

# ANGEL IBC NEWSLETTER

## Eric Thomas RIP

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Eric Thomas. We were all very proud to have our own D Day hero among us for so many years and he will be sadly missed by many of our members. Eric was still bowling and playing cribbage at the club right up to the week before his death. Eric's funeral is on November 29<sup>th</sup> and full details are posted on the board in the club.

## BOWLING NEWS

### Membership update

We have now welcomed over 100 new members to our club in 2021 to date!

Whilst the majority of our new members are new to bowling, we have also welcomed some more experienced bowlers - a number of whom already feature in our men's National and County sides.

As a club we continue to welcome as diverse a membership as possible; with the aim to build a club 'squad' that is as competitive as possible whilst also recognising that many of our members will only wish to play in social club roll ups and perhaps internal club leagues. There is room for everybody at the Angel!

It's great to see so many of our new bowlers already joining in with our regular club roll ups, leagues, club competitions and Kent League games. We have so far managed to fulfil all our Kent League fixtures with full teams whilst some other clubs are unfortunately struggling and having to concede points due to a lack of players.

Having so many new members join the club in such a short space of time leads us to naturally question whether we are doing everything we can to best introduce, integrate and provide the right bowling opportunities to our new bowlers. To help answer this we will be inviting all our new members, directors, and officers to a 'coffee and chat' in the coming weeks.

### Bowling hall etiquette

Now that we are back to playing in regular sessions we all need to remind ourselves of the etiquette around entering, leaving and moving around the bowls hall....

- a. Please do not enter the bowls hall until the '7 minute' bell has rung, ie do not enter more than 7 minutes before you are due to start your game.
- b. When entering the bowls hall please respect bowlers on rinks 2 and 5 and do not enter if a bowler is preparing to bowl towards you. Wait until after they have delivered their wood.
- c. If accessing lockers alongside rink 6 please only walk down the side of the rink 'between bowls'
- d. Never walk across the top of a rink when a bowler is preparing to bowl towards you. Walk across between bowls.
- e. If accessing the 'bowls' cupboard beside rink 6 please only do so after any game on rink 6 has finished.

This may well all feel rather 'novel' to some of our newer members who joined in the past 18 months and have previously only bowled under covid restrictions (when the bowling hall was already empty before we were due to arrive!). It may then be that a friendly reminder will be needed now and then.

### **2019/20 Internal club competition winners**

Covid interrupted 2019/20 club competitions were finally completed earlier this month. Thanks to Gary McIlravey for organising. Congratulations to all the winners!

### **2021/22 Internal club competitions**

The 2021 / 22 club competitions are now drawn and will be up on your Noticeboard and website very soon. Best of luck to everyone who has entered.

Once the draws are published on the website your individual games will also be found in your own Bowlr account. Ready to be booked in.

Again, thanks to Gary for organising this year's competition

If in any doubt around the etiquette of offering dates and / or claiming unplayed ties please speak with Gary.

### **Internal Leagues**

We hope everyone is enjoying our new leagues. The feedback has been very positive. Thanks to the new League Stewards for stepping forward to organise.

Just a reminder that when filling in your scorecard please ensure to complete the date, time, rink number, league name and team captain's name. Your game can then be readily identified by the club stewards and your score entered in bowlr. (Entering the names of the actual players in each game on the scorecard is optional - it's not read or used by anyone - the only information needed is date, time, rink number, league name and team name).

The iPads in the bowling hall are now operational and thanks to all those members who are already using them to enter their own scores. This saves on work for our busy Club Stewards. We would encourage all members to enter their own scores, but of course only if you feel it safe to do so.

For those league teams who missed games during the recent water incursion, arrangements for rescheduling are being led by each league steward.

Congratulations to Gary McIlravey and Tony Morez for winning their County Badges and reaching the final of the 2019/20 County Triples.

Lewis Goldup will also win his County badge when he plays in the other Triples semi-final, along with Graham Standley and Duncan Hanmore. Could it be an all Angel final?

Good luck to Gary McIlravey on Tuesday 23rd in the 2019/20 County Unbadged Singles semi-final against Harry Duffield of Bromley at White Oak.

## Dates for your Diary

### General Club AGM

The 2021 / 22 Club AGM will be held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30 pm in the club. This will include an updated financial outlook and proposed strategy to take the Club forward post



The club will be open as usual until Thursday Dec 23<sup>rd</sup>. Then ...  
Xmas Eve - **open until 8pm** for early evening Xmas drinks  
Xmas Day (25<sup>th</sup>) closed  
Boxing Day (26<sup>th</sup>) closed  
Bank holiday Monday (27<sup>th</sup>) closed  
Bank holiday Tuesday (28<sup>th</sup>) closed  
Wednesday (29<sup>th</sup>) **open as usual**  
Thursday (30<sup>th</sup>) **open as usual**  
New Year's Eve (31<sup>st</sup>) **open as usual** with extended bar opening to midnight  
New Year's Day (1<sup>st</sup>) closed  
Sunday (2<sup>nd</sup>) **open as usual**  
Bank holiday Monday (2<sup>nd</sup>) closed  
**Open as usual from Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

The social committee have decided not to arrange anything formal for New Years Eve this year but the club will be open with the bar going until midnight!  
Why not come down and see in the new year with fellow members?

## GENERAL NEWS

Chris Parker arranged a ladies night in the club on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, where we welcomed some potential new lady members and also raised almost £400 for breast cancer research. Chris would like to thank everyone who supported the evening, provided raffle prizes, and took up the challenge to wear pink, including some of the men. Pictured opposite are the AIBC Pink Ladies



### Drinks vending machine

You may have noticed that this has broken down. Unfortunately getting it fixed isn't straightforward as we own the machine and the repair needed is relatively expensive. We are thus exploring options. We will of course make every effort to have a drinks machine available to members again as soon as possible.

### Lease update

This will be the subject of more extensive discussion at the club AGM. In summary negotiations continue but are not straightforward. We nevertheless have confidence that the issue will be resolved and we can continue to enjoy our current site for many years to come.

## “Winter Flood Emergency Volunteer Team”

When we are unfortunate enough to experience a flood we need help.

Depending on the extent of the threat, this may include quickly rolling the bowling hall carpet out of the ditches, emptying the bottom row of members lockers in the bowling hall, lifting club belongings (eg furniture) to a safe height and installing the club’s flood defences. Then, after the ‘all clear’ potentially pumping out water from the club’s car park, drying out, and rolling the bowling hall carpet back into, the ditches, and replacing all the furniture.



*During the most recent bad car park flood in 2019 we had 2 pumps running all afternoon to clear it of sufficient water that we could re-open the club. One pump was provided by the Environment Agency and the other by Ben, who saw our posting on Facebook and drove over from Snodland with his own pump just to help us out. Thank you again Ben! Since then, we have invested in our own pump.*

If you feel you may be able to help, should we be unfortunate to experience another flood, please sign your name up on the Noticeboard. We will only call upon you if needed!

## Secondhand bowls bags

We have a couple of secondhand bowls bags for sale, and a few available free on a first come first serve basis (donations welcomed). Please speak to a club steward if you would be interested to see the bags.

## Club Shirts

A further supply of new club shirts are due in soon. Available from the bar on a first come first serve basis. They are priced at £25 each.

We also still have a supply of the old white style club shirts at a bargain of only £5 a shirt!

## FROM YOUR SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Wendy Ward (chair), Jim Hawkes (vice chair), June Hammond, Dave Fenner and Les Herbert

We feel now is the time to introduce some new blood onto the Social Committee to bring some fresh ideas to the table. So, we are looking for other Club members to join us.

If you might be interested let one of us know (Paul behind the bar can point you in the right direction) and we can have a chat.



We want to continue organising social events that as many people as possible will enjoy.

If we can recruit more committee members the organisation of future events can be shared amongst us.

As they say “MANY HANDS MAKE

LIGHT WORK”



News items for our newsletter, which will be published at the end of each month, should be emailed to the editor [angelenews338@gmail.com](mailto:angelenews338@gmail.com) by 15<sup>th</sup> of the month at the latest. You can also leave news items with the bar staff, in an envelope clearly marked Newsletter editor and include your name and a telephone number. Anything received after the 15<sup>th</sup> will be published the following month.