



October 2022



Newsletter



Macmillan Coffee Morning

The club house was open to the public for this fund raising event and £830 was donated. With the addition of gift aid, Ann Sharples was able to bank £946 for the charity. A brilliant effort by both Ann and her fellow bakers and great contributions from the attendees.



Cakes going fast!



Final outdoor match

With the vice captain incapacitated and the ladies captain indisposed, it was decided to have version 3 of the Captain versus President. Would the result be any different?

Would Terry Liddle iron the green with such care?



Thanks to Wendover's table mats!

Has Terry tended the roses with his usual care?



Eileen and Alan Goodall informed me that in mentioning the gardeners, I had overlooked Terry's roses (I never knew!) What a fantastic display! Alan and Eileen didn't want to be given all the credit for the lovely garden area.

The weather on the Friday was horrible but it all changed for our last outdoor bowl.



The result remained the same with the captain's team getting 87 and the President's 111.

Top rink for the captain was Satnam Loyal, Jeanette Swaffield, Rex Freeman and Tony Paulley.

For the president the top rink was Terry Liddle, Mary Hughes and Jim Hughes.

The tables looked lovely for the evening meal.



The wine flowed freely thanks to Roy and Andrew so everyone was well relaxed to receive Roy's end of year report. In fact this time it is his end of 6 years report, although he has agreed to put his name forward as president for next year. He had as usual many people to thank.

Barry Miller as president;

Mary Warner who is not only secretary but also organises the Dinner Dance and the Algarve holiday;

Phil Bayley as treasurer;

Liz Mitchell as bar manager and social secretary;

Jeanette Swaffield as catering/social secretary;

Maurice Tate who is finally relinquishing the role of fixture secretary (after 23years??!);

Andrew Georgiou as vice captain who is waiting for his Achilles to heal;

Doreen Bayley as ladies captain;

The green team led by Mark Snell and Jim Hughes;

The gardening team of Eileen and Alan Goodall and Terry Liddle;

Tony Ret hedge master general;

Shelagh Zachariades as competition secretary and newsletter editor;

Anne Snell, Roland Pettitt and Tony Ret as coaches;

Alan Bellamy for vets A;

Barry Miller for vets B;

Tony Paulley for Bidgood A;

Tony Oakes for Bidgood B;

Anne Musgrave as welfare secretary;

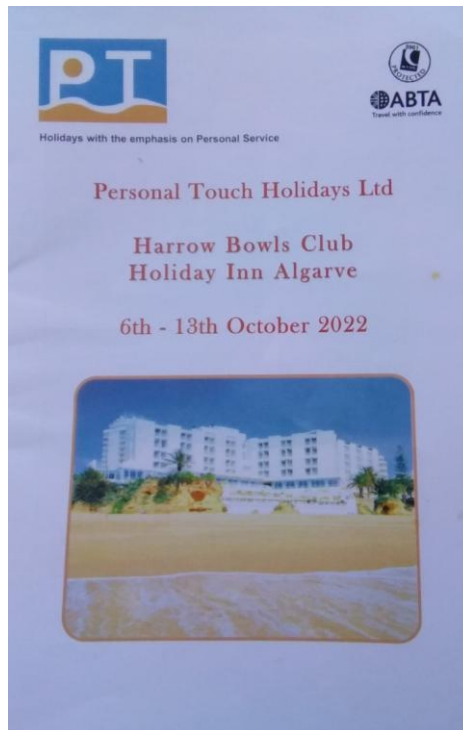
Eric Everett who keeps tabs on the Friday night league (Won this year by Gavin Hampton)

Plus the many members who help in so many ways to make this club such a special place.

New members Jill Stokes and Vivien Valance made the traditional new members' speech. Jill making the point that we need to "use it or lose it" and that bowling is a great way of achieving that aim

Bowls trip to the Algarve.

Originally planned for 2020, delayed to 2021 and finally we got there.



No trip to the sun would be quite the same
Without a great ode from our special Elaine.
The photos were taken by one and by all
And so I've included them after the ode
And added numbers to help short and tall
And that's not just Polly and Peter! But all.
And sometimes I've had the temerity to challenge

the views of the captain's dear wife



Wow, I'm clearly living a dangerous life!!

Elaine's ode



HERE WE ARE YET AGAIN
HARROW BOWLS CLUB OFF TO SPAIN
WHOOPS WRONG COUNTRY SO YOU THINK I'M A FOOL
CAUSE, YES, WE'RE ALL OFF TO PORTUGAL.
SADLY WON'T BE THE SAME THIS YEAR
CAUSE SOME OF OUR FRIENDS SO NEAR AND DEAR
BECAUSE OF HEALTH OR AGE JUST COULD NOT COME
BUT FOR ALL OF THEM, WE'LL ALL HAVE GOOD FUN.
THE COACH TO THE AIRPORT WAS REALLY ALL RIGHT

BUT GATWICK AIRPORT IS REALLY JUST SHITE (1)



THE SEATS ON THE PLANE MADE OF SOLID OAK
AND OUR BUMS WERE ALL SORE AND THAT IS NO JOKE

WE LAND IN FARO WITH WINTER COATS ON
AND ALL STRIP OFF BEFORE MEETING DEAR JOHN(2)

A BETTER REP YOU NEVER WILL FIND
HE'S CHARMING AND HELPFUL AND EVER SO KIND.

OUR DESTINATION HOLIDAY INN
AND JOHN IS ON HAND TO HELP US CHECK IN

SUCH LOVELY ROOMS/BUT SLIGHTLY SMALL (3)



BUT THEN I SUPPOSE, YOU CAN'T HAVE IT ALL
OUR FIRST DAY HERE AND WE'RE OFF TO FIND
A REALLY NICE RESTAURANT, THE FRIENDLY KIND
AFTER WALKING FOR HOURS AND TALKING LOTS
THEY WOULDN'T TAKE US ALL, THE SILLY TWATS
BUT ROY AND MARY AND LOVELY PHIL FOUND A REALLY
GOOD ONE

WHERE WE CAN EAT OUR FILL.

POLLY AND ME THE TERRIBLE TWO
WENT OFF ON OUR SCOOTERS TO TAKE IN THE VIEW
AFTER BUMPING AROUND THE COBBLES SO TRUE
GOT BACK TO THE HOTEL, OUR BUMS BLACK AND BLUE

NEXT DAY WE'RE OFF TO OUR FIRST BOWLING GAME

ALVOR THE BOWLS CLUB NOT QUITE THE SAME

WE ARE NOT USED TO A GREEN OF 45 YARDS AND SOME OF OUR BOWLERS FOUND IT QUITE HARD.

WE LOST OVERALL BUT HAD SOME GOOD SCORES

WE LEFT THE BOWLS CLUB TO NICE LOUD APPLAUSE (4)

BACK TO THE HOTEL AND MY GOOD FRIEND MARY TRIMMED ROUND MY NECK SO I'M NOT QUITE SO HAIRY.

SUNDAY AT LEISURE , WE'RE ALL OUT AGAIN

EITHER TO SEA OR THE WOBBLY TRAIN (5)

WE MEET UP AGAIN FOR OUR EVENING MEAL

HAVE A FEW DRINKS AND CHAT A GOOD DEAL

MONDAY ARRIVES AND OFF TO BOWL AGAIN (6)

MAKING WAY TO TAVIRA, IT'S NEARLY IN SPAIN

GRANT WAS OUR CAPTAIN AND MADE IT QUITE CLEAR

THAT HE'LL BE A DAM GOOD ONE FOR US NEXT YEAR.

TUESDAY ARRIVES BUT FOR US THERE'S NO TOUR

AFTER BEING QUITE POORLY, ROY'S BOTTOM IS SORE.

THE COACH TRIP WE MISSED WAS A REALLY GOOD DAY

APART FROM THE RAIN THEY HAD ON THEIR STAY.

SOME OF YOU DRANK FROM THE FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH

BUT YOU'D NEVER KNOW IT TO TELL THE TRUTH! (7)

AND A WONDERFUL SCENE, PUT ANN IN A FLUSTER

A HUGE GROUP OF STORKS, YOU CALL THAT A MUSTER

THE FIRE WATER ALSO WENT DOWN QUITE WELL
AND THE AMORETTI WAS ALSO QUITE SWELL.
JOHN'S HISTORY KNOWLEDGE REALLY IMPRESSED
IF YOU WANT ANYMORE HE'LL SING YOU THE REST.
IN THE EVENING WE GO OUT FOR A WONDERFUL MEAL
THE WINE WAS A PLENTY, HANGOVERS WE FEEL (8)
OUR LAST DAY, OUR LAST BOWLING GAME
WE'RE PLAYING ON CARPET, IT WON'T BE THE SAME
TO SAY WE WERE HAMMERED WOULD BE PUTTING IT MILD
(9)
AND POOR CAPTAIN PETER WE'VE DRIVEN HIM WILD
BUT AS CAPTAIN OF THE DAY HE REALLY WAS GRAND
AND ON HIS SIDE I ALWAYS WILL STAND
OUR PACKING IS WAITING A BIG JOB I FEAR
BUT IT WOULD BE LOVELY TO COME BACK NEXT YEAR.

1. Having set off early it was great that we had a smooth passage through

Gatwick airport (which I thought was great!! 🤪) which allowed us time to have some breakfast before boarding the plane. Compare this to our wasted time at Faro airport on the way back where we spent most of our time queuing in punishment for Brexit. Mary was indeed reminded of her time queuing to see the coffin at Westminster Abbey, as we zigzagged along constantly re-meeting each other.

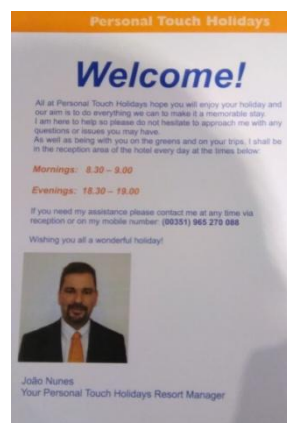


Somehow Ann and Peter Sharples became honorary Irish citizens



and were allowed to bypass our massive queue.

2. After a smooth flight to Faro we were greeted by our old friend Joao (John) who was our PT rep in 2017. We were delighted as he always goes above and beyond - sometimes causing himself much extra work.



3. The views from the balconies was something special



and the smallest 🧐 I suspect was for rhyming effect.

4. Although we lost here by 12 shots we had a great morning – losing on 3 rinks but winning on 2 and drawing on 1.



5.

Some went on a rather bumpy land train whereas others took to the sea



And spotted our hotel



While the rest took a good book down to the pool



6. Not only was Grant our captain for the day but he skipped the top rink and got a great gift (see later)



7. The trip to Silves saw us firstly visit a renovated indoor market



and then climb steep streets to arrive at the castle. Luckily the intense sun of all the other days was not in evidence.



We then proceeded on to the highest mountain in the Algarve. The views were somewhat spoiled by the rain which luckily fell mainly when

we were in the coach. We rushed from the coach to try the “firewater” and look around a well stocked shop. The rain had stopped by the time we had another climb this time to try the fountain of youth. Any effect that this water may have had was counteracted by the long and somewhat treacherous ascent and descent.



8. The meal out in the evening is a bowls club tradition



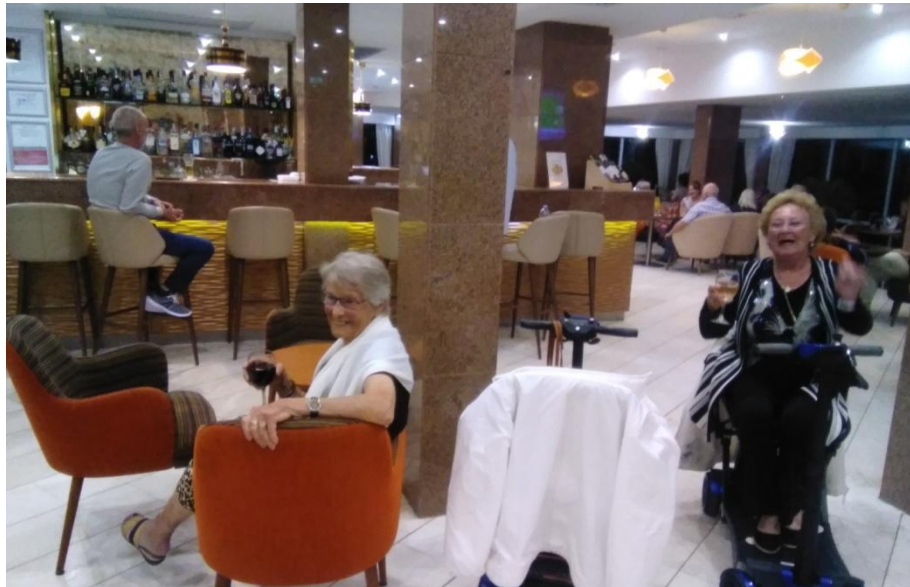


Which clearly Elaine enjoyed – let's say no more.



As we made our way back to the hotel, we were overtaken by 2 scooters being driven so fast I could not get a snap! Young people looked on in astonishment.

Was this a Monty Python sketch?
Where were they going in such a hurry?
Ah the bar!!



9. No wonder we lost at the last club despite Peter Lee's planning. Was it the carpet surface or was it the wine? We won on 2 rinks and I was hoping for top rink with my pals June and Barry R but we were pipped by Roy's team by 1 shot.

So what did Elaine miss in her wonderful ode?

Just the quiz



which Joao ran with his usual aplomb causing great hilarity and after the winning team was declared, the individual winner was Barry R who came closest to guessing John's age.

But who gets the prize for **spillage** you wonder?

Harry for throwing red wine on himself (although he blamed the poor inanimate door)

Or Barry R for hurling a full soup dish onto the floor?

The prize goes to Barry. 2 reasons:

1. The soup bowl has a wide base and low centre of gravity so is stable
2. He managed to send soup onto the white trousers of our future captain!



His prize? Such a starring role in this newsletter!

Our final evening when Elaine read the ode was also the prize giving.



Top rink for game 1 some local jam and a very useful purse



Top rink for game 2 and some very useful rucksacks.



Top rink for game 3. Slippers for our chilly UK winter.

All the prizes were thoughtfully chosen by John (Joao) and easily stowed in our bags. To thank John for making our holiday so memorable, Barry Rudolph organised a collection which Roy presented on the last evening.



So many great pictures were taken so I will include a few.



The gang of 6 on a nocturnal walk



Marios and I on our 50th Anniversary.



Peter and Polly also had an anniversary when we were away (37?)

Jai and Barry glowing with health before testing positive for COVID



The organising team



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A final thank you to Nick Woolford for keeping many of us entertained with his various football competitions. The latest “the survival football “competition was won convincingly by....

Marios Z!!!

We are now **all (!!)** looking forward to the World Cup and hoping our sweepstake team does well.

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Have a good winter everyone!

