



Newsletter



Rickmansworth Bowls Club Chasing Double Glory in Watford & District Vets Finals

On 11th September, Rickmansworth bowls club will be represented in two Watford and District Vets finals at North Watford.

The Vets 4's squad is Alan Rabbits, Nick Bessant, Roy Robinson, Ian Jacklin and Jim McMurray and they will be defending their title against Batchwood. This will be the third final that the 4's have been in recent years (2021, 2024 and 2025) and are unbeaten! So good luck to you all.

In addition to the fantastic 4's, Ian Jacklin and Nick Bessant will be going head to head in the Vets singles final. Nick Bessant beat Dennis Horwood from Mill End, who is a previous winner of W&D singles and pairs as well as an ex champion of champions. Ian beat Don Connors, one of the leading bowlers at Hemel Hempstead.

So good luck to both of them and whatever happens, it looks like we will need a bigger honours board!

All the players would welcome support from club members on the day so please try and go along if you can.

A note from our Captain

Hello again - though it doesn't feel like a month since I wrote my last piece.

This month I must begin with congratulations to Margaret West, Rod Brown and Ian Jacklin who, on Saturday 23rd, just pipped Lesley Bishop, Roy Robinson and Jake Bishop 23-20 in a keenly fought Triples Final.

On Sunday 24th, the Prelude Cup Final was played. Congratulations go to the winning team of Karen Hodgart, Dean Cloke and Mike Gibson; and commiserations to the runners-up, Penny Cloke, Rod Brown and Rod Jones. You all played to a very high standard and it's great to have you at Rickmansworth.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who played in the Captain's Charity event; and also those who were not able to play but still supported the event. Together, we have raised £165 for the RNIB. Thank you.

Hopefully see you all on Finals Weekend.

Denise Starkey





Club Member Profile

Bill Syrett

Honorary life member

Our honorary life member, Bill Syrett, has been part of the club since 1995 when he and his wife Margaret joined. At that time, four clubs played at Rickmansworth: Forrester's, Royal British Legion, Rickmansworth Ladies and Rickmansworth Men's.

Bill reached two club championship finals and was part of a triples team that won back-to-back district vets leagues indoors and out. Margaret was also a talented bowler, winning the ladies championship in 2000 and 2010 and serving as Ladies Captain.

A decorator by trade, Bill has helped maintain the clubhouse over the years and still plays regularly for the Vets Green team, who recently earned promotion to Division One. He's also known for making a fine pot of tea!

As a bowler, handyman and historian of the club, Bill is truly one of Rickmansworth's pillars. Long may it continue.

Matches and tournaments

Mens Vets

The Vets Green team have had a very successful season and managed to gain promotion into division 1 of the Watford and District vets league. Well done guys.

Unfortunately, the vets Yellow team haven't been quite as successful, finishing at the bottom of division 5. Better luck next season.

Mens Vets

Watford and district gala at Garston Bowls club- Jake bishop, Steve Daniels, Paul Bishop and Ian Jacklin managed third place in this tournament, even though they were unbeaten in their four games (won 3 drew 1).

Nationals

Aviva national finals at Royal Leamington Spa - Roger Barton competed in the para singles tournament, unfortunately losing at the last 16 stage.

Ladies

The Ladies team managed a creditable 6th position in their league after finishing bottom last season so well done Ladies.

Friday Night League

The Friday Night League Grand Final was hotly contested between Team 6 (Rod Brown, Lesley Bishop & Steve Daniels) and Team 4 (Gillian Meeks, Jake Bishop & Jim McMurray) who finished 1st & 2nd in the league structure. Team 6 came out on top 15-4 in the final to win the Friday Night league Double.

The Friday Night League will return again next season.

Other news

Finals weekend is on 13-14 September. Look out for updates from Denise with the schedule and prep details. If you're not competing, please come along to cheer on your fellow members.

A new shed has been added behind the clubhouse ready for a mower and other green equipment, as we'll soon take on responsibility for maintaining the green. Volunteers will be needed over winter and next season, mainly for grass cutting—please let Sid Yexley know if you can help.

Many members play indoors at Herts Bowling Club over winter, with roll-ups on Tuesday and Thursday mornings alongside league matches. If interested, join via hertsbowlingclub.co.uk and speak to Roger Bishop about times.

