

# NHBC NEWSLETTER - April 2024

We are delighted that Neil Hixon Property Services (NE) Ltd kindly sponsor our team kit.  
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**WELCOME** to your new look newsletter. A new season deserves a slightly fresher look, so thank you John Sproston (Sprossy) for the badge design. As always we are grateful to Neil Hixon Property Services and the Board Inn for their continued and generous sponsorship. The green opened on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> and it has been getting a fair amount of use ever since. Just to remind you that it is open Monday to Saturday from 1.00pm plus Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6.00pm. When all the leagues are running it will be in pretty constant use.



### CAPTAINS REPORT

Well, it's certainly good to see the back of the indoor season and to finally get on the green. The green is looking very well considering the horrendous weather we have encountered so far. Unfortunately, we have had to use the green protector sheets a few times and have been forced to play on half rinks, which isn't ideal but it's something we have to do to try and protect the green at this very early stage of the new season.

The team has already played 2 games in the Earl Cup losing both to Seaham Town and Houghton DL B but there have still been some good individual performances and we have been unlucky not to get a couple of more points but I'm sure performances and results will improve in the coming weeks.

There are no team games next week, but w/c 6th May sees us in league action on Monday, Wednesday and Friday night followed by a Saturday afternoon game in the Storey Bowl so plenty of opportunities are coming up to try and get in the team.

May is also going to be a very busy month for the early rounds of the Bowls Durham knockout competitions so please keep an eye on the wipe board for details of the upcoming games. The closing date for entries for the in-house club competitions is also fast approaching so please make sure you get your name down if you wish to play in them.

Entries for the Sunderland District competitions close on the 18th May so you need to let me know if you haven't done so already which you would like to enter. (Silver Jacks – Pairs, Birkett Shield – Triples and the David Morgan – Mixed Pairs) **Colin**

Just some of our "First Day" bowlers, from the left, John Grant, Brian Smith, Jan Todd, Ned Dinsdale & Steve Norman.

As we go to print I can tell you that we have 56 members including 18 ladies. We are pleased to welcome back into the fold Steve Holland and Tom Felton who thought (for just one season) that others greens were greener but have since realised there are no greener greens than the NHBC green.

All we can do now is hope for good weather and enjoy ourselves throwing balls at Jack.

### BEDALE

Our annual day away at Bedale is rapidly approaching and as we go to print I can tell you there are 22 of us making the trip. Colin is away on holiday this week but you can rest assured he will be lying on his sunbed thinking about our teams and format etc. We just hope that he brings some sunshine back with him. So, see you there, by 1.30pm. Don't be late, and enjoy yourselves.

The postcode is DL8 1ES

### MEN'S CLUBS RINKS (fours) Champions

A picture of Chris Blake, Colin Watson, with twins Peter Thompson & Patrick Thompson. No I don't know which is which.



### INDOOR BOWLS

Some will argue that indoor bowls is not proper bowls, but of course, it is, and it is very competitive. I'm delighted to tell you that NHBC has been very well represented at the Houghton Indoor rinks.

The ladies pairs and triples teams finished midway in the league table and the fours finished about 2/3 down the table this season. This was a great improvement on our first season of being near the bottom. In the competitions Linda, Pam and Gill were runners up in the ladies triples final against an experienced Joan Rodgerson, Susan Forster Val Bambrough team.

Also our Chris Blake and Colin Watson enjoyed some success, Chris wrote; In my first full season at Houghton Indoor Bowling Club in my 6th final of the indoor season I FINALLY managed to get my name (and Colin's, Patrick's and Peter's) on the Competition Honours Board after winning the Men's Club Rinks (Fours) Final in a very tense and close game!

- Mens Rinks (fours) - CHAMPIONS!
  - Men's Open Singles (Runner up)
  - O'60's Triples (Runner up)
  - Seniors Champion of Champions (fours) (Runner up)
  - Mens Interclub (Runners up)
- Also, with my teammates we managed to finish Champions of the Monday Night League (Fours), Thursday Afternoon League (Pairs) and finished Runners Up in the Tuesday Morning and Wednesday Morning Leagues.

**Congratulations to the NHBC gang.**



The Board Inn is proud to sponsor the New Herrington Bowling Club newsletter  
Find us at Durham Road, Middle Herrington, Sunderland SR3 3NS  
To book a table call 0191 522 5682



|            |                 |                       |                |              |
|------------|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Secretary: | Barry Thomas    | <b>YOUR COMMITTEE</b> | Safeguarding:: | Les Todd     |
| Treasurer: | Lorraine Galley | Chairman: Chris Blake | Maintenance:   | Howard Smith |
| Captain:   | Colin Watson    |                       | Facilities:    | Linda Watson |

### The Wick (Or Herrington Glide) We learn a bit about Garry Wallace (Senior)

Hi all, thanks to Ned it's my turn to contribute to the Herrington Wick. Having known Ned since the 1970s through local football and mining I know how hard an act he is to follow. Anyway, I was born in Penshaw in 1960 and attended Herrington school before it closed then I finished my junior school days in Shiney Row, followed by Shiney Row comprehensive. I left school in 1976 and tried a couple of jobs as my parents wouldn't give me the sign off to work in the coal mine. When I was 18, I made my mind up and went to work underground at Herrington colliery, I had so many happy memories at Herrington until it sadly closed following the 84-85 strike, where I proudly remained a striking miner for the duration. I was transferred to Vane Tempest in Seaham. I have worked for Asda distribution since 2006 where I am the senior shop steward for the GMB and regional council member. I am all over the country at the moment with pay ballots and elections - busy times.

I have been married to Carol (my rock and soul mate) since 1982, we have 2 children, Garry, born in 1983 (junior) and Stacey in 1991. Garry was born a Sunderland supporter, but after I dropped him on his head as a kid, he woke up a black and white.

I started refereeing local football in 1988 and somehow managed to progress through the ranks of the Wearside league, Unibond League and into the championship and the football league, the highlight was officiating at the new Wembley for the play off final in 2013. Bowls wise, I started

at Herrington workmen's then to Barnes West End before playing for "Welfare", the club is simply a credit to the bowling fraternity not only locally but nationwide, the work and dedication from the committee, officials, players, male and female is the envy of everyone. My other passion is my scooter and the scooter scene. I am putting this down to adventure before dementia. So finally; looking forward to getting back out on the green soon and can't wait to start the social side as well as the playing side of the bowling season. I nominate Colin Watson for next month's Wick. Thanks **Garry senior.**

Photo kindly provided by Garry



#### If you need to give us money for any reason

##### BANK DETAILS

**BANK:** LLOYDS  
**SORT CODE:** 30 99 50  
**ACCOUNT:** 56801060  
**NAME:** New Herrington Bowling Club

##### BIRTHDAYS

We send warmest good wishes to the following members who have birthdays in April and May

|                    |                  |       |
|--------------------|------------------|-------|
| Susan Chambers     | 4 <sup>th</sup>  | April |
| Howard Smith       | 5 <sup>th</sup>  |       |
| Dave McKinley      | 7 <sup>th</sup>  |       |
| Derrick Merrington | 17 <sup>th</sup> |       |
| Marie Graham       | 18 <sup>th</sup> |       |
| Keith Maddison     | 19 <sup>th</sup> |       |
| Phil Herdson       | 23 <sup>rd</sup> |       |
| Mark Thompson      | 1 <sup>st</sup>  | May   |
| Gary Loadman       | 4 <sup>th</sup>  |       |
| Pam Bainbridge     | 9 <sup>th</sup>  |       |
| Gary Hassan        | 9 <sup>th</sup>  |       |
| Tom Felton         | 17 <sup>th</sup> |       |
| Lorraine Galley    | 17 <sup>th</sup> |       |

#### A FEW WORDS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The first of a trilogy of presentations and training took place this week when the club and its members welcomed back Nicky from Cancer Research UK, our chosen charity. The club had asked Nicky to deliver a short awareness presentation about the 'preventable causes of cancer'. Our hope is that by making healthy changes now you can make a difference to your cancer risk in the future. The talk was very informative and it provided those in attendance with some powerful statistics:

1 in 2 people will be touched by cancer, but did you know approx 360,000 cases can be prevented each year, that's around 4 in 10 cases. So the message is very clear:

#### **Together we can beat cancer**

#### OPEN FUN DAY - SUNDAY MAY 26<sup>th</sup>

Yes we will be holding another Open Fun Day at the club. It is being promoted by Bowls England in an effort to bring more people to the sport.

Our open days are great fun. Our captain has devised several games that are easy to play, including "Hoops", "Nearest The Ditch" and "Spider". Everyone is welcome, so bring your family and friends. There will be coffee and cake. The fun starts at 1.00pm.

#### **Easyfundraising**

Spring is in the air and we're all looking forward to getting outdoors and booking summer holidays. By simply using this app when buying anything online you could be raising funds for your club, it's free, easy to use and has no impact on your shopping experience. This website works with over 8,100 brands (many high street names) who pay a commission when a sale is made from a customer who goes via their website. Next time you shop online (even Amazon and Ebay) give a thought to using Easyfundraising and supporting NHBC. Big thanks to those members who have already signed up and started raising money! Don't be frightened, it really does work, just follow this link

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/>  
 If you need any help contact Lorraine Galley,

**Would any business like to sponsor a rink? A banner/sign with your logo and message will cost just £200**

**Visit our website [www.newherringtonbowls.co.uk](http://www.newherringtonbowls.co.uk) or go to our Facebook page. Or you can contact NHBC by writing to: Barry Thomas, Secretary, 15 Malvern Gardens, Sunderland SR6 9LB**