

# STAINES BOWLING CLUB



To start the New Year we have two final indoor bowls match's, the first being at Hounslow on 14<sup>th</sup> January.

Another very nice afternoon with a very good meal to finish, our top rink going to Moira Matthews, Alan Little, Sheila Everett and Eric Moore, who went down by one on the last end 20-21. (Hounslow should have lost some of their score as they played one man down, but we don't complain...)

Final score 60-118.

We returned from our annual pilgrimage to the Potters Holiday Resort fully fed and watered. As we did not bring back the winner's trophy it means that everyone lost, a fair result. However it was a very successful year with 56 people going, 34 by coach and 10 team playing under the Staines Bowling Club name. The final was won by a team from Cumbria, comprising of three ladies and one man, and a very good side they were.

Our thanks must again go to Clive Lintott who organises the trip on behalf of us all.

Next year will soon be here.

A week after we returned from Potters we had the final indoor fixture of the season against Egham, it was a full six rink turn out. The result was as expected, a loss for Staines but we held the deficit to under 100, final score 67 - 162. We had some very good news with a winning rink of Derek Clark, Alan Little, Sheila Everett and skip Wendy Ridley.

Thank go to all who supported the indoor winter fixtures.

And finally to finish the winter season we must once again thank our Social Committee who have organised all the events during the off season. We have had some very good evenings this year, all with full house's. Also thanks to John and the bar helpers who as ever were always on hand, and thanks also for all those people who remained behind after the events to clean up and put away. But the final thanks go to all of you who came out in the winter weather to support the club, because without you none of the evenings would be enjoyable.....and now.....

..... Welcome to another year of bowling at Staines, and we have an interesting year ahead of us. As I am sure most of you must know by now that next year is our Centenary year and we have set a target of 100 members for our 100<sup>th</sup> year, so we need everyone to try and get as many new members as possible. You will have seen from the notice board that we have given an incentive to all who succeed.

2018 is also the first year of the newly formed South Middlesex League, this is a combination of the Fordbridge League and the Hounslow and District League. The format remains the same and there will be the additional external competitions for members to enter, see the appropriate boards for information.

Staines have been given the honour of hosting the finals for both the South Middlesex League and the Thames Valley League for 2018, so we would like Staines members to assist as much as they can to ensure these finals are a success.

On top of this we have our usual selection of fixtures to fulfil, as well as club competitions and the Monday night league. It would be nice to see as many people enter as many competitions as possible, if you have never entered a competition, then have a go this year.



## **STAINES BOWLING CLUB CAR PARK**

It has taken seven years, several committee members and a lot of time but we have now reached the point where we have admitted defeat.

It started back in 2010 when Surrey County Council wanted to impose a three hour parking limit on the Burges Way car park, the club contacted the council and put forward our case that a bowls match takes longer.

After several years of discussion and proposals Spelthorne council agreed that Staines Bowling Club could have the area behind the club as their own car park, with the area extended to the footpath up to the tennis courts, but the club would have to pay **ALL** costs.

These costs include, design fees, legal fees, new storage racks for the museum artefacts (currently stored in the containers), plus new drainage, walls, etc. The total cost for this including VAT was £29,350 (the cheapest quotation) with the parking area reduced to its current size. This money was to be funded by obtaining grants.

Several committee members attended grant fares, council meeting and meetings with local councillors, many hours were spent with Spelthorne council, who were very helpful in completing the initial grant forms. Up to 20 different grants were investigated or applied for, but we only received one substantial offer of £15,000 from Surrey Community Grant and that grant offer has just expired. Our latest efforts were with the Aviva and Spelthorne Council Revenue Grant 2018 but both proved unsuccessful.

Given these results your committee has now ceased trying to complete this project. Should any member feel they can obtain the funds required then please let us know and we can approach the council again.