



TAUNTON DEANE
BOWLING CLUB

"Content is king,
but distribution
is Queen
and she wears
the pants."

Jonathan Perelman

Newsletter Editor

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Your newsletter



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Thoughts of Chairman Bumble

Wasn't the sight of a 31 year old female jockey nearly winning the Cheltenham Gold Cup something everyone can feel pride in? Rachel Blackmore already had five wins in the festival and though she didn't manage to win the top event she did win six races in total and was crowned the Champion Jockey. Quite a feat. You have to go back to 1972 for the first female jockey winner in an official horse race, which was also the first time female jockeys were allowed to race against men. That was a lady called Meriel Tufnell.

What's this all got to do with Bowls, not a lot! Bowls has also come a long way with equality issues and there are more Open tournaments nowadays, something only really happening in the last decade.

Well this year could see ladies playing with men (no pun intended) in the West Somerset Bowls League (WSBL). The League has been running since 1985 (possibly before though there are no previous known records) and Rule 4 says each team will consist of 3 triples of men.

This year a vote is taking place to make the teams open, it looks very certain this will be carried.

Ostensibly the reason is that Covid has weakened clubs and there may be a problem with some clubs fielding all their men's teams. Who knows, maybe if the introduction of ladies into the League is successful this year then open leagues will be here to stay.

I've heard comments in the past that not enough is done for the ladies. I think the Club will be doing it's best to put that right. The Club have entered a team in the new Ladies Somerset County League, so hopefully a good squad of players will partake and do the Club proud.

Last year, for the first time I think, the Club ran an open singles indoors in the Club indoor competitions. There may be an outdoor open singles this summer, to run in addition to the men and ladies contests.

More opportunity for everyone, I hope. At the last Bowls AGM it was agreed to share the mens C team selection amongst all available, this is going to happen. Sharing friendly games amongst the membership will also be done fairly.

Hope to see you most of you playing outdoors this summer, the green is looking great! Good luck to the Captains for the green opening on the 17th. Oh and do please ask and encourage any relatives, friends and acquaintances to come to the Bowls Open Day on Bank Holiday Monday 31st May. More details to follow in the coming weeks.

Mark

The views, thoughts and opinions in the above belong solely to the author and not necessarily to TDBC, the GMC or Director's.

GMC

Chairman - Mark Reeve



What it boils down to is that we all collectively need to do more about gender equality in sport.

Somerset County League

Somerset Bowls Association have announced that no Men's County League games will be played before June 21st. Step 4 on the Government Road Map. After this a reduced league will be played, but there will be no promotion or relegation.

Bowls England

Format for National Championships and Competitions Summer 2021.

The Commonwealth Games Format will be used in all rounds. This is to provide greater flexibility for match arrangements in the qualifying stages, and enable the national finals to take place over a shorter period.

(19th August- 5th September).

Formats are;

Singles 21 shots.

Pairs 3 bowls, 18 ends.

Triples 2 bowls, 18 ends.

Fours 2 bowls, 15 ends.

This will apply to our members who have entered national competitions.

We can expect more information regarding our club fixtures before we open the green on the 17th April.



Please click the link to find attached the current guidance, Return to Play from Bowls England.

West Somerset Bowls League.

To Outdoor Men Bowlers.

The West Somerset Bowls League (Men's Thursday Night Triples) are holding a virtual EGM on 14th April. The WSBL executive have proposed the following rule changes. The changes are in response to clubs in the league expressing concerns at being able to field a full compliment of male teams this summer. Clubs would be able to include lady players if they wished.

WSBL Proposals.

Rule 4. Club Teams. Each team shall consist of three open triples.

Rule 15c. Play. Where a full team is not fielded, a team may play with one player short on each rink. However, with only two players present in one team, each side will play 6 bowls per end. The team of 2 players will incur a penalty of one third of their shots scored.

Rule 18. Treasurer and Accounts. The treasurer will have the responsibility of managing the financial activities of the WSBL. The League will have one bank account residing with Lloyds Bank PLC. At least two members of the EC will be signatories to the account. Payment may be authorised by any one of the signatories.

5.2 Charity Donation. The executive committee would like to propose that we donate £300 towards the London to Paris cycle challenge 2021 which SBA past president Richard Doughty is taking part in on 15th July to raise funds for the Andrew Sully Charity Appeal.

The GMC has discussed **Rule 4 and 15c**, and in order to maintain the number of fixtures, are in agreement with the proposals for this summer. The Club intends to vote in favour at the EGM.

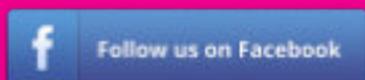
If you disagree with these proposals, please email me at williamsdriving31@btinternet.com or contact me on 07811424383.

If I do not hear from you, I will assume that you agree with the Club's position. Please let me know by Friday 2nd April.

Andy Williams (Club Secretary)

GMC

Club Secretary - Andy Williams





Subject to government & Bowls England guidance, we will be opening the outdoor green on the 17th April. Ann Beale (Ladies Captain) Team V Adrian Davis (Men's Captain Team)
Starting @ 11:00am and 2:00pm

Monday 19th April - Umbrella (Outdoors) 6.30pm

We will be restricted to how many players can play, if you would like to play please contact Adrian Davis. 01823 430291
(From 27th March 01275 602987)
EMAIL. amd.yeovil@yahoo.co.uk

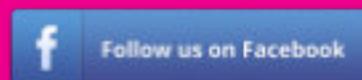
The Club and members did a super job last year to re-open safely following the first lockdown. This summer will feel a little different as so much of life has done in recent times, but our overriding feeling is of positivity that our season will be able to start on time.

If you are able to help a working party is required on the 7th April (9-30am) to help Mike Beale (tel 279754) & members to prepare the outside area.

See you soon,
Adrian Davis (Men's Outdoor Captain)

GMC

Mens Outdoor Captain -
Adrian Davis





Above, TDBC at Richmond Road. What was the Year? Answer on the next page. And who was in the line up looking very smart and proper? Please let me know. What do you think of the bowling attire now?

GMC

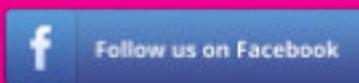
GMC Minute Secretary -
David Horton



HANDS

FACE

SPACE



“The Times They Are a Changin’”

Ever since its release, the song has been influential to people's views on society, with critics noting the universal lyrics as contributing to the song's lasting message of change.

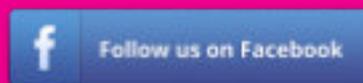


Green Matters

Big thanks to outgoing President and green supremo Mike Beale. Supervising the Avon Sportsground Maintenance crew throughout the winter and working on the outdoor areas with his team of volunteers he has got the green looking in great shape for the coming season. The far corner, where there were some uneven playing issues, has been gradually built back up by laying layers of sand and constructing a temporary scaffold in the ditch to support the load.

The area alongside the tennis courts has had a big transformation, which is still ongoing. Using a digger Mike and the team dug out all the tree roots which were causing problems with the paving slabs. The uneven slabs were a safety issue which had to be addressed. Mike, Trevor Keates, Stuart May and Alan Stone committed themselves to working on ideas for the landscaping of the said area and the Club may well commit a budget in the coming weeks.

Don't forget you can also help by volunteering for the outdoor maintenance day on Wed 7th April starting 9.30am. Let Mike know you are coming on 279754.



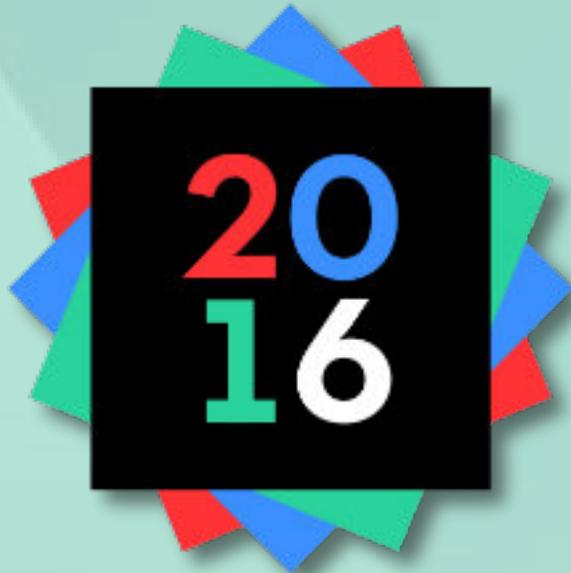
**STOP
PRESS**

Somerset Bowls have just announced (29/3) that the Men's County League (SCL) is not going to start until 21st June, we will have to look at a revised fixture schedule and see what replacement matches we can organise.

Review of the year 2016: Celebrity death, political shock and terror made 2016 colossal. It is safe to say 2016 is a year which will go down in the history books as one of the most eventful in modern history. On January 10 legendary singer David Bowie, who revolutionised the UK music scene in the 1970s died from liver cancer aged just 69.

In February madcap dictator Kim Jong-un caused international outrage when he defied multiple UN treaties and a tough sanctions regime to fire a long-range rocket into space for the first time.

Bombastic US presidential hopeful, Donald Trump is the biggest winner on Super Tuesday, when 14 states held votes to choose who their candidate for the White House would be in March 2016.



April of this year saw US rock star Prince, known for hits including Purple Rain, collapse and die at his Paisley Park estate in Minnesota aged 57. EgyptAir Flight 804 between Paris and Cairo crashed into the Mediterranean sea 180 miles north of the city of Alexandria, killing all 66 passengers and crew sadly during the month of May.

In June Novak Djokovic beat Britain's Andy Murray in the French Open final to claim a career grand slam, becoming the first man to hold all four major titles at the same time since 1969.

Former Home Secretary Theresa May took over from David Cameron as prime minister in July after her main rival, eurosceptic Andrea Leadsom, pulls out of the race to be Tory leader.

British athletes surpass all expectations to secure a whopping 67 medals in August, the country's best ever performance at an Olympic Games away from home.

The US and China, who together account for more than 40 per cent of global emission, ratify the Paris agreement in a landmark moment for climate change campaigners during September of this year.

October saw the French authorities move in to dismantle the Jungle camp in Calais and re-home its 6,000 plus inhabitants in asylum centres across the country.

Outlandish Republican candidate Donald Trump defies the polls and shocks the world during November to win the US presidential election, beating Democrat rival Hilary Clinton

And finally, December, an ISIS terrorist drives a 25-tonne truck into crowds who have gathered at a Christmas Market in Berlin, killing 12 people and injuring dozens more.

And the year for the Club Photograph on the previous page was 1982.



To view club news from 2016 click the PDF link on the left.

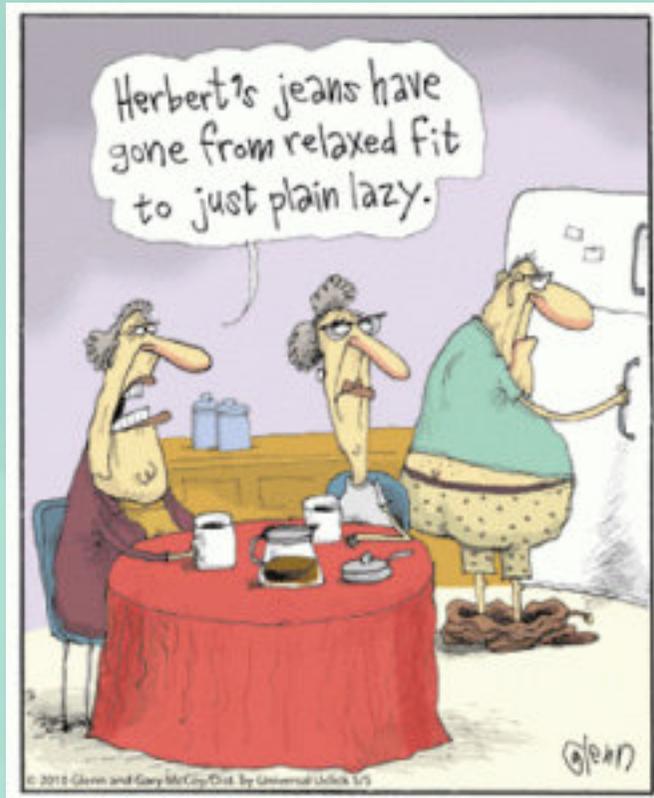
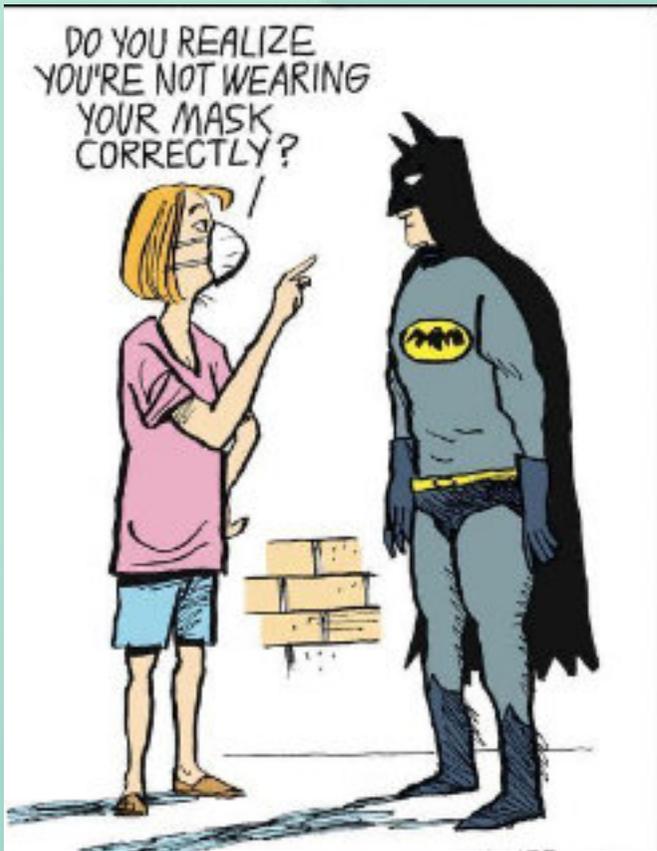




Laughter
is the best
medicine



"I think you may have found the 'how many is too many people in a Zoom meeting' threshold."



A friend of mine has two tickets for the 2022 World Cup. They are box seats plus airfares and hotel accommodation. He didn't realise when he bought them that this is the same day as his wedding, so he can't go. If you're interested and want to go instead of him, it's at St. Andrew's Church in Taunton at 11:30 Her name is Donna. She will be the one in the white dress.



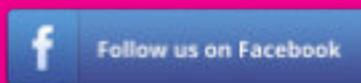


This little fellow has been following me around all last summer and winter, feeding on any worms I dug up. He now feeds from my hand every day and is very cheeky. Looking forward to the upcoming season.



TDBC

Members Page - Rod Ellis





Our Condolences

If anyone has any information regarding the passing of any club member could they please inform Linda Dodden in the first instance. Thank you.

Linda Dodden - 01823 432160

diary2205@gmail.com



It is with deep regret that we wish to inform you of the passing of the following former member(s) of the Club:

Christine Linegar and
Geoff Morgan.

Our thoughts, prayers and deepest sympathy go out to family and friends.





How is the Easter date determined every year?

First off, it's important to know that though the exact date of Easter changes each year, there's a definite period in which the day occurs, and that's March 22 through April 25 (in the Gregorian calendar, not the Julian calendar). Easter always occurs on the first Sunday after the Paschal Full Moon (the first full moon that occurs after the vernal equinox, which signifies the beginning of spring in the northern hemisphere). In 2021, the vernal equinox falls on March 20, 2021, making the first full moon after that date March 28 and the following Sunday, April 4, Easter 2021.

Easter traditions and where they came from

Why are chocolate eggs even associated with this time of year and why do giant bunnies hand them out? Easter has itself changed massively since it was first celebrated.

Initially, according to 8th Century writer Bede, the month corresponding to April was called *Ēosturmōnath* or 'The month of *Ēostre*'.

Ēostre, left, was a Germanic goddess, for whom feasts were held during April by early Anglo-Saxon pagans from around the 5th Century AD. She was seen as a goddess of sunlight and fertility.

Once Christianity came to the British Isles, the holiday became the Paschal month, (the 14th day of a lunar month occurring on or next after March 21). The word Pascha shows connections with the Jewish festival of Passover, and is the basis for the period known as the 'Passion of Jesus'.

Some modern day traditions are rooted in these religious origins of Easter, while others are much more contemporary.

Easter eggs

Perhaps the best known tradition is giving and receiving chocolate eggs, but they weren't originally made of chocolate.

There are a number of different hypotheses as to why eggs became a symbol of Easter. It's believed by some that Mary Magdalene discussed with Caesar the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus. Pointing to an egg, the emperor said the chance of him coming back to life was the same as

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the egg turning red, whereupon it did. Eggs have long been associated with various religions' Easter celebration. The act of decorating eggs can be traced back to around 5,000 years ago, where they were placed in Mesopotamian graves as a sign of life and rebirth.

Originally they were stained red to denote Jesus' blood, but historians have suggested they were coloured green and yellow as well.

Now eggs are frequently coloured in all shades, but some cultures maintain certain preferences. In the Orthodox and Eastern Catholic Churches, they are still symbolically dyed red, while Georgia, Belarus, Russia, Czechia and Israel dye eggs brown by boiling onions with the eggs.

In 1873 J S Fry and Son's created the first chocolate Easter egg in Britain, and Cadbury followed this up two years later with the first pure cocoa butter concoction that could be poured into moulds for the occasion. Nowadays, more than 80 million Easter eggs are sold each year across the UK.

However extravagant your Easter eggs may be, they'll probably not be as extravagant as the ones Brighton confectioner Choccywoccydoodah sold in 2016. The trio of huge eggs, left, each highly decorated with elaborate carved unicorns, cost £25,000.

Hot cross buns

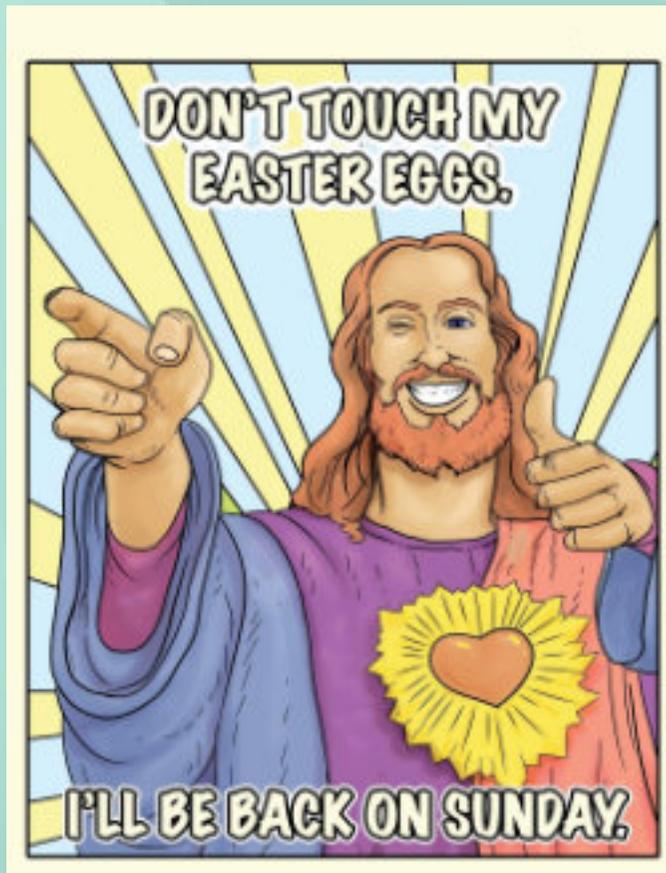
There are many theories as to how the humble hot cross bun came to be everyone's favourite seasonal baked treat.

The sanctified association between hot cross buns and Easter was once legally enforced. During Queen Elizabeth I's reign, it was decreed that they shouldn't be sold at any time except for burials, on Good Friday, or at Christmas.

In addition to this, a long-held popular belief was that if you hang a fresh baked bun from your rafters on Good Friday, it will remain fresh and mould free throughout the year.

If anyone wants to give that a try, feel free to email next year with the result!





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Easter Bunny

Up there with Father Christmas and the Tooth Fairy, the Easter bunny is a favourite of children and adults alike.

Just like Santa Claus, the spring stepped creature originally judged children on whether they had been good or bad in the run up to the Easter period, giving gifts only to the good children.

The idea of a gift giving Easter bunny dates back to the German Lutherans of 1500s however it was initially a hare that distributed presents.

Hares were widely believed by scholars such as Pliny and Plutarch to be hermaphroditic, and the ability to reproduce without a loss of virginity led to an association with Jesus' mother Mary.

This led to the hare becoming a popular sight on churches' stained glass windows.

The concept of hiding Easter eggs is relatively modern as children used to make nests in their bonnets or caps, which they'd leave by the front door for eggs to be placed in. Elsewhere around the world, rabbits have been substituted for other animals. Australia in particular sees rabbits as an invasive species and so, in 1968, turned instead to the endangered marsupial called the Bilby. While chocolate Bilbys had been sold since the 1930s in some shape or form, the '60s marked a turning point in its popularity as a seasonal symbol.

Groups including the 'Foundation for Rabbit Free Australia' endorsed the replacement of the Easter Bunny with the shrew-like Bilby, and it has now become a widespread substitute.

Some money from the sale of chocolate Bilbys goes towards their conservation, and one producer, Cadbury, donated \$30,000 in the three years prior to 2018. Unfortunately, a dramatic decline in popularity has seen the creatures chocolate likeness removed from many supermarket shelves in the country.

Steve Browning

<https://www.tauntondeanebowls.com/news/monthly-newsletters>

Click the link above to return to the TDBC website