

Vardre Bowling Club

VBC News



Issue No 51

The New Seasons on its Way Because it's all Happening

First of all put Saturday 18th March at 1pm in your diary. If you haven't paid your club fees yet please get your £60 to us as soon as possible.



Please come along to the opening when Mary, our President, will bowl the first bowl to officially open the green. Although it is after lunch, if any of you want to bring along any snacks, cakes, or goodies you will be more than welcome.

Quite a lot of talking and planning has been going on in the last few weeks and I am quietly getting excited about the developments that we hope to implement and how we hope that you, as a member, will help us achieve them. The first meeting of the **Development Group** took place last week and looked at all the suggestions that were raised in the Club Survey that we organised late last season. Obviously all recommendations or plans must go through the Committee but the survey results were broken down into headings and I will try to give you a flavour of what's in the pipeline.

Hours of Opening and Maintenance

These won't change, however, they can be more flexible but members must appreciate the short closures and small disruptions that can occur because of maintenance issues and of course, league games. The main message here is keep an eye on the 7 Day Planner in the Clubhouse. Maintenance and Watering the green is a important issue and the time it takes can be reduced if more members get involved so we are looking at introducing a weekly 'Working Party'. We know that there are members who want to help but never quite know when to turn up. We hope to introduce a Work Day and will allocate a couple of hours or so each week for members to come along and help in the various jobs that are done each week that not everyone sees.



Clubhouse cleaning and tidying, grass cutting and general work around the green. We want to brighten up our furniture and this could be a job that can be done over a period of weeks. Training will also be given on our mowers and watering device to anyone interested. Please get involved.

External Facilities

More shade or shelter is needed so for this season we will be erecting a gazebo to help but we will also consider the purchase of parasols. In the longer term we will look at the construction of addition shelters but they will need planning permission.



An important issue that will be address soon is recycling. Swing bin containers, which we already have, will be used to separate cans, plastic, glass, paper and food waste. Your help is so important in making the scheme work. **Has anyone got a food caddy that they**

don't need? (The smaller one). We throw lots of tea bags away and that should stop. This would also be put in the clubhouse to be utilised properly. Let me know. Thanks.

Storage and Internal Facilities

We need to rationalise our space and get rid of what we don't want and try to improve the condition of what we have. Eventually we need chairs that stack and most of our current tables need to be changed but these are ideas to work towards and they can only be achieved if you are on board.

The **Social Group** also met last week, and will meet monthly. It's really encouraging to see that they all want to make things happen. Friendly matches and club competitions will be just part of what this group wants to improve. With the help of Ian, the plan is to try and ensure that something happens every Thursday afternoon. A



friendly game with another club or an internal competition and some new ideas have already been discussed. These will go ahead as well as the opportunity of social trips out. This is where you come in again. Is there anywhere that you think we should go? Trips that people will enjoy, partners included (not mandatory). We cannot expect the club to fund them but going out for lunch, coffee mornings or even a few days in Spain, which would have happened for some of us a few years ago had 'Monarch Airline' not gone out of business the week were were going. Happy Days!

Anything is possible if you want it to happen. Gay is the Committee representative so have a chat with her, or Hazel or Shan, or Sylvia, or Rosina, or Bunty or me. No excuse now for not knowing who to go to.

Another development is the formation of a **Captains Group**. This will meet to discuss issues around the game. Team selection and policy, advice on away travel arrangements and handicaps. Anything to do with bowling. If you have an issue take it to your Captain.



We plan to introduce a 'Welcome Pack'. This will be given to those who have just joined the club. Things like the Constitution and the various policies that the club has along with information relating to bowling in general and what we as a club are all about. If you have not been with us long, what would have helped you? Let me know so that it can be included.

The new Committee met, as it does on the last Friday of each month, and it's first job, as sad as it was, was to elect a new Chairperson. Proposed by Shan and Seconded by Mary and by unanimous agreement, Marina, pictured, became our new Chairperson. A great choice and we all look forward to working with her. She was clear that she would not have wanted to come into the position in the way that she had, because of the death of Dave RJ, but now she was she wanted us to work together and remember that we were a friendly Bowling Club and not a large company.



One of the later items on the agenda was that we had been asked by the North Wales Coast League (Saturday afternoon games) to nominate someone who had served on the 'B' team to be elected as Vice President of that league. This is a prestigious position meaning that this person elected would become President of the North Wales Coast League in 2025. Yes, you've guessed it. Marina was elected to that position also. She got up that morning thinking she was just going to a bowls Committee meeting. No chance! Well done Marina and we all wish you the very best of luck and hope you enjoy both your new roles.

Want to be on the Committee?

We are still three members short on this Committee, one will be the Captain of the new Thursday team and we still need two Club representative's. I think this is a great time to be on the Committee. You could make a difference!

Bowls Tuition

If you feel you need a little more help to improve your game we run a U3A and Beginners group every Monday morning starting in April. Let me know if you want to come along. Some of our more experienced members are attending a Club Coaching Course soon and they will be happy to help you improve your game.



Club Kit

Some members are not completely happy with the quality of the shirts and although we were going to review this at our Committee meeting in January it has been held over until February when we hopefully will have a larger team. We have a sample of a better Polo Shirt that should be 'cooler' This along with other related issues should then be finalised. Cool!



Don't forget to keep an eye on the clubs website on vardrebowlingclub.com to keep up to date with other news and useful information on all sorts of things. Diane has a great sense of humour that will make you smile as well as keep you up to date.



Slowly but surely we are increasing our membership and donations in the 'Easyfunding' scheme. I think we have raised around £40 with 10 members. Imagine how much more

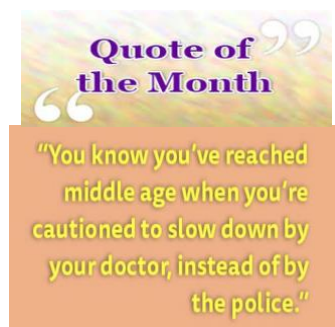
we could raise if we recruited more of you. Anyone who, by now, doesn't know what this on-line shopping fundraising scheme is about, get in touch and I will give you the details.

Yes, we will be reducing the height of those laylandii hedges shortly. We have applied to Conwy Town Council for a grant to help us and we should get an answer next week. We have selected a local tree company who impressed both Ian and Tommy with their professionalism and advice. Consequently the work should begin very soon and completed before our new season starts. Who would have believed that our club would have been in control of a Hedge Fund!

MKM, our club sponsors, are supplying all the wood, free of charge, so that we can replace the border fence in front of the Wild Flower Garden. A big thanks to them, again.

Ian has made some alterations to the notice board layout to help improve it. Check it out when you can get back in the clubhouse.

This Newsletter has been sent to all who were members last year to hopefully encourage those who have not yet paid their fees to hear our plans for the future and join. 🙌😊



'What Happened this Week' in

1901 Queen Victoria's funeral takes place in St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, England (2nd)

1653 New Amsterdam becomes a city (later renamed New York (2nd)

1959 "The Day the Music Died" plane crash kills musicians Buddy Holly, Richie Valens, J. P. Richardson (aka The Big Bopper), and the pilot. near Clear Lake, Iowa (3rd)