

## **Yearly Round – Up for the 2020/2021 Season.**

The Round Up for each year usually begins with The A.G.M. However, due to the Covid Pandemic restrictions in 2020, the A.G.M could not be held.

This round – up commences from November 2020 until November 2021.

For the purposes of this yearly round – up the 2021 A.G.M. will constitute the beginning of the 2022 Season.

### **In Remembrance of Lockwood Members who passed away this year.**

Charlie Mack, Margaret Chambers, Ron Parsons, Dave Beard, Claude Williams, Bernard Dannan, Peter Francis, Bill Clancy and Brenda Tiffin.

### **The A.G.M.**

As there was no A.G.M. this year all members of the Committee agreed to stay in position until the next A.G.M. could be held.

### **The Committee.**

In June our Acting Secretary Rob White resigned from the Committee. We would like to thank Rob for stepping in as Acting Secretary at short notice and for guiding us through a very difficult two years under Covid – 19 Restrictions. He led the Committee through all the government guidelines and together with the senior members of the Committee did a great job in keeping all our members safe.

We all thank you very much Rob.

In July, Sylvia Switzer agreed to take over as our Acting Secretary and has settled into the role very well. We all thank her and wish her well in her new position.

The rest of the Committee has remained the same until the A.G.M at the end of November 2021.

### **Covid – 19 The Pandemic**

After the initial respite from lockdown, we found ourselves back in a total lockdown in January 2021. Luckily over the course of the year things began to improve and we were able to get back on the bowling greens, albeit with some restrictions still in place.

The result was very favourable, and we were able to meet up with members from other clubs to resume bowling leagues and competitions, at the end of which we started to feel that we were almost back to “normal”.

## Fixtures and Fittings

Changes to the club and surroundings began in February.

The first change for 2021 was the barrier erected at the entrance to the car park and clearance of the trees and shrubs to the right of the path alongside the Community Centre.

This work was done by Fareham Borough Council to hopefully stop vehicles over two metres in height, gaining access to the car park and adjoining playing field. It will hopefully prevent any traveller issues from occurring in the future. The clearing of trees and shrubs has made the approach to the club much more pleasing to the eye.



New Car Park Barrier erected by Fareham Borough Council.

Also, in February, although the club was closed at the time, Bob Prince our Club Captain and his wife Christine, worked very hard to make sure that the green was kept in tip top condition ready for our return to bowls later in the year. Many thanks to you both from all the members, it was very much appreciated.

### **April 2021**

This month saw the long overdue restoration and painting of the arbours around the garden.

On a beautiful afternoon, three teams of pairs met up to paint. Bob Prince and Ozzie Wyatt, Rob White and Pete Wilkinson and John and Carol Windust. There was some competition to see who made the best job of it and the judges of Rod Maxted and Sylvia Switzer declared it a close run thing, with Rob and emerging as the winners.



Many thanks to the “painting” teams for all their hard work.

## **Club Website**

The website had a small make over this year. The reason for this was that people seemed to be having difficulty in navigating their way around the site that, in order to glean information.

So, with that in mind, I simplified the whole of the initial landing page incorporating the information contained in each section. I also made the buttons more obvious.

I also developed the Bowling Commitments Page this year. As we now have an online booking system, the idea of the commitments page is to act as the Club Diary. All dates, league matches external competitions and events that I am given, are on this page. This is to help with the booking of matches throughout the season. It shows members which days are free to book matches of their own without, hopefully, any clashes occurring. As a result, it should help all Captains, of all teams, to know the availability of the green and rinks.

This page in turn, will be cross referenced with the booking system and matches and/or pre booked events will be blocked out in conjunction with the information received, for the Club Commitments Page.

There have been lots of favourable comments as to how much better it is. All information about the club can be found on the website, so there is no need to leave your armchair to know what is happening.

I will be continually reassessing and monitoring improvements to the website, so, I will always appreciate any comments or suggestions.

## **Online Booking System.**

There have been several changes to the online booking system this year in order to accommodate all the permutations and combinations required to meet the conditions required under Covid and the different implementations so that members could get back to bowling.

John Windust has spent many hours considering everyone's needs and continues to do so.

He hopes to have a consistent operating system once we are truly back to normal. All members seem to be managing with the system and have found it much easier for arranging and booking matches. It certainly is easier than having to visit the club to find out availability of rinks.

Very many thanks John from all the members for your diligence and hard work.

## The Bowling Year.

### Internal Competitions

These competitions began as soon as was possible after lockdown was eased. There were no Spring Triples, but Rod Maxted introduced a new competition instead which was run over four weeks as a Mini - Accumulator. It proved to be very successful and got some people back to bowling with a competitive element.

The winner of this competition was Maxeen Fletcher with a total of 64 points accumulated over the four weeks.

The 2020 Winter Competitions had to be postponed until it was safe to hold the Semi – Finals and Finals. The finals of the Winter Singles and Winter Pairs could not be accommodated until the 5<sup>th</sup> June when the Summer Competitions had started.

The matches were well contested, and the winners were: -

Winter Singles. Winner Bernard Woodward. Runner Up. Alan Jackson.

Winter Pairs. Winners Stewart McCabe & Alan Jackson. Runners up Brian Wilson and Pat Costello.



Winner of the Winter Singles  
Bernard Woodward

Winners of the Winter Pairs  
Alan Jackson & Stewart McCabe.

### Summer Competitions

These competitions were a little down in numbers this year but despite that all competitions were contested apart from the Goater Cup and the Ted Green Trophy.

All winners and runners -up can be viewed on the Club Honours Page of the website.

It was encouraging this year to see that there were some different names entering the competitions and new faces winning the trophies.

Kay Walsh is the new Lady Champion whilst Peter Brown won the President's Cup, Terry Rye Cup and is also the Men's Single Champion. A very well done to Peter.

It was an emotional win in The Willcocks Cup for Carol Windust this year. This Cup was donated to the club by Carol's family in memory of her Dad and Mum who were both founder members of Lockwood Bowling Club. So, an especially poignant award for Carol.

Well done to all members who entered the competitions and a special thank you to Rod Maxted for his hard work in organising and running the competitions.

### **Southampton and District Men's Leagues.**

The Men had a pretty good year on their return to their respective Leagues. All the Men's Leagues were able to start their League Season at the beginning of May albeit with a few restrictions to begin with.

The Championship Team had the number of rinks reduced from four rinks to three and finished in third position in Division Two.

The Combination Fours Finished fourth in their Division Two League.

The Combination Triples had a very good season and finished Runners – Up to Banister Park "C" in Division One.

The Men's season ran as normal and they completed their matches by the middle of August.

### **Southampton and District Ladies' Leagues**

The Ladies Leagues this year started later than usual, due to some clubs not knowing if they could field teams or accommodate fixtures.

However, after a last minute rearrangement of teams from different clubs the Lockwood 1 Rink Team in Division "A" finally started at end of May and ran until the end of August.

Lockwood 2 Rinks Team in Division "B" had a short season starting at the beginning of June and running to the end of August.

Lockwood 1 had an unsettled season with players out for various reasons so the teams were not consistent. They finished 6<sup>th</sup> in the league just above Hyde Abbey.

Lockwood 2 fared better and with more consistent teams finished in third place.

There was no promotion or relegation for the ladies this year, so hopefully our teams will all be safe in their respective leagues for next year.

### **The Gosport and Fareham leagues.**

There was a delay in the arranging of these leagues this year as the district had concerns about the safety of players under the restrictions before the 21<sup>st</sup> June.

Eventually, however, it was decided that the league matches would be played as friendly matches after the 21<sup>st</sup> June when the Covid restrictions were finally lifted.

Only half of the fixtures for this season were played but whilst it was played on a friendly basis, points were awarded. There was some difficulty for the captains of teams this year fielding teams but despite this Lockwood Gold and Lockwood Red finished 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> positions respectively in Division 1.

The Lockwood Green Team finished unfortunately in last place.

The Lockwood Silver Team were the most successful team this year season finishing in third position.

There were no Gosport and Fareham Competitions contested this year. Let's hope they will be back next year.

### **The Castle Cup**

The Castle Cup resumed this year with Lockwood's turn to visit Portchester to compete for the Castle Cup.

On what was probably the hottest day of 2021, four rinks of pairs took to the rinks for a timed session from 1pm – 3pm and four rinks of triples played from 3.15pm – 5.15pm.

It was a very friendly occasion, but unfortunately whilst the scores were close, Lockwood only managed to win on one rink of pairs and one rink of triples. So, the castle Cup was won this year by Portchester.

Hopefully, Lockwood will win it next year when Portchester come to us.



Bob Prince presents the castle Cup to the President and Captain of Portchester.

### **External Competitions**

#### **Bowls England Competitions.**

Lockwood were represented in the national Competitions by the following members in 2021

Men's Singles (Over 55) Neil Fletcher.

Women's Senior Pairs (Over 55) Sheena Mack and Maxeen Fletcher.

Mixed Pairs (Over 55) Neil and Maxeen Fletcher.

Mixed Fours Neil and Maxeen Fletcher, Harry and Ann Bryant. Reserve Kevin Gillingham.

#### **Bowls Hampshire Men's Competitions.**

Unfortunately, the competitions were not contested by Lockwood this year.

#### **Bowls Hampshire Ladies' Competitions.**

The following ladies represented Lockwood in the Bowls Hampshire Competitions.

2 Wood Singles. Maxeen Fletcher.

4 Wood Singles. Maxeen Fletcher.

Senior Fours. Kay Walsh, Sylvia Switzer, Gill Grindey and Sue Coates.

Golden Girls. Gill Grindey/ Sylvia Switzer. Kay Walsh/ Sue Coates.

Well done girls it was lovely to see some new people representing the club.

Two rinks of ladies played against Meon Valley in the first round of the Thornbery this year.

Unfortunately, it was the first game on grass for our ladies after two years, so we were all a little bit rusty and Meon Valley were the victors.

As this is a knockout Competition, we could not proceed to the next round.

It was a similar scenario for our Mixed Top Club Team. We were drawn in Round 1 away at County and unfortunately only won on one rink. As it is the number of wins out of a total of five games played, County went through to the second round.

### **Dolly Gore.**

This was a much better result for the girls of Lockwood. We were invited to send a rinks team to Banister Park for this competition. We were represented by Eve Aitken, Maxeen Fletcher, Joan Barton and Sylvia Switzer.

They played with other rinks teams from the South of the County against teams from the West of the County. Lockwood Ladies beat Pelham Club 17 – 13. The aggregate scores over the course of the matches played meant that the Bowls Hampshire Area South won the Cup, beating the North, East and West. This was the first time the South have won since 2009.

Very well done ladies!



The Dolly Gore winning team from Hampshire South

### **Southampton and District Women's Bowling Association Competitions.**

There were fewer ladies entering these competitions this year, but we did have some success. Ann Bryant and Carol Windust got to the Final of the Championship Pairs at Pirrie Park. Unfortunately, they finished Runners -Up to Lesley Mitchell and Sue Lewis Parkes from Waterside. However, it was good to bring a trophy back to the club even it was the second place one!



### **The Ken Marsh Trophy.**

This is a competition played at the end of the season by teams from the Men's Southampton and District Leagues.

Four rinks of players play on the same night with two rinks playing at home and two rinks play away against the same club. The winners are decided by the aggregate score of the home and away teams.

This year our men did very well. They were drawn in their first round against Romsey and won by 78 – 45. This put them through to the Quarter Final against Mayfield Park with a score of 52 – 46.

The Semi Final was then against Littleton where unfortunately Littleton went through to the Final.

A very good run by Lockwood and hopefully they will get through to the Final next year!

**Gosport and Fareham Competitions were not contested this Year.**

**Friendlies.**

There was a full program of Friendly fixtures available this year. Unfortunately, several of them had to be cancelled due to lack of numbers. However, the ones that were played were as usual, very friendly and enjoyable matches.

### **Lady Captain's Day**

On Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July, Eve held her Lady Captain's Day. The weather was fine, and everyone enjoyed the day. It began with a "Spider" to raise money for Eve's Charity and was won by Kay Walsh.



Eve was presented with a shrub and a planter for her garden in thanks for all her hard work over the last two years.

On the Day the ladies raised £121.25 for Naomi House and Jack's Place.



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### **President's Day**

Jan finally managed to squeeze her President's Day into the busy calendar albeit it a little later than originally planned. Jan's President's Team challenged a team led by the Club Captain, Bob Prince and was played on the 23<sup>rd</sup> August. This was also a successful day and all proceeds went to Jan's Charity, a combined one with Eve, - Naomi House and Jack's Place. On the day, members raised a total of £203.



Jan fully deserved her President's Day as she had led and guided the Club through two years of unprecedented upheaval in extraordinary circumstances, in order to keep the Club up and running wherever possible and to keep all members safe from Covid. We all thank you Jan for your two years of service. Over the season Eve and Jan were able to present a cheque of just over £725 for Naomi House and Jack's Place.

A big thank you to all those who contributed to this very worthwhile charity.

### **Lockswood Gardens**

The maintenance and gardening teams continued to work hard each week to keep the gardens looking their best and the green in immaculate condition for the members to play on.

Besides the above mentioned arbour painting, we had much bee activity in the bird box to the left of the back border of the garden. When the box was taken down this nest was found, left by the bees. What a brilliant construction!



As a result, a new bird box was made by John Windust, to replace the old one.



It will be interesting to see if we get birds or bees next year!



The teams looking after  
our beautiful gardens  
and green.  
Thank you, boys, for all  
your hard work.



### **Membership Figures**

At the time of writing the Membership Figures are as follows: -

Full Members – 170 (107 man & 63 ladies.)

Juniors – 1

Social Members – 34 (11 men & 23 ladies.)

Non – Playing Members – 1

It has been very heartening to find that since the Bowls England National Open Day in May our membership has increased by 29 new members, 5 of which are Social members making a total of 24 new playing members. We have 1 junior member who has been receiving regular coaching and hopefully we will be able to encourage more juniors in the future.

A special thank you to Neil and Maxeen Fletcher who have been working hard to give regular coaching to many of these new members.

### **The Committee Positions**

The A.G.M. was held on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2021 and there were some changes to the Committee positions. New Committee Members will be displayed on the Committee pages in due course.

As officially, the 2021/2022 year starts from the A.G.M. This will be reported on in next year's round – up.

## **In Summary.**

This seen year has been a difficult year for many. However, there have been many people at Lockwood, Southampton and District, Gosport and Fareham, Bowls Hampshire and Bowls England who have worked very hard to ensure that our sport gets back to where it was pre – Covid.

The winner has been the fact that many of us have been able to actually get bowling again and renew friendships across the Districts and County.

There is no doubt, that the process has been a little slow, and clubs generally, have been seeing change and dropping numbers within their clubs.

We have had a successful beginning to a return to normality in the playing of Leagues, Competitions, Friendlies and special events and Lockwood has mostly been represented in all of these.

There is still an element of uncertainty over what is to come in the future but, with, everyone looking forward and helping each other, encouragement to participate, and with the enthusiasm to get back to bowling, that clubs will be able to find a way to participate no matter how small.

Next year sees the Commonwealth Games at Leamington and this should give us all something to aspire to. So, let's look forward to a better and increasingly hopeful season in 2022.

In the meantime, stay safe, have a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.