introduced the 3 day week because we needed to save electricity. Things got really tight and we could no longer afford

to pay the mortgage. I saw a shop with a flat above to rent in Chester Road, so we sold the house, within 2 weeks, and moved into the flat and took over the shop. The shop was an off-licence and general store open 7 days a week from 9.00am till 10.00pm. Cath ran the shop as well as looking after 2 young kids. I would go to the cash and carry during my lunch breaks and work in the shop the other 4 days. 3 months later Plesseys returned to full time work. There was such a demand that I was working 7 days a week as foreman of the inspection department. We kept this up for 2 years and then Cath fell for our third child Darren. So we bought our house in Broadmeadows and Cath's parents moved into the flat over the shop.

I then heard of a milk round for sale so I left Plesseys and became a milkman. This was going so well I bought a second round that linked onto mine. Meanwhile Cath was still running the shop. But then people started buying their milk from supermarkets and I was losing 10/15% of my business every year. So the milk rounds were no longer viable. So we had to sell the shop to keep going.

Then I took over a shop on a large council estate. A few years later the shop and off-licence next to us came up for sale and we bought the business, and joined it on to our shop. We were open 7 days a week from 6.30am to 9.00pm. We turned it into a SPAR shop and installed lottery machines, cash machines etc and luckily it all paid off.

I sold the business in 2008 aged 68 and bought a caravan. We spent 5 delightful years touring the country. Sadly, Cath passed away in July 2018, but I was lucky to have a very supportive family around me. A chap called Bill Clark asked if I would be interested in bowls so I asked my neighbour and friend Ronnie Watson and we went along to Herrington together. We got hooked. There were only 12 members so we asked everyone we met if they fancied it, one of them was Colin Watson. Ronnie bumped into Barry Thomas at Barnes Park and invited him along too. The rest, as they say, is history.

I nominate Gary Hassan for the next edition.



BANK DETAILS

BANK: LLOYDS
SORT CODE: 30 99 50
ACCOUNT: 56801060
NAME: New Herrington Bowling Club

BIRTHDAYS

We send warmest good wishes to the following members who have birthdays in January

Gillian Ferguson	7 th
Les Todd	10 th
Ned Dinsdale	11 th
Pat Gibson	20 th
Allyson Beardmore	22 nd
Garry Wallace (Snr)	26 th
Caroline Maddison	30 th

ANOTHER DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

We have booked the Penshaw Masonic Hall again for our Presentation dinner. It is **SATURDAY DECEMBER 14th**. Be sure to put that date in your diary now. We decided to move it a bit closer to Christmas and to make it less formal. So it will be a Christmas Party, BUT we will probably be having pie and mushy peas, and we might have fun bingo, and balloons and crackers and a disco (possibly a play list selected by you) final decisions yet to be made.

CHARITY DONATION

Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of our members, our bowls Fun Day and Presentation Dinner raffle raised a total of £500 for our two chosen Cancer Research charities. In addition Santa Claus and his elf raised a further £168. We are trying to organise a cheque presentation to Cancer Research.



You can contact NHBC at the following address: c/o Secretary, 15, Malvern Gardens, Sunderland, SR6 9LB