

EASTGATE's FAB FOUR in the 2017 ALL ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS at ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA



Our Super Smart Fab Four:
Judy, Dilys, Dotothy, Sue



Badges earned



The general scene at Victoria Park, Royal Leamington Spa



National winners – just look at those badges

The highlight of the 2017 season was the appearance of **Judy Payne, Dilys Baker, Dorothy Harford and Sue Johnston** at the All England Championships. They were there as the Fours Champions of Lincolnshire, having won at the neutral venue of Dunholme against Cleethorpes who fielded 2 Internationals and 2 County Players. Eastgate then played in the All England First Round against Middlesex represented by Cambridge Park, who having been Quarter Finalists in 2010 and Semi Finalists In 2012, went on to win the 2017 Cup. Cambridge Park is a very upmarket Club in Twickenham offering all the year-round bowls on 6 outdoor and 4 indoor rinks with a Clubhouse which boasts a Bar, Restaurant, Lounge and superior Changing Facilities, for which the annual subscription is £200!! It was a wonderful achievement by our lovely ladies who have truly put Eastgate Bowls on the map., having earned congratulations from Lincolnshire Bowls president They describe their adventure as *“the experience of a lifetime”* and Eastgate Bowls salutes them.

EASTGATE BOWLS COMPETITIONS 2017: ROLL OF HONOUR

Open Singles Cup

John Bradshaw Runner Up: **Bryan Carr**

Beryl Hill Trophy

Katie Payne Runner Up: **Chris Turner**

Keith Woodall Cup

John Bradshaw Runner Up: **Peter Burgess**

Newsom Pairs Tankards

Eileen Wright & John Bradshaw Runners Up: **Katie Payne & Clive Budge**

Doubles Cup

Not yet played due to indisposition of one of the Finalists. At the request of the other Finalists the Committee is to consider rearranging this for the start of the 2018 season

Sarah Lidgett Cup

Not played due to lack of support.

The Committee is proposing a revised format for 2018 (see elsewhere)

Syd Appleton Cup

Carole Porter, John Birkin & Chris Butler

Triples Cup

Dorothy Harford, Russell Payne & John Bradshaw

President's Shield

Katie Payne, Dilys Baker & Chris Butler

AUTUMN 2017 - A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN BRYAN CARR

The end of the Bowls season comes around very quickly, and I hope that all members have enjoyed themselves. For my part I would like to thank the Bowls Committee and all the people who have helped make my job easy and enjoyable over the year.

Our new Recruitment and Retention Committee headed up by Alfred Schneider made a significant impact this year with 22 new members. Many thanks to Steve Derby who coached our new players, and came almost every Friday evening between May and August. Nine new players took part regularly in matches, many more played in various club competitions, and two have made it to the Roll of Honour (see opposite page).

This year has seen a great honour for our Secretary and Treasurer Peter Burgess, who has served as Lincoln and District League President. It was good to see him do the honours when Eastgate hosted the final of the City League Hospital Plate in August.

It was sad to see two of our long serving committee members (John Hunter and Mike Cobb) resign from our Bowls Committee at the AGM. Both have given very valuable service to the Club over the years, and we hope that they will continue to be involved with Bowls for many years to come. Welcome to the committee to two new members, Sue Johnston and Dick Crampton.

Congratulations to Sally Cosgrove on her appointment as Eastgate Executive Secretary, and best wishes to Kevin and hope that he has a speedy recovery.

I look forward to seeing you all at our many events in the winter programme.

DEVELOPMENTS FOR NEXT YEAR

Eastgate Bowls are represented on the overall Eastgate Sports Club Committee by Bryan Carr and Janet Miles and Derek Wellman is also a member for his legal advice. During the past year, Bryan Carr has done his best to secure improvements to the Car Park which is in a parlous state whenever it rains. His efforts will hopefully achieve results.

Our representatives have also been much involved in an important and much needed initiative to improve the financial records and forward budgeting for the Club as a whole and all its Sections. Each Section must pay its way and to that end it will be necessary to increase our income. The Bowls Committee has decided that match entry fees will rise to £2 per person in 2018 being the first rise for at least 12 years. Furthermore, all future social functions (including those set out on Page 1 of this Newsletter) will be priced to include a contribution of £2 per participant towards Bowls Funds. The Committee is also setting a target of £500 towards Bowls Club Funds from our Annual Fund-Raising Day.

This target was more than achieved this year thanks to the most generous support of members for a Raffle through donations of star prizes and by ticket purchases. The star prizes were a valuable Ceramic Plate to be crafted by the winner (donated by Pete Moss and won by our Chairman's Cousin), a day out on a narrow boat (donated by Derek Wellman and won by Pete Moss), a Wig and Mitre Voucher (donated by our Chairman and won by Derek James' daughter) and a gemstone pendant and silver chain (donated by Janet Miles and won by Micky Philp).

In the medium term, our goal is to replace the Green Mower at a likely cost of not less than £5,000.

REVIEW OF 2017

Our season began with a new event – a Friendly Match away to our old friends at Collingham Bowls Club. We had a handsome if somewhat surprising win! The evening ended with a Buffet in the Club Pavilion. A repeat is expected in April 2018 at Home.

Club competitions were not as well supported this year as last. This may well have been mainly due to the loss of several key bowlers and the fact that our cohort of new bowlers was unable to enter until they had joined and received coaching. Next year they will have every chance and from what we have seen several will be very serious contenders. It was most heartening that two of our new bowlers were successful in two Triples Competitions, namely Carole Porter and Russell Payne, in the Syd Appleton Cup and the Triples Cup respectively. They will be receiving replica Cups at the Annual Dinner on Friday 10th November (see the Application Form with this newsletter).

The Sarah Lidgett Cup has since its inauguration in 2013 been held as an ongoing Handicap Ladder League. It was popular in the early years but entries have been reduced somewhat of late. A new Triples Format was promoted this year but again did not secure sufficient entries. The Bowls Committee has decided to try another format in 2018, namely an Australian Pairs Competition. The winner of the toss can choose to lead-off or to give it to the opponents. He/she leads off in the normal way and delivers *two* woods. The players then exchange ends, the skip then delivers his/her *four* woods. Ends are then exchanged again when the remaining *two* woods are delivered by the first player. For the next end, the roles are reversed and so on.

Eastgate Bowls has had a very mixed and largely underperforming season in the five Leagues in which we compete. In the **Lincoln City Monday Evening League** (Section C) we finished bottom and will be relegated to the lowest section. In the **Lincoln City Thursday Afternoon League** (Section D) we finished in an acceptable 4th or 5th depending on the last games played by others. In the **Tuesday Evening District League**, we avoided relegation by the skin of our teeth with a magnificent 10 points from our very last game at Sleaford resulting in a total of 64 points for the season, meaning that two teams on 63 finished below us. In the Ladies Wednesday morning League, we finished an honourable fourth.

BUT IN THE CLIFF LEAGUE ... we have excelled. The top half of the last published table show us in second place which normally guarantees promotion to the highest Division One. The table shows that Saxilby have one match still to play which was scheduled against Boultham Park in May. If the match cannot be played then Eastgate will be 2nd.

1	Heighington	16	12	0	4	1093	982	111	147
2	Eastgate	16	10	0	6	1132	1002	130	132
3	Nettleham	16	10	0	6	1107	999	108	127
4	Lee Road	16	10	0	6	1122	1057	65	122
5	Saxilby	15	8	0	7	1016	963	53	121

One of our new Player Members, Russell Payne, has initiated a new **KNOCK OUT Competition** on a Handicap Basis to fill the void in September when Matches are over but the Green remains open and playable. It will have taken place after publication of this Newsletter but we wish it every success.

THE GREEN 'N

Autumn 2017

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2017/18 WINTER PROGRAMME

- Wednesday 27th September:** **EXCURSION to RENISHAW HALL**
Coach leaves Eastgate at 9 am to return by 6.30 pm.
£35 per person including admission and coffee
Telephone Wendy Nugent (01522 813856) to join
- Sunday 15th October** **Noon for 12.45 SUNDAY LUNCH at the CLUB**
Details to be announced on the Bowls Notice Board and by e-mail about a month before the event
Names must be entered on the Notice Board.
Maximum 40 – first come first served
- Friday 10th November** **ANNUAL DINNER - details herewith**
- Friday 15th December** **7.30 p.m. CHRISTMAS FUN PARTY** with interval hot buffet to be covered by an entry fee. Details to be announced on the Bowls Notice Board and by e-mail about a month before the event
Names must be on the notice board in advance
- Saturday 20th January** **7.30 p.m. SOCIAL BOOK EXCHANGE + Supper**
Names must be on the notice board in advance
- Saturday 24th February** **7.30 p.m. SOCIAL EVENING + Supper**
Names must be on the notice board in advance
- Saturday 17th March** **10 a.m. to 12.30 COFFEE MORNING**
& Bring & Buy organised by Jane Bullimore in aid of the Bowls Section
- March** **Annual Indoor Challenge - date to be announced**
- Early April** **PRE-SEASON LUNCH** (venue to be decided)
Details will be in the Spring 2017 Newsletter
- Sunday 8th April** **2.30 p.m.** Green opens with Bowls Drive (subject to underfoot conditions)
- April:** **FRIENDLY MATCH at Home to Collingham & EXCURSION**