

Farnborough Bowling Club

Summer Newsletter 2013



President's Message

I extend a warm welcome for the current season to all new and existing members.

I have been pleased to see that all our friendly and league games are so far being well supported. Please keep this up through the season. It makes it easier for the selectors to field full and balanced teams if they have a wide choice of players. Also remember that if any individuals feel that they are not getting a fair share of games they are encouraged to take this up with the selectors.

It has been typical that after a few spells of reasonable weather when we opened, it became somewhat grimmer as soon as "real" games started – perverse. However in spite of rain and wind the green is playing better than it ever has done at this time of year. This is the result of a lot of effort by our greenkeeping contractor and those members helping with additional heavy and frequent work. Many thanks for this.

Aside from the actual business of bowling there is a lot of peripheral activity. I won't go into detail here but this includes developing the business plan, working towards obtaining funding for major work on the green and giving consideration to a "gift aid" scheme. I encourage all members to keep up with progress on these and other issues by looking at the committee minutes on the notice board. And the committee would welcome feedback.

Finally the usual and most important message – **enjoy yourselves.**

Monday Club

Monday Club started on the 15th April and has been well supported by established, new, social and non members.

The Monday Club "Chocolate Triples" was held on the 29th April and had a record number of people attending, the competition was very competitive with chocolate prizes being awarded. Well done to the winners, Brian, David and Geoff and to the runners-up, Jim, Geoff and Diane. A couple of people bowled a wrong bias (they will remain anonymous) but they enjoyed their chocolate. The afternoon was a great success and well done to Sheila for organising it, to all those who helped out and all those who took part.

Don't forget, it's every Monday at 2pm, have a bowl, meet friends, have a chat, a cup of tea and biscuits. Come and support your club. NEWSFLASH - The next fun competition is the "Chocolate Yardstick" and will be on the 3rd June

Friendlies

There have been six friendlies so far, of which FBC have won two. Thank you to all those who put their names forward and played.

The selectors (David J and Sheila) will give everyone an opportunity, if you put your name forward and are not selected, you will be selected for the next game you sign up for.

Keep an eye out for the friendly sheets in the clubhouse. The friendlies are great fun, you get to meet a lot of new people and bowl at some very picturesque venues.

Latest News

- Table Top Sale raises almost £400.
- Committee agrees for a Survey of the Green to be done to assess amount of maintenance work required.
- Electrical work at the clubhouse takes place on 6 June, power will be off a lot of the day
- National Mixed Top Club & Ladies Gazette Cup – commiserations everyone, there's always next year!
- Six more laurel plants to be purchased and planted by single gate to make a double row
- Reminder - Please do not forget to check the notice board for your Catering and Cleaning duty rota responsibilities.

Olde Tyme Musical

Was a great success with 50 people attending for a Fish & Chip Supper followed by gateaux and fantastically, delectable entertainment compered by our very own hostmaster – John Lakeman, AKA "The Laughing Policeman"



The A&E players (Anne, Edna, Vicky, Diane H, Adrian, David, Rona, Sue and Diane M) supported by the brilliant pianist Frankie.

It was an excellent show, with a good time being had by all, £214 was raised on behalf of the club. Well done A&E Players.

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Ladies Section

The ladies have won their first three games in the Blackwater Valley League, well done.

Don't forget roll ups Tuesday afternoons from 2pm until 4.30pm, a fun afternoon to catch up, have a cup of tea, a gossip and of course to practice all those winning shots.

Four more Ladies Friendlies have been organised for the forthcoming season –

- ★ June 4 Farnborough vs Crowthorne
- ★ June 18 Farnborough vs Hawley
- ★ July 2 Farnborough vs Aldershot Underwood
- ★ August 13 Farnborough vs Farnborough Gate

Ladies Day is back by popular demand and will be held on the 3rd August, it's a great opportunity to invite friends and acquaintances from other clubs for a great days bowling.

And finally we are hosting a game with West Sussex Ladies on the 13th of September.

Visit the website and put the dates in your diaries, all ladies are welcome whether you're a new member or an established member, come along, join in and have fun!



Men's Competitions

We have had a mixed start to the season. Great wins against Alton Social and Fleet United in the first two rounds of the National Top Club and successes for several bowlers in the County Champions, Dennis's triple team and Alec and Michael in the singles through to the 2nd round.

The A&D league has been less successful but it is early days yet and, by having two teams, it is giving bowlers a chance to experience league competitions.

Good luck to everyone still in club and external competitions.

Spring Walk

This years traditional Spring Walk took place on Sunday 7 April in and around the pretty village of Elstead and the Woolpack Inn.



It was well attended as usual and was a great day, the walking and food was good but above all, the company was fantastic say Diane & Adrian Hill who did a sterling job organising the day. A big thanks to Diane and Adrian for organising. More details at

<http://www.farnboroughbowls.co.uk/wpblog/?p=1048>

Coaching

Bowls4Free sessions were run again this year, we had seven people have a go and two have joined the club, so a big welcome to Jen and Chris.

David Jennings ran two Marking Workshops, with seven members attending, more planned for later in the year

By the time you read this Thursday Evening Club will have started and we will be organising skills sessions and a yardstick competition, watch the noticeboard for details.

Tabletop Sale

To coincide with the local Donkey Derby a Tabletop sale took place at the club on the May Bank Holiday Monday".

The event was well attended with books, clothes, crockery, jewellery and tea & cake on sale raising £393 for the club.

A big thank you to all those who organised the event and those who gave up their time on the day. Well done everyone.

P.S. Alec won £5 on getting a bowl on the bullseye of the target challenge.

The Last Word! Skip to Lead: Good Bowl ! You just need more green and more weight!