



Malvern Priory Bowling Club

Newsletter

September 2020

Dates for your diary

7th to 28th Sept Weed/Feed & scarify Cut the green on Mondays & Thursdays - NORMAL MAINTENANCE DAYS

28th Sept 8.30am start Delivery of materials 44 x 25 kg Bags of Top Dressing, 1x 20kg grass Seed, 2 x10 Lt jugs of Winter Feed & 2 x 25kg bags Loam - **VOLUNTEERS ARE REQUIRED TO HELP MOVE THIS FROM THE ROAD TO THE CLUB**

4th Oct 5.30pm Bowling Green closes for the winter

5th to 19 October 8.30am start work on Green - Scarify, Cut, Aerate, Slot, Feed/Seed, Top dress and Flatten using Lute. **VOLUNTEERS WILL BE REQUIRED. FULL SCHEDULE OF WORK WILL BE POSTED, PLEASE MAKE YOURSELF AVAILABLE EVEN FOR ONE HOUR.**

Please Note : The club House will be closed to club members who are not working on the green or the club buildings from 5th to 19th Oct 2020. If the weather is kind and we finish earlier the club can be opened.

Brian Palmer
28/08/20

President's message

I wish to thank all those who have been working so hard with the maintenance of the green, the grounds and the club house in these difficult times - every thing is in fine trim.

It is good that the roll-ups have been able to continue and members have been able to enjoy playing in safe conditions - thanks to the organisers who have made this possible and the loyal support of members.

I would like to welcome the new members of the club and hope you have a happy time with us.

On a very positive note Sue is already arranging next season's matches with other clubs who are equally keen to return to normal bowling activities.

Hope to see you soon and best wishes to all.

John

John Phillips

President

Newsletter

I shall be standing down as editor of the monthly Newsletter at the end of the season. I started this up several years ago to keep members informed. We now need someone else to take it on. Although I use Apple this could easily be done on Windows. I am prepared to help someone else take this over. Why not have a go! There are many members with loads of skills - could you be one of those to take this on?



The in front folly!

Bowling is easy when you can see the jack,

It is something that skips rarely get to see,

There are so many woods in front,

And the fault is with "the lead" and me.

"The lead "and I keep putting our woods in front,

When short, back and sides is required,

Next door's" no2" knows no better,

And our captain is fed up and tired.

Just roll up to the jack says Fred,

The pathway is quite plain to see,

But I want to bowl backhand says Harry,

At the spot that looks like a bee.

It is a bee says our skip ...

As it gets up and flies away.

Bowl on the forehand says Fred from the side

And knock the b*...wood out of the way.

"Are the brown ones ours" says Harry

"No" says their no 2 "those are mine that are in your way,"

"Bowl up to the jack" says our skip,

"And shove that brown one away."

Their skip shouted across "this is bowls not boules"

I reacted badly to what he said,

And it really was not my day,

I fired And by accident I hit the jack.....

and it gave the whole match away!

Roger Davies

Membership Secretary's report

A big welcome to new members Mike Beart, Rory and Sam Shelling, Liam Hanna and Les Fisher. Do introduce yourselves to them. All are good bowlers. A big welcome back to Caroline and Tom who are safely back from Panama at last having managed to get out on a humanitarian exit flight.

This has been a strange year for the club. Membership grew to great heights last year but with Covid 19 a number of members have held back on returning. Let's hope they will rejoin and be able to play again next year.

However, a substantial number of members, 49 in fact have paid up and have supported the club financially throughout the season. Many of these have not felt it safe enough to return, some have been shielding. We say thank you to you all for supporting your club during this strange period. We look forward to seeing you all at some time soon.

Jackie Oakey
Membership Secretary

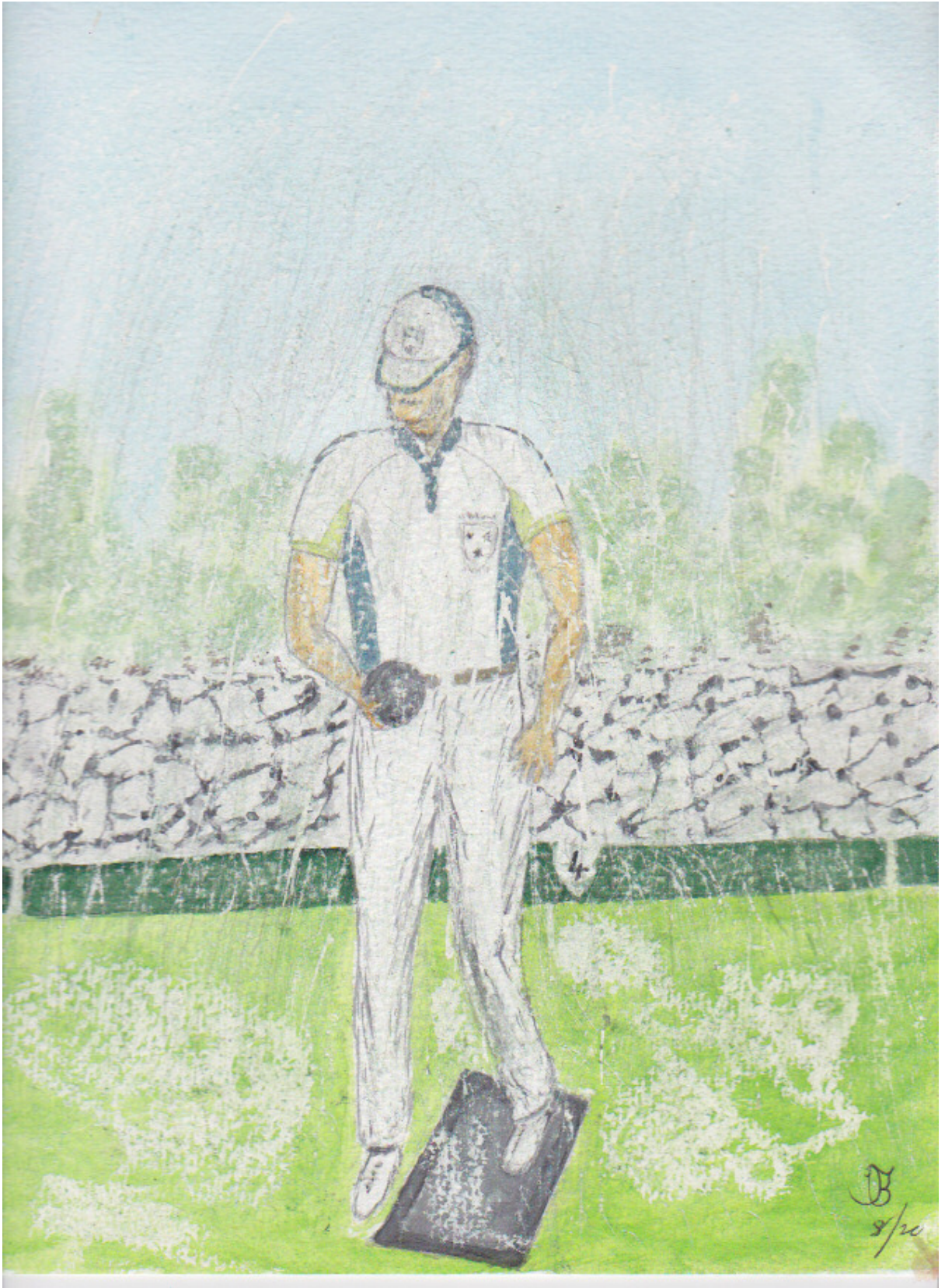
Winter activities

The committee will be considering shortly when it will be safe to open up Short Mat again. I know a number of you are keen to play during the winter but the committee has to be guided by BE and government policy over the use of the clubhouse.

From 5th to 19th October the clubhouse will be out of use whilst the green is prepared by various contractors for the winter..

Newsletter Editor - Jackie Oakey

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'Who put on the sprinkler?' by Terry Barrett

The Green/Maintenance

I have found that we are not the only club suffering from the the brown patches in the green as Manor Park has them and I've been told the Worcestershire Golf club has them too. Not sure if there is a connection!

As of Monday 31st August, after a lot of hard work by Richard, Roy and myself the green has been scarified and a lot of thatch removed. The more we remove now the less we have to take out at the end of the month. This job takes time and is extremely hard work, especially for myself.

The planned work in October is to have the green a lot smoother.

I thought you might like to read n extract from Berkhamstead Bowls Club web site -
'Your playing enjoyment is derived on the bowling green. This green is prepared by a green keeper or a club member who in the absence of a greenskeeper acts as such and please remember that whoever it is he has a very difficult job. Often he is endeavouring to maintain a playing surface under adverse conditions. He is striving to grow grass for us to play on under all weather conditions. On our part we walk continually over the green, placing the mat without any consideration for wear, expecting to play afternoon and evening up to seven days a week. The result is that wear shows in patches, or some disease develops on the green and the green keeper is criticised for his incompetence.Never approach the green keeper regarding any criticism of the green better still do not complain at all. Help them by your thoughtfulness and tolerance, knowing that they are endeavouring to give you the best conditions possible and simply must protect the green against too much play. Do nothing to damage the green, either in your delivery or in any other way. It is essential that you develop clean grassing of your bowl without any bump'.

I shall be retiring from looking after the green and clubhouse mid October.

Brian Palmer,
Green Secretary

Editor

The end of bowling season is fast approaching and those playing are thoroughly enjoying their games of bowls. For some, Sunday has become a regular picnic lunch day then play all afternoon. The weather until the past week has been glorious and there has been some exceptional play.

With September looming now is the time to consider joining the committee or nominating others to become members. This year we have a number of committee members retiring and now is the time to come forward to take your club to the next level. When Brian and I joined some 5 years ago we became members of the club in June and by September we had been coopted on to the committee. We then had 21 members including us. Information regarding the Club AGM and committee nominations will be announced shortly.

Since 2015 much has changed. First we managed to update the toilets by renewing the pans and cisterns, install hot water to all basins throughout the club .house .and decorate throughout uncovering many pieces of history on the way. Some of the lockers had not been used for years and had to be broken into. We uncovered pieces of wood and table coverings that went back to WW11. By now our numbers has increased and we had a band of enthusiastic members who carried out the painting and decorating during the winter of 2016/2017. Club members' enthusiasm concentrated our efforts into striving for central heating, the club house back in 2016 relied on portable gas heating! With the help of a grant from Malvern Town Council and the Bridge Club we managed to install heating, this was done by Brian Palmer and Roy Barber in 2017. Next season, 2018, we set our sights higher and with a further grant from MTC we had a new French Window entrance and emergency side door installed.

For several years we relied on volunteers to water the green during the season, we desperately wanted an automatic watering system. So last winter, again with the help of a grant from MTC and much fundraising over the years we purchased an automatic irrigation system kit. With the help of builders S.A.B, Greenkeeper, Richard Keech and club members we successfully installed a system that now looks after the green. It is sad that many members have not experienced the lush green grass, albeit that there are a number of fairy rings and strange brown patches in it. Just recently the system has been pretty idle as it is clever enough to know when the green has had enough natural watering.

This year has been a strange year let's hope next year will be back to near normal.

Jackie Oakey, Editor

Maintenance Day

Monday 17th, August 2020, dawned as it does for some before the normal breakfast time, others after this!

On arrival it was immediately seen and observed that three Ladies were trashing the kitchen, nothing was missed, the intrepid three scrubbed and scratched the teapots, cups plates, spoons the lot nothing spared this onslaught, the room was awash, all was wet and rather damp, floors the lot; all this for a cup of tea!! Jackie and her cohorts Lorna and Joy could not do any wrong, (not in front of Jackie anyway!) they really earned their brew time.

A similar sort of Beaverishness, was also in place outside, Normal Norman also known as abnormal, went to town on the windows, sorry the Club House windows not the ones in the town on reflection. He did a well wiped job on the glass inside and out, the windows that is! Then shortly afterwards he, along with Bill the 'Borer' and Ben, the hat, did a great job prodding the grass (the green!) or put another way the bowling green. They pushed and shoved the 'spiker,' all over, this way that way and everyother way, a thing of wonderment to behold; and such a boring job, but they persevered and did it well;

Not to be outdone there was Roy, that is to say the joker! (batman not in it this time) he went ballistic with the trimmer, anything that got in his way went under the blade, bushes, trees the lot went, he knew his shrubs did our Roy, Branches everywhere so well known these branches (think about that one!!) his flashing blade did wonders for the green stuff, all done without a mask!

Then Terry put on a new door to the shed, or so it appeared, not only that, he got really stuck up with the acrylic gun thing, it went this way, that way and all over the bottom of the door, wow, the artistic work done was a thing to look at and he also knew how to use the screws to hold the whole lot on. Time will tell with this lot of workaholics, all under the thumb of Brian and what a thumb - do this, do that, no not that this or that, or whatever! During this time Monti Phil put in an appearance to do his thing - at the time no one knew what this was, whatever it was he did it and made a quick exit, as well as leaving us all to fend for ourselves! It was noticed that his fingers had gone green, it was wondered why - his 'buggeronias' still look well. Many years ago when prs was as a younger person, he did wonders with bricks much to the exasperation of his brother, when he ran out of bricks he 'nicked' his to finish off his projects, this stood him in good stead as a piece of the walling on the footpath near to the shed had fallen down so prs made it fall up again seemingly, Monti Phill, said he got 9 1/2 out of ten, if it stayed up he would give the other bit to make it 10 out of ten and half! On leaving it still was standing.

Concluding this, Brian went out and watered the green in the rain, with a large watering can, full of noxious stuff, fancy it raining!! Brian also decided that, he wanted the holes filling in so he commanded prs to fill them in with top dressing stuff, it really became quite a job, as the holes that Bill and his men had done had to be then filled in! Needless to say that, prs duly underwent this task that Brian wanted doing - seemingly the greens booked until Christmas to get this job done to the satisfaction of you know who,yuk,yuk.

anon.

Our correct address

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