

## Club News

### The club has a new social committee!

I am very pleased to let you all know that a new social committee has been formed with a number of keen, enthusiastic and idea driven members. We have had our first meeting and a number of events are in the pipeline to tempt you into joining us.



A Magic Evening With  
**Professional Magician**  
Club Member and Member of The Magic Circle  
**Adam Smith**

Magic and Mind Reading Night

**Friday**  
**20<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

Arrive by 7pm  
For 7.30pm Start.

Ticket Price £5  
Available At The Bar  
(Adults Only)



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Our first event is a magic show on Friday 20th October. It is being hosted by Adam who is a member of the magic circle and our club. He is regularly invited to perform at celebrity events and is well known in Kent and beyond. Some of you will have probably seen him displaying his card tricks in the club, he really is brilliant. Tickets will be £5 and will be on sale very soon from the bar, they are in limited supply so buy one, two or even three as soon as possible.

Quizzes, Christmas disco, talks of interest, disco bowling, music nights and maybe even a darts competition. We would love you to support us and the club, and to that end, you will soon be able to let us know what you would like us to organise for you, via a questionnaire.

This is a great club and hopefully we can get everyone together socially as well as enjoying our bowling.

Best wishes  
Jude Knowles  
Social Committee Chair

### Renewals

If you've already renewed, thank you! If you still need to renew, please do so as soon as possible to avoid our volunteers having to spend their precious time chasing you!

It's easy... just pay the amount due by bank transfer (name and membership number as reference) or pay by card / cash / cheque over the bar.

Thanks to Stephanie Gates, Jayne Gill, Neil Ramage and Matt Sellen for volunteering to run this year's renewals.

## Bowling News

### Winter Season Rink Diary

The Club's "Winter Season" starts on Monday September 25th.

The new winter rink diary, pre-loaded with league games, roll-ups, Kent League matches, National & County Club fixtures, etc, will be opened for booking only shortly before that date. It cannot be done earlier as the information needed is not available to our volunteer (Pete Harris) until then. Note that you will not be able to book rinks privately until the diary is opened.

Also, to make it less cumbersome managing the clashes between our National & County Team competitions and our regular roll ups, the process will change this year. Pete will trial booking out the necessary rinks for all potential future rounds of the club competitions and then cancel them if and when the club gets knocked out.

### Winter leagues

Winter League "Sign Up Sheets" are now up in your Club. If you haven't already signed up but wish to, **please do so by end Sunday 17th September.**

The following Leagues are proposed to run.

Monday 12pm Open Triples (Elise Goldstone)  
Monday 7.30pm Pairs League (David Young, this league is now full)  
Tuesday 9.30am, Open Triples (Dave Truss)  
Tuesday 12pm Aussie Pairs (Jackie Clarke)  
Tuesday 7.30pm Open Triples (Keith Elliment, especially suitable for newer bowlers)  
Wednesday 7.30pm New Bowler League (James Wharton)  
Thursday 9.30am Open Triples (Ray Ecclestone)  
Thursday 7.30pm Open Rinks (Richard Comben)  
Friday 12pm Ladies Triples (Gwen Smithies)  
Friday 5pm Open 2 - Wood Triples (Babs Tomlin)

The names in brackets above are the league stewards. They are responsible for organising captains and teams. The captains will then organise their individual teams regarding playing schedules. Please contact the league stewards directly if you have any queries regarding their league either now or through the season.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to steward a league. They would not run without you.

### Winter County & National Club Team Competitions

The Club enters a number of County and National team competitions. Including the Denny Cup, Yetton Trophy, Egham Cup, Top Club, Over 60s, Dudley Hoile ... and others.

The Club has specific 'selectors' appointed to select teams for these competitions. The selectors will of course be picking a team with the aim of winning every tie. But they will also be looking to develop our bowlers with an eye to the future.

If you would like to be considered to represent the Club in these competitions you can sign your name up on a sheet which is now on the Club Noticeboard.

## September Triples Tournament

(Thank you to David Young for organising)

### September Open Triples Tournament

Open to all members.

Format and duration will depend upon number of entries.

Games will be at 7.30pm weekday evenings.

Starting Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September and you **MUST** be available to play every evening until Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September.

Enter as a team. Max 4 players.

Must be able to field a triples team on the above dates.

Entry fee £4 per team to cover prizes.

Sign up by Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September

To enter sign up in Club or ask behind the bar.

## 2023 Summer Club Competitions

Another great summer of bowling, with our Summer Knockout Finals being played over the first weekend of September. Thank you to everyone who entered, and congratulations to our finalists. The results are ...



### Mens Singles

Winner: David Young. Runner Up: Matt James

### Ladies Singles

Winner: Jess Young. Runner Up: Babs Tester

### Open Pairs

Winners: Neil Ramage and Nick London. Runners Up: Babs Tester and Matt Sellen

### Open Handicap Singles

Winner: Paul Gent. Runner Up: Paul Obey

Due to player illness, the Triples will be played later, and the result will be posted once it has been played. Thank you to David Young for organising these competitions.

### **Angel Angels v Tunbridge Wells Royals local derby.**

The Angels have retained the trophy for another year.



### **2023 Summer EIBA National Competitions Finals Update**

Our Club has great representation at the first ever EIBA Summer National Finals. These take place in Bedford (Kempston Park IBC) over 3 days (from Friday September 22nd to Sunday September 24th).

Our qualifiers are ...

Mens Singles (last 8): Paul Gent

Open Pairs (last 8): Paul Gent and Neil Ramage

Open Triples (last 8): Paul Gent, David Young and Neil Ramage

Fantastic 5s (last 4): Angel Sand Demons

We entered four Fantastic 5s teams this year, which spread us pretty thin but we nevertheless still had 2 teams through to the last 16 (the first time an Angels team has ever got this far in the competition!) and 3 teams through to the last 32.

Well done to all who took part in this year's competition and good luck to the Angel Sand Demons who will be flying our flag in the Finals (squad... Keith Elliment, Paul Gent, Val Harvey, Mary London, Trevor London, Gary McIlravey, Diana Morgans, Neil Ramage, Babs Tomlin, Barry Tomlin and Paul Obay ... it has been a real squad effort to get this far and we'll leave it to the reader to speculate which of the squad comprise the Angels and which the Demons!).

### **Open Weekend**

Just a final reminder that the Club will be given over to our Open Weekend on Saturday September 16th and Sunday September 17th.

The Bowling Hall will thus be closed for normal bowling over the weekend but members are more than welcome to bring along friends, family and neighbours and join them for a free-go. Just come along anytime between 10am and 4pm. Both bar and restaurant will be open all day, with free tea, coffee and soft drinks for both members and their guests.

### **Post Open Weekend Taster Sessions**

Everyone who attends our Open Weekend is offered four free 'Taster Sessions' before deciding on whether to join the Club. These will be happening over a four week period starting on the week of September 25th.

Please give all our new guests a warm welcome as they move around the Club, and particularly within the bowling hall. The coaches will try to minimise disruption to other games going on at the same time but occasionally

## Dress code in the Bowling Hall

As we moved around neighbouring clubs to play matches and competitions over the summer, we noticed a clear correlation between clubs opening hours and their approach to dress code.

A good number of those clubs who are still insisting on, for example, white tops and greys for leagues and roll-ups are also struggling for numbers. As a result, the majority of these clubs have very restricted summer opening hours.

Other clubs, including ourselves, who have moved to a more 'liberal' dress code have also managed to attract good numbers of new members and as a result have been able to move to full summer opening.

The Directors feel that our Club has got their current dress code requirements, per the club bye-laws, about right; striking the right balance between maintaining 'standards' but not being overly prescriptive. As such they are regarded as one important ingredient in the Club's successful future. We do ask, however, that every member takes care to comply with these requirements, particularly when playing league games and competitions.

The Club's bye-laws are on our website. The relevant bit re dress code for leagues and competitions is copied here ...

*Internal league games and competitions: Grey or black trousers, skirts or knee-length style shorts; white based shirt or bowls specific sports shirt, collared blouse or top or club shirt; white or club waistcoat, sweater or cardigan. Regulation bowling shoes shall be worn at all times.*

For informal roll-ups, the dress code is less prescriptive. We do ask, however, that all members using the bowling hall take care to dress reasonably, bearing in mind the potential games going on around them at the same time.

If you feel that the above Club policy is not quite right we urge you to attend the bowling Committee AGM. It's at the Club's AGMs where members can discuss all such topics **and you can have your say.**

## MacMillan Big Coffee Morning Friday October 27th.



We need raffle prizes and items for a bring and buy. Please leave items with the bar staff or with Steph & Mike Gates, Christine Spencer Chris Elliment or Chris Parker. Cakes on the day please and if homemade please put a note with the ingredients for those with allergies or food intolerances.

## 100 Club September

Quarterly Winners. £125 Mr N Matthews £ 50 Mr R Ecclestone £ 25 Mrs M Rhoden

3 Monthly Prizes £12 each: Mrs J Hammond, Mr A Sellen, Mr P Byne

New members always welcome - only £12 per year with 12 monthly and 4 quarterly draws. Application forms by the office door. Any questions please ask Bob Bowlby or a member of the bar staff.