



Time for a couple of congratulations. First to **John Hay** who won through in the National 2-wood's beating top player Dave Pitt on the way. He has a couple of more rounds to go when he could finish up playing at Leamington in the finals. Good luck John. Also well done to **Derek Keogh**, who just lost out at the final ends, otherwise he would have been playing against John.

On a more sombre note, it was another Crematorium day at Woking, this time for **Allan Morris**. Allan who was a great supporter of Staines Bowling Club and always amazed people how he could just let the bowl go and it finished up on the jack.

Ashford came to Staines on Wednesday for a friendly, and it was a first for Mike Davies to be Captain of the Day. Thanks and well done to Mike. The result was a win for Staines in a very pleasant evening game. Final score 79-55 to Staines, top rink going to Candy Astle, Clive Stevens and Mike Jones.

The next day saw us at **Cambridge Park** with another Captain of the day, so a thanks to Dave Perry for this one. The result was a win for Staines 68-46 with top rink going to Rita Woods, Bob Blackett and Wendy Ridley.

We had a fourth Captain of the day against **Stanwell** as John Hay took us to a 93-39 win in the SML. Thus giving Staines a 10-0 points score. Top rink went to Jill Walker, Clive Lintott and John Smith.



The final SML fixture for the weekend was away at **Fordbridge Park**, on what some would call a challenging green. Final score was 77- 60, but the points went 5 -5. Top rink today went to Roy Holdaway, Rita Moore and Derek Keogh.

After much will it - won't it, the rain stopped and **Ladies Captain Day** arrived. Ladies from Sunningdale, Walton, Hampton, Bishop Duppas, and Wraysbury all arrived to play in a round robin. All teams played 5-ends, then the Staines ladies moved to another rink, a maximum of 20 ends were played - then all went in for tea. The result 116 - 64, a good win on all rinks for Staines, top rink throughout all the rounds comprised of Jean Miller, Sheila Rogers and Sheila Everett. Thanks must also go to all volunteers especially Cynthia Hay, Jean Lintott and Eileen Windmill, who prepared and served all the food. WELL DONE AND THANK YOU TO ALL WHO TOOK PART.

The rain soon returned and we played 15 wet ends against the **London Civil Service**. Ivor Meyrick took his first match as a skip, but unfortunately Staines came a wet second 28-52 in a well-mannered match. Our best rink was Delphine Palmowski, Dave Woodruff, Alan Little and Mike Davies.

After their good win on Tuesday our ladies were due to go to **Windsor and Eton**, but the rain won again. Match cancelled.

A thanks to Dave Perry for being Captain of the Day on Saturday away at **Osterley** in the SML. It was a win for Staines 70-52 for an 8-2 points score. Top rink to Lesley Tocock, Mike Davies and Derek Keogh.

And another good result for Captain of the day Mike Davies as they beat **Hounslow Cons** in the SML 79-57, giving another 8-2 points victory. Top rink to Jill Walker, Clive Stevens and Derek Keogh. Unfortunately another club with catering difficulties as we were not offered any food after the match.



We had several new players in the event against **Byfleet**, nerves and trepidation now over. On a green that some found difficult and others liked, the overall result was a win for Staines 82-73. Our top rink went to Dave O'Brien (a Byfleet member who stood in as a last minute Staines replacement), Mike King, Clive Stevens, and Eric Moore.

It was the second round of the Shield against **Bishop Duppas**, Staines had a large deficit of 37 shots to make up before we even started to score. However in a very good fixture Staines won on 4 of the six rinks but were unable to pull back the full deficit. With a score of 122 - 96 in meant that Duppas retain the shield for yet another year as they win by 11 shots. Top rink for Staines were Richard Cosstick, Joyce Marshall, Clive Lintott and Wendy Ridley.

The May Bank holiday **Denman Two Wood Triples** saw a good turnout of members to give three rinks of triples. The weather held fine and after a good day of bowling the winners at the end were the all-male team of Gordon Burn, Mike Jones and Derek Keogh.

On our first heavy rain day we had the SML against **Woodlands**. With a lull in the weather the match got under way and completed 12 ends before rain again came to stop play. Final score was a close win for Staines 41-39 giving a points score of 7-3. Top rink went to Jill Walker, Sheila Everett and Clive Lintott.

It was the second consecutive Wednesday that we had to attend a cremation, this time for past member **Sheila Tinham**. Sheila was an established member of Staines and would play for the club whenever she could, she was also one of the very few lady players who could reach a full length jack on a wet green. She will be missed by all.

The rain had passed and so our ladies set off to the **Royal Household**. With our top rink of Moira Matthews, Joyce Marshall and Dot Stanners getting a draw the household won 37-67.

At last a pleasant day as we all went to Sunningdale for the first round of the **Sunningdale cup**. The Simes cup for the ladies and the Cattley cup for the men. A win on both rinks for the ladies gave them a score of 49-29, hence a 20 shot lead to take into the second round. It proved a little tougher for the men who scraped through 75-74, a one shot lead. Our top rinks were Jill Walker, Lesley Toccock, Joyce Marshall and Wendy Ridley for the ladies, and for the men Clive Stevens, Arthur Billins, Roy Holdaway and Dave Perry. Let's hope we can keep the lead in the second round at home.

Our ladies had a quick return to **Sunningdale** on Tuesday for their lady fixture, but unfortunately it was hit by heavy rain. After a delayed start they managed to get in a whole three ends before the rain returned. However with a score of 11-2 after three ends we will take it as a win.

For the first time in many years we managed to get 5-rinks out against **Horsell**. Another good friendly fixture with several new members playing. The match went to Horsell 80-99, but our top rink went to Roger Collins, Val Edwards, Richard Cosstick and Mike Davies. We look forward to the return in 12 months' time.





On a very pleasant Monday evening we had the members of the **U3A/K2** group down to try bowling. A thanks to all members and social members who came to help. Everyone had a good evening with several potential new bowlers amongst them. Several have already stated they will come down to our Open days.

It was the first round of the T.V.L and the first fixture against West Ealing bowls club. **West Ealing** are a very competitive and strong club and won with a final score of 67-74. We had a top rink comprising of Roger Lintott, Mike Davies and John Hay.

A REMINDER TO ALL:- You cannot play an internal competition at the same time as a fixture. Only if you are not selected can you then play. If you are available to play a competition, then you can play a match.

Another reminder: All members will have received an email reminding about Dress Code, some members are still not wearing approved bowls clothes including shoes. Please make the effort, to dress as required.

It was unusual for **Windsor Great Park** to reduce the match, but they reduced it down from 6 triples to 4 triples. It was an enjoyable evening even though they won 61-69. A well done to Mike King who played in his first match, and to our top rink of Bob Blackett, Clive Stevens and Derek Keogh.

Another team reducing was **Iver Heath** who reduced down to 3 triples. Captain of the day Dot Stanners had a good win 67-33 helped by top rink Stan Stanners, Joyce Marshall and Mike Davies.

Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th May was our **Open Day's weekend** plus a match against **Walton**.

Our open day's saw 21 people come in to try, several who showed potential and several who joined immediately. We must thank all members who gave their time to help over the two days. The Walton fixture was marginally reduced by Staines from 4-rinks to 5 triples. Taken on the day by Dave Perry, Staines won on 3 of the 5 rinks but lost overall 77-83. Top rink of the day went to Delphine Palmowski, Nick Kirby and Derek Keogh.

After months of planning, the odd sleepless night for some, the day finally arrived for the first of our centenary fixtures. **The Friends of English bowling** team came to Staines to play 6-rinks on a nice warm sunny day. A very friendly match where Staines finished second. They sent players from 11 different Counties and several had a journey of over 3 hours to reach us. The catering genius of Cynthia Hay provided excellent food both before and after the event. The Friends presented the club with a nice framed certificate to memorialise the day. Staines had a best rink comprising of Jane Billins, Alan Little, Roy Holdaway and Eric Moore.





With the aftermath of storm Hannah blowing through the trees, and everyone wearing at least four layers of clothing we had our traditional first fixture of the season against **Ottershaw**. With fingers getting numb it was a win for Staines in a very close 68-67, and a first top rink of the season going to Derek Goodway, Joyce Marshall and Eric Moore.

Off to a flying start this season with a second win, this time against **Oatlands Park** with a score of 68-62. Not as cold as yesterday, but with some just wearing their shirt and others wearing everything, the top rink went to Stan Stanners, Rita Moore and Derek Keogh.

With the club now in possession of an **AED**, an Automated External **Defibrillator**, thanks to a kind donation to the club. Dave Perry gave members and social members a concise and informative overview of how to use the device. With the aid of a manikin and his able assistant Moira Matthews, members all had the opportunity to practice administering CPR. For members who have not noticed the device is positioned on the wall just inside the club house.

Unfortunately there always seems to be sad news and just as the season starts we hear that past members Trevor Woolley, Joan Couch and Allan Morris have all recently passed away.

All good things must come to an end, and unfortunately ours did against **Bishop Duppas** in the first round of the annual Shield fixture. On a cold, stormy afternoon and the match reduced to 18 ends, Staines lost 75-112. A special thanks must go to Gordon Burn who stepped in at the last minute to play his very first match. We had two winning rinks, but top rink went to Nick Kirby, Jill Walker, Robert Eckford, and Dot Stanners. Fingers out for the return leg.

One of the new fixtures added to our list this year was against **Knaphill**. Knaphill are a very strong team with over 80 playing members and won this opening game 76-84. A very friendly fixture on a warmer afternoon and we look forward to the return. Our top rink went to Joyce Woodward, Alan Little and Wendy Ridley.

It was the time of year for the Bill Goodsell trophy, run smoothly by Graeme Hinton. With a record turnout of 29 members on a chilly afternoon the Spider was won by Rita Woods and the trophy went this year to Mike Davies by one shot.

Our ladies had their first fixture against **Windsor Great Park**, in a very close match, but they did have the assistance of two men players in their three triples. Final score 49-50 with top rink going to Jeanette Cosstick, Jill Walker, & Dot Stanners. Staines had extra ladies who played a pairs between themselves.

A great first for Graeme Hinton who was Captain of the Day for the first time, and had a convincing win against **Heathervale** 82 – 46. On top of that he won the top rink with Gill Brazier and Derek Keogh.

We are now two weeks into the season and the initial flurry of players have disappeared, we could not get a full team to play **Windsor and Eton** so it was reduced down to 5 rinks. However what a good 5-rinks they were giving Staines a win of 112-82 with top rink going to Delphine Palmowski, Terry Smith, Mike Davies and Roger Lintott.



Our new season got underway with our Social Evening where everyone was advised of our plans for the Centenary year ahead, all members who were renewing their membership received a presentation pack, including our Social members.

The main theme of the evening was to emphasise the need for **everyone's help**, including Social members and even non-members on some of our special fixtures, and to help more in the general running of the club.

We hope members acknowledge how important this is.

The draws were made for the Ladies and Men's Championship competitions which completed all the draws, and all competition sheets are now up in the club house.

Don't leave them all until the last minute.

Again it was mentioned that unless you have your name down for the Marking course, then everyone should mark when asked unless you have a physical disability that prevents them.

Once again it is again unfortunate that our ladies seem unable to play in our competitions, it just means fewer rounds are played.

After a 100 year wait the Centenary opening day arrived, with 51 members all wearing club Greys, 5 previous members, plus an extra 9 spectators (including one lady bowler from Japan), both the lady and gents Middlesex County presidents, and last but not least our member of parliament Mr Kwasi Kwarteng, all contributing to a successful opening event.

Kwasi arrived with a minute to spare and gamely put up the opening bowls of the season, this was followed by bowls from the three presidents.

Kwasi then took part in our Spider where all money taken was split between both County presidents charities. The Spider was won by Mr John Hay with his brand new coloured bowls. He did donate his winning bottle to one of the charities.

Following the opening a light buffet was provided and concluded with a nice piece of cake.

The event was videoed by Dogface films and photographed by Mr David Dyson, photos can be seen on our web site.

We must thank all members who arrived on time and dressed as requested, thanks also all members who helped behind the scenes to ensure this day went off correctly.

Now we look forward to bowling.



It has finally arrived our **Centenary year**, and as we all know we have plenty of fixtures to play. We can only hope the weather is kind for us. We have several special events where we will require plenty of help, so please do not hide.

A couple of points for information, **Mike Davies** has had a very busy time, he has taken the Coach Bowls program and is now an official coach level 1, he has also produced our new web site that will start this season. We must thank **Chris Gardam** who started and ran our previous site and has helped with setting up the new site.

We have an industrial **dishwasher** in the kitchen which can be used as required and is under the control of the Catering Manager.

Congratulation to **Dot Stanners** who is the Ladies Middlesex President for 2019, this is an enormous honour and she is the only club member to have **ever** received this honour. She will need support and we hope members will be available to support her - as and when asked.

We had our final indoor fixture against Hounslow on Sunday 10th March, the final score was 63-79 but with a win on one rink, a draw on another, with two rinks being decided on the final end it proved a very pleasant day. Top rink to Delphine Palmowski, Richard Cosstick, Sheila Everett and Dave Perry.

Before we move into the new season we must send our condolences to Mike Jones and his family on the tragic event of the sudden departure of Lynne.

Lynne was a social member who fully supported the club and attended all our social events, but no words can fully express the sadness of these events.

**Please note a change of time in the fixtures book.
May 21st Friends Of English Bowling, 1:30 start.**

We have had our money day and we have our Open Days in May to try and recruit new members, so please come down to assist.

If you check your new fixtures book you will see we have a full fixture list with a total of 78 fixtures. This comprises of 12- ladies, 5- men's and 61- mixed.

On top of this you have the Monday night league, internal competitions plus any external competitions you may have entered.

We will repeat, if you wish to play in any of the special fixtures we have this year, don't just put your name down for that one and expect to be selected. We will try to play everyone, but not necessarily in the right order!

More helpers needed, not in the fixtures book we have on Monday 13th May the visit of U3A/K2 who will be sending down their members who would like to play bowls, and on Friday June 7th we have the 4th Staines Girl Guides troupe and helpers coming down to try bowls.

We obviously need help from members to play alongside them and help them all play.

We are hoping for Cynthia to have her food machine on the go to make an evening of it.