



As we enter the final friendly fixtures of the season, we saw a return visit of **N.P.L.** to Staines, a club with reduced members as we had to reduce the fixture down to three triples. Our top rink went to Margaret Keene, Mike Leonard and Mike Davies, and in a very nice match Staines had a win on all rinks giving a score of 50-39.

When we arrived at **Windleham** their captain was in a fluster, they had no food for the end, they were a person short, they could not get into their equipment shed to get their swisher, and the grass had not been cut. So, having calmed him down we got the match under way and all worked out very well. It tried to rain but stopped and Staines won overall 75-70. We had two top rinks, Jeanette Cosstick, David Hunton, Derek Keogh, and Richard Cosstick, Graeme Hinton Wendy Ridley. Both teams had the same shot difference, won the same number of ends, and both had scored an equal high shot end, so the Captain made an executive decision. As Derek had won more top rinks throughout the year, he gave it to Wendy's team. And we got fed at the end. A good afternoon.

The friendly's continued, this time against **Wraysbury**. We had Maureen and Tony Burrell, and Bill Tierney all playing in their first match, plus Chris Morrison skipping his first match. With Ivor Meyrick and Nick Kirby also skipping we had a fresh looking team out to play. The result was a very close match, one rink tied, and two rinks winning by just one shot, but it was left to the top rink of Tony Burrell, Sheila Rogers and Nick Kirby to finalise the result of 70-56. Yet another good afternoon.

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September was a special day for Wendy Ridley as she played Erica Ward in the finals of the **South Middlesex League Ladies Championship**. After a nail biting session Wendy went on to win 21-17. Held at Bishop Duppas and watched by Staines supporters and supporters from other clubs she weathered a late comeback by Erica.

That's two consecutive years a lady from Staines has won the championship.





After our Centenary excitements it is now back to the everyday fixtures and new Captain of the day Joyce Marshall took a team over to **Ashford** in a 4 triple friendly. The weather held fair and it was a close win to Staines 63-61. Top rink to Tony Read, Delphine Palmowski and Derek Keogh.

With only three South Middlesex league fixtures to go it was important to obtain a good result to consolidate our second place, or even snatch first away from Bishop Duppas, so Tuesday saw a visit to **Stanwell**. It turned out to be a very good result with Staines winning 81-51, giving us a full 10 points. Top rink went to Joyce Marshall, Robert Eckford and Clive Lintott. The next is a rescheduled fixture, originally rained off against Woodlands, now on 1<sup>st</sup> September.

Wednesday saw the men's friendly away at **Windsor Great Park**, a 5 triple evening game that was reduced to 16 ends due to the light fading. Although W.G.P. won 4 of the 5 rinks, the final score was 75-75, thanks to our top rink of Clive Stevens, Chris Morrison and Derek Keogh. It is always an entertaining evening at the Park and we look forward to our fixtures next year.

It is quite unusual to receive an apology for the condition of the green before arriving at the club, but **Oatlands Park** have planned some serious work on their green over the winter, however we played 5 triples on an awkward playing green. Oatlands are one of the clubs that stop for tea at half time, so unfortunately know one is aware of the final score, but it was a win to Oatlands Park 79 - 92. It was left to our all ladies team to get top rink, so well done to Gill Pitfield, Joyce Marshall and Rita Moore.

With two SML's to go we went to **Woodlands** on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> to play a rearranged match previously rained off and came away with an 8-2 points win. Final score 73-61. The final match in the league was against **Fordbridge Park** at home on the Sunday finishing in a draw 61-61. This gave 5 points each. We currently stand in first position in the league, so we need Fordbridge to beat Duppas in their next meeting, but Duppas still have fixtures in hand. We will probably finish in second position, we shall have to wait and see.

It was the final ladies fixture of the season and for lady Captain Rita Moore, and they finished with a win 57- 45 against **Hampton Ladies**. Top rink went to Margaret Keene, Jeanette Cosstick and Dot Stanners.

The weekend fixtures saw a 4T away at a new fixture, **Knaphill**, for some reason we only had two ladies, but it was a good fixture. Final score 53-96. Top Rink Allan Pilling, Roger Lintott, Derek Keogh. The following day saw us away at **Horsell**, always very friendly and a pleasure to visit, but where we struggle to get a team. It was a close win to Horsell 62-68, our top rink was Joyce Woodward, Alan Little and John Hay.

We now enter the last part of our season with several friendly fixtures, the first against **Iver Heath** away. This is the ideal ground to understand that a perfect looking green is not always the best playing green. This is not us saying this, but their own players. Overall it was a close game with Iver coming out on top 62-64. Our top rink Jeanette Cosstick, Alan Little and Wendy Ridley. We then came back in to a cup of tea and biscuits.





## **CLUB FINALS**

Finals weekend started this year at 10:00 on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August, the weather was going to be hot all weekend.

With several of our ladies playing away on the Saturday and with some members playing in several finals, Competition Secretary Graeme Hinton had a tough time arranging the schedule. However over two very hot days the finals were completed. Usual thanks go out to all who came to assist, all who came to view and as usual a special thanks to Cynthia for standing over a hot, hot plate cooking and serving the food.

We would also like to give a special thanks to Nick Masters and his family for visiting and we all wish him the very best for the future.

Final results as follows:

### **SATURDAY**

Morning Session:-Mixed Pairs, Delphine Palmowski & Bob Blackett – 27 – 6

Men's Pairs, Dave Woodruff & Mike Davies – 23 – 12

Afternoon Session:-Ladies Handicap, Wendy Ridley – 27 - 14

Men's Championship, Dave Perry – 20 – 6

Connell Cup, Clive Stevens – 21 – 19

Evening session:- Maisie Hale, Jane Billins – 21 – 10

Men's Two Wood, Robert Eckford – 14-11

### **SUNDAY**

Morning Session:-Men's Handicap, Derek Keogh – 23 – 20

Ladies Pairs, Rita Woods, Wendy Ridley – 15 – 10

Afternoon Session:- 75 Points, Dave Perry, 75 – 45

Ladies Championship, Dot Stanners – 21 – 14

Mixed Triples, Roger Lintott, Dave Woodruff, Wendy Ridley 17 – 16

Evening Session:- Ladies Two woods, Dot Stanners – 18 – 8

Men's Triples, David Atkinson, Ivor Meyrick, Clive Lintott – 19 - 8

Don't forget to book your place for the Presentation evening being held this year at The Pack Horse Hotel, number are restricted so be quick.

Final thanks to Graeme Hinton for all his work throughout the season and organising the finals.



Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August saw the return of **Ottershaw** seeking to overturn their loss in the first match at the start of the season. So on a very, very windy day with a couple of showers they did win with a 47-55 victory. They were struggling for players, so the match was reduced to three triples including the loan of Rita Moore. Staines did have a top rink comprising Delphine Palmowski, Chris Morrison and Eric Moore.

Sunday was **President Day**, and our President John Hay had three clubs come to play against Staines. Ashford, Bishop Duppas and Chertsey. Staines bowlers took the remaining two rinks and with the weather holding fine the afternoon got under way. The top rink at the end was the team from Bishop Duppas.

Tuesday saw Staines ladies away to **Chertsey** in a friendly, resulting in a very close match but saw Chertsey come out on top 43-45. Our top rink went to Jeanette Cosstick, Gill Pitfield and Wendy Ridley.

The Big Day had arrived, it had been planned for over a year, we had invited our guests including The Mayor of Spelthorne Councillor Mary Madams, her Consort Mr, Andrew Hopgood, County Councillor Sinead Mooney, lady County President Dot Stanners, plus past bowls club members, we also had visitors from the local Care home and local residents. We had professional photographer David Dyson to photograph the event and Dogface Films who were completing their video of our centenary events, plus of course the **Chelsea Pensioners**, but what we did not want was rain.

However, rain came, then like magic the rain eased and we managed a photo session plus introduction speeches from the Staines Captain and the Mayor. Before the match we held a "Spider" for charity in which everybody took part, but the winner was Staines new bowler Alan Pilling. Well done Alan, we then played a full 18 ends of bowls.

The final result of the match was a win to Staines 80-45, but the real winners were everyone who took part in a very, very enjoyable afternoon.

We must thank Cynthia Hay, ably assisted by Jean Lintott who manager the catering to perfection, first it was to be early, then at half way then finally at the end.

There was one stoppage for rain, but that coincided with the half time team changes and then everyone was out for the second half.

Our thanks go to James Shanks of Dogface films for recording the event for us, and also to David Dyson who took many photographs of the day, all available on our web site.

Finally, thanks to you for playing.

That concludes our special Centenary events and I must thank everyone involved, from the Centenary committee lead by Clive Lintott, to Cynthia Hay for leading the catering, John Hay and his team who managed the bar, Margaret George and her team of gardeners who ensured the grounds were always looking perfect, to everyone who volunteered help, whether it was required or not, you were there. All external contributors who gave up their time free of charge to assist the club, and finally to the clubs true supporters who came and played just for the club.



Following on from the Ladies Benevolent day we hosted the **Spelthorne Trophy** on 28<sup>th</sup> July, a full day of bowling involving a great deal of organising. The event involves Staines, Stanwell and Bishop Duppas Bowling Clubs. This was the third running of the event although last year it was rained off when held at Stanwell.

The day started early at 10:00 with all six rinks fully utilised and after the first session it was all very close with Staines on 4, Stanwell on 3 and Bishop Duppas on 5. The afternoon session started at 2:00 with some very close matches including two rinks not finishing until 4:50, but it required several players to go straight back on to play the evening session starting at 5:00. The results following the afternoon session were Staines 10, Stanwell 5, and Bishop Duppas 9.

Unfortunately Staines were without several of their senior players and were leading entering the final session, however Duppas players who were playing elsewhere in the morning returned to play in the evening session and this helped to give them a winning score. Final result was Staines 14, Stanwell 5, and Bishop Duppas 17. If we had all our players available who knows what could have happened we may have won that one extra game – until next year.

As ever thanks are required to all our helpers, there are too many names to thank all individually, you know who you are, but a special thanks to Jean Lintott and Eileen Windmill for running all the catering, and Derek Keogh who played in two consecutive sessions while he was extremely unwell.

Overall a very good day of high class bowling from all teams with several results going down to the last end. Well done Staines.

On Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> of August we had another SML this time against **Bishop Duppas**, Duppas only had a pair in one rink so had a reduction in their score, however it was still a win to Duppas 60-68 getting a points score of 7-3.

Tuesday saw an SML against **Hounslow Cons** at home and gave a good result to Staines. Score 86-59 gave Staines an 8-2 points victory.

It was a big day when the Royal Household came to Staines, Captain of the day Roger Lintott had all 6-rinks out for a very good afternoon of bowls. The final result was 3½ to 2½ rinks in favour of the Household, but Staines came out on top with a score of 123 – 117. So thank to our top rink of David Atkinson, Delphine Palmowski, Joyce Marshall and Derek Keogh.

It was back to a friendly on Saturday against **Walton**, they were unable to get the planned 4-rinks so it was reduced to 4-triples. It was a first match for new member Alan Pilling and a rare skip outing for Dave Woodruff. It was a win to Staines 78-68 and top rink went to Alan Pilling, Jill Walker and Wendy Ridley.

It was a quick return for several Bishop Duppas ladies to play a three triples friendly, Staines won on two rinks, but the score was 44-53 to Bishop Duppas. Our top rink went to Moira Matthews, Shirley Palmer and skip Rita Woods.



Well you can't win them all and let's be honest we did not expect to beat **Bowls England**. Playing a "proper" game of bowls we were shown how the game should be played with a final score of 85 – 152. It was a great afternoon to celebrate our Centenary, with special guests Surrey County Councillor Sinead Mooney, representatives from friends of the Park and Dogface films videoing it all. We must thank Bowls England President Hazel Marke and her team, some who travelled from as far away as Banbury - Hayling Island and Essex. A great thanks must go to our catering team of Rita Moore, Jean Lintott and lead by Cynthia Hay who served up over 80 meals during the day that included both lunch and tea, also thanks to all others who came down to help. We cannot plan these events with military precision but we say thanks to all who did come to offer help. We had a top rink, who unfortunately went down on the last two ends, but well done to Bob Blackett, Joyce Marshall, Ivor Marshall and Wendy Ridley. A great afternoon all round and thanks to all who took part.

We also had a few league fixtures:-  
**Mid Surrey** in the TFL was a win for Staines 8-5, then **Bishop Duppas** which was a win to Duppas 8-5. These were followed by a trip to **Sunbury Sports** in the SML with a win to Staines 76-62 giving a point's score of 8-2 to Staines, our top ring there being Rita Woods, Mike Davies and John Hay.

We finally had some friendlies, the first against **Egham** at Home on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July. A 5 Triples that finished with 2 rinks won by each side and one rink a tie, however Egham had the highest score of 70-80. A good afternoon and a thanks to Egham's junior bowler Danny who stood in for a Staines player at the last minute, and enjoyed the highest rink with Alan Little and Derek Keogh.

At the same time as the Egham match was taking place four of our lady bowlers were taking part in the **Chertsey Ladies** invitation. A good performance from Jeanette Cosstick, Joyce Marshall, Rita Moore and Wendy Ridley who finished joint second beating teams like Egham. As a good measure they also scored a Hot Shot. Well done ladies.

Next was away at **Rosedale Park**, but summer had arrived and as the temperature reached 35°C we only played 10-ends. Just as well as Staines lost 21-58. A cup of tea and a biscuit came at the end. Top rink was Gill King, Bob Blackett, and Wendy Ridley.

As the summer arrived and the sun shone down so the fixtures were cancelled, first by Cambridge Park and then by Woodlands.

On Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup> we hosted the Middlesex Ladies Benevolent match where ladies from many clubs in the County came to Staines to play for charity. Although only one game, it involved a full day for all our volunteers. The county ladies were in charge of the catering, but required full time help from Rita Moore, Moira Matthews and several others.



It was an crucial match against **Bishop Duppas** in the SML. With Staines just ahead in the league table, a win was needed. We had 4 triples in the SML plus an extra 2 triples in friendlies. It was a win for Staines in the league, 74-55 giving 6-4 points to Staines. Our top rink was Eric Moore, Wendy Ridley and John Smith.

We were not so lucky in the two friendly rinks with Duppas winning on both, but it was a sunny day, and a good day all round.

It was a quick return to play **Isleworth**, but as they are no longer in the SML we went to play a friendly. One of the joys of playing outdoor bowls is playing on different greens, need I say more. It was a win to Isleworth 53 – 78, but we did have a winning rink of Terry Smith, Wendy Ridley and John Hay.

Our ladies then had another friendly, this time against **Chertsey** in a three rink triple. As normal a nice day made better with a win. 58-48 and top rink to Gill Pitfield, Rita Woods and Wendy Ridley.

On Sunday there was the excitement of England winning the World cup cricket or the Men's Wimbledon final or even

an English win at the Silverstone F1, but come Monday evening it was Staines v's **Middlesex** in our **Centenary Bannerette** match. This was an 18 end, 4-rink match against a mixed County team. It was a close competition all the way through, and at the finish there was one rink tied, one rink lost, two rinks won but with one rink having just a one shot difference. Final result - was a win for Staines 64 – 59, this win equals our last Bannerette win against the County on the clubs Ninetieth celebrations in 2009 and entitles the club to a second commemorative County plaque. Our top rink went to Jeanette Cosstick, Graeme Hinton, Eric Moore and John Smith. Well done to all Staines players, every shot counted.

A point to clarify – what happens when an End is **Dead** or **Tied**? This arose during a match and caused much confusion. If an end is **Dead** it is not counted (rule 20.1) The end must be replayed in the same direction. Bowls must be transferred to the opposite end. (rule 20.2) If an end is **Tied** it must be recorded on the score card as a completed end. (rule 24.2).

The Sunningdale Cup, comprises of the Simes cup for the ladies, a two rink fixture, and the Catley cup for the men, a four rink. Our ladies started with a 20 shot lead and after a tight game they gained an extra six shots to win overall 86 – 60 and thus retain the cup. A different story for the men who started just one shot ahead of Sunningdale. After eleven ends the score was tied. It all came down to the last bowl on the last end, Staines held the shots for the match when the Sunningdale Skip took the Jack back to gain two shots. This took the cup back to Sunningdale for another year. Final score over the two rounds 149 – 151, our top rink on the day was Nick Kirby, Dave Woodruff, Robert Eckford and Dave Perry. A good effort from all.

Our TVL against **Masonians** on 11<sup>th</sup> July was postponed to the 8<sup>th</sup> August as all their players were having to play County fixtures, and County overrides club.

**Byfleet** came to Staines for the return fixture but unfortunately they had insufficient players to play a 4-rink, so instead we played 4 triples and a home pairs. Gill Pitfield was kind enough to stand in for a member of Byfleet who was not feeling well. It was a comprehensive win for Staines 102-39 and another good afternoon. Top rink went to Chris Morrison, Sheila Rogers and Eric Moore.



The rain was still coming down, but only lightly when we went to **N.P.L.** for a three triples, reduced by N.P.L. from four triples. The rain then started to come harder so we all went in for a “cosy” tea with the match reduced to 16 ends. The win went to Staines 41-33, top rink to Arthur Billins, Wendy Ridley and Eric Moore.

It was a case of how many will finally play in our new friendly against **West Ealing**. For a scheduled 5 – triples, Staines had 22 names so we asked if they could do 5-rinks, but they came back with the original 5-triples, including the help of our Ivor Meyrick (who played a little too well). This meant we had to leave five players off for the match. In a louder than normal match, both on the green and in the club house it was a win to Staines 92-66. Captain of the Day was Mike Davies and top rink by a mile went to Chris Morrison (who played in his first fixture), Roy Holdaway, and Wendy Ridley who won 31-8. We look forward to this being a regular fixture.

The following day Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> we were off to another new to fixture at **Richings Park**. Another 5-triples (and thanks all who rallied round to make up the numbers). An interesting day, on a very fast green where we only manager to win on one rink – David Atkinson, Sheila Rogers and Derek Keogh. Final score 74-112.

Our next fixture came round on Tuesday against **Isleworth** in a friendly, once a very strong club but now haemorrhaging members. They have withdrawn from both the TVL and SML leagues and for this friendly could only get three triples. It does not help any club when councils impose costs on a non-profit making club that cannot cover the costs. A win to Isleworth 49-54.

The following day saw another home fixture this time against **Sunbury Sports** in an SML match. With two rinks winning by 1-shot and another by 2 shots it was a close match. Staines won overall 78-61 and got the full 10 points. Top rink to Joyce Marshall, Mike Davies and Roger Lintott.

And then our ladies were off to **Hampton** to play in a three triples fixture. They had a “lovely day, nice company and a very nice tea” what more could they want. Oh yes - a win 68-20 to round off a good day. Top rink going to Lesley Tockock, Sheila Rogers and Wendy Ridley.

The following fixture was due to be another ladies match with **Sunningdale** coming to Staines. However they did not have enough ladies and so nine Staines players went without a game.

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> was a big day for our Middlesex County President as Dot Stanners held the **Ladies Presidents Day** at Staines. With delegates coming from many different clubs within Middlesex. Following the Spider and lunch there was a three rink triples of five ends each then change. As it was the hottest day of the year the ladies decided to call it a day after the second round and went in for dinner and a drink. The winner, well who knows, it was a hot day. Our normal thanks go to all who volunteered to help and make the day a success.

We had no fixture so it was the revised date for the Tom McCarthy trophy, and from our 65 bowlers we had the usual 12 turn up to support. The weather was good, the temperature had dropped, and a good afternoon was had by all. Well done to winner Derek Keogh who just beat our new member Chris Morrison by 2 shots.