



BRIDGEWATER BOWLING CLUB NEWSLETTER 2019



Dear Member

Welcome to the 'BBC News'. Now that it's the close season the committee thought it would be useful to update you on our achievements and what's planned for next year.

We started the season by opening the new pavilion and switching on the new floodlights. This rejuvenated the club and the facilities have been admired by every team that has visited. We have had a good season and you can read about the successes below. There will however be some changes next year, as two of our long serving committee members have resigned from their roles. Our current president Ray Foster is standing down as bar/clubhouse manager after 32 years, and our treasurer Fred Stokes is standing down after 17 years. Both have provided a fantastic service to the club, and on behalf of you all, I would like to publicly thank them for all they have done. A club such as ours cannot exist without people like Ray and Fred who work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure that everything is in order so that we can enjoy our bowling. This leaves us with two positions to fill. We have found a willing volunteer to be the treasurer, and Graham Sayers is already working with Fred ahead of the AGM in order to facilitate a smooth handover. That leaves us still needing somebody to take over the bar/clubhouse duties. We have taken time out to review the tasks and have restructured the roles to make them more manageable and attractive and we are seeking volunteers. Please see the attached sheet regarding the roles which outlines the scope and estimated effort required. If you are able to help in any way and can spare some of your valuable time to ensure the club standards are maintained, please contact myself or the club secretary Isobel Jones.

Ian Price

Club Chairman

2019 successes

Congratulations to the Market Drayton 'A' team who once again did the double (First division & Doubles knockout winners). It was a nail-biting finish to the league which went right down to the last game of the season, the A team emerging triumphant over Malpas Sports. The doubles was less tense as they beat Adderley A easily in the final. Market Drayton B team were runners-up in the B Lazarus cup, and in the Whitchurch league the C team finished 4th in Div5. Congratulations to all involved, the club is now £450 better off.



Fundraising 2019

This year saw the club venture into pastures new and hold their first beer & gin festival sponsored by Ellison Edwards Wealth Management (who's director Will Ellison is a former club member). Held over 2 nights we had 140+ attendees who all agreed it was a resounding success & a great evening was had by all. Thanks to all our sponsors & helpers we raised £2163 for club funds. We also ran a 'weekly bonus ball' lottery during the season which raised £585. Thanks to Di Foster for organising this. We will be running this again next season, so please see Di if you would like to join in. Please see overleaf for forthcoming events or if you have other ideas for fund-raising let your captain or any committee member know.

Your Club needs you.

In addition to the two roles mentioned above we also need volunteers to help with external events. You will be aware that the club host external matches on some Wednesday evenings and weekends, as well as Private functions. We aim to create a pool of members willing to help, from which we will organise a rota system to share the workload around subject to members availability. Please let us know if you can volunteer to help at these events.

On match nights at home, it is the intention that the captains will ensure that the bar is looked after, the till is cashed up, glasses / crockery is cleared up and washed and the club is left in a tidy state for the next match. To make the process easier we are investing in a new till with pre-programmed buttons for each product, and a chiller cabinet, both of which will help stock control.



To hear all about the plans for 2020 and to get your views we would love to see you all at the AGM

Save the date 16th January 2020 7.30pm at the Bridgewater Club



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Greens update & Winter work

We are fortunate enough to have 2 fantastic greens and are the envy of many clubs in Shropshire. This doesn't happen by accident and a huge thanks must go to Andy & Chris Pearce who give up their time on a weekly basis throughout the year to ensure we have a top-class facility. They have started the 'winter program' and have scarified and hollow-tined the 'big green' and verti-drained the 'small green'. They will be cutting and fertilising the green throughout the winter in order to prepare the greens for the start of the new season. As a testament to their hard work we are regularly approached to hold external competitions & next year is no exception as we have already been asked to host one of the British Parks events at the start of the season, as well as the British Crown Green Ladies Club championships in April.

The pavilion will also get treated with preservative paint in order that this will also last for 40 years like the previous one did!

Proposed Captains for 2020

Whitchurch League

A team – Greg Fordham/Dave Gourlay

Harriers – Ian Price

C team – Peter Williams

Market Drayton League

A team – Julian Willis

B team – Isobel Jones

C team – Ruth Penlington

Barlows Over 60's

Isobel Jones

Market Drayton Over 60's (New for 2020)

Rose Lloyd

Coaching

Bridgewater are in the enviable position of having 5 qualified coaches amongst the membership. They ran 3 sessions at the club in 2019 and are planning more in 2020. The sessions are open to anybody, so if you are interested, or know anyone that would like to have a go, or join the club, look out for dates on the notice board, or contact any of Isobel Jones, Chris Sayers, Graham Sayers, Richard Proudlove or Ed Proudlove..



Dates for your dairy 2020

End March - Quiz night including food (final date TBC)

4th July - Hog Roast plus Gin & Fizz

12th September - Race night including Fish & Chip Supper

Bring your friends &
family along to the
social events.
Everybody is welcome 😊



**We wish you all a Happy Xmas & Happy New year
and look forward to seeing you all next season**