Bowls Report – Hungerford Club AGM 2026

We opened the Green on 11th April 2026. Helen Simpson the Town Mayor, John Williams and a representative of Audley Inglewood, both sponsors, were present to open the Green by bowling the first bowls. Unfortunately, after a few ends we had a hailstorm which covered the green and made it too slippery to continue.

We were able to wear our new shirts and trousers this season. This has been made possible by two sponsors. John Williams Financial Services have provided £1,500 and Audley Inglewood £750. Both will have a Logo on the Shirt. Everyone agrees that they look very smart. Our thanks go to Elaine Stephens for all her hard work in organising this.

We again had an Open Day in May. This proved to be a great success. We were very pleased with the attendance and gained a considerable number of new bowlers.

The extreme temperatures on a number of days during the season meant that we lost a few matches. However we were able to play our two new fixtures, Home to Royal Wootton Bassett and Away to Amesbury both of which proved to be very enjoyable. Of our Trophy matches we won 4 against Newbury, Kintbury, St Mary Bourne and Westlecot but lost 1 against 3 Mile Cross Reading. All of the Mixed Friendly fixtures were played in a very good spirit and enjoyed by everyone. Our thanks to our Captains, Derek Barton and Elaine Stephens who worked so hard to make sure all these fixtures were fulfilled.

Our Ashley Baker Mixed League team did very well winning the League by a margin of 33 points. Well done again to Ray Hutt and Richard Denton who manage the League.
The KLV side this year played in West Division One and as anticipated did struggle and will next season be playing back in Division Two.

Our application on the Good Exchange was again to raise funds to help pay for the maintenance of the Green and the annual cost of materials used. Our thanks go to the Hungerford Town Council for their grant of £300 and the Town and Manor also of £300. These grants were both match funded. Unfortunately the Good Exchange did not on this occasion give us match funding on ordinary donations which was very disappointing.

Our 5 day Tour in September this year was to the IOW and was again a great success. This is a joint venture with Newbury BC. Plans are already well advanced for the 2027 tour to Eastbourne.

The Green suffered very badly during the excessive heat in the early part of the season but with considerable work on the watering system this was eventually overcome and our wonderful Green restored. We are very proud of our Green and the way it plays. Our thanks are due to Micky Lambourn and Andrew Thorp who regularly cut the Green and surrounds and work alongside the contractors. Also to our ladies Sonja Heath and Sylvia Lee who keep the flower beds looking attractive.
Our thanks go to President Alan Bartter and all the Committee for all their hard work during the season.

We open again next season on 10th April 2027 and welcome anyone who would like to join us and give bowls a try.

Jennifer Bartter
Bowls Section Secretary/Treasurer