



HAMPTON BOWLING CLUB



www.hamptonbowlingclub.co.uk

NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2025

Dates For Your Diary:

Friday 14th November

----- Club Annual Luncheon & Prizegiving (Fulwell Golf Club)

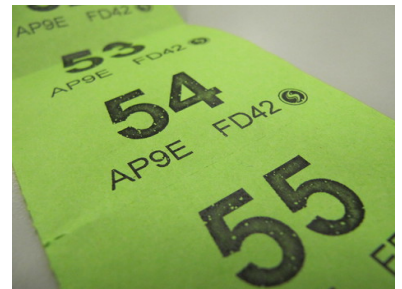
Whizz Quiz



The Hampton Social Club quiz night on Friday 29th August was a brilliant success, raising a grand total of £370 to bolster Hampton Bowling Club's bank balance.

HBC fielded five teams, a record number for the past few years, and judging by the enthusiasm and laughter, everyone enjoyed themselves. You might

even want to reserve the date in your 2026 diary – the last Friday in August. Thanks to all who attended and teamed up to support our club, as well as Pauline and Bill who helped sell raffle tickets.



Annual Luncheon and Prizegiving

The Club's Annual Lunch, Prizegiving and Grand Raffle will be held at Fulwell Golf Club on Friday 14th November – arrival from 12:30 for 13:00 start.

The address is Wellington Road, Hampton TW12 1JY. Donations of prizes can be left at the clubhouse on Thursday afternoons between 12:45 and 15:30, or brought along to the lunch on the day.

An email to all members has been sent out with a form to complete for your (and your partner's) choices from the menu. This should be returned with a cheque to the Club Treasurer, whose postal address is at the bottom of the form.

High Noon!

The final fixture of the 2025 South Middlesex Mixed Triples League was held at Carlisle Park on Tuesday 9th September. The two teams at the head of the table, Hampton and Staines, met in an encounter that would decide who finished top.

At the start of play Hampton held a 9 points advantage over Staines, meaning that only a 10-0 clean sweep of rinks by Staines could prevent HBC from retaining their title. In other words, Hampton needed to secure just one draw or win. Most Hampton players were confident there was only a small chance of Staines achieving their goal, but the visitors had arrived with a very strong team and a determination to defy the odds.



In the early stages of the contest the scores over the four rinks were slightly in favour of Staines, but as the ends ticked over, they were clearly launching a strong challenge, to the extent that the prospect of 10-0 win for them was becoming a distinct possibility. Several of Hampton's bowlers were casting nervous glances at the scoreboards behind them, which did little to calm their nerves. On Rink 6, Kevin Keown's team had fallen behind badly in the early stages of that match, and been discounted by most spectators as likely to deliver any points for the home side. That rink was also ahead on ends completed, so would probably finish their game first.



But as Hampton's worries on the other rinks deepened, Kevin and his team raised their game superbly. With many home spectators almost too afraid to watch, they scraped home on the 18th end for a win and 2 precious points.

Victory in the league for Hampton was assured, despite Staines winning the other three rinks to post an 8-2 points triumph.

Congratulations to all the players who have represented Hampton Bowling Club during the league season and to all the spectators who have supported them!

Here is the final table.

Team	Matches Played	W	L	D	Match Win Points	Rinks Won	Rinks Lost	Rinks Drawn	Rink Win Points	Default Points	TOTAL POINTS	Shots For	Shots Against	Diff
Hampton	14	10	4		20	34	20	2	70		90	1041	855	186
Staines	14	9	4		18	31	20	1	63	6	87	945	780	165
Fordbridge Park	14	8	6		16	28	27	1	57		73	922	871	51
Sunbury	14	6	7		12	24	27	1	49	6	67	839	853	-14
Stanwell	14	6	8		12	26	29	1	53		65	870	981	-111
Bishop Duppas	14	4	7	1	9	22	26	4	48	6	63	827	930	-103
Strawberry Hill	14	3	9	2	8	23	30	3	49		57	856	956	-100
Ashford	14	4	9	1	9	17	26	1	35	-12	32	689	763	-74
	112	50	54	4	104	205	205	14	424	6	534	6989	6989	0

Captain's Trophy (Ladies vs Gentlemen)

This was played on Saturday 6th September in ideal conditions. There was excellent turn out by the Ladies, who pushed the Gents very hard to make an exciting contest. The very close end result was an encouraging testament to the growing depth of skill amongst our Ladies. It augurs well for competitive success in future seasons.



Katharine Wallace (Ladies) and Kevin Keown (Gentlemen) holding the Captain's Trophy

Finals Days Results

A reduced number of playable rinks, combined with intractable match scheduling problems, meant that besides Friday afternoon and Saturday/Sunday, a couple of games spilled over to the following Monday and Tuesday. The weather was a combination of sunny spells and showers decorated with the occasional rainbow. All the finalists coped well with the unpredictable conditions, as those spectators who retreated into the clubhouse to consume the delicious food prepared by Patricia Cavanagh and Elaine Bampton will testify.



An artistic view of the sky above the green



Finalists in Men's Championship (centre) - Bill Rush & Kevin Keown, and Men's Pairs (outsides) - Rob Ford & Cliff Laking, Richard Duke & David Willis



Finalists in Ladies 2 woods – Pauline Rush & Katharine Wallace and Men's 2 woods – Martin Wilson & Richard Duke

COMPETITION	WINNERS	RUNNERS UP
AUSSIE PAIRS	DAVID LACK & DAVID WILLIS	MAUREEN KEOWN & KEVIN KEOWN
MIXED TRIPLES	ALAN TUCK, MARTIN WILSON & CHRISTINE PUSEY	MICHAEL MORRIS, CLIFF LAKING & MARIE KELSALL
MENS 3 WOODS	RICHARD DUKE	BILL RUSH
LADIES 3 WOODS	JULES PALMER	PAULINE RUSH
LADIES 2 WOODS	PAULINE RUSH	KATHARINE WALLACE
MENS 2 WOODS	RICHARD DUKE	MARTIN WILSON
75 POINTS	BILL RUSH	RICHARD DUKE
ALEXANDER CUP	ALAN TUCK	ROB FORD
MIXED PAIRS	CHRISTINE PUSEY & KEVIN KEOWN	RICHARD DUKE & PAULINE RUSH
LADIES SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP	JULES PALMER	MAUREEN KEOWN
MENS SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP	BILL RUSH	KEVIN KEOWN
MEN'S PAIRS	RICHARD DUKE & DAVID WILLIS	CLIFF LAKING & ROB FORD
LADIES PAIRS	JULES PALMER & MARIE KELSALL	MAUREEN KEOWN & PAULINE RUSH

New Kids On The Block

One of the more intriguing finals this year was the Ladies Pairs, which matched Maureen Keown and Pauline Rush against the relatively inexperienced duo of Jules Palmer and Marie Kelsall.

Jules and Marie got off to a flying start and very quickly established a substantial lead. Undaunted, Maureen and Pauline dug in, reducing the margin to a point where nervous tension and pressure might be felt by Jules and Marie.

However, a few ends later the leaders added a further 3 shots to their score, effectively putting paid to any prospect of a dramatic comeback.

By the conclusion of the 17th end, Jules and Marie were in an impregnable position, running out as victors by 23-12 against their high-quality opponents.



NPL League Wrap-Up

Below is the final league table for the 2025 Cambridge Park NPL league.

The winning team this year was Cambridge Park A and the runners up were Hampton, who finished the season strongly. Congratulations to both those teams.

Cambridge Park 'NPL' League - League Table - Final				
Team	For	Against	Points	Shots Diff
Cambridge A	284	160	26	124
Hampton	239	183	19	56
Strawberry Hill	264	180	18	84
Mid-Surrey	201	236	14	-35
Cambridge B	223	216	12	7
Friends of NPL	183	238	10	-55
Teddington A	184	247	9	-63
Teddington B	159	277	4	-118

These were the individual Hampton match results in the NPL League, all played at Cambridge Park.

DATE	OPPONENTS	RINK	RESULT	FOR	AGAINST	POINTS
12 May 2025	Cambridge Park B	3	LOSS	16	24	0
19 May 2025	Cambridge Park A	4	LOSS	12	21	0
2 June 2025	Teddington B	3	WIN	24	11	2
9 June 2025	NPL	4	LOSS	9	20	0
16 June 2025	Mid-Surrey	5	WIN	16	15	2
23 June 2025	Strawberry Hill	2	WIN	15	13	2
7 July 2025	Cambridge Park B	2	DRAW	12	12	1
14 July 2025	Cambridge Park A	5	LOSS	16	17	0
21 July 2025	Teddington B	4	WIN	16	10	2
28 July 2025	NPL	5	WIN	38	5	2
4 August 2025	Mid-Surrey	3	WIN	21	11	2
11 August 2025	Strawberry Hill	3	WIN	14	11	2
18 August 2025	Teddington A	3	WIN*	8	0	2
1 Sept 2025	Teddington A	4	WIN	22	13	2
	TOTAL			239	183	19
*Conceded by Teddington A			Shots Difference	56		

Season's Results Summary

Below is a tabulation of the Club's results over the entire 2025 season.

			<u>HAMPTON BC FIXTURES 2025</u>				
Date	Match/Event	Venue	Format	Comp	Result	For	Against
April							
Sat 26	Mayor's Trophy	H	5 MXT		WIN	N/A	N/A
Wed 30	Walton-on-Thames	A	4MXT	Friendly	WIN	72	55
May							
Sun 4	Sunbury	H	4MXT	SML	WIN	75	50
Wed 7	Bishop Duppas	A	6MXAuP	Friendly	WIN	116	93
Sun 11	Surbiton	A	3MXT	Friendly	CANX	N/A	N/A
Thu 15	Teddington	H	4MXT	Friendly	WIN	65	55
Sun 18	Ashford	H	4MXT	SML	WIN	82	60
Sun 25	Cambridge Park	H	4MXT	Friendly	CANX	N/A	N/A
Wed 28	Fordbridge Park	A	4MXT	SML	WIN	68	64
June							
Sun 1	Bishop Duppas	A	4MXT	SML	LOSS	61	71
Thu 5	Teddington	A	3MXT	Friendly	WIN	50	47
Sat 7	Mid Surrey	H	4MXT	Friendly	PP	N/A	N/A
Wed 11	Cambridge Park	A	4MXT	Friendly	WIN	102	48
Sat 21	Staines	H	4MXT	SML	PP		
Sat 28	Byfleet	H	4MXAuP	Friendly	WIN	59	58
Sun 29	Mid Surrey	A	3MXT	Friendly	WIN	55	34
July							
Sun 6	Strawberry Hill	H	4MXT	SML	WIN	75	72
Sat 12	Strawberry Hill	A	4MXT	SML	LOSS	61	65
Sat 19	Stanwell	A	4MXT	SML	PP	N/A	N/A
Thu 24	Staines	H	2LT	Friendly	WIN	34	9
Sun 27	Neil Denny Cup	H	N/A	Club	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wed 30	Bishop Duppas	H	5MXAuP	Friendly	WIN	90	65
August							
Wed 6	Fordbridge Park	H	4MXT	SML	WIN	79	59
Sat 9	Oatlands Park	A	4MXT	Friendly	CANX	N/A	N/A
Tue 12	Staines	A	3LT	Friendly	PP	N/A	N/A
Wed 13	London Welsh	H	4 MXT	Friendly	WIN	55	44
Sun 17	Ashford	A	4MXT	SML	WIN	74	54
Sat 23	Stanwell	H	4MXT	SML	WIN	102	52
Sun 24	Sunbury	A	4MXT	SML	WIN	79	56
Sat 30	Byfleet	A	6MXAuP	Friendly	CANX		
Sun 31	Stanwell	A	4MXT	SML	LOSS	65	77
September							
Tue 2	Staines	A	4MXT	SML	WIN	61	57
Thu 4	Bishop Duppas	H	4MXT	SML	WIN	98	41
Tue 9	Staines	H	4MXT	SML	LOSS	61	77
Wed 17	Oatlands Park	H	4MXT	Friendly	CANX	N/A	N/A

Thu 18	Staines	A	3LT	Friendly	WIN	57	40
Sat 20	Walton on Thames	H	4MXT	Friendly	WIN	77	48
			Shots Totals			1873	1451
	Won 21 Lost 4 Cancelled 4						

Final Roll Up Day



There was a good attendance for the last day of our season, with several members who hadn't played for several weeks gracing the green. Jackie Venus deserves special mention, as in her triples game, she delivered both the shot bowls on the first end!

Gary Knights is also thanked for the truly delicious home-made rock cakes he supplied for afternoon tea. We hope he bakes scones as well!

Snail Mail Tale

As he had no envelopes at home, Richard Duke recently asked the Club Secretary to post a letter that he had written to the Chief Executive of the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames about their hedge cutting policy around our green.

He agreed to undertake this small favour, thinking that he had a stock of envelopes himself at home. On checking however, this proved to be incorrect. Undeterred, next morning he walked to his nearby local Post Office, armed with the letter and a booklet of postage stamps enclosed in a plastic wallet, intending to buy a pack of suitable envelopes. With the letter, envelope and stamp all together the completion of the posting steps would be simple.

It took just a few seconds to find the shelf used to display stationery and immediately he spotted packs of 100 envelopes designed to contain A4 size letters.

Not wishing to buy so many, he scanned further along and spotted a pack of 50. He grabbed one, took it to the till and paid for it.

In a spirit of helpfulness to their customers, this Post Office has a small high table near the door, where you can address an envelope and affix a stamp.

Tearing open the pack and taking one out, on which to write the address of LBRuT, he was mortified to discover that in haste he had mistakenly purchased window business envelopes instead of plain. Many of you will know infuriatingly, that the address printed on the letter itself almost never lines up correctly with the position of the transparent window on the envelope.

Not wishing to waste the small sum outlaid, he put everything back in the wallet and went home with the intention of covering the window on the envelope with a sticky label. After a short hunt some labels were found in a drawer, but they were not wide enough cover the space, requiring him to use two partially overlaid – effective but messy looking! Having addressed the modified envelope, only one task remained before posting. Looking around he could see no trace of the stamp booklet he had taken to the Post Office. He scoured through everything on the table in a vain search for the missing item, which he was certain he had brought home with him. In desperation he started rummaging through all the papers spread around, until suddenly it fell out of the envelope he had just finished addressing. While at the Post Office he had put the stamps booklet in the envelope so that it would not get lost.

To end a very long tale of woe, he finally placed the letter in the envelope, sealed it, stuck the stamp on, and posted it in the nearest pillar box. The Chief Executive of LBRuT will never know the story behind that letter!



Bowls Banter

To any spectator unfamiliar with bowls jargon, some of the exchanges that occur between players and markers or skips, or between players and opponents, must sound bizarre. Here are few retorts that you may not have heard...



<i>Player</i>	I'll take the mat	<i>Opponent</i>	Please bring it back when you've finished
<i>Player</i>	I'll take the mat	<i>Marker</i>	Why - is there no bus service today?
<i>Player</i>	I'll have the mat	<i>Opponent</i>	And what would you like for dessert?
<i>Players</i>	The mat's ours	<i>Opponents</i>	Our favourite cocktail is whiskey sours
<i>Player</i>	I'll choose the mat	<i>Opponent</i>	Why - don't you like the glossy version?
<i>Player</i>	I'd like a measure	<i>Opponent</i>	Would that be a single or a double?
<i>Player</i>	Who's holding?	<i>Marker</i>	A famous West Indian fast bowler
<i>Player</i>	Who's closest to the jack?	<i>Skip</i>	That guy standing under the flagpole
<i>Player</i>	Am I nearest to the jack?	<i>Marker</i>	Obviously not - you're still on the mat
<i>Player</i>	Should I fire?	<i>Skip</i>	Wait till you see the whites of their eyes
<i>Player</i>	Should I fire?	<i>Skip</i>	Who do you think you are - Alan Sugar?
<i>Player</i>	How many shots do I hold?	<i>Skip</i>	Enough to get you tipsy

Nominations for 2026 Club Officers

Nominations are open for the election of next season's Club Officers at the 2026 AGM. Please obtain the consent of the nominee before proposing.

The following information is required – Nominee, Proposer, Secunder.

A sheet is posted in the Clubhouse which can be used. Alternatively, nominations may be sent by email to the Club Secretary.

Committee and Roles for 2025:

President	Chris Squires	020 8979 3700
Chair	Richard Duke	07809 350396
Secretary, WebMaster	Cliff Laking	07802 907661
Treasurer	Maureen Keown	07960 988409
Club Captain	Kevin Keown	07578 159841
Catering Sec.	Pat Cavanagh	07588 355500
Vice-Captain (Men)	Bill Rush	07484 353269
Vice-Captain (Ladies)	Katharine Wallace	07748 633734
Internal Competitions Sec.	Katharine Wallace	
Fixtures Sec.	David Willis	07765 256540

If you have any proposals or suggestions for the running of your Club please contact any committee member or put a note into the box used for the green fees.

If you see any errors in the newsletter, or if you have any material to include in future issues, please inform the author, **Cliff Laking**.
e-mail: hamptonbowlingclub@outlook.com