

## 2023 in Retrospect

### International Recognition

Sue Mates, our international Umpire, was chosen to officiate at the World Bowls Championships in Australia in August/September.



Sue marking the men's singles final

Sue also provided 3 blogs from Australia giving the website a taste of her experiences.

Both Joe Vandeppeer and Leah Bamford were selected for England Under 25 trials. Unfortunately, Leah was not able to attend, but Joe attended and was chosen for the England squad. He played his first matches in England colours at the Home Country International Tournament in Wales in September.

### National and Counties

These are the most challenging competitions which individuals and teams can enter. The Counties are a competition in themselves, but they also can lead on to National finals.

It was a season of “nearly” for the older generation as far as making it to the National Finals in Leamington. Chrissie Barr was the closest to achieving that.

Once again, Mick Fisher and Steve Wells were regulars for the Kent team in a range of competitions.

It was a different story for the younger generations of Canterbury bowlers.

Firstly, Isaac Tomkins obtained his County badge by making it to the County Finals of the Unbadged Singles.



Leah Bamford became the Women's Under 25 Singles County Champion.



And with her partner, Natalie Harrison, became the Women's Under 25 Pairs County Champions.



Natalie and Leah

Joe Vandeppeer, with his partner, Isaac Jenner, became the Men's Under 25 Pairs Champions.



Isaac and Joe



A sympathetic word for Tom Attaway who, with his partner, reached the County Pairs Final, but lost out to Isaac and Joe.

Leah and Joe competed in the National Finals in Leamington, both winning several matches before losing in the later stages of the Finals.

However, both helped Kent to win the Amy Rose Bowls Trophy and the White Rose Trophy (as did Tom Attaway).



Tom, Leah and Joe

## County team events

Our Men's team, the Holders of the Bert Cox Cup in 2022, made good progress in the same competition in 2023 but lost out to a strong Sandwich side in the semi-finals.

The Ladies' team competing in the prestigious Mollie Cleggett came away as Champions!





## Non – County team events

Teams from the Club were successful in a range of competitions:

### Bernard Annand Shield



### Millennium Cup





## FOB Millennium Trophy



Missing Mervyn Gulvin

## East Kent Mixed Triples Event



## **League victories**

Both the Ladies' and Men's teams had successes in their leagues.

The Ladies' team were the Champions of the Dover League.



### **2023 DOVER LEAGUE CHAMPIONS**

**SUE MATES, CHRISTIANE DE WEDUWE, KAREN OWEN, YVONNE GAMBRILL,  
ALISON MACDONALD, MADDIE MCCONOMY, SUE CLOSE, CHRISSIE BARR, MANDY CATT, LIZ LONG**

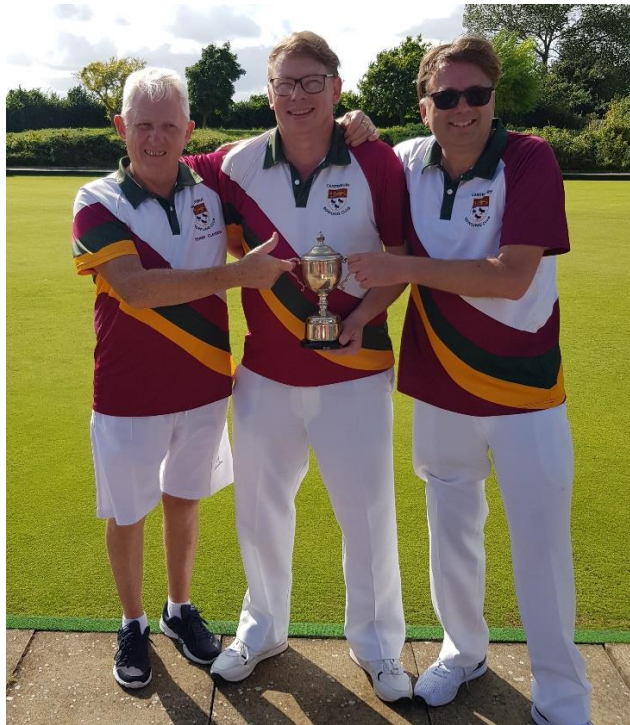
The Men's team were the **Champions of the Forest of Blean League**.

No photo is available, but the triple that won all their matches over the season were Pete Foster, Dean Ellis and John Andrews.



**Some Club competitions are decided before Final's Day**

**Centenary Cup**



Terry Clayson, Bryan Nicholson, Tom Andrews

**Major Carroll**



Mike Cunningham

## Dickins Trophy



Chris Dawson, June Mitchell (missing Malcolm Nicholson)

## Men's Drawn Pairs



Ken Sampson and Tony Dobson



### **Ladies Drawn Pairs**



Yvonne Gambrill (Sue Close) Gail Hone

### **Matthew Allen**



Ian Hopkins and Tony Dobson

## Final's Day

	Winner	Runner up
<b>Men's Singles</b>  Matt Rich  Chris Dawson		
<b>Ladies' Singles</b>  Mandy Catt  Sue Close		
<b>Men's Handicap Singles</b>  Bryan Nicholson  Steve Wells		



<p><b>Ladies' Handicap Singles</b></p> <p>Yvonne Gambrill</p> <p>Jane Carey-Harris</p>		
<p><b>Men's 2 Wood Singles</b></p> <p>Mick Fisher</p> <p>Eddie Churchley</p>		
<p><b>Ladies' Challenge Cup</b></p> <p>Karen Owen</p> <p>Jenny Anderson</p>		

**Over 65's  
Singles**

John  
Andrews

Michael  
Hutchison



**Men's  
Court Cup**

Mike  
Cunninham

John Letts



**Mixed  
Pairs**

Yvonne  
Gambrill/Tony  
Dobson

Colin  
Strouts/Sue  
Close



**Ladies'  
Pairs**

Mandy  
Catt/Jenny  
Anderson

Angie  
Hudson/  
Maureen  
Dilnot





<p><b>Men's Pairs</b></p> <p>Malcolm Nicholson/Barr y Dilnot</p> <p>Jim Catt/Damian Hone</p>		
<p><b>Ladies' 2 Wood Singles</b></p> <p>Mandy Catt</p> <p>Sue Close</p>		
<p><b>Photos</b></p>	<p>Thanks to</p>	<p>Richard Close</p>

## Selected Events

**May 2023**

A visit to the Royal Chelsea Hospital (a return fixture from 2022's visit to Canterbury by the Chelsea Pensioners)







## Top Team Day

July 2023

The all-day competition attracting ladies' teams from across Kent.



The winning team, including Canterbury's Chrissie Barr and Leah Bamford



Chartered Accountants

**Marshall Škoda Canterbury**

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The generous sponsors of this event



## Antiques Road Show

October 2023



Large item for valuation



Smaller items



The new Social Committee overseeing the event



Dave Parker – Chief Valuer



## Presentation Dinner

October 2023



We were honoured to have the Lord Mayor of Canterbury, Councillor Jean Butcher as well as The Lady Mayoress, Di Baldock as our guests and the dispenser of cups.



## A tribute to our volunteer gardeners







**The End**