



After a long wait the green finally opened on the 26th April. First out was President Dot who looked like she had never been away! A session of Back to Bowls got us in the mood and it was a full house for the first official game on Tuesday. We were limited to 24 but as of the 17th May we can play up to 30 in roll-ups and casual play and in organised matches and games we are back to full capacity.

We were soon feeling the effects of the unsettled weather as our second Back to Bowls session was rained off, but on the Thursday we were playing our first away match with 2 triples at picturesque Wraysbury. We were privileged to be the first on to their brand new artificial surface. This took a little getting used to but a close game ensued with the home side just pipping it by 2 shots, with a fine performance by top rink Jill Walker, Rita Moore and Wendy Ridley.

Graeme's first Early Practice session took place on the Friday morning with 18 keen bowlers out to regain bowling skills in a mixture of singles and pairs games. This series will consist of 6 Friday mornings – a useful way to improve as we get back into the bowling habit!

Our first match on grass took place on Saturday May 1st as we travelled to Ottershaw. On a cloudy day and a swingy green we had early leads but they evaporated as the home side got into its stride. After some welcome half-time teas we were back on the green but the biscuits didn't seem to work. A convincing home side win. Top rink Jill Walker, Joyce Marshall and Eric Moore. Thanks to Joyce for stepping in at short notice for Joyce Woodward.

The very next day we were over at Oatlands Park on Sunday 2nd. It was a more patchy green than the previous day, but we managed good leads though the home side caught up well. This was our first win, with 2 rinks to 1 and a 2 shot lead. Both winning rinks ended 6 shots up. Well done to Chris Morrison in his first outing as skip.

The annual Bill Goodsell drive was on the Monday and we had to work out a way to run a spider and a drive safely but we managed it! Again the weather was not with us so we stopped after 12 ends. Winner – Eric Moore.

Staines Ladies have chalked up 2 good wins, the first 53-48 on 4th May at home v Chertsey with tea and biscuits by Shirley and top rink Celia Pittman, Moira Matthews and Rita Moore. The second was away on the 11th at Windsor Great Park where they played a mixed team, but won comfortably 63-29. Top rink was Moira Matthews, Jill Walker and Rita Moore. They certainly earned their cream tea in the gazebo afterwards!...

Our 2-leg competition against Bishop Duppas saw its 1st leg on 8th May with 3 rinks both Home and Away for safety. After a morning of heavy rain the greens were inspected and pronounced playable. It was nice to see 24 Staines members out there bowling and the result was a Home win 60-55 with top rink Nick Kirby, Rita Woods, Roy Holdaway and Derek Keogh finishing 25-9. Away we were up against some very seasoned players but we had 1 winning rink skipped by Chris Morrison. Overall we go into the 2nd leg a mere -11 on aggregate. All to play for so please **sign up** for the next leg on 30th May!

THANKS TO ALL WHO ARE TURNING OUT FOR MATCHES – PLEASE SUPPORT THE CLUB IN THIS WAY AND PUT YOUR NAMES DOWN WHENEVER YOU ARE ABLE TO PLAY. THANKS. MIKE



Staines Bowling Club News

4th June 2021

It was a pleasant afternoon for our game against Knaphill on 9th May but we were only able to manage a draw on 1 rink skipped by Eric Moore with Gillian Watkins as lead and Mike Davies as 2, with our visitors prevailing on the other 2 rinks.

The weather continued changeable over the next week or so, with one SML game and a friendly rained off. At Heathervale on the 15th May the decision was made to play, and some interesting bowling took place under a mixture of sunshine and scudding clouds. Rain was due after 4 pm and at about 4.15 a heavy hailstorm (with added thunder) hit us, stopping the match at about 14 ends. It was a Staines win though 54-40, with top rink Jane Billins, Stan Stanners and skip Dot Stanners.

On the 18th our first home and away TVL match against a very strong West Ealing side was also plagued by heavy rain which interrupted play at Staines. Conditions brightened a little but we were outbowled on 3 rinks, the result being 2 points to us and 10 away. Top rink consisted of Nick Kirby, John Smith and Derek Keogh with a 19-2 score.

The very next day presented much better conditions for a fine evening's sport against Windsor Great Park Men. Some interesting bowls including a dead end followed straight away by a tied end on one rink! Our visitors won on 2 rinks but top rink of Tony Smith, Mike Davies and Derek Keogh carried the day with a score of 29-7 making it a 51-42 win for Staines. The evening was rounded off by drinks and a light supper in the clubhouse.

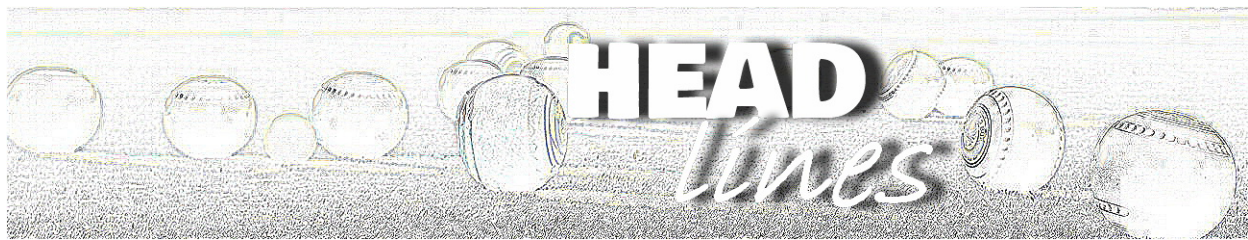
More friendlies followed with a draw against Iver Heath on the 20th, 39-39, a win at Walton on the 22nd, 55-33, top rink Delphine Palmowski, Joyce Woodward and Derek Keogh. A reduced game at Byfleet on the 29th saw a narrow win for Staines 30-27 after a fight back by Wendy Ridley on a challenging green. Top rink was Maureen Burrell, Mike Davies and Derek Keogh.

The annual Denman triples took place with just 17 players but provided a few hours' pleasant bowling, stopping for lunch after 2 games of 5 ends with another 3 after. Having just 2 woods did concentrate the mind and the most concentrated were the winners Richard Cosstick, Dave Atkinson and Clive Stevens.

Staines Ladies did not fare so well against Chertsey Ladies on their added game on the 25th but won away against Bishop Duppas ladies on the 27th 44-38. Top rink with a convincing 21-10 score was Maureen Burrell, Jill Walker and skip Moira Matthews. A visit from Sunningdale Ladies on the 1st June yielded a 30-18 win, top rink Sheila Rogers, Jill Walker and skip Joyce Woodward. The Royal Household came to us on the 3rd and it was another Staines win, 40-22, top rink Sheila Rogers, Rita Moore and Wendy Ridley.

Our 2-leg competition against Bishop Duppas concluded with another home and away on the 30th May, in much finer weather than the first leg! Going into the 2nd leg only -11 on aggregate we stood a chance and out of 6 rinks we won on 3, skipped by Eric Moore, Chris Morrison and on the top rink Derek Keogh assisted by Jill Walker, Dave Atkinson and Clive Lintott. However we conceded 28 shots overall, so the day and the shield went to Bishop Duppas. Better luck next year!

AN ENORMOUS THANKS TO ALL WHO TURNED OUT TO HELP IN OUR OPEN DAYS! We had 26 visitors over the 5 sessions and so far we have 9 new members. Special thanks to John and Cynthia for the hospitality, food and drink, to Gill and Joyce for the tabletop sale and to all who donated items, and to Derek Clark for the plants – all of which raised more than £140 for the club.



Staines Bowling Club News

25th June 2021

It was a reduced format of the Sunningdale Cup 1st leg on the 5th June, with just 2 Men's rinks and 2 Ladies' triples, all of which won. The Ladies go in to the 2nd leg with a commanding 64-19 lead, top rink Gillian Watkins, Jill Walker and Rita Moore. The Men go forward with a maller margin aided by top rink of Tony Burrell, Graeme Hinton, Clive Lintott and Derek Keogh. The 2nd leg is on the 10th July away at Sunningdale so be sure to sign up for this!

Next day 6th June we hosted Horsell over 4 triples with a good win of 96-42 aided by top rink of Sheila Rogers, Ivor Meyrick and Wendy Ridley 36-5. On the 9th we played Ashford over 4 triples with a win to the visitors by just 8 shots. Thanks and well done to Bob Blackett for taking over at very short notice from Nick Kirby and getting top rink with Jeanette Cosstick and Joyce Marshall 28-7. Next day with just 2 triples Cambridge Park had the advantage over us on their somewhat challenging green.

On a warm Saturday 12th June we played our first home SML match welcoming Stanwell. It was nice to see our visitors back after the uncertainty surrounding their club. The result was 2 rinks to the visitors, a tie and a win for us with top rink of Rita Woods, Roy Holdaway and Derek Keogh 30-7 giving us the aggregate total win, so 5 points apiece.

You may have noticed the refreshed outdoor hat and coat rack halfway down the long flower-bed. Thanks and hats off to Derek Keogh for taking the time to prepare and repair it before repainting it. It now looks very smart again!

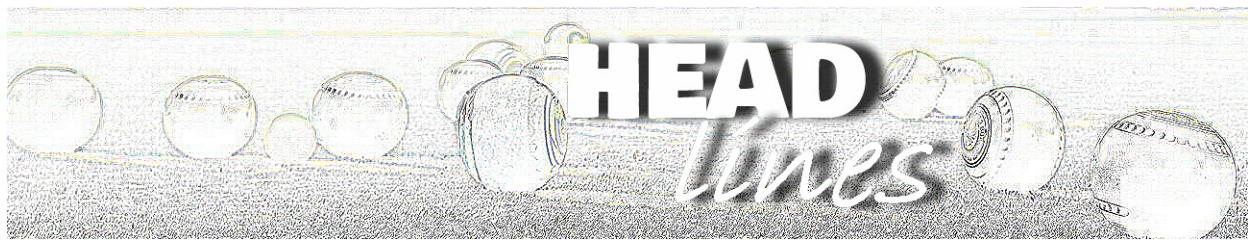
After our early season close match against Wraysbury away a return was due and again the difference at the finish was just 2 shots, this time in our favour 44-42! Top rink was Roger Collins, Joyce Marshall and Wendy Ridley. Thanks to Eric Moore for standing in as Captain of the Day.

Well done to Wendy Ridley for reaching the semi-finals of the Middlesex Unbadged singles competition. At a score of 20-20 she was robbed of a win by less than an inch in a measure. So commiserations as well as congratulations are in order!

On the 16th it was a home win 57-39 for Staines again the London Civil Service in a traditional format of 3 rinks, though as it was a hot day only 18 ends were played by agreement. Top rink was Joyce Woodward, Mike Davies, Roy Holdaway and Ivor Meyrick. Ivor came up trumps again in his first outing as Captain of the Day against Fordbridge Park on the 23rd with a win of 62-42 and once more holding top rink aided by Gillian Watkins and Gill Pitfield. An away match against Weybridge on the 24th on a hard-to-read green in very noisy surroundings gave us some problems though we did have one winning rink – Allan Pilling, Tony Burrell and Wendy Ridley.

Again a big thank you to all who are putting their names down for matches. We do need members to sign up for the League matches – SML and TVL. Typically we need to field 4 triples in both these cases – if we don't we are penalised. So please sign up for these when you can! Every signup makes selection easier!

And finally - just a reminder that on hot days you do need to keep hydrated so drink water between ends. We do put chilled water out so make use of it! If you need a hat please wear it and appropriate sunscreen too! A damp towel round the neck can help too. Shorts (white or grey depending) are permitted as long as they are tailored, or made by a recognised bowls supplier.



Staines Bowling Club News

13th July 2021

The 2nd and 3rd of our SML matches were played at home at the end of June starting with the rescheduled Teddington encounter on Tuesday 29th. It was a Staines win against the visitors who are new to the South Middlesex League and who were anxious to be off to watch England beat Germany in the Euros! Rain helped by shortening the game by a few ends on 2 rinks. It ended 8-2 to Staines with an aggregate of 70-52. Top rink Gillian Watkins, Rita Moore and Derek Keogh.

On the 30th we played Sunbury Sports, also at home. This was a tighter match, ending with a win for Staines 6-4 and just a 4 shot advantage 64-60. The weather was a little kinder to us but we were up against some very good players with the top rink going to Mike Leonard, Roy Holdaway and Joyce Marshall 18-9.

Our ongoing friendlies saw us at Richings Park on the 27th June on a cloudy but largely rainless afternoon. Some ups and downs in the 3 triples gave the home side a win of just four shots, with our top rink going to Allan Pilling, Joyce Marshall and skip Eric Moore winning their rink 27-20. After the successes in our 2 SML matches we were away at Hampton in a first-time mixed friendly. Alas we couldn't master their green but well done to Wendy Ridley who recovered to just one down after a slow start and also to Celia Pittman, Joyce Marshall and Clive Stevens who had the only winning rink.

The rainy weather continued into early July. On the 4th we held the annual Tom McCarthy drive. 16 bowlers turned out to play 4 games of 4 ends each in Aussie Pairs format. After the first 2 games we retired into the clubhouse for tea and biscuits or something a little stronger, while outside the heavens opened up! After about 20 minutes we ventured back out to see if we could carry on and so we did with another 2 games. The winner was Allan Pilling with a standout 30 shot advantage. The opening Spider was won by Celia Pittman.

It was another SML win for Staines 6 points to 4 on the 7th of July away at Bishop Duppas on a thankfully dry afternoon. We won on 3 rinks but the home side had an 18 shot lead at the end so got the aggregate points. Well done to Eric Moore and team for winning a very close rink at 16-17 down with 3 shots on the last end. Top rink was Delphine Palmowski (in a welcome return to fitness), Mike Davies and John Smith, whom it was also good to see back on the green! Thanks to Sheila Rogers for playing at short notice.

The next day we were at Fordbridge Park for another SML match but this time we just lost out to the home side 4-6. Again we were interrupted by a heavy downpour and came out to play again on a rather damper green. Top rink Jill Walker, Mike Davies and Derek Keogh.

Then on the 10th July it was the 2nd leg of the Sunningdale Cup match, this time away. We went into this with the Ladies having a 45 shot advantage and the Men 10. In the leafy surroundings of the Sunningdale green both the 2 Men's rinks and the 2 Ladies triples won and the final scores over both legs were 107-49 to the Ladies, 93-64 to the Men. Top rinks – Ladies, Joyce Marshall, Gill Pitfield and Rita Moore – Men, Graeme Hinton, Allan Pilling, Roy Holdaway and Eric Moore. A solid win and well done to the Ladies for retaining the Simes Cup and the Men for bringing home the Catley Cup for the first time since 2014! Both these fine trophies are now on display behind the Staines Club Bar.



Following our heady wins at Sunningdale it was back down to earth with a flurry of TVL matches. Versus Masonian on the 15th July skip John Smith added some late shots to help us to an away win alongside winning rink Rita Moore, Mike Davies and John Hay, though at home we were up against the relentless Dave Pitt and his fellows. An overall loss but by a creditable 6 points to 7. Against Mid Surrey on the 20th we had 1 winning rink of Tony Smith, Roy Holdaway and Derek Keogh 22-9, but the match went 2-10 against us. And against Bishop Duppas on the 22nd the best we could manage was 1 tied rink away from Roger Lintott, Mike Davies and Wendy Ridley 15-15 with 5 shots added on the last end! Overall 1.5-12 points to our opponents.

Somehow we also managed to play 2 SML games that same weekend but with more success. Away against Sunbury Sports on Saturday 24th the rain cleared up and we had a sunny afternoon's bowling winning 6 points to 4 and 89 shots to 61. The runaway top rink was Delphine Palmowski, Joyce Marshall and skip Clive Lintott with an impressive 33-6. Sunday's weather was less clement and in very wet conditions, with occasional thunder, we bowled at Cambridge Park still taking the game 9-1 and 60 shots to 16 – and this despite the game being called off after 10 ends as the rain showed no sign of stopping! Top rink was new joiner Paul Dorman (in his 1st SML game), Rita Moore and Derek Keogh with a score of 19-2.

On a more friendly note, there was a good turnout for the annual Ladies v Men competition which took place on the 17th over 4 triples and a rink. It was great to see some of our newer bowlers joining in and enjoying their game, though alas it was all too much for the Ladies who were outbowled by 51 shots. Top Men's rink was Paul Dorman, Graeme Hinton and Derek Keogh. Honourable mention to Wendy Ridley whose team was beaten by 1 shot only.

The ever-popular friendly away match against Windsor Great Park Men on the 21st saw another win for Staines 84-62. On a balmy evening on a well-behaved green the bowling was enjoyable and the company convivial, with the top rink featuring another new bowler, Malcolm Harvey, with Roger Lintott (another player we are very glad to see back on the green!) and John Smith, score 18-6.

Another friendly, this time v Chertsey on the 31st July, saw another solid win for Staines 90-62. The day was unsettled going into the fixture, and no sooner were we on the green than we were off it again dodging a heavy downpour! But the green played fine when we came back out. Top rink was Sheila Rogers, Jill Walker, Clive Stevens and Wendy Ridley with a 31-13 score.

The annual Spelthorne Trophy all-day 3-way tournament involving Staines, Bishop Duppas and this year Fordbridge Park was on the next day Sunday 1st August at Bishop Duppas. Staines got off to a flying start in the morning session with good wins in their respective singles by Derek Keogh and Wendy Ridley who battled back from a disadvantage to win on the last end 21-20. After (a barbecue) lunch Clive Lintott led his mixed triple to a 29-18 win with the help of Sheila Rogers and Bob Blackett. Alas those were the extent of our wins though Chris Morrison in the second men's singles gave a good account of himself with only a 4 shot difference at the end. The day was taken by Fordbridge with Duppas second. **Thanks to all who turned out to play** and let's hope for better luck next year when Staines have agreed to host the tournament.



Staines Bowling Club News - SUMMARY

20 September 2021

The time since the last newsletter has been overshadowed by two sad losses to the club: **ALAN LITTLE** and **ARTHUR BILLINS**. Our thoughts are with Alan's family and with Jane and her family.

SML news - our run of success slowed somewhat as we were beaten at home 47-67 and 2-8 by **Hounslow Cons** on 3rd August. We had 1 winning rink of Delphine Palmowski, Graeme Hinton and Eric Moore....But on the 5th we were back on form with a resounding win against **Bishop Duppas** 85-58 and 8-2 with a top rink of Rita Moore, Mike Davies and Wendy Ridley. ... Away to **Hounslow Cons** on 21st we were soundly beaten 40-85 and all 10 points to our opponents... **Stanwell** struggled to field a side against us on the 24th and we won the evening 44-37 and 7 points to 3, top rink Nick Kirby, Joyce Marshall and Eric Moore... At home to **Fordbridge Park** on 2nd September they showed why they were league leaders by winning 52-76 and 9-1, with our best result being a tied rink by Celia Pitman, Ivor Meyrick and Roy Holdaway 15-15... **Cambridge Park** had a small taste of revenge at Staines on the 8th just edging it 72-78 and 4-6 ... Our last SML game was on the sunny afternoon of the 16th against **Teddington** who maintained their home advantage 62-74 and 4-6.

August friendlies - We played **Hayes** away on the 4th August but we didn't win...and also were narrowly defeated by **Walton** at home on the 7th... Also by **Egham** at home on the 12th ... Can't win 'em all... Against **Ottershaw** on the 14th we won 53-36 with a top rink of Jill Walker, Joyce Marshall and Derek Keogh 21-9. We scraped a home win against **Weybridge** on the 19th 62-61 with a clear top rink of Tony Burrell, Joyce Woodward and Rita Moore 24-12. Away to **Ashford** on the sunny afternoon of the 22nd we went down 58-84 with our best effort being a tied rink 16-16 of Allan Pilling, Tony Burrell and Mike Davies... We defeated **Oatlands Park** at home on the 26th 74-52 with a top rink of Delphine Palmowski, Joyce Marshall and Derek Keogh...

On **President's Day** 8th August Dot Stanners presided over a mixture of rinks and triples as the weather was kind to us...Alas our trip to the **Royal Hospital Chelsea** due on the 11th August was postponed owing to Covid concerns – let's hope we can play it next year...

September friendlies – the month got off to a rousing start against **Sunbury Sports** with a 73-56 win and a convincing top rink of Rita Woods, Clive Stevens and Eric Moore 26-8 ... It was a narrow loss 69-73 to **Hampton** at home on the 7th ... Away at **Iver Heath** on 9th no wins but creditable performances from first-time skips Jill Walker and Moira Matthews ... An away match on the 11th rebranded as home because of double-booking saw us defeat **Knaphill** 78-44 with clear top rink of Rita Moore, Graeme Hinton and Roy Holdaway 27-7 ... And it was another win on the 12th this time against **Horsell** away 60-37, top rink Paul Dorman, Mike Davies and Derek Keogh ... The winning streak continued against **Windleham** at home on the 15th 78-41, top rink Richard Cosstick, Joyce Woodward and Eric Moore 30-5... Another home-should-have-been-away against **Fordbridge Park** on the 17th gave us an overdue win against them 67-59, top rink Richard Cosstick, Joyce Marshall and Eric Moore.... Our 2nd trip to **Wraysbury** this season showed us that they had had time to adjust to their new carpet as we went down 40-66, albeit with one winning rink of Paul Dorman, Gill Pitfield and Eric Moore.

Players from Staines have been successful in reaching the **South Middlesex League Finals** which will be held at **Fordbridge Park** on Sunday 26th September. Come along and support them! At 12.30 our team of Wendy Ridley, Clive Lintott, Eric Moore and Derek Keogh will play **Hampton** in the **John Gardner** final. And at 15.45 Wendy, Eric and Derek play again in the **Mixed Triples Final**. **We wish them the best of luck!**