



Oak Hill Bowls Club

October 2025



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Getting to Know ...

Well, that summer just flew by

As another season has come to an end, this newsletter reviews the year, plus details of plans for the coming months.

Christmas Lunch

Yin Man has offered to organise a club Christmas lunch on Saturday 13th December. The menu is on the notice board in the club with a list for members who wish to come.

The price is £23 per person and it is hoped to include a donation to the North London Hospice from this sum.

Unfortunately, because of the limited space in the clubhouse, we will have to restrict numbers for the lunch to 42. Get your name down quickly!



Club Competitions

The finals of most of the club competitions were held over the weekend of the 13th and 14th September, with the trophies and prize money presented at the conclusion of President's Day on the 27th September. The winners and runners-up of the competitions were:

Men's Championship – Rhys Lewis, Damian Treanor

Ladies Championship – Sian Allen, Annika Strandberg

Men's Handicap Singles – Martin Woodrow, Erol Hussein

Ladies Handicap Singles – Sian Allen, Paulette Cowan

Men's 2-wood singles – Rob Petty, Jim Moss

Ladies 2-wood singles – Sian Allen, Louise McKie

Mixed Singles – Matthew Tang, Damian Treanor

Mixed Vets Singles – Terry Doe, John Abson

Novices Singles – Gary Thatcher, Paulette Cowan

Men's Pairs – Rob Petty & Terry Doe, Mike Levy & Bill Germaney

Ladies Pairs – Sian Allen & Annika Strandberg, Jean Smith & Louise McKie

2-wood pairs - Junior Brewster & Wing Yuen, Kay Comer & Terry Lovell

Aussie Pairs – Brian Davidson & Yin Man, Gloria Fligman & Julian Shulman

Mixed Triples - Sian Allen, Brian Davidson & David Conway, Diane Poletti, Yin Man & Terry Doe

Novices Singles – Gary Thatcher, Paulette Cowan

Bob Sawyer Trophy - Annika Strandberg, Rob Petty & Liam Murphy, Lynn Wallis, Ian Wilson & Ron Fry

The winning team in the Monday afternoon league, organised by David Mason, were **Team B: Julian Shulman, Mike de Campi, Gloria Fligman, Terry Lovell & Sian Allen**.

We are very grateful to Greg Whale (Norman Kelly's nephew) who has offered to donate a new trophy in memory of Norman. This trophy will be presented to the winner of this year's new competition, the Novices Singles, which is open to all bowlers with less than two years' bowling experience.



Rhys Lewis with yet another cup!

External Leagues

The season ended with a certain amount of heartache for our teams in various external leagues. We finished second to Potters Bar (by just one point) in the Vets League, second to Grovelands in the Enfield and District Sunday league, and second to Cockfosters in the Day Cup.

Many congratulations to all those members who took part in these leagues over the season, and let's hope our teams can go one better next year.

Bill Germaney, Rhys Lewis and John O'Flynn were the winning triple in the **Finchley Bowls Week** competition.

Open League

Our very competitive Open league concluded on Tuesday, 23rd September with the winning team being the "Rock and Bowlers", organised by Colin Pink from Broomfield. Terry Doe's team, the "Scorpions", finished second and Frank Dryer's team, "Frank's Followers", won the second division trophy. We received many positive comments about the state of our green and the successful organisation of the league, and look forward to another good season next year.



Extra-ordinary Meeting

An extra-ordinary meeting of club members was held on the morning of Saturday 27th September, when members had the opportunity to review the proposal that we submit a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) application to the Charity Commission for the bowls side of the club, and a separate Community Interest Company (CIC) application for the non-bowling activities of the club, including the bar.

There was considerable discussion about these issues, with some members expressing reservations about the need for change, but the overwhelming vote of those members present at the meeting was in favour of the proposal.

We will therefore be proceeding with these applications. In order to allow for the separate applications to be submitted and processed, the **club AGM will be postponed until Saturday 7th March, 2026**. Nomination forms for club officers will be posted on the notice board in advance of this meeting.

Winter Activities

The cribbage group will continue to meet on Monday mornings and the bridge group on Wednesday mornings throughout the winter. Plans are in place for the Wednesday afternoon games afternoons to start soon.

We also hope that some ad hoc social activities can be organised, so please watch the notice-boards and the WhatsApp groups for further information.

ASM have started their work on the autumn renovation of the green. The green has been scarified and spiked, and the top dressing will be applied during the next week.

Close Season

Working Party

During the close season we will be organising activities to “spruce up” the club-house and green surround. The working party will meet predominantly on Thursday mornings.

So far, the patio furniture has been moved into the ladies’ changing room, the ditch mats have been removed and most of the storerooms and sheds have been tidied, with rubbish being taken to the council tip. Martin Woodrow has also done some remedial work on the electric fence and is now more confident that it should work effectively.



Future plans are to paint the interior of the main clubhouse area, starting on the 6th November under the direction of Mike de Campi. We anticipate that this painting will be completed before the Christmas lunch.

Reminder

We have a new phone number for the club
07512 824572

Thanks to ... John Abson for drafting the newsletter, Pete Headland for formatting this and interviewing Sian. We hope you find it useful ... please get in touch if you have any ideas about future articles you would like to see.



Getting to know ... Sian Allen

Who is Sian?

She worked for 35 years for the same computer software company in central London, working her way up from PA to the Managing Director to being the Facilities Director for all European offices.

She is married to John, an associate member at the club and has two grown up children, and a cockapoo called Hector.

She's had an extremely successful first season and brought other new members to the club.

Why did you choose Oak Hill rather than other clubs?

I met many club members playing at Glebelands and had coaching from Rhys.

What one piece of advice would you give a new member?

Practice as much as you can. Feel the fear and put your name forward for matches.

What have you enjoyed most about the club?

Meeting so many members and how friendly everyone is. I find the older members inspirational! Bowls is so good for your physical and mental wellbeing.

What one or two things could we do better as a club?

Have a buddy system for new members to keep them engaged. Bring back the Acorn league. Encourage new members to play games.

Favourite TV programmes?

Only Connect and other quizzes, Slow Horses, Traitors.

Favourite food and restaurant in Barnet?

BBQ lamb chops and Greek salad. Izgara Turkish restaurant in Whetstone.



Favourite music, band, singer?

Adele, Coldplay but I have an eclectic taste.

Hobbies?

Reading – but that's been limited by bowls! Board and strategy games, card games.

On your bucket list?

More travelling including Sri Lanka and Nova Scotia next year. And Potters of course!

Things that wind you up?

Cyclists that jump red lights. Impatient drivers.

What would your ideal day be?

Get up late. 10.00am bowls, meet up with friends for a dog walk, coffee and cake. Finish the day at a local pub for a quiz.