

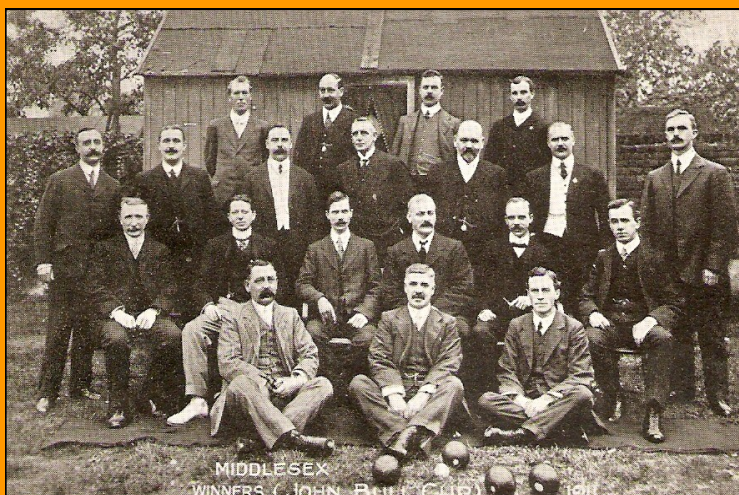
1911



2011

# Middlesex County Bowling Association Centenary

Selections from the archives compiled  
and written by  
Michael Rosenthal



1911: Winners of first National Inter-Counties Championship

## CONTENTS

<b>Foreword</b> .....	3
A greeting from H.M. Queen Elizabeth II.....	4
A message from the 2011 County President.....	5
A message from Bowls England.....	6
<b>The History.</b>	
The Founding of M.C.B.A. ....	7
The Birth.....	9
1911 and The John Bull Cup Won.....	10
E.B.A. Inter-Counties Championship Winners 1911.....	11
1912-1918: The Association Consolidates and the “Great War” Intervenes. ....	12
The Post War Years: 1919-1929.....	16
1930-1939: The Pre W.W.II Years. ....	22
The War Years: 1940-1945.....	24
The Post War Years: 1946-1954.....	26
1955-1969: The Peak Membership Years.....	29
1970-1980: The “Nearly “ Years.....	34
1981-1990: The Modern Era. ....	39
1991-2000: Towards the Millennium. ....	44
2001-2010: Towards the Centenary.....	48
The History of the M.C.B.A. Benevolent Fund.....	55
<b>Affiliated Clubs:</b> .....	58
Middleton Cup Winners 1962 .....	101
<b>County Competition Winners.</b>	
Singles, Middlesex League.....	102
Pairs, Mixed Pairs .....	103
Triples.....	104
Fours .....	105
Double Fours.....	106
Whisky Pairs, Under 25’s Singles.....	107
Unbadged Singles .....	108
Officers’ Competition .....	109
Presidents: 1912-1950 .....	110
Presidents: 1951-1976 .....	111
Presidents: 1977-2001 .....	112
Presidents: 2002-2011 .....	113
Association Officers: 1911-1960.....	114
Association Officers: 1961-2011.....	115
County Internationals.....	116
County Honours .....	117
Defunct Clubs.....	118
Defunct Club’s Honours.....	120
Bannerette Winners: 1926-2010.....	121
Greeting Song .....	122
County Trophies .....	123
Early Documents .....	125
Annual Dinner Menu: 1916.....	126
Emergency Committee 1927 .....	127
Financial Statement 1917.....	128
Don Dorling .....	129
Eric Prior.....	130
Acknowledgements .....	131
A Message from our Patron.....	132

## For Malcolm Cinna, whose inspiration made it all possible.

### FOREWORD

At a meeting of the G.P.C on November 1st 2006, it was proposed that a history of the Association in booklet form be produced for the centenary year 2011. It was suggested that Assistant Secretary Malcolm Cinna should administer this project. In his reply Cinna agreed to oversee the project but was unwilling to write the history himself. Past Association President Tony Paulley of Harrow B.C. approached a fellow club member, Mike Rosenthal, who agreed to write the history as he had already had undertaken a similar project when compiling the history of Harrow Bowls Club for their centenary in 2002.

Having found an author for the project, Cinna, in January 2007, formed a small working party comprising himself, Tony Paulley and Mike Rosenthal. All the administration for the project would be supervised by Cinna, acting as a link between the Association members and the author, providing him with information gathered from all affiliated clubs. Paulley would write biographies of notable former and present Middlesex bowlers as well as supplying the author with additional information gathered during his Presidential year in 2008.

It was initially agreed that the booklet, as well as including the story of the development of the Association, should also include a brief history of all clubs currently affiliated to the Association together with images of their club badges. One of the tasks undertaken by Malcolm Cinna was to contact each club requesting relevant information. This request was initially posted on the Association's web site. In the event, this task turned out to be more difficult than it first appeared. Many clubs repeatedly ignored his phone calls, emails and letters and consequently there are gaps in the information published for some clubs. Many clubs had lost all the documents relating to their early history and could only provide brief details of the current state of their club. With dogged determination Malcolm eventually managed to get some information from all 112 affiliated clubs and must be congratulated for his persistence.

Most of the information for the history was provided by current Association secretary, Don Dorling. Stored in his garage was much of the early history of the Association, including minute books (notably Minute Book No.1), Year Books, scrap books of the first 27 years of the Association and photograph albums. Other members provided some Year Books for the last 40 years. The majority of clubs provided brief histories and club badges. The scrap books, compiled by ex-secretary Harry Thompson, turned out to be the most valuable source of information for the early years of the Association. It is interesting to note that almost all the information for the years after 1938 came from the Year Books and minutes. The minutes, though factually useful, lacked the personal details that the scrap books gave to those early years.

Many other members (whose names appear in the acknowledgements at the end of this booklet) provided valuable anecdotal and documentary information and without their input, this history would have been a much less interesting document.

On the 12th October 2010, Malcolm Cinna passed away after a gallant struggle with cancer. Malcolm was determined to see the publication of this document and was working on this project right up to the end. It is tragic that he was not present to witness the launch of the publication.

Born on 13th November 1928, Malcolm ran a dry cleaning business for 30 years. On retirement he took up bowls and in 1991 joined Stanmore B.C. and was a lifetime member and club secretary for 4 years. A skilful bowler, Malcolm gained his County badges both indoors and outdoors. In addition he bowled regularly for H.&D.B.A. In recognition of his great administrative abilities Malcolm was elected Assistant Secretary of the County in 2002. As a member of Herga I.B.C. Malcolm was also Assistant Secretary of M.C.I.B.A. from 2002.



Malcolm will always be remembered for his boundless energy, enthusiasm and charming personality which gained him a myriad of friends both on and off the green.

Malcolm was primarily a dedicated family man and is survived by his wife Hazel, a son and daughter and four grandsons who, in his later years, were the light of his life.

**A Message from the Patron of Bowls England, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II**

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

16th August, 2010

Dear Mr. Kellet,

I have been asked to thank you and the Members of the Middlesex County Bowling Association for your kind letter containing loyal greetings to The Queen, sent on the occasion of the Association's Centenary which is being celebrated next year.

Her Majesty was interested to learn that the celebratory programme includes a match against Bowls England and would be interested to receive a copy of your commemorative booklet. The Queen appreciates your kind words and, in return, sends her best wishes to all concerned for a most memorable event.

Yours sincerely,

David Ryan  
Director, Private Secretary's Office

Graham Kellet, Esq.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE 2011

It is my great honour and privilege to be your County President for 2011. It is a further honour to be President in our Centenary year. 100 years ago the six founding clubs had the courage to found M.C.B.A. and I believe the foresight shown by those clubs has been fully realised. I am aware of the high standards set by my many predecessors and I will try, with your help to maintain them. During our Centenary year there will be many events and matches that need your support. The proposed match against Bowls England will be the highlight of our celebrations and I am sure that, with the assistance of the officers and committee, the reputation of M.C.B.A. will be further enhanced after this and the other celebratory matches.

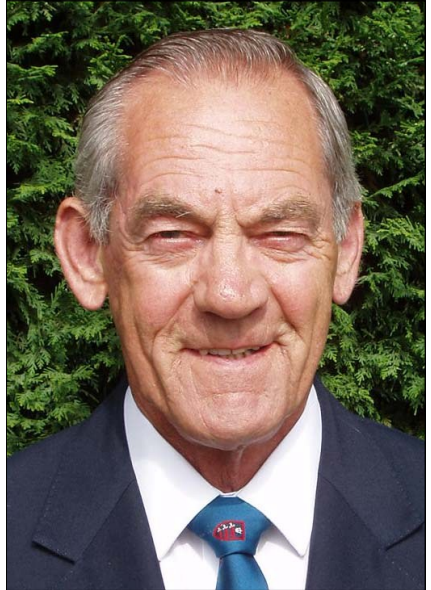
My sincere thanks to my club, Harrow B.C. for nominating me for this high office and to all of you for electing me as your President. I hope that I will see as many of you as possible during the season which I hope will be a successful one, on and off the green.

### BRIAN ELBOURN

Born in Stanford le Hope Essex in 1943, Reginald Brian Elbourn lived in a farm cottage for his first 15 years. Starting work at 15 for Thurrock U.D.C., he took an apprenticeship in horticulture with a particular interest in fine turf management. Moving to Wembley Middlesex in 1976 he was employed by Brent Council as a technical officer. In 1988 he was promoted to Parks Manager and in 1990 to Services Director. After his retirement in 1997 he became a Director of Herga I.B.S.C. Ltd and has been Chairman and Company Secretary for the last 10 years.

Serious injury ended his early sporting interest in football and it was in 1976 that he joined his first bowls club, Woodcock Park. In 1987 he joined Harrow B.C. and has been a member ever since. Brian has had a very successful bowling career at Harrow

and has been club singles champion 6 times. He has also served as club President in 2004 and Captain in 2000, 01,02 and 08. A County bowler since 1980, R.B. Elbourn was elected as Junior Deputy President in 2009.



## A Message from Bowls England



Firstly I wish all the members of Middlesex B.A. a very Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

As a County, Middlesex B.A. has been very proactive in furthering the sport of Bowls in this Country and has been most supportive in the Governance of both the English Bowling Association (E.B.A.) and of recent times, Bowls England.

Prior to the formation of County Associations clubs were the only members of the National Body and initially there were several Associations all claiming at some point to be "The Body". The fore runners of the E.B.A. were the London & Southern Counties B.A., The Midland Counties and The Imperial Bowling Association, the latter appearing to be the most proactive in dealing with invitations from other Countries to play matches. Interestingly, it would seem that the Victorian Gentleman enjoyed a power struggle as it became apparent that England needed to select one Association to deal with all matters relating to this sport. So it came to pass that the E.B.A. was created to *\*\*\*so far as possible combine the clubs of the country\*\*\**- indeed a great act of unification. Surprisingly over 100 years later it has all happened again!

Prior to the formation of Middlesex B.A., there were a number of clubs (later to become part of the County Association) whose members were involved in the formation and administration of the sport. They also participated in the first ever National Championships. The most significant were three members of the London County Bowling Club, Crystal Palace, SE London who were instrumental in forming the E.B.A. The sporting hero of bowls is naturally the man who has been "designated" the founder of the English Bowling Association, Dr W. G. Grace but it is fair to say that he was ably supported by two others all of whom were each members of a number of London clubs. Early in 1904 a meeting held in the Holborn Restaurant, in the City formally agreed that the E.B.A. would be formed and the amalgamation of the three existing Bowling Associations.

The first ever recorded International 'International Rink Match' between rinks from England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales was in 1903 played at Crystal Palace BC, although records suggest that prior to this an International 'contest' took place on the London County Green on July 20<sup>th</sup> 1901 against rinks from Ayrshire and Edinburgh bowlers.

In 1904 there were players nominated for a more formal England Team from London County, Muswell Hill & South London clubs.

In May of that year the first ever Men's National Fours & Singles was played in London. '21 ends up' for the Rink, '21 points up' for the Single-handed. 5/- per player! Interestingly, the second such National Championship took place in July the following year on the Upper Clapton Green, Spring Hill, Clapton Common NE when admission to watch was 6d each!

In 1905 the minutes record that Middlesex was well represented at the first General Meeting of the E.B.A. held in the Cannon Street Hotel on the 6<sup>th</sup> February 1904. Clubs listed from the London area were as follows:-South London, Muswell Hill, London County, Southall and Temple

London was key to the formation of English Bowls and the above gives an indication of the importance of those who laid the corner stone prior to the formation of the E.B.A. and then later, Middlesex County Bowling Association in 1911. The popularity of the sport in Victorian days saw dramatic growth and from an administrative and competitive prospective clubs firstly were grouped together as Districts and then finally into County Associations.

From the formation of the Middlesex B.A. in 1911 records show a number of Middlesex International players, National Presidents, Life and Honorary Members and National Committee members both under the auspices of the E.B.A. and now Bowls England. All have served this sport most admirably. We are greatly indebted to all of these past and present.

On behalf of the President and Board of Bowls England, I wish you all a very happy Centenary Year and good bowling for 2011.

Tony Allcock M.B.E.

Chief Executive, Bowls England

\*\*letter dated 8<sup>th</sup> May 1903 to all known bowling clubs signed by S. Fortescue, W. Stonehewer & W. G. Grace, London County Bowling Club (BE archives)

## The Founding of M.C.B.A.

The Middlesex County Bowling Association was founded on 4<sup>th</sup> March 1911. Government of the game in the south was started in 1895 when the L.&S.C.B.A., composed of private clubs only, was founded. Six years later, in 1901, the London Parks B.A. came into being, providing for clubs playing on public greens.

The English Bowling Association was formed in 1903, and accepted both private and public clubs into direct affiliation. The rapid growth of the game, with the consequent increase in the number of clubs, made decentralisation necessary. The natural division gave birth to the County Associations, and pursuing the metaphor, various births were accompanied by many complications and accomplished after much labour. Middlesex was no exception and was indeed, particularly unfortunate.

Writing long after the event it is now obvious that much of the trouble would never have happened had the E.B.A. *then* laid down the rule (brought in a few years later) that all clubs affiliated to the National Associations should first affiliate to the appropriate County Association. Instead they continued to accept direct affiliations and this had unfortunate results for Middlesex.

Accepting that the events of the early days were dictated by convictions sincerely held and remembering that time is a wonderful healer, a start can be made on a long and interesting story. It is also useful here to develop the reasons for the underlying misgivings that clubs affiliated to the L.&S.C.B.A. brought to the inaugural meeting of the M.C.B.A. There was an opinion held by members of the L.&S.C.B.A. that most greens laid down in municipal parks were rough and uneven meadow grass surfaces. They objected to playing on these surfaces when, for the most part, affiliated private clubs were used to manicured Cumberland turf greens and felt that they would be at a disadvantage playing competitions on park greens. The E.B.A., by allowing affiliation to private and public clubs, had a different and more far sighted view recognising that municipal clubs were the nurseries of the private clubs and needed to be encouraged. Many private club members had learned the game on these park greens. It was however recognised that park greens needed to improve, but then as now, public funding was in short supply and it was many years before public greens could compete with the more affluent private clubs. This prejudice of some private clubs very nearly prevented the founding of the M.C.B.A. but thankfully there were some stubborn people around at the time and their dogged determination saw the project to fruition.

Although some of the early records are missing the first minute books have been preserved. Sadly years of storage in a damp environment have left them in very poor condition. Thanks to the foresight of Association secretaries down the years, a wealth of documents including minute books, treasurers' cash books, press cuttings and year books relating to the early years of the Association have been preserved (many though affected by the ravages of

time, damp, mould and mice) and these documents have provided the main source of information for the writing of this history. It should be noted here that the early year books (1912-1955) were sent to the British Museum Library. These books are now available for perusal at the recently established British Library in Euston Road.

### **The Birth.**

The inaugural meeting was held on 4<sup>th</sup> March **1911** at the Manchester Hotel, Aldersgate, with the following clubs represented: Brownswood, Brondesbury, Bruce Castle, Chiswick, Crouch Hill, Downhills, Finsbury Park, G.W.R., Jersey, Mansfield, Muswell Hill, North London, Paddington, Shepherds Bush Cricket, Shepherds Bush Football, Springfield (Acton) and West London – 17 in all. The meeting appointed a committee and then adjourned.

The committee comprised;

Chairman, W.E. Warren (Brownswood)

Acting Secretary, A. Taylor (Crouch Hill)

A. Arnold (G.W.R.)

J.G. Curruthers (Muswell Hill)

J. Carter (North London)

E.J. Linney (Springfield (Acton))

D.B. McBride (Chiswick and West London)

F.C. Turner (Shepherds Bush Cricket)

E. Woodroffe (Finsbury Park)

They met again on 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> March 1911, to prepare draft rules and at the adjourned meeting, resumed at the Holborn Restaurant on 24<sup>th</sup> April 1911, 23 persons were present, 15 of whom were delegates and 8 interested visitors from various bowling institutions. In addition to the 17 clubs mentioned, there were present: W.A. Sims (President E.B.A.), P.J. Lock (President, London Parks B.A.) and S.J. D'Aintree (L.P.B.A.). The presence of the latter two proved to be very fortunate.

There was a tense atmosphere from the very start and it was obvious that some delegates were unhappy. Mr Warren (Brownswood) announced that his club was retiring from the Association and left the chair. No reason is given for his retirement. W.H. Booth (Mansfield) was elected Chairman. The first two rules were discussed and accepted. On rule 3 (Allowing all clubs affiliated to the E.B.A. to join the Association), Mr Carter (North London) affiliated to the L.&S.C.B.A., offered the amendment that “*clubs using municipal greens without private entrances should not be eligible*”. The amendment was rejected. At this stage, Mr Carter announced that a printed circular had been issued by the L.&S.C.B.A. to the effect that his Association formally objected to the inclusion of public clubs and that the officers elected at a previous meeting (Warren, McBride, Arnold and Carter) would be forced to resign. Only Carruthers, Linney, Turner and Woodroffe remained on the committee together with the following clubs: Bruce Castle, Downhills, Finsbury Park, Muswell Hill, Shepherds Bush Cricket, and Shepherds Bush Football. Shaken but undismayed those



remaining at the meeting stubbornly continued. Hon. Sec. Taylor then suddenly announced his resignation in line with the objection to public clubs.

The now somewhat depleted meeting, determined not to give up, then proceeded to elect a new committee and officers as follows:

President (*pro tem*), D.B. McBride, Vice-President, F.C. Turner, Treasurer, P.J. Lock (Downhills), Secretary, S.J.C. D'Aintree (Finsbury Park). Committee: R. Braithwaite (Shepherds Bush Football), W.F. Burgh (Bruce Castle), J.G. Curruthers, E.J. Linney and E. Woodroffe. The two L.P.B.A. observers (Lock and D'Aintree) had thankfully stepped into the breach and saved the day.

Mr McBride then stated that until after his club meeting in a few days, he was not sure of his position. He attended no further meetings. It is worth noting here that although the name of D.B. McBride appears in all year books as the first President, in fact the elected Vice-President, F.C. Turner appeared at all meetings as acting President. The author feels that his name, not McBride's, should appear as the first President. At the first full committee meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> May 1911, Mr Turner presided. Curruthers (Muswell Hill) then took objection to the public club rule and resigned. At the same meeting it was announced that the first acting secretary (Taylor) had refused to hand over the Associations books, hence the absence of a written account of the inaugural meeting. Things looked bleak, but at the same meeting the Hendon club affiliated. The first positive event at this meeting lifted the spirits of the committee and it seemed that a turning point had been reached.

At the next meeting, on July 13<sup>th</sup> held at the Wellington Hotel, Harrow and Wood Green affiliated and it was decided to enter a team into the newly instituted E.B.A. Inter-Counties Championship, later to be known as the Middleton Cup. The team, four rinks and four reserves, were elected, surprisingly by ballot. Of this there will be more in a later chapter. At the same meeting it was decided that the Wellington Hotel should be the headquarters of the Association.

At this point a tribute must be paid to those who fearlessly drove on against so many rebuffs. Starting with 17 clubs in March, by the May meeting only 6 remained and no doubt the addition of Hendon at that dark moment was the first sign of a turn of the tide which was further enhanced by the addition soon after of two more clubs.

Progress continued and in January 1912, All Saints (later Golders Green), Clissold, Friary Park, Hampstead Garden Suburb, Lammas and West London were accepted. Other clubs joining between 1912 and 1914 were Bethune, Chestnuts, North Middlesex, Ravenscourt Park, Fulham, Paddington, Parsons Green, Tottenham Hale, Victoria Park and Hampton. It will be noted that one of the clubs that "withdrew" in 1911 (Paddington) had returned in 1914. Not until 1927 did the last of them return, by which year the Association numbered over 100 clubs. This is tribute to the policy of conciliation and compromise that had continued after the stress of those first meetings.

## 1911 and The John Bull Cup Won.

In that first year of the Association, with just 11 clubs affiliated, at a meeting held on 13th July, it was decided to enter a team into the newly instituted Inter-Counties Championship with the John Bull Cup as trophy. The secretary reported that he had written to all affiliated clubs for a list of players. Four names had been received from five clubs. The 16 players and 4 reserves were selected by ballot. At an informal meeting held on the 21st August the final arrangements were made for the County match against Devon to be held on 26th August. It was decided to arrange a practice match on the Thursday before the match. It is evident from the selection of the final teams that 6 of the original players selected were considered not good enough and replaced. The four rinks selected were as follows:

For the away match at Exeter:

R.S Osbourne, R. Braithwaite, H.H. Griggs, F.G. Turner (Skip) (Won 24-14)

A.Haley, E. Woodroffe, J.G. Carter, C. Cook (Skip) (Lost 11-29)

For the Home match at Wood green:

C. Brill, W. Whiteman, J. Steeples, S.J.C. D'Aintree (Skip) (Won 24-14)

T.H. Ralls, A.E. Milne, W.M. Brown, H. Hext (Skip) (Won 22-14)

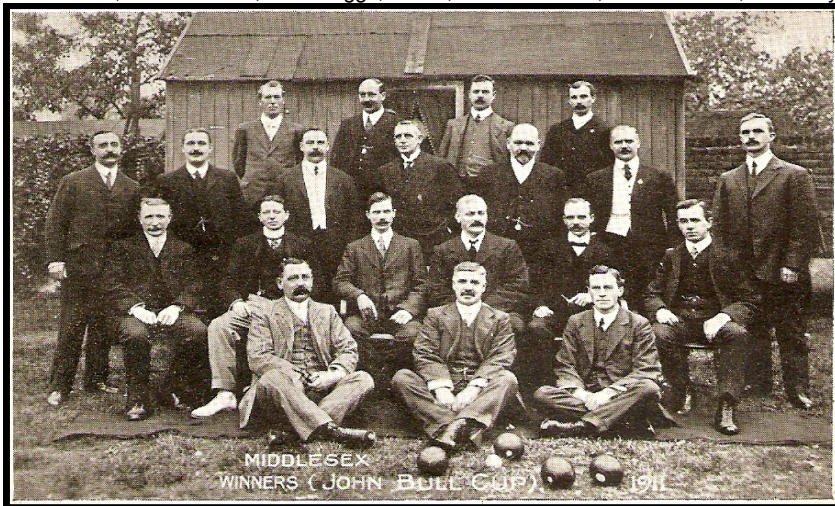
The match resulted in a win for Middlesex, 81-71. For the next match at Reading against Berkshire on 9th September, there was some re-arrangement of the rinks with another practice match played at Wood Green on the 6th. Brill, Penn, Steeples, Cook (all Downhills) and Ralls, Milne, Brown, Hext (all Wood Green) were selected to play at Wood Green. The Turner rink was unchanged and D'Aintree added Haley and Carter for the match at Reading. A very close match resulted in win for Middlesex by one shot, 94-93. The final against Surrey, contrary to modern practice, was to be held on two consecutive days. The away leg was held first, at Belmont BC, Streatham Hill. Some changes were made to the Middlesex rinks which were: Osbourne, Braithwaite, Griggs and Turner. (Won 29-20) and Haley, Carter, Adamson, and D'Aintree. (Drew,18-18).

The home match was played on the following day at Wood Green Town Hall Gardens, the home of Wood Green BC. With the confidence of the 9 shots lead, Middlesex, increased their advantage early on. However, in the latter part of the game, Surrey caught up and by the 20th end were only one shot behind. On the last end Middlesex were 2 shots ahead in the match and the Surrey skip had the last wood. The rink skips were Cook and Fewings. Amid great excitement Fewings failed to draw the shot he needed by one inch, giving the end to Middlesex by one shot, leaving the M.C.B.A. champions by three shots overall (88-85).

Middlesex Rinks: Nicholls, Milne, Brown, Hext (Won 32-18) and Brill, Grayson, Penn, Cook (Lost 18-29). The honours for the competition went to players from the Shepherds Bush Clubs (Cricket and Football), who easily won all their away rinks. This first important match for the County has been described in detail as it set the standard for future M.C.B.A. teams in the Inter-Counties

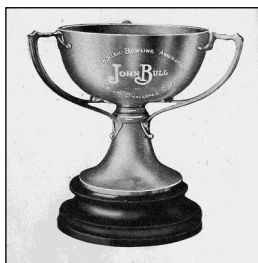
## E.B.A. Inter-Counties Championship (John Bull Cup) Winners,

T.H. Ralls, W.M. Brown, A.E. Milne, W. Nicholls  
E. Woodroffe, W. Whiteman, H.H. Griggs, C.Brill, R.Braithewaite, R.S. Osborne, J.T. Grayson



A.Adamson, S.J.C. D'Aintree, F.C. Turner, H. Hext, C. Cook, J. Steeples  
J.G. Carter, A. Haley, T.P. Penn

### John Bull Cup Winners 1911



The John Bull Cup

A. Haley	Shepherds Bush Cricket
J.G. Carter	Shepherds Bush Cricket
A. Adamson	Finsbury Park
S.J.C. D'Aintree	Finsbury Park
18-18	
R.S. Osborne	Shepherds Bush Football
R. Braithwaite	Shepherds Bush Football
H.H. Griggs	Shepherds Bush Football
F.C. Turner	Shepherds Bush Cricket
29-20	
W. Nicholls	Wood Green
A.E. Milne	Wood Green
W.M. Brown	Wood Green
H. Hext	Wood Green
23-18	
C. Brill	Wood Green
J.T. Grayson	Downhills
T.P. Penn	Downhills
C. Cook	Downhills
18-29	
Final: Middlesex 88, Surrey 85	
Reserves:	
T.H. Ralls	Wood Green
J. Steeples	Downhills
E. Woodroffe	Finsbury Park
W. Whiteman	Finsbury Park

Championship. Since that first historic victory, M.C.B.A. has won the trophy on 8 occasions but unfortunately, not again since our last success in 1969.

## 1912-1918: The Association Consolidates and "The Great War" Intervenes.

At the first AGM held at the Holborn Restaurant in January 1912, 28 were present with Vice-President Turner in the chair. Important changes were made to the constitution and the final version for inclusion in the newly introduced year book, was agreed.

It was then proposed and agreed to elect an **emergency committee** to deal with all matters of competitions, selection of greens, discipline, applications and election of clubs. This committee would comprise, Vice-President, Hon. Treasurer, Hon Secretary, and four delegates local to the London Metropolis.

At this same meeting Sir Thomas Crosby (Lord Mayor) was elected President, D'Aintree (Secretary) P.J. Lock (Treasurer) and Sir William Bull MP added to the list of patrons which already included the Earl of Ronaldshay (Governor of Bengal) and G.A. Touche MP. Vice-Presidents elected were: A.J. Brough, Braithwaite, Cole, McBride, Woodroffe and Henry Foreman

The committee then proposed that besides the Inter-Counties competition, the Association should hold a singles and pairs competition open to all affiliated clubs. At a meeting in February 1912, the Secretary announced that a cup had been presented by Sir Thomas Lipton. At the next meeting in March, it was agreed that the "Sir Thomas Lipton Cup" would be awarded for a "knock out" double rink competition and that this competition should start in the current

### Middlesex County Bowling Association.

#### CONSTITUTION AND RULES.

As amended January 1st, 1912.

1. The Association shall be called "THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOWLING ASSOCIATION."

2. The primary objects of the Association are to encourage and promote annual County Matches and any other Matches and competitions as may be arranged.

3. The Association shall consist of Bowling Clubs in the County of Middlesex now affiliated to the English Bowling Association or other Clubs, Private and Municipal, whose greens are properly ditched and banked and conform to the rules and regulations of the English Bowling Association.

4. Application for admission to the Association shall be made to the Honorary Secretary, accompanied by the name of the Club and names and addresses of its office-bearers together with an entrance fee of 5/-. Clubs admitted to membership shall receive a certificate to that effect, signed by the Honorary Secretary. The Annual Subscription shall be 5/- and must be paid on or before the 1st of March in each year. Any Club failing to pay the Subscription within the time stated shall forfeit all rights and privileges so long as such Subscription remains unpaid.

5. The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held in January. Fourteen days' notice shall be given of all General Meetings and seven members shall form a quorum.

6. A special General Meeting may be convened at any time by the Committee or on a requisition signed by not less than 7 representatives, specifying the Resolution or Resolutions to be submitted.

7. The Executive of the Association shall be elected at each Annual General Meeting and shall consist of a President and Vice-Presidents (the term of office of the latter shall be three years), Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and a committee of one delegate from each affiliated club to manage the affairs of the

Association, five to form a quorum, each delegate being notified personally of all executive meetings. The officers and committee shall have the right of Voting at the Annual and Special General Meetings.

The Committee shall have the power to add to the number of Vice-Presidents and fill up any vacancy in the executive which may occur during the year. In the absence of the President the chairman of committee shall be elected at each meeting to conduct the business of the evening precedence being given to a Vice-President.

8. The Honorary Secretary shall keep a record of the business transacted at the General and Committee Meetings and at each Annual General Meeting shall submit an annual report. The Honorary Treasurer shall render a full account of receipts and payments for the previous year duly audited by two members of the Association appointed for the purpose. Copies of the Report and Balance Sheet shall be sent to every Club in the Association fourteen days before the Annual General Meeting.

9. Each club affiliated shall be entitled to send two delegates to the Annual and other General Meetings of the Association who shall be entitled to vote on all matters after signing the attendance book.

10. All disputes from whatever cause arising shall be settled by the Committee whose decision is final.

11. The Association shall be affiliated to and play under the Laws of the English Bowling Association.

12. Alterations or revisions of Rules shall be printed annually and published and a copy sent to the Secretary of each affiliated Club.

13. The Association may elect as an Honorary Member any Gentleman whose services in the interest of the Game of Bowls are such as merit this distinction.

14. No alteration of or addition to the above Rules shall be made except at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting called for the purpose and one month's notice shall be given in writing to the Honorary Secretary setting forth in full such proposed alteration or addition, which shall be stated in the notice of business for the Meeting.

season. The competition fee for each player was agreed at one shilling. The secretary agreed to print 300 year books and charge 2 pence for each. At a meeting held on May 10th, Sir Thomas Lipton was made a Patron and Henry Foreman elected Vice-President. In June, the draw for the competitions was made and the completed forms sent out to the various clubs. At this same meeting the secretary admitted that he had mistakenly omitted one team and this resulted in the emergency committee having to re-draw the Lipton Cup competition. The winners of the three competitions in 1912 were Downhills (Lipton Cup), Finsbury Park (Pairs) and C.W. Brown of Finsbury Park (Singles).

The second AGM was held on January 28th 1913 at the Green Dragon Hotel, Fleet Street, with Robert Braithwaite in the chair in the absence of F.C. Turner. At this meeting all officers officially resigned and a new committee was elected with Turner, President, P.L. Lock, treasurer and E. Woodroffe, secretary. Four more clubs, Hampstead Garden Suburb, Downhills, West London and Clissold Park had affiliated in the past season. The Lipton Trophy was formally presented to Downhills, the first winners of the double fours, but as there were no trophies for the singles and pairs, medals were awarded to the winners.

The great disappointment of the 1912 season was the loss of the John Bull Cup in circumstances that had almost degenerated into farce. Apparently the first round match against Devonshire at Weston-Super-Mare had been conceded due to the late arrival of the Middlesex team. There had been a last minute change of venue and due to telegrams being misdirected, train delays and other confusions, the team arrived at Weston too late to play the match. There were a few red faces at the next meeting and Woodroffe apologised

2.5.—The first and necessary step towards the Fulfillment of the

**POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.**

Advertisements for the... If the Receiver of an... Special conditions... applicable to the regulations of Foreign Telegraphs.

Office of Origin and Service (Instructions)

Charge in pence

Estimated here at

TO

*O. F. M. S.*  
*Windsor Castle*  
 TO *Hon Secretary, Middlesex*  
*County Bowling Assn. Wood Green*  
*Town Hall.*  
 please convey to the members  
 of the Middlesex Bowling Association  
 and Canadian Bowlers his Majesty's  
 sincere thanks for their exhibition  
 of loyalty and good wishes.

Stamp: **MIDDLESEX** JUN 23 1913

Telegram of thanks from George V to MCBA

profusely to the committee assuring them that this mistake would never happen again and happily, to the present day it never has.

The great event of the **1913** season was the offer by the E.B.A. of a match against the Canadian touring team. It was decided to play a 5 rink match at Wood Green on June 23rd. The arrangements for the match were decided at a meeting of the emergency committee on

June 6th. It was agreed that there would be a reception at Alexandra Palace Indoor B.C. (at this time the only indoor club in England) followed by lunch. Then the teams would proceed by electric cars to Town Hall Gardens, Wood Green for the match. At the same meeting the rinks were selected by ballot

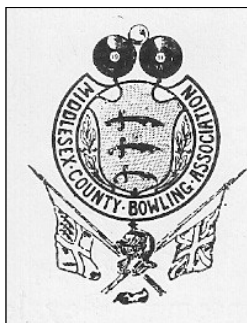
with F.C. Turner as Captain. As for the match itself, Middlesex were easy winners by 43 shots. Such was the prestige of this event that King George V himself sent a telegram of congratulation to the Secretary.

The other success of the 1913 season was the winning of the E.B.A. Inter-Counties Championship for the second time. The successful team captained by Turner had wins over Surrey (79-73), Kent (81-68) and in the final, Sussex (82-56). The most meritorious of these victories was against the Surrey team which included several past and present English and Scottish international players. The final was against a Sussex team that were hot favourites as they had already beaten Surrey, Kent and Essex in friendly matches as well as Berkshire and Devon in the early rounds. However, though losing after 10 ends, Middlesex were irresistible in the remaining ends and won easily by 26 shots.

The winner of the singles that year (A. Vessey, Chestnuts), was presented with the "Four Crowns Trophy", that had been offered to the County by whisky distillers Robert Brown Ltd.

At the 3rd A.G.M. held that year at the Clarendon Restaurant, Hammersmith Broadway, it was agreed that the secretary's annual report should appear in the year book. It was also agreed that the annual subscription would be increased to 10/-. Woodroffe resigned and Turner was elected Secretary. Councillor H. Foreman, Mayor of Hammersmith, was elected President. In his acceptance speech, Foreman offered a trophy to the Association, to be known as the Henry Foreman Cup, and to be played for in the pairs competition. It was also announced that during the past season Bethune, Chestnuts, Fulham, Paddington, Parsons Green, Tottenham Hale, Great Northern A.A. and Victoria Park had affiliated bringing the membership up to 22.

**1914** saw the introduction of County friendly matches against Surrey and Sussex, but due to difficulties with travel arrangements to Brighton, the Sussex match was cancelled. Middlesex lost in the first round of the John Bull Cup. At a meeting in March it was agreed that the Clarendon restaurant would in future be the Headquarters of the Association. Treasurer Lock reported a loss of £6 for the Canadian match and would ask clubs to contribute towards the loss. He also announced that the Annual Dinner account (Receipts £17-14s, Expenses, £18-6-6) had made a loss of 12/6. Mr Braithwaite offered to defray the loss.



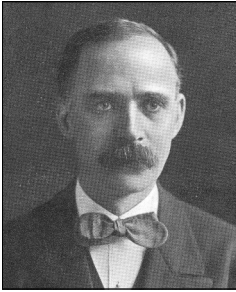
County Arms 1914

That year a dispute about the condition of club greens arose during the rink competition. The All Saints green was objected to by Bethune which wished the match played on a neutral green. As a result of this dispute a sub-committee was appointed to inspect any green before the draw, if a complaint had been made.

Three more clubs affiliated, Brownswood, Hampton Wick and Bruce Castle, Henry Foreman was re-elected President and the fee for the annual dinner was set at 3/- per head with artistes for the event being paid 10/6d.

It is interesting to note here that although WW1 had just started, there appears to be no mention of the conflict in any of the minutes of the Association. It must be remembered however that at this early stage of the war most people thought that it would all be over in a few months and public life carried on without any undue worries. At the annual dinner in March 1915, Chairman, Sir William Bull M.P., did wonder whether they would be playing bowls and football during the coming year. He hoped they would continue business during "alterations to the map of Europe".

In **1915** however, the war did impinge on public life and the realisation that many lives were being lost was hitting home. In his speech at the February 1916 annual dinner Secretary Turner opened his annual report by stating that *"the 1915 season was shadowed by anxieties and the families of many bowlers have suffered bereavements caused by this lamentable war. Nearly all of us are directly affected, having sons or relatives engaged in active service"*.



C.A. Birtles, Paddington

Despite the war, the County Executive along with other County Associations had ignored the lead of the E..B.A., who had cancelled all competitions, by carrying out the usual programme of events. Two friendly fixtures against Surrey and Sussex were both won and although there were fewer competition entries (for obvious reasons) both proved a great success. 15 rinks were entered for

the Lipton Cup, won by Ravenscourt Park. 31 pairs were entered for the Foreman Cup, won by Chestoria. The singles was won by C.A. Birtles, Secretary and Treasurer of the Paddington club.

In **1916** two new clubs were elected and two dropped out. The President, Alderman Foreman, had recovered from a long illness and was re-elected for a third time and Turner resigned as secretary, his place being taken by Harry Thompson of Clissold, who was destined to keep this post for the next 24 years. He was also elected President in 1933.

1916, like previous year, was an anxious time for everyone, but in accordance with the general desire of all clubs, the Association had carried on and all competitions were completed.

The **1917** season was interesting in that it was decided not to play County competitions or Inter-County matches, but instead two special matches were arranged: 1. The North v The West. 2. The English v The Scots. The first match took place at the Downhills Club, Tottenham. The West won by 4 rinks to 2. For the English v Scots match, such was the interest that 82 nominations were received for the English side and 38 for the Scots. In all 23 clubs were represented by the players who took part in the match. The game was played on the green of the London & North Western Railway Club at Wembley with the English winners by 117-102. As in the previous season the Association played matches against various affiliated clubs, Parsons Green, Ealing Conservative, Great Northern Railway, Ravenscourt and Bruce Castle. The summer of 1917 was a bad one and in all matches the weather inter-

ferred. To add insult to injury the Association lost all its matches!

It is interesting to see the financial statement for the 1917 season (see page 128). Subscriptions amounted to £13-5s. The bulk of the income was from donations to the Blind Soldiers and Sailors Hostel which amounted to £17-13-6. This is evidence that the war effort was very much in members' minds and also confirmed the charitable nature of the Association which was later to be set on a permanent basis with the establishment by Harry Thompson of the Benevolent Fund in 1927.

The **1918** season was held with the threat of war still hanging over the country. County competitions and Inter-County games and all competitions were held over. Due to their success the previous year, the North v West and English v Scots matches were played once again, with a collection for St Dunstons Hostel for Blinded Soldiers and Sailors of £32. A further £50 was collected at concert held on 1st March 1919. Competitions were played out as usual. The AGM was set to be held on November 26th but the pre-printed agenda could not have foreseen the armistice of November 11, 1918. At the AGM itself, the joy at the end of the war was palpable but also the sadness at the tremendous loss of life among the bowling fraternity which was acknowledged by secretary Thompson in his annual report. There were some changes to the club rules in that the Emergency Committee should be elected each year and that only active playing members of affiliated clubs should be eligible for election.

### **The Post War Years: 1919-1929.**

For the **1919** season all County competitions resumed. With 38 clubs now affiliated the entries had generally increased. Winners were: Singles, A. Vessey (Chestoria). Pairs, Shepherds Bush Cricket and Double-fours, Downhills. The E.B.A. Inter-Counties championship was resumed but Middlesex suffered a heavy defeat (59-91) at the hands of Surrey in the first round. Of the other 4 friendly Inter-County matches all were lost.

In 1920 the rivalry for government of the sport took a new turn. The E.B.A. and the L.&S.C.B.A. had for many years been in conflict and the L.&S.C.B.A. had never affiliated to the E.B.A. Forest Hill BC, dissatisfied with having to pay two affiliation fees decided that it would only affiliate to one association in the hope that some compromise would be reached. Harry Thompson in a letter to the E.B.A. affirmed that the M.C.B.A. recognised that the E.B.A. governed the game since the L.&S.C.B.A. still only admitted private clubs, whereas the E.B.A. admitted private and public clubs. This dispute would rumble on for a few more years.

At the annual dinner held on 21st February **1920** the Secretary announced that a new trophy had been presented by Mr J. Joseph a director of Lyons and Co. That season the newly opened Lyons club at Sudbury Hill had laid a Cumberland turf green and had affiliated to the Association. At a special meeting it was decided that the J. Joseph Cup would be the trophy for a single rink competition that would start in the current season. The first winner of that competition



was Ravenscourt Park. That year the County finals were played on the London & N.W. Railway B.C. green due to the emergency committee deciding that the G.W.R green was not up to the usual standard.

At the AGM held on 5th February 1921 it was decided that due to the increasing number of entries for competitions, all championships would be divided into 4 sections to save time and travelling expenses. It was further announced that all entries for competitions and the draw would be printed in the year book.

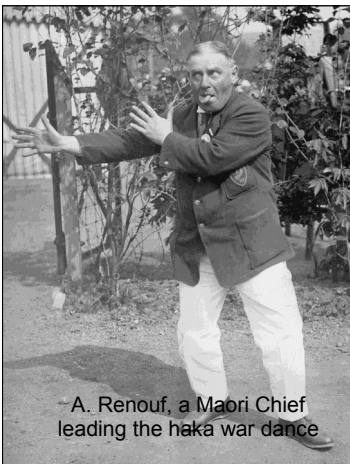
Now that the dark war years were receding into memory, the public were ready for sporting relaxation. **1921** saw the start of a tremendous national increase in the popularity of bowling. The membership of the Association now numbered 59 clubs with many waiting to join. The income of £20 in 1911 had now reached over £400. With 502 competition entries in 1920, that number was expected to double in 1921. The Association was now becoming an institution and as such required a uniform. That year saw the introduction of an Association blazer and badge on sale for £2-2-6. The President had been honoured with a knighthood and there was to be a match against the touring New Zealand team in May. This match was to be the highlight of the season since, that year, only two of the nine Inter-County matches had been won.



Early County Badge

The match was played in perfect weather at the Lyons club, Sudbury Hill, on May 21 1921. The Lyons green at that time was situated in a picturesque rural setting and with over 300 bowling enthusiasts in attendance the New Zealand team opened events with their traditional haka war dance. On the conclusion of the first two ends, tea was served in a marquee with speeches by Sir Henry Foreman and John Joseph. After tea the match resumed and the tourists proved much too strong for the Association and ran out winners by 134-121 shots. That evening, the tourists and their wives attended dinner at the Clarendon Restaurant.

Changes to the rules for competitions were introduced in the **1922** season. For some time there had been a recognition of the variable quality of greens throughout the County. With this in mind the Executive Council had proposed that, as well as dividing each competition into 4 divisions, the clubs would be divided into those with Cumberland turf greens and those with meadow grass greens. This would mean that each division would contain clubs with the same quality of green. The winners of each division would meet on neutral greens.



A. Renouf, a Maori Chief leading the haka war dance

The other important event that year was the recognition of the new E.B.A. constitution. This scheme gave autonomy to the County Associations, with the winners of the County competitions being entered for the final stages of the national championships. The other important change was that in order to enter the National competitions, clubs had to be affiliated to the E.B.A. through their County Association. Each club would pay an annual subscription of 10/6 to the E.B.A. and 10/- to the County.

Each Association having 50 or more clubs affiliated would elect 3 members to the E.B.A. Council. In 1922, Thompson, McQuistan and Nevard were the Middlesex representatives.

There was also clarification of the rules regarding amateurism. No player should be paid or receive a prize except "in kind". Expenses for matches would be paid only by the club. From now on, part-time and full-time green keepers and groundsmen would be deemed professionals. They could be reinstated as amateurs on leaving their occupation. It was also agreed that makers of bowls and accessories for the game, superintendents of public parks and grounds, recreation officers and managers of sports grounds would not be considered professional provided they did not accept gratuities from players. These rule changes would later be incorporated into the Association constitution.

The 1922 season was notable, for a match played against the touring Australian team on 14th June on the Lyons green. A very strong Middlesex team included international players, Yeulett, Potts, Sinclair, Pearsall and McQuistan. It is not surprising that the County ran out comfortable winners by 25 shots. The lack of Inter-County success (5 played, 5 lost) was causing some concern among the Executive and it was decided that among the 6 rinks, complete rinks from single clubs would be selected in future.

A census of bowlers published in 1922, was interesting, in that it showed the relative popularity of the "Crown Green" and "Flat" game throughout the country. The surprising result is that there were over 200,000 crown green players against 116,00 flat green players in the whole UK. More surprising is that the Crown Green players came from only 6 northern counties.

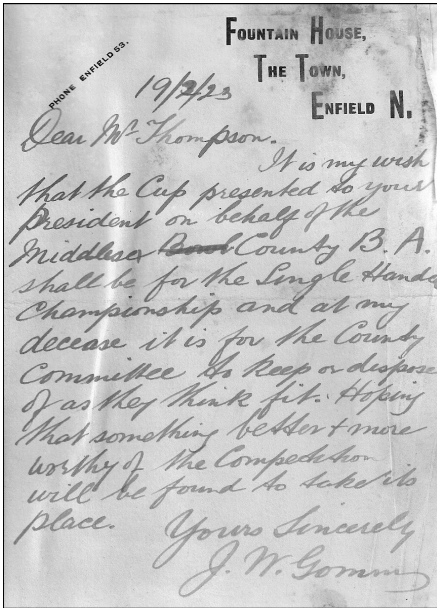
In **1923**, J.W. Gomm, Bush Hill Park, presented a trophy to replace the "Four Crowns Cup" in the singles championship. The old trophy would be used for a new Secretaries' Singles competition until 1929.

Gomm, known as John Willie, was an Enfield resident and the longest playing member of the Enfield Cricket Club. He was a fine rifle shot and had won many prizes at Wisley. Chairman of the M.C.B.A. and Captain of Bush Hill Park B.C., Gomm was a fine bowler and a competent administrator.



J.W. Gomm

The membership of the Association was now 76, the second largest in the country. This was also the first year of playing competitions in 2 divisions of clubs with Cumberland turf and clubs with grass greens. The first winner of the "Gomm Cup" was P.E. Comer (Hanwell). Other competition winners were: Pairs,



Letter offering the Gomm Cup.

Dear Mr Thompson

It is my wish that the cup presented to your President on behalf of the Middlesex County BA, shall be for the Single Handed Championship and at my decease it is for the County Committee to keep or dispose of as they think fit. Hoping that something better and more worthy of the Competition will be found to take its place.

Yours Sincerely, J.W. Gomm.

Durrants Park. Fours, Uxbridge. Double Fours, Bruce Castle.

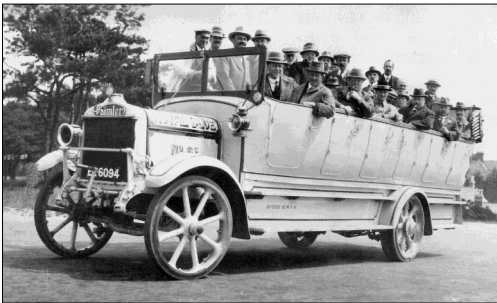
The Fours match was particularly interesting in that Uxbridge were 14-1 down to Chiswick after 10 ends. At 21 ends the scores were 22 all. In the extra end Uxbridge skip Nevard, one down, with his last wood played a running bowl to take the jack for shot.

The annual tour for the County matches against Gloucester, Somerset, Devon, and Hampshire took place in June with J.W. Gomm as Captain. After the Somerset match played on the Knowle green (won by Middlesex, 109-93), the 30 Middlesex bowlers returned to Bristol in an open coach, much to the delight of all players. Overall the tour was a moderate success with wins over, Somerset and Hampshire and defeats against Devon and Gloucester.

The **1924** season was a watershed, not only in the affairs of the Association but also for the National game. Since the formalising of the game, no attention had been paid to the "tools of the trade", that is the wood itself. There were many bowls manufacturers who produced the bowl in the traditional way using a West Indian hardwood, lignum vitae. The problem arose because there was no

standard in place with regards to the bias of the wood. For many years bowlers were able flout Law 2 (section 1) of the E.B.A. rules, and continued to use woods with virtually no bias, much to the frustration of bowlers using a more standard wood.

To confront this problem, in 1924, the E.B.A. added a new rule to the Rules of the Association. This stated that from 1924 onwards, a bowl



Middlesex on tour, 1923

would not be considered legal unless it was marked with the new "Rose Stamp". The E.B.A. had appointed approved companies to test all manufac-

tured bowls using apparatus designed by the E.B.A. Among these 9 official companies were, John Jaques, Slazenger and Thomas Taylor. Instructions were issued to all clubs that entry to the 1924 County and National competitions was conditional upon the bowls conforming to the new standard. The E.B.A. also decided to replace the John Bull Cup trophy for the Inter-County Championship with the Middleton Cup.



The Rose Stamp

The important event that precipitated a change in the Association constitution was the death, aged 71, of President Sir Henry Foreman in April 1924. Sir Henry had been President of the Association for 10 years and although not a bowler himself, was an important figurehead for the County. Due to his other responsibilities, the President rarely attended meetings hence the need for a chairman and vice-chairman. At a special meeting of Executive, shortly after the death of Foreman, it was decided that henceforth, all Presidents should be club bowlers and that the posts of Chairman and Vice-Chairman would be abolished and replaced with a Deputy President. The Presidency would henceforth be rotational with the Deputy President becoming President the following year. At the AGM in December, Woodroffe proposed Tom Potts of Harrow for President and W. Yeulett (Mansfield), Deputy President.

The other notable event in 1924, was the donation of a trophy by Mr Walter Mappin of the firm of goldsmiths and silversmiths, Mappin and Webb. Known as the Mappin Cup, the Executive decided that the trophy would be used for a new triples competition to start in 1925, the first winners being Lammas.

On the bowling front it was evident that Middlesex was once again becoming a force in the game. That year the County reached the final of the Inter-Counties Championship (now called the Middleton Cup) only to narrowly lose to Surrey by 4 shots. There was also a match against the Canadian touring side in June. This match played on the Metropolitan Railway Club green resulted in a convincing win for Canada.

The great event of **1925** was the winning of the Middleton Cup for the third time. That year the team had been greatly strengthened by the affiliation of some North London clubs such as Muswell Hill and Mansfield. With wins over Essex, Hertfordshire and Somerset, the final against Kent resulted in a victory by 119-102. Played at Croydon the skips were A. Inglis (North London), W.L.Yeulett (Mansfield), J.G. Carruthers (Muswell Hill), Tom Potts (Harrow), W.B. Henderson (Cambridge Park) and W. Arnold (Bruce Castle). Losing by 11 shots after 10 ends, Middlesex rallied, wiped out the deficit in 5 ends and went on to win by 19 shots. There is no doubt that the inclusion of Jimmy Carruthers, whose rink had easily won in all rounds, was the key to the victory. Carruthers was the current "star" of the bowling world and his presence must have inspired the whole team.

With 111 clubs affiliated in **1926**, Middlesex was now the strongest County affiliated to the E.B.A. Jimmy Carruthers, at the height of his powers had won the County singles and W. Yeulett was President. That year also saw the introduc-

tion of Executive Bannerette matches awarded to clubs that had been affiliated for at least 3 years. Each winning club would receive a banner and plaque bearing Association badge and the year.



That year there was to be a match against the touring South African team played on the Mansfield green. Bad weather and a flooded green restricted the game to 11 ends. Despite the damp conditions Middlesex were soundly defeated by 47-90.

**1927** saw the founding of the Benevolent fund, a project which came into being largely due to the vision and efforts of Secretary Harry Thompson. There will be more of the history of the Benevolent fund in a later section. The Association was now 127 clubs strong. Tom Inglis (Bruce Castle), was County President.

There was to be "magnificent defeat" in the national finals at Brighton. That year, having qualified as runners-up in the County fours, Harrow Bowls Club was entered for the national finals.

Brothers Tom and Ted Potts with John Booth and Harry Wright reached the final round against Margate. The match played in continual rain was considered to be one of the finest for years. On the last end Harrow, (who in previous ends had been continually thwarted by the opposing skip who, often being shots down, had resorted to successful firing tactics) were holding shot and match lie when, with his last wood the Margate skip fired again and ditched the jack. Tom Potts with his last wood narrowly failed to draw the shot, and the match was lost by one shot. Every sympathy was with Harrow who had almost become the first Middlesex club to win the National Fours.

In **1928** the E.B.A. suspended the Rose Stamp and decided to adopt an International stamp applicable to all countries. The International Bowling Board was founded in the same year. Felix Hotchkiss of the North London Club was President. Yeulett won the Gomm Cup and Carruthers and Barker the pairs. Tom Potts as senior Vice-President of the E.B.A. was all set to be the first Middlesex President to be honoured with the E.B.A. Presidency in 1929.

The **1929** season started in the saddest way with the tragic death of Tom Potts at the age of 50. He was mourned throughout the bowling world and bowlers from all over England attended his memorial service in Harrow. Harrow club champion 7 times and an England International since 1922, Tom Potts was of a genial disposition, deservedly popular and considered a thorough sportsman on and off the green. Potts was buried in his native town of Poynton in Cheshire.

There were now 141 affiliated clubs and the Association was going from strength to strength. It was decided that the E.B.A. re-stamping ruling would be delayed until 1931 as it would be impossible to re-stamp the bowls of

125,000 players throughout the UK before then. Meanwhile the Rose Mark would be considered legal.

### **1930-1939: The Pre W.W.II Years.**

In **1930** an officer of the Association was presented with one of the greatest honours in the sport. Ex-County President, Felix Hotchkiss became President of the E.B.A., the second Middlesex bowler to achieve this honour. The earlier Middlesex bowler to achieve this honour W.S. Carmichael (Brownswood) in 1909, but this was before the founding of the M.C.B.A..

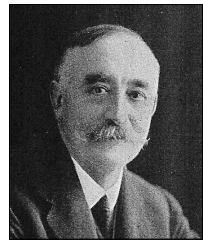
In May, there was a match against the touring Australian team as well as 14 Inter-County matches. The Australians were welcomed to the Cambridge Park green by the E.B.A. President, Hotchkiss and County President C. Bland. The unbeaten Australians won on a fast green by 135 to 109. The County finals held at Cambridge Park proved a great success for north London clubs. Enfield won the Double Fours, Southgate the triples and Tottenham Gas B.C. the pairs. Charlie Birtles of Paddington triumphed in the singles.

**1931** witnessed important changes to the structure of the Association. The Emergency Committee was to be known as the General Purposes Committee. It was also agreed that the annual President v Deputy President match was to be cancelled in favour of a trial match for the Middleton Cup.

Later in the year there was to be a hammer blow to the Association with the death of Edmund Woodroffe aged 68. Born at sea, his early years were spent in California. His education was in England where he took his accountancy articles. Returning to America, he started a successful business and returned to England in 1910 forming Woodroffe and Co, Accountants. Woodroffe had held official posts with the Association since its founding in 1911 including secretary from 1913-14. From 1910-17 he was auditor to the E.B.A. and General Secretary, 1918-21. From 1910-25 he was secretary of the Alexandra Palace Indoor B.C. His career as Chartered Accountant made him invaluable to the bowling world. A fine bowler, associated with the Finsbury Park and Brownswood clubs, Woodroffe had represented England on a number of occasions. A citizen of Rugby, Woodroffe was responsible for the founding of the Warwickshire B.A. in 1922. Throughout his bowling career he was instrumental in raising large sums of money for charity.

**1932** was an interesting year in that, with the increasing number of indoor clubs throughout England, the E.B.A. decided to start an Indoor Bowling Section. From 1933 to 1939, Felix Hotchkiss was to be indoor section Secretary and Treasurer. The Paddington Club with its magnificent facilities had become the "home" of the E.B.A. and the National finals were held there until the mid 1950s. In 1932 Aird and Simmons of Clissold Park managed to reach the semi-

finals. In August 1932, G.P.C. member and future President W.(Billy) A. Hines, donated a unique trophy to the Association. A silver jack mounted on a stand,



Edmund Woodroffe

the trophy was to be known amusingly as the “Jack-See Trophy” and was to be played for annually in the match against Somerset. A tradition has grown up around this trophy. At the start of the match the respective Presidents each bowl a single wood to the silver jack. The closest to the jack has the honour of first bowl in the match. To date M.C.B.A. have won 44 matches and Somerset 31 with two matches tied in 1934 and 1950.

In **1933** Harry Thompson was rewarded for all his years as Secretary and was elected County President. The only problem being that he still held the post of Secretary, but somehow he managed both jobs, a daunting task that he achieved with ease.

**1934** the Presidency was handed to Leonard Denny of Strawberry Hill Club. who in 1930 had donated a trophy for the Secretaries' Competition. The following season **1935**, Middlesex were rewarded with the opening match of the three month South African tour, to be held at the Crouch Hill Club, Twickenham. The match held in very windy conditions proved to be a shock for the all conquering South African Team and Middlesex won a very tight match by 3 shots. A notable skip on one rink was the ex Tottenham Hotspur footballer, Bobby Steel of Bruce Castle B.C. (later Winchmore Hill). His was the last rink to finish and the match was decided on the last end when the tourists needed 5 shots to win but only achieved 2. Steel went on to international fame, selected for England from 1934 to 1952.

The **1936**, season with H.J Dunaway (North London) President, passed without notable incident but **1937** saw the Presidency pass to W.G. Hawkins. For over 20 years Hawkins had served the Association and since 1925 he had been Hon. Treasurer. In a similar capacity he had served the County Benevolent Fund. A member and past President of the Fulham club, Hawkins was to remain treasurer until 1953.

In 1937 that great servant of the club John William Gomm died and in memory of her husband, Mrs C.M. Gomm presented a solid gold trophy to the club. This trophy known as the “Gomm Memorial Cup” would be used from the 1938 season onwards for a rink league competition where the winners would be based on the percentage of ends won. The first winners in 1938 were Winchmore Hill. This trophy would replace the Lipton Cup in the Double Fours after the war.

At a meeting of the G.P.C. in September 1937 there was a change to the procedure for electing Presidents. A new officer post was created that of Junior Deputy President.

Henceforth each year the Junior Deputy President would be promoted to Senior Deputy President and the Senior Deputy President elected President.

The **1938** season ended on a high note for one of the greatest servants of the Association, Harry Thompson. He was to be President elect of the E.B.A.



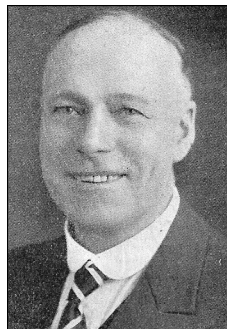
Jack-See Trophy



W.G. Hawkins

for 1939. He would remain in this post for three years, during the dark years of WW2.

Thompson started bowling in 1898 with a public parks club, Clissold, of which club he was to be a lifelong member. He won the club championship in 1911, 14, and 19. Thompson captained the club when they won the Lipton Cup in 1914 and 1915. In 1915 Don McQuistan persuaded him to "temporarily" take up the post of secretary. Thompson was to hold that "temporary" position until 1940. The progress of the Association was entirely due to his energy and ability. His other outstanding contribution was in connection with the benevolent fund. Ever since its inception in 1927, for which he was responsible, Thompson had worked assiduously for the cause of unfortunate bowlers. In connection with the endowment of the first bed in Middlesex Hospital and in recognition of the Fund's contribution, he was elected one of the life governors of the hospital. Tragically, at the height of his powers, Thompson died in 1942 while still E.B.A. President.



Harry Thompson

The 1938 season was also successful for the Paddington club who despite being runners-up in the County Fours to Cambridge Park went on to win the National fours.

The **1939** season ended with the threat of a new conflict with Germany. On September 1st of that year Germany invaded Poland and shortly after Britain declared war on Germany. The declaration of war was to have a profound effect on the bowling world.

### **The War Years: 1940-1945.**

The main source of information for this history has been, up to this point, a series of scrap books compiled by Harry Thompson which abruptly ended in 1939. This was no doubt due to his extra duties with the E.B.A. and the closing of many local newspapers during the period of the war. Information for the war years is compiled mainly from the minute books of that period. The production of the year book was terminated from 1940 onwards and did not re-appear until 1946.

All wartime G.P.C. meetings were to be held at the Paddington Club since the Clarendon Restaurant meeting rooms were being used by the armed forces. Within a month of the outbreak of war the E.B.A. suspended all remaining County matches and declared that until further notice, all Inter-County fixtures and national competitions for **1940** would be cancelled. Middlesex itself cancelled the remaining 4 County fixtures and decided that competitions for 1940 would be limited to three special war time competitions. There would be a knock out triples competition, a two-rink competition (two rinks home and two away) and the Gomm Memorial Cup competition that would continue with a new format of 7 players (a singles, pairs, and fours rink) playing against another



er club in one of four districts. There would be about 12 clubs in each district. The four district winners would all play each other in the finals.

The other important decision was to reduce the subscription from £1,5/6d to 10/- due to the greatly reduced activities of the Association. What is surprising is that in 1940 there were 187 members nearly all of whom re-subscribed. Amazingly there were even new applicants for affiliation.

The finances of the Association suffered a severe reduction of income during those war years. Total receipts for 1940 amounted to £489 with income from subs. £93. With the usual expenses this left a bank balance of £150. Meanwhile the Benevolent Fund had decided to invest £375 of its healthy bank balance in National Savings Certificates. Throughout the war years the Benevolent Fund donated most of its income to wartime charities such as the Red Cross. RAF and Merchant Navy charities. Grants to bowlers were, not unexpectedly, greatly reduced. Throughout the war, nearly all clubs donated generously to the Fund and in 1941 over £400 was collected, a great deal of money for those days.

In **1941** all three competitions attracted healthy but reduced entries and 15 executive fixtures were arranged against local clubs. In a note to players the secretary stated that white flannels need not be worn for wartime matches.

In **1942** Fred Hindmarsh (Lammas) was elected President with Seaton Tiedeman (Crouch Hill) and W.T. Elliott (Hampstead Garden Suburb) as, respectively, Senior and Junior Deputies. The G.P.C. recommended that a President's team play 8 charity matches against teams from each of the 4 districts.

In **1943** over £900 was raised by clubs for the wartime charities and in **1944** the E.B.A. reported that £50,000 had been raised by English bowlers for the Red Cross Fund. Support for competitions was increasing with entries of 165, triples, 55 Double Rinks and 74, for the Gomm Memorial. In January 1944 the G.P.C. formed a sub-committee comprising President (Tiedeman), Secretary (G.H. Smith) and Treasurer Hawkins plus T. Banks and Hindmarsh. This committee would produce a constitution in a form that we are all familiar with to this very day. This constitution would be adopted at the 1944 AGM.

From the minutes of meetings in 1944, there appeared the first glimmerings of hope for the future. The G.P.C. had decided to hold 4 County matches, the first for 4 years, against Herts., Berks., Kent and Surrey. From our perspective today, in early 1944, with the build-up to Operation Overlord and the Normandy invasion one would imagine that planning for the future would be put on hold. But it would appear that the Country must have been confident that we would win the war and the bowling world was preparing for peacetime. Even the E.B.A. was preparing for the end of the war. They had decided on a full resumption of activities in **1945** plus the introduction of a new triples competition.

At the 9th December 1944 AGM, the G.P.C. was a little more cautious and decided to continue with the wartime competitions during 1945. It was also agreed that the Association would enter the 1945 Middleton Cup competition

and that the G.P.C. appoint a sub-committee to select a team for these matches. It was also announced that membership had grown to 190 that year. At a special meeting of the G.P.C. on 16th December it was decided that in view of the decision of the E.B.A. to resume its normal competitions the Association would follow suit and resume all County competitions in 1945. Eight County matches would be played and Bannerette matches would also be resumed. It was resolved that the production of the Year Book should be reinstated and 1,600 copies would be printed by J. Alexander and Co. who had also produced the 1939 Year Book.

Competitions in 1945 had attracted a near record number of entries. The singles, won by J.H. Tucker of Acton Park, 380 entries, pairs, 336 and triples 240. The double fours had however, suffered from the record triples entry with only 71 competing. The Gomm Memorial Competition continued but would be abandoned in 1947 with the Gomm Memorial Cup replacing the Lipton Cup for the double fours winners and the Lipton Cup presented to the runners-up.

### **The Post-War Years: 1946-1954**

With hostilities in Europe over, the bowling world was set to witness an astonishing expansion of the sport throughout England over the next decade. With the expansion of industry, transport, commercial companies and national and local government, the pre-war decades had seen the formation of many bowls clubs associated with these organisations. The '20s had Railway Clubs ( G.W.R., Met Railway, L.M.&S. etc) the '30s food and drink manufacturers (Bells Sports, Schwepps, Whitbreads, United Dairies, Bachelors, Guinness etc,) and the '40s engineering companies (De Havilland, Hoover, EMI, Handley Page etc). The post war decade saw the formation of many Civil Service Clubs such as Customs and Excise, Ministries of Food, Pensions, Supply, Works and the National Assistance Board. London Transport introduced sports facilities for its employees with clubs from Cricklewood Garage, Hendon Trolley Bus Depot, and Chalk Farm Garage among 17 others.

Many of these clubs only survived a few years and if the reader refers to the list of defunct clubs on pages 118/9 of this publication, it is evident that the history of bowls clubs is a reflection of the social history of England since WW1. Since the founding of the Association in 1911, there have been over 350 clubs affiliated, in 2009 only 112 remain. The reasons for this are complicated and will be discussed in a later chapter.

The late '40s witnessed a rapid expansion of the sport in Middlesex. Between 1946 and 1951 membership grew to 237. With many clubs now laying Cumberland turf greens, since 1930, competitions were no longer divided into Cumberland turf and grass divisions. The increased number of entries in **1946** had caused problems with the current division of the County into only 4 districts. In 1947 the G.P.C. decided to divide the County into eight districts for each competition. There would be 4 rounds in each district leading to the quarter finals. In **1947** this new competition's arrangement attracted a record number of 1,872 entries, and 648 for the singles. With Tommy Banks of West Harrow having

succeeded Henry Adams as President, the green shoots of a golden era for Middlesex bowling were starting to appear.

In the **1948** secretary's report there appeared a paragraph that would trigger a mini-revolution.

*"Again we were unable to get together a sufficiently strong and enthusiastic team to carry us very far in the Middleton Cup. Very careful consideration is always given to the picking of teams for this competition and it is realised that those just out may be equally good as those in, but experience, stability and temperament must be taken more notice of than age and a meteoric rise to success".*

At the suggestion of Tommy Banks, a Middleton Cup committee of three (Adams, Birtles and Hindmarsh) was set up to report at the end of the year. On 12th December **1949** the report that appeared was a major bombshell for the establishment. The committee felt that if the poor record of post-war Middleton Cup results were to be reversed, a drastic change of personnel was required. It was decided *"with great regret to drop some of our old and regular stalwarts, who have served us well and build a team from scratch, using players who had done well in the 1948 County competitions."* Using a mixture of tried and tested players along with County champions, 6 rinks were selected. Only 9 of the 1948 team remained (even Carruthers was dropped) and drafted in were some of the most successful bowlers of the day, G.F. Trieb, Norman King, Banks, Bobby Steel, D. Carr and W.H. Jasper. Before the final decisions were made all 6 skips were consulted as to the best position of players in each rink.

This new regime proved to be highly successful with wins over Herts., Bucks. and Essex. In the semi-final against Devon, the holders, Middlesex failed by a single shot. The results of 1949 were highly encouraging for the future and it was hoped that the new selection procedure would eventually build a team that would represent the full playing strength of the County.

In **1950** once again the Middleton Cup semi-final proved to be a hurdle and the team were defeated by Surrey. Another record entry of 2,245 in the competitions saw Miller (Chiswick) beat Trieb (Mansfield) in a thrilling final. With 996 bowlers entering the triples, Parsons Green beat Lensbury in the final. A match against the touring Australian team was narrowly lost, the match being played at the Guinness Club with its magnificent facilities being appreciated by all.

The end of the season proved to be a sad one for the County with the death of ex-president and patron Lenny Denny. His role as patron was left in abeyance for one year and was taken over in 1952 by Sir Hugh Beaver, a director of the Guinness company and member of the Guinness Club. In 1952 Sir Hugh presented the "Guinness Toucan Trophy" to be played for each season in the friendly match against Hertfordshire County. The Guinness Toucan was a very popular marketing symbol of that decade. This fixture exists to this very day although not played at the Guinness Club that was disbanded in 1999. To date Middlesex have won 34 times and Hertfordshire 22.

**1951** proved to be the “almost” year in the Middleton Cup. That year the team eventually reached the final with wins against Beds., Herts., Essex and Surrey in the semi-final. Hopes were high even though the other finalist was Northumberland, three time winners and 5 time finalists. It all started so well. After 10 ends Middlesex had built up a substantial lead. Then Northumberland hit back and though the Haynes and Wilson rinks together ended with a 29 shot lead, the other four rinks lost by 36, giving victory to Northumberland by seven shots. Though bitterly disappointed, the County was now in a position to make victory a definite possibility. Over the past three years it had built up the nucleus of a winning team and with further strengthening was confident of eventual victory.

### **Middleton Cup Triumphs**

The confidence of the previous season was wholly justified. In **1952** under the Presidency of J. Hamilton (Kenton) the Middleton Cup returned to Middlesex after 27 years. The rinks that played in the semi and final were:

G.F. Trieb (Mansfield), W.E.G. Watson (Winchmore Hill), A. Neave, J.C. Walsh (Acton Park)

S. Trelease (Yiewsley), A.E. Page (Southgate), F.C. Rogers (Century), R.L. Steel (Winchmore Hill)

J.E.C. Carr (Lammas), L.J. Howels (Friary Park), B. Baker, E.J. Haynes (Century)

T.G. Eburne (Cambridge Park), L. Carvell (Gunnersbury Park), J. Girdwood (L.T.R.S.C.), H.G. Soar (Lensbury)

P. Johnston (Pitshanger), R.W. Browning (Finsbury Park), N. Miller (Chiswick), D. Carr (Bounds Green)

E. Batson, (Mansfield), D. Carson (Hounslow Lampton), N. Whiteside (Ravenscourt Park), A.N. Wilson (Parsons Green).

En route to the final, Middlesex had beaten, Herts. and Beds. In the semi-final the County gained revenge over Northumberland with a comfortable 124-106 win. The final against 11 times winners Surrey, was a 121-109 victory. The season was a truly great one for the County with 16 out of 20 friendly County matches won including a victory against the touring Canadians.

The following **1953** season was a bit of an anti-climax after the euphoria of the previous one. With more or less the same team, Middlesex were beaten in round 3 by Essex. In County competitions Jasper and Steel (Winchmore Hill) were at the peak of their powers and easily beat off the challenge of a pair from Preston Park. Parliament Hill, with Norman King as skip, won the Mappin Cup and a double rink from Enfield beat a team from an up and coming club, Wealdstone. 1953 was a bad year for losses to the County with the death, while in service, of President, Launce Machin (Pitshanger Park). The same year witnessed the death of another ex-president Major Godby of the Paddington Club.

In **1954** C.H. Bates who had stepped into the breach after the death of Machin, was elected President. Charles Henry Bates (Known as Harry) of the West London club was a bowler who had served his Country, County and Club with distinction over many years. Retiring at the age of 51 as director of a chain of chemist's shops, Bates devoted the rest of his life to bowling. He had a spell as host of the “Windsor Castle” pub during the war years. A keen football fan, he

served on the board of Q.P.R. for many years. A founder member of Paddington Indoor Bowls Club, Bates was also President of the L.&.S.C.B.A. during 1943-45 and its Treasurer from 1946-58. He was awarded Honorary Life Membership of the E.B.A. in 1958 for his services to bowls.

In 1954, Bates presided over another momentous year for the County. For the second time in three years, Middlesex were County Champions. In the semi-final and final against Bedfordshire and Nottinghamshire, the County had the most one sided victories ever seen in the history of the Middleton Cup, winning by 161-79 and 147-82 respectively. The team was substantially that of 1952 with the addition of King (Parliament Hill), Jasper (Winchmore Hill), Collins (Shep. Bush. Ckt), Dewar (Chestnuts), Henchey (L.M.S.) and Orchiton (Lammas). The bowling strength of the County was at its peak and it seemed that the County Championship might be ours for many years to come. Alas, the County would have to wait another 8 years for its next success.

### **1955-1969: The Peak Membership Years.**

With Claude Heard of Paddington elected President, **1955** was a strange and sad year. Early in the year there was a double blow, with the deaths of both the President and the Treasurer, W.G. Hawkins. In January, an emergency meeting reported the terminal illness of Hawkins and decided to elect a new Treasurer, Tommy Banks of the Parliament Hill club. A current member of the E.B.A. Council, Banks stepped into the breach and remained in post until 1976. Banks, a Director of the Harrow Building Society, was well qualified in financial matters and was the ideal candidate for the job. Not only was Banks a superb administrator but he had also proved himself to be one of the finest bowlers of his generation. Middlesex was indeed fortunate that Banks had emigrated from his native Scotland to settle in Pinner.

In March, an emergency meeting was forced to promote the Senior Deputy President J.W. Blair of Crouch Hill, to President, following the death of Heard. With this major upheaval, it was not surprising that the results for the County that year were disappointing. There was defeat by Kent in the first round of the Middleton Cup and of 18 friendly County matches played, 9 were lost. A match against the South African tourists was held using the magnificent facilities of the Guinness Club. Matches at the Guinness Club always started with a tour of the Park Royal brewery and ended with sumptuous banquet accompanied by plenty of the "Liffey Water". Such was the popularity of this fixture, no less than 107 bowlers had applied to play. In the County Championships of 1955 there was a unique event that has never been repeated to this day. Both the finalist in the singles, T. Murray and A.E Page were from the same club, Southgate with Murray the winner..

During the mid and late '50s the membership of the Association had more or less peaked at about 250. In **1956** it seemed the County had a good enough team to go all the way in the Middleton Cup with such celebrated bowlers as

England International, N. Miller (Chiswick) , Norman King, and G.F. Trieb (Mansfield) but once again the sum of the parts did not add up to a winning team and Middlesex were defeated in the second round by their old rivals and eventual winners, Surrey.

**1957** was the year that Norman King became National singles champion. What is strange is that he appeared in the National finals as runner-up in the County Championship. There he was beaten by B. Chamberlain (Chestnuts) in a thrilling final. King led 20-13 and held match lie for four ends but the gallant Chamberlain contrived to win 7 shots and ran out the shock winner 21-20. Under-terred, King had his finest hour in the Nationals, beating F.I. Smith of Hatfield B.C, Hertfordshire.

There was disappointment in the Middleton Cup with an unexpected defeat by Essex in the first round. A joint game with Surrey was played against the American Lawn Bowls Association at the Guinness Club with Middlesex winning all their three rinks. Patron Sir Hugh Beaver, was once again much involved with the arrangements and his support was very much appreciated.

In **1958** the E.B.A. decided to play the early rounds of the Middleton Cup on a league basis. The County were therefore guaranteed three matches in the championship. Having won the first two matches the County met holders Surrey with a fair amount of confidence but succumbed to the eventual winners by 12 shots. The County singles champion was J. Girdwood of Roundwood, later Brondesbury, who went on to bowling fame, being selected to play for England from 1959-64. Norman King had withdrawn from the singles since he had been selected to skip the successful Gold Medal England rink in the Empire Games held at Cardiff.

With membership static at 244 in **1959** and J.H. Tripp (Bounds Green) Presiding, the County failed once again to reach the final stages of the County Championship losing to Herts. and Surrey. There were however some notable individual performances. Norman King finally and deservedly managed to win the County singles. Pairs winners Fred Harris and Jim Brayley (Paddington) went on to be the first Middlesex pair to win the National Pairs title.

At the AGM it was announced that preparations for the Jubilee year 1961 were in hand. A match against the E.B.A. and 4 district matches against the President's team were arranged. G.W. Lappage agreed to write a history of the Association but the author has failed to find further reference to this publication and it must be assumed that the project was abandoned.

**1960** was a red letter year for Tommy Banks, being elected Junior Vice-President of the EB.A. New President L.W. Crawford of Bounds Green witnessed an average year with Middlesex losing once again to the "old enemy" Surrey in the Middleton Cup. A notable exception was the win by Harris and Brayley in the newly instituted British Isles Pairs Championship. At the annual dinner 372 attended, even though travel was affected by a national tube and rail strike.

The Jubilee year **1961** with Dr. F.R. Curtis (Mansfield) as President, witnessed an important start to the process of changing the constitution. Secretary Smith

had placed on the agenda of the G.P.C. meeting in January, his own ideas for the amendment of rule 7. (Administration). This debate would continue for 2 years until in October 1962 when a major revision of the constitution was recommended by Executive Council. After a further meeting the new constitution was adopted. The change would allow the County to be administered by an Executive Council comprising the Executive Officers and 48 members, elected at the AGM, 6 from each of the 8 districts. This arrangement was soon found to be too unwieldy and in fact in 1965 was later amended to reduce the elected district members to 16, two from each of the 8 districts.

Another innovation in 1961 was the creation of two officer posts, Match Secretary and Competition Secretary. The job description for match secretary was to "supervise all arrangements for friendly County matches". The Competition Secretary was to supervise the draw and arrangements for County competitions. The first holders of these posts were Frank Midgely (Century) and George Lappage.

The 1961 Jubilee year saw another failure to reach the final stages of the Middleton Cup but the basis of a good team was in place and there was hope that progress might be made the following season.

### **1962: Middleton Cup Regained**

The optimism was fully justified and **1962** proved to be a wonderful season for the County, but it started sadly with the sudden death of ex-President and G.P.C. member Frank Midgley and later in the year Percy Constable of Uxbridge.

The outstanding performance of that season was, without doubt, the regaining of the Middleton Cup. The selected team was more or less that which had represented the County the previous year. (See P101 team photograph) Kirton (Parsons Green), Thomas, Harris, Brayley (All Paddington) Groves (Victoria Park), Crawford (Temple Fortune), Parkin (Hanwell), Traves (Napier) Dorsett (AEC), Keeling (Albany Park), Ryder (London Telecom), Root (Noel Park) Young (Cambridge Park), Vaz (Paddington), Stewart (Mansfield), Girdwood (Brondesbury)

Simpson (W. Ealing), Atkinson (Finchley), Worth, (LMS), Read (Cambridge Park) Pedler (Selborne), Batson (N. London), Trieb (Mansfield), King (Parliament Hill)

This team went through 6 rounds including a narrow victory over Surrey (119-114) to reach the final against Hampshire. The victory was by the narrowest of margins 120-118. After 16 ends Hampshire led 98-78 and Middlesex seemed to be facing certain defeat. Perhaps Hampshire had become a little complacent and in the 17th end Middlesex scored 15 shots with Traves and King collecting 5 each. By the last end with 4 rinks finished the scores were 117-117. Hampshire won a shot on the Brayley rink and all eyes were on the rink skipped by Girdwood against England captain Walter Phillips which was dramatically won by 3 shots.

The County finals were played at the Kodak club with notable wins by Paddington in the singles (F.J. Harris) and Double Fours.

**1963** was a memorable year for Hon. Sec., George H. Smith, who wrote his

last annual report . This was Smith's 21st year as secretary and after an outstanding career he passed the secretarial baton to George Lappage. There was to be another honour for Middlesex when Tommy Banks served his E.B.A. Presidential year with great distinction. County triples runners-up Paddington (Girdwood, Ellicott and Thomas) added to their reputation by winning the National Triples Championship. County match results were exceptional in that all 6 tour matches were won, for the first time in the history of the Association. Of the other 14 friendly County matches, 10 were won. The County narrowly lost the quarter final of the Middleton Cup to Essex, 121-116, another splendid result.

In **1964** a new competition was introduced, playing for the old "Four Crowns Cup". This was to be between all eight districts on a knock out basis, the teams to be selected by the G.P.C. This competition was to eventually prove unpopular and was discontinued in 1975.

In August 1964 there was a significant amendment to the constitution. For some time the finances of the Association had been in a fairly unhealthy state with a bank balance of only £500. With 240 clubs affiliated the income from affiliations at 15/- per club was only £180. It was proposed to increase the affiliation fee to 30/- raising an extra £180. At the same time competition entry fees would be increased raising an extra £270. In addition the club entry fee would be raised from 5/- to 1 guinea. The change to the constitution was as follows:

13a: Honorary Vice Presidents.

*"Members wishing to give additional financial support to the Association may, on application, be elected Honorary Vice-Presidents on payment of 1 guinea each year or £10 for life membership . H.V.P.s will have no special privileges nor take any part in the administration of the Association."* All H.V.P.s would be acknowledged in the Year Book and in the first year 36 members applied. It was not many years before membership reached 1,000. In 1967 it was decided to form a playing association from the contributors. These changes would place the County finances on a healthy footing for the first time in many years.

Having beaten Hertfordshire, Surrey and Kent in the league round of the Middleton Cup, the County were hopeful of progressing to the final rounds, but Essex put paid to aspirations by winning a close match by 2 shots. The Lensbury club provided the setting for the finals with Girdwood of Paddington proving his international credentials by winning the Gomm Cup. In the pairs, Norman Short and H. Smart were too strong for the pair from White Holt. The 19 County match results were exceptional with only 3 defeats throughout the year including a win against the S. African tourists at the Guinness Club.

### **1965: A Middleton Cup Triumph**

In **1965** an early season trial match for the Middleton Cup was introduced with the 32 selected players split into 2 teams of 4 rinks. On the basis of their performance at this trial, the Middleton Cup team for 1965 was selected.

It proved to be instrumental in the County winning the trophy for the 7th time. En route to the final Middlesex had beaten Surrey (115-112), Kent (118-97), Herts. (119-115), Suffolk (128-107) and Hampshire (119-99).



The team for the semi and finals at Watneys B.C. Mortlake was:

L. Paskell (Bruce Castle), J.W. Holliday (W. Ealing), E.R.Trew (Bush Hill), L.G. Root (Noel Park).

K. Andrews (Paddington), F.J. Harris (Paddington), L. Kirton (Parsons Green), M.J. Brayley (Paddington)

W. Simpson (W. Ealing), N.F. Short (W. Harrow), W. McIntosh (Mansfield), T. Smith (Finchley)

D.S. Rowland (Napier), R. Gibbins (Parsons Green), A. Parkin (Hanwell). L.H. Traves (Napier)

G.W. Beckett (Bush Hill), F.E. Forey (Southall Rec), A. Morgan (Clissold), N. King (Parliament Hill)

E. Baker (Uxbridge), J. Groves (Victoria Park), G.L. Atkinson (Finchley), J. Girdwood (Paddington)

Five double internationals, Harris, Brayley, Kirton, King and Girdwood plus National Indoor champion Root, gave the team a backbone of class. Yet Northants. also included their fair share of England players in Bettles, Cooper, Mason and Stenhouse. How was it that Middlesex won so easily 134-89? Chief praise went to the rinks of Root and King who won 33-13 and 27-8 respectively. Both players were unaffected by the near tropical downpours that made conditions so miserable for many. They maintained their superb touch on a green that remained fast despite the soakings.

**1966** and 1967 were average years for the Association with Presidents G.H. Read (Cambridge Park) and E.J. Crosbie respectively, at the helm.

Eric Crosbie M.B.E. J.P., was a major figure in the world of bowls. The son of parents who were both head teachers, Eric started life as a child actor on the stage and in early silent films. A lifelong member of Selborne B.C., he was to become President of the M.C.B.A. twice and in 1959 President of the L.&S.C.B.A. His services to bowls was recognised in 1977 when he was elected President of the E.B.A. Among his other bowling activities he was the prime mover behind the "Kodak Masters" competition which was played at the Kodak club between 1978-83. In public life Crosbie, a successful business man, was a J.P. and deputy chairman of the Edmonton Petty Sessions. He was also Chairman of the board of Pentonville prison for many years. Among many other offices held by Crosbie was Chairman of Haringey "Help the Aged" and a P.R.O. for Enfield Marriage Council. With his sincere and purposeful zeal in serving the game of bowls, Crosbie was also backed by a nature which had endeared him to thousands of bowlers.

**1967** was another "nearly" year. The County reached the final of the Middleton Cup once again but this time Hampshire gained revenge for the defeat inflicted by Middlesex in 1962. In the semi-final Middlesex squeaked home against Northants. 119-117. Middlesex owed their narrow win to the Brayley rink who, were trailing 9-14 after 15 ends, but recovered magnificently to finish 20-15. Unfortunately, in the final, Middlesex were well beaten 117-90 and Hampshire became county champions for the third time.

In **1968** at an Annual Dinner Sub-Committee meeting it was first proposed that there should be a break with tradition and that ladies be invited to the

annual dinner. This proposal initially met with some resistance and it was not until 1970 that the first mixed dinner was held at Barkers Penthouse (Kensington High Street). Over 400 guests attended this dinner which was held at the same venue until 1980 when Barkers closed their banqueting suite. In the following year a new annual match against the M.C.W.B.A. was introduced into the County fixture list. This is the only match where the ladies and gentlemen of Middlesex meet on the green. The winner of the match is awarded the "Marjorie Levy Trophy". In 1968 Marjorie Levy was the 36th President of the M.C.W.B.A. To date the men have 29 victories and the ladies 13.

**1969** was a significant year in that the County won the Middleton Cup for the eighth time. The County at this time was without doubt one of the strongest in England and was able to field a team which included Norman King, Norman Short, Reg Paine, Traves, Root and Bert Edwards. A narrow victory (114-111) over Cornwall in the quarter finals did not bode well but a final round triumph over Hertfordshire justified the team selection. The final stages of the County competitions that year revealed a wealth of young talent which promised much for the future success of the County. Among these players were the brothers, R.P. and R.V. Jenkins of White Holt B.C., a very small club tucked away behind the B.B.C. at Shepherds Bush with very few, but very high quality members. The future looked rosy but unhappily, despite numerous occasions as runners-up, Middleton Cup victory has eluded the County ever since.

### **1970-1980: The "Nearly" Years.**

The 1970s was a decade that witnessed the start of a slow decline in the membership of the Association. In the late '50s, membership had peaked at 255, by the end of the '70s membership was around 195. Analysing the 1958 and 1980 year books, 80 clubs were lost and 20 had joined giving a net loss of 60 clubs. More interesting are the reasons for the decline. Post war, when industry was going flat out to re-build the economy, many firms started social clubs and many of these social clubs formed bowling sections. Individual garages of the London Transport network decided to form bowls clubs. The enormous expansion of the Civil Service and local government and the increasing importance of leisure pursuits, produced a large number of Ministry and Borough bowling clubs. Through the '60s and '70s with the slow decline of some industries these clubs disappeared. London Transport decided to amalgamate its bowling clubs into regional clubs. The Civil Service contracted under the Conservative governments. Clubs such as Bachelors, Brymay, Carreras, EMI Sports, Glaxo, Daily Sketch, Osram, Handley Page, Ministries of Supply, Works, Pensions, National Assistance Board, Enfield Garage, Fulwell Trolley Bus, Southall Garage and many others disappeared. However most of the established and successful clubs remained. In the 1980 year book, secretary Murton bemoaned the decline of membership to 194. What would he have to say about the 2009 membership of just over 100?

**1970** saw the formation of the Home Counties Bowls Association. Berkshire, Bucks., Kent, Middlesex, Surrey and Sussex decided that rather than play

friendly matches, a competitive edge should be given to these matches. Rules were drawn up for the formation of a Home Counties League. All Counties in the Association would play each other home and away on alternative years. A points scoring system was devised and the winners of the league would be awarded the Lenny Denny Cup. This trophy was offered due to the ending, for lack of support, of the Secretaries Competition which would be re-introduced in 1998. The Middleton Cup Selection Committee hoped that the Home Counties League would be an ideal training ground for the Middleton Cup. It was decided that teams should ideally comprise 6 Middleton Cup bowlers and the rest from those players not selected from the Middleton Cup trial. In later years this policy was watered down and the majority selected were from the Middleton Cup team. In 1980 the original policy was reinforced to include promising bowlers who had not yet achieved County status.

With membership at 220, the G.P.C. proposed an increase in Club subscription from 30/- to £2. Competition fees were all increased and the Year Book would now cost 3/-. The bowling strength of the County remained undiminished and the County reached the final of the Middleton Cup in 1970.

**1971** was Diamond Jubilee year and once again the County reached the final of the Middleton Cup after beating Kent, Surrey and Sussex en route. In the quarter and semi final there were comfortable wins over Devon and Northumberland. The final against Hampshire proved to be an anti-climax. After building up what looked like a winning margin after 15 ends, the team eventually lost by 6 shots. The distinction of winning the first H.C.L. went to Surrey with Sussex runners-up.

At the annual dinner, to mark the Jubilee, a fanfare of four state trumpeters from the Army School of Music welcomed the entrance of President George Lappage and his guests.

In **1972**, F.W. Bailey (Glacier) was elected County President. One of Frank Bailey's most notable features was the pipe that seemed to be welded into his mouth on all occasions. The E.B.A. was set to host the 1972 World Championships at Worthing. The event was predicted to cost £26,000 and the E.B.A. had asked all counties to contribute towards the expenses for the event. As one of the counties with the largest membership, Middlesex agreed to raise £2,200, in those days an enormous sum. During 1970 and 1971 the County struggled to raise this sum with raffles, a St Leger draw and appeals to clubs to arrange ways to raise funds. The target was eventually reached although £450 had to be taken from the general fund.

In February 1971 decimal currency had been introduced into the UK. This together with the introduction of VAT on subscriptions in 1972, prompted a re-evaluation of the Association's finances. The subscription fee was raised from £1-50 to £2-50 and the price of the Year Book from 15p to 20p. The E.B.A. raised its affiliation fee by 25p.

**1973**, with J.G. Boyce (Brentham) as President, was to be the last year for George Lappage as Hon. Sec., to be replaced in 1974 by C.F. James of Brentham. The G.P.C. agreed that Lappage should be added to the list of

Patrons, at that time comprising, A.E. Amor, T. Banks, C.E. Guinness, Sir Norman Joseph and G.H. Smith.

Under the Captaincy of Norman King, Middlesex once again reached the final of the Middleton Cup by beating Surrey (123-122), Kent (136-83), Sussex (149-103), Bucks (117-99), and Suffolk( 115-112), but were narrowly beaten in the final by Yorkshire 105-108 with the last bowl of the match.

The team chosen for the final rounds that year was:

K. Jones (Harrow), R. Jenkins (White Holt), E. Hayward (Paddington), N. King (Mansfield)

G. Bruce, S. Mellars (Mansfield), G. Hayward (Paddington), L. Traves (Century)

A.L. Rider (Eastcote), J. Crawford (Century), J. Stewart (Mansfield), S. Lamb, (Pymmes Pk).

A. Riddington (Parsons Green), P. Down (AEC), H. Edwards, E. Phillipps (Broomfield)

J. Neal (Paddington), D. Chown (Mansfield), E. Trew (Bush Hill Park), L. Root (Noel Park)

R. Yerby (Paddington), C.S. Morgan (Century), R. Paine (LTASSA), M. Brayley (Paddington)

In the same year the method of selection of the H.C.L team was changed. Players were selected by invitation rather than nominations from clubs. The result proved very satisfactory when Middlesex won the Home Counties League winning all 6 matches.

In **1974** a new qualification for the County badge was introduced. The County badge would be awarded to players who were selected to play in international matches, international trials, 3 times in Middleton Cup team and 3 times in Home Counties League team. The Middleton Cup team failed to reach the quarter finals but managed to win the Home Counties League for the second successive year.

**1975** was a proud year for the County when Eric Crosbie was elected Junior Vice-President of the E.B.A. It was also the year that Libby, McNeil & Libby Ltd (a food canning company) had agreed to sponsor (£350) a triples competition. The prizes offered were enormous, with the winners awarded vouchers to the value of £171 (£57 for each player) plus a food hamper and the winning club £55. Even the runners-up prize was £17 plus a hamper for each player. The competition attracted a large response and a raffle, organised on the finals day held at Mansfield, raised £400. The winner of this raffle was offered a holiday for two to the value of £130. This competition seemed like manna from heaven for players and treasurers alike but alas, the following year Libby announced that the profit on new business did not compensate for the cost of sponsorship and the value of prizes was drastically reduced with the winners receiving only £40 each and the runners-up £8. The competition was finally wound up in 1977 when Libby withdrew their sponsorship.

The Middleton Cup league section now comprised 5 teams and for the second year running the County was robbed (by one shot) of a quarter final place by the "old enemy" Surrey who went on to win the Trophy. After winning the Home Counties League for two successive years the County was forced into second place, once again by Surrey.

In **1976** the E.B.A. dropped a bombshell into the laps of the G.P.C. In 1974 the changes to English County boundaries had come into effect. In addition, the GLC now embraced nearly all the existing Home Counties. The E.B.A. had set up a working party to create new County bowling structures and Greater London would be divided into NE, NW, SE and SW. The idea was to create 4 new bowling counties with roughly 120 clubs in each area. If the new changes were approved, 3/4 of Middlesex clubs would form the G.L.N.W. area and most of the remainder would move to G.L.N.E. with a few into Surrey and Herts. The proposed effective date of the change was January 1978. The reaction of the G.P.C. was immediate and hostile and they were determined, with the support of other counties, to fight the plan in order to gain time until the E.B.A. realised that there was little general support for the scheme. Later that year a sub committee of Middlesex, Surrey, Kent and Essex was set up to formulate an agreed policy. The sub-committee presented their reply to the E.B.A. with the main point being that "*Middlesex had no intention of being disbanded and doubted if the E.B.A. had the authority*". As events turned out, such was the national hostility towards the proposals, that in 1980 the E.B.A. Council decided to take no further action and the traditional bowling county boundaries remained unchanged.

The other bombshell in 1976 was the sudden death of the President and Treasurer, Tommy Banks on April 27th. This naturally caused some disruption to the Association. Stepping into the breach, Frank Bailey took over *pro tem* as Treasurer and past President Len Crawford took over presidential duties until the AGM. Later that year Mrs Kathleen Banks offered a memorial trophy to the Association. This trophy would be played for in an annual challenge match between M.C.B.A. and the M.C.B.A.V.P.'s and continues to this very day. To date the County have 19 wins and the VP's 14.

Tommy Banks, a Scotsman and director of the Harrow Building Society, was unique in the Association's history, in being the only bowler to have been President of the E.B.A., M.C.B.A., County singles champion and County Treasurer from 1954-76. With his unusual "petanque" bowling delivery, he was a member of West Harrow and Century clubs and also founder and honorary member of Pinner B.C. His distinguished service to the County and the E.B.A. over more than 30 years, place T. Banks high in the annals of the Association.

**1977**, with E.H. Phillipps (Broomfield) as President, saw membership static at 202. Eric Crosbie finished his year as E.B.A. President by being honoured with the M.B.E. and the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal. The final of the Middleton Cup was reached for the first time since 1973 but success eluded the County at the last hurdle when Middlesex were beaten by a fine Somerset team by 16 shots. Perhaps the best performance was the 44 shot victory over Kent in the opening match, which took advantage of a lapse by Surrey against the same County and qualified Middlesex for the quarter final where a dramatic one shot win over Warwickshire was achieved. Consolation for the defeat was Middlesex winning the H.C.L. after 2 successive years as runner-

up to Surrey. This was achieved mainly thanks to the abandonment of the Surrey game due to bad weather.

In **1978** a new competition was introduced. Following the withdrawal of Libby a new sponsor was found; White Horse Distillers Ltd. The competition would be a pairs, with only one badged player allowed. The company would provide a trophy and prizes as follows: Winning Pair: £100, a gold medallion and amazingly, ONE GALLON of whisky for each player. Runners-up would receive £50 and 1/2 gallon of whisky each. It is not surprising that this competition was an immediate success with 418 entries and continues to this very day with somewhat less extravagant prizes. The lucky first winners were J. Kinley and E. Hayward of Century who beat the Harrow pair, Henry Cooper and Dave Stewart. The double fours that year was uniquely monopolised by Century whose "A" team beat the "B" team.

In **1979**, the Treasurer presented an analysis of the income and expenditure from 1971-1978. Since 1971 income from affiliation fees had more than doubled to £837 but competition entry fees had remained almost static at £1,373. Expenditure on trophies etc. had increased by 400% to £1,039 and the general administration costs had more than doubled to £1,300. The Treasurer had used these figures to propose an increase in the affiliation fee to 15p per player. He estimated that this would bring in an extra £330. At the same time he proposed an increase to officers' grants to meet the ever increasing costs of administration. The General Secretary would now receive £300 and the Treasurer £200. It is worth noting here that in 1960 the Secretary's grant was £200 and the Treasurer's £70. Looking even further back, in 1920 the Secretary's honorarium was just 5 guineas! It is obvious that throughout the ages, most officers of the Association had not claimed the real cost of administration but had shown personal generosity by working above and beyond the call of duty and many times at their own expense.

The initial enthusiasm for the Whisky Pairs waned a little in 1979 with entries down by 51 to 367. The Middleton Cup team did splendidly to beat Sussex (50 shots), Kent (37 shots) and Surrey (32 shots). In the quarter final Middlesex led Somerset all the way but somehow contrived to lose 13 shots on the last two ends, to lose the match by 7 shots. Several of the Middleton Cup squad failed to support the Home Counties team which finished a dismal 6th.

In **1980** there was an overdue re-valuation of the County trophies. The latest valuation by the insurers was £23,245. This meant an increase in premium from £46 to £138. Furthermore the insurers insisted that the Gomm Memorial Cup, valued at £12,000, must be deposited in the vaults of the Association's bank and only brought out for the prize presentation at the annual dinner. It was later agreed that the Gomm Memorial Cup should be sold for the best price in order to release the asset to the Association. This decision was however ignored and to this very day the trophy remains in the possession of the County.

In February of the same year the E.B.A. announced a change to the amateurism rules. Having decided to go "open", the E.B.A. would, the following year,

sign 50 professional contracts with players. The County had decided to support this E.B.A. policy change with immediate effect. This precipitated an amendment to the Association constitution Rule 5 in 1980 to, "*Any person may participate in any event for reward in cash or kind*". The E.B.A. were, for the time being, "going it alone" and the International Bowls Board would wait until 1982 to confirm the change.

Middleton Cup results were disappointing. Despite an encouraging win over Surrey, defeat in the matches against Sussex and Kent put paid to any further interest in the competition. In the Home Counties League Middlesex finished creditable runners-up to Oxford. The result was in doubt up to the last match when Middlesex needed only to share the 8 points available to take the title. In the event, the match was lost, giving Oxford 6 points and the title.

County coach Eddie Greig (South Hampstead) was enthusiastically organising the coaching scheme with 8 district coaches. There were at that time, over 100 authorised club coaches who arranged courses in May and September and some even arranged coaching film shows during the winter. Frank Bailey, President in 1972 and Treasurer for the past 3 years was to return to his native Wales handing over to A.W.G. Thurland (Brentham) who was to remain in office until 1988.

### **1981-1990: The Modern Era**

The author has referred to this decade as the "modern era" since events from this period are still fresh in the memory of some bowlers alive today. Many of the young bowlers of the decade are the venerable "veterans" of the current bowling scene. With this in mind the author must tread carefully reporting some of the events of the era. The bald information gathered from the minutes can hide some of the realities of the events and if any person or event is misrepresented apologies are sincerely offered.

Social and political changes in the Britain of the '80s began to have an effect on the bowling world. With the advent of "Thatcherism" and "cost effectiveness", Government departments and industry began to move out of London leading to the decline in numbers of affiliated clubs. Local Authorities felt they could no longer subsidise the cost of maintaining bowling greens. The demise of 6 clubs based at the Civil Service sports ground Chiswick, together with 16 British Rail and London Transport and 34 other works based clubs started in this decade. On the playing side, age saw the passing of all time greats, to be replaced by new faces who began the process of building a team of worthy successors to past masters.

In **1981** for the first time the President, Harry Murell of the B.A. Trident club, was granted an honorarium of £100 in order to offset the expenses incurred during a Presidential year. At the same time, the roaring inflation of that period demanded another increase in Officers' grants, all of whom received an extra £100.

#### **A New Year Book.**

Starting in 1981 there was to be a new format for the Year Book. The cost of

producing the former Year Books had been increasing year by year to nearly £2,000. There was also increasing difficulty finding advertisers. A meeting of the G.P.C. in March 1980 had decided to replace the Year Book with a diary. Bernard Doust the managing director of the company that produced the M.C.C. diary had quoted 2,000 at 75p. The financial implications were obvious and the committee unanimously agreed to go ahead with the year book/diary and order 2,500. The layout and content of the diary was supervised by Secretary Harry Gordon and Peter Walford and made a profit in the first year of £400. The new format was an immediate success and over the years was expanded to introduce a calendar, maps and other useful travel information. The competition draw was included as a separate supplement to be inserted into the inside front cover. The diary remains to this day as the "bible" of all Middlesex County bowlers.

Due to the closure of Barkers, the G.P.C. were forced to find another venue for the Annual Dinner. The choice of the Wembley Conference Centre, although attended by 350 guests, was not a great success and made a loss of £450. The following year the venue was changed to the Lords Banqueting Suite, H.Q. of the M.C.C. In order to reduce costs it was decided that the traditional guest list should be reduced and the President and Secretary of 9 counties were regrettably dropped from the list.

The other event of note was the decision to replace the Gomm Memorial Cup. The extraordinary value of this trophy had made it such an insurance risk that it was considered unwise to present it at the annual dinner. A new silver bowl replacement trophy was purchased for £700.

Match results that year were better and after a lapse of 4 years the Home Counties League was won. In the County competitions, the newly formed Ladygate club won the Double Fours by beating the established Century club 42-32. Jack Townsend of Bush Hill Park presided in **1982**. The President's honorarium was increased again to £200. That year saw a revision of the bye-laws and rules for Inter-County matches and the award of County Badges. Entries for competitions totalled 2,005 plus 638 entries for the unbadged singles. The V.P.B.A. now had 942 members who had contributed £870 to the Association's coffers. The County lost all three Middleton Cup matches but were in with a chance of winning the H.C.L. until a crushing defeat in the last game against Oxford. The eventual winners, Berkshire, did the "double" by also winning the Middleton Cup.

Ron Petch (Acton Park) was an enthusiastic and successful President in **1983**. His playing record was impressive. He played in all 4 Middleton Cup games, 6 H.C.L. matches, 15 Inter-County games and all 26 Presidents and Executive matches. In addition he did not miss a single selection or committee meeting. In a tribute, the Secretary wrote the he "*fully upheld and enhanced the reputation the County enjoys among the other County Associations played last year*". 1983 witnessed the last traditional County tour to the West Country. Enjoyed by all, but with a killing match schedule of 5 County matches in 5 days, the strain proved too much and after winning the first two games the County lost heavily



in the next three.

Exceptionally, the County won the H.C.L. for the 5th time since its formation in 1971, in the process winning all six matches. The Middleton Cup was going well until Middlesex met eventual winners Surrey, but an improved performance boded well for the near future.

The County Championships produced a special result in the singles when Ken Morrison (Uxbridge) beat M. O'Keefe (Paddington) in the final. Morrison went on to narrowly lose in the semi-final at Worthing. Paddington won the pairs and triples and a Harrow rink (K. Davies, S. Kirby, K. Jones, K. Bulman) won the Joseph Cup for the first time in the club's history.

An up and coming bowler, Steve Halmai (Paddington), was selected for the first time to play for England. He went on to represent England in 1984,85,89 and 92. Together with club mate Gary Smyth, another England international, he won the National Pairs in 1988.

With County Coach Eddie Greig as President, the **1984** season introduced the innovation of cash prizes for all the Championship finalists. Wener & Longstaffe, bowling green specialists, had agreed to sponsor the finals to the tune of £1,800. All winners would receive £100 and finalists £50. This offer proved to be a bonanza for the Paddington pair Halmai and Smyth who, with colleagues, won the pairs, triples and fours. This feat is likely to remain unequalled for many years. Singles champion D. Phillipps (Edmonton) also reached the S/F of the Nationals only to lose to England international, Wyn Richards of Mid-Surrey.

Once again the Annual Dinner ran into trouble. Held that year at the Bloomsbury Crest Hotel, the event proved to be a near disaster. Reporting after the event the Dinner Sub-Committee listed a string of complaints including poor service, cold food, waitresses asking for tips, short dancing time and inexperienced staff. At a meeting with the hotel management, a refund of £500 was negotiated together with an assurance that the arrangements would be better the following year. However, the G.P.C. later unanimously decided to find another venue.

In **1985** F.C. Turner of the Springfield (Acton) club held the presidency. Financially the Association was in a healthy state with income from subs. up to £1,831 due to the 10p increase in players' subscription and a surplus on the Year Book of £1,150. There was however a problem with the sponsors Wener & Wagstaffe who decided to pull out of the contract. This left Eric Crosbie pulling all strings to find a new sponsor for the finals day. Eventually a gentleman named J. O'Brien offered £500, but that year only the winners would receive the reduced cash prize of £50.

The selectors decided that for the H.C.L. that year, a pool of 70 players would be selected which included all players chosen for the Middleton Cup trial. This selection procedure produced a disappointing 5th place in the league. The Middleton Cup squad fared no better with defeat in all three matches. Finals day at Mansfield was almost a wash out with only the fours and double-fours able to complete their matches in a deluge. Eventually, when the green was

completely flooded, proceedings were abandoned and the remaining finals had to be completed at a later date. The Annual Dinner venue was changed once again to the "Empire Rooms", Tottenham Court Road with 217 guests in attendance.

**1986**, the 75th Anniversary year, saw Eric Crosbie M.B.E. J.P. as President for the second time. To celebrate the occasion, a special match between Middlesex and "Founders" was arranged to be played at Century on the 16th September. The "Founders" were represented by 48 bowlers from 12, supposedly, founding clubs, Shepherds Bush, Finsbury Park, Muswell Hill, W. London, Downhills, Bruce Castle, Mansfield, N. London, G.W.R., Paddington, Springfield (Acton) and Brondesbury. Whoever selected these teams as the founders did not do their research properly. In fact only the first 6 were founding clubs of the Association. The rest affiliated at later dates but without access to this author's archive material, the error was excusable. Two full 6 rink matches were played with the County running out narrow winners 244-236.

A new sponsorship deal was completed with City & Metropolitan Building Society for £1,000 over three years. Donations were requested for the new E.B.A. Headquarters in Worthing, for which planning had been completed. Match results for the year were an improvement over 1985 with runners-up in the H.C.L. and an honourable defeat in the quarter final of the Middleton Cup. The County finals were once again plagued by poor weather and the event had to be completed on two separate days. At the Anniversary Annual Dinner, held at the "Podium Banqueting and Conference Centre" New Convent Garden, guests from only 15 clubs attended. The secretary commented that this function was in danger of disappearing if the support from clubs did not improve. Sad news that year was the death of two Patrons, G.W. Lappage and A.E. Amor C.B.E.

In **1987** W. Griffin presided over a new era for the Middleton Cup and H.C.L. squad. The policy was to bring in a new generation of bowlers in addition to the tried and tested regulars. That season, although not qualifying for the quarter finals, there was sufficient promise to augur well for future seasons. The team had the satisfaction of beating section winners Kent at Deal B.C. 58-57, with a team that contained 9 players new to the Middleton Cup who would form the basis of future campaigns.

C. Hooper (Paddington), J. Hare Jnr (Parsons Green), J. Morley (Albert), A.Lines (Shep. Bush Cricket)

F. Hurst (Broomfield), D. Hall (NPL), J. Sussex (W. Ealing), J. Kenton (Sunbury Sports)  
A. Cradock (Brentham), J. Sweeney (Mansfield), M. O'Keefe (Paddington), A. Thorn (Perivale)

G. Caparn (Downhills), P. Rogers (Cambridge Pk), G. Smyth (Paddington), A. Bennett (Broomfield)

S. Marrett (Broomfield), B. Phillipps (Downhills), C. Chambers (Brentham), D. Austin (Hounslow Sports)

S. Wheeler (Shepherds Bush Ckt), D. Watling (Century), A. Ridington (Parsons Green), S. Halmai (Paddington)

Sponsors for the County competitions, now being run by the new competition secretary Alan Bonney, were City & Metropolitan Building Society who had

promised £1,000 for prize money for the finals over the next 3 years. Unfortunately they pulled out after one season. The winner of the singles, Peter Huggett (BA Concorde), was awarded £150 and the runner-up £70. There was a near Middlesex triumph in the National Pairs when Dave Rowlands and Ken Morrison of Uxbridge lost a closely fought match in the final by 2 shots.

The saga of the Annual Dinner venue continued. Since 1981, six different venues had been used, none of which had proved wholly satisfactory. In 1987 it was decided to try the Caernarvon Hotel, Ealing Common and it looked as though the Dinner Committee had finally found a winner. All 180 tickets had been sold by mid October and the evening was considered a great success.

The new E.B.A. HQ in Worthing was nearing completion. County and club donations had fallen well short of the £300,000 cost and a new appeal for contributions was straining the charitable inclinations of the committee.

Bill Telfer (Ladygate) was County President in **1988** and although not a vintage year there were signs that the County was almost ready to take its place among the elite of English bowling. A survey that year of the 177 affiliated clubs had discovered that 31 clubs no longer entered County Competitions. More interesting was the fact that among those were once powerful clubs like Finsbury Park, Clissold, Gunnersbury Park, West Harrow, Temple Fortune and Enfield. How sad it was that a founder club like Finsbury Park, that had provided members of the winning Middleton Cup teams of 1911 and 1913, should no longer consider it worthwhile to enter County competitions.

The Middleton Cup team of 1988 had confidently reached the semi-final with impressive wins over Kent 113-110, Bucks. 114-111 and Wiltshire 119-111 in the quarter-final. Sadly, a rather lack lustre display in the semi-final against Lincolnshire, resulted in a heavy defeat 97-133.

County fours champions Paddington (Hooper, Middleton, Smyth, Halmai) , almost pulled off a sensational win in the Nationals but eventually lost by one shot to Summertown (Oxon). The County finals day was held at Uxbridge after a last minute change due to problems with the C.A.V. green. The Inter-County record was impressive with 17 wins out of 21 matches played, including the tour. President Telfer had an unusually busy programme of 29 matches which were all won comfortably bar one, embarrassingly for male egos, this was against the M.C.W.B.A. ladies.

Following the resignation of County Coach, Eddie Greig, Fred Jeffery of Mansfield was elected to take over the position. One of the first of his innovations was to introduce the use of video equipment which would be made available to clubs for a small charge. The annual dinner was, once again, held at the Caernarvon Hotel and such was the success of the venue that the limit of 180 was increased to 213.

In **1989** Russell Thomas also of Ladygate was elected President. From the National competition viewpoint this was a rather depressing year. The Middleton Cup team started confidently enough with two wins but surprisingly lost to Bucks., leaving them with a mammoth task in the last match against Hampshire and they just failed to reach the quarter finals. The H.C.L. team dropped

even further down the table and only managed three wins. In the National competitions at Worthing nobody got further than the opening rounds. On the positive side, the results of the Inter-County friendly matches were excellent with only 4 defeats in the 19 matches played. There was another sell out at the annual dinner at the Carnarvon Hotel with 193 enjoying an excellent meal and the after dinner dancing. Vernon Tabnier, secretary since 1985, decided to resign after becoming Senior Deputy President.

Fate intervened to thwart this plan when the new secretary Ernie Rochester died in April **1990** and Tabnier stepped in to complete the year. 1990 continued to be a year of trials and tribulations for the County when President Bill Murton died suddenly on the 18th May. There was instant promotion for Vernon Tabnier who took over the presidential duties as well as preparing new secretary Don Dorling for his future role as Hon. Sec.

On the bowling front Gerry Smyth (Paddington), winner of the County singles and pairs, was called back to the International squad. The Middleton Cup squad failed to progress to the quarter finals but the Home Counties League team finished as creditable runners-up to Kent. Alan Bonney organised another successful finals day at West London B.C. The Broomfield Club had an exceptional year as winners of the Triples and Fours and finalists in the Double Fours.

### **1991-2000: Towards The Millennium.**

With Vernon Tabnier (Silver Wing) in the presidential chair the Association was marching confidently towards the Millennium by introducing a new generation of young bowlers to the national scene. Prominent among them were the Jenkins brothers, who in **1991** won the E.B.A. Under 25 singles (Barry) and the Under 18 Singles (Ian). The success of this pair and a new policy of encouraging youth to the game, was to lead to the introduction of a new competition in 1995, the Under 25 Singles.

Another "nearly" year in the Middleton Cup was thwarted by an unexpected loss to Bucks. in the first match. This disappointment was more than compensated for by narrowly winning the H.C.L. by 1/2 point. President Tabnier had a busy programme and finally managed a victory against the ladies after losing to them the previous two years. The County competition highlight was the victory of Hounslow Sports in the fours where three of the team were members of the Jenkins family. The N.P.L. Club County pairs winners Jim Marsh and Dave Hall, went on to reach the final of the National Pairs only to lose a closely fought match to Wigton B.C. (Cumbria).

With Joe Liddle of Cambridge Park at the helm in **1992**, the Middleton Cup team fought a tough campaign with the stumbling block a massive defeat against Bucks. by 40 shots. This defeat meant the team needed to beat Surrey by a large shots difference to make further progress. In the event Middlesex were beaten by one shot.

In the Home Counties League there were great hopes that the title might be retained and so it proved. The vital match was the first against Surrey. In a nail

biting finish, right up to the last bowl, Middlesex hung on with a one shot victory. With good wins in the next four matches there was defeat against Bucks. in the last match. Happily, Surrey also lost their last match and Middlesex retained the title by a comfortable margin of 3½ points. It was not a good year in the Inter-County friendly matches with 10 defeats in the 20 matches played. Once again there was a setback in the President's match with defeat against the M.C.W.B.A. It seemed that the ladies had a point to prove after finally gaining equality in most clubs. Highlight of the County Competitions was the success of Victoria Park in the Fours. As one of the oldest clubs in the County (founded 1900) and one of the earliest members of the Association (1912), County success (apart from winning the pairs in 1927) had so far eluded Victoria Park. It was gratifying to see such a staunch supporter of the Association making a come back to competitive bowls. In the Unbadged singles, David Steele of Wealdstone achieved the first of his County successes. Having joined the G.P.C. in 1976, Fred G. Jeffery of Mansfield reached the summit of his Association career by being elected President in **1993**. The President enjoyed a good year with all 8 president's matches won including (at last) a win against M.C.W.B.A. The slow decline in membership continued with another 7 clubs lost to the Association bringing the total to 162.

Middleton Cup results were disappointing and with a lowly 5th place in the H.C.L., the season was best forgotten. There was another "near miss" in the National finals with County Fours champions, Shepherds Bush Cricket, being narrowly beaten in the final by Reading B.C. The highlight of the County finals held at the Mansfield Club, was a great match in the singles final between Gary Little (Cambridge Park) and Mike "Iceman" Owen (Hounslow Sports) with Little running out the eventual winner. The Wealdstone pair, Richard Kirk and Peter Rands, triumphed in the Pairs final against Finchley.

In **1994**, 'Duke of York' Hanwell, a small parks club, had the honour of providing the President, Ron Westbury. The year proved to be yet another "nearly" year in the Middleton Cup competition. The cup run started disappointingly with the match against the Isle of Wight rained off half way through. However the next three matches against Oxford, Berkshire and Surrey were all won convincingly to enable Middlesex to top the section. The quarter final match against Hampshire resulted in a narrow win by 6 shots. The semi-final at Worthing was a hard fought contest, with Middlesex only overhauling Norfolk in the last 6 ends. In the final against Cumbria the County led throughout until the last 3 ends when, unable to sustain the pressure, they lost by 4 shots. Despite the defeat, this was a magnificent effort and, sadly was the last time that Middlesex have reached the final to this very day. In contrast, the H.C.L. was a disaster with Middlesex ending up bottom of the heap.

The County competitions finals were held at C.A.V. Most matches were closely fought with two going down to the last bowl. D. Blewett and M. Owen (Hounslow Sports) beat a pair from Poplar 21-20 and B. Wheeler (West London) beat B. Halliday (Masonian) also 21-20 in the unbadged singles.

Once again, membership dipped to 156 but included in this was the unifica-

tion of the Hayes Park and Rosedale Park clubs. The sustained loss of clubs was becoming a source of worry to the Association.

In **1995** there was a sad start to the season when immediate Past President, Ron Westbury died in March. Two other past presidents Eddie Greig and Frank Bailey also succumbed in the same year. Len Norris of C.A.V. was elected President. At the beginning of 1995, the C.A.V. club, at very short notice, was wound up and the now "clubless" President was obliged to find another club (Parsons Green) to host the County finals. The finals were notable with the runners-up in the fours, Parsons Green, going on to narrowly lose the National Fours final to Hollingbury Park (Sussex). The winner of the County fours was Roxeth, a club that was forced to close in 2008.

In Norris' year of office a new competition was introduced, the Under 25's Singles. The prime mover of this competition was Norman Jones (West London) the District 2 secretary. His intention was to accelerate the introduction of younger players into the County by providing them with their own competition. The winner's trophy was donated to the County by Norman Jones and carries his name. The first winner of the competition was D. Gosnell of County Association founder club Wood Green.

The Middleton Cup squad just failed to reach the quarter final despite winning 3 out of 4 matches. To compensate, the H.C.L. team completely reversed their position of the previous season by ending top of the heap. There was however an element of luck in this result when, due to appalling weather all over the south, all matches were abandoned leaving the points shared and Middlesex the champions.

**1996** started in the worst possible way with the death of Patron, past E.B.A. President and twice County President, Eric Crosbie. The new Patron was to be past president Ron Petch. With Colin Smith of Parsons Green in the presidential chair, the season started badly and did not get much better. In the Middleton Cup only one section match was won. In the last match against the Isle of Wight with nothing to lose, the selection committee decided to give youth its chance when two members of the Under 25 double fours team, Chris Dudley (Ladygate) and Tony Parrott (Nestles) were included. The County was looking to the future by blooding a new generation of bowlers. The H.C.L. team fared slightly better by finishing runners-up to Surrey. The County Finals were hosted once again by Parsons Green with the honours going to singles champion Mike Owen (Hounslow Sports) who defeated Dave Burrowes of Uxbridge. Three more clubs including Hounslow Sports and Lyons became defunct at the end of the season.

The annual dinner, continuing to be held at the Carnarvon Hotel, was marred by some trophy winners being unable to attend. This was a trend that was to continue the following season when only 121 guests attended. The G.P.C. decided to move the dinner/dance to the B.A. Concorde Club in 1998.

With Bill Fletcher of West Ealing as President and a new match secretary, Eric Prior (Mill Hill), in **1997**, the County continued its slide down the bowling pecking order by finishing third in its Middleton Cup section and one from bottom in

the H.C.L. In this league Kent, by playing too many Middleton Cup players in its squad, had their record ignominiously expunged. The Inter-County friendly matches resulted in only 8 wins out of 22. The County finals held at Uxbridge saw D. Blewett of West Ealing take the singles honours, Cambridge Park the pairs and Wealdstone the triples.

**1998**, another poor season of results for the County was presided over by Alan Syrett of Sunbury Sports with only two wins in the Middleton Cup and 6th place in the H.C.L. The glimmer of hope was an emphatic victory by 25 shots over H.C.L. champions Bucks. in the last match. There were better results in the Inter-County friendly games with half the matches won. The President handed back the Marjory Levy trophy to the ladies but retained the Tommy Banks trophy. The membership had now dipped under 150 with 'Duke of York' Hanwell calling it a day due to loss of bowlers. In the County Competitions the old Secretaries' Competition was re-introduced as the Officers' Singles with the first winner T. Seaber of Brentham. The Wealdstone club had winners in the singles (Richard Kirk) and the triples as well as the runners-up to Paddington in the double fours.

In **1999** Lindsay Warner was elected President, the second to be a member of the Strawberry Hill club (the other being Lenny Denny in 1934). With only three matches to play in the Middleton Cup, Middlesex finished bottom of the section. The County fared no better in the H.C.L. winning only two matches and only just avoiding the wooden spoon. County competition winners Poplar (triples), West Ealing (fours) and Shepherds Bush (Pairs) were all knocked out in the early rounds of the National finals at Worthing. Tony Waller (Roxeth), singles champion, fared a little better and reached the 3rd round. Not a very auspicious year all round. The President on the other hand had a very successful year losing only three of his 22 matches. Membership fell once again down to 147, with the greatest loss being the Guinness club, due to the rebuilding of the Park Royal brewery. The Guinness club will always be fondly remembered for hosting the series of matches against touring teams in the '50s and '60s. Its reputation for hospitality was appreciated throughout the bowling world and the free samples of Guinness stout were always welcome. The honour of the presidency in the **Millennium Year 2000**, fell to Don Dorling of the Broomfield club. Hon. Secretary Dorling followed in the great tradition of previous President/Secretaries like Harry Thompson, Tommy Banks and George Lappage by successfully combining and running both posts in the same year. Unfortunately, the advent of the millennium did not reverse the fortunes of the County in the Middleton Cup or the H.C.L. with relative failure in both competitions. The year 2000 saw the introduction of the Home Counties Under 25's League and Middlesex finished a very creditable third, winning 4 and losing 2 matches. It was rewarding to see the keenness of players whose ages ranged from 14 to 24 and their undoubted bowling abilities boded well for the future of the County.

The County competitions produced more success for the Poplar club which was witnessing something of a renaissance after years of obscurity, winning

the pairs with S. Terry and P. Cook. West Ealing did the “double” winning the singles (Ian Jenkins) and triples (D. Blewett, M. Jones, I. Jenkins). The annual dinner at the B.A. Concorde centre hit a new low with only 105 guests and a number of trophy winners not attending. The format of the Annual Dinner would later be altered to a lunch time trophy presentation function.

### **2001-2010: Towards the Centenary.**

The turn of the century saw bowling in Middlesex somewhat in the doldrums. With Middleton Cup success limited to a single runners-up success in over 25 years it was becoming evident that Middlesex was no longer in the “premier league” of bowling counties. The north east and south west were now the power house of English bowling with Cumbria, Durham and Devon pre-eminent. The slow decline and disappearance of bowls clubs in Middlesex over the last 20 years was disturbing. In 2001 the numbers were down to 144 and the author has tried to explain the reasons for this decline which continues to the present day. One theory was that any potential bowler found the profusion of entertainments and other attractions available in London more appealing. The image of bowls held by the general public was that it was still an old person’s sport despite the reality that it was young men and women who were most successful in the sport. The other explanation was the failure of the sport to attract working men. The “must have” society meant that working men had little spare time to indulge in sport. With the pressure to get that mortgage, car and two foreign holidays most working men were too tired to play sport and a visit to the pub was about all they could manage after a hard day’s work. Recent years have seen the Government try to encourage a healthier life style and to a lesser extent this has succeeded with other sports, but bowls is still the poor relation. The County Association is now putting much effort into attracting the younger generation into the sport. With this in mind there is an attempt to change the image of bowls by making the dress code less formal with coloured shirts and trainer style footwear. A range of junior bowls is now being produced so that children can get a taste for the game in schools. The County coaches are now putting a great deal of effort into this approach realising that the future of our great game lies with the young.

**2001**, with Tommy Lawford (Holtwhite) as President, witnessed a taste of success for the County. With an average season in the Middleton Cup, Middlesex excelled themselves with a resounding success in the H.C.L. Led by new team manager Kenny Allen, the County were champions and in the process won all 6 matches. There was, sadly, disappointment in the H.C.U.25’s League. After an impressive win over Bucks. in the first match, the County was obliged to withdraw being unable to find enough under 25’s to maintain the 16 players for each match.

The County finals, hosted by the Broomfield club, saw more success for Poplar in the pairs and triples. Gary Little (now of Shepherds Bush) won the singles. This was to be the last season after 13 years as treasurer for Bill Telfer who handed over the reins to Bob Tiller.



In **2002** after 15 years as Competition Secretary, Alan Bonney was rewarded with the presidency. The office of Competition Secretary was to be taken over by Fred Purse of Broomfield. Malcolm Cinna of Stanmore was elected Assistant Secretary. Membership fell again to 138 with 6 more clubs resigning from the Association.

The Middleton Cup campaign started magnificently with a resounding win against Kent at Sandwich B.C. In the next match against Surrey, played at Ladygate, the team came down to earth with a bump losing on 5 rinks. The next match against Bucks. confirmed that this was not to be our year when Middlesex lost 128-118. As the County would be playing in a different, and on paper, easier section (Hampshire, Oxford, Isle of Wight) the following season, there was hope that better results would be achieved. In the H.C.L. there was a complete and disastrous reverse of fortunes. After finishing as champions in 2001 the squad finished bottom with only one win in the first match against Sussex. The final match at home to Surrey was particularly ignominious. Although Surrey put out a "weakened" team using most of their committee members, Middlesex contrived to lose on all 6 rinks, 96-141. Oh, how the mighty had fallen! There was more ignominy in the H.C. Under 25's League when the County was unable to find enough young players to compete.

The County finals hosted by Century yielded some interesting results with the honours going to Peter Allen (Uxbridge) who won a closely fought match against Tony Howard (Wealdstone) 21-19. In the National finals the rink from Cambridge Park was overwhelmed by the eventual winners from Nottingham which included Mike Owen, an ex-Middlesex bowler. Tony Howard gave a very good account of himself when he lost a closely fought match against Mervin King in the second round.

Richard Clarke of Parsons Green was elected President in **2003**. Although playing in a new section of the Middleton Cup, the team fared no better, losing to Hampshire and Oxford. The H.C.L. results were equally poor with only one win out of 5 matches played. In this league, for one match, Bucks. had inadvertently included one more Middleton Cup player than allowed by the rules, resulting in their record for the season being expunged leaving them bottom of the league with zero points. The Under 25's were still unable to find enough players to compete in the league.

The County finals held at Parsons Green saw the introduction of a new competition, the Mixed Pairs. This competition was the result of the changing nature of club bowls. For many years almost all clubs had become fully integrated mixed clubs with the ladies holding equal status with the men. Many clubs were now competing in mixed competitions such as the Chiltern & Thames League and the Three Counties League. The men only matches were slowly disappearing from the fixture card of many clubs. There was talk of the E.B.A. and the E.W.B.A. integrating at some time in the near future. With the approval of the M.C.W.B.A. the G.P.C. decided to introduce a Mixed Pairs competition. The first winners of this competition were a pair from Wealdstone, Richard and Pat Kirk who beat the Huggett family of BA Concorde 29-9 in the fi-

nal.

For the last time the annual dinner/dance was held at the B.A. Concorde Sports Centre. Increasing costs forced the committee to change the venue to the Jarvis Ramada Ealing Common the following season but, due to lack of interest, the event was cancelled at a loss of £500 to the County. Although highly enjoyable for those attending, the tradition of the Annual Dinner was once more seen as an event that was losing its appeal amongst many members of the Association.

Peter Leete of Bounds Green took over the presidency for **2004** and, although witnessing another dismal season in the Middleton Cup, had the satisfaction of seeing Middlesex win the Home Counties League by one point. There was however a tinge of luck in this result when runners-up Oxford, although winning 5 out of 6 of their matches, failed to get enough points in their final match against bottom team Bucks. to win the title. In 2004 there was a change to the financial arrangements of the Vice-Presidents B.A. The accrued sum of membership fees was returned to the V.P.'s who from this date would manage their own financial arrangements, although a modest degree of support would be received from the County in respect of officers' expenses.

That staunch servant of the County for many years, Match Secretary Eric Prior of the Mill Hill club, was elected President in **2005**. With membership at an all time low of 130, including the demise of founder club Downhill's B.C., the County had a moderately successful season in the Middleton Cup and finished runners-up in the H.C.L. Pride of place for the season without doubt went to Simon Jee of the Parsons Green Club. After winning the County Singles title, Jee went on to become only the 5th Middlesex winner of the E.B.A. singles championship, the last being Norman King in 1957. En route to the final, Jee beat many well known players including John Ottoway in the quarter-final. In the final Jee convincingly beat Nick Cammack 21-11.

A member of one of the oldest clubs in the Association, Ealing Conservative, was elected President in **2006**. John Walsh, ex President of Ealing & District BA, had the misfortune to preside over one of the poorest seasons in the proud history of the Association. The sole win in the Middleton Cup against Hampshire (thanks to heroic bowling by Simon Jee), was the only consolation for a team that finished just above Isle of Wight in the section. Even worse was to follow in the Home Counties League with defeat in all 6 matches. Exceptionally, throughout the season, after being selected, some of the more talented players had dropped out of some matches weakening the teams. The league position reflected this weakness. Inter County friendly matches followed the trend with defeat in half the matches played. The President however, fared a little better and won all his matches including a win over the ladies. In the County finals the renaissance of the Poplar club continued with victory in the singles (P. Cook) and the triples. None of the County finalists made much progress in the Nationals. The final blow in the season was the cancellation of the County tour to Jersey due to "lack of Interest". After the resignation of R. Tiller the post of Treasurer remained vacant for the season. David Todd became treasurer in 2007.

In **2007**, Eddie Halling of Woodcock Park was to preside over another season of disappointment for the County. Results in the Middleton Cup and H.C.L. were almost on a par with the previous season but there was a glimmer of hope for the County with Middlesex fielding a team in the Home Counties Under 25's League for the first time since its introduction in 2000. The team, although finishing mid-table, showed promise and the youth policy of the County was at last starting to pay dividends.

Membership continued to fall and affiliations now stood at 119 clubs with 3,300 members. The Annual Dinner at the GlaxoSmithKline Leisure Club Greenford attracted only 83 members and as a result of this poor attendance, the G.P.C. decided that in future the event would be converted to a prize giving luncheon.

In **2008** Tony Paulley became the first Harrow bowler to be elected President since the illustrious Tom Potts in 1925. The season opened sadly with the passing of two former Presidents, Vernon Tabiner (1991) and Len Norris (1995).

### **Founding of Bowls England**

In 2008 a new governing body for the sport of flat green lawn bowls was formed. Following the merger of the E.B.A. and the E.W.B.A., Bowls England came into being. The organisation of Bowls England is radically different from the parent organisations. At the top of the power structure is the Council. The Council comprises a Chairman and Vice Chairman, one member from each of the 35 County Associations, 6 Presidential Officers (by invitation) and a Chief Executive (the first being Tony Allcock M.B.E.). The Council will elect the Executive Board and Committees. The Executive Board comprises 6 elected Directors and until 2009, two Presidents, one of each gender. From 2010 the Presidency will be rotated annually on a 4 year cycle from each of the four County Association groups, East, South, West and North. Middlesex is in the South group along with Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Kent, Oxford, Surrey and Sussex. The gender of the single President will alternate yearly. As with the former Associations, there will be a senior vice-president and a junior vice-president.

In 2008 the first official Year Book of Bowls England was a bit of a shock for the traditionalists. Not only did it include competition draws for both ladies and men, but it had omitted any trace of the history of the E.B.A and E.W.B.A.. together with all past records of presidents, officers and National competition winners. The author hopes that this omission will be corrected at some time in the near future. Bowls is a traditional British sport with a past and hopefully a future. It is important that records of the previous National Associations are printed, not only to honour generations of past bowlers but also to remind future generations of the debt they owe to the pioneers of the sport.

2008 also saw the introduction of the Middlesex League. This sponsored competition had been through four previous incarnations. Starting as the White Horse Whisky League in the '50s, it then became the Greene King League. Some time after this it became the George Cairns League. For some

time President Paulley had been urging the County to take over this League and in 2008 his efforts were rewarded. The four winners of each section appeared at the first finals held at Bounds Green. In the semi-finals the three rinks of Broomfield beat Paddington 72-57. In the other semi-final Wealdstone beat West Finchley 65-45. The final was a very close match with the spectators glued to their seats right up to the last bowl. In the end Wealdstone triumphed, winning by one shot, 53-52. The winners received £200 and the runners-up £100.

This was to be an improving season all round for the County. The Middleton Cup campaign produced two wins over Bucks. and Sussex. The County finished creditable runners-up to Oxford in the H.C.L. but the real bonus was the magnificent performance of the under 25's team. The new crop of youngsters was performing like champions who were undefeated in a runaway victory in the Under 25's League. In the National County Under 25's Two Fours competition the County reached the regional finals where there were famous wins over Kent and Berkshire paving the way to the finals at Worthing. Despite a win on one rink there was to be a narrow overall defeat by Essex in the semi-final. It is worth noting the players in this competition, as they may well form the basis of the Middleton Cup team in the near future: J. Gibbs, C.Hill, A. Richardson, N. Edwards, L. Barber, A. Pearce, J. Head and R. Southgate.

In the County finals held at Harrow, Paddington won the Singles (N. Worley), pairs (R. Worley, R. Milton) and triples (J. Gibbs, N. Worley, P. Briscoe). Jamie Gibbs crowned a great season for Paddington by winning the Under 25's Singles. Harrow won an exciting Double Fours title with the last bowl of the match beating Century 38-37. In the National finals, Worley and Briscoe lost in the pairs semi-final to the eventual winners from Norfolk. Norman Worley also very nearly achieved fame, only to lose to the eventual champion in the singles semi-final.

For the County tour to Dorset the winner was the weather and in a rain filled week the County lost all matches. Membership fell to an all time low of 112 with Association founder Wood Green, Feltham Ex-Servicemen, Albany Park, Roxeth and Swakeleys not rejoining. The new prize giving luncheon proved a bit of a disappointment with an attendance of 57 with only 9 clubs represented by 28 people. Many trophy winners failed to collect their prizes.

In **2009** Roy Dodson of Brondesbury B.C. was elected President and was privileged to be in office for a very successful bowling season for the County. Middleton Cup success once again eluded the County with only two wins in the group section. To compensate for this disappointment the County excelled itself by winning both the Home Counties League and the Under 25's League. In the H.C.L. Middlesex lost only one match to Berkshire, winning the other 5. Starting the league campaign as champions the Under 25's might have rested on their laurels. But like true champions they romped home again only losing the last match after the title was already won. Much credit for this formidable team effort must go to team manager Ray Fortune (Poplar B.C.)

The County finals were held at Brondesbury and were notable for some very

close matches. In the singles Simon Jee (Parsons Green) became champion for the third time. The Poplar pair of R. Fortune and P. Cook won a very close match 16-15 against a pair from Brentham. Malcolm Mills skipped the Ladygate four to victory against N. London. The second season of the Middlesex league saw victory for Bounds Green who played West Ealing in the final.

With the emphasis very much on the youth of the County, it was gratifying to see Middlesex reach the regional finals of the Bowls England Under 25's Double Fours Competition where, after a closely fought match, they lost to Berkshire 36-41. Two of the successful under 25's team, Norman Worley and Jamie Gibbs of Paddington were offered junior international trials.

The County Match Secretary, Eric Prior, earned the distinction of the Certificate of Merit from Bowls England for his services to bowls in Middlesex over the past 30 years.

**2010**, the 99th year of the Association, with Graham Kellet (Cambridge Park) at the helm, was not one of the more memorable seasons for the County. Results for both the Middleton Cup and the H.C.L. were, to put it bluntly, very disappointing. The County achieved the unfortunate distinction of finishing bottom of both leagues with one win (against Sussex) in the Middleton and one victory (again against Sussex) out of six in the H.C.L.

More disappointing was the failure to compete this season in the Under 25's League due to lack of players. After two successive victories in this competition under the guidance of Ray Fortune it is difficult to see where we go from here with the County youth policy.

The County finals held at West Ealing produced some memorable matches and results. The victory of John Hansen (Poplar) over Andy Law (Bounds Green) in the singles was especially notable. In the National finals, Chris Cleaver (City of London) reached the quarter finals of the Under 25's singles. Other notable performances were from the Ladygate triples team (Paul Reynolds, Malcolm Mills and Tony Waller) who won through to the quarter finals plus Sue Butcher and Paul Cater (W. Ealing) who also reached the quarter finals of the Mixed Pairs. There were exceptional victories in the H.C.B.A. Championships for Chris Cleaver (Under 25's singles) and Andy Law (singles). Paul Cater and N. Skidmore from West Ealing lost a closely contested match in the pairs final.

Inter-County friendly matches were mostly successful with 13 wins out of 22. The County tour to the Isle of Wight went well with 3 victories out of the 5 matches played. Membership of the Association took another hit with the loss of Kodak, Ealing and St Bernards Hospital for the 2011 season. The membership now stands at 108.

There was a great loss to the County when Assistant Secretary, Malcolm Cinna (Stanmore) lost his battle with cancer in October. His help and dedication to both the indoor and outdoor County Associations will be sadly missed.

## THE FUTURE OF THE ASSOCIATION

For the final chapter of this history, the author feels it appropriate to speculate about the possible future for the game of bowls and its governing bodies. There is no doubt that over the past 100 years bowling has developed into an increasingly sophisticated sport. The game as played today would be easily recognised by those early pioneers but they would be astonished if they were to witness the modern indoor world championships. Coloured bowls, coloured shirts, portable rinks and televised broadcasts of matches. They would also be surprised at the youth of the bowlers. If however they were to survey the outdoor club scene they would be saddened by the decreasing membership and the disappearance of many well established clubs. Most of all they would be astonished at the unification of the E.B.A. and the E.W.B.A. into Bowls England. This has been brought about mainly to guarantee the financial future of the sport as well as recognising the need to rationalise the administrative structure of bowling.

At County Association level there is no doubt that the same path will be followed and the M.C.B.A. and M.C.W.B.A. are already planning to unify in the near future. The greatest worry is the slow but steady decline of participation in the sport. The main priority of the sports' governing bodies is to make the game attractive enough for young people to prise them away from their Nintendos and Playstations. County Associations all over the England are initiating coaching schemes and recruitment drives for schoolchildren and youth. Media exposure of the sport is essential and if the sport is to survive in the long term, inclusion as an Olympic sport is essential.

With the economic outlook for the next decade looking uncertain, the finances of most bowls clubs will be stretched to breaking point. Unless central or local government is prepared to subsidise the sport it is inevitable that many more clubs will be forced to close. The shining light however, is that bowling is such a wonderful sport for men and women of all ages. It is unthinkable that bowls will be allowed to disappear into the mists of history. Hopefully, someone writing the history of the Association in 2111 for the Bi-centenary, will wonder why we were all so worried about the future of bowling.

## HISTORY OF THE M.C.B.A. BENEVOLENT FUND

During 1924, Hon. Secretary Harry Thompson had discussed with members of the County Committee the question of making a donation to the Middlesex Hospital and the forming of a Benevolent Fund. As some of the Committee were in favour, it was agreed to bring up the matter at the November 1924 A.G.M. The minute book records the following:-

“Correspondence. Letter read from Middlesex Hospital regarding donation etc.”

“It was decided to take no action re-donation or subscription to Middlesex Hospital.”

The proposal was therefore shelved. However three years later the matter was again placed on the agenda for the Committee meeting of 28th February 1927. It was agreed that the letter should be printed in the 1927 Year Book and also published in “Bowls News”. The letter read as follows:

Association Benevolent Fund.

Gentlemen,

*It frequently happens that the officers of the Association have brought to their notice cases of brother bowlers who, through force of circumstances beyond their control, are in great distress and in urgent need of assistance.*

*It is suggested therefore that, the officers of the various clubs might, during the coming season, mention this matter to their members and ascertain if they are willing to start such a fund and make an annual subscription of, say, 3d per head.*

*Many clubs, it is well known, make contributions to their local hospitals etc, but it is thought, when the attention of bowlers is drawn to this scheme, and further, that it is only to assist a brother bowler, that they will agree to make a small annual subscription.*

*It will be suggested that each club should appoint a member to collect the subscription in question, and further, that no recognition should be given but all should have the same satisfaction, i.e. that they have done a bit to help another bowler.*

*If such a scheme meets with support, the delegates at the A.G.M. meeting next November will be asked to appoint three Trustees of the Fund and a Committee to carry the same through and deal with applications for assistance.*

*It is only proposed to use the funds for the assistance and help of bowlers themselves and not otherwise. Of course, the most deserving cases should receive priority.*

*Will you therefore bring this matter to the attention of your members and ask them if they will support, remembering that a little help is worth a lot of pity.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*H. THOMPSON, Hon Secretary.*

As a result of this letter, the interest of many bowlers was aroused and on April 1927 the Committee decided that “any funds collected on tour be kept in

*abeyance and if the Fund becomes operative, same to be allocated thereto”*

At that time the third tour of the West of England was being organised and as previous tourists had supported some charity it would instead support the Benevolent Fund. £20 was collected and handed to the Hon Treasurer. With this starting sum and further promises of support, the Council approved the following resolution on 25th October 1927.

*“Benevolent Fund,*

*Proposed by Mr Bland and seconded by Mr Ovenden that the Councils’ recommendation to inaugurate such a fund be approved and adopted”.* At the same meeting Messrs. Gomm, Taylor and Hotchkiss were appointed Trustees and that Messrs. Brown, Sinclair, E.J. Walsom, Jarrett and Hines be the Committee. Hawkins and Thompson were appointed Treasurer and Secretary. During the following weeks, donations from various quarters arrived and within one month the balance had increased to £85.

On 5th August 1928 was recorded the first appeal for assistance. The case was of a bowler who had been operated on for cancer in 1926 and which had re-appeared as inoperable. He was married with one daughter. The total income for the upkeep of all three and to pay the doctor was £2 3s per week. A Committee meeting was called for the 13th August and a grant was made. Further assistance was made from time to time up to the date of this bowler’s death in 1929. The widow and daughter received further assistance to tide them over. In 1928 the first balance sheet showed that £30 had been granted to assist 3 cases. 56 clubs (1/3rd of the membership at that time) had contributed £105 and the balance in hand was £135.

It must be remembered that pre WW2 the health service as we know it today did not exist and, although there were charity hospitals, almost all people had to pay for medical attention. The great aim of Harry Thompson had always been to endow a bed in the Middlesex Hospital for the exclusive use of bowlers. In February 1929 it was agreed to endow a bed at the cost of 1,000 guineas, paid for in instalments of 30 guineas per year. In fact the complete cost of this bed was paid off in 1934 thanks to donations being received at an ever increasing rate. Special Fund matches were arranged and the tour continued to be a source of income. More and more clubs contributed and by 1931 the income from clubs alone was £246. In 1934 a final payment of £200 was made for the endowed bed. In 1935 it was agreed to endow a second bed at the rate of 30 guineas each year. The generosity of the Fund towards the Middlesex Hospital extended further when in 1935, £300 was contributed to furnish 25 bedsteads. By 1937 a total of £1,745 had been donated to the hospital for beds and equipment. The fund had also started to donate sums to 15 other Middlesex hospitals including, St Mary’s, Great Ormond Street and Moorfields. As well as hospitals, £1,376 had been donated to 72 cases of bowlers’ widows, children or dependents. By 1938 110 clubs were regularly contributing to the fund.

With the increased work load, the Committee now comprised 9 members as well as Secretary and Treasurer and the balance in hand was £1,300.

The outbreak of WW2 was to change things dramatically. With the reduced





The first Middlesex Hospital Fund endowed bed, 1929

activity of the bowling world, the number of clubs contributing dropped to 80 and the emphasis on donations was turned towards the war effort. The bulk of donations went to the Red Cross and other war charities, although hardship cases were still being dealt with. By the end of the war in 1945 grants amounted to £700 with £500 going to war time charities. In its wisdom the trustees had decided, during the war, to purchase 700 savings certificates and

these represented a healthy bank balance of over £2,500.

Post war, with the formation of the welfare state and the National Health Service, there was a change of emphasis for donations. Although there was no longer a need to endow beds, hospitals were still short of equipment and donations were made to supplement government funds. Hardship cases still existed and it was towards these cases that the Benevolent Fund would place its emphasis. It became the custom to offer suitable cases a little help at Christmas and in 1943, £365 was distributed in time for the festivities. Clubs were asked to send in requests for Christmas grants and by dint of much hard work by the Fund Committee the money was sent out.

Throughout the following decades the function of the fund to "*help bowlers who, through force of circumstances beyond their control, are in urgent need of financial assistance*", has been carried out. With the advent of the so called affluent society there would appear to be little need for the existence of the fund but even today, although nobody starves and most people have a roof over their heads, there are still some among us who live only on a state pension and have little left over for luxuries. It is towards these bowlers that the fund is aimed and the Christmas distribution gives them the opportunity to enjoy the festive season without depriving them of the ability to meet the necessary bills that we all have to pay.

Today the Fund continues to be the organisation that Harry Thompson dreamed of in 1924. With inflation, the sums involved would seem unimaginable to him in the early days. In 2009 contributions from over 80 clubs amounted to almost £3,400. The current account balance is £4,400 and the bond balance is £28,000. Grants to bowlers amounted to £4,500. The Benevolent Fund is an institution that continues to be appreciated by all bowlers and contributions are willingly made, after all, one day, any one of us might need to call upon its generosity.



**ACTON PARK BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1910 — Affiliated MCBA 1920**  
**East Churchfield Road, Acton, W3**

Most of the club's early history was lost in 1976 when vandals set fire to the pavilion. It is known that the original green had only 4 rinks with a small green shed used for storage. The green was extended to 6 rinks in the 1950's when Acton became an important industrial centre and interest in bowling was at its height. The club moved to its present green (adjoining the original green) in 1936 when the pavilion was built.

The club has provided many players for the County's Middleton Cup team during the 1940's and 1950's. J. Owen was an England international from 1935-38. The current club President, Ron Petch, has been a committee member without break since 1963, filling every office except treasurer.

R.W. Petch has had an illustrious career with the County Association. He has served the County in many capacities notably as President in 1983 and Match Secretary from 1985 to 1996. He was also in 1980 elected chairman of the M.C.H.V.P.B.A. He is also a trustee of the MCBA Benevolent Fund. Since 1964 he has played over 600 County matches at the highest level. With 50 years of bowling in Middlesex, Ron was elected Honorary Life Member of the EBA in 2005 for his services to the game. On the death of E.J. Crosbie in 1996 he was made County Patron and remains so to this very day.



Ron Petch M.C.B.A. Patron.  
1996-2011

MCBA honours:

President: 1983, R.W. Petch

Singles: Winner: 1934 (J. Owen), 1945 (J. Tucker).

Fours: Winners: 1956

Double Fours: Winners: 1970



**ALBERT BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1925 — Affiliated MCBA 1925**  
**Recreation Grounds, Bidwell Gardens, Wood Green, N11 2AU**

MCBA honours: Pairs: Runners-up 1986



**ARNOS BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1937 — Affiliated MCBA 1937**  
**Arnos Park, New Southgate, N11 1BT**

The Club was founded in 1937 with 47 members, 8 of them ladies. In 2002 Arnos set and still holds, a Guinness world record for non-stop indoor bowling. A team of 3 men and 3 ladies (all Senior Citizens) played for 36 hours non-stop.



**ASHFORD BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1918 — Affiliated MCBA 1927**  
**Woodthorpe Road, Ashford, TW15 3JY**

MCBA honours:

Unbadged Singles: Winner:1980 (Tomkins). R/U:2000, (C. Bench)

Singles: R/U 1997,

Pairs: R/U: 2010

Double Fours: R/U: 1983,

Fours: Semi-Finalists 1946,1955, Triples: Semi-Finalists 1960,



**BRITISH AIRWAYS CONCORDE BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1974 — Affiliated MCBA 1976**  
**Crane Lodge Road, Cranford, Hounslow, TW5 9PQ**

Started life as BOAC Speedbird Bowls Section before the merger of BOAC and British Airways. The name of the club was changed to Concorde in 1979. First match was against Lyons BC (now defunct) on 4th May 1975. In 1997 the club was donated a building formerly used as Union H.Q. for use as a pavilion. This was erected on the site of the old pavilion.

MCBA Honours:

Singles: Winner, (Peter Huggett) 1987 also R/U 1990. Semi-finalist: (R. D'Abreo) 2005

Pairs: Winners (J. Floyd, J. Brister) 1989.

Double Fours: R/U:1997.



**BESSINGBY PARK BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1991 — Affiliated MCBA 1991**  
**12, Bridle Road, Eastcote, HA5 2SJ**

Founded 1991 when members of the Eastcote Short Mat Bowls Club decided they wished to play outdoors in the summer. Hillingdon Council offered them the use of Bessingby Park Bowls Green in Bessingby Park. The club already in residence, Deane Park, agreed to share use of the green. Use of the old Council pavilion was provided.



**BISHOP DUPPAS BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1976 — Affiliated MCBA 1977**  
**Bishop Duppas Road, Shepperton, TW17**

Five founding members (Len, Alfred and Albert Winter, Laurie Proudfoot and Bert Porter) determined to form a new mixed club in the Shepperton area. The founding five each contributed funds that allowed them to rent an under-used green together with an adjacent hall in Bishop Duppas Park. Having attracted sufficient members, the club affiliated to the MCBA in 1977.

The early years were a continual struggle with facilities and the green, however, bolstered by the support of a local ex-servicemen's club, the membership grew quickly and in 2001 a new pavilion was built, funded jointly by members and the local authority. This was later extended in 2003. Today the club boasts one of the best greens in the area and a membership of close to a 100. Members participate regularly in County competitions as well as local leagues.

MCBA Honours:

Unbadged singles: Winner: 1997, K. Drake. Pairs: Winners (L. Winter, K. Drake)1998



**BISHOPSWOOD (NORRICE LEA) BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1935 — Affiliated MCBA 1936**  
**Lyttleton Playing Fields, Norris Lea, East Finchley,**  
**N2 0DD**

**BISHOPSWOOD (SUMMER LANE) BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1935 — Affiliated MCBA 1936**  
**Glebelands Complex, Summer Lane, North Finchley,**  
**N12 0PD**

Founded in 1935, with its original green in Lyttleton Playing Fields, the club suffered a gradual decline in the 1960's. Revived in the early 1970's by Willie Freedman the membership grew to over 300. To accommodate the membership the defunct Tudor Bowling Club green in Summers Lane was taken over. The club plays on both greens. Although the membership has dropped since the 1990's it is still well over 200.

MCBA Honours:

Whisky Pairs: R/U: 2000,(T. Doe, H. Burke), 2010 , Mixed Pairs: R/U: 2002,(T. Doe, E. Rees) .



**BLUE FLAME BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1980 — Affiliated MCBA 1980**  
**Fordbridge Park, Kingston Road, Ashford,**  
**TW15 3SJ**

North Thames Gas Sports Association was the original inspiration, with bowling as one of the activities at their large sports ground. Founded in 1980, Blue Flame Bowls Club, sited at Fordbridge Park, Ashford, Middlesex, was originally for the use of British Gas employees who had moved from London to work at North Thames House in Staines. Originally called the Capitol Club, it was renamed Blue Flame in 1988. Shortly after, financial support from British Gas was withdrawn and the club decided to open membership to non-employees. The club, although relatively small with 32 mixed members, is successful in local leagues and members regularly enter County competitions.



**BOUNDS GREEN BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1887 — Affiliated MCBA 1926**  
**Goring Road, New Southgate, N11 2BS**

The original site of the club was a plot of land on the Broomfield Estate. A tennis and croquet club existed on this plot in 1885. In 1887, a member of this club W.H. Rice (later Sir William Rice) decided to start a bowls section on a piece of land adjacent to the existing club. Forced to move in 1889, a lease was granted on an adjacent plot. The freehold was granted in 1903 and funds were raised for the formation of the Bounds Green Recreation Company Ltd which purchased the bowling green. From 1903 to 1937 the Club rented the green from the company. In 1938 a new company was formed named The Bounds Green Recreation Club Ltd. The present club house was built in 1938. A house (in Goring Road) for use of the greenkeeper was purchased in 1947 and is still used today.



Douglas Carr

As founder member of the L&SCBA the club did not affiliate with the MCBA until 1926 due to the poor early relations between the two associations.

Notable bowlers include Douglas Carr who was club champion on 10 occasions and an England international 1948-1949. Carr was also a Middleton Cup skip from 1948 to 1954. H. McEwan was capped for England in 1904

**MCBA Honours:**

President J.H. Tripp, 1959, Singles R/U: 2010.

Triples: Winners: 1976,

Double Fours: Winners: 1992, 2007. Middlesex League: Winners: 2009



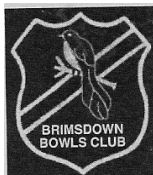
**BRENTHAM BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1905 — Affiliated MCBA 1921**  
**38a Meadvale Road, Ealing, W5 1NP**

The Club was formed in 1905 on the Brentham Estate, a purpose-designed housing estate north of Ealing. It moved to its present green by the side of the River Brent in 1916, when the Estate Club Building was built as a recreation centre for the area.

Notable bowlers include County singles champion 1982, Charlie Chambers and Jack Boyce who became MCBA President in 1973. Another past President (2003), Richard Clarke has joined the club and Arthur Thurland was treasurer between 1980 and 1988. Terry Seaber is now the first secretary of the Middlesex League.

**MCBA Honours:**

President. J.G. Boyce, 1973, R.M. Clarke, 2003. Singles: Winner (C. Chambers) 1982, U/B Singles: Winner, (B. Burgess) 2003, R/U (C. Cradock) 1979, Pairs: Winners, 1981, R/U, 1956, 1985. Triples: R/U: 2009. Fours: R/U 1971, 1981. Double 4's: Winners, 1963, 1982, 1984, 1985. R/U, 1988. Whisky Pairs: Winners, (Burgess, Chambers) 1986. R/U (Keating, Burgess) 1997.



**BRIMSDOWN BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1993 — Affiliated MCBA 1993**  
**Mayfield Road, Enfield, EN3 7LS**

Founded in 1993 when the parent club, Brimsdown Sports and Social Club, took over the sports ground (which included a bowling green) from Johnson Massey. Brimsdown Sports Club was founded in the late forties by a group of people from the Newcastle area. The badge represents the colours of Newcastle United, hence the magpie and the black and white colours. The club plays in a number of mixed leagues in the Enfield area.



**BRONDESBUURY BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1909 — Affiliated MCBA 1926**  
**51 Chatsworth Road, Brondesbury, NW2 4BL**

Founded in 1909 situated in Chatsworth Road behind Kilburn tube station. The most celebrated member is Tommy Banks who was also a member of Pinner and West Harrow. He was County President in 1947 and President of the EBA in 1963. Winner of the County singles in 1948 while a member of West Harrow. Roy Dodson was elected President in 2009.

England international: Jim Girdwood 1959-64 while a member of Paddington.

MCBA Honours:

President: 2009: Roy Dodson.

Singles: R/U, 1998, 2005.

Triples: Winners: 1959, R/U, 2005.

Fours: R/U, 2004

Double Fours: Winners, 2002, R/U, 1971.

Unbadged Singles: Winner: 2000 (R. French) , R/U: 1973 (Neville)

Whiskey Pairs: Winners: 2000 (French, Harman) .



**THE BROOMFIELD CLUB (BOWLS SECTION)**  
**Founded 1952 — Affiliated MCBA 1952**  
**85a Hedge Lane, Palmers Green, London**  
**N13 5SZ**

Situated on the site of an ex-engineering factory sports ground, the Broomfield Club was founded in 1952. The sports club comprising a bowling green, two hard tennis courts and a clubhouse was sold to the local Council. Councillor Will Warren, who was president of Broomfield Football Club (founded 1911), is thought to have been instrumental in obtaining the lease for Broomfield F.C., which at that time did not possess its own clubhouse. The sports of bowls and tennis were added to their activities and the name of the club was changed to "The Broomfield Club".

Over the years there have been many alterations and improvements to the clubhouse and sports facilities at the ground. The bowls section has flourished and can proudly boast many successes in competitions at County and National level. Over the years the club has contributed many players to the County Middleton Cup team.

MCBA Honours

President: 1977, E.H Phillipps. 2000, D. H. Dorling.

Singles: Winners: 1972, E. H. Phillipps, 1977. G.R. Rooke. 1980, A. Sharpe. 1994, P.S. Marrett.

U/25's Singles: Winner: 2004, J. Gibbs. R/U: 2005, J. Gibbs, 2006, A. Richardson.

Unbadged Singles: Winner: 1989, F.J.H. Stow. R/U: 1974, A.H. Sharpe.

Pairs: Winners: 1975, K. Allen, D.M. Bennett. R/U: 1984, 2005.

Triples: Winners: 1979, 1987, 1989, 1990, 1995, 2003, 2004. 2009. R/U: 1978, 1991.

Fours: Winners: 1962, 1990, 2005. R/U: 1969, 1979, 1990, 2005.

Double Fours: Winners: 1983, 1989, 1991, 2004. R/U: 1967, 1975, 1985, 1990, 1993, 2000.

Whisky Pairs: Winners: 1981, C.R. Knight, A. Bennett. 1992, A.E. Grant, T. Parsons. R/U: 1984, C.R. Knight, A. Bennett. 1985, F.J.H. Stow, E.W. Rochester. 1987, F.J.H. Stow, E.W. Rochester. 1988, B.C. Broad, F. Hurst.

Middlesex League: Runners-up: 2008, 2010.



**BURY LODGE BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1939 — Affiliated MCBA 1940**  
**Bury Lodge Gardens, Bury St. West,**  
**Lower Edmonton, N9 8NJ**

The Club was founded in 1939 in what was then known as Bury Lodge Recreation Ground. Until 1978 access to the green and clubhouse was restricted and controlled by the Council green-keeper. The ladies club was formed in 1952. In 1997 a lease was negotiated with the Council and the club was now responsible for day to day running and maintenance. Notably, in recent years, Arthur Kennedy has achieved badged status for the County.



**BUSH HILL PARK BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1912 — Affiliated MCBA 1917**  
**Bruce Castle Park, Lordship Lane, Tottenham, N17 8NS**

Bush Hill Park Housing Estate began development in the late nineteenth century. In 1905 a new clubhouse was built for the Bush Hill Park Club (croquet, tennis and bowls) and this building still houses the Club today. The club became a social centre for the estate. Mr W.D. Cornish purchased the club in 1911 and founded a new club in 1912. He became the first President of Bush Hill Park Club (bowls and tennis). In 1922 the Club was purchased from Mr Cornish for £3,500 as the Bush Hill Park Sports and Social Club Land Purchase Society. The mortgage was transferred to the Club in 1961 and a piece of land was purchased which enabled the green to be enlarged to full size. In 1965 the Land Purchase Society was wound up and the club was then free to manage its affairs for the first time.

Since its founding the club has achieved great success in County and National competitions and many of its members have become full internationals. A.A. Briden, 1936, A. Godwin, 1934, G.P. Pearson, 1921, 1930, A. Watson 1926-28.

MCBA Honours:

Singles: Winner: 1938, A. Watson. 1974, E.R. Trew. R/U: 1919, 1920, 1935.

Pairs: Winners: 1971, Trew, Edwards. R/U: 1923, 1969, 2002.

Triples: Winners: 1935, 1992. R/U: 1989.

Fours: Winners: 2004. R/U: 1989, 2002.

Double Fours: Winners: 1922, 1932, 1969, 2006. R/U: 1920, 1931, 1973.

Whisky Pairs: R/U: 2010 (A. Bracaliello, F. Halverson)



# CAMBRIDGE PARK BOWLS CLUB

**Founded 1921 — Affiliated MCBA 1921**  
**Cambridge Park, East Twickenham, TW12PG**



The Beginning November 1920

Cambridge Park Bowling & Sports Club was founded by William Poupart and eight other local business men in 1920. At a board meeting in November 1920, F.W. Butcher was contracted to lay the bowling green and 2 tennis courts. Mr Butcher was employed as green keeper. The first match was played on May 23rd 1921. By 1922 a pavilion had been erected and the MCBA v Surrey match took place on the club green on 18th July. In 1927 the pavilion was expanded and amenities improved to such an extent that an MCBA match against the touring Australian team was held at the club. Later that year indoor bowls became a section of the club with its own management and rules. The war years did

little to discourage the club activities and at this time the name of Leonard Denny (1877-1950) appeared in the Board Minutes. A Director for many years, he resigned in 1947 but remained as President of the Bowls Club for the next two years.

In 1945, estimates were received for the building of a new outdoor green and an indoor green. The 1950s saw membership flourish (109 bowlers and 94 Tennis). In 1956 the pavilion was enlarged and 2 indoor rinks were constructed. Ten years later the hard tennis courts were replaced by a new club house incorporating 4 indoor rinks and modern facilities for both ladies and gents indoor and outdoor sections. After the construction of the new pavilion had been completed the old pavilion was vacated and leased out. Today Cambridge Park Sports Club has an indoor section exceeding 300 and an outdoor section of around 100.

#### MCBA Honours.

Past Presidents MCBA: 1930, C. Bland, 1966, G. Read, , 1992, J. Little, 2010, G. Kellet.

Former County Presidents L.Denny and L Warner (both ex-Strawberry Hill) later became club members.

Singles: Winner: 1993, G. Little. R/U: 1953, 1979.

Pairs: Winners: 1957, Smith, Hague. 1962, Frisby, Read. 1982, A. Rogers, A. Cottis.

1997, R. Spencer, A. Bell. R/U: 1939, 1955, 2004.

Triples: Winners: 1963, 1970, 2002. R/U; 1948, 1952, 1993.

Fours: Winners: 1938, 1981, 1986, 2002. R/U: 1949, 1962, 1966, 1970, 1975.

Double fours: Winners: 1924, 1959, 1971.

Unbadged Singles: 1969, G.N. Cook, 2010, J. Peisley



MCBA v Australia May 29th 1930, held at Cambridge Park B.C.





**CENTURY BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1928 — Affiliated MCBA 1929**  
**Between 51-53 Logan Road, Wembley, HA9 8PY**

Founded in 1928 the site of the first green adjoined the Century Hotel in Forty Lane, Wembley. Over the years the green and the facilities deteriorated and the club was forced to look elsewhere for another home. A member, Sid Norman, and a neighbour who owned houses in Logan Road with very large gardens were prepared to sell part of their land. With the assistance of a loan of £3,000 from Mr Norman the first green was laid for £800 and the club moved to its present home in Logan Road. After the war a second green was laid in 1948.

In the early 1950s members of a local tennis club joined forces adding their pavilion to the club premises. Even in those early days indoor bowls was played on a green baize carpet. October 1961 saw the opening of a new indoor bowling green which now forms part of the new clubhouse. In 1976 a new clubhouse and pavilion were built. These splendid facilities have been a venue for Bowling Association matches ever since.

In 2007 a decision was made to sell one of the outdoor greens in order to invest for the long term future of the club. Century is now the first club in Middlesex to have an "All weather" outdoor green as well as indoor.

From its founding, Century has been and continues to be one of the strongest clubs in the County as witnessed by the long list of County honours.

Internationals: 1966, L.H. Traves. 1937, 1952, E.J.Haynes

MCBA Honours:

Presidents: 1948, C. Birtles. 1958, F.A. Midgley.

Singles: R/U: 1952, 1968, 1972, 1974, 1984.2009

Unbadged Singles: Winner: 1975, Keston. R/U: 1993, B. Iverson.

Pairs: Winners: 1947, Haynes, Hirst. 1949, Haynes, Hirst. 1950, Harvey, Baker. 1968, Boys, Traves. 1973, Nevard, Plumb. 1988, J. Finn, R. Theobald. R/U: 1954, 1970, 1987, 1992.

Triples: Winners: 1939, 1951, 1955, 1966, 1975, 1978, 1982. R/U: 1964, 1980.

Fours: Winners: 1961, 1968, 1976, 1977, 2006. R/U: 1945, 1952, 1955, 1987, 1994.

Double Fours: Winners: 1976, 1978. R/U: 1939, 1957, 1964, 1965, 1970, 1978, 1981,2008

Whisky Pairs: Winners: 1978, 1979, 1989.



75th Anniversary celebration match 2003 against E.B.A.  
 E.B.A. President Arthur Hockley with Century President  
 Roy Dobinson exchange club pennant.



**CITY OF LONDON BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1924 — Affiliated MCBA 1926**  
**Finsbury Circus Gardens,**  
**Finsbury Circus, London, EC2M 7AB**

Discussions on forming a bowls club in Finsbury Circus began in October 1924. By 1925 sufficient funds were available for work to begin laying the green. The Club membership would be confined to City residents and their families. The Rt. Hon. Sir Alfred Bower, Lord Mayor of London, the first club President performed the official opening on 26th June 1926. The tradition of having the Lord Mayor as President has continued to this day. Not every Mayor has been active within the club but one or two have been and donated competition trophies.

The green is maintained by the Corporation of London and was extended in 1967 (from 39 to 44 yards). A new clubhouse was built in the same year. After 1978 the club relaxed its membership restrictions and now welcomes applications from anyone. The original clubhouse has today become a wine bar and restaurant (The Pavilion) and the bowlers are now housed next door with bar and changing facilities for ladies and men.

In 2010 the Finsbury Circus green was closed to allow the building of London crossrail. In 2011 the club will share the Pymmes Park green until the conclusion of the Crossrail project when it is hoped that the club will return to its original site in Finsbury Circus Gardens.

MCBA Honours:

Under 25 singles: Winner: 2000, S Evans, 2009, 2010, C. Cleaver

Fours: Winners: 2008. U/B Singles: Winner: 2009, D. Henson. R/U: 2008, S. Brewer

Whisky Pairs: R/U: 2008, S. Brewer, M. Mansell.



**COCKFOSTERS BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1919 — Affiliated MCBA 1954**  
**Chalk Lane, Barnet, Herts., EN4 9JG**

Cockfosters was founded in 1919 as one of many bowling clubs set up after WW1. It retains an ideal green belt home alongside the cricket and football grounds in Chalk Lane. After struggling for many years without proper changing facilities, the club acquired a pavilion in 1980 which was extended by members in 2003. The badge depicts the cock with the foresters hat (of Trent Park) to denote Cockfosters, together with the gate for the south gate of the park.

2007 represented one of the best seasons for the club with the men's team reaching the finals of the Middlesex Double Fours. The club has a current membership of 70 men and ladies.

MCBA Honours: Double Fours: R/U: 2007



**COURT PARK BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1963 — Affiliated MCBA 1963**  
**Hillingdon Court Park, Park Way, Long Lane,**  
**Hillingdon, UB10 9DG**

Founded in 1963 as a mixed club. The Council owns and maintains the green and in 2007 a grant was obtained to re-lay the green together with new banks and ditches. Current membership is around 55.



**COWLEY BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1957 — Affiliated MCBA 1958**  
**Cowley Recreation Ground, High Street, Ux-**  
**bridge, UB8 2EA**

Cowley Bowls Club was founded in 1957 in Cowley Recreation Ground which was formerly a large house and estate of Cowley Hall Manor which dates back to 1929. The club house is situated in the old stables of the manor. The bowling green is situated in the old sunken garden of the estate.

The club currently has 46 members. The best County result for the club was Paul Heath reaching the quarter finals of the Unbadged Singles and a pair in the quarter finals of the Mixed Pairs.



**CULVER BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1949 — Affiliated MCBA 1950**  
**Centenary Park, Culver Grove, Stanmore, UB8 2EA**

Before and after the war Centenary Park was mainly fields and allotments. In 1947, founder and first President (1949-1987), Fred Jenden, approached Harrow Council with a view to reviving an old bowling green (laid 1938) used by local farmers. The Council agreed to lay a Cumberland turf green and to supply a greenkeeper, Ken Baylen who later joined the club as a player. Unusually for that time, founder members decided the club would be mixed, the first in Harrow.

Members donated their labour to erect the first clubhouse and changing rooms. In 1970 the club successfully negotiated the lease of the plot from Harrow Council. In 1998 members raised funds to replace the old clubhouse with a new one officially opened in 2001. The men of Culver have had little success in County competitions but it should be recorded here that the Culver ladies have achieved great success in MCWBA competitions including members who have been selected to play for England.

MCBA Honours: Unbadged singles: Winner, 1985, A. Wiltsher



**DURANTS PARK BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1917 — Affiliated MCBA 1920**  
**Hertford Road, Enfield, EN3 5JF**

Durants Park B.C. is owned by Enfield Council which originally maintained the green. One of the founder members was David Weston a successful local business man who paid for the old pavilion and donated a trophy for the Men's Championship. Today the green is leased from the Council and all maintenance is carried out and paid for by club members. In 1991 the original timber built pavilion was destroyed by vandals in a fire and all club records including honours boards were lost. The new brick built club house was completed in 1994. During the years of construction many members were lost. The mixed membership today stands at about 40.

MCBA Honours:

Pairs: Winners: 1923, Homer, Harmer. 1924, Homer, Harmer.



**EALING BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1944 — Affiliated MCBA 1950**  
**Perivale Park, Cowgate road, Greenford,**  
**UA6 8HH**

Founded in 1944 as Ealing Corporation Employees B.C. (a section of Ealing Corporation Employees Sports Club). Prior to 1990 the club changed its name to Ealing Bowls Club.

MCBA Honours:

Double Fours: Winners: 1921.



**EALING CONSERVATIVE BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1911 — Affiliated MCBA 1918**  
**1, Craven Road, Ealing, W5 2UA**

Founded in 1911 when members purchased the freehold site in Craven Road, Ealing, the old Conservative Party Headquarters. The freehold grounds consist of a three rink green, pavilion and outbuildings which are much older and go back over 130 years. In 1972 a new clubhouse was built and as a result, membership increased. In 2007 the Ealing C.B.C. became a fully mixed club. At district level the club has achieved many competition successes.

For many years John Walsh has been a leading member with great success in County competitions. For his services to MCBA he was elected County President in 2007.

MCBA Honours

President: 2006, J. Walsh.

Triples: R/U: 1996, 2002 Fours: R/U: 1997



John Walsh



**EASTCOTE BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1934 — Affiliated MCBA 1938**  
**Cavendish Sports Ground, Field End Road, Eastcote,**  
**HA4 9PG**

The development of "Metroland" after WW1 resulted in housing estates being built close to the Metropolitan Line stations. Many families moved out of inner London to settle in these estates. This population explosion resulted in the formation of sports and bowls clubs. Eastcote B.C. was one such club. Founded in 1934 by Sidney Hopkins the club was situated in Cavendish playing fields and the Cavendish Building was used as a clubhouse. The Cavendish Building and grounds were formerly the sports ground of department store Debenham & Freebody. In 1947 Ruislip & Northwood U.D.C. took over the sports ground and were persuaded to lay a new green. This took many years to realise and it was not until 1969 that the new green was ready. During the intervening period Eastcote played on Dean Park green in Bessingby Playing Fields. A new pavilion was opened in 1971. At this time Eastcote was a men only club but in 1990 Eastcote ladies were invited to share the green. The two clubs co-existed as separate clubs playing single sex games. With the decline of bowling through the '90s the clubs have slowly edged towards amalgamation with more mixed games being played. Notable bowlers include England internationals E.J. Eves (1919) and Tom Dunno.

W. Telfer was President of the County in 1989 and was County Secretary from 1990 to 2001. Starting as a fireman on the Highland Railway he progressed to a Commander in the Met. Police. He left Eastcote for CAV and later Ladygate where he took over the green maintenance.



**EDMONTON BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1872 — Affiliated MCBA 1921**  
**Church Street, Lower Edmonton, N9 9HL**

Founded in 1872 as the bowls section of Edmonton Cricket Club the date of the "independent" bowls club is unknown. The first championship final was played in 1906 so it a fair assumption that the original green (in one corner of the cricket field) was laid one or two years before. The current green was laid in 1925.

The club has achieved some success over the years in County competitions mainly as runners-up with the notable exceptions of Don Phillips who was singles champion in 1984, Fours in 1973 and the Double Fours in 1987. Don Phillips, Bill Jones and Peter Hicks were all Middleton Cup players.

MCBA Honours:

Singles: Winner: 1984, D. Phillips.

Pairs: R/U: 1982.

Triples: R/U: 1987.

Fours: Winners: 1973. R/U: 1961, 1977.

Double Fours: Winners: 1987.



**ENFIELD BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1925 — Affiliated MCBA 1925**  
**Town Park, Cecil Road, Enfield Town, EN2**

Founded in 1925 with a green constructed by Enfield Borough Council, the opening match on 6th June was played against 6 Middlesex rinks. The first County honour was the rink championship in 1927. In 1928 a rented pavilion replaced the original hut. Further County honours were achieved in 1930 with the double fours. The post war years saw steady improvements of facilities and in 1977 ladies were allowed to play in the afternoons. 1986 saw the addition of an extension to the clubhouse at a cost of £28,000. Membership currently stands at around 80 but the threatened loss of the car park may result in loss of membership.

MCBA Honours:

Pairs: Winners: 1992, T. Lawford, K. Allen.

Fours: Winners: 1927.

Double Fours: Winners: 1930, 1953.

Whisky Pairs: R/U: 1992.



**ENFIELD TOWN BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1906 — Affiliated MCBA 1925**  
**Old Park Avenue, Enfield, EN2 6PR**

Founded in 1906 as Enfield Town Conservative Club, the bowls section moved to its current site in 1928 when it was able to increase the number of rinks from three to six. In 2004 the club changed its name to the Enfield Town Club. In 1991 the pavilion was extended to accommodate a larger changing area.

MCBA Honours:

Singles: Winner: 1947, W. Ruthven.

Triples: Winners: 1948



**FASSNIDGE BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1929 — Affiliated MCBA 1932**  
**Fassnidge Park, Rockingham Parade, Uxbridge,**  
**UB8 2UW**

Fassnidge Bowls Club was founded in 1929 by local councillors and businessmen and is situated in Fassnidge Memorial Park, Uxbridge. The cost of the original green and pavilion was met by the first President, Mrs Kate Fassnidge. As with many clubs of that era, Fassnidge was a "men only" club but 20 years ago Fassnidge became a fully mixed club and has continued to thrive.

In 1993 the interior of the clubhouse was completely renovated by members and in 2004 flood-lighting was installed, believed to be almost unique in the County.

County honours have recently been achieved, most notably in 2002 with victory in the pairs.

MCBA Honours:

Pairs: Winners: 2002, R. Phillips, R, Butler.

Officers Cup: Winner: 2002, R. Phillips.

Fours: R/U: 2001.



**FEATHERSTONE BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 2004 — Affiliated MCBA 2004**  
**Wolf Fields, Thorncliffe Road, Norwood Green,**  
**UB2 5RJ**

Founded in 2004, Featherstone plays on a green once used by Southall B.C (Founded in 1901). The club is an amalgamation of two defunct clubs, Southall Royal British Legion (Founded 1939) and Southall Working Men's Club (Founded 1987). The club is affiliated to Ealing & District B.A. As Southall W.M.C., Robert Griggs and Don Pope were runners-up in the 2003 Whisky Pairs. The same pair reached the S/F of the County Pairs in 2007.

**FELTHAM EX-SERVICEMENS B.C.**  
**Founded 1976 Affiliated MCBA 1976**  
**Blenheim Park, Bedfont Lane, Feltham, TW14 9NW**



**FINCHLEY VICTORIA BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1925 — Affiliated MCBA 1932**  
**Victoria Park, Ballards Lane, Finchley, N3 1NH**

Founded in 1925 on a Council green in Victoria park, Finchley N3., from its founding the club had existed as a "men only" club. In 2006 vandals destroyed the ladies and gents clubhouses triggering the merger with the Finchley Victoria Ladies Bowling Club who used the same green. There are hopes of a new clubhouse and a fresh beginning for the club. While achieving many honours at local level, County honours have so far eluded the club.



**FINCHLEY BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1922 — Affiliated MCBA 1922**  
**6, Etchingham Park Road, Finchley, N3 2DT**

In 1921 A.W. Smith offered a parcel of land 150 x 180 feet for £750 within the Etchingham Park Estate (of which he was the owner) for a private bowling club. Mr. Smith became a founder member and President for 2 years in 1926/7. The deal was completed on Christmas Eve with 104 nominations received. Further improvements to the pavilion were made by members loans over the following years. In 1977 plans were submitted for a new clubhouse and during the next 10 years the project was completed. Through the construction phase bowling went on uninterrupted, thanks to the hospitality of West Finchley B.C. Over the years the club has survived some bleak periods especially after WW2 when membership shrank alarmingly to 59 members. Today the club holds its position as one of the premier clubs of North London. In 1978 members voted in favour of an independent ladies section.

A distinguished bowler for the club was Leslie Atkinson who was a member of the winning Middleton Cup team in 1962 and 1965. In later years John Morley was County singles champion.

MCBA Honours:

Singles: Winner: 1991, J. Morley.

Pairs: R/U: 1993.

Triples: Winners: 1934.

Fours: Winners: 1994. R/U: 1991.

Double Fours: R/U: 1966.

Unbadged Singles: Winner: 2008, I. Ellis



Leslie Atkinson



**FINSBURY PARK BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1900 — Affiliated MCBA 1911**  
**Endymion Road, Finsbury Park, N4 2NQ**

Finsbury Park Bowls Club founded in 1900 has the distinction of being one of the 17 founder members of MCBA. In their founding year Middlesex won the John Bull Cup (later the Middleton Cup) and Finsbury Park supplied no less than four members to the winning team: S.J.C. D'Aintree, A. Adamson, E. Woodroffe and W. Whiteman. D'Aintree was County Secretary in that first MCBA year. Woodroffe and D.B. McBride were two of the original Vice-Presidents. Adamson (1911-12) along with G. Sinclair (1920-21) were also England internationals. In 1911 Finsbury park was one of the strongest clubs in the County with over 100 members.

In those early days it was not surprising that Finsbury Park achieved great success in County competitions winning singles and pairs in 1912. More success arrived in the 20's but since that era County success has eluded the club.

MCBA Honours:

Singles: Winner: 1912, W. Brown. R/U: 1915, 1916.

Pairs: Winners: 1912, Rennie, D'Aintree. R/U: 1921.

Triples: R/U: 1921.

Double Fours: Winners: 1926, 1928. R/U: 1924, 1929.



S.J. C D'Aintree



**FRIARY PARK BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1900 — Affiliated MCBA 1912**  
**Friern Barnet Lane, Whetstone, N20 0NR**

The bowling green in Friary Park, Friern Barnet existed in 1909, but the idea of forming a bowls club is credited to its first president, Mr. Sidney Simmons J.P. In May 1911 the first officers were elected and a set of rules drafted. At the first A.G.M. in November 1911, the club applied to affiliate to MCBA, EBA and the LPBA. In July 1912 a new 3 rink green was laid. The real development of the club began after WW1. and serious interest in County competitions started. The green was extended to 6 rinks in 1922. Due to the unsatisfactory manner of the extension, a completely new Cumberland turf green was laid in 1928.

Although never winning a County title, the club has reached the quarter and semi-final stages of competitions several times. Winners of Bannerette matches in 1926, 1937 and 1955, Friary Park continues today as a small and enthusiastic club.



**GLENCAIRN SPORTS CLUB LTD.**  
**Founded 1924 — Affiliated MCBA 1925**  
**68-70 Blake Road, Bounds Green, N11 2AH**

Glencairn Sports Club was founded as a general sports club with tennis, snooker and table tennis as its main activities. Over time the tennis section has gone and the snooker hall was destroyed in a fire. Like many bowls clubs in recent times, lack of funds and membership have threatened the club's survival. By self maintenance of the green and leasing of the pavilion for functions, the club soldiers on.

County success was achieved in 1935 with victory in the Double fours and the Triples in 1938.

MCBA Honours:

President: 1937, H.A. Smith.

Pairs: R/U: 1938. Triples: Winners: 1947. R/U: 1946. Double Fours; Winners: 1935



**GROVELANDS BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1927 — Affiliated MCBA 1927**  
**Grovelands Park, Church Hill, N21**

In 1921 the Council laid a bowling green in Broomfield Park (Southgate B.C.) and, due to the huge demand, a second (Grovelands Green) in 1926. The green was intended as a "waiting room" for Southgate B.C. Local residents campaigned for independence and in 1927 the Council agreed. The club affiliated to the EBA and MCBA in the same year. In 1932 Grovelands became a founder member of MCWBA. In 1964 the clubhouse was destroyed by fire but the Council built a new one in 1965. Over the years membership has fluctuated from between 70 to 120 but the lady membership has continued to grow until the present day when the ladies form 50% of the membership.

While hosting County matches and playing friendly matches against the MCBA, County competition success has eluded Grovelands with the notable exception of Triples finalists in 1949. The ladies, however, have achieved many successes at both National and County level.

MCBA Honours: Triples: R/U: 1949





**GUNNERSBURY PARK BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1931 — Affiliated MCBA 1932**  
**Popes Lane, Acton, W7 8QL**

Gunnersbury Park Bowls Club was founded in 1931 and the two greens opened by its first president Alderman C.E. Street. Over the years the club has entertained MCBA President's and Vice-President's teams as well as achieving some success in County competitions. In 1988 four generations of the same family represented Gunnersbury Park in a match against Strawberry Hill. They were: great grandfather Arthur Gilbert (82), grandfather Ron (54), His son Ian (27) and grandson Mark Mackay (12). This unique event was reported in the press locally and nationally.

MCBA Honours:

President: 1970, L.H. Capstick

Singles: R/U: 1939, 1946.

Fours: Winners: 1952.



**HAMPTON BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1928 — Affiliated MCBA 1929**  
**Wensleydale Road, Hampton**  
**TW12 2LZ**

Hampton Bowling Club was formed in 1928 by members of Hampton Social Club. Hampton UDC laid the bowling green in a new recreation ground on Wensleydale Road. Despite the fact that there was no pavilion or clubhouse membership rose to 54 in 1929. In 1932 Hampton amalgamated with Hampton Municipal Bowling Club and the Council built a pavilion in 1932. In 1950 Hampton Ladies Bowls Club was formed. In 2002 the two clubs merged. In 2007 members of the now defunct Hanworth Bowls Club joined to increase membership to a healthy 74.



**HAREFIELD HOSPITAL BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1947 — Affiliated MCBA 1951**  
**Municipal Garden, Taylors Meadow, Hill**  
**End Road, Harefield, UB9 6LD**



**HARLINGTON BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1945 — Affiliated MCBA 1947**  
**Pinkwell Park, Waltham Avenue, Hayes,**  
**UB3 1TF**



**HARROW BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1902 — Affiliated MCBA 1912**  
**Harrow Recreation Ground, Roxborough Road,**  
**Harrow, HA1 1RR**

Founded in 1902 by Thomas Dell a retired Jeweller and watchmaker from Harrow on the Hill, Harrow Bowls and Croquet Club was situated in Harrow Recreation Ground, Harrow. Dell became the club's first Captain and Secretary. In 1912, due to the overwhelming popularity of bowls, the croquet section was discontinued. The club affiliated to the MCBA in 1911 and became one of the 14 original founding clubs. In 1913 Harrow reached the final of the Lipton Cup, later to become the Joseph Cup (1920). In 1922 a new Cumberland turf green was laid and the opening ceremony was performed by Lady Cynthia Moseley, wife of Oswald Mosley, at that time a Harrow Labour M.P.



Tom Potts 1879-1929

1915 saw the arrival of Tom Potts, a young Cheshire bowler. He remains the greatest bowler in the history of Harrow B.C. Seven times club singles champion, and England international from 1922-27, Potts was made County President in 1925. Being senior Vice-President of the EBA, Potts was due to be made President in 1929 when he died at the age of 50, just before his inauguration.

The '20s and early '30s were the halcyon years for Harrow and after a lean post war period the club recruited some celebrated bowlers including Kevin Bulman (MCBA singles champion 1979) and Ken Jones (Unbadged Singles winner in 1970). With these bowlers, in 1983, Harrow were County fours winners. However, it was not until 2008 that another County honour was achieved with the Double Fours championship. In the same year A.W. Paulley became the second Harrow member to be elected County President.

1986 saw the completion of a new clubhouse funded by members and a grant from the Sports Council. Today, Harrow is a fully integrated mixed club (ladies first joined in 1985) and at district level, it is one of the strongest clubs in the area. In the Centenary year of the M.C.B.A. Brian Elbourn was given the honour of County President.



Lady Cynthia Mosley (daughter of Lord Curzon) delivering the jack on the new Harrow Cumberland turf green in 1922. Tom Potts can be seen second left in the group of bowlers.

**MCBA Honours:**

MCBA Presidents: 1925, Tom Potts. 2008, A.W. Paulley, 2011, B. Elbourn

Singles: Winner: 1979, K. Bulman. R/U: 1932, S. Taylor.

Pairs: R/U: 1999, B. Elbourn, P. Perry.

Fours: Winners: 1983. R/U: 1913, 1924, 1927.

Double Fours: Winners: 2008. R/U: 1915, 1930.

Unbadged Singles: Winner: 1970, K. Jones.

Whisky Pairs: R/U: 1978, D.J. Stewart, H. Cooper.



**HARROW WEALD BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1908 — Affiliated MCBA 1920**  
**Harrow Weald Recreation Ground, Boxtree**  
**Lane,**  
**Harrow Weald, HA3 6JR**

Founded in 1908, the Parish Council agreed to the rolling of a section of meadow, donated to the parish by T.F. Blackwell (of Crosse & Blackwell fame). This provided the semblance of a 3 rink green opened by the club's first President the Rev. W.H. Peers. The existing Cumberland turf green was laid in 1933. Throughout its early history the club had sought satisfactory accommodation but were defeated due to lack of funding from the local authority. It was not until the late 1980's that the club itself raised funds for the construction of the existing pavilion, opened in 1989. Ladies became full members in 1984. The millennium coincided with the start of a decline in membership which has not been helped by serious increases in Council charges.



Harrow Weald Club Members 1911

County success has largely eluded the club with notable exceptions of winning the Wartime Gomm Cup in 1940, and reaching the final of the double fours in 1948.

MCBA Honours:

Double Fours: R/U: 1948



**HAYES BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1936 — Affiliated MCBA 1936**  
**Botwell Green, Central Avenue, Hayes,**  
**UB3 2FB**

Prior to 1936 a bowling green on Botwell Green had been used for casual bowling for many years, but in that year a group of these bowlers decided to form an affiliated club to enable them to enter County competitions. The early facilities were primitive and it was not until 1983 that a proper pavilion was provided thanks to grants from the Sports Council, the Borough and Hayes W.M.C. Improvements have been carried out to the present day to bring facilities up to the highest standards.

It is only in recent years that the club has achieved success in County competitions culminating in 2005 with J. Head winning the U/25's singles.

MCBA Honours:

Under 25's singles: Winner: 2005, J. Head.

Unbadged Singles: R/U; 1997, M. Aukett, 2003, A. Butters.

Double Fours: R/U: 2001.

Pairs: R/U: 1989.



**HENDON BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1907 — Affiliated MCBA 1911**  
**West Hendon Playing Fields, Goldsmith Avenue,**  
**Hendon, NW9 7ET**

Founded in 1906 as the Hendon Alexandra Club Ltd, the bowls section was formed in 1907. The club has the honour to be one of the founder members of the MCBA. Originally sited in Vicarage Road, Hendon, the club moved to Station Road in 1922 when it became Hendon B.C. In 1964 the club moved once again to Audley Road and a ladies bowls section was formed. In 1983 the club was forced to move to its present site in West Hendon Playing Fields.

The most celebrated member of the club is without doubt A.E. (Alf) Taylor who was for 10 years a vice-president of the County as well as an international player. His County honours were numerous including 1914 as pairs winner and finalist in the Double Rink 1950 and 1952. Founder member of the Hendon Club and champion 11 times it can safely be said that Taylor was Hendon's greatest bowler.

Since its founding Hendon has achieved many honours in County competitions and today although not the County force that it once was, is still one of the strongest clubs in the district.

MCBA Honours:

Singles: R/U: 1938, A. Lunnon. 1961, A.E. Gentry.

Pairs: Winners: 1914, Taylor, Stock. 1938, De'Ath, Lunnon. 1977, Jeffery, Gordon.

Triples: R/U: 1938.

Fours: R/U: 1992.

Double Fours: R/U: 1950, 1952.

Unbadged Singles: Winner: 1990, W. Kirk.

HILLINGDON BLIND BOWLERS



**HILLINGDON BLIND BOWLERS BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1996 — Affiliated MCBA 1996**  
**Pinkwell Park, Waltham Avenue, Hayes, UB3 1TF**

Hillingdon Blind Bowlers, founded in 1996, became a registered charity in 1999. Membership is open to any visually impaired person living in the borough of Hillingdon. Sighted members are not eligible to bowl in any competition but act as helpers calling out the lie of the bowl using a clock system. A number of friendly matches are played against other clubs on outdoor greens. Matches are played against other visually handicapped clubs as well as fully sighted clubs. Funding is always an issue and money is raised by raffles and appeals to charities and local businesses. The object of the club is to promote the game of bowls and help visually impaired people to achieve independence, fitness and to build up their confidence through social contact.



**HOLTWHITES BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1915 — Affiliated MCBA 1917**  
**Kirkland Drive, Holtwhites Hill, Enfield, EN2 0RU**

Holtwhites BC is a section of Holtwhites Sports & Social Club. The bowls section was formed in 1915 when it was a railway club owned by LNER, later becoming the Great Northern Railway Athletic Association. This club affiliated to the MCBA in 1917. Until 1952 only railway staff and families were allowed to join but as membership dwindled, in 1965 outsiders were admitted. In 1994 British rail withdrew financial support and the club was renamed as Holtwhites. In 1997 the land was sold and, by entering into an agreement with the new owners, the club was re-sited. In 2001 a new green was laid and after initial problems the green is now one of the best in Middlesex and often hosts County and National competitions. The club provided the County President in 2001 (Tommy Lawford).

The club achieved little County success in its previous incarnation but as Holtwhites there have been some recent achievements including winning the Double Fours in 2001 and the Whisky Pairs in 1996.

MCBA Honours:

MCBA President: 2001, T.J. Lawford.

Unbadged Singles: Winner: 2007, R. Smith.

Whisky Pairs: Winners: 1996, P. Bowley, Allen. R/U: 2006, P. Cleaveley, T.J. Lawford.

Double Fours: Winners: 2001.



**HORNSEY BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1907 — Affiliated MCBA 1932**  
**Rectory Gardens, Hornsey High Street, Hornsey,**  
**N8 7QT**



**HOUNSLOW CONSERVATIVE BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1928 — Affiliated MCBA 1932**  
**Gresham Road, Hounslow, TW3 3YT**

Founded in 1928 and based at "Hattonhurst", Alexandra Road, Hounslow until October 2005, re-development of the site meant a move to its present address in Gresham Road. The new site was originally the site of London Transport Social Club which had been closed for 20 years. A new green was laid by the Council and is currently maintained by the club.

MCBA Honours:

Singles: R/U: 1933, 1936.

Pairs: Winners: 1933, Jones, Aldred. R/U: 1958.

Triples: Winners: 1937, 1946. R/U: 1934.

Double Fours: Winners: 1938. R/U: 1954.

Whisky Pairs: R/U: 1979, Coyte, Williams.



**HURLINGHAM PARK BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1999 — Affiliated MCBA 1999**  
**Hurlingham Road, Fulham, SW6 3NF**

In 1999, Hurlingham Oddfellows BC (Founded 1945) and Woodlawn BC amalgamated to become Hurlingham Park B.C. They had been sharing a green in Hurlingham Park since 1953 when a new second Cumberland turf green was laid. The club is now the bowls section of the Hurlingham Club which also provides sports facilities for polo, football, rugby, tennis and athletics.



**ISLEWORTH BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1934 — Affiliated MCBA 1944**  
**RedleesPark, Worton Road, Isleworth, TW7 6DW**

Founded in 1934 as Redlees Bowling Club, the club changed to its present name in 1944. In 1985 the club admitted ladies who formed their own section. Membership flourished until 1992 when the local council withdrew its funding for bowling in the Borough. In 1993 the "Hounslow Public Bowling Federation" was formed which enabled local clubs to survive. In 2001 the federation was disbanded and funds distributed to the remaining clubs including Isleworth. The club is today financially viable with a clubhouse built in 1998 and a green acceptable for County competitions.



**JUBILEE PARK BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1939 — Affiliated MCBA 1939**  
**Gaillards Road, Edmonton, N9 7PA**

Jubilee Park B.C. was founded in 1939 and like most park greens was open to the public and maintained by the Council. Founder member and President Alfred Bullock, was also a County player. The ladies section has recently merged with the men and due to the falling membership the club is in decline.



**KINGSBURY BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1949 — Affiliated MCBA 1949**  
**Eton Grove Open Space, North Way, Kingsbury, NW9 9UB**

Founded in 1949 as Kingsbury Community Association BC., the club affiliated to the MCBA in the same year. To date, no County honours have been won, although the club has achieved great success in the local district association competitions (F&DBC). At its peak in 1990 membership was around 100 but like many clubs today membership has declined to around 20.



**KODAK BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1920 — Affiliated MCBA 1928**  
**Kodak Sports Ground, Harrow View, Harrow,**  
**HA14TY**

Kodak B.C. was formed in 1919 and practice took part on the lawn in front of the social club. A 3 rink green was laid in 1920 and officially opened by the factory manager in 1922. When in 1928 the sports ground in Harrow View was purchased, a 6 rink Cumberland turf green was laid, permitting members to enter County competitions. So popular was the sport to become that a second 6 ring green was laid in 1948. This green became host to many County competitions including the Kodak Masters Bowls Tournament which was the first bowls event to be televised. Due to falling membership and other problems the club was forced to disband in 2010.

MCBA Honours:

Singles:R/U: 1958,1991.

Pairs:R/U: 1957,1966.

Triples:Winners: 1991.

Double Fours:Winners: 1961.

Unbadged Singles:R/U: 1982, J. Marr.

Whisky Pairs:Winners: 1982, Smith, Dockree.



**LADYGATE BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1980 — Affiliated MCBA 1980**  
**Ladygate Lane, Ruislip, HA4 7QX**

Founded in 1980 in Ladygate Lane, Ruislip, the green was originally the home of Glacier BC (Formerly Bees BC and before that Acton Sports) a fairly successful club with some County success.

The original facilities consisted of a caravan. With the help of grants and great commitment from the members, a new clubhouse and car park was started in 1981. From the outset the green has been self-maintained by club members and has been raised to County standard. This has led to the green being used for Middleton Cup and County semi-finals. In 2007 the club hosted the County finals.

The club has achieved notable success in County competitions and W. (Bill) Telfer has served the County as President (1988) and Treasurer (1989-2000).

MCBA Honours:

President: 1988, W. Telfer.

Triples: R/U: 2010.

Fours:Winners: 2009.

Double Fours: Winners: 1981, 2009, 2010.

Unbadged Singles:R/U: 1988, P. Preswell.

Under 25's Singles:Winner; 1996, C. Dudley. R/U;1995, C. Dudley, 2009, P. Reynolds

Middlesex League: Winners:2010



Bill Telfer



**LUPTON BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1932 — Affiliated MCBA 1935**  
**44 Donnington Avenue, Canons Park, Edgware,**  
**HA8 6RH**

The club was founded in 1932 as a section of the Working Men's College (founded 1855) in Camden Town. The first meeting was held in March 1932 and was the third outdoor sports club inaugurated by the college. The club was named after a college dignitary, A.S. Lupton M.A. C.B.E. who was to become the first club President. It is recorded that at the first game held at Canons Park, due to lack of jacks, a cricket ball was substituted. The sports ground was sold to Arnold House School in the 1990's and the club became independent.

MCBA Honours: Unbadged Singles:R/U: 2010.



**MANSFIELD BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1891 — Affiliated MCBA 1925**  
**Croftdown Road, Kentish Town, NW5 1EP**

The club was founded as the Camden Club on a green in Mornington Crescent and played there until 1891 when the membership split to form two clubs, Mansfield and North London. At that time Mansfield moved to its present location. In 1920 the Mansfield Club became a limited company and remains so. Founder member of L&SCBA in 1895 but only affiliated to MCBA in 1925. Pre WW2, Willie Yewlett (County President, 1926) was one of England's greatest singles players winning the County singles in 1928 and was the club's first international player (1921, 25, 29, 30). Post WW2 there appeared a new star Gordon Trieb who also obtained international honours (1951-52). More recently Norman King (ex Parliament Hill) is one of the club's most famous international bowlers (1954, 55, 57, 58, 1965-72). He won the Commonwealth Games Gold Medal in 1970. Dr F.R. Curtis, County Assistant Secretary from 1955-63 was elected County President in 1961. During the same period the club staged the International finals (1947-53). F.G Jeffery an international selector, was elected President of MCBA in 1993. In 1971 the club opened a new international standard indoor green and clubhouse.

MCBA Honours:

President: 1926, W.L. Yeulett. 1961, Dr F.R. Curtis. 1993, F.G. Jeffery

Singles: Winner: 1928, W.J. Yeulett. 1981. R. Roylands. R/U: 1950.

Pairs: Winners: 1952, Curtis, Trieb. 1978, Roylands, McIntosh. R/U: 1975,1966.

Triples:Winners: 1981, 1988. R/U: 1925, 1930, 1955, 1956, 1969, 1972,1979,1995.

Fours:Winners: 1932, 1963. R/U: 1929, 1984, 1988.

Double Fours: Winners: 1931, 1949, 1960,1967, 1974. R/U: 1972, 1977, 1980.

Unbadged Singles: R/U:2001, E. Bailey.

Under 25 Singles: R/U: 1996, A. Frankland.

Whisky Pairs:Winners: 1980, Pearson, Jeffery.



**MARKFIELD BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1941 — Affiliated MCBA 1941**  
**Markfield Recreation Grounds, Crowland**  
**Road, SouthTottenham N15**





**MASONIAN BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1920 — Affiliated MCBA 1930**  
**Dukes Meadow, Riverside Drive**  
**Chiswick, W4 2SH**

Established in 1920 on the sports ground owned by Rickett & Coleman (Cherry Blossom) at Dukes Meadow for the use of the staff sports club. The name was derived from the owners of the grounds, the Mason Brothers. The club remained on the site until 1984 when the land was sold. In 1985 the club moved to its present location on what is a Council green. The club has recently taken over the maintenance of the green and today has 30 members.

MCBA Honours:

Pairs:R/U: 1983.

Triples:R/U: 1986.

Fours:R/U: 1983

Unbadged Singles: Winner: 1984, A. Waite. R/U: 1994, B. Halliday.2009, A. Tucker.

Whisky Pairs: Winners: 2005, D. Pitt, B. Baker.

Mixed Pairs: Winners. 2000, Mrs P. Diegnan, R. Baker.



**MEADHURST BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1956 — Affiliated MCBA 1957**  
**Chertsey Road, Sunbury-on-Thames,**  
**TW16 7LN**

The Meadhurst Sports Club was formed shortly after the British Petroleum Company established a research centre at Sunbury, to encourage future employees to join the company. In 1954 there were 20-25 sections but no bowling section. Several employees persuaded BP to lay a bowls green which was opened for play in April 1956. The club was formed with separate men's and ladies' sections. For the next 30 years the green was maintained by the head groundsman of the sports club, Fred Nichols, who was also an enthusiastic bowler. At this time membership was restricted to company employees and as a consequence membership declined and in the late '80s the club became a mixed club and most matches played today are mixed. Recently BP have allowed some non-employees to join. Over the last decade the club has been managed by an outside company and green maintenance has been contracted out.

In its heyday the club boasted some celebrated bowlers including John Cooke, Alf Poplett and Harry Foster who all played at County level and were selected to play in the Middleton Cup.

MCBA Honours:

Under 25's Singles:R/U:2008, M. Larman



**MILL BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1942 — Affiliated MCBA 1946**  
**Manor Farm Green, Bury Street, Ruislip, HA4 7SU**

In 1942 a group of workers from a local engineering company decided to found a bowls club. The name of the club may have been chosen since it is believed that all the men worked in the milling shop of the company. The name may have also been influenced by the nearby water mill in Ruislip. Although County honours have so far eluded the club, there has been much recent success at district level with the H&DBA.



**MILL HILL BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1919 — Affiliated MCBA 1924**  
**Mill Hill Park, Wise Lane, Mill Hill, NW7 4RL**

The first green (3 rinks) was laid on the sports ground of Maples (a West End Store) known as the Clarence Club. These facilities were inadequate and in 1925 the members moved to a new green funded and laid by the Council in Mill Hill Park. In 1929 a new pavilion was built with loans from the members. In 1938 a second green was built and leased from the Council. In 1972 a new pavilion was finally completed. In 2001 the men's and ladies' clubs were amalgamated and mixed matches were introduced on the fixture card. In 2003 the club amalgamated with the Hendon Group Hospitals B.C.

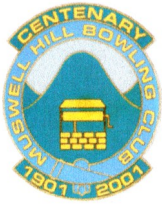
Eric Prior has been County Match Secretary from 1996 to the present day. In 2005 he was elected County President. In 2009 Bowls England awarded him the Certificate of Merit for his services to the sport.

MCBA Honours:

President: 1956, J.E. (Jack) Lines. 2005, Eric Prior.



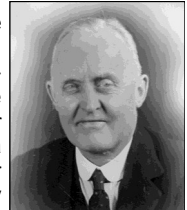
**MOUNT PLEASANT BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1945 — Affiliated MCBA 1950**  
**Down Lanes Park, Park View Road, Tottenham, N17 9DS**



**MUSWELL HILL BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1901 — Affiliated MCBA 1924**  
**Kings Avenue, Muswell Hill, N10 1PB**

The founding of Muswell Hill B.C. owed much to local land owner James Edmonson. In 1900 he granted a lease on a site in Kings Avenue to bowlers Alan Wildsmith, J.W.F.Fordand and J.E. Hounam. In 1902 the freehold was granted to these three men who founded the club. In 1919 members set up a company, Muswell Hill B.C. Ltd., which today owns the grounds and premises and is responsible for running the enterprise. In 1935 a ladies' section was formed but this did not gain equal rights with the men until 1988. The first lady President was elected in 1999.

Without any doubt the most celebrated member of the club was J.G. (Jimmy) Carruthers. In 1904 Carruthers, a Scot, moved to Muswell Hill to further his commercial career and joined the club. In 1905 he won the first EBA singles competition. He was to become a regular England international between 1905 and 1939. This appearance record, over 34 years, has never been surpassed in English bowls. In 1926 he won the County singles and in 1928 with Barker, the pairs. During the period between the wars he was considered the best player in England. When he died in 1958 the club honoured his memory with a fixture against 6 local clubs with the Carruthers Shield as the trophy. Under the tutelage of Carruthers, J.G. (Jackie) Pilbrow was to become County singles champion in 1937 and England international in 1938-39.



Jimmy Carruthers

**MCBA Honours:**

Singles: Winner: 1926, J.G. Carruthers. 1937, J.G.Pilbrow. R/U: 1932

Pairs: Winners: 1928, Carruthers, Barker.



**N.P.L. BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1929 — Affiliated MCBA 1930**  
**Queens Road, Teddington, TW11 0LW**

The National Physical Laboratory (NPL) Bowls Club was founded in 1929. Open originally only to staff members, but over the years it has become open to all. Originally the bowls section of N.P.L. Sports Club, the club today has 35 members and enters with some success most MCBA competitions. Most notably in 1986 Dave Hall won the County Singles. In 1988 and 1991 Jim Marsh and Dave Hall were County pairs champions.

**MCBA Honours:**

Singles: Winner: 1986, D. Hall. R/U: 2000, 2001, B. Jones.

Pairs: Winners: 1988, J. Marsh, D. Hall. 1991, Marsh & Hall.

Triples: R/U: 1947.

Fours: R/U: 2005.

Unbadged Singles: Winner: 1995, R. Curry.

Whisky Pairs: Winners: 2001, P. Weller, D. Hall.



**NOEL PARK BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1925 — Affiliated MCBA 1929**  
**Chapman's Green, Perth Road, Wood Green,**  
**N22 5PY**

MCBA Honours:

Singles: Winner: 1965, 1967, L.G. Root.

Pairs: Winners: 1955, Jennings, Hickman. 1961, Root, Warren. 1965, Rutt, Edwards. 1967, Edwards, Root. R/U: 1948, 1959, 1995.

Triples: Winners: 1954.

Double Fours; Winners: 1995. R/U: 1996



**NORMAND PARK BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1976 — Affiliated MCBA 1977**  
**Bramber Road, West Kensington, W14 9PT**



**NORTH GREENFORD BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1951 — Affiliated MCBA 1952**  
**Horsenden Hill Playing Fields, Horsenden Lane North.**  
**Greenford, UB6 0PR**

The club was formed in 1951 under the auspices of the North Greenford Residents' Association. The green was originally sited in Perivale Park until a new green was laid in Horsenden Hill Playing Fields. The club has achieved some local honours in Ealing & District, Hayes & District and Southall & District competitions.



**NORTH GREENWICH BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1901 — Affiliated MCBA 1950**  
**Millwall Park, East Ferry Road, Isle of Dogs,**  
**E14 3BA**

Founded in 1901 the club took its name from the adjacent North Greenwich railway station which is now closed and replaced by the DLR Mudshoot station. The North Greenwich Jubilee Line station is now situated south of the river. The club, along with 11 others, founded the London Parks B.A. and affiliated to MCBA in 1950. A club member W.T. Bishop, was selected to play for England in 1922. Bombed and damaged during WW2 the club was eventually moved to Millwall Park in 1955, the Council providing a green and clubhouse. The council laid a new green and extended the clubhouse in time for the centenary in 2001.



**NORTH LONDON BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1891 — Affiliated MCBA 1924**  
**Fitzroy Park, Highgate, N6 6HT**

The club was founded as an offshoot of the now defunct Camden Club in Mornington Crescent. In 1891 the bowling membership divided into two clubs: Mansfield and North London. Mansfield acquired a green near Parliament Hill and North London rented a piece of meadow-land from farmer Tom Ward on Fitzroy Park. Accommodation was a converted cowshed. The club was a founder member of L&SCBA in 1895. It did not, however, affiliate to MCBA until 1924. In 1966 ladies were allowed into what was formerly an all male preserve.

Over the years the club has had a fair share of characters. Notably, in 1962, Leslie Compton, footballer with Arsenal and Middlesex cricketer joined the club and became club champion and president in 1976. The club has provided two County Presidents. In 1929, F. Hotchkiss and in 1936, H.J. Dunaway. Felix Hotchkiss was honoured in 1930 with the EBA Presidency. In 1927 A. Inglis was awarded international honours.

MCBA Honours:

President: 1929, F. Hotchkiss. 1936, H.J. Dunaway.

Singles: R/U: 1929. 2008

Pairs: R/U: 1926

Triples: R/U: 1990

Unbadged Singles: R/U: 1995, J Stewart.

Mixed Pairs: Winners: 2005, R/U 2010, Mrs S. Paveling, J. Paveling.

2009, Mrs W. Grzegorzcyk, P. Cater, 2010, Mrs W. Grzegoreczyk, A. Harman

Whisky Pairs: Winners: 2010, M Corder, A. Wallis



**NORTHWOOD BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1935 — Affiliated MCBA 1937**  
**Recreation Ground, Chestnut Avenue,**  
**Northwood, HA6 1HR**

In 1935 a meeting was held at Northwood Council offices with a view to forming a bowls club. It was proposed that a three rink green should be built from an existing tennis court in Northwood Recreation Ground. This was approved. The club was to be known as Chestnuts B.C. The club affiliated to MCBA in 1937. Some time after WW2 the club changed its name to Northwood as a club in South Tottenham of the same name already existed.



**OSTERLEY BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1936 — Affiliated MCBA 1937**  
**Jersey Gardens, St Mary's Crescent, Osterley,**  
**TW7 4NB**

Founded in 1937 and situated in St Mary's Crescent, Osterley adjacent to the A4, 10 miles from London. Osterley B.C. is today a mixed club with 35 members. The club achieved a major county success in 1969 winning the County fours with G. Rogers, S. Moss, L. Hardey and D. Williams. Williams was also part of the winning Middleton Cup team of 1969.

MCBA Honours:

Fours: Winners: 1969.



**PADDINGTON BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1905 — Affiliated MCBA 1915**  
**Castellain Road, Maida Vale, W9 1HQ**

In 1905 a small piece of land was rented in Paddington Recreation Ground sufficient only for a two rink green, but before long this had to be extended and was later increased to 6 rinks. During this period Paddington affiliated to the MCBA (1915) and A.C. Birtles won the County singles in the same year. In 1913 a tennis club was established at Castellain and Delaware Road and in 1928 the club moved from the "Rec" to its present location. A company was formed and the necessary capital (£10,000) raised amongst members for the erection of the main pavilion, the laying of two Cumberland turf greens and nine tennis courts. At that time there were also two practice greens where the present indoor club now stands. In 1934 Hon. Secretary, Harry Hoggarth proposed a scheme to provide bowling during the winter months. Additional capital (£10,000) was found and in 1935 the indoor pavilion and two squash courts were opened. The club was destined to become the traditional home of the EBA hosting the National championships for many years until the mid '50s. From its founding date, Paddington has the finest record of any Middlesex club. It has won titles in all County competitions including 13 singles winners, 8 Pairs winners and 14 pairs winners. By winning the fours for three consecutive years in 1947/48/49 the club won the "Joseph Cup" outright. Paddington has an impressive list of bowlers who have been selected to play for England among them E.H. Hayward (1967-73) , G.A. Smyth (1981-93) and S.E. Halmal (1983-92) The pavilion, indoor and outdoor greens and facilities have been greatly improved over the years but like many bowls clubs membership has fallen away recently, nevertheless Paddington still remains a powerful force in the County and Nationally.

MCBA Honours:

MCBA President: 1949, W.H. Godby.

Singles: Winners: 1915, C.A. Birtles. 1916, J. Line. 1930, C.A. Birtles. 1931,1933, J. McKinley. 1962, F.J. Harris. 1964, J. Girdwood. 1966, E.H. Hayward. 1969, E.A. Johnson. 1973, C.J. Chambers. 1985, M. O'Keefe. 1988, 1990, G.A. Smyth. 2008, N. Worley. R/U: 1945,1947,1960,1971,1983,1986,1987

Pairs: Winners: 1948, Bailey, Heard. 1951,Tucker, Baker1954, Tucker, Pyman.1959, Harris, Brayley.

1983, K. Sharrett, J. Sargent. 1984, G. Smyth, S. Halmal. 1990, J. Brook, G. Smyth. 2006, M. Mascarenhas, W. Maddison. 2008, N. Worley, R. Milton R/U: 1915,1946,1962,1976,2008,2009

Triples:Winners:1967,1969,1971,1983,1984,1996,2007 R/U:1951,1962,1963,1965,1976,2006,2007,2008

Fours: Winners: 1945,1947,1948,1949,1966,1970,1971,1972,1980,1984,1987,1988,1998,2001.

R/U: 1938, 1946, 1985,1986.

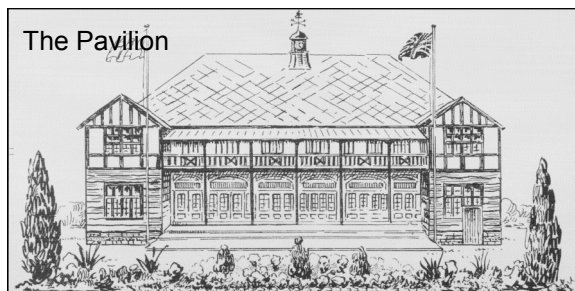
Double Fours: Winners: 1946,1947,1948,1950,1962,1966,1998,2005, 2010. R/U: 1991,2009.

Unbadged Singles: Winners: 1977, Smith. 1982, M. O'Keefe. 2001, R. Milton. R/U: 1983,J. Sargent. 1986, C. Hooper.

Whisky Pairs: Winners: 1991, G. Smyth, D. Crowley. 2007, Ward, Maddison.

R/U: 1983,Sharrett, O'Keefe. 2005, Mascarenhas, Briscoe.

Under 25 Singles; Winner: 2008, J. Gibbs. R/U: 1999, N. Worley. 2007, J. Gibbs, 2010, J. Gibbs.





**PARLIAMENT HILL BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1937 — Affiliated MCBA 1938**  
**Parliament Hill Fields, Highgate Road, Kentish**  
**Town, NW5 1QR**

Most celebrated bowler was Norman King who was an England international 1954-58, 1965-72. King was selected lead of the English rink team that won the gold medal at the Empire Games Cardiff, 1958. Later in his career he bowled at Mansfield.

**MCBA Honours:**

Singles: Winner: 1959, N.King. R/U: 1954, N. King. 1957.

Pairs: R/U: 1960, 1965.

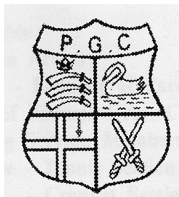
Triples: Winners: 1953, 1965. R/U: 1959.

Fours: Winners: 1950, 1954, 1957. R/U: 1967.

Double Fours: Winners: 1954. R/U: 1961.



Norman King



**PARSONS GREEN BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1907 — Affiliated MCBA 1914**  
**Broomhouse Lane, Fulham, SW6 3DP**

In 1885, Parsons Green Working Men's Social Club was founded by Miss C.A. Sullivan, a niece of former Prime Minister Lord Palmerston. Formed as a counter attraction to the local public houses, the club soon expanded its activities to cricket. In 1902 the tennis section was started, followed in 1907 by the Bowling Club. The Parsons Green Club was formed into a Limited Company in 1912. During WW2 a bomb was dropped on the bowling green. In 1994 the ladies bowls section was started and in 1995 the Memorial Bowls Green was opened.

The bowls club achieved prominence in the late '20s and '30s largely thanks to A.N.(Andy) Wilson, an ex-Scottish international footballer who later went on to represent England at bowls in 1948. Wilson arrived in London in 1923 and played for Chelsea and Q.P.R. On retiring from football he joined Parsons Green and soon became a regular County player. He skipped Parsons Green to many County victories including the Fours in 1931 and 1935.

The men's section is still regarded as one of the strongest clubs in Middlesex with Middleton Cup players such as Simon Jee who was County singles winner in 1992 and 2005. In 2005 Jee was also National singles champion.

**MCBA Honours:**

President: 1987, W. Griffin. 1996, C.H. Smith. 2003, R.M. Clarke. 2004, P.J. Leete.

Singles: Winner: 1975, A. Ridington. 1992, 2005, S. Jee. 2009, S. Jee  
 R/U: 1928, 1967, 1977, 1988, 2004, .

Pairs: Winners: 1979, L. Smith, Luffman. 1995, J. Hare, S. Jee. R/U: 1963, 1988.

Triples: Winners: 1928, 1932, 1950. R/U: 1939, 1945, 1961, 2007, 2010.

Fours: Winners: 1931, 1935, 1967, 1982. R/U: 1932, 1936, 1939, 1993, 1995.

Double Fours: Winners: 1939, 1945, 1964, 1999. R/U: 1951, 1962, 2010.

Unbadged Singles: R/U: 1991, S. Stockley.

Whisky Pairs: Winners: 1993, A. Hare, S. Jee. 1994, D. Towns, S. Jee. R/U: 1980, Hare, Hayward. 1999, A. Downs, S. Jee. 2002, M. Pharaoh, R. Clarke.

Mixed Pairs: Winners: 2006, Mrs K. Stockley, S. Stockley.



A.N. Wilson



**PINNER BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1953 — Affiliated MCBA 1954**  
**Pinner Memorial Park, West End Lane, Pinner,**  
**HA5 3NU**

In 1949 residents of Pinner purchased the West House estate and transferred it to the Council when it became known as the Memorial Park. Plans included a space for a bowling green. In 1950 a committee chaired by T. Banks, a retired bank official, enabled the founding of Pinner Bowling Club. In 1953 the club's first constitution was approved and construction of the green took place between 1953 and 1955. During this period members played at a neighbouring club. Banks was elected the first Pinner B.C. President

Tommy Banks at that time was one of the leading personalities of the bowling world. He was twice President of the County in 1947 and 1976 and County Treasurer from 1954-76. In 1948, while a member of West Harrow, Banks was the County singles champion. In 1963 Banks became President of the English Bowling Association. During 1956/57 a pavilion was erected and opened by the County President. In 1982 ladies joined and the club became a fully integrated mixed club. In 1993 vandals destroyed the clubhouse and the Council agreed to build a new clubhouse which opened in May 1995.

County competition success has so far eluded Pinner, but its reputation in bowling history is assured by having Tommy Banks as founder and first President.



Tommy Banks



**PITSHANGER PARK BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1913 — Affiliated MCBA 1920**  
**Perivale Gardens, Belleview Road, Ealing,**  
**W13 8DH**

Founded in 1913 by a group of local Aldermen and Councillors the club has had a long association with the London Parks B.A. and affiliated with the County Association in 1920. The most celebrated member was Launce C. Machin who was elected County President in 1953. Machin was club secretary for 13 years. The club has achieved some County success over the years with victories in the fours (1951) and the pairs (1969). 1978 saw the introduction of ladies into the club.

**MCBA Honours:**

President: 1953, L.C. Machin.

Pairs: Winners: 1970, W. Pooley, A. Stansbury.

Fours: Winners: 1951.





**POPLAR BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1910 — Affiliated MCBA 1920**  
**Recreation Gardens, Poplar High Street,**  
**Poplar, E14 0DR**

The original 4 rink bowling green was opened in July 1910 by Councillor Brown, the Mayor of Poplar. The green was funded and laid by the Poplar Council. In October 1910 The Mayor chaired the committee which founded Poplar Bowls Club. Club meetings were held in the board-room of Poplar Baths. In 1910 the club affiliated with the London Parks B.A. and in 1920 with the MCBA. The well known Labour politician, George Lansbury, was the first vice-president of the club. The club's connection with Labour politicians was celebrated in 1927 with a famous match against a team of Labour MPs.

In 1934 the old equipment hut was replaced with a pavilion. In 1960-61 a new 6 rink green was laid in the SW corner of the park and in 1987 the Council erected a new pavilion.

In recent years there has been a renaissance of fortunes at the club with spectacular success in County competitions.

MCBA Honours:

Singles: Winner: 2003,2004,2006, P.Cook, 2010, J. Hansen. R/U: 1995.

Pairs: Winners: 2000,2001, S. Terry, P. Cook. 2009, P. Cook, R. Fortune. R/U: 1994.

Triples: Winners: 1999,2001,2005,2006.

Fours: Winners: 2007. R/U: 2003,2006, 2010

Double Fours:R/U: 2010

Whisky Pairs: Winners: 2009, I. McConache, P. Cook. R/U: 2001,B. Stephens, B. Cook.

Mixed Pairs: Winners: 2004, Mrs J. Stephens, P. Cook.



**PYMMES PARK BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1906 — Affiliated MCBA 1921**  
**Silver Street, Edmonton, N18 1PL**

Founded in 1906 at Edmonton, the club proved very popular and attracted nearly 100 members in its first year. In 1931 a separate ladies' section had the use of a newly laid green (known as Beverley) built alongside two men's greens. The Beverley green was used by various clubs including the police but was closed by Enfield Borough Council in 1992. The ladies were then allowed to use the Pymmes Park green and the club became fully integrated in 1997.

MCBA Honours:

Singles: R/U: 1980,1981,1989.

Pairs: Winners: 1972,Perry, Lamb. R/U: 1968,1971.

Double Fours: R/U: 1982.

Unbadged Singles: Winner: 1988, P.Cook. R/U: 1976,Jackson. 1981, Bristow.

Whisky Pairs: Winners:2008, S.Griffiths, T.Evitt. R/U: 2007,C.Law, A.Law.



**RAVENS COURT PARK BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1900 — Affiliated MCBA 1912**  
**King Street, Hammersmith, W6 0HJ**

A bowling green is known to have existed in Ravenscourt Park since 1745. The privately owned estate became a public park in 1887 and the bowls club was founded in 1900 and soon attracted a membership of over 100. Affiliated to the County Association in 1912 the club achieved early competition success winning the Double fours in 1915 and 1916. With England international Arthur Haley and A. Davers the club won the County pairs in 1920 and 1921. The club was also the first winner of the Joseph Cup in 1920. Since the 1920s the club has achieved one success in 1983 as runners-up in the County triples. In 1979 ladies were allowed to join. The green is now self-maintained with a subsidy from the Council.



Ravenscourt Park :Winners of the Lipton Cup 1915  
 J.T. Thompson, W. Davers, R.L. Rae, A. Davers  
 G.F. Cordwell, A. Haley, G. Rowson, A. Haworth

MCBA Honours:

Pairs:Winners: 1920,21

Triples: R/U: 1983.

Fours: Winners: 1920. R/U: 1930.

Double Fours: Winners: 1915,1916.R/U: 1923



**ROSEDALE PARK BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1992 — Affiliated MCBA 1992**  
**539 Uxbridge Road, Hayes, UB4 8HP**

The Club was established in 1992 from the amalgamation of Hayes Park B.C. (Founded 1940) and Rosedale Ladies B.C. In recent years Rosedale Park B.C. has become a force in the County with the notable victory in the 2007 County singles by Ron LeLeux. Keith Bailey, Willie Woods and Chris Harris have all represented the County at the National Championships in Worthing. Dave Parrott, current club captain, is at present a member of the County Middleton Cup team.

MCBA Honours:

Singles: Winner:2007, R. LeLeux.

Triples:R/U: 2000.

Fours:R/U: 2007.

Double Fours:R/U; 2005.

Whisky Pairs:Winners: 2002, A. Baker, R. LeLeux. R/U: 2004,R. Pocknell, K. Bailey.

Officers Singles: 2010, M. Kirby.



**ROUNDWOOD PARK BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1924 — Affiliated MCBA 1925**  
**Harlesden Road, Willesden, NW10 3SH**

MCBA Honours:

Singles: Winner: 1958, J. Girdwood.

Pairs: Winners: 1958, Smith, Girdwood.

Fours: R/U: 1935



**RUISLIP BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1919 — Affiliated MCBA 1921**  
**Manor Farm Green, Bury Street, Ruislip, HA4 7SU**

Established in 1919 as a joint tennis and bowls club, the two sections soon after decided to separate and Ruislip Bowls Club was free to develop on its own. Originally men only, the 20 or so members played 8 matches in their first season. In 1939 the club transferred to the Manor Farm Complex alongside the Great Barn. In 1999 the extension to the clubhouse was completed. The project was a joint venture between the two clubs that share the site - Ruislip and Mill B.C. The club now provides easy access for wheelchair users, County honours have so far eluded the club which also participates in local district leagues.



**SELBORNE BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1912 — Affiliated MCBA 1920**  
**The Mall, Southgate, N14 6EN**

Founded in 1912 by Bert Plumb, the innkeeper of the Cherry Tree Inn at Southgate Green. The club affiliated to the MCBA in 1920 and agreed to be a men only club. In 1925 a Cumberland turf green was laid followed soon after with a new clubhouse. In 1935 ladies were allowed to play and thanks to the introduction of Sunday play, membership doubled. Post war the membership grew and in 1967 Eric Crosbie was elected President of the County Association.

Eric J. Crosbie J.P. was one of the most important figures in the history of the MCBA. As well as County President in 1967 and 1986, Crosbie was honoured with the Presidency of the EBA in 1977. In 1959 he was elected President of the L&SCBA. From 1986 till his death in 1996 he was Patron of the County. Holder of many other administrative posts in the world of bowls Eric was a lifelong member of the Selborne club..

In the '50s the club achieved success in County competitions thanks to the inspiration of Don Jack, pairs champion in 1956. In 1970 the club moved out of the Cherry Tree and opened its own bar. Lady bowlers were admitted as members, requiring the expansion of facilities. Thanks to loans and donations from members, Selborne finally became a private club. It was not until 1998 that ladies gained voting rights at the AGM and have recently achieved noteworthy County competition success.

MCBA Honours:

President: 1967, 1986 E.J. Crosbie.

Pairs: Winners: 1956, D. Jack, Tollis. R/U: 1961.

Fours: R/U: 1957. R/U: 1960, 2008

Double Fours: Winners: 1958.



**SOUTHALL BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1901 — Affiliated MCBA 1920**  
**Wolf Fields, Thornecliffe Road,**  
**Norwood Green, Southall.**

Founded with a 2 rink green in 1901 at the Swan Hotel, the club moved to Manor House in 1929. The next move in 1937 was to a six rink green on the Recreation Ground. In 1940 the club made its final move to its present site at Wolf Fields, Norwood Green. Members enter for County competitions, but to date with little success.



**SOUTHGATE BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1921 — Affiliated MCBA 1921**  
**Broomfield Park. Alderman's Hill,**  
**Palmers Green, N13 4PP**

Founded in 1921, the initial membership was limited to 150. Such was the popularity of bowling at that time that, in 1923, Southgate Council were persuaded to construct a second green. By 1927 membership had risen to 250 with a waiting list of 32. Southgate was one of three founder members of MCWBA. During the 1980's Enfield Council handed over maintenance to the club and today only one green is in use. Membership is now 70-80 and members compete in County and District competitions. In 1955 both County singles finalists were from Southgate, a unique achievement in County history.

MCBA Honours:

Singles: Winner: 1955, T. Murray. R/U: 1955.

Triples: Winners: 1930.

Fours: Winners: 1928, 1936. R/U: 1968.



**SPRINGFIELD (ACTON) BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1907 — Affiliated MCBA 1925**  
**25-27 Western Gardens, Ealing, W5 3RS**

Founded in 1907, until 1968, the club occupied a site in Lynton Road, Acton, backing on to the Haberdashers Girls' School. 1968 was a memorable year in that, R.E. (Dick) Staples was elected County President, the club hosted the County finals and a club triples team won the Mappin Cup. One of the most celebrated members of the club was G.P. Stanley, who was an England international between 1919 and 1928.

In 1968 the club site was acquired by the school, forcing a move to the present site in Western Gardens. The old green was taken up and re-laid in the new site together with a pavilion and tennis court. The club has often provided members of the County Middleton Cup team including Bert Howell and Dave Rowland in 1985. Springfield also provided another County President with F.G. Turner in 1985.

MCBA Honours:

Presidents: 1968, R.E. Staples. 1985, F.G. Turner.

Triples: 1968.

Fours: R/U: 1996.



**STAINES BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1919 — Affiliated MCBA 1920**  
**Burges Way, Knowle Green,**  
**Staines, TW18 1AJ**

Founded originally in 1911, the green was laid in the grounds of the Angel Hotel, Staines. In 1919 after WW1, the club re-formed at a site owned by a brewery in Thames Street, Staines and affiliated to the EBA and MCBA in 1920. In 1921 a Cumberland turf green was laid. In 1922 ladies were accepted as full members. The club continued to play at the same site until the mid 60's when a highway development scheme threatened the club's existence. After much negotiation and a spell at another green the club moved to its present location in 1976. The status of the club changed from private, to a club renting Council premises.



**STANMORE BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1942 — Affiliated MCBA 1943**  
**Recreation Gardens, Dennis Lane, Stanmore,**  
**HA7 4JR**

A donation to Harrow U.D.C. by Sir John Fitzgerald in 1935 specified that a bowling green be constructed in Stanmore Recreation Grounds. The green was completed in 1940. First used by Edgware BC, the use of 4 rinks was later granted to Stanmore BC in 1941. The original pavilion was a small hut which served until the present pavilion was erected in 1987. In 1971 ladies were admitted as members with their own section. Several members have rendered notable service to the County Association including the late Jack Lines (ex County President, 1956). Malcolm Cinna was County Assistant Hon. Secretary from 2002



**STANWELL BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1924 — Affiliated MCBA 1927**  
**Stanwell Recreation Ground, Oakes Road,**  
**Stanwell, TW19 7LB**

Founded in 1924 by the vicar of the parish, Rev. H.F. Gaster, a great devotee of the game, Stanwell B.C. started with two rinks on the vicarage lawn. Gaster became the first President, a post he held for many years. A third rink was laid before the outbreak of WW2. After the war the old green was not available and the club did not have its own green until 1952 when, under the auspices of Staines Council a new green was opened in the recreation ground on Oakes Road. This green together with a new pavilion provided the club with a permanent home. Currently, the club has about 50 mixed members and has provided players for the County and a Middleton Cup player (Ron Searle).

MCBA Honours:

Triples: R/U:1999.

Whisky Pairs: Winners:1998,R. Searle, M. Wickens.



**STRAWBERRY HILL BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1920 — Affiliated MCBA 1927**  
**Radnor Gardens, Cross Deep, Twickenham, TW1 4RB**

The club, situated in Radnor Gardens, once part of the Earl of Radnor's Estate but now owned by Richmond Council, is on the bank of the Thames between Richmond and Hampton court. Founded in 1920 the club soon allowed lady members and was a founder member of MCWBA. The club can claim some celebrated members including Lenny Denny, County President 1934 and Lindsay Warner President in 1999. Leonard Denny started bowling at Strawberry Hill and a donation from him enabled a bowls pavilion to be erected at Radnor Gardens.



**SUNBURY SPORTS BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1968 — Affiliated MCBA 1968**  
**Kenton Court Meadow, Lower Hampton Road,**  
**Sunbury, TW16 5PS**

MCBA Honours: Fours: Winners: 2003.



**TEDDINGTON BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1910 — Affiliated MCBA 1930**  
**Grove Gardens, Twickenham Road, Teddington,**  
**TW11 8AP**

Founded in 1910 with a two rink green in Park Road, Teddington, the club moved to its present site in 1935. In 1955 a pavilion was built replacing a small kiosk and marquee. In 1939 a ladies club was formed and amalgamated in 2006. The green has been used for County matches.

MCBA Honours: Triples: R/U: 1968



**TEMPLE FORTUNE BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1922 — Affiliated MCBA 1927**  
**122. Bridge Lane, Golders Green, NW11 9JS**

In 1922 a group of tennis players decided to form a club in Bridge Lane. Finance was largely raised by ex-officers from WW1. The money raised (£6,000) provided 8 tennis courts, a bowling green and a croquet lawn together with changing rooms and a pavilion. After affiliation to the County, the bowls membership grew at the expense of tennis. During WW2 bowls and tennis continued and it was after the war that the bowls section came into its own. W.T Elliot was elected County President in 1945. Despite a drop in membership in the early '60s it was decided to build an indoor bowling green but the project lapsed due to lack of funding. However, during the squash boom of this period, the club built squash courts in 1972. In 1973 ladies were accepted as members of the bowls section. The club has had its ups and downs financially over the years but has managed to survive and is today financially stable with a healthy membership.

MCBA Honours:

President: 1945, W.T. Elliot. 1960 .L.W. Crawford

Singles: Winner: 1954, J. Stewart. R/U; 1963.

Fours: Winners: 1937.



**TOTTENHAM HALE BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1906 — Affiliated MCBA 1912**  
**Down Lanes Park, Park View Road,**  
**Tottenham, N17 9DS**

Founded in 1906 Tottenham Hale was one of the early members of MCBA affiliating in 1912. Originally sited in Down Lane Recreation Ground, the club moved to the site of the old Down Lane School in 1992. Standards at the club were set by J.(Joe) H.F. Lloyd, who was club secretary from 1940-1981. Lloyd was also skip of losing County pairs finalists in 1936. Tottenham Hale continues today as a small but friendly club.

MCBA Honours:

Pairs: Winners: 1932, Hardy, Winmill. R/U; 1936.

Double Fours: R/U: 1918, 1927, 1928, 1956.



**UXBRIDGE BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1908 — Affiliated MCBA 1919**  
**Uxbridge Cricket Club, Park Road, Uxbridge,**  
**UB8 1NR**

The green is situated in one corner of Uxbridge cricket field, now used occasionally by Middlesex CCC. The bowls club is a section of a sports and leisure complex on land left in trust by a few sportsmen 100 years ago. The amenities include a fine pavilion and bar shared with the cricket, tennis and squash clubs. The club has a long and celebrated relationship with the County Association with its most famous member, P.G. Constable, County President in 1951 and singles champion in 1932. Other well known members include Ken Morrison, (1983) and P. Allen, (2002) both County singles champions.

MCBA Honours:

President: 1951, P.G. Constable.

Singles: Winners: 1932, P.G. Constable. 1983, K. Morrison. 2002, P.Allen. R/U; 1996.

Pairs: Winners 1969, Linnell, Chapman. 1987, D. Rowland, K. Morrison. 1996, R. Chatfield, A. Jennings. R/U; 2007.

Triples: Winners: 1936. R/U: 2008. 2010.

Fours: Winners: 1923, 1934. R/U: 1999, 2010.

Double Fours: R/U: 1994, 2002. Unbadged Singles: Winner: 1984, A. Waite. R/U: 1998, A. Groves.

Whisky Pairs: Winners: 2003, R. Tiller, K. Mopp. 2006, N. Ward, P.Allen.

Mixed Pairs: Winners: 2002, B. Ward, Mrs D. Gray.



**VICTORIA PARK BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1900 — Affiliated MCBA 1912**  
**Victoria Park Road, Queens Gate, Harrowgate Road,**  
**Hackney, E9**

Founded in 1900 the club was originally known as South Hackney B.C. but in 1903 the present name was adopted. Founder members of the London Parks B.A. in 1901.

MCBA Honours:

Pairs: Winners: 1927, A.A. Weston, J.S. Burchill.

Fours: Winners: 1992.

Unbadged Singles: R./U: 1985, C. Haley



**WEALDSTONE BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1916 — Affiliated MCBA 1920**  
**Byron Park, Peel Road, Harrow, HA3 7PN**

Founded in 1916 the club affiliated to the MCBA in 1920. Early County success eluded the club until 1953 when Wealdstone were runners-up in the Double Rink. Since 1992 the club has achieved great County success and has become one of the strongest clubs in Middlesex. Notably, Richard Kirk became Singles Champion in 1998 along with David Steele and Colin King who won the unbadged singles in 1992 and 2005. There were other victories in the pairs (1993), triples (1997 and 1998) and Double Rink (2003) The club earned the distinction of being the first winners of the newly formed Middlesex League in 2008.

Although a park club, Wealdstone has been very progressive during the last 30 years since the club obtained a bar licence in 1979. The income generated by the bar has enabled improved facilities, including an enlarged clubhouse, new kitchen and changing room facilities. The green has the reputation of being one of the finest in the district

MCBA Honours:

Singles: Winner: 1998, R. Kirk.

Pairs: Winners: 1993, P. Rands, R. Kirk

Triples: Winners: 1997, 1998. R/U: 2003, 2004.

Double Fours: Winners: 2003. R/U: 1953, 1998, 2004.

Unbadged Singles: Winner: 1992, D. Steele. 2005, C. King.

R/U: 2000, A. Howard. Mixed Pairs: Winners: 2001, 3, 8.

Mixed Pairs: Winners: 2001, 2003, Mrs P Kirk, R. Kirk.

2008, Mrs M. Hazzard, D, Steele.

Middlesex League: Winners: 2008



Winners MCBA Double Rink 2003  
 A. Wiltsher, A. Howard, R. Kirk, D. Steele  
 M. O'Grady, D. Parker, M. Burfield, D. Adams



Runners-up Double Rink 1953.  
 S. Slater, F. Thame, P. Jordan, E. Collins  
 A. Thwaites, A. Tilley, G. Marin, E. Ashton



**WEMBLEY BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1919 — Affiliated MCBA 1920**  
**Kings Edward VII Park, Park Lane,**  
**Wembley, HA9 6ND**

Founded in 1919 with the aid of Wembley Council, the club had a councillor as president for the first 6 years. During the WW2 years the club continued playing all its competitions. Over the years the club has had some success in County competitions the most notable being Eddie Haynes and Harry Gold who won the singles titles in 1929 and 1963. At one time England international, Gordon Trieb was also a member. Current member Mike Butler was runner-up in the 1996 unbadged singles. Like all parks clubs, Wembley is currently going through a lean time and recruitment of new members is especially difficult due to the demographic changes in the population of Wembley which is now mainly Asian and West Indian.

MCBA Honours:

Singles: Winners: 1929, E.J. Haynes. 1963, H.D. Gold.

Pairs: R/U: 1927

Unbadged Singles: R/U: 1996, R.M. Butler





**WEST EALING BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1923 — Affiliated MCBA 1923**  
**Mervyn Road, Haslemere Avenue, West Ealing,**  
**W13 9UW**

A sporting club has existed on the Mervyn Road Site for almost 100 years. West Ealing Sports and Athletic Club was formed in 1909 and a bowls section subsequently formed in 1923 when the club became a limited company, which today does not exist. Up to the mid 1950s WESAC was a thriving country club with facilities including, running track, tennis courts, two bowling greens and a large clubhouse. During this period as well as being a leading bowls club, WESAC was a force in tennis and table tennis with Fred Perry and the Rowe twins as members. In the late '50s, financial setbacks caused the all facilities except bowling to fall into disuse. The bowls club was effectively reformed in 1961 and culminated in 1993 with the purchase of a long lease from Ealing Council. The site includes the field alongside the bowls club which is now used for sports and recreation..

Throughout its history the club has achieved many bowling honours including three County Presidents and today is one of the strongest clubs in the County. A notable West Ealing bowler was Jack Holliday who, before he took up bowling, played football with distinction for Brentford F.C. He was a club member between 1950 and 1980. The club has also provided the England Under 25's Captain in recent years.

**MCBA Honours:**

President: 1950, A. Collins. 1980, E.G. Sussex, 1997, W.J. Fletcher.

Singles: Winner: 1951, H. Whitehurst. 1997, D. Blewett. R/U: 1949, 2003.

Pairs: Winners: 1963, E. Sussex, W. Simpson. 2007, N. Skidmore, P. Cater. 2010, N. Skidmore, P. Cater. R/U: 1967, 1990, 1991.

Triples: Winners: 1962, 2000.

Fours: Winners 1999. R/U: 1953, 1976, 1982, 2000.

Double Fours: Winners: 1986, 1996, 1997. R/U: 1936, 1989.

Unbadged Singles: Winner: 1996, R. Castle. R/U: 1989, 2005.

Whisky Pairs: Winners: 1990, A. Martin, C. Harman. 1999, A. Roan, M. Jones.

R/U: 1992, 1996, 2009, 2010.

Under 25's Singles: Winner: 2001, A. Wood. R/U: 1997, 2001.

Mixed Pairs: Winners: 2007, Mrs P. Butcher, P. Cater.

Middlesex League: Runners-up: 2009



**WEST FINCHLEY BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1922 — Affiliated MCBA 1923**  
**6a, Dudley Road, Finchley, N3 2QR**

West Finchley Bowling Club is a four rink lawn bowls club in North London. The club has a reputation for a warm welcome, a friendly atmosphere and more importantly competitive bowls. Affiliated to the Finchley & District and Middlesex County Bowling Associations, WFBC competes in both district and County, league and challenge competitions and has a fixture card of over 20 friendly and cup games.



**WEST HARROW BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1928— Affiliated MCBA 1928**  
**West Harrow Recreation Ground,**  
**The Ridgeway, West Harrow, HA2 0AN**

The church spire on the club badge is that of St. Mary's church, Harrow on the Hill, which is a landmark for miles around. The club originated from a meeting of a small group of men at Harrow Wesleyan Church. These men had laid a green in a farmers field. Harrow U.D.C. later acquired the land and converted it into a public recreation ground. A new green was laid in 1928 and re-laid with Cumberland turf in 1929.

The most celebrated club member is Tommy Banks who was club champion no less than 12 times between 1929 and 1949. As well as being club President 4 times, Banks was elected County President in 1948. In his presidential year, Banks was County singles champion. A retired bank official Tommy Banks held administrative posts for both County (Treasurer 1954-1974) and the EBA. He was also involved in the founding of Pinner B.C. The other well known bowler is Norman Short who was club champion 14 times between 1956 and 1978. A regular Middleton Cup bowler between 1961 and 1977, Short skipped the County pairs winners in 1964.

MCBA Honours:

President: 1948, T. Banks.

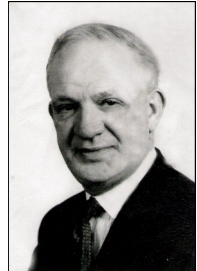
Singles: Winner: 1948, T. Banks.

Pairs: Winners: 1964, N.F. Short, H. Smart.

Triples: R/U: 1954.

Fours: R/U: 1937, 1954.

Double Fours: Winners: 1934, 1937. R/U: 2003.



Tommy Banks



**WEST LONDON BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1903 — Affiliated MCBA 1911**  
**112a, Highlever Road, North Kensington,**  
**W10 6PL**

Founded in 1903, West London is one of the 6 original founding clubs of the MCBA who are still in existence, the other being Finsbury Park. Having England international A.E. Pearsall (1921-22) as a member, the club was one of the strongest in the County. With E.B.A. President J.L. Coles (1958), County Presidents, W.A. Hines (1935) and C.H. Bates (1954), the club has a long history of involvement in the administration of the sport. In County competitions West London achieved notable early success with singles champion T. Campbell (1935), pairs winners in 1913 and 1937 and fours in 1946.

MCBA Honours:

Presidents: 1935, W.A. Hines. 1954, C.H. Bates.

Singles: Winner: 1935, T. Campbell.

Pairs: Winners: 1913, Haley, Kendall. R/U: 1912, 2001

Fours: Winners: 1946

Double Fours: R/U: 1914

Unbadged singles: Winner: 1993, P. Newman. 1994, B. Wheeler.

Under 25's Singles: Winner, 1997, A. Wood. R/U: 2000, B. Wheeler. 2002, N. Worley. 2003, S. Hammocks. 2004, N. Worley.



**WINCHMORE HILL BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1932 — Affiliated MCBA 1933**  
**Radcliffe Road, Winchmore Hill, N21 2SD**

The club was founded in 1932 when some members of Grovelands B.C. (Founded 1927), convened the first meeting under the chairmanship of Mr. C.B. Ustonson of Winchmore Hill B.C. It was agreed to try to raise funds for a new green and clubhouse. At a subsequent meeting the Winchmore Hill Sports Association was formed to raise £2,000 and building started. In May 1933 the opening day ceremony was held. There was early County success with wins in the Singles (1949), pairs (1938) and triples (1938). The club has had England Internationals with W.Jasper (1927,28,39,46,49,53) and ex Tottenham Hotspur footballer, R. Steel (1934-36,38,50,51,52) as members and has also provided players for the Middleton Cup. Bob Jack was the first winner of the Unbadged Singles in 1968.

MCBA Honours:

Singles:Winner: 1949, W.H. Jasper. R/U: 1951,1964.

Pairs: Winners: 1939,1953, W.H. Jasper, R. Steel. R/U: 1949,1950,1952.

Triples:Winners: 1938. R/U: 1966.

Unbadged Singles:Winner:1968, R.A. Jack.



**WOOD GREEN BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1906 — Affiliated MCBA 1911**  
**Woodside Park, High Road, Wood Green,**  
**N22 8YX**

Founded in 1906 Wood Green affiliated to the MCBA in its first year and provided six members of the winning EBA County Championship team in 1911. E.G Cole was among the Vice-Presidents in that year and A. Milne was on the first emergency committee.

In 1906 Wood Green U.D.C. agreed to lay a bowling green in Town Hall Gardens, adjacent to Wood Green Town Hall. The green was opened in July 2006. The green was subsequently upgraded to Cumberland turf in 1923. The club became known as Wood Green in 1907. The present clubhouse was originally the teahouse for the Town Hall gardens.

The club has an international player in E.J. Eves (1919) and D. Gosnell was County under 25's singles winner in 1995 and was selected for the Middleton Cup in 1997. In 2008/9 Wood Green closed due to lack of membership.

MCBA Honours:

Singles: Winner: 1914, E.J. Eves.

Pairs: R/U: 1925,1947.

Fours: R/U: 1934,1948.

Under 25's Singles:Winner: 1995, D. Gosnell.



**WOODCOCK PARK BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1953 — Affiliated MCBA 1953**  
**Shaftesbury Avenue, Kenton, Harrow,**  
**HA3 0RD**

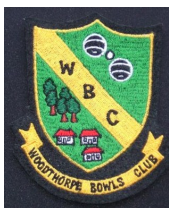
Though founded in 1953, the original plans for setting up the club date from 1938. Founder Bill Harrison, had agreed with Wembley Borough Council to establish a green at the lower end of Shaftesbury Avenue. However, the war intervened and even after the war, prefabs were erected on the site and it was not until 8 years later that the club actually started. Over the years several bannerette matches with the County have been arranged to celebrate significant milestones in the club's history. The most recent was in 2007 to record the election of Eddie Halling as County President. Woodcock Park has attracted several celebrated bowlers including English international (1955) and County Singles winner (1953), F.J. Henchey.

The club has been thriving since it was founded and has almost always had a large membership and today with 72 male and female members is one of the more populous clubs in the County Association.

MCBA Honours:

President: 2007, E.W. Halling.

Whisky Pairs: R/U: 1995, R. Davidson, J. Cooke.



**WOODTHORPE BOWLING CLUB**  
**Founded 1982 — Affiliated MCBA 1982**  
**Fordbridge Park, Kingston Road, Ashford,**  
**TW15 3SJ**

From an idea by members of the Community Centre in Woodthorpe Road, Ashford, the club was founded in 1982 in Fordbridge Park. Over the years a mixed membership grew to a maximum of over 50. Today, like many other clubs, Woodthorpe struggles to maintain its membership of about 30. Until recent years the male membership was active in MCBA competitions, with little success. Because of boundary changes Ashford became part of Surrey in all but name. In 2004, an attempt to affiliate to Surrey C.B.A. was rejected by the MCBA.



**YIEWSLEY & WEST DRAYTON BOWLS CLUB**  
**Founded 1929 — Affiliated MCBA 1930**  
**Yiewsley Recreation Park, Falling Lane,**  
**Yiewsley, UB7 7QF**

Most celebrated bowler was chief accountant, Stanley Trelease. A regular County and Middleton Cup player and member of the winning Middleton Cup team 1952 and 1954, also successful in many local competitions. Trelease was also a successful indoor bowler with Hounslow B.C.

MCBA Honours:

Unbadged Singles: Winner: 2004, N. Zelenovic.

**MIDDLESEX TEAM - WINNERS 1962 MIDDLETON CUP**



G. Lappage, N. King, E. Trew, J. Stewart, L. Traves, J. Holliday, G. Read, A. Parkin, Reserve  
 T. Banks, G. Smith, J. Groves, W. Young, F. Worth, F. Hill, L. Crawford, F. Harris, N. Short, L. Kirton, J. Brayley  
 G. Trieb, J. Vaz, L. Root, K. Dorsett, J. Girdwood, R. Pedler, L. Atkinson, L. Ryder, A. Smith

## Singles: Four Crown Cup: 1912-1923. Gomm Cup: 1924 Onwards.

DATE	WINNER	RUNNER-UP	DATE	WINNER	RUNNER-UP
1912	Finsbury Park (C.W. Brown)	Lammas	1971	Lammas (E. Taylor)	Paddington
1913	Chestnuts (A. Vessey)	Hanwell	1972	Broomfield (E.H. Phillips)	Century
1914	Wood Green (E.J. Eves)	Bethune	1973	Paddington (C.J. Chambers)	Southall & Hanwell
1915	Paddington (C.A. Birtles)	Finsbury Park	1974	Bush Hill Park (E.R. Trew)	Century
1916	Paddington (J. Line)	Finsbury park	1975	Parsons Green (A. Ridington)	LTASSA
1919	Chestoria (A. Vessey)	Bush Hill Park	1976	LT Osterley (R.E. Paine)	Brentham
1920	Fulham (F.C. Watts)	Bush Hill Park	1977	Broomfield (G. Rooke)	Parsons Green
1921	Springfield Park (J. Ward)	Lammas	1978	Downhills (K. English)	Clissold
1922	Hanwell (A. Ritchings)	Chestoria	1979	Harrow (K.Bulman)	Cambridge Park
1923	Hanwell (P. Comer)	Chiswick	1980	Broomfield (A. Sharpe)	Pymmes Park
1924	North Greenwich (W.T. Bishop)	Alexandra Palace	1981	Mansfield (R. Roylands)	Pymmes Park
1925	Lyons (J.W. Smith)	Edmonton	1982	Brentham (C. Chambers)	LT Osterley
1926	Muswell Hill (J.G. Carruthers)	Chiswick	1983	Uxbridge (K. Morrison)	Paddington
1927	Crouch Hill (W.J. Jones)	Fulham	1984	Edmonton (D. Phillips)	Century
1928	Mansfield (W.J. Yeulett)	Parsons Green	1985	Paddington (M.O'Keefe)	Sunbury
1929	Wembley (E.J. Haynes)	North London	1986	N.P.L. (D. Hall)	Paddington
1930	Paddington (C.A. Birtles)	Crouch Hill	1987	B.A. Concorde (P. Huggett)	Paddington
1931	Paddington (J.M. McKinlay)	Muswell Hill	1988	Paddington (G. Smyth)	Parsons Green
1932	Uxbridge (P.G. Constable)	Harrow	1989	Feltham Ex-Serv. (R. Paine)	Pymmes Park
1933	Paddington (J.M. McKinlay)	Hounslow Cons.	1990	Paddington (G. Smyth)	B.A. Concorde
1934	Acton Park (J. Owen)	Brownswood	1991	Finchley (J. Morley)	Kodak
1935	West London (T. Campbell)	Bush Hill Park	1992	Parsons Green (S. Jee)	Springfield
1936	Chiswick (A. Ruthven)	Hounslow Cons.	1993	Cambridge Park (G. Little)	Hounslow Sports
1937	Muswell Hill (P. Pilbrow)	Springfield Park	1994	Broomfield (P.S. Marrett)	Hounslow Sports
1938	Bush Hill Park (A. Goodwin)	Hendon	1995	Springfield Park (P. Cook)	Poplar
1939	Shep. Bush Ckt (A.W. Nienow)	Gunnersbury Park	1996	Hounslow Sports (M. Owen)	Uxbridge
1945	Acton Park (J.H. Tucker)	Paddington	1997	West Ealing (D. Blewett)	Ashford
1946	Chiswick (W. Ruthven)	Gunnersbury Park	1998	Wealdstone (R. Kirk)	Brondesbury
1947	Enfield Cons. (A. briden)	Paddington	1999	Roxeth (A. Waller)	Broomfield
1948	West Harrow (T. Banks)	Bush Castle	2000	West Ealing (I. Jenkins)	N.P.L.
1949	Winchmore Hill (W.H. Jasper)	West Ealing	2001	Shepherds Bush (G. Little)	N.P.L. (B.Jones)
1950	Chiswick (N. Miller)	Mansfield	2002	Uxbridge ( P. Allen)	Wealdstone (T. Howard)
1951	West Ealing (H. Whitehurst)	Winchmore Hill	2003	Poplar (P. Cook)	West Ealing (P.Cater)
1952	Chestnuts (D. Dewar)	Century	2004	Poplar (P. Cook)	Parsons Green (S. Jee)
1953	LM&S Railway (F.J. Henchy)	Cambridge Park	2005	Parsons Green (S. Jee)	Brondesbury (A. Barnes)
1954	Temple Fortune (J. Stewart)	Parliament Hill	2006	Poplar (P. Cook)	Brentham (B. Burgess)
1955	Southgate (T. Murray)	Southgate	2007	Rosedale Park (R. LeLeux)	Masonian (D. Pitt)
1956	Roxeth (E. Baker)	Guinness	2008	Paddington (N. Worley)	N. London (J. Paveling)
1957	Chestnuts (E. Chamberlain)	Parliament Hill	2009	Parsons Green (S. Jee)	Century (N. Zelonovic)
1958	Roundwood (J. Girdwood)	Kodak	2010	Poplar (J. Hansen)	Bounds Green (A. Law)
1959	Parliament Hill(N. King)	Ruislip			
1960	Napier (L.H. Traves)	Paddington			
1961	Hanwell (W.H. Simpson)	Hendon			
1962	Paddington (F.J. Harris)	Victoria Park			
1963	Wembley (H.D. Gold)	Temple Fortune			
1964	Paddington (J. Girdwood)	Winchmore Hill			
1965	Noel Park (L.G. Root)	Maida Vale			
1966	Paddington (E.H. Haywood)	Hoovers			
1967	Noel Park (L.G. Root)	Parsons Green			
1968	Shadwell (E.H. Hayward)	Century			
1969	Paddington (E.A. Johnson)	White Holt			
1970	Memorial (T.B. Beaumont)	Century			

### Middlesex League (George Cairns Cup)

2008	Wealdstone	Broomfield
2009	Bounds Green	West Ealing
2010	Ladygate	Broomfield

## Pairs – Henry Foreman Cup

DATE	WINNERS	RUNNERS-UP	DATE	WINNERS	RUNNERS-UP
1912	Finsbury Park (Rennie, D'Aintree)	West London	1972	Pymmes Park (Perry, Lamb)	Silver Wind
1913	West London (A. Haley, Kendall)	Lammas	1973	Century (Nevard, Plumb)	LTASSA
1914	Hendon (Taylor, Stock)	Fulham	1974	LTASSA (Gibbins, Paine)	Beverley
1915	Chestoria (Arnold, Gare)	Paddington	1975	Broomfield (Allen, Bennett)	Mansfield
1916	Clissold (Bishop, Thompson)	Lammas	1976	LT Osterley (Gibbins, Paine)	Paddington
1919	Shep. Bush. Ckt. (Fenton, Richardson)	Clissold	1977	Hendon (Jeffery, Gordon)	Downhills
1920	Ravenscourt Park (A. Haley, A. Davers)	Downhills	1978	Mansfield (Roylands, McIntosh)	Watling Assoc.
1921	Ravenscourt Park (A. Haley, A. Davers)	Finsbury Park	1979	Parsons Green (L. Smith, Luffman)	CAV
1922	Springfield Park (Wade, Norwood)	Bush Hill Park	1980	Sunbury (G. Cleaver, J. Kenton)	Downhills
1923	Durants Park (Homer, Harmer)	Chiswick	1981	Brentham (P. Sutcliffe, E. Taylor)	B.A. Trident
1924	Durants Park (Homer, Harmer)	Bruce Castle	1982	Cambridge Park (R. Rogers, A. Collis)	Edmonton
1925	LM&S Rly. (Bagshawe, Richards)	Wood green	1983	Paddington (K. Sharratt, J. Sargent)	Masonian
1926	Fulham (Rew, Guest)	North London	1984	Paddington (G. Smyth, S. Halmai)	Broomfield
1927	Victoria Park (Burchill, Weston)	Wembley	1985	Century (J. Finn, R. Theobald)	Brentham
1928	Muswell Hill (Carruthers, Barker)	Downhills	1986	Shep. Bush (K. Sharratt, A. Lines)	Albert
1929	Brownswood (Fisher, Cordell)	Bishops Park	1987	Uxbridge (D. Rowland, K. Morrison)	Century
1930	Tottenham G.A.S. (Paskell, Lawrence)	West Ealing	1988	Uxbridge (J. Marsh, D. Hall)	Parsons Green
1931	Bruce Castle (Wesley, Steel)	Fulham	1989	BA Concorde (J. Floyd, J. Brister)	Hayes So. & Sp.
1932	Tottenham Hale (Hardy, Winmill)	Clissold	1990	Paddington (J. Brook, G. Smyth)	West Ealing
1933	Hounslow Cons. (Jones, Aldred)	Shep. Bush. Ckt.	1991	N.P.L. (J. Marsh, D. Hall)	West Ealing
1934	Bruce Castle (Steel, Smith)	Lammas	1992	BRSA Enfield (T. Lawford, K. Allen)	Century
1935	Brownswood (Cordell, Grayson)	Bruce Castle	1993	Wealdstone (P. Rands, R. Kirk)	Finchley
1936	Brownswood (Cordell, Grayson)	Tottenham Hale	1994	Hounslow Spts. (D. Blewett, M. Owen)	poplar
1937	West London (Ovenden, Friend)	Paddington	1995	Parsons Green (J. Hare, S. Jee)	Noel Park
1938	Hendon (De'Ath, Lunnon)	Friary Park	1996	Uxbridge (R. Chatfield, A. Jennings)	Mansfield
1939	Winchmore Hill (Jasper, Steel)	Cambridge Park	1997	Cambridge Park (R. Spencer, A. Bell)	Roxeth
1945	Bruce Castle (Smith, Wesley)	Yiewsley & WD	1998	Bishop Duppas (L. Winter, K. Drake)	Nestles
1946	Alexandra Pk (Brackstone, Bannister)	Paddington	1999	Shepherds Bush (S. Wheeler, S. Touhy)	Harrow
1947	Century (Haynes, Hurst)	Wood Green	2000	Poplar (S. Terry, C. Cook)	Shepherds Bush
1948	Paddington (Bailey, Heard)	Noel Park	2001	Poplar (S. Terry, C. Cook)	West London
1949	Century (Haynes, Hurst)	Winchmore Hill	2002	Fassnidge (R. Phillips, R. Butler)	Bush Hill Park
1950	Century (Harvey, Baker)	Winchmore Hill	2003	West London (D. Haran, B. Wheeler)	Roxeth
1951	Paddington (Tucker, Baker)	Roundswood	2004	Roxeth (A. Waller, D. Poole)	Cambridge Park
1952	Mansfield (Curtis, Trieb)	Winchmore Hill	2005	Bush Hill Park (R. Watkinson, E. Rudston)	Broomfield
1953	Winchmore Hill (Jasper, Steel)	Preston Park	2006	Paddington M. Mascarenhas, W. Maddison)	Roxeth
1954	Paddington (Tucker, Pyman)	Century	2007	West Ealing (N. Skidmore, P. Cater)	Uxbridge
1955	Noel Park (Jennings, Hickman)	Cambridge Park	2008	Paddington (R. Worley, R. Milton)	Paddington
1956	Selbourne (Jack, Tollis)	Brentham	2009	Poplar (P. Cook, R. Fortune)	Paddington
1957	Cambridge Park (Smith, Hague)	Kodak	2010	West Ealing ( P. Cater, N Skidmore )	Ashford
1958	Roundwood (Smith, Girdwood)	Hounslow Sports			
1959	Paddington (Harris, Brayley)	noel Park			
1960	Napier (Traves, Mills0	Parliament Hill			
1961	Noel Park (Root, Warren)	Selbourne	2000	Masonians (P. Diegnan, R. Baker)	Wealdstone
1962	Cambridge Park (Frisby, Read)	Paddington	2001	Wealdstone (Mrs P.Kirk, R. Kirk)	
1963	West Ealing (Simpson, Sussex)	Parsons Green)	2002	Uxbridge (B. Ward, Mrs D. Gray)	West Ealing
1964	West Harrow (Short, Smart)	White Hot	2003	Wealdstone (Mrs P. Kirk, R. Kirk)	B.A. Concorde
1965	Noel Park (Rutt, Edwards)	Parliament Hill	2004	Poplar (Mrs J. Stephens, P. Cook)	Bush Hill Park
1966	Finchley Tudor (Prior, Wright)	Kodak	2005	North London (Mrs S. Paveling, J. Paveling)	Wealdstone
1967	Noel Park (Edwards, Root)	West Ealing	2006	Parsons Green (Mrs K. Stockley, S. Stockley)	Uxbridge
1968	Century (Boys, traves)	Pymmes Park	2007	West Ealing (Mrs S. Butcher, P. Cater)	Poplar
1969	Uxbridge (Linnell, Chapman)	Bush Hill Park	2008	Wealdstone (Mrs M Hazzard, D. Steele)	Isleworth
1970	Pitshanger (Stansbury, Pooley)	Century	2009	North London (Mrs W. Grzegorzcyk, A. Harman)	Bounds Green
1971	Bush Hill Park (Trew, Edwards)	Pymmes Park	2010	North London (Mrs W. Grzegorzcyk, A. Harman)	North London

## Mixed Pairs (Millennium Cup)

2000	Masonians (P. Diegnan, R. Baker)	Wealdstone
2001	Wealdstone (Mrs P.Kirk, R. Kirk)	
2002	Uxbridge (B. Ward, Mrs D. Gray)	West Ealing
2003	Wealdstone (Mrs P. Kirk, R. Kirk)	B.A. Concorde
2004	Poplar (Mrs J. Stephens, P. Cook)	Bush Hill Park
2005	North London (Mrs S. Paveling, J. Paveling)	Wealdstone
2006	Parsons Green (Mrs K. Stockley, S. Stockley)	Uxbridge
2007	West Ealing (Mrs S. Butcher, P. Cater)	Poplar
2008	Wealdstone (Mrs M Hazzard, D. Steele)	Isleworth
2009	North London (Mrs W. Grzegorzcyk, A. Harman)	Bounds Green
2010	North London (Mrs W. Grzegorzcyk, A. Harman)	North London

## Triples: Walter Mappin Cup

DATE	WINNERS	RUNNERS-UP	DATE	WINNERS	RUNNERS-UP
1925	Lammas	Mansfield	1983	Paddington	Ravenscourt Park
1926	Bruce Castle	Downhills	1984	Paddington	Shep. Bush Ckt.
1927	Springfield Park	U. Clapton	1985	Bush Hill Park	Shepherds Bush
1928	Parsons Green	Finsbury Park	1986	Hounslow Spts	Masonian
1929	Brymay	Boston Manor	1987	Broomfield	Edmonton
1930	Southgate	Mansfield	1988	Mansfield	Hounslow Spts.
1931	Lammas	Bruce Castle	1989	Broomfield	Bush Hill Park
1932	Parsons Green	Shepherds Bush	1990	Broomfield	North London
1933	Temple Fortune	Acton Park	1991	Kodak	Broomfield
1934	Finchley	Hounslow Cons.	1992	Bush Hill Park	Shepherds Bush
1935	Bush Hill Park	Bishops Park	1993	Shep. Bush. Ckt.	Cambridge Park
1936	Uxbridge	Tottenham G.A.S.	1994	Springfield Park	S. Hampstead
1937	Hounslow Cons.	Brownswood	1995	Broomfield	Mansfield
1938	Winchmore Hill	Hendon	1996	Paddington	Ealing Cons.
1939	Century	Parsons Green	1997	Wealdstone	Nestles
1945	Met. Police	Parsons Green	1998	Wealdstone	Swakeleys
1946	Hounslow Cons.	Glencairne	1999	Poplar	Stanwell
1947	Glencairn	N.P.L.	2000	West Ealing	Rosedale Park
1948	Enfield Town Cons	Cambridge Park	2001	Poplar	Uxbridge
1949	Lensbury	Grovelands	2002	Cambridge Park	Ealing Cons.
1950	Parsons Green	Lensbury	2003	Broomfield	Wealdstone
1951	Century	Paddington	2004	Broomfield	Wealdstone
1952	Clissold	Cambridge Park	2005	Poplar	Brondesbury
1953	Parliament Hill	Whitbread's	2006	Poplar	Paddington
1954	Noel Park	West harrow	2007	Paddington	Parsons Green
1955	Century	Mansfield	2008	Paddington	Uxbridge
1956	Bruce Castle	Mansfield	2009	Broomfield	Brentham
1957	Crouch Hill	Masonian	2010	Parsons Green	Ladygate
1958	Masonian	Southall			
1959	Brondesbury	Parliament Hill			
1960	Finchley Tudor	Masonian			
1961	LMS Railway	Parsons Green			
1962	West Ealing	Paddington			
1963	Cambridge Park	Paddington			
1964	Glacier	Century			
1965	Parliament Hill	Paddington			
1966	Century	Winchmore Hill			
1967	Paddington	Acton Park			
1968	Springfield Acton	Teddington			
1969	Paddington	Mansfield			
1970	Cambridge Park	Memorial			
1971	Paddington	Lammas			
1972	Roxeth	Mansfield			
1973	A.E.C.	LTASSA			
1974	LTASSA	Downhills			
1975	Century	Shadwell			
1976	Bounds Green	Paddington			
1977	Downhills	Hoover			
1978	Century	Broomfield			
1979	Broomfield	Mansfield			
1980	Glacier	Century			
1981	Mansfield	BA Trident			
1982	Century	LT Osterley			



<b>Fours: J. Joseph Cup</b>
-----------------------------

<b>Date</b>	<b>Winners</b>	<b>Runners-Up</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Winners</b>	<b>Runners-Up</b>
1920	Ravenscourt Park	Bruce Castle	1976	Century	West Ealing
1921	Bruce Castle	Shep. Bush Ckt.	1977	Century	Edmonton
1922	Broce Castle	Shep. Bush Ckt.	1978	L.T. Osterley	Norwood Green
1923	Uxbridge	Chiswick	1979	L.T. Osterley	Broomfield
1924	Downhills	Harrow	1980	Paddington	Hornsey
1925	Bruce Castle	Lammas	1981	Cambridge Park	Brentham
1926	Brownswood	Bishops Park	1982	Parsons Green	West Ealing
1927	Enfield	Harrow	1983	Harrow	Masonian
1928	Southgate	Harrow Weald	1984	Paddington	Mansfield
1929	BruceCastle	Mansfield	1985	Downhills	Paddington
1930	Lammas	Ravenscourt Park	1986	Cambridge Park	Paddington
1931	Parsons Green	Brownswood	1987	Paddington	Century
1932	Mansfield	Parsons Green	1988	Paddington	Mansfield
1933	Brownswood	Shepherds Bush	1989	BRSA(Enfield)	Bush Hill Park
1934	Uxbridge	Wood Green	1990	Broomfield	Broomfield
1935	Parsons Green	Roundswood Park	1991	Hounslow Spts	Finchley
1936	Southgate	Parsons Green	1992	Victoria Park	Hendon
1937	Temple Fortune	West harrow	1993	Shep. Bush. Ckt.	Parsons Green
1938	Cambridge Park	Paddington	1994	Finchley	Century
1939	Shepherds Bush	Parsons Green	1995	Roxeth	Parsons Green
1945	Paddington	Century	1996	Tottenham G.A.S.	Springfield(Acton)
1946	West london	Paddington	1997	Shepherds Bush	Ealing Cons.
1947	Baddington	Beverley	1998	Paddington	West Ealing
1948	Paddington	Wood Green	1999	West Ealing	Uxbridge
1949	Paddington	Cambridge Park	2000	Shepherds Bush	West Ealing
1950	Parliament Hill	Chiswick	2001	Paddington	Fassnidge
1951	Pitshanger	Clissold	2002	Cambridge Park	Bush Hill Park
1952	Gunnersbury	Century	2003	Sunbury Sports	Poplar
1953	LM&S Railway	West Ealing	2004	Bush Hill Park	Brondesbury
1954	Parliament Hill	West Harrow	2005	Broomfield	N.P.L
1955	Batchelors	Century	2006	Century	Poplar
1956	Acton Park	Hanwell	2007	Poplar	Rosedale Park
1957	Parliament Hill	Selbourne	2008	City of London	Selborne
1958	Finchley Tudor	Whitbreads	2009	Ladygate	North London
1959	Bruce caslle	Albany park	2010	Poplar	Uxbridge
1960	Southall Rec.	West London			
1961	Century	Edmonton			
1962	Broomfield	Cambridge Park			
1963	Mansfield	Shep. Bush Ckt.			
1964	Clissold	Glacier			
1965	Crouch hill	Napier			
1966	Paddington	Cambridge Park			
1967	Parsons Green	Parliament hill			
1968	Century	Southgate			
1969	Osterley	Broomfield			
1970	Paddington	cambridge Park			
1971	Paddington	Brentham			
1972	Paddington	A.E.C.			
1973	Edmonton	Old Actonians			
1974	A.E.C.	LTASSA			
1975	LTASSA	Cambridge Park			

**Double Fours: Lipton Cup: 1912-1946.  
Gomm Memorial Cup: 1947 Onwards.**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>WINNERS</b>	<b>RUNNERS-UP</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>WINNERS</b>	<b>RUNNERS-UP</b>
1912	Downhills	West London	1972	LTASSA	Mansfield
1913	Clissold	Harrow	1973	A.E.C.	Bush Hill Park
1914	Clissold	All Saints	1974	Mansfield	Shadwell
1915	Ravenscourt Park	Fulham	1975	Whiteholt	Broomfield
1916	Ravenscourt Park	Tottenham Hale	1976	Century	Shadwell
1919	Downhills	Bruce Castle	1977	L.T. Osterley	Mansfield
1920	Bruce Castle	Bush Hill Park	1978	Century	Century
1921	Ealing	Bruce Castle	1979	L.T. Osterley	Edmonton
1922	Bush Hill Park	Springfield Park	1980	Sunbury Sports	Mansfield
1923	Broce Castle	Ravenscourt Park	1981	Ladygate	Century
1924	Cambridge Park	Finsbury Park	1982	Brentham	Pymmes Park
1925	Lammas	Downhills	1983	Broomfield	Ashford
1926	Finsbury Park	Chestoria	1984	Brentham	Uxbridge
1927	Brownwood	Tottenham Hale	1985	Brentham	Broomfield
1928	Finsbury Park	Tottenham Hale	1986	West Ealing	Shep. Bush Ckt.
1929	Bruce Castle	Finsbury Park	1987	Edmonton	Sunbury Sports
1930	Enfield	Harrow	1988	Shep. Bush. Ckt.	Brentham
1931	Mansfield	Bush Hill Park	1989	Broomfield	West Ealing
1932	Bush Hill Park	Roxeth	1990	Hounslow Spts	Broomfield
1933	Broce Castle	Brownwood	1991	Broomfield	Paddington
1934	Wes Harrow	Brownwood	1992	Bounds Green	C.A.V.
1935	Glencairn	Lyons	1993	Hounslow Spts	Broomfield
1936	Brownwood	West Ealing	1994	Shep. Bush. Ckt.	Uxbridge
1937	West Harrow	Crouch Hill	1995	Noel Park	Wealdstone A
1938	Hounslow Cons.	Crouch Hill	1996	West Ealing	Noel Park
1939	Parsons Green	Century	1997	West Ealing	B.A. Concorde
1945	Parsons Green	Kenton	1998	Paddington	Wealdstone
1946	Paddington	L.M.S.	1999	Parsons Green	Shepherds Bush
1947	Paddington	Bruce Castle	2000	Shepherds Bush	Broomfield
1948	Paddington	Harrow Weald	2001	Holtwhites	Hayes
1949	Mansfield	Mansfield	2002	Brondesbury	Uxbridge
1950	Paddington	Hendon	2003	Wealdstone	West Harrow
1951	Chiswick	Parsons Green	2004	Broomfield	Wealdstone
1952	Southall Rec.	Hendon	2005	Paddington	Rosedale Park
1953	Enfield	Wealdstone	2006	Bush Hill Park	Masonian
1954	Parliament Hill	Hounslow Cons.	2007	Bounds Green	Cockfosters
1955	Finchley Tudor	Leisure	2008	Harrow	Century
1956	Lammas	Tottenham Hale	2009	Ladygate A	Paddington A
1957	Hanwell	Century	2010	Parsons Green	Poplar
1958	Selborne	Bruce Castle			
1959	Cambridge Park	Gunnersbury Park			
1960	Mansfield	Selbourne			
1961	Kodak	Parliament hill			
1962	Paddington	Parsons Green			
1963	Brentham	Glacier			
1964	Parsons Green	Century			
1965	Glacier	Century			
1966	Paddington	Finchley			
1967	Mansfield	Broomfield			
1968	Lammas	Friary Park			
1969	Bush Hill Park	Crouch Hill			
1970	Acton Park	Century			
1971	Cambridge Park	Brondesbury			

## Whisky Pairs

<b>DATE</b>	<b>WINNERS</b>	<b>RUNNERS-UP</b>
1978	Century (Kinley, Hayward)	Harrow (Cooper, Stewart)
1979	Century (Kinley, Hayward)	Hounslow Cons (Coyle, Williams)
1980	Mansfield (Pearson, Jeffery)	Parsons Green (Hare, Hayward)
1981	Broomfield (Knight, Bennett)	LT Osterley (Tranah, Gommer)
1982	Kodak (Smith, Dockree)	Edmonton (Patton, Ruddick)
1983	Shep. Bush. Ckt. (Hulbert, Morten)	Paddington (Sharrett, O'Keefe)
1984	Hounslow Spts. (Davies, Austen)	Broomfield (Knight, Bennett)
1985	Shep. Bush., Ckt. (J. Ketchen, A. Lines)	Broomfield (F. Stow, E. Rochester)
1986	Brentham (Burgess, Chambers)	Bush Hill Park (Allen, Jones)
1987	CAV (R. Banks, R. Cox)	Broomfield (F. Stow, E. Rochester)
1988	Perivale (A. Thorn, M. Cook)	Broomfield (B. Broad, F. Hurst)
1989	Century (R. Kinley, A. Garcia)	Feltham Ex-Serv. (J. Higginson, P. Picknell)
1990	West Ealing (A. Martin, C. Harman)	Hounslow Spts. (B. & I. Jenkins)
1991	Paddington (G. Smyth, D. Crowley)	West Ealing (P. Cater, G. Rossiter)
1992	Broomfield (A. Grant, T. Parsons)	BRSA (Enfield) (T. Lawford, A. Symkiss)
1993	Parsons Green (A. Hare, S. Jee)	Bush Hill Park (R. Eills, W. Jones)
1994	Parsons Green (D. Towns, S. Jee)	Shep. Bush. Ckt. (F. Jackson, J. Ketchen)
1995	Shepherds Bush (R. Bass, G. Smyth)	Woodcock Park (R. Davidson, J. Cooke)
1996	Holtwhites (P. Bowley, Allen)	West Ealing (G. Rossiter, P. Cater)
1997	Shepherds Bush (W. Hulbert, G. Little)	Brentham (A. Keating, B. Burgess)
1998	Stanwell (R. Searle, M. Wickens)	Feltham Ex-Serv. (L. Johnman, R. Paine)
1999	West Ealing (A. Roan, M. Jones)	Parsons Green (A. Downs, S. Jee)
2000	Brondesbury (R. French, A. Harman)	Bishopswood (H. Burke, T. Doe)
2001	N.P.L. (P. Weller, D. Hall)	Poplar (B. Stephens, P. Cook)
2002	Rosedale (A. Baker, R. LeLeux)	Parsons Green (M. Pharaoh, R. Clarke)
2003	Uxbridge (R. Tiller, M. Kopp)	Southall W.M.C. (D. Pope, R. Riggs)
2004	Poplar (I. McConachie, P. Cook)	Rosedale Park (R. Pocknell, K. Bailey)
2005	Masonian (D. Pitt, B. Baker)	Paddington (M. Mascarenhas, P. Briscoe)
2006	Uxbridge (N. Ward, P. Allen)	Holtwhires (P. Cleavelly, T.J. Lawford)
2007	Paddington (R. Ward, W. Maddison)	Pymmes Park (C. Law, A. Law)
2008	Pymmes Park (S. Griffiths, T. Evitt)	City of London (S. Brewer, M. Mansell)
2009	Poplar (P. Cook, I. McConachie)	West Ealing (P. Cater, R. Barrett)
2010	North London (M. Corder, A. Wallis)	Bush Hill Park (A. Bracaliello, F. Halverson)

## Under 25's Singles: Norman Jones Cup

<b>DATE</b>	<b>WINNER</b>	<b>RUNNER-UP</b>
1995	Wood Green (D. Gosnell)	Ladygate (C. Dudley)
1996	Ladygate (C. Dudley)	Mansfield (A. Frankland)
1997	West London (A. Wood)	West Ealing (W. Powlesland)
1998	Shepherds Bush (A. Wood)	Nestles (A. Parrott)
1999	Shepherds Bush (A. Wood)	Paddington (N. Worley)
2000	City of London (S. Evans)	West London (B. Wheeler)
2001	West Ealing (A. Wood)	West Ealing (R. Tiller Jnr)
2002	RBL Southall (J. Rowlands)	West London (N. Worley)
2003	Harrodian (M. Wicks)	West London (S. Hammocks)
2004	Broomfield (J. Gibbs)	West London (N. Worley)
2005	Hayes (J. Head)	Broomfield (J. Gibbs)
2006	Normand Park (C. Hill)	Broomfield (A. Richardson)
2007	Normand Park (C. Hill)	Paddington (J. Gibbs)
2008	Paddington (J. Gibbs)	Normand Park (C. Hill)
2009	City of London (C. Cleaver)	Ladygate (P. Reynolds)
2010	City of London (C. Cleaver)	Paddington (J. Gibbs)

**Unbadged Singles: G.H. Smith Trophy  
Runner-up: J. Dunmow Cup**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>WINNER</b>	<b>RUNNER-UP</b>
1968	Winchmore Hill (R.A. Jack)	London Transport (J. Scott)
1969	Cambridge Park (G.N. Cook)	Century (M. Ransom)
1970	Harrow (K. Jones)	N.T.G. (G. Michael)
1971	AEC (T. Bantock)	Fulham (McKenzie)
1972	White Holt (W. Jenkins)	Eastcote (Mills)
1973	LTASSA (Thompson)	Brondesbury (Neville)
1974	Northolt (Johnson)	Broomfield (Sharpe)
1975	Century (Keston)	Clissold (Smythe)
1976	Chestnuts (Kennedy)	Pymmes Park (Jackson)
1977	Paddington (Smith)	CAV (Childs)
1978	Lensbury (Roberts)	Hayes (Baxter)
1979	N. Greenwich (Brazier)	Brentham (Cradock)
1980	Ashford (Tomkins)	BA Trident (Hall)
1981	Shadwell (G. Caparn)	Pymmes Park (Bristow)
1982	Paddington (M. O'Keefe)	Kodak (J. Marr)
1983	Masonian (D. Burdon)	Paddington (J. Sargent)
1984	Uxbridge (A. Waite)	57 Club (D. Nurse)
1985	Culver (A. Wiltsher)	Victoria Park (C. Haley)
1986	Beaversfield (P. LeLievre)	Paddington (C. Hooper)
1987	Shep. Bush. Ckt. (L. Ashton)	Stanmore (M. Hamilton)
1988	Pymmes Park (P. Cook)	Ladygate (P. Preswell)
1989	Broomfield (F. Stow)	West Ealing (C. Harman)
1990	Hendon (W. Kirk)	Hounslow Spts. (I. Jenkins)
1991	Lyons (D. Cox)	Parsons Green (S. Stockley)
1992	Wealdstone (D. Steele)	Old Actonians (A. Knott)
1993	West London (P. Newman)	Century (B. Iverson)
1994	West London (B. Wheeler)	Masonian (B. Haliday)
1995	N.P.L. (R. Curry)	North London (J. Stewart)
1996	West Ealing (R. Castle)	Wembley (R. Butler)
1997	Bishop Duppas (K. Drake)	Hayes (M. Aukett)
1998	Shepherds (M. Hopkins)	Uxbridge (A. Groves)
1999	Shadwell (T. Brookes)	Ashford (C. Bench)
2000	Brondesbury (R. French)	Wealdstone (A. Howard)
2001	Paddington (R. Milton)	Mansfield (E. Bailey)
2002	Wood Green (A. Law)	Roxeth (D. Poole)
2003	Brentham (B. Burgess)	Hayes (A. Butters)
2004	Yiewsley & W. Drayton (N. Zelenovic)	Bishops Wood (F. Dryer)
2005	Wealdstone (C. King)	West Ealing (K. Beckett)
2006	Selborne (P. Spratt)	Roxeth (D. Bennett)
2007	Holtwhites (R. Smith)	North Greenwich (J. Marshall)
2008	Finchley (I. Ellis)	City of London (S. Brewer)
2009	City of London (D. Henson)	Masonian (A. Tucker)
2010	Cambridge Park (J. Peisley)	Lupton (D. Green)

**Secretaries' Competition (Later Officers Singles)**  
**Four Crowns Cup (1924-1929)**  
**Denny Cup: 1930—1969**  
**Len Norris Trophy: 1998 onwards**

YEAR	WINNER	CLUB	YEAR	WINNER	CLUB
1924	H.S. Burnage	Finsbury Park	1998	T. Seaber	Brentham
1925	C.P. Cotton	Lyons	1999	B. Connell	West Harrow
1926	G. Potts	West London	2000	P. Crouch	Rosedale
1927	H.S. Burnage	Finsbury Park	2001	P. Hamm	West London
1928	T. Taylor	Hillingdon	2002	R. Phillips	Fassnidge
1929	D.C. Piper	Shepherds Bush	2003	A. Ciampini	Ruislip
1930	H.G. Gillett	Boston Manor	2004	S. Fallon	Acton Park
1931	E. Tolfree	Glencairn	2005	J. Paveling	North London
1932	H.G. Gillett	Boston Manor	2006	R. Clark	Rosedale Park
1933	H. Almond	Mansfield	2007	B.Hearn	Century
1934	G.C. Warne	Pymmes Park	2008	A. Frankland	West Finchley
1935	D.C. Piper	Shepherds Bush	2009	G.Salter	Bounds Green
1936	H.F. Whitehead	Kodak	2010	M. Kirby	Rosedale Park
1937	A.J. Toms	Springfield (Acton)	<b>GOMM MEMORIAL COMPETITION</b>		
1938	D.C. Piper	Shepherds Bush	YEAR	WINNER	RUNNER-UP
1939	K. Slack	Staines	1938	Winchmore Hill	Finchley
1945	R.N. Fry	Met. Police	1939	1939	Clissold
1946	H. Jones	Mansfield	1940	Harrow Weald	Bruce Castle
1947	W.P.G. Thompson	Roxeth	1941	Lammas	Met Police
1948	H. Hooton	Shep. Bush Cricket	1942	Masonian	Harrow
1949	J. Owen	Finsbury Park	1943	Finchley Victoria	Met Police
1950	W.E. Hogdon	Victoria Park	1944	Hanwell	Chestnuts
1951	A. Sanguine	Hendon	1945	Chiswick	Bruce Castle
1952	T. Banks	West Harrow	1946	Century	Wealdstone
1953	W.F. Wilmshurst	Handley Page	<b>Transferred to Double Fours 1947</b>		
1954	H.Saunderson	Parliament Hill	<b>INTER-DISTRICT COMPETITION</b>		
1955	L. Carvell	District 2 Secretary	1964	District 6	
1956	H.V. Pearce	Wood Green	1965	District 6	
1957	H. Saunderson	Parliament Hill	1966	District 4	
1958	C. Careswell	Hornsey	1967	District 4	
1959	G.N. Galletly	Shep. Bush Cricket	1967	District 7	
1960	V.J. Johnson	Temple Fortune	1968	District 7	
1961	W.J. Thomas	Paddington	1969	District 5	
1962	C. Pitton	Parliament Hill	1970	District 6	
1963	W.R. Salter	Kearley & Tonge	1971	District 2	
1964	W.J. Thomas	Parsons Green	1972	District 1	
1965	A.E. Barham	Kodak	1973	District 3	
1966	F. Foster	Memorial	1974	District 2	
1967	A.E. Barham	Dist. 4 Secretary	1975	District 4	
1968	A. Stone	Clissold	<b>Competition discontinued</b>		
1969	B.D. Hicks	London Transport LER			

**Competition discontinued.**

# M.C.B.A. Presidents 1913-1951



1912  
Sir Thomas Boor Crosby  
Lord Mayor of London



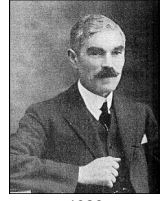
1913  
F.C. Turner  
Mayor of Shepherds Bush



1914-1924  
Sir Henry Foreman  
Mayor of Hammersmith



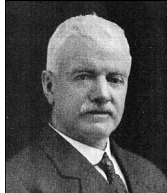
1925  
Tom Potts  
Harrow



1926  
W.L. Yeulett  
Mansfield



1927  
T. Taylor  
Hillingdon



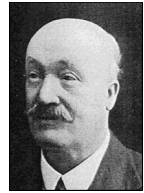
1928  
A. Inglis  
Bruce Castle



1929  
F. Hotchkiss  
North London



1930  
C. Bland  
Cambridge Park



1931  
D. McQuistan  
Brownswood



1932  
A.J. Croxford  
Paddington



1933  
H. Thompson  
Clissold



1934  
L. Denny  
Strawberry Hill



1935  
W.A. Hines  
West London



1936  
H.J. Dunaway  
North London



1937  
H.A. Smith  
Glencairn



1938-39  
W.G. Hawkins  
Fulham



1940-41  
G.H. Smith  
Bruce Castle



1942-43  
F. Hindmarsh  
Lammas



1945  
W.T. Elliot  
Temple Fortune



1946  
H. Adams  
Cambridge Park



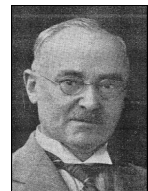
1947  
T. Banks  
West Harrow



1948  
C.H. Birtles  
Century



1949  
Major W.H. Godby  
Paddington

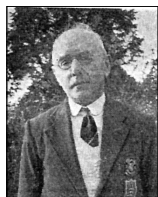


1950  
A. Collins  
West Ealing

# M.C.B.A. Presidents 1952-1976



1951  
P.G. Constable  
Uxbridge



1952  
J. Hamilton O.B.E.  
Kenton



1953  
L.C. Machin  
Pitshanger Park



1954  
C.H. Bates  
West London



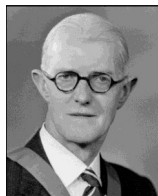
1955  
J.W. Blair  
Crouch Hill



1956  
J.E. Lines  
Mill Hill



1957  
G.W. Lappage  
Hanwell



1958  
F.A. Midgely  
Century



1959  
J.H. Tripp  
Bounds Green



1960  
L.W. Crawford  
Temple Fortune



1962  
F.G. Hill  
Southall



1963  
H. Hooton  
Shep Bush Cricket



1964  
J. Dunmow  
Lensbury



1965  
G.H. Smith  
Bruce Castle



1966  
G.J. Read  
Cambridge Park



1967  
E.J. Crosbie  
Selborne



1968  
R.E. Staples  
Springfield (Acton)



1969  
G.C. Hardy  
Bush Hill Park



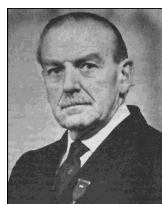
1970  
L.H. Capstick  
Shepherds Bush



1971  
G.W. Lappage  
Hanwell



1972  
F.C. Bailey  
Glacier



1973  
J.C. Boyce  
Brentham



1974  
J.E. Gates  
Hanger Hill



1975  
L.H. Traves  
Century



1976  
T. Banks  
Century

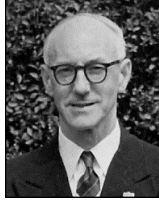
# M.C.B.A. Presidents 1977-2001



1977  
E.H. Phillips  
Broomfield



1978  
C.T. Mannering  
Cambridge Park



1979  
A. Parkin  
Hanwell



1980  
E.G. Sussex  
West Ealing



1981  
H. Murell  
British Airways



1982  
W.J. Townsend  
Bush Hill Park



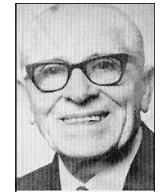
1983  
R. Petch  
Acton Park



1984  
E.P.L. Greig  
South Hampstead



1985  
F.G. Turner  
Springfield (Acton)



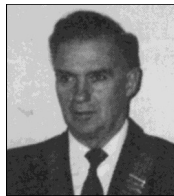
1986  
E.J. Crosbie MBE  
Selborne



1987  
W. Griffin  
Parsons Green



1988  
W. Telfer  
Ladygate



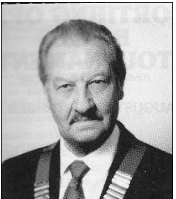
1989  
R.B. Thomas  
Ladygate



1990  
O.W. Murton  
West London



1991  
J.W. Tabiner  
Lensbury



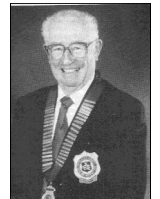
1992  
J. Liddle  
Cambridge Park



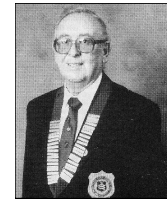
1993  
F.C. Jeffery  
Mansfield



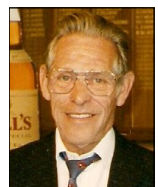
1994  
R. Westbury  
Duke of York



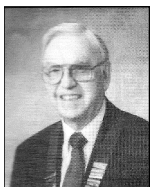
1995  
L.H. Norris  
C.A.V.



1996  
C.H. Smith  
Parsons Green



1997  
W. Fletcher  
West Ealing



1998  
A.D. Syrett  
Sunbury Sports



1999  
L. Warner  
Strawberry Hill



2000  
D.H. Dorling  
Broomfield



2001  
T.J. Lawford  
Holtwhites



## M.C.B.A. Presidents 2002-2010



2002  
A.J. Bonney  
Roxeth



2003  
R.M. Clarke  
Parsons Green



2004  
P.J. Leete  
Bounds Green



2005  
Eric Prior  
Mill Hill



2006  
J. Walsh  
Ealing Conservative



2007  
E.W. Halling  
Woodcock Park



2008  
A.W. Paultley  
Harrow



2009  
K.R. Dodson  
Brondesbury



2010  
G. Kellet  
Cambridge Park



2011  
R.B. Elbourn  
Harrow

### OTHER PRESIDENTS (NO IMAGE AVAILABLE)

1911: D.B. McBride, Finsbury Park

1944: S. Tiedeman, Crouch Hill

1961: Dr F.R. Curtis, Mansfield



Middleton Cup Winners 1969

<b>PAST OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION 1911-1960</b>
---

DATE	PRESIDENT	CHAIRMAN	HON. TREASURER	HON. SEC.	ASS. HON. SEC.
1911	D.B. McBride		A. Arnold	A. Taylor S.J. D'Aintree	
1912	Sir Thomas Crosby		P.L. Lock	S.J. D'Aintree	
1913	F.C. Turner		"	F. Woodroffe	
1914	Alderman H. Foreman		"	"	
1915	"		"	F.C. Turner	
1916	"		"	H. Thompson	
1917	"		"	"	
1918	"		"	"	
1919	"	A.J. Brough	"	"	T.S. Filmer
1920	Sir Henry Foreman	G. Sinclair	"	"	"
1921	"	D. McQuistan	"	"	"
1922	"	W. Nevard	J. Hogg	"	"
1923	"	J.W. Gomm	"	"	"
1924	"	E. Woodroffe	"	"	H.R. Wootton
		<b>DEPUTY PRESIDENT</b>	"	"	"
1925	T. Potts	W.L. Yeulett	"	"	"
1926	W.L. Yeulett	T. Taylor	"	"	"
1927	Taylor	T. Inglis	W.G. Hawkins	"	"
1928	T. Inglis	F. Hotchkiss	"	"	"
1929	Felix Hotchkiss	C. Bland	"	"	"
1930	C. Bland	D. McQuistan	"	"	"
1931	D. McQuistan	A.J. Croxford	"	"	"
1932	A.J. Croxford	F.H. Flanagan	"	"	G.H. Smith
1933	Harry Thompson	<b>Sen Dep.</b>	<b>Jnr Dep.</b>	"	"
1934	Leonard Denny	1933	1933	"	"
1935	W.A. Hines	1934	1933	"	"
1936	H.J. Dunaway	1935	1934	"	"
1937	Harry. A. Smith	1936	1935	"	"
1938	W.G. Hawkins	1937	1936	"	"
1939	W.G. Hawkins			"	Vacant
1940	G.H. Smith	1938	1937	"	Vacant
1941	G.H. Smith			"	Vacant
1942	F. Hindmarsh	1939-41	1938	"	G.H. Smith
1943	F. Hindmarsh			"	Vacant
1944	S. Tiedeman	1943		"	W.H. Bysouth
1945	W.T. Elliott	1944	1939-43	"	"
1946	Harold Adams	1945	1944	"	"
1947	T. Banks	1946	1945	"	"
1948	C.A. Birtles	1947	1946	"	"
1949	Major W.H. Godby	1948	1947	"	"
1950	A. Collins	1949	1948	"	"
1951	P.G. Constable	1950	1949	"	"
1952	J. Hamilton	1951	1950	"	"
1953	L.C. Machin	1952	1951	"	"
1954	C.H. Bates	1953	1952	T. Banks	"
1955	J.W. Blair	1954	1953	"	Dr. F.R. Curtis
		H. Drawer		"	"
1956	J.E. Lines	J.E. Lines	C.H. Heard	"	"
1957	G.W. Lappage	1956	1955	"	"
1958	F.A. Midgeley	1957	1956	"	"
1959	J.H. Tripp	1958	1957	"	"
1960	L.W. Crawford	1959	1958	"	"

<b>PAST OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION 1961-2009</b>
---

DATE	PRESIDENT	HON. TREASURER	HON. SECRETARY	ASS. HON. SEC.	COMP. SEC.	MATCH SEC.
1961	Dr. F.R. Curtis	T. Banks	G.H. Smith	Dr. F.R. Curtis	F.A. Midgley	G. Lappage
1962	F.G. Hill	"	"	"	E.J. Giddings	"
1963	H. Hooton	"	"	"	"	"
1964	J. Dunmow	"	G. Lappage	E.J. Giddings	L.G. Root	H. Hooton
1965	G.H. Smith	"	"	"	"	"
1966	G.J. Read	"	"	"	J.T. Rist	"
1967	E.J. Crosbie JP	"	"	L. Crawford	"	"
1968	R.E. Staples	"	"	"	"	"
1969	G.C. Hardy	"	"	"	"	"
1970	L.H. Capstick	"	"	"	"	"
1971	G.W. Lappage	"	"	"	"	"
1972	F.C. Bailey	"	"	"	"	A. Barham
1973	J.G. Boyce	"	"	"	"	"
1974	J.E. Gates	"	C.F. James	"	"	"
1975	L.H. Traves	"	"	"	"	J.E. Gates
1976	T. Banks	"	"	"	"	"
1977	E.H. Phillipps	F.C. Bailey	"	"	L.H. Traves	"
1978	C.T. Mannering	"	"	"	P. Down	"
1979	A. Parkin	"	"	O.W. Murton	"	"
1980	E.G. Sussex	A.W.G. Thurland	H.L. Gordon	"	"	"
1981	H.J. Murrell	"	"	"	"	"
1982	W.J. Townsend	"	"	"	"	"
1983	R.W. Petch	"	"	"	"	"
1984	E.P.L. Greig	"	"	"	"	"
1985	F.G. Turner	"	J.W.V. Tabiner	"	"	R.W. Petch
1986	E.J. Crosbie MBE	"	"	"	"	"
1987	W. Griffin	"	"	"	A. Bonney	"
1988	W. Telfer	"	"	"	"	"
1989	R.B. Thomas	W. Telfer	"	"	"	"
1990	O. Murton (Dec'd)	"	E. Rochester (Dec'd) J.W.V. Tabiner	R.B. Thomas	"	"
1991	J.W.V. Tabiner	"	D.H. Dorling	"	"	"
1992	J. Liddle	"	"	C. Lorenzen	"	"
1993	F.G. Jeffery	"	"	"	"	"
1994	R. westbury	"	"	"	"	"
1995	L. Norris	"	"	"	"	"
1996	C.H. Smith	"	"	"	"	"
1997	W. Fletcher	"	"	"	"	E. Prior
1998	A.D. Syrett	"	"	"	"	"
1999	L. Warner	"	"	"	"	"
2000	D.H. Dorling	"	"	"	"	"
2001	T.J. Lawford	"	"	"	"	"
2002	A.J. Bonney	R. Tiller	"	M. Cinna	F. Purse	"
2003	R.M. Clarke	"	"	"	"	"
2004	P.J. Leete	"	"	"	"	"
2005	E. Prior	"	"	"	"	"
2006	J. Walsh	Vacant	"	"	"	"
2007	E.W. Halling	D. Todd	"	"	"	"
2008	T.W. Pauley	"	"	"	Vacant	"
2009	K.R. Dodson	"	"	"	J. Herman	"
2010	G. Kellett	"	"	"	P. Briscoe	"
2011	B. Elbourn	"	"	"	"	"

## INTERNATIONALS

Middlesex bowlers (past and Present) who have played for England

NAME	CLUB	YEARS
Adamson, A.	Finsbury Park	1911-12
Arnold, A.	Great Western Railway	1911
Bell, G.	Brownswood	1914
Bishop, W.T.	North Greenwich	1922
Brayley, M.J.	Paddington	1962,64,66,67
Briden, A.A.	Bush Hill	1936
Carmichael, W.S.	Brownswood	1903-06,08
Carr, D.	Bounds Green	1948-49
Carruthers, J.G.	Muswell Hill	1905,1909-12,21,25,27-34,37-39
Cook, C.	Brownswood	1921
Cordell, A.H.	Brownswood	1937
Croxford, A.J.	Paddington	1920-21
Eves, E.J.	Wood Green	1919
Girdwood, J.	Paddington	1959-64
Goodwin, A.	Bush Hill	1934
Gordon, A.R.	Special Police 'Y' Div.	1919
Haley, A.	Ravenscourt Park	1923
Halmaj, S.E.	Paddington	1983-85,89,92
Harris, F.	Paddington	1958-59
Haynes, E.J.	Century	1937,52
Hayward,E.H.	Paddington	1967,68,70-74
Hayward, G.W.	Whiteholt	1977
Henchy, F.J.	L.M.S. Railway	1955
Hindmarsh, F.	Lammas	1929,1932-34
Hodges, D.	Clissold	1921
Ing, F.H.	Clissold	1911-13
Inglis, A.	North London	1927
Jasper, W.	Winchmore Hill	1927,28,39,46,49,53
Jones, W.J.	Crouch Hill	1911,12,27,28,31-33,35-38
King, N.	Mansfield	1954,55,57,58,1965-72
McEwan, H.	Bounds Green	1904
McKinley, J.M.	Paddington	1932
McQuistan, D.	Downhills	1921-22
Miller, N.	Chiswick	1950-54,56
Owen, J.	Acton Park	1935-38
Paine, R.E.	L.T. Osterley	1975-77
Pearsall, A.E.	West london	1921-22
Pearson, G.P.	Bush Hill	1921,30
Penn, T.P.	Brownswood	1914
Pilbrow, J.B.	Muswell Hill	1938-39
Potts, T.	Harrow	1922-27
Roylands, R.S.	Mansfield	1980
Sinclair, G.	Finsbury Park	1920-21
Smyth, G.A.	Paddington	1981,90,91,92,93
Stanley, G.P.	Springfield	1919,26-28
Steel, R.	Winchmore Hill	1934-36,38,50-51,52
Stewart, J.	Crouch Hill	1958
Touhy, S.	Shepherds Bush Cricket	1996,97,98
Traves, L.H.	Century	1966
Trieb, G.F.	Mansfield	1951-52
Watson, A.	Bush Hill	1926-28
Westgate, B.	Lammas	1955
Wilson, A.N.	Parsons Green	1948
Yeulett, W.L.	Mansfield	1921,25,29,30

## MIDDLESEX COUNTY HONOURS

1972	World Championship Fours	E.H. Hayward(Paddington),N. King (Mansfield)
1958,1970	Commonwealth Games Singles	N. King (Parliament Hill, Mansfield)
1974	Commonwealth Games Singles	E.H. Hayward (Paddington)
1960	British Isles Championship Pairs	M.J. Brayley, F.Harris (Paddington)
1911,13,25, 52,54,62,65,69	Inter-Counties Championship Middleton Cup	Middlesex
1905	E.B.A. Singles	J.G. Curruthers (Muswell Hill)
1912	E.B.A. Singles	W.J. Jones (Crouch Hill)
1933	E.B.A. Singles	J.M. McKinley (Paddington)
1957	E.B.A. Singles	N. King (Parliament Hill)
2005	E.B.A. Singles	S. Jee (Parsons Green)
1959	E.B.A. Pairs	F. Harris, M.J. Brayley (Paddington)
1963	E.B.A. Triples	W.J. Thomas,M. Ellicott,J. Girdwood (Paddington)
1930	E.B.A. Fours	Lammas
1938	E.B.A. Fours	Paddington
1984	County 'Top Four' Championship	Middlesex: (G.A. Smyth, R.S. Roylands, A. Ridington, S.E. Halmal)
1984,85	Saga Over 60's Singles	R.Theobald (Century)
1974	Saga Over 60's Pairs	A. Parkin (Hanwell), F.E. Forey (Lensbury)
1976	Saga Over 60's Pairs	L.H. Traves (Century), I. Boys (Glacier)
1987	Saga Over 60's Pairs	C. Morgan (Century), R. Theobald (Century)
1986	Kodak Under 25's	C. Ackland (Brentham)
1991	Woolwich Nat, Under25's Singles	B.R. Jenkins (Hounslow Sports)
1991	NatWest Nat. Under 18's Singles	I.R.N. Jenkins (Hounslow Sports)
1992	National Over 55's Singles	P. Picknell (Feltham Ex-Servicemens)
1997	Ashbourn Homes Nat. Mixed Pairs	K. Allen (Holtwhites), Mrs.S. Bard-Bodek (Bush Hill)



Jimmy Curruthers



W.J. Jones



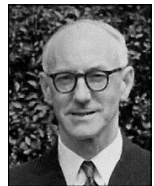
Ted Hayward



M.J. Brayley



F.Harris



A. Parkin



J.Girdwood



Norman King



L.H. Traves



G.A. Smyth



S.E. Halmal



Simon Jee

## DEFUNCT CLUBS ONCE AFFILIATED (Year of affiliation shown)

<b>Year</b>	<b>CLUB</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>CLUB</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>CLUB</b>
1921	Abbeville	1926	Childs Hill	1950	Firestone Athletic
1946	ABC Bowlers Circle	1926	Chiswick	1930	Fourstore Sports
1921	AEC Ath. & Social Club	1931	Chiswick General	1912	Fulham
1921	Aeolian	1921	Chiswick Polish	1947	Fullwell Trolley Buses
1921	Albany Park	1931	Civil Service HQ	1948	G Div. Met. Police
		1926	Clarence	1923	Gas Light & Coke Sports
1921	Alexandra Palace (Park)	1913	Clissold	1931	Gas Light Sports Ass.
1942	Alperton Garage	1929	Comrades	1954	GEC (Union Workers)
1946	Alperton Residents	1948	Craig Park	1954	GEC Osram Glassworks
1932	Associated Sports	1919	Cricklewood & Willesden	1954	GEC Research
1930	Associaed ECA Club	1947	Cricklewood Garage	1953	GEC Social
2001	B.A.A (Heathrow)	1926	Crouch Hill	1926	George
1938	Bachelors	1946	Crown Cork	1949	Glacier Club
1935	Beaversfield	1928	Customs & Excise	1962	Glaxo
1950	Bees Club	1946	Customs & Excise	1923	Golders Green (All Saints)
1929	Bells Sports Club	1930	Daily Sketch	1920	Great Northern Athletic
1921	Belsize	1943	De Havilland	1915	Great Western Railway
1937	Bethams	1946	District Line Ath Ass	1946	Greenford Conservatives
1913	Bethune	1921	District Railway	1919	Greville
1943	Beverley	1926	Dolphin	1941	Guinness
1923	Bishops Park	1913	Downhills	1952	H.G.H.
1947	Board of Trade	1919	Drayton Court (Draytons)	1921	Hackney Downs
1935	Borough of Finsbury	1915	Duke of York (Hanwell) (Park)	1948	Hamilton Sports
1921	Boston Park	1930	Ealing Corporation	1951	Hammersmith Garage
1951	Braintcroft	1921	Ealing Dean	1912	Hampstead Garden Suburb
1946	Bratt Colbran	1921	Ealing Victory & Shield Ass.	1946	Hamsco
1923	Breakspear Institute	1923	Edgware	1943	Handley Page
1939	Brent Lodge	1942	Edgware Garage	1946	Hanger Hill Country Club
1921	Brentford Gas Works	1949	Elgee Sports & Social	1937	Hanwell Trolley Bus
1943	British Legion	1930	Elthorne	1953	Hanworth
1941	Brown S.G.	1943	EMI Sports	1947	Harefield
1925	Brownswood			1940	Hayes Park
1920	Brymay	1938	Enfield Garage	1933	Hayes Sport & Social
1927	Burlington	1928	Enfield Town Conservatives	1932	Headstone Lane
1946	Carreras	1948	Essavian	1938	Hendon Garage
1921	CAV	1930	Exiles	1952	Hendon Group Hospitals
1940	Centenary Park	1929	Fairfax	1945	Hendon Trolley Bus Depot
1931	Central Telegraph Office	1949	F Div Met police	1936	Heston
1931	Centurion	1925	Feltham	1920	Hillingdon
1937	Chalk Farm Garage	1977	Feltham Ex-Servicemens	1944	HM Stationary Office
1931	Chestnuts	1965	Feltham Park	1938	Holloway Garage
1919	Chestoria	1938	Finchley Tudor	1944	Hoover Sports

## DEFUNCT CLUBS ONCE AFFILIATED (Year of affiliation shown)

Year	CLUB	Year	CLUB	Year	CLUB
1929	Hornsey Priory	1948	Mond (Acton)	1911	Shep Bush Cricket
1921	Hounslow	1951	Mond Group	1911	Shep Bush Football
1935	Hounslow (Lampton Park)	1949	GPO Sports	1920	Shepherds Bush
1923	Hounslow Cricket & Sports	1938	Muswell Hill Garage	1916	South Hampstead
1939	Hounslow Garage	1934	N Div. Police	1948	Southall Conservative
1927	Iceni	1949	NALGO (Hammersmith)	1920	Southall Gas
1921	Jersey	1947	Napier	1943	Southall Rec.
		1949	Nat Assistance Board	1987	Southall Workingmans
1952	K & T Social	1946	Nestle Club	1949	Southern Electricity
1953	Kearly & Tonge	1951	Nordis	1943	Spikes Bridge
1949	Kemsley House	1931	North Acton	1920	Springfield Park
1933	Kenton	1929	North Hackney	1980	Staines Ex-Servicemen's
1949	Kingsbury Comm. Ass.	1921	North Middlesex	1926	St.Strehens (Hounslow)
1955	L.E.S.S.A.	1931	North Thames Gas (Western)	1925	Stepney
1923	L.M.& S. Railway	1921	Northcote	1953	STS sports & Social
1945	L.T. Ex-Trams	1950	Northwick Park	1933	Stoke Newington Police
1920	L.T.(. Met. Railway))	1928	Norwood Green	1983	Swakeleys
1933	L.T.A.S.S.	1946	Aokdene Football	1925	Thames Valley (Civil Serv)
1950	Laings Sports Club	1936	Oakleigh	1949	The 57 Club (Heinz)
1912	Lammas	1966	Old Actonians	1927	Tottenham Gas
1929	Lancaster Wesleyan	1952	Old Oak Tree	1936	Tottenham Green Garage
1926	Lensbury	1952	Osram Lamp Works		
1926	London & NE Railway	1949	Paddington Postal Sports	1926	Tottenham Somerford
1915	London & NW Athletic	1912	Park (Hanwell)	1981	Tudor 2
1949	London Co-op Employees	1946	Park Royal Brewery	1950	Turnham Green Garage
1935	London Co-op Members	1952	Perivale	1920	Twickenham
1953	London Electricity Sports	1948	Peter Pan Social Club	1931	United Dairies
1949	London Telecoms	1920	Potters Bar	1926	Upper Clapton
1952	L.T. Central Services	1943	PottersBar Garage	1942	Uxbridge Garage
1952	London Transport Dist. Line	1946	Poulton Noel	1949	War Damage Commission
1952	London Transport NW			1949	Waterlow Conservatives
1919	Lyons	1925	Priory	1940	Watling Association
1955	Maida Vale	1946	Railway Clearing	1948	Watneys Sports
1920	Maypole	1974	RBL (Greenford)	1936	West Green Garage
1920	McVitie & Price	1939	RBL (Southall)	1927	Whitbreads
1932	Memorial	1943	Recreation Club	1930	White Hart
1956	Met Police	1948	Richmond Bridge	1999	White Webbs
1920	Metropolitan Railway	1926	Roxeth	1957	Whiteholt
1949	Min of Food	1945	Sandersons	1934	Winnington
1948	Min of Pensions	1932	Savings Bank Division	1911	Wood Green
1948	Min of Supply	1920	Saw Mills	1920	Y Div. Specials
1948	Min of Works	1932	Schwepps	1937	Y Division Met. Police
1950	MK Electric	1946	Shadwell		

**DEFUNCT CLUBS THAT HAVE ACHIEVED HONOURS (Presidents and Competition Winners)**

CLUB	President	Singles	Pairs	Triples	Fours	D. Fours	Unbadged	Whisky
AEC Athletic & Social				1973	1975	1973	1971	
Alexandra Park			1946					
Beaversfield							1986	
Brownswood	1931, D. McQuistan							
Brymay				1929				
CAV								1987
Chestnuts		1913,1919 1952					1957	
Chiswick		1936,1946 1950				1951		
Clissold	1933,H. Thompson			1952	1964	1915,1916		
Crouch Hill	1944, S. Tiedeman, 1955, J. Blair	1927		1957	1965			
Feltham Ex-Servicemen								R/U 1989 R/U 1998
Finchley Tudor			1966	1960		1955		
Fulham	1938. W.G Hawkins	1920	1926					
Glacier	1972, F.C. Bailey			1964 1980	1965			
Hanger Hill	1974, J.E. Gates							
Duke of York (Hanwell)	1971, G.W. Lappage. 1979, A. Parkin. 1994, R.Westbury	1922 1923						
Hounslow Conservatives.			1993	1937 1946				
Hounslow Cricket & Sports		1996	1994	1990 1993				1984
Kenton	1952, J. Hamilton							
L.M.&S. Railway		1953		1961	1953			
L.T.S.S.A.		1974	1974	1975	1972		1973	
Lammas	1942,1943, F. Hindmarsh			1925 1931	1930	1925,1956 1968		
Lensbury	1991, J.W. Tabnier						1978	
Lyons							1991	
Memorial		1970						
Met. Police				1945				
Napier		1960	1960					
Roxeth	2002, A.J. Bonney	1999	2004					
Shadwell		1968					1981,1999	
Shepherds Bush Cricket	1913, F.C. Turner. 1914-1924, Sir H. Foreman. 1963, H. Hooton	1939	1919	1993	1993	1994	1987	1985
Shepherds Bush		2001,	1986,1 999		1997 2000	2000	1998	1995 1997
Southall Rec					1960	1952		
Tottenham Gas			1930	1996				
White Holt						1975	1972	



## BANNERETTE MATCHES 1926-2010

YEAR	WINNING CLUBS	YEAR	WINNING CLUBS
1926	Civil Service, Cambridge Park, Friary Park, Uxbridge.	1973	Schwepps, Cambridge Park, Old Actonians, Victoria Park, Bishops Park.
1927	Fulham, Gas Light(Western), Roxeth.	1974	Finchley.
1928	Brondesbury, Brownswood, Harrow Weald, Hendon, Parsons Green.	1975	Brentham, Century, Mill Hill, Parsons Green, Southall & Hanwell Fraternity.
1929	Boston Manor, Springfield (Acton)	1976	AEC, Bruce Castle, Civil Service HQ, Paddington.
1930	Acton Park, Poplar, Shep. Bush Ckt.	1977	Albert, Staines, White Holt.
1931	Edmonton, G.W.R., Hornsey, Shepherds Bush.	1978	CAV, N.P.L., North Greenford.
1932	Cambridge Park, Finchley Vic., Finsbury Park, Hampton, Lammas, Upper Clapton, West Ealing, Wood Green	1979	Eastcote Hornsey.
1933	Bounds Green, Railway Clearing House.	1980	Boston Park, Meadhurst.
1934	Hounslow Cons., Mansfield, Parsons Green, Strawberry Hill, Temple Fortune,	1981	Broomfield, Hounslow, Cons., Springfield.
1935	Finchley, West London.	1982	Edmonton, Kenton, Lammas, Shepherds Bush Ckt.
1936	Grovelands, West Ealing	1983	Bounds Green, Guinness, Kodak, Southall Cons.
1937	Friary Park.	1984	BA Concorde, Durrants Park.
1938	Golders Green, Met Railway, Napier, Oakleigh.	1985	Albert, Brondesbury, Stanwell, Wealdstone.
1939	Arnos, Centurion, Hampstead Gdn Suburb, Harrow Weald.	1986	LT (CRS), Normand Park, Roxeth, The 57 Club.
1945	Paddington	1987	Cowley, Enfield Feltham, Heston, Nestles.
1946	Bishopswood, Hanwell, Isleworth	1988	Hendon, Hurlingham Oddfellows, Springfield, Staines.
1947	Guinness.	1989	Craig Park, Fassnidge.
1948	Century, Heston, Tottenham Hale, Winchmore Hill.	1990	Brentham, CRS Cardinal, Century, Hayes, Knowle Park, North Greenwich, Victoria Park.
1949	Albert, Harlington, L.M.S., Lyons, Savings Bank Dept.	1991	Acton Park, CAV.
1950	Brentham, Cust. & Excise, Harrow, Hayes Pk, Springfield Park.	1992	Hayes Park, Muswell Hill., RBL (Southall)
1951	Clissold, Masonian, N.2 Met Police, Ravenscourt Pk., Shep Bush Ckt	1993	Broomfield, Bush Hill Pk, NPL, Northolt, Preston Park.
1952	Brondesbury, Civil Service HQ, Finchley Victoria, Lammas, Markfield, Osterley	1994	Finchley, Selborne, S. Hampstead, Uxbridge, Winchmore Hill
1953	Edminton, Hounslow Sports, Pitshanger, Roundwood, Southall Rec., West Ealing	1995	Holtwhites, Teddington, Wembley.
1954	Springfield (Acton), West London.	1996	BA Concorde, Feltham Ex-Servicemen, Shepherds Bush Cricket, Wood Green.
1955	Finchley, Friary Park, North London, Poplar, Southall Labour, Teddington, Uxbridge.	1997	Brondesbury, Cambridge Park, Hornsey, Stanwell, Wealdstone.
1956	London Transport (District Line), L.T. (Met. Railway)	1998	Perivale, Pitshanger, Temple Fortune.
1957	Hanger Hill Country Club, Muswell Hill.	1999	Grovelands.
1958	Bishopswood, Bruce Castle, Hanwell, Harrow Weald, Potters 2000 Bar, Preston Park.	2001	Finsbury Park, Hayes.
1959	Cambridge Park, Isleworth, Noel Park, Paddington, West Harrow.	2002	Muswell Hill.
1960	Alex. Palace, LTASSA, Perivale, Ruislip, Smiths, Southall Cons.	2003	West London.
1961	North London.	2004	Markfield, Woodcock Park.
1962	Beaversfield, Century.	2005	City of London, Glencairn, Selborne.
1963	Hackney Downs, Masonian, Pymmes Park.	2006	BA Concorde, Holtwhites, Teddington.
1964	Parsons Green, Shepherds Bush Cricket.	2007	Bruce Castle.
1965	Guinness, Brent Lodge, White Holt, Hendon, Harlington, Mansfield, Hayes	2008	Lupton, Hendon.
1966	Brondesbury, Kodak.	2009	Bishop Duppas, Harrow Weald, Uxbridge.
1967	Albert, Hayes Park, Borough of Ealing Employees, Lyons, Pitshanger.	2010	Kingsbury, Staines
1968	Nestles, N. Middlesex, Osterley, Finsbury Park, Edmonton.		Ashford, Bishopswood, Harrodian.
1969	Culver, Yiewsley & W. Drayton.		
1970	Bush Hill Park, Eastcote, Woodcock Park, Hounslow Cons., Ashford. West London, Selborne.		
1971	Hanger Hill Country Club.		
1972	Arnos, Wembley, Potters Bar, Broomfield, LTASSA.		

**Middlesex Bowlers Greeting Song**

Sung to the tune of "Come Landlord fill the flouring bowl" by touring teams in the 1920's

Come brother of the running bowl, a stay at home or toucher,  
 Come drink a health to bowlers all, from here the wide world over,  
 For today we merry be, we've played the game and now are free,  
 We men of Middlesex toast with glee, your good health brother bowler.

**Middlesex Bowlers' Greeting.**

Time: "Come Landlord fill the flouring bowl" Excerpt by Reginald Yarrow. F.R.C.O.: A.R.C.M. (Lanmad)

*Steady, with strong rhythm.*

Come bro - ther of the  
 run - ning bowl, a stay - at - home or To - ver, Come  
 drink a health to bow - lers all from here the wide world o - ver.

For to - day we merry be, We've played the game and  
 now are free, We men of Mid - dle - sex toast with glee Your  
 good health, bro - ther bow - ler

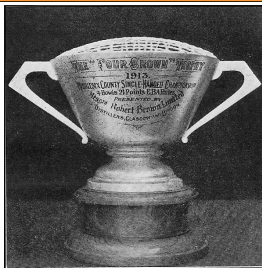
*slower*  
*all*  
*Slower*  
*Fin* \*

The image shows a handwritten musical score for a song. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The first system includes the instruction 'Steady, with strong rhythm.' and the lyrics 'Come bro - ther of the run - ning bowl, a stay - at - home or To - ver, Come drink a health to bow - lers all from here the wide world o - ver.' The second system has the lyrics 'For to - day we merry be, We've played the game and now are free, We men of Mid - dle - sex toast with glee Your'. The third system has the lyrics 'good health, bro - ther bow - ler'. There are various musical notations including treble and bass clefs, notes, rests, and dynamic markings like 'slower', 'all', and 'Fin \*'. The score is written in ink on aged paper.

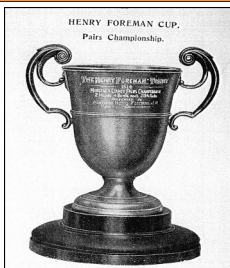
## COUNTY TROPHIES, PAST AND PRESENT



1912: Lipton Cup  
Double Fours till 1946



1912: Four Crown Trophy  
Singles till 1922, now lost



1913: Henry Foreman Cup  
Pairs



1920: J. Joseph Cup:  
Fours



1923: Gomm Cup  
Singles



1925: Walter  
Mappin Cup: Triples



1947-1979 Gold Gomm  
Memorial Cup D. Fours



1968: G.H. Smith Trophy  
Unbadged Singles



1980: Replacement Gomm  
Memorial Cup: D. Fours



1995: Norman Jones Cup  
Under 25's Singles



1998: Len Norris Trophy  
Officers Singles



2000: Millennium  
Mixed Pairs Cup



1932: Hines "Jacksee"  
Trophy MCBA v Somerset



1952: "Toucan" Trophy  
MCBA v Hertfordshire.

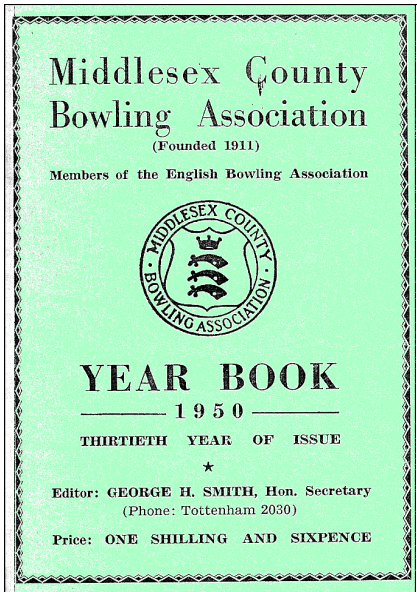


1968: Marjory Levy Cup  
President v MCWBA

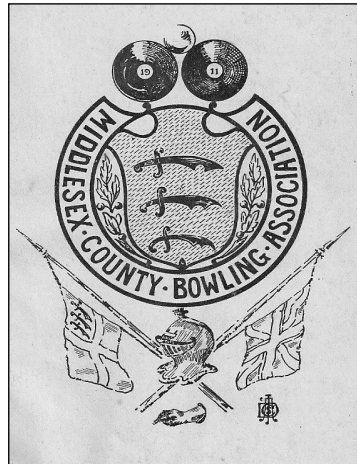


1977: Tom Banks Trophy  
MCBA v MCHVPBA

## Early Association Documents



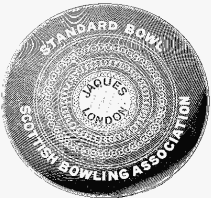
Front cover, 1950 Yearbook



The early Association arms

11

**JAQUES BOWLS** FOR CROWN OR SCOTCH GREENS.



Guaranteed of accurate bias to any desired amount. From specially imported heavy wood. :: :: :: Once used always used.

**Prices - - 11/6 to 18/6 per pair.**

New Bowls List sent Free.

**Biased Jacks 2/- to 3/6 each.**

*Stocked by all Dealers in Sports Goods or direct from*

**John Jaques & Son, Ltd.**  
20 & 21 Kirby Street, Hatton Garden, E.C.

Advert for Bowls in 1917

11

**Clarendon Restaurant**

HAMMERSMITH BROADWAY, W.  
(2 doors from Piccadilly Tube and District Railway Stations).

+\*+\*+

**Table d'Hote Luncheons.**  
**Table d'Hote Dinners.**

-----

AFTERNOON TEAS.

-----

Ladies' Orchestra during Luncheons and Dinners.

+\*+\*+

Up-to-date Restaurant and Grill Room.  
Oyster Bar and Buffet. American Bar.

-----

Coronation Hall and Suite of Rooms for  
Banquets, Dances, Wedding Breakfasts and Receptions.  
TERMS ON APPLICATION.

-----

Telephone No.: Hammersmith 1454 (3 lines).

-----

Headquarters of the  
Middlesex County Bowling Association.

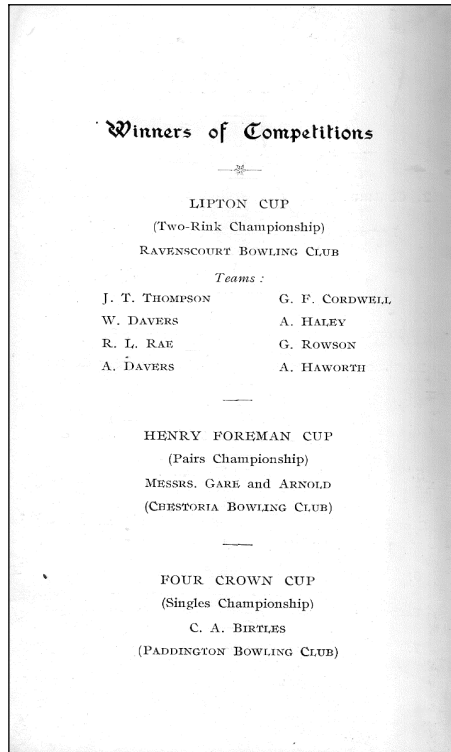
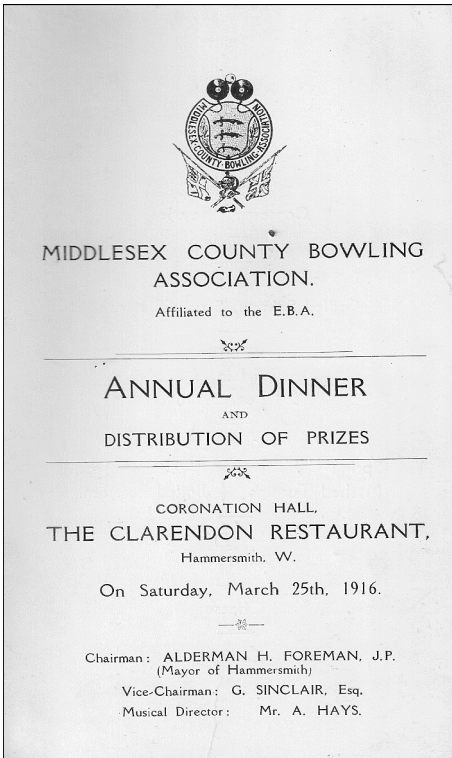
Clarendon Restaurant County H.Q.  
from 1916 to 1938.

<b>Menu</b>	<b>Toast List</b>
—*— SOUPS Consommé Royale Tomato —	1. <b>The King</b> Proposed by THE CHAIRMAN
FISH Grilled Salmon, Sauce Tartare —	2. <b>Continued Success to Middlesex County M.C.B.A.</b> Proposed by THE CHAIRMAN Response by F. C. TURNER (Shepherd's Bush) —
JOINTS Roast Sirloin of Beef Boiled Leg of Mutton —	<b>DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES</b> —
VEGETABLES Spring Cabbage      Baked Potatoes Mashed Turnips      Boiled Potatoes —	3. <b>Prize Winners</b> Proposed by THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (Finsbury Park) Responses by— RAVENSCOURT PARK, CHESTORIA & PADDINGTON CLUBS
SWEETS Fig Pudding —	4. <b>Prize Donors</b> Proposed by C. KATESMARK (Fulham) Response by A. J. CROXFORD (Paddington)
Cheese —	5. <b>English Bowling Association and Kindred Associations</b> Proposed by A. J. BROUGH (Clissold) Responses by WALTER WAKE (President of E.B.A.) and H. GITSHAM (President S.C.B.A.)
Coffee —	6. <b>Visitors</b> Proposed by D. McQUISTAN (Downhills) Response by ALDERMAN HANDOVER (Mayor of Paddington)
	7. <b>Our Chairman</b> Proposed by R. BRAITHWAITE (Lammas) Response by THE CHAIRMAN

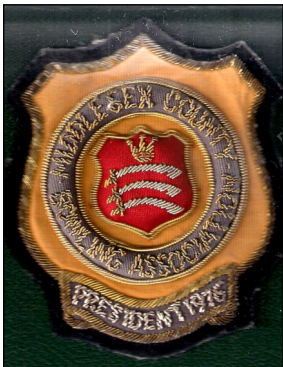
Menu and Toast List for the second M.C.B.A. Annual Dinner and prize distribution. 1916.

<b>. . Programme of Music . .</b>	
<b>Mr. W. BURNETT'S BIJOU ORCHESTRA will play the following during the Dinner:</b>	1. Miss MYRA ANTHONY will sing:— "Land of Long Ago" "Friend of Mine"
1. MARCH ... "The Royal Review" ... <i>Finck</i>	2. Miss ETHEL BUCKNELL will sing:— "Oh, for the sight of a Girl" "Gathering Nuts and May"
2. OVERTURE ... "Zampa" ... <i>Herold</i>	3. Mr. GWYNNE DAVIES will sing:— "Garden of your Heart" "Macushla"
3. SPANISH DANCE ... .. <i>Mocskinski</i>	4. Mr. EDWARD DYKES will sing:— "The Roamer" "Captain Mac"
4. CORNET POLKA "Whirlwind" ... <i>Levy</i> MR. PETER WILSON.	5. Mr. GEORGE BLACKMORE will sing:— "The Barber" "The Zoo"
5. SELECTION "The Gondoliers" ... <i>Sullivan</i>	6. Mr. T. JOHNS ( <i>Clissold</i> ) will recite:— "Kassassin" "Little Yellow God"
6. VALSE CAPRICE "Bal Masque" <i>Percy Fletcher</i>	7. Miss MYRA ANTHONY AND MR. GWYNNE DAVIES will sing:— "They wouldn't believe me" (From "To-Night's the Night.")
7. THE ALLIES ... .. Japan, Serbia, Italy, Belgium, Russia, France. RULE BRITANNIA.	
8. NATIONAL ANTHEM ... .. Solo by Miss MYRA ANTHONY.	

Music Programme 1916. The Annual Dinners in the early years of the Association were much grander affairs than today. It was quite common for an orchestra to be employed to provide background music during dinner.



Menu Card for the second Association Annual Dinner 1916.



Tommy Banks' Presidential blazer badge, 1976

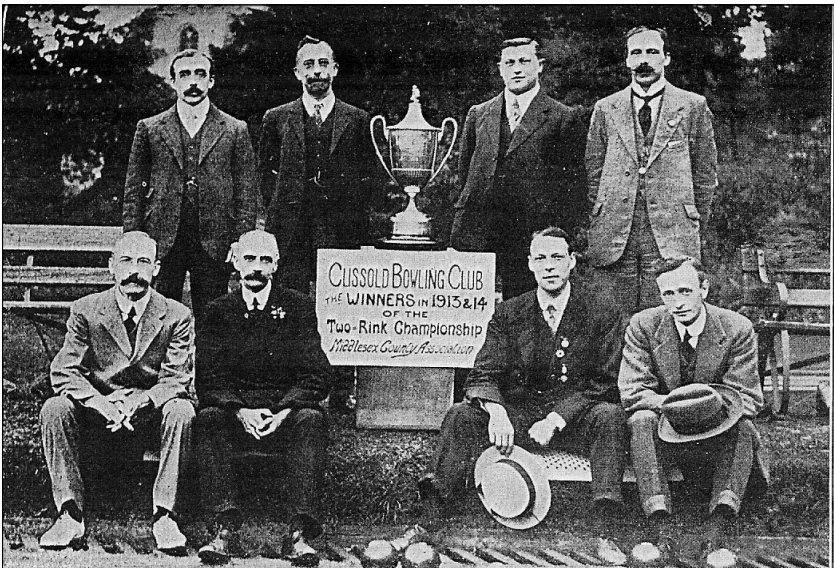


Modern County Blazer Badge

## EMERGENCY COMMITTEE & OFFICERS 1927



**Back Row:** H.R. Wootton, Warren, **T.Potts**, Aylott, and **D. McQuistan**.  
**Middle Row:** **F.Hotchkiss**, **G.H.Smith**, Nevard, **W.A. Hines**, and Brown.  
**Front Row:** **W.G.Hawkins**, **T. Inglis**, **T. Taylor**, **H. Thompson** and Sinclair.  
 All names in bold were future County Presidents



Clissold B.C. County Double Fours Winners 1913 and 1914

## Financial Statement, 1917.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance, 1916, brought forward	...	...	...	16	3	2
Entrance Fees and Subscriptions, 1917	...	...	...	13	5	0
<b>Donations:—</b>						
President's Medals, 1916	...	2	2	0		
Ditto, 1917	...	2	2	0		
R. Brathwaite, Esq.	...	0	10	6		
J. G. Carter, Esq.	...	0	10	6		
A. J. Croxford, Esq.	...	1	1	0		
A. Haley, Esq.	...	0	10	6		
C. Kaesmark, Esq.	...	0	10	6		
				7	7	0
<b>Donors to Prize Fund:—</b>						
F. W. Freke, Esq.	...	0	10	6		
C. Kaesmark, Esq.	...	0	10	6		
J. S. Speltigue, Esq.	...	0	10	6		
A. Wray	...	0	10	6		
				2	2	0
Mr. F. C. Turner, Testimonial	...			13	10	0
<b>Collections for Blinded Soldiers' and Sailors' Hostel:—</b>						
Concert at Clarendon Restaurant.	11	11	0			
N. v. N.W. Match, Downhills	3	12	0			
English v. Scots Match, Wembley	2	10	6			
				17	13	6
Sale of Tickets for Concert and Programmes	...	18	8	10		
				£85	9	6

EXPENSES.	£	s.	d.	
Illuminated Testimonial, F. C. Turner	...	2	10	0
Mr. F. C. Turner Testimonial	...	10	10	0
Mr. H. Thompson, Honorarium	...	4	4	0
Prize Medals and Badges, 1916 Competitions	...	17	14	6
Making and Engraving Shields for Trophies	...	0	16	0
Insurance of Trophies against Aircraft and all Risks, £100	...	0	18	0
E. B. A. Subscription, 1917	...	0	10	6
Printing and Typing	...	3	14	6
Expenses—Concert at Clarendon Restaurant	...	12	17	6
Hon. Secretary's General Postages, Typing, etc.	...	4	4	0
Hon. Treasurer's Postages, etc.	...	0	15	6
Payments to Blinded Soldiers' and Sailors' Hostel	...	17	13	6
Cash in hand	...	9	1	6
		£85	9	6

## M.C.B.A. Financial Statement for 1917



Middlesex team for wartime friendly match against Sussex, August 1916 at L.&N.W. Railway Club. Future England International Bowlers playing were: G. Sinclair, D. McQuistan, A. Haley and G. Sinclair. Secretary Harry Thompson (Middle Row 4th from left) was also included in the team.



## Two Important County Officers.

In the recent history of the M.C.B.A. two senior executive officers must be recognised for their outstanding services to the County Association and to the administration of the game of bowls nationally. Don Dorling and Eric Prior have held the posts of Hon General Secretary and Hon. Match Secretary respectively for a combined total of 37 years. No history of the Association would be complete without a biography of these exceptional bowlers and administrators.

### Donald H. Dorling (Broomfield B.C.)

Donald Henry Dorling was born in London on 12th December 1935. Leaving school at 15 he started work with an electrical engineering company and later moved on to become a cinema projectionist at the London Pavilion in the West End of London. After National Service in 1958 he worked for British Drug Houses for a few years, but he finally settled on a career as exchange engineer with the Post Office (Later B.T) where he remained until his retirement.

Although a keen footballer as a youngster, Don was not much involved with sport until 1973 when he became a member of the now defunct (2003) Hackney Downs Bowls Club. Very soon after joining, from 1975 to 1980, Don became secretary of Tottenham & District B.A. It was obvious that his talents lay in the direction of administration. In 1979 he was elected President of T.&D.B.A. In 1980 Don joined Broomfield B.C. His administrative skills were soon recognised when, from 1983 to 1990, he was elected bowling (later general) secretary. In 1987 he was elected club President.

Don's service to the M.C.B.A. began in earnest in 1990 when he was elected Hon. General Secretary. He has remained in this post to this very day and has, with 21 years in office, become the equal longest serving Secretary (with G.H. Smith) in the History of the Association. As recognition of his outstanding service to the County, Don was given the great honour of the Presidency in the millennium year 2000.

By his own admission Don is not the greatest bowler in the County but by harnessing his exceptional organising talent, the Association has gained an administrator who has maintained and even surpassed the high standards first set in those early days by Harry Thompson.



Donald H. Dorling  
M.C.B.A. President 2000

## Eric J.R. Prior (Mill Hill B.C.)

Born in St. Albans on 29th November 1930, Eric John Richford Prior was educated at St Columba College in St Albans. Leaving school at 15, he was employed as an apprentice engineering draughtsman at British Cardboard & Box Company (later Andrew & Suter Ltd) in 1945 and remained with the company until his retirement in 1995, with a brief interruption for National Service. He moved to Mill Hill in 1950 and, being passionate about sport, joined Mill Hill Cricket Club where he became a successful fast bowler. He also played hockey with Mill Hill Hockey Club. At the end of his cricket-playing career Eric qualified as an umpire with the Middlesex County League. He has also been a member of the M.C.C. for 30 years

In 1984 Eric joined Mill Hill Bowls Club and in 1985 took up the sport seriously. He has had a successful bowling career with the club both as player and administrator. He has held the post of Competition Secretary (1987-97) and President 1995/96 as well as winning numerous club competitions including club singles champion in 1993,96,97. He was awarded life membership in 2009.

Eric very quickly became a regular bowler for the County and to date has played in over 300 County matches including the Home Counties League. With the experience gained as Match Secretary for the Finchley and District B.A.(1989-96) he was elected County Match Secretary in 1997 following the retirement of Ron Petch. After

15 years in this post he has become the longest serving Match Secretary in the history of the Association. In 2005 he was elected County President and managed to fulfil his secretarial duties as well his post of M.C.H.V.P.B.A. fixture secretary (1992-2011). It must have been a very busy year for Eric.

His services to indoor bowling were recognised when Eric was elected President of the M.C.I.B.A. in 2008/9. He is currently a Director of Herga I.B.C.

Eric has served the M.C.B.A. with distinction now for many years both as bowler and administrator. Recognised as a skilful and competitive bowler, Eric is admired for his tactics and dry sense of humour on the green. In 2009 his services to the game of bowls were recognised by Bowls England when he was awarded the Certificate of Merit. His fellow officers have long appreciated his conscientious and authoritative work for the Association and it is hoped that, health allowing, Eric will be able to serve the County for many years to come.



Eric Prior receiving the Certificate of Merit from Bowls England in 2009.

## Acknowledgements

The history of the M.C.B.A. could not have been written without the assistance of many members of the Association. I must first thank Malcolm Cinna and Tony Paulley who, as co-members of the History sub-committee, started off the project on the right foot and continued to supply me with advice and material throughout the two years taken to complete the history.

My thanks to the current Association General Secretary Don Dorling who allowed me to use all the County archive material in his possession. Without this material the task would have been impossible. There were naturally gaps in the archive material and my grateful thanks for the loan of their personal collections of documents are due to Alan Bonney (past President and Competition Secretary), Peter Hicks (Edmonton B.C.), Ron Petch (Patron, past President and Match Secretary) and John Walsh (past President).

Grateful thanks are also due to the secretaries of all affiliated clubs who responded to the appeal from Malcolm Cinna for club badges and brief histories of their clubs. I would have wished to mention individually all 112 secretaries of these clubs but space does not allow.

Many other current and former members provided anecdotal and documentary material and helped to make the history a true reflection of our remarkable institution. As far back as 1947, past President W.T. Elliott of Temple Fortune published a short history of the Association. This booklet was especially invaluable in giving me a personal view of the founding of the Association. I must also acknowledge the assistance of staff at the British Library who helped me track down early copies of the Association Year Books.

I would also like to recognise here the foresight of one of the founder members of the Association, Harry Thompson (past President and Secretary). He decided in 1911, to keep scrapbooks of newspaper cuttings, match reports, photographs, letters, and other memorabilia relating to the M.C.B.A. Without these scrapbooks the history would have been a very dull document indeed.

One other valuable source of photographic documentation was provided by the estate of Past President Alf Parkin of Hanwell. Photo albums containing images of famous bowlers and Presidents from 1952 to 1980 enabled the completion of the photo-montage of Presidents. Thanks are due also to Hugh Midgely who made a special journey to give me a photo of his father Frank Midgely (President, 1958). I apologise if I have left out anyone else who has contributed to this project, but their input was nevertheless gratefully received.

I am indebted to John Fowler (County Yearbook printer) who undertook the task of printing the history. He made many improvements to the document and his professional expertise was greatly appreciated.

Finally I must thank my wife Sara for putting up with the dining room looking like a junk yard for the past year. More importantly she performed the vital task of proof reading and without her support and forbearance this project could never have been completed.

## A Message from our Patron

To provide this brief message to the Centenary history is a great honour that could not have been foreseen when I joined Acton Park Bowling Club towards the end of the County Association's Golden Jubilee year. Now, almost 50 years on, proud and privileged to be County Patron following in the footsteps of so many distinguished gentlemen.

These 50 years have seen the number of clubs reduced to about half, works related clubs disappearing as industry moved out of London & London transport was broken up. Population movements, Local Government changes & the advance of television also contributed.

Despite the decline in membership the last 50 years for me have been a wondrous experience working and playing with many Middlesex all time greats; players and administrators. There is no need to name them, perusal of the records reveal their achievements.

For the future we must be optimistic, maybe some of our immigrant Londoners will find our sport attractive or more people retiring from more active sports will forsake television on realising that competitive sport does not end at 40. Many have done so in the past & reached International status, why not try again.

We must give thanks to the last hundred years and anticipate the next, wishing those who take our Association forward every success.

Ron Petch.  
Patron.