



## **THE RINK - April 2025**

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### **The President speaks**

It is now less than a month until our Opening Day on 19th April which marks the commencement of the 2025 season - the off season has really gone by in a flash and whether you have taken some time out from bowling or tried your hand at the indoor version, I am sure everyone is looking forward to getting back on to the green whether at or after Opening Day. Preparations continue in a number of areas to get ready for the big day - a massive thanks to everyone involved.

A big thanks as always to the Social Committee and Bar Staff for their hard work before, during and after the "Baked Potato" social event. A lot of hard work goes into every event for which we are grateful. The coffee mornings have also been very well attended and again a big thanks to those who made those possible.

There is a huge amount of work that goes into running a Club like ours and we are grateful to everyone who lends their support. As I mentioned at the AGM, further offers of help would be appreciated to help spread the load in many areas. If you can offer some of your time, please reach out to myself or any member of the Committee where we can discuss where you could help.

I am pleased to report that our Club Tops order has now been placed. We had a fantastic total of 77 members ordering 93 tops and 41 mid layers which demonstrates excellent support for this venture. The polo tops will cost £16 each and the mid layers will cost £34 each. A separate communication will be issued so that your individual payments can be made. I am excited to see our new tops on display out on the green, hopefully for the start of the competitive games beginning in May.

Enjoy the time between now and the opening of the 2025 bowling season - and fingers crossed our Opening Day and the months thereafter will be blessed with great weather.

Gary Wood, President.

### **News**

The out of season activities are now winding up in preparation for the new bowls season.

The Bridge Club has its last meeting on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April with the Table Tennis Club finishing on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April.

Please also note there will be no Saturday Coffee Morning in April due to holiday commitments.

And on to the New Season:

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our usual Cheese and Wine Evening on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April. It starts at 7pm. Members are welcome to bring a guest. No sign up required.

As Gary has mentioned the Club Opening Day is on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April. The sign-up sheet is already full, and we are now working on a reserve list. If there is anyone down to play who would be happy/prefer to play a half game, please let Anne Stevenson or Conor Cadden know.

We have Outside Caterers for Opening Day and require to give them finalised numbers early in the preceding week. So, if you are dining, can you please ensure your £12 payment is made no later than Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April. If your name is down to eat and you can no longer make it, please advise before that date. The meal will be served around 5.30pm. There will be a raffle and as always, the Club will appreciate the donation of raffle prizes.

Ladies' Opening day is on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April. The game will be followed by afternoon tea. If you wish to play, please be at the Club to sign up no later than 1.30pm.

The first of our Saturday Coaching will be on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 10am.

We have Open Days on Sundays 27<sup>th</sup> April and 4<sup>th</sup> May (2pm – 4pm) and an Open Evening on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May – 6pm start. Please come along if you can and encourage anyone you know who may be interested in joining to come along and "Give Bowls a Try".

Thank you to all who have already paid their annual subscription. Members are reminded that fees are due on or before Opening Day, so please, if you have not already paid, please do so in good time for the start of the season. If you do not intend to renew, can you please let either our Secretary or Treasurer know so we can avoid unnecessary reminders?

## **Sponsorship Update**

In this month's Rink, we're introducing a new Club Sponsor - **Farmer Autocare**.

We're thrilled to bits that they have chosen to support Blackhall Bowling Club, and we hope that you are too.

Both Farmers premises will be only too delighted to assist you with all your servicing, brakes and suspension requirements, but Dominic, Sandy or Ryan will be on the desk at the "top of the hill" to help you with your MOTs, whilst John and Dean are on hand in "the dip" to assist you with tyres."

The Company advertisement at the end of this Newsletter includes the full addresses and contact details of both local Centres.

## **Upcoming Dates –April**

- Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April (14:00) - Table Tennis Club (and weekly thereafter until 15<sup>th</sup> April).
- Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April (14.00) – Bridge Club (and weekly thereafter until 10<sup>th</sup> April).
- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April (19.00) – Club Games Night.
- Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April (19.00) -Cheese and Wine.
- Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April (14.00) – Club Opening Day.
- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April (17.45) – Hat Night (and weekly thereafter – check website for start times).
- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April (14.00)- sign in by 13.30 if you wish to play; (and weekly Wednesday Hat game thereafter- normal sign in time 13.45)
- Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April (10.00) – Coaching.
- Sundays 27<sup>th</sup> April and 4<sup>th</sup> May (14.00) – Club Open Days.

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