



THE RINK - March 2025

The President speaks

It is a pleasure to provide my first contribution to our newsletter as Club President. It is an honour to hold that role for a Club with such a rich history as can be evidenced on the walls of our Clubhouse, the stories our members past and present share and in "No End" which charts our journey since 1898 (copies remain available for anyone who has yet to purchase one!).

I would like to thank our outgoing President, Douglas Main, for his tireless work on behalf of our Club as well as the past and present Committee. In addition, we have many other members who contribute to the successful operation of our Club. Thanks to everyone involved, we could not do it without you.

Despite having lived a ten minute walk from the Club since 1993, it was only in 2017 that the Club was on my radar. Having attended an Open Day and finding the Club to be very friendly and welcoming (something I am glad to say we are still very much known for) I took the plunge and have been addicted ever since. The game itself is great to play with much more to it than meets the eye. What I didn't expect as much from being a member is the sense of community and the relationships formed since joining.

Looking ahead, our 2025 playing season will be with us before we know it and preparations are already underway. There is a mountain of work at this time of year that goes into making sure we are ready - fees renewals (I am sure everyone plans on renewing!), competition forms and draws, readiness for Opening Day, green preparation and the Rink Book to name but a few. As well as planning for our social events, friendlies, knockout competitions, leagues and much more. Again, thanks to everyone who is involved.

We have also announced the introduction of a new Club Top and details of how to place orders. This is exciting news and I look forward to seeing our members playing at home and away in our new Club colours. I am also pleased to announce that our new scoreboards have arrived and will be in operation for the new season! We have also been kindly donated new jacks which we will (initially) use on certain occasions.

I think this all puts us in a great place for the commencement of our playing season and I look forward to meeting up with our members at our socials and on the green.

Gary Wood, President.

News

The Clubhouse and Bar will be open for the Rugby on 8th March and 15th March. On 8th March it is planned to screen the Ireland v France game starting at 14.15 and the Scotland v Wales game

starting at 16.45. On 15th March, we will be screening the Wales v England game starting at 16.45 and the France v Scotland game starting at 20.00.

On Sunday 23rd March we are holding a Baked Potato Lunch. Baked potatoes with assorted fillings followed by ice cream and tea/coffee. £10 per person. The bar will be open. Sign up via the sheet in the Clubhouse or by email to the Club email address. Please sign up and pay no later than Wednesday 19th March.

And looking forward a bit further to the new season. We have our usual Cheese and Wine Evening on Wednesday 16th April. It's a 7pm start. Members are welcome to bring a guest. No sign up required. Please do come along. It's always a good night to get you in the mood for the new season.

We open on Saturday 19th April. More details of the arrangements for Opening Day to follow shortly!

And finally – just a reminder of the Order Sessions for the new Club Tops, which were unveiled at the March Club Coffee Morning.

Monday 3rd March – at 10.30 and again at 14.00

Wednesday 5th March – at 10.30

Saturday 8th March – at 10.30

Upcoming Dates –March

- Tuesday 4th March (14:00) - Table Tennis Club (and weekly thereafter).
- Thursday 6th March (14.00) – Bridge Club (and weekly thereafter).
- Friday 7th and 21st March (19.00) – Club Games Night.
- Saturday 8th March (14.00)– Clubhouse and Bar open for the Rugby.
- Saturday 15th March (16.30)– Clubhouse and Bar open for the Rugby.
- Sunday 23rd March (13.00) – Baked Potato Lunch – see News.
- Wednesday 26th March (10.30) – Coffee Morning – all welcome.