

# BOWLS DEVON PATRONS

## NEWSLETTER

Welcome to this newsletter of the Bowls Devon Patrons. We hope that you will find this not only interesting but informative.

Gordon Thomas who has worked tirelessly over the last 33 years to promote and push the Patrons announced at the end of the 2018 season that he would be standing down from his role as administrator and treasurer. We would like to thank Gordon for all his hard work in promoting the Patrons and wish him a very happy and peaceful retirement.

In the close season we were very saddened to hear of the sudden death of Tony Wills. Tony was a committee member and a very strong supporter of the Patrons. We also were very sad to hear of the death of Eric Shillabeer. Eric was also a strong supporter of the Patrons and gave great support to Margaret our chairperson. Both will be very sadly missed.

We are very pleased that Dave Cutler, Geoff Jenkins and Dave Pickett have joined the committee. Margaret Shillabeer is remaining as chairperson, Vicky Hingston is remaining as secretary and John Hogger is staying on as fixture secretary. Vicky will also take on the role of match co-ordinator and John has agreed to take over as treasurer.

Last season we agreed that all matches would become mixed. This meant that all our Patrons whether ladies or gentlemen could play in any game. This policy has now been adopted so all games are open to all. Patrons can apply for games by emailing [bowlsdevonpatrons@gmail.com](mailto:bowlsdevonpatrons@gmail.com) Patrons fixtures are available to view on the Bowls Devon website. Follow the link to Patrons.

The fixtures for 2019 have now been completed. We do hope that these will be well supported.

Throughout the season Bowls Devon Patrons play in matches against clubs right across the county which have invited them to play. These matches are played in an enjoyable atmosphere, whilst also being very competitive. At the end of the game many new friendships are formed and cemented over a glass or two in the bar. Thank you to all the clubs who have invited us to play.

The Bowls Devon Patrons Association is open to any bowler from Devon who is affiliated to a club in Bowls Devon. The fee for joining the Patrons is £20 for life membership or £3 for an annual membership. The aim of the Bowls Devon Patrons is to foster goodwill and fellowship amongst bowlers of Bowls Devon, and also to provide financial support to promote Bowls Devon juniors and the Amenities Fund of Bowls Devon.

If any club wishes to invite the Patrons for a match in 2020 we will be pleased to hear from you.

We hope that you have found this newsletter informative and wish you all a very successful and happy 2019 bowling season.

Vicky Hingston