



# NEWSLETTER



**September Friday night points winner: Jim Hughes**

**Shots winner: Grant Rickells**

**Thanks to Eric Everatt for running the competition.**

Date	Top rink	Football winners	Catering	Bar
21/09/18	Jeanette	£20 Sandie Parker	Maureen	Mike
*	Swaffield	£10 Eric Janssens	Alder	Rosenthal
**	Barry Rudolph		Pat Austin	Colin
	John Austin		Sylvia	Hobbs
			Colbourne	

\*Peter Lee has crafted an elegant plinth to hold the Doug Hadland trophy and onto which will be inscribed the names of the winners.

**\*\*Congratulations** to Jim Hughes who was announced as the winner of the Lew Bullard Friday night shield.



**Apologies**  
**to our brilliant four ladies**  
**who won**  
**the H&D 4s competition.**

They should have been mentioned in the last newsletter but I got a bit muddled!



The only good thing is that they will now receive full coverage with no competition from other matches.

With a picture of them as drowned rats!!



To a picture when in their finery



Well done to

**Mary Warner, Janet Everatt, Mary Hughes and Anne Snell**

Hopefully I will have a picture of them being presented with the trophy in the next edition.



## **Captain's versus Vice Captain's Day**

What a difference a week makes! The glorious weather of final's Saturday



was replaced with leaden skies for the Captain's versus Vice Captain's match.



## Match




After 9 ends of a wet game, a vote was taken.

### **Should we continue?**

A close result went the way of a second half. It was worse than the BREXIT vote. At least the leavers gained a majority, however small.

Many “stoppers” doubted the result which showed 22 out of 48 wished to continue. People wondered “Was Roy related to that other great mathematician, Diane Abbot?”



So fierce was the controversy that by the evening a petition  had gathered momentum .....(not the Jeremy Corbin Momentum – although his grasp of figures has been equally suspect)



.....to punish Roy by making him Captain in perpetuity.



Proposal for the AGM of HBC.

Due to circumstances beyond members control, we propose that

**Roy Wake**

Becomes Captain of HBC

In perpetuity.

Proposed: Sheilah Lowe

Seconded: Mary Warner

Signatories : Jim Hughes, Polly Lee, Andrew Georgiou (the last may or may not be a forgery!)



How many signatures are required before the issue can be raised in parliament?!



In the event, after 18 sodden ends, the Captain's team won by 101 to 90 shots.

**Top rink** for the Captain's team was Mike Rosenthal, Elaine Wake, Grant Rickells and Roy Wake.

**Top rink** for the Vice Captain's team was Sandie Parker, Shelagh Zachariades, Brian Moates and Mike Clements.

**Meal:** Having dried out, warmed up and smartened up, 60 people were greeted with a lovely table display thanks for the hard work of Maureen Alder.



The caterers and dessert makers did an excellent job which put people in the right mood for the **Captain's 3<sup>rd</sup>** address in which he firstly summarised the club results and then **thanked** the many people involved with the running of the club.

Our very generous club captain ensured a receptive audience by providing the wine on the tables. **We** thank **him** for that.

**Peter Lee** was overlooked last year so received special early mention for his vital work on Pavilion maintenance.



Was this oversight responsible for Peter's strange garb?

**Mark Snell**, who is thankfully continuing on as President next year, is still liaising with the council!

If you are confused with this cartoon by Eric Janssens, look at September 2017



newsletter (HBC website)

**Mary Warner** our extremely efficient club secretary, who not only organises the dinner dance but also the Alicante holiday.



Oops, no!



That's better!



**Phil Bayley** who does a fantastic job as treasurer and provided the results to Gala Day in super quick time.



**Maurice Tate** who does the very difficult job of arranging fixtures and cards.



(as well as weather forecasting

Vice Captain **Andrew Georgiou**, who helps and assists Roy at weekends and evenings despite still working.



Also does a mean BBQ!

**Maureen Alder** the Ladies vice captain who has pursued her role with enthusiasm.

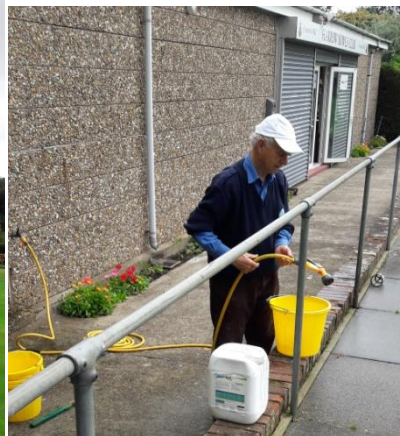


Now no longer a learner!

Very much the professional. About to pass the baton to Doreen Bayley.

Chief green rangers **Jim Hughes, Mark Snell** and the many members of the **green team**. Also the **gardening team** who provide such a beautiful backdrop to our bowling.

How lucky we are to have so many hard working members of the club!



revised 13.06.18

RED TEAM	MARK SNELL
MON-TUES	BARRY RUDOLPH
MORNING	REX FREEMAN
	IAN GIBBONS
	ALAN GOODALL
	DENNIS WOOD
WHITE TEAM	ROLAND PETTITT
WED-THURS	ROY WAKE
MORNING	TONY RET
	NICK WOOLFORD
	TERRY LIDDLE
BLUE TEAM	JIM HUGHES
FRI-MORNING	PETER LEE
	GEOFFREY THOMAS
	ERIC EVERATT
GARDEN TEAM	DOREEN BAYLEY
AT ANY TIME	DENNIS ALDER
CONVENIENT.	EILEEN GOODALL
	GEOFFREY THOMAS





Competition Secretary and newsletter producer **Shelagh Zachariades** who luckily supplements “War and Peace” with lots of photos!



Catering manager **Elaine Wake** for her years of magnificent work in not only being catering manager but in accompanying Roy to all his visits to the club. She sometimes thinks she lives in the park.



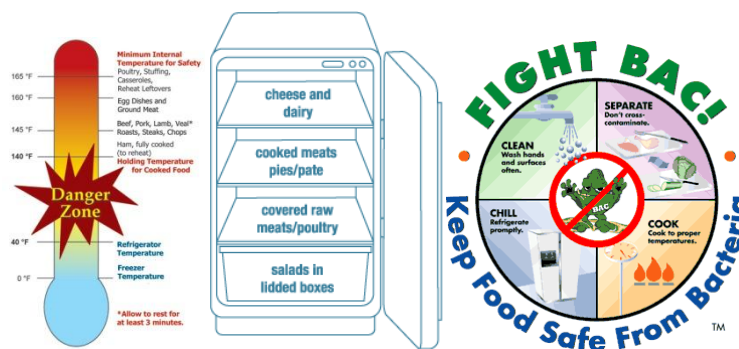
*Did no one tell Elaine?*

Seriously, Elaine has done a magnificent job alongside Doreen and Barry despite getting frustrated when clubs cancel on us when we have visited them.



A 4 star Health and Safety rating achieved too!

Elaine loves Health and Safety Officers as much as I love Ofsted inspectors!



Coaches (or Development officers) **Anne Snell** and **Geoff Thomas** worked tirelessly as usual.



Coaches setting wrong sartorial standards?!

They must take considerable credit for all the excellent **new members** who have joined in recent years. Many have done very well in the club competitions and playing club matches. But they have also stepped up to the mark to take on important roles in the club.

**Tony Oakes** has introduced and captained the Bidgood 2 team as well as winning the singles handicap.

The quiz night was organised by **Myriam Tsang, Sandie Parker, Janet Everatt** and John Barrett (and run **by Neil Goodman and his wife**). **Eric Everatt** has taken on the Friday competition and produces the points and shots winners with lightening speed.



We were all stunned by the excellent organisation shown by

**Jeanette Swaffield, Liz Mitchell and Janet Everatt**

for the Gala Day.



**Colin Hobbs,**



who has been a brilliant deputy to **Mike Rosenthal** but rarely appears in a photo!

Mike as usual is responsible for an efficient and profitable bar and works tirelessly for the club.



**Jai Mahadeo** Welfare officer keeps in touch with members who are unwell, as well as continuing to win competitions.



Our President, Mark Snell then thanked our captain for his sterling work over the last 3 years. As Mark said **Roy** has contributed so much to making Harrow Bowls Club such a HAPPY club.



We are delighted that Roy has agreed to continue on in the role next year. If he is to beat the record for length of time in the role he has to beat the captain of 1911 who was 11 years as captain. Mind you if the petition above is successful that won't be long enough! Mark also thanked Elaine for supporting Roy in his role.

We will miss **Geoff Thomas** in so many ways. One of which is as our resident photographer. As his final hurrah, Geoff sent me 2 Photos that would be good for the caption competition which Eric Everatt introduced last year.



Eric prepared the photograph above for the competition and about 40 people entered into the competition which was shortlisted by Andrew Georgiou and Mary Warner. This chance for greatness was thrust upon them and they fulfilled their roles with their usual efficiency. The final decision was Roy's. 4 entries referred to hearing aids, 3 to false teeth, 4 were food related but, unsurprisingly for HBC, 11 entries had a sexual connotation. The winner was

Tony Oakes with “I knew I’d left my vibrator somewhere!” which for some reason was preferred to Pat Freeman’s similar entry “Is this a vibrator I see?”

My personal favourite was “I’ll take 3 DVDs and the Frank Sinatra album please!” submitted by Alan Goodall. Well done to everyone who joined in the fun.

### **After we left!**

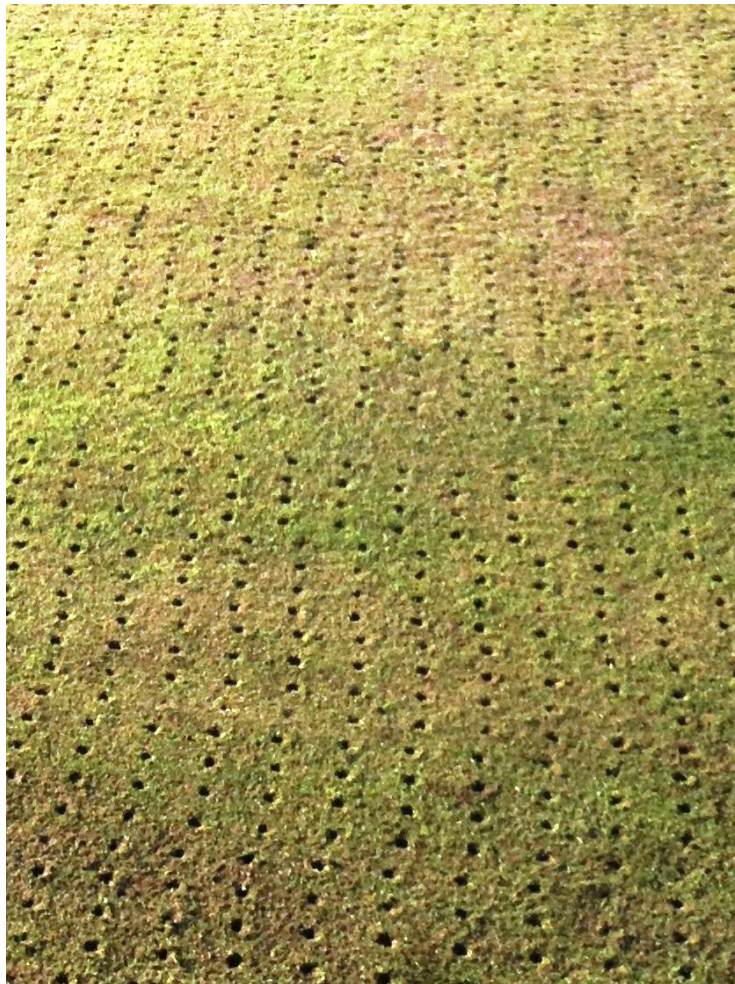


Photo Andrew Georgiou

I know I suggested we could play cribbage at the club as well as short mat bowls, but I didn't mean on the **green** itself!





Photo Nick Woolford

And I certainly did not mean that we should create an ice rink on our lovely rinks. Mind you it might be a good money raiser!



Is this the beach at Alicante?



Photo Jim Hughes

**No!**

## Alicante holiday

For some “Not much to explore in the immediate area”

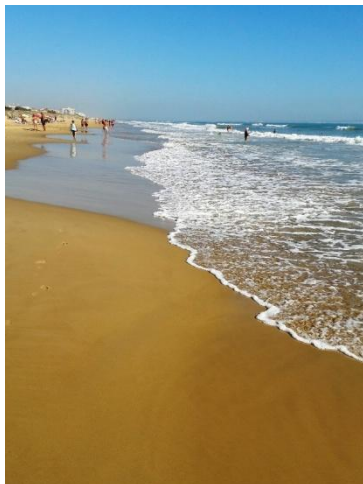


was music to their ears.



Is this our HBC rink again?

No, the golden sand of the beach metres from our hotel (just a little more than



the proverbial “1 yard”)

Others finding their inner “Dr Livingstone, I presume?” ventured out using the limited but cheap minibus or local taxi services.



After our first meal we were left wondering:

Is this hotel really the “gem of the Costa Blanca” as described in Bowling Abroad website?

Why didn't the hotel put labels above all the food. Was the dark blob in sauce liver, kidney, fish or vegetable? Even after I made this point in response to a hotel email survey, nothing changed.

Why didn't our rep do something about the farcical seating arrangements for her two groups? The only way to get to the inner seats was to walk across the table. Looking sad about this did nothing – initiative and action were required. Possibly even a conversation with the restaurant manager! The bolshie and resourceful HBC members responded by refusing to sit at the allocated tables, moving to a much pleasanter and quieter part of the restaurant – thereby making the rep look even more wan and pained.

Our numbers for the first bowls match were augmented by partial locals, namely Fran and Allan Pulford who left their Alicantan (isolated) homestead to join us temporarily. The match captain Mark Snell also drew on the talents of some Bitton Park members. They are the team from Teignmouth which we have played on each of our Devon bowls holidays and their team were also on a bowls tour with “Bowling Abroad”. A happy coincidence. Mind you as Bitton Park were playing against us and won convincingly, not such a happy coincidence!

A happy crowd before the match...notice that the sun is shining on the righteous



Despite the optimistic faces above we lost on all 6 rinks and even lost on the extensive raffle. Six prizes to players from La Siesta and 5 from Harrow. Did La Siesta deserve one of Eric Janssens' framed cartoons after such a mauling?



Despite the result, we had a lovely time meeting a friendly group of people and having a tasty lunch.

In the afternoon we had our first excursion – to Zenia Boulevard – a shopping centre!! Not most people’s idea of an excursion, although a number of us were found in C&As reliving happy times. I think we were all tempted to join the children in the fountains.



According to the rep “the Spanish don’t like their food hot” (news to some of us) so we were advised to heat our restaurant food in the microwave, if necessary. Roy, diligently following instructions made his way to the microwave when he was approached by a waiter. Roy indicated the microwave and the waiter took his plate and put it in the microwave...



**NO!**

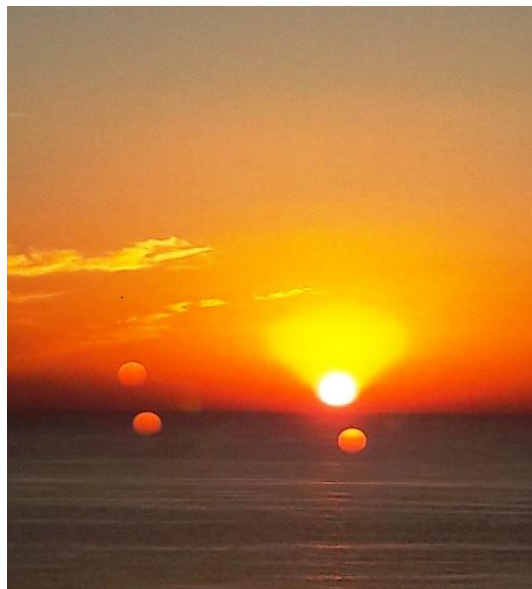
He tipped it in the bin!



Apparently Roy's face was a picture.



Sunday and the sun has got its hat on



Or is that a funky hairstyle? And has it got 3 siblings?

Later that day we gathered for a group photo (with Mark in the red wig) for a Fiesta celebration.



Oh no, we didn't!



What are Mark and Anne up to here? Good job it is not for a caption competition. Perhaps they are planning the evening's quiz. The quiz certainly was a successful event, although HBC (top quiz team of Polly and Peter, Maurice and Christine and Jim and Mary) came joint 2<sup>nd</sup> to a Bitton Park team! Thanks to Neil for supplying the quiz in response to an email from Mark.

The windy Sunday afternoon gave way to a cloudy Monday morning.



The bowlers of San Miguel proved a very friendly crowd on a personal basis but this did not stop them giving us another battering on the bowls rinks. Due to confusion and inadequate checking by our rep, they only had people for 5 rinks available whereas Roy had planned for six rinks. As a result 2 sets of our players ended up playing only half a game each. This was unsatisfactory for both lots especially as Roy, Mary W, Barry and the rep were tying after 9 ends.

In the afternoon we had a “proper” excursion to the historic Roman town of Cartagena, although not accompanied by our rep as expected from the Bowling Abroad website. However it looks as though some people were satisfied with sitting on a bench consuming alcohol!





Don't worry Marios, I have photographic evidence that you did do some sightseeing.



On Tuesday we found rain not just on the plain but on the "Greenlands" bowling club. We settled for a long stay in their clubhouse. Some used the time preparing their excuses.



We were hoping that this time we would have the full six rinks if the rain ever stopped. We eventually managed 14 ends and although we lost 76 to 89 we did win 3 rinks. The rep was particularly embarrassed when their captain announced that he only discovered that we were bringing 6 rinks rather than five the night before. **A close shave!** Nearly another 8 people disappointed. Good job the rep was strongly advised (initially in no uncertain terms by Roy the **morning** before and then even more strongly by captain of the day, Jim the evening before) to check with the captain.

The farewell meeting was a somewhat interesting affair. Top rinks were announced and prizes awarded to:

La Siesta (least bad rink): Allan Pulford, Shelagh Z, Elaine Wake and Peter Lee.

San Miguel (least bad rink): Marios Z, Delphine Brown, Mary and Jim Hughes.

Greenlands: Polly Lee, Marios Z, Phil Bayley and Anne Snell.

Generally at this point customer survey forms are given out which can be completed confidentially. This time our rep asked for comments or complaints knowing that there were a number of issues. Our natural British reticence resulted in some embarrassed shuffling and a few muted comments.



Our final meal out was however an unmitigated success. On this occasion we were accompanied by our rep, who chose to come to this meal rather than go with the Bitton Park crowd to the airport. Amusingly she was heard to utter the clearly inaccurate comment “I like to be 1 step ahead”. This was greeted with a stifled snort by one HBC member close by.

The focus of this meal was Doreen and Phil's 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary (I know they look too young). This was celebrated not only with extra table decorations provided by Elaine, and in Roy's speech



but also by the restaurant staff singing and flashing lights on and off! This really confused my camera as I tried to take a suitable picture.



Naturally Mary Warner was then thanked by Roy for her brilliant organisation of the holiday and putting up with all the aggravation.



I think Mary is practising her kiss for Roy!



A little later Jai rose to repeat Roy's sentiments to Mary, having clearly missed the earlier speech. Well perhaps it is a good thing that Jai's hearing could be better as Mary deserved as much thanks as possible.



Whilst away enjoying this final meal, we did not forget our fellow members, bowling and non bowling, back in Harrow. Proof below!



The half rack of ribs contained too much meat for Elaine but not for Solo!

As our rep bid us farewell on the coach outside the hotel, I was wondering:  
Did I believe her excuse for not accompanying us to the airport as per  
Bowling Abroad brochure?  
Did I miss her?  
The answer to both is NO!

But did I enjoy the holiday despite some of the issues?

The answer is YES!

With the lovely members of HBC, how could it be otherwise.



