

Farnborough Bowling Club

NEWSLETTER DATE

WINTER 2011/12



Summary of the committee meeting held on the 17th December and 4th February

Next committee meeting 31st March 2012

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All the Best for 2012

Even though January is already behind us and Christmas is long over, I hope it is not too late for me to wish you all the very best for 2012.

I hope you find this newsletter interesting and informative. I hope to write two or three during the year, with aim of keeping you up to date on what's happening at the Club.

The Committee are very aware that not everyone uses e-mail, and that it is important to still use traditional ways of keeping in touch with our members particularly out of season.

A Newsletter from the President is not a new thing. I remember, when I joined the Club, the then President, Don Fowler, regularly produced a Newsletter, packed full of interesting stuff! I hope to do as good a job as he did!

Committee Business

Even though it's the middle of winter, the Committee have been very busy. There have been two Committee meetings since the AGM in November. The issues discussed and the decisions made by the Committee on your behalf have covered a lot of ground, here's just a taster:

- The hedge on the left hand side of the Green (looking from the Club-house) was diseased and needed taking out. Barry, our Secretary contacted the Council and as most of you now know the hedge has been replaced with a fine looking fence. Thanks to Barry it also looks as though the Council is paying for the fence saving the club a hefty bill!
- Earlier opening of the Green at the start of the season (see details below)

- Financial matters, including - membership fees; cost of advertising in local newspapers announcing open days for new members at the start of the season
- The Committee agreed that Barry Taylor would continue to look after the Green in 2012.
- The new club shirts, their cost to members and when they should be worn.
- Early planning for this year's Festival Day



Earlier opening of the Green in 2012

This season the Green will open two weeks earlier than usual.

Weather permitting and if the green conditions allow the Green will open for play on the 15th April 2012. Our friendly fixtures will com-

mence as usual in May, but the earlier opening will allow our members to get some early practice in before our usual programme of games and competitions commence.

The pre-season **Clean up Day**, will be on Saturday

14th April. Come along and help to spruce up both inside the club-house and around the Green. Work will start at 8.30am.

There will be plenty to do that day, so please everyone, come a long and help out. Everyone will be welcome and given a job to do.

New Club Shirts



It will soon be time to renew your club membership

@ the

**Spring Meeting
Saturday
3rd March at 9am.**

At the last AGM on the 5th November 2011, members voted to adopt a new (coloured) club shirt.

Alec is currently having samples of the new shirt run up by the manufacturer, The samples will be in both Mens and Ladies (slightly fitted) styles, for members to look at and try on at the Spring Meeting on the 3rd

March.

The full cost of a the new shirts is £22 each. The Committee agreed that the cost of

the first shirt purchased by playing members will be at the reduced cost of £12 each. This has been possible because the club has received a fantastic and generous donation towards the purchase of the shirts.

It will be mandatory to wear a club shirt for the following games- the Mens A&D league; the mixed Farnham and District Leagues and the Ladies Blackwater Valley League.

It will be optional, for all other games - that's for friendly fixtures, the Thursday Stan

Hardman League and Club and external competitions.

Green Fees

Social Members who come along to Monday Club or use the green at other times are required to pay a green fee of £2 per visit (irrespective of the time spent on the green).

A new collection box and record book will be placed in the Club at the start of the season. Please remember to record what money you have put in the collection box in the book.

Thanks for your co-operation

Finance



Yes, I admit it, by day I am a 'bean counter', usually dressed in a grey suit.! Which means I have more than a passing interest in the Club's finances.

Our Treasurer, Anne Hellier, presents an updated set of accounts to every committee meeting, and a brilliant job she does too at keeping an eye on the money coming in and going out!

The cost of running the club is rising and the Committee is very careful about every penny that is spent.

Our biggest annual expenditure is the cost of caring for the Green, which takes up a sizeable 'chunk' of the club's funds each year.

So, it is important that we keep an eye on and take every opportunity to bolster our funds and earn a bit of extra cash for the club.

Most of our income is from Memberships subs, but our social events make money for the Club too! So, please, please come along and support the club socials whenever you can.

Local Elections

Please note that the Clubhouse will be closed to Members on Thursday 3rd May 2012. Local elections are being held that day and the clubhouse is used as a polling station.

Murder Mystery Evening—Saturday 11 February 2012

If you hurry, there are a few tickets left, for this fun evening

When: Saturday 11th February 2012.

Time: Doors open at 6pm

Three course traditional Italian Meal included

Tickets £7



Green Sweeping—more volunteers needed

We have group of volunteers who sweep the dew from the green. This is an essential job as it improves the overall condition of the Green and prevents the build up of Fusarium or snow mould, which looks brown and horrible!

The work done by our volunteers so far seems to be paying off and I am told that we are keeping the Fusarium at bay. This is good news be-

cause it means that the club does not have to spend money buying expensive chemicals to treat the problem.

Currently, there are sufficient volunteers to ensure that the green is swept every other day, but the best bowling greens are swept every day So, if you can spare just twenty minutes once a fortnight to sweep the green then please give Alec a call.

This job does not have to be done if it's raining, frosty or windy!

Adrian & I sweep the Green on Friday mornings, so if you want to find out what's involved and how long it takes, then come along. Give us a call first!



Leaf Clearing

I would just like to say a big thank you to those members who picked up and cleared leaves from and around the Green during the Autumn. What a great job you've done!!!

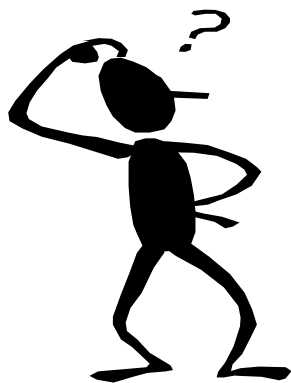
Plant a Laurel Scheme

In 2012, we will be replacing the diseased privet hedging that runs along Canterbury Road. We plan to replace it with Laurel which is resistant to Honey Fungus.

We are asking Members to help us do this by sponsoring and planting a Laurel or a group of Laurel plants through our 'Plant a Laurel' sponsorship scheme.

Members will be able to sponsor a Laurel either individually, together with other Members, in pairs or in larger buddy groups.

We will hold a special planting event during the season. More details of the scheme will follow in the next Newsletter.



Quiz Night — Date for your diary

Quiz Master Alec, assisted by Rona and Laura

Are hosting a quiz night at the Club House on the 17th March 2012.

Doors open 6.30 for 7pm start

Closing date for Team Entries is 10th March

Teams must be three or four people

Cost £3 per person (includes nibbles)

Contact Alec, Rona or Laura to enter or for more details

Next Newsletter—Will be out in the Spring at the start of the Season

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Best wishes and see you soon—Diane
