

NHBC NEWSLETTER

New Herrington Bowling Club - May / June 2023

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

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WELCOME

Well the weather hasn't been great but it hasn't stopped us from playing bowls, it has been really good to see so many of you out on the green in cold, windy and wet weather. The alterations are pretty much finished and we are enjoying the luxury of a new kitchen and the enormous benefit of not having footballers leaving their muddy footprints everywhere. The rota for opening of the clubhouse seems to be working ok, please bear with us if there is the occasional hiccup. The league matches are proving to be challenging, and that is exactly what we expected in the first divisions. But the team spirit and support are what make this club so special.

Keep it up.

CAPTAINS REPORT

Welcome everyone to the first Captains report of the season. It has been good to see so many old faces from last year along with our new members for the 2023 season on the green having roll ups.

Our Monday Earl Cup and Wednesday Swan Cup league games started with a couple of victories in the opening 8 games. We all knew this season being promoted to division 1 in both leagues was always going to be hard. However there have still been some encouraging signs in some of the defeats where we have lost some of the games by just a few points.

In the Harold Howey division 2 there have been 2 games played so far and already our A team is top of the league with the B team lying in 6th place.

In the Grindon league again there have been a couple of games with both ending in defeat but I am confident that the new members that have started playing will certainly add strength to the overall teams in the coming weeks/months and years this has been good to see, and I have had some excellent feedback from several teams generally about the club.

The 10 in-house club competitions have been drawn with some ties already played, can I remind members about the date games need to be played by.

There have been several members involved in the Durham County Knockout Competitions all who have played well in defeat but continue to the raise the profile of our club. A big well done to Howard Smith and his Senior 4's team (Ronnie Watson, Brain Smith and Gary Hassan) beating myself, Chris Blake, Michael Galley and Garry Wallace Snr to progress to the next round, good luck lads. In the Triples Garry Wallace Jnr lead his team (myself and Garry Snr) to a comfortable win over Howard, Ronnie and Gary Hassan.

Colin Watson



HISTORY MAKERS

Once again NHBC leads the way. This year for the first time ever the powers that be decided that all leagues will now be mixed, giving lady bowlers the opportunity to play in major competitions alongside the men. I am very proud to inform you that New Herrington Bowling Club were the first, and I believe the only club, so far to embrace this change. Pam Bainbridge and Linda Watson played in our Swan Cup league match against Hetton Working Mens Club on Wednesday May 10th. We lost by just 6.25 points on a dreadful green. Absolutely no disgrace, and our competition were very complimentary. Well done ladies and well done Colin for a brave decision



GRINDON LEAGUE

The ladies feature yet again in our Grindon league matches. We are delighted to regularly play six ladies in our team of twelve. Not only does this serve to give our ladies excellent match experience, but it also shows the world that bowls is fully inclusive and good fun. There is no doubt that other clubs in the area are watching what we do. Both matches so far have been close, and we have been pleased to leave with a point having won a rink in both games. Well done ladies (and gents of course).

This newsletter will be seen by around 200 people seven or eight times a year. Not only is it emailed to over 120 people, it is also shared to our website and various Facebook pages. So this space is a brilliant **SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY**. If you would like to feature on our front page give our editor a call on 07715 252920 or email imbarrythomas@gmail.com and lets talk.

Secretary:	Barry Thomas	YOUR COMMITTEE	Safeguarding::	Richard Johnston
Treasurer:	Howard Smith	Chairman: Chris Blake	Lady Captain:	Norma Ord
Captain:	Colin Watson		Shadow:	Linda Watson



BEDALE We enjoyed another day trip to North Yorkshire to play at Bedale Bowling Club in our annual friendly competition. We played five rinks of four players, each team being mixed. Bedale were exceptional hosts providing us with an excellent tea. We retained the shield with a convincing win across all rinks.

PRESENTATION DINNER

I am pleased to tell you that we have arranged to return to the Penshaw Masonic Hall for our Presentation Dinner. So put the date of **Saturday November 18th** in your diary.

BANK

We have a new bank account, please use in future. The details are as follows:

Bank: Lloyds
 Acct: New Herrington Bowling Club
 Sort Code: 30 99 50
 Acct: 56801060

BIRTHDAYS

We send warmest good wishes to the following members who have birthdays in May and June. If you have a birthday and are not mentioned, it's because you haven't returned the application form.

Application forms will be on the table in the clubhouse.

Mark Thompson	1 st May
Gary Loadman	4 th May
Pam Bainbridge	9 th May
Gary Hassan	9 th May
Lorraine Galley	17 th May
Mike Galley	6 th June

THE WICK
(Or Herrington Glide)

Love them or hate them, a wick is part of the game. Whether played for or lucky a wick can make a vital difference to a game result. When we played at Bedale, yours truly gained a bit of a reputation for getting wicks that scored points. That reputation was further enhanced in the Vets match between the NHBC "A" team and "B" team. Rink 1 had finished and "A" team won 22-17. So 5 shots clear.

Rink 2 were playing their final end, and "B" team were leading 17-12 and standing 1 in the head, so winning the match overall by 1 shot. Then along came Baz "Wick" Thomas who rolled his wood, then turned and looked away in disgust because he wasn't happy with its track. But the wood went left of the head, then turned and clattered into the pack, sending an "A" bowl onto the jack to take the end and the match by one shot.

Baz unashamedly took the applause and credit for a great shot.

The correct protocol in such situations is that the team that benefits from the wick should not celebrate, but should apologise to their bereft opponent, acknowledging their good luck. Cheering is definitely a no no.

The newsletter is usually just the ramblings of a grumpy, old chap. So the "Wick" heading will be a regular feature in future newsletters when members will be invited to share a story about themselves, such as how they got involved in bowls, what they like or dislike, or someone or something that gets on their wick. It doesn't have to be bowls related. As the editor I reserve the right to edit whatever is submitted.

I will nominate the first person to submit a story and that person is last years ladies champion Anne Dale. Anne will then nominate the next contributor.

"OPEN DAY"

Our "Open Day" was enjoyed by all those who came. Chris Blake took charge of the games which included the hoops game, nearest the ditch, nearest the jack, with a jack and of course the popular spider game. We also had a few youngsters playing with our Fun Kit.

The spread of food was fantastic, and we are very grateful to the marvellous bakers in our midst. No one should have left hungry.

But despite the many positive comments on our various social media links, the number of new visitors was very disappointing.



You can keep up to date with all the latest news by going to our website at www.newherringtonbowls.co.uk or go to our FaceBook page. Or join our WhatsApp group "Herrington News"

You can contact NHBC at the following address: c/o Secretary, 15, Malvern Gardens, Sunderland, SR6 9LB
 Email: imbarrythomas@gmail.com. Telephone: 07715 252920