



THE RINK - March 2024

The President speaks

Spring has almost sprung, and we are all looking forward to the new Bowling Season which will start on Saturday 13th April this year. A notice for Opening Day will be going up soon – please watch out for it and get your name up early, as it is generally a very popular event. As well as bowling and a catered meal, we plan to have a raffle, an auction, and some entertainment, so it promises to be an exciting occasion.

As many of you who attended will know, we had a successful AGM in February – the new strategy of issuing the various reports in advance, and holding the AGM on a Saturday morning combined to make it a slightly more streamlined meeting. Many of the office bearers (including myself) are continuing in office for a second year, the logic being that one year is not really sufficient time to get to grips with the roles. An additional 3 members were voted on to the Management Committee, replacing 3 who were standing down from last year. Please give your support to the new members – Cathi Hitchmough, Jim Bishop & Colin McDonell, who I'm sure will add some expertise and creativity to the group.

Fee notices will be winging their way towards you soon – please help our Treasurer, Eileen Batten, by paying promptly via one of the various channels available. As discussed at the AGM, our Club is in relatively good shape, with decent reserves. However, the Annual Fees represent our primary source of income, so prompt payment makes Eileen's job a lot easier.

Another source of income for the club is sponsorship – having recently discussed this at committee, we will be looking at ways to give our sponsors a better return for their investment. We will be aiming to give our sponsors greater visibility, with more prominence on our website, and possibly including them on our e-mail signature. You can help by using the various sponsors where possible, thus encouraging them to continue with their support.

Our Gardening Squad is getting geared up for the new season, meeting up on Wednesday mornings to carry out the various maintenance jobs around the green. If you feel you can possibly add some knowledge to this group, or just an extra pair of hands, please come along and help – new volunteers are always welcome.

The various off-season groups are still running for a few more weeks yet – once again my thanks to all the volunteers who work so hard to ensure these groups run successfully. It's a great way to make good use of our premises during the winter, as well as encouraging our members to get out of the house. All of the groups make a useful contribution to the club finances.

Douglas J Main, President

News

The Clubhouse and Bar will be open for the Rugby on Super Saturday 16th March. The Ireland v Scotland game starts at 4.45 and the Clubhouse will be open from 4pm

There is still time to book a place for Sunday Lunch on 17th March. 1.30pm start. Please make sure you pay your £10 by 12th March.

And looking forward to the new season. We have our usual Cheese and Wine Evening on Wednesday 10th April. It's a 7pm start. Members are welcome to bring a guest. No sign up required. Please do come along. Its always a good night to get you in the mood for the new season.

As Douglas has already mentioned, we open on Saturday 13th April. The game will be followed by a hot buffet, subsidized by the Club. The cost to Members will be £10 per head for the meal. The sign up sheet will be up in the Clubhouse within the next day or so.

Upcoming Dates – March/April

- Tuesday 5th March (14:00) - Table Tennis Club (and weekly thereafter).
- Wednesday 6th March (14.00) – Book Club.
- Thursday 7th March (14.00) – Bridge Club (and weekly thereafter).
- Mondays 11th and 25th March (14.00) – Choir.
- Saturday 16th March (16.00)- Super Saturday – Clubhouse and Bar open for the Rugby.
- Sunday 17th March (13.30) – Sunday Lunch – sign up sheet in the Clubhouse.
- Wednesday 27th March (10.30) – Coffee Morning – all welcome.