

*December 2024*

# JACKS CENTRE NEWSLETTER



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# INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the latest edition of the Jacks Centre Latchingdon newsletter.

As we progress through the 2024 winter season can we wish all our members best wishes for the forthcoming festive season. The club will be closed from 24 December through to 2 January 2025.

As this newsletter is published, we are seeing the benefits of the work undertaken during the end of the summer season. Hopefully, you will find the information below useful but as ever please feel free to speak to

any member of either the Management Council or the Bowls Committee if you require any further detail.

We are pleased to report that the club remains in an overall good position. However, like most indoor clubs our membership numbers could always do with increasing as this has an obvious impact on income and spending power.

## CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS



|                                          |               |               |
|------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2024  | 09:00 – 15:00 |               |
| Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2024    | 09:00 – 14:30 |               |
| Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December 2024    | 09:00 – 17:00 | 18:30 – 21:30 |
| Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> December 2024   | CLOSED        |               |
| Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> December 2024 | CLOSED        |               |
| Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> December 2024  | CLOSED        |               |
| Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> December 2024    | CLOSED        |               |
| Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> December 2024  | CLOSED        |               |
| Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> December 2024    | CLOSED        |               |
| Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> December 2024    | CLOSED        |               |
| Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2024   | CLOSED        |               |
| Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2025   | CLOSED        |               |
| Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January 2025    | 09:00 – 17:00 | 18:30 – 21:30 |
| Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2025      | 09:00 – 17:00 |               |
| Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2025    | 09:00 – 15:00 |               |
| Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2025      | 09:00 – 14:30 |               |

**Wishing you all a  
Merry Christmas and a  
Happy New Year**

# *Message from the Blanch Family*

Dear Jack Centre Members

My children, wife and I would like to extend our gratitude to all of you for the kind words of comfort, genuine care towards my children and heart-warming donation.

August 13th, 2024, is a day we will never forget, at 15:55 my mother sadly lost her life whilst my beautiful son and daughter suffered horrific injuries as a result of a fatal road traffic collision. Both children showed a kind of strength to recover from their injuries I would not be able to replicate and what this has taught me, is not to take your loved ones for granted and live life to the full and make many memories with those you care about.

Furthermore what this experience has reminded me is that of the faith in humanity! The Jacks centre community has shown an overwhelming amount of warmth towards me and my family, and I can't but thank you all enough for raising a staggering amount of money that both Lauren and I will use wisely, in creating memories with our children, whilst we rebuild their confidence and shower them in love.

I am extremely grateful to you all.

Kind regards  
Adam



# Amenities Role

As members will realise the Amenities Councillor role has been vacant for more than a year. Unfortunately, no-one from the membership has decided to step up into the role. Management Council have therefore decided to disband the role and allocate the responsibilities among the other roles on Council. It has been agreed with our HR company that they will take on the day-to-day responsibility for management of our hard working and dedicated staff.



We wish Alice Marchant all the best as she starts her career in the city. Alice has been of immense help to the club over recent months. Willingly taking on shifts at short notice wherever needed in the club, Alice was always a helpful and welcoming presence.

Kate Scott also left the club at the end of the summer season, however, only from her kitchen supervisor role. Kate, along with Ewan, continued to be the invisible presence that keeps the club spick and span; however, we have recently been informed that both Kate and Ewan have resigned their roles and will be leaving at the end of the year.

Sharon Davis worked alongside Kate for only a few weeks but has done a wonderful job in continuing to provide nourishment to us all. Often working alone in a strange environment Sharon has done some sterling work.

In mid-November we were able to recruit two further kitchen assistants, and we welcome Jane Klatt and Jamie Wood to our club.

By having three members of staff in the kitchen we hope to provide a regular full menu for all our members, along with meals and food for friendlies and inter club competitions.

## What Happened in the

Firstly, the sides of the bowling rink were dropped in 4 places and the outside rink walkways were raised to be level with the bowling surface. This will allow step free access onto the rink for those with mobility impairments.

The carpet also underwent its annual maintenance checks and was stretched. New grippers for the carpet were also installed.

Secondly, the reception area and old shop were remodelled to provide our staff with a fit for purpose working environment by making more space, providing proper heating and insulation and rewiring the complete area thereby meeting health and safety at work conditions. The bowls cupboard has been completely resited into the old shop from the Golding Room.

Thirdly, all the pathways around the club have been dug out and replaced with new tarmac walkways along with relevant handrails. By also replacing the fire doors with the latest models, all fire exits in the club are once again fully operational.

Fourthly, the club kitchen was completely gutted. The flooring was replaced with the latest covering suitable for a commercial kitchen. New, to the club, stainless steel units and worktops were installed and the whole kitchen, including ovens and all cooking equipment, was deep cleaned and decorated.

This hard work was rewarded by the club being awarded a 5-star hygiene certificate following on from a Maldon Council inspection.



Fifthly, a small and hard-working group of club members cleaned, painted and polished throughout the club. All doors have been painted in contrasting colours to assist the poorly sighted and new signage on the doors is easier to read.

Finally, a new screen to display rink bookings from BowlR has been installed.

 A screenshot of a computer screen displaying a rink booking interface. The interface has a dark header with window control buttons (X, square, dash). Below the header is a grid of booking slots. The grid has columns for different days of the week and rows for different times. Some slots are highlighted in yellow, indicating bookings. The text 'BowlR' is visible in the top left corner of the grid area.

A huge thank you must go to Alan Hall, Peter Nokes and all the volunteers for the effort in planning and carrying out this impressive amount of work. We are sure that you will agree that the club is looking very impressive.





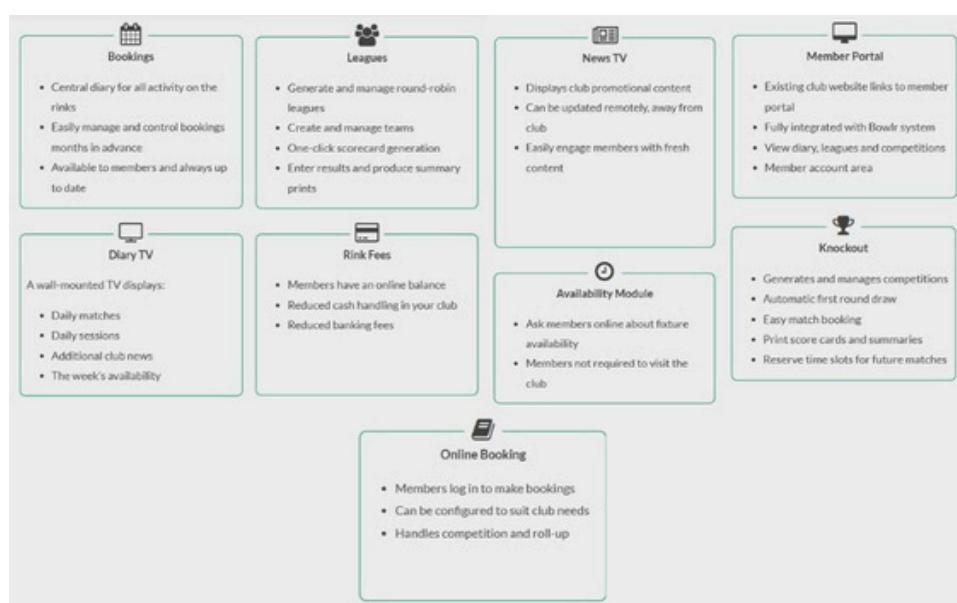
BowlR, is a membership and league management system for indoor and outdoor bowls clubs, it has been built in modules which can be bolted together to form a complete system to help run the club.

The system is used by many indoor and outdoor clubs including Falcon, Colchester and Essex County and is fully compliant with the latest GDPR regulations.

BowlR has been chosen by Management Council as the tool to assist the club in managing day to day activities.

Training on the use of the system is currently being undertaken by staff and club officers and support will be provided to all members to enable them to fully use the system.

All league matches are in the system and the competition draws were completed using BowlR.



# COACHING UPDATES

A new coaching notice board has been placed in the changing room corridor. Please look out for information regarding the coaching team and coaching activities on the board.



Congratulations go to Scott Gailer on obtaining his level 1 Coach Bowls qualification, Tina Finch on obtaining her level 2 Coach Bowls qualification and to Ray Clark for achieving his level 2 English Bowls Coaching Society certification.



## Coach Bowls







# BOWLS NEWS



Unfortunately, our involvement at National Club representative level has ended for another season. All selected players tried their best but were drawn against some very strong opposition.

However, there is always next season to look forward to. If you have not been involved but would like to be considered for next year, then please let your relevant captain know.



Following our promotion to League 1 last year, the men's team have played only one game so far in the County League. This was a loss to Clacton but there are still 5 more games to come with the next game being against Falcon on the 18th January.

The ladies have also played their first County League game, this was a loss to Falcon with their next game to be played on 26th January against West Mersea.



Club Competitions have begun for this season, and we encourage all entrants to play their games prior to the final play by date for that round. As per John Grainger's email no extensions will be granted for this season.

All leagues are progressing well, and it is good to see a good standard of bowling.

It is nice to see many members on the rink in their new shirts. These have now been registered with the EIBA, and our representative teams will start to wear them from January.



For internal matches either the old or the new shirt may be worn. For competitions all members of a team or side should wear the same shirt.

## *Umpiring News*

Congratulations go to Ian Finch on achieving his National Umpire qualification, and to Jasmine Paveley on achieving her Regional Umpire qualification.

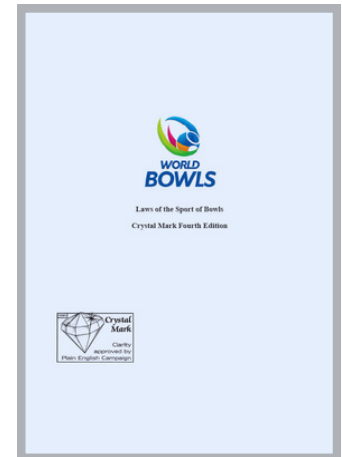
Alan Deacon has also been appointed as an EUBA Regional Umpire after completing his qualification in Spain.



# IT'S THE LAW

Ian Finch will on a regular basis provide some explanation on some of the laws of the sport. If there is anything that you would like covered then please let Ian know.

In this edition the focus will be on law 29.1 Playing Out of Turn. A player or players plays their bowl in the wrong order, so what do you do?



The following are the laws in focus:

- 29.1 Playing out of turn
  - 29.1.1 If a player plays out of turn, the opposing skip can stop the bowl and return it to the player to play it in the proper order.
  - 29.1.2 If the bowl has come to rest and has not disturbed the head, the opposing skip must choose whether to:
    - 29.1.2.1 leave the head as it is and have their team play two bowls one after the other to get back to the proper order of play; or
    - 29.1.2.2 return the bowl and get back to the proper order of play.
  - 29.1.3 If the bowl has disturbed the head, the opposing skip must choose whether to:
    - 29.1.3.1 leave the disturbed head as it is and have their team play two bowls one after the other to get back to the proper order of play;



- 29.1.3.2 replace the head in its former position, return the bowl and go back to the proper order of play; or
- 29.1.3.3 declare the end dead.
- 29.1.4 If a bowl has been played by each team or player in singles before the players discover that one of them has played out of turn, play in that end must continue in that order.

So, what should I do?

This is one of the easier laws to apply should a bowl be played out of order. If the head has not been disturbed, then laws 29.1.1 or 29.1.2 apply. If the bowl has disturbed the head, then law 29.1.3 applies.

Law 29.1.4 applies if 2 or more woods have been played out of turn.

There are no penalties for playing out of turn.

Want to know more? Then an electronic version of the Laws can be downloaded from the following site: [www.worldbowls.com/laws-of-the-sport/](http://www.worldbowls.com/laws-of-the-sport/) or if you have access to BowlR a copy of the laws is now also available under the Club Info section. Else, if you catch any of the umpires on a good day, they will be more than wiling to answer any questions 😊

# lets get social

Social events are valuable for the club by bringing in income and allowing our members to get to know one another away from the bowls rink.

Quiz Nights continue on the 2nd Friday of each month and are very popular and much enjoyed. We include a Jack in the Box draw which raises revenue for the Club as well as a sizeable cash prize for the lucky winner.

Music Bingo, after a slow start, now has a good following and is held on the 3rd Sunday evening of each month. Look out for the posters advertising the event.

We recently had our Christmas Do featuring Natalie Cook which had a good turn out with plenty of dancing.

## UPCOMING EVENTS





Behind the scenes, Alan Hall and the maintenance team undertake a huge amount of work to keep the building and infrastructure of the club up to the standards we have come to expect. This is a never-ending task, and we all owe the team a debt of gratitude.



Alan has also produced a list of tasks that need to be carried out to build on what we have and improve the facility for our members.

The list currently contains nearly 60 items covering the small, such as a light not working on the bar drinks cooler, through to the very large, such as replacing all the electrical distribution boards in the building.

If you have a skill that you think could help, then please do speak to Alan who will be only too pleased to schedule in some work.







## YOUR 300 CLUB NEEDS YOU!

If you are already a member of the 300 Club then thank you for your support, if you would like to become a member and want to know a little more about the 300 Club then please read on.

Basically, it is the Jack's form of Lottery. It costs £1 per month for one number, and you can have as many numbers as you like. We select three winners each month and we offer three cash prizes. Of course, the more members we have the bigger the prize fund.

The money received from the 300 Club is split 50/50 with half going out in prize money and the other half being used for projects required within the club, which benefits us all.

If you are not a member, we need you. Remember it only costs £1.00 per month for one number. If you were a member but your subscription has lapsed, please consider renewing. Application Forms can be obtained from Reception or on the wall below the small TV monitor announcing forthcoming events or see David Lagden at the club.

Please become a member and good luck to you all and let's hope 2024/2025 will be lucky for you.



Len Joyce has taken on the difficult task of trying to find outside advertisers and sponsors for the club. The initial aim being to utilise the rink side clip frames to advertise businesses. Other clip frames can be installed around the club if a smaller size advert is required. Len has been busy visiting companies around the district and you may have noticed the first of the adverts has been placed.

Do you know a company that may wish to advertise? There are 3 options available, - Rink side A0 size plus mentions on website and newsletters for £150 plus VAT for 12 months. Social areas A3 plus mentions on websites and newsletters for £75 plus VAT for 12 months and finally social areas A4 for £50 plus VAT for 12 months.

For each company introduced, A0 advert taken out and paid for the introducing member would receive a £10 credit to their club control card. If you know someone interested then please speak to Len Joyce for more information.

### **Complete Bathroom Rebuilds**



To view photos go to:  **Prestige Complete Bathrooms**

Wall / Floor Tiling  
Plastering  
Wet Rooms  
En-Suites  
Down Lighting

Contact Graham (Bowls Member)

**07947 412232**

Email: [graham.clark663@gmail.com](mailto:graham.clark663@gmail.com)

# Volunteers needed

## ***FODBEC***

Our group of friendly but ably challenged members who meet weekly at 13:30 on a Thursday afternoon would really appreciate some assistance from the wider membership group.

Can you spend some time assisting in gathering bowls, assisting a wheelchair based bowler move around the green or just be a friendly face with some advice? If so then please leave your name with reception and the group will be in touch.

## ***The DRIVE***

As some of you may be aware our amazing volunteer Judy is due to have a knee replacement next year. We are in need of volunteers who can help to run the drive while Judy is recovering.

If you are able spare some time on a Monday 11:00am to 1:30pm please contact Judy for more information and training.







Do you have an email address that you haven't let the club know you have? If so, then please let us know. Whenever an all-member communication is done it costs the club nothing to email, however, the costs to print, envelope, deliver, either by post or hand delivery by Council members, can soon mount up. Please help your club save money and the environment.



Did you know the club has a website, instagram account and a Facebook page? You can follow us here:



***the \_jacks\_centre\_latchingdon***

***Web: <http://jackscentre.net/>***



***<https://www.facebook.com/JacksBowlsClub>***

A new website is being developed for the club and will be introduced shortly. Lea Davis has been very busy in the background getting the site developed. Look out for the implementation date and remember to spread the word.



Wishing everyone a  
Merry Christmas  
and a  
Happy & Healthy  
New Year