



# HBC NEWS

*Latest news and updates from  
on and off the green*

Saturday 31<sup>st</sup>  
January 2026  
Issue #5

## **Editor foreword**

Vicky Hodges

It doesn't seem possible that we are still in January! But tomorrow sees the start of February, a new month and a shift nearer to the Spring season.

I've been looking after my niece (9) and nephew (11) all this week in Essex as my sister is away on business. They are a real tonic, something I'm sure all those parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles can relate to. It's been very full on.... I don't know how my sister does it. A juggle of school drop offs, activity pick ups, homework and constant chatter. It's a blessing to spend time with them...but I'll be grateful to get back home!



## **Whitchurch & District League – Competitions 2026**

Dave Clark

I have received from the Whitchurch & District League entry forms for their summer 2026 competitions. The full list of competitions that can be entered are as follows:

- Open Singles
- Novice Singles (for players who have been playing for less than 3 years)
- Over 60's Singles
- Open Pairs
- Mixed Pairs
- Aussie Pairs
- Open Triples
- Fantastic Fives Club Competition (see the attached competition rules in body of the email)

The cost of entry for all of the above competitions is £1.50p per player.

If any of our players would like to enter any of the competitions please let me know by email **not later than 28th February 2026**

The **play-by-dates** for all competitions are:-

Preliminary Round -17th May  
1st Round - 7th June  
2nd Round - 28th June  
Quarter-Finals - 19th July  
Semi-Finals - 9th August  
Finals Day - 16th August 2026

## **How green fingered are you?**

Tim Shenton-Taylor

### **How is your gardening knowledge?**

Ever since I have been at the Club the colourful flower border and hanging baskets have brightened up our clubhouse due to the efforts of Barbara Bonser supported by a number of willing helpers.

We still have some willing helpers, but Barbara is going to take a well-earned rest.

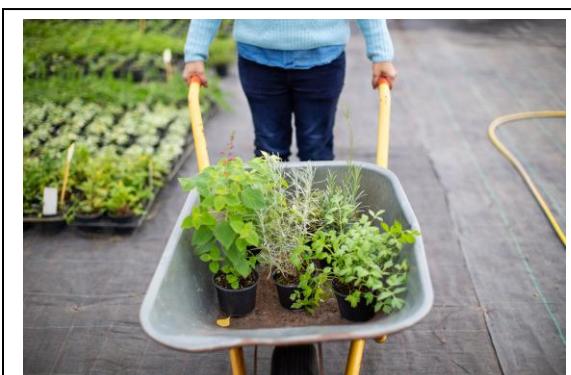
So now we are looking for an enthusiastic gardener to replace her. Could this be you?

Do you know... '**What plants to put where and what to do when?**'

If you have the knowledge we can give you the support.

If you are that person, please contact me or any member of the Committee.

Thanks, in anticipation.



## **Club Notices**

### **Friendly - Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January**

Good luck to everyone playing in the friendly match away against Crondall today.

### **Booking Systems**

Don't forget to keep your eye on our Booking Systems space on the website. It's full of all the events, matches and social activities happening across the next few months. You can find it using this link [Online Booking Systems | Hook Bowling Club](#)

## **Newsletter amendment**

Vicky Hodges and Eileen Johnson (Entertainment Team)

### **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January**

Apologies, there was an error in last week's newsletter where we said that the coffee morning was free.

It's £2 per person for unlimited tea coffee and cake. It's these funds that have paid for the electronic scoreboards and music system and lots of other things over the years.

## Scores on the doors....

Dave Clark

### Friendly Away - Hook v Bracknell – 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Was this the greatest comeback ever? On Mat 1 at 12 ends Sheila, Linnie, Martin & Tony were losing by 21-2, but staged a remarkable comeback scoring 19 off of the last 6 ends including a 7 and a 5 to get a 21 all draw. A 19-12 win on Mat 2 gave us an overscore win by 7 shots...well done everyone! (Photos below right)

#### Short Mat Rinks/Fours Friendly – Home

Date	25 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
Home Team	Bracknell
Away Team	Hook

	Home Score	Away Score
Mat 1	21	21
Mat 2	12	19
Overall Score	33	40

Mat 1	Lead	Sheila King
	Two	Linnie Voce
	Three	Martin Nurser
	Skip	Tony Gepp
Mat 2	Lead	Jackie Nurser
	Two	Dave Clark
	Three	Martyn Kee
	Skip	Alan Phillips



## Hook Ravens Results

Chris Vickers

You can see the full report of this match and others here  
[Match Reports | Hook Bowling Club](#)

JAM LEAGUE – RESULT SHEET	DATE: 29/01/26
HOME TEAM	Hook Ravens
AWAY TEAM	Alencon 25

	HOME SCORE	POINTS	AWAY SCORE	POINTS
RINK ONE	8	0	28	4
RINK TWO	12	0	16	4
TOTAL	20	0	44	2
TOTAL POINTS	0		10	

RINK ONE	SKIP	Ken Hawkins
	TWO	Martyn Kee
	LEAD	Liz Wilson
RINK TWO	SKIP	Carole Newman
	TWO	Brenda Grout
	LEAD	Paul Crook

## Hook Hawks Results

Tony Gepp

JAM LEAGUE – RESULT SHEET	DATE: 29 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
HOME TEAM	Alencon X
AWAY TEAM	Hook Hawks

	HOME SCORE	POINTS	AWAY SCORE	POINTS
RINK ONE	13		20	4
RINK TWO	30	4	7	
TOTAL	43	2	27	
TOTAL POINTS		6		4

RINK ONE	LEAD	Sheila King
	TWO	Pam Vivian
	SKIP	Tony Gepp
RINK TWO	LEAD	Desiree Gow
	TWO	Campbell Williams
	SKIP	Alan Phillips

## WHERE TO WATCH OR JOIN IN COMPETITIVE BOWLS THIS COMING WEEK

Key Duty

Saturday	31st	Club Friendly AWAY at Crandall	1430-1730	Malcolm Gow
Sunday	1st	CLUBHOUSE OPEN ONLY ON REQUEST (Internal Competition 1030-1330)		
Monday	2nd	External Booking All Mats Roll Up	1000-1200 1400-1700	Christine & Mick Poulter
Tuesday	3rd	Roll Up Ladies Tuesday League	1400-1700 1900-2100	
Wednesday	4th	Wednesday Short Mat league	1900-2100	
Thursday	5th	Hawks AWAY at Alencon AX (Cup) Ravens HOME v Cove (Cup) Training/Roll Up	1400-1700 1400-1700 1800-2100	
Friday	6th	Coffee Morning Friday Short Mat League	1000-1200 1400-1700	