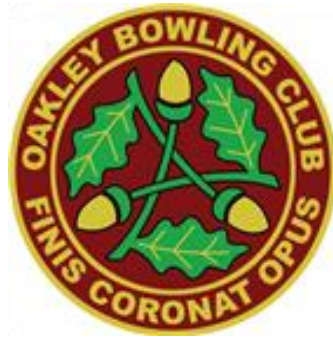


# OAKLEY BOWLERS



## CHRONICLE



**JULY 2019      ISSUE 2**

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## PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS - LESLEY ALLARD



Summer Greetings from Oakley!

It is hard to believe that County finals are being played and Leamington National Finals are almost upon us.

Congratulations to Ric Newson who has qualified for the National Championships and to our young ladies who carry the flag so well for Oakley BC at County and National level. Our Senior Ladies team only just missed out on a place at Leamington and the Men's National Two Rink players put up a great fight only to lose to a very experienced Boscombe team last Sunday.

Well done everyone. Oakley has been well and truly put on the map this season.

A big welcome to all our new members, young and not so young. We all hope that they will enjoy playing on our super green and come to our social events.

Last Saturday was our Annual Barbecue and Fete! The sun shone, the entertainment was great and the food was excellent. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make it such a happy afternoon and thank you to Jamie Colman who gave permission for us to walk around his beautiful garden.





## TOUR TO NORFOLK

The arrangements for the tour to Norfolk are well in hand and thanks to Coral Wearn and to Margaret and Barry Lee for all their help with the tour booklet and sorting teams. Just a reminder: All payments for the tour should by now have been made. So that I do not have to send out personal reminders, if you still owe money could you please let Sean have it a.s.a.p. Thank you.

## ALMONER'S REPORT

We have sadly lost two members in the last three weeks: Duncan Wilkins lost his brave fight against cancer, despite several rounds of chemotherapy, some of which enabled him to play with the equipment strapped to his chest. Duncan's funeral is at the Crematorium on Thursday 25th July at 3.30 pm.

Vice-President Martin Smith's father Fred sadly passed away this last week. Many will remember fondly how Fred and his brother Bob, both over 90, manned the annual barbecue with Martin up to two years ago. Rest in Peace Fred.

Our thoughts and sincere sympathy go out to Duncan's and to Fred's families.

It was good to see Bob and Mollie Ebdon at the Club recently and hope their health continues to improve.

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to Darren Hyde and his bride Emily, who were married on 20 July.

Best wishes from us all for a long and happy life together!

# Captain's Log

from Barry Lee, Men's Captain



Our first Friendly this year was against Hawley B C away. Vice-Captain Jim Fitzgerald kindly helped look after the game for President Lesley with 5 Triples, a nice afternoon was recorded and we had 2 winning Rinks but losing overall just by 8 shots.

Game 2 at home against Basingstoke Town and with only 5 triples not 6 as in the fixture card. We also had 2 winning rinks with the highest being Val Ryan, Jamie Fewtrell, and Mike Baxter but, overall we lost by 41 shots.

Game 3 was an unusual afternoon, we were driving to Reading Bowls Club with a full car on the road, we spotted Jim & Pat waving to us on the roadside, so we waved back only to find out later he had broken down and was waiting for the AA man to attend. We never saw Pat or Jim any more that day. So with only 5 Triples and not 5 rinks. We carried on. Well done again to Val Ryan, John Ryan and Mary Turnbull, winning by 3 shots and also Keith Turnbull, Shirley Goodwin, and Diane Yarrall also winning by 3 shots and both had 9 winning ends. We still lost overall by 33 shots.

Game 4 should have been a 6 Rink game we only had 18 players to go to Great Hollands, they kindly lent us 3 players and we made up 3 Rinks and 3 Triples. We lost as normal 80-110 (30 shots). We did have a great winning Rink 22-8 !! well done Keith Turnbull, Diane Yarrall, Pat Fitzgerald, his second win.

Moving on to the 5<sup>th</sup> Game WOW !! 8<sup>th</sup> June Oakley v Loddon Vale. We had 5 Rinks (should have been 6) Oakley had their 1<sup>st</sup> win in the Friendly Games, 115 to 73 a +42 shots !! and who had the highest winning rink ? it was Keith Turnbull, with Barry Lee, Anji Smith, and President Lesley. A good day had by all. As you may have noticed, we have only honoured ONE game as per the Fixture Card.

Next was our 6<sup>th</sup> Game against Waterlooville (Havant). We only had 6 names on the list so I had to cancel. Waterlooville has an artificial green, and Oakley members missed an opportunity to try out on this type of surface especially as Oakley are hoping to have an artificial green at Malshanger.

Still moving on to the 7<sup>th</sup> Game against Farnborough should have been 5 Mixed Rinks, all we could get was 5 Mixed Triples. We had a very nice day and well done to Laura Butler, Vera Rhodes and Anji Smith for the winning rink. We lost overall by 32 shots.

Our 8<sup>th</sup> Game was against Leigh Park (Havant), 5 Mixed Triples. It was a very hot day at Leigh Park. But have a guess who had the highest winning rink ? Yes it was Keith Turnbull again, for the 4<sup>th</sup> time, well done Keith, Paula, and Ian.

Game 9 The 3 Mile Cross BC should have been a 6 Rink game, alas we could only get enough for 4 Rinks. The score that day was 45 to 97 shots – 52. Coral, Jo, Arthur, and Joan had the best rink of the day only losing by 2 shots.

Game 10 again was booked for 6 Mixed Rinks, against Tilehurst. We could only get 4 Mixed Triples and 1 Pairs. The best rink was Barry Lee, Keith Turnbull, and Hazel Solomon playing in her First Friendly (thanks Hazel). We only lost on our rink by 2 shots 13-15, but overall it was 52 to 102.

Game 11 against Lymington again was booked for 6 Rinks, we managed to get 5 Rinks but lost overall by 14 shots. Well done David Gunton, Paul Cresswell, Joan Ball, and Pat Fitzgerald. They won 25-14 ( +11).

I am writing this report on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> when we should be on our way to play Woolston & District at Southampton Game 12 with 6 Mixed Rinks. But with only 8 names on my list YES it had to be Cancelled!

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July. Now at last some good news. This morning with a few more phone calls we have got a full team of 24 players to play Game 13. Crofton BC from Stubbington.

Our Fixture Secretary Bob and myself are very unsure “What is not happening this year”.

As you have all been reading we are experiencing a very poor response to the Friendly matches. I have been told many times “this is the back bone of the Club”

I have put up on the notice board all the next 5 Friendly games for August before we go on Tour to Norfolk. PLEASE HELP THE CLUB, and put your names on the sheets for the August games.

# Spencer's Snippets

from Spencer Kerley, General Secretary



Membership of the club now comprises 120 full and 23 social members. Since the beginning of the season, we have welcomed or welcomed back into membership Matthew Austin, Peter and Shirley Ball, Archie Blair, Paul Buck, Gillian Day, Melvin D'Souza, Aiden D'Souza, Geoff Gosling, Paul Hastie, Ellie McCrae, Brian Nethercliffe, David Oakes, Marilyn Stanhope and Simon and Elaine Turner. Some have played previously, others are beginners, but we hope they will all enjoy their time with the club.

I will leave it to others to report the detail of the Club's many successes in this year's County Competitions, but this has been our best-ever season, with, to date, Oakley players having won through to the National Finals at Leamington in 7 events/disciplines. Members often do not appreciate what reaching the National Finals means. Only about 1% of the Country's bowlers ever achieve this feat so all our successful competitors should be very proud of themselves, as should those who reached County Last Eights but did not quite make the Nationals. It was disappointing that so few members turned out to support our players at Last Eights – the club used to be renowned for its support of its players – but hopefully some members can be encouraged to make the effort to go up to Leamington to experience what is a wonderful atmosphere and to see what top level bowls is all about. It takes only about 90 minutes to drive to Leamington, entry to the greens is free and the beer is good! We expect to have players competing on

- 4th August - Women's Junior Singles – Nicole and Heather
- 6<sup>th</sup> August - Women's Fours – Nicole, Lorna, Heather and Alice
- 7<sup>th</sup> August – Women's Junior Pairs – Nicole and Heather
- 12<sup>th</sup> August – Women's Triples – Nicole, Heather and Alice
- 13<sup>th</sup> August – Women's Two Wood Singles – Nicole
- 17<sup>th</sup> August – Men's Junior Singles – Ashley
- 29<sup>th</sup> August – Men's Singles = Ric
- 1st September – White Rose Trophy – Ashley

and depending on their success and on the results of some county competitions still to be completed we may have competitors playing on other dates too. Why not get up a carload and go for the experience. Your players will, I am sure, appreciate support.

In the last Chronicle I reported on the work that was being undertaken in conjunction with the proposal to build a synthetic green at Malshanger. I can now confirm that, following much hard work by members of the Strategy Group the formal bid for Infrastructure Funding has been submitted to the Council. A decision on whether the project will receive Council funding will be notified to us in September and if the decision is favourable, then I would expect the Committee to call an early Special General Meeting to seek members' endorsement or otherwise of its proposals.

In the last Chronicle I also reported in some detail on our Fund Raising initiatives. I will not repeat all that, but please remember we are now enrolled in the Easy Fundraising scheme which makes donations to club funds when members make purchases on-line. So far, this scheme has raised £267 but disappointingly only



26 members have so far signed up. We appreciate that some members are signed up to other similar schemes and that sometimes better deals can be obtained by not going through the retailers in the scheme but please if the opportunity arises and you will get value for money, then use the scheme. Every penny helps!

As some of you know, I have made the stock purchases and with Kay's help run the Bar accounts for nearly 15 years and during that time some £40k in gross profits has been raised for club funds. This is a time-consuming task, involves regular trips to the brewery and trips to Sainsburys, Morrisons and other outlets to ensure we get the best deals. The drinks you purchase do not just arrive in the club! We also rely heavily on those people who serve behind the bar and ensure that, when the evening is over, the empty cans/bottles and other rubbish is removed from the Club and deposited in green bins or re-cycled in other ways. We also have each evening to ensure that when we leave the Malshanger Club it is left in a tidy state and hoovered as necessary. Thankfully, because of all our volunteer help, all these tasks are generally completed well. This help has meant that it has been possible for many years to avoid increasing bar prices. However, costs are rising, and it is becoming increasingly clear that our bar prices are now substantially below those of other local clubs. Members should, therefore, be aware that, if in 2020 I decide to continue to be responsible for the bar, I shall be looking for an increase in prices.

Finally, may I pay tribute to all those members who, throughout the season, have done such a good job in maintaining our bowling green. A huge amount of effort is needed to keep a green in good condition. We are enormously fortunate to have so many members willing to give up their time to ensure we continue to have one of the best surfaces in Hampshire.

# Ladies Secretary Salutations

from Janie Vickers



This report is mainly to congratulate all our lady bowlers for their successes in the various competitions this season.

We have continued to be represented in the BH and NH friendly games this year with some new faces putting themselves forward for the NH friendlies.

Congratulations to Sue Dixon and Angie Rowe who will shortly be receiving their county badges. Well done girls!!

Hoping you all continue to enjoy the rest of the season and look forward to seeing you on the bowls tour at the end of August.

# Match Secretary

From Bob Goodyear

Hello everyone

Earlier this year I took over the post of Match Secretary. This role includes putting together the fixture card which we all receive at the start of the season. It also involves arranging and signing up to all the Friendlies included in the fixture card. Barry Lee, your Club Captain, then has the task of arranging teams for these Friendlies and Sandra Lee and her team provide the catering for home Friendlies. So you will agree a large amount of work takes place to make these things happen.

However, as you are all aware, Barry has once again been struggling to fulfil the Friendlies we have committed to because not enough people have been signing up to play.

So, before I start the 2020 fixture planning your Committee has agreed that I should ask you all to complete a short, anonymous, questionnaire to help us understand what the problems are.

## **It is important that members respond.**

As your Club President Lesley said “Apathy is our greatest enemy”.

You can either print the following page and leave the completed questionnaire in the box provided in the club house or use one of the paper questionnaires that will be available in the Club house from Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July. I will collect the completed questionnaires on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August.

I look forward to being overwhelmed with paper!!

# The Questionnaire:

Please tick as many boxes that apply and feel free to give comments and suggestions:

1. Do you play in Friendlies Yes  go to Q2

No  go to Q3

2. I play in friendlies because:

a) I enjoy an organised game at the weekend

b) I enjoy meeting new people

c) I enjoy visiting different clubs

d) I enjoy the opportunity to improve my bowls

e) I enjoy socialising and the after game meal

3. I don't play in Friendlies because:

a) I already bowl a lot in the week

b) I don't want to play at the weekend

c) I find Friendlies too time consuming

d) I find Friendlies too expensive

e) I don't want to eat after the game

4. Please feel free to give any more comments or suggestions

# From the Green

From Ian Rickman

Ho Hum, as you can guess it's Monday morning and the start of another week at the green here I am looking out of the clubhouse windows after doing my green walk at the start of another glorious Summer's day and now watching some of the green team going about there duties of switching and then drag brushing prior to mowing and Sarel rolling of green as this is happening fresh flower pots are being placed along the entrance walkway then followed by one of the other jobs of moving the rink markers and emptying the rubbish bins and allocating the rinks before the days play. Soon it will be time to make coffee for the team of the day before the final operation of giving the green it's once monthly liquid feed.

Despite all this activity going on it's great to hear and see some of the wildlife around us ranging from the tap tapping of the woodpecker up in one of the trees or the guinea fowl scuttling by the fence and the peacocks making their usual noise or even just watching the graceful gliding of the red kites soaring high above in the sky maybe it could be seeing a young weasel scuttle past the kitchen window when drying the coffee cups up after washing them up.

If you would like to sample some of these pleasures why not come and join the green team male or female please do not hesitate to contact me or come and see us on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday between 7am and 12pm you never know you might even be offered tea or coffee if you come around about 10am? So please come and help if you can.

Look forward to seeing you soon.

## **Catering**

From Sandra Lee

I and my Team have had a busy few months with Friendlies and Hosted Games and I thank everyone who has given us support with sandwiches and cake. Thank you also to those members who gave their time at the Hosted Games with preparing and serving food, waiting on tables and also clearing up afterwards. Without all this support it would not be possible for us to maintain the high standards that we have built up over the years.

If any member would like to become more involved with catering please do get in touch. You can come along to a Friendly and see what is involved, even if you are only able to help once or twice throughout the year. An extra pair of hands is always welcome.

Do come and see me if you have any special requests for food, or complaints and I will be happy to discuss this with you.

# **In Memory of Mum Skydive to raise money for St. Michael's Hospice**

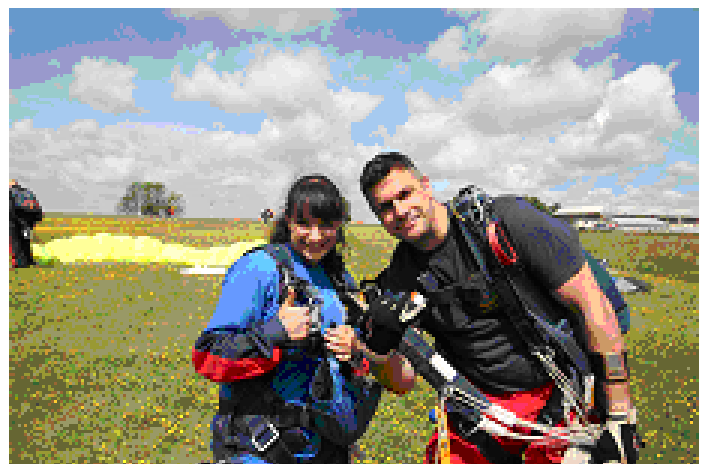
from Lisa Rickman

On Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2019, one week later than planned due to adverse weather conditions, I successful jumped out of plane and skydived from 13,000ft, all in aid of raising a grand total of £935.00 for St Michael's Hospice.

What an experience of a lifetime, reaching speeds of up to 110mph in free-fall before calmly and peacefully gliding back to earth, once the parachute opened. It was an honour and a privilege to be able to dedicate such a memorable moment to my late mum and raise money for such a worthy cause. I was delighted to have the chance to capture this moment on film and I am pleased to share with you a few snapshots of my dive.

I would also like to take this opportunity, to once again thank all the members of Oakley Bowls Club who so kindly donated to my cause and helped to raise a fantastic amount of money!

With Heartfelt Thanks



## What do you do at weekends?

From Anji Smith

For most people it's a time for rest, relaxation and family. At this time of year for us it's load the caravan and take the road to the next steam event. This weekend was the Fairground & Organ Weekend at Hollycombe Steam in the Country Museum down in Liphook, a place not many folk in this neck of the woods have heard of, but as regular volunteers for their major events we go down during the week prior to organise the booking in and camping up of the exhibitors. There's everything from tiny 1" scale hand-built models to the massive presence of full size steam engines as well as the on-site steam fairground and trains.

After 2 days of working hard outdoors in sunshine on Thursday and heavy rain and thunderstorms on Friday the show days arrived in a blaze of sun and heat. Parked next to us was a very impressive looking Aveling and Porter steam roller owned by the Avery family that we hadn't seen before. As you all know I'm a very shy person so it took a lot of effort to chat to Graham about it while he was busy with the polishing rags. This resulted in an offer to have a go a steering it.

Never one to turn down an opportunity (or a challenge as I don't do heights, not even a chair!) I rapidly changed into sensible shoes and old dark clothes. Luckily Graham's Dad was on hand to help me get my feet onto the right foot plates. Next shout from Graham up in the cab was 'Dad, can you help her get her leg over!' Yep, with one leg firmly in place outside I had to get the other up & over the coal box. Then it was time for a quick rundown of hand signals for left, right & stop before setting off. Every muscle in my body was tensed to try and keep me upright and, desperately hoping my right foot on the tiny footplate outside wouldn't slip and send me elegantly 10 feet to the ground, it was necessary to actually steer the mammoth.

You have to turn the wheel really fast to make an impression but it then takes up to 12 seconds for the roller to respond. By the time we'd gone about 50 yards down the hill to turn around I was sweating buckets and we still had to turn round, go up to the top of the road and turn around again before returning back down to the caravan. Sounds easy but with cars parked along one side of the road and visitors wandering down the middle it was definitely a challenge. Arriving safely back at our starting point Graham's Dad was again on hand to peel me out and down.

With every muscle feeling torn ragged, legs that wobbled like jelly and a face as black as soot (literally) I can honestly say it was one of the most exhilarating things I've ever done. Volunteering has its perks, now to look for the next challenge.





## Numbers Quiz – Questions

From Ric Newson

1. How many pieces are on the board at the start of a game of chess?
2. How many Horsemen of the Apocalypse feature in the Bible's Book of Revelation?
3. How many players are (on the field) in a men's lacrosse team (one team not both teams?)
4. In the conventional western musical scale there are how many notes including sharps and flats, excluding those which repeat in a different octave?
5. What number has the square root (to the nearest four decimal places) of 1.4142?
6. How many people have walked on the moon: 6; 9; 12; or 14?
7. In the Imperial Measurement system how many pounds are in a stone?
8. What number Pennsylvania Avenue is the White House?
9. New York City comprises how many boroughs?
10. The Earth's Equator is approximately how many millions of metres in length?
11. How many British King George's have there been?
12. What is the atomic number of oxygen?
13. What is known as the 'Golden Number', the 'Divine Proportion' and other terms referring to its significance in nature and aesthetic balance?
14. A salmanazar (typically a big bottle of champagne) equates to how many normal bottles?
15. It is now generally accepted that the human tongue can detect how many basic tastes?
16. According to the singer Katie Melua, how many million bicycles are there in Beijing?
17. Twain is an old English word for which number?
18. How many pennies were in a British pre-decimal pound?
19. How many legs (including arms or pincers according to certain definitions) does a crab have?
20. How many feet are in a furlong?
21. How many rooms are on the Cluedo game board?
22. How many fences (not the number of times they are jumped) are on the Aintree Grand National race course?
23. The core rules of the Muslim faith are known as the "... (how many) Pillars of Islam?
24. In which year were Concorde planes retired from service?
25. What is the only number known to be both the sum and product of its factors (loose meanings are: factor = divisible part; sum = added together; product = multiplied together)?

# Tuffs Teasers

From Frank Tuffs

## Advertising Slogans

In which year were they first heard/seen?

|   |        |        |        |
|---|--------|--------|--------|
| 1. Access – Your flexible friend            | 1961   | 1971   | 1981   |
| 2. And all because the Lady loves Milk Tray | 1958   | 1968   | 1978   |
| 3. But I know a Man who can                 | 1970's | 1980's | 1990's |
| 4. Can you tell Stork from Butter           | 1936   | 1946   | 1956   |
| 5. A Diamond is forever                     | 1940   | 1950   | 1960   |
| 6. Don't be vague ask for Haig              | 1936   | 1946   | 1956   |
| 7. Drinka pinta milka day                   | 1958   | 1968   | 1978   |
| 8. Go to work on an egg                     | 1957   | 1967   | 1977   |
| 9. Guinness is good for you                 | 1919   | 1929   | 1939   |
| 10. Have a break have a KitKat              | 1945   | 1955   | 1965   |
| 11. I'm only here for the Beer              | 1951   | 1961   | 1971   |
| 12. It could be You                         | 1984   | 1994   | 2004   |
| 13. It's finger lickin good                 | 1958   | 1968   | 1078   |
| 14. It's good to talk                       | 1974   | 1984   | 1994   |
| 15. Kills all known germs                   | 1959   | 1969   | 1979   |
| 16. Let the train take the strain           | 1960   | 1970   | 1980   |
| 17. My goodness my Guinness                 | 1935   | 1945   | 1955   |
| 18. Put a Tiger in your tank                | 1954   | 1964   | 1974   |
| 19. Sch.... You know who                    | 1960   | 1970   | 1980   |
| 20. We are the Ovaltineys                   | 1925   | 1935   | 1945   |

## Editor's Corner (Sandra Lee):

### FUNNY QUOTES:

“Education is what remains after one has forgotten everything he learned in School”

“Since there is only one of me does that make me a limited edition”

“What is the best thing to do when you have a hole in your boat and water is leaking inside?  
Make another hole to drain the water”

### Numbers Quiz – Answers

- 1/. 32
- 2/. 4
- 3/. 10
- 4/. 12
- 5/. 2
- 6/. 12
- 7/. 14
- 8/. 1600
- 9/. 5
- 10/. 40
- 11/. 6
- 12/. 8
- 13/. 1.618
- 14/. 12
- 15/. 5
- 16/. 9
- 17/. 2
- 18/. 240
- 19/. 10
- 20/. 660
- 21/. 9
- 22/. 16
- 23/. 5
- 24/. 2003
- 25/. 6

## Tuffs Teasers - Possible Answers

|     |        |                        |     |      |                        |
|-----|--------|------------------------|-----|------|------------------------|
| 1.  | 1981   | Access Card            | 11. | 1971 | Double Diamond Beer    |
| 2.  | 1968   | Cadbury Chocolate      | 12. | 1994 | National Lottery       |
| 3.  | 1980's | Automobile Association | 13. | 1958 | Kentucky Fried Chicken |
| 4.  | 1956   | Stork Margarine        | 14. | 1994 | British Telecom        |
| 5.  | 1940   | De Beers Mines         | 15. | 1959 | Domestos               |
| 6.  | 1936   | Haig Whisky            | 16. | 1970 | British Rail           |
| 7.  | 1958   | National Dairy Council | 17. | 1935 | Guinness Stout         |
| 8.  | 1957   | Egg Marketing Board    | 18. | 1964 | Esso Petrol            |
| 9.  | 1929   | Guinness Brewery       | 19. | 1960 | Schwepes Mineral Water |
| 10. | 1955   | Rowntrees Chocolate    | 20. | 1935 | Ovaltine Drink         |