# Cheam Fields Club Club Newsletter October 2025



#### **Dear All**

Welcome to the Autumn Club Newsletter. We will circulate one quarterly so that you are kept abreast of Club news, events in the Tennis and Bowls sections as well as our social activities.

Alan Swinton - Chair

# The Clubhouse - development and use

At its last meeting in September, after receiving a presentation by Adrian Butler, chair of the Clubhouse Redevelopment Group, the General Committee agreed that it supports work to improve the Clubhouse facilities with the aim of enhancing the benefit of the Clubhouse for members and boosting Club revenue by increasing usage by both members and non-members.

The toilets, changing rooms, kitchen and general décor in the Clubhouse need updating. However, the main issue that restricts the capacity of the Clubhouse as an income generator and welcoming space is the inability to separate the space adequately to successfully accommodate two user groups at one time and provide independent member access to the toilet facilities

Fund-raising for the work is underway, with a separate fund (the Clubhouse redevelopment fund) established. This fund currently stands at £3,516. Our new 100 Club is helping to raise funds – more details below.

Until such time as the Clubhouse is enhanced for multi-group use, members are asked to respect all other users - the Clubhouse is for all members: tennis, bowls and social.

# The Clubhouse – removal of acrow props

Contractors have been engaged to remove the present supports and new roof timbers will be installed to support the roof (estimated £19,200 cost). It is expected that disruption to the running of the Club will be minimal and social events have been organised to fit around the works, which are expected to take two weeks.

Scaffolding will be put up during the week beginning 27 October. This will be a small scaffold on the Meadowside Road side of the access walkway. The contractors will be on site from the following week (3 November).

Work within the Clubhouse will be limited to removal of the acrow props and timber surround, and repair of the ceiling, around one day's work. The area of this work will be partitioned off and there will be access to the right-hand side of the Bar.

There will be access beneath the scaffold into the covered walkway. The glass overhang to the walkway will be protected during the works.

Materials and waste will be stored on the grass on the southern side of the Clubhouse, using a protective membrane, and will be cleared on completion of the works. The skip supplier will not lift a skip over the high hedging.

The roofing contractor will remove all the tiles in the SE section of the tiled roof to allow the carpenters to remove the existing roof timbers and replace/repair them. When uncovered, a decision will be made if we need additional insulation in this area of the roof. The roofing contractor will then replace the roofing to the present standards, providing additional tiles as required.

# **Fundraising**

New -100 Club:

# Cheam Fields Club



# 100 Club

# The 100 Club is coming to CFC.

A great way for CFC members to support us raise money for the Clubhouse Refurbishment Fund whilst having a bit of a flutter!

£10 a month buys you one membership number, 50% of the annual income will be given in prizes & 50% goes to the Clubhouse Refurbishment Fund.

A monthly draw will take place at the Clubhouse at 6pm, usually, on the last Sunday of the month.

Membership forms available from the Clubhouse or from 100club.cheamfields@gmail.com

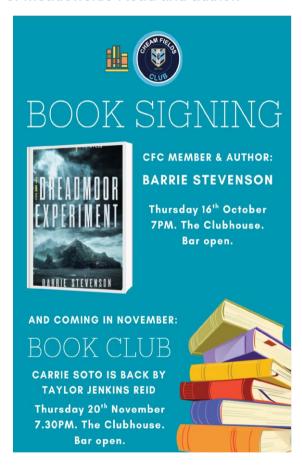
# Reminder – Easyfundraising:

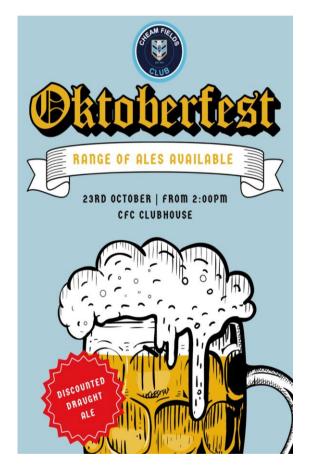


# Social events

#### **October**

Book signing **Thursday 16 October**, from 7pm by <u>Barrie Stevenson</u>, member, past resident of Meadowside Road and author.





Quiz on Saturday 18 October - one table left (sign up in the Clubhouse).

Beer Oktoberfest **Thursday 23 October** from 2pm. Kevin (our Bar Manager) is trying some different draught beers at appealing prices.

Halloween **October 31 October-** Clubhouse and Bar open to parents and children (and members) during and after trick and treating.



#### **November**

**Saturday 1 November** Thai night. Our own Thai chef Warunee will cook authentic Thai food. Numbers will be limited so look out for further details on tickets.



Friday 28 November - Return of popular jazz/swing band Racket & Swing 7:30pm.

**Sunday 30 November -** first 100 Club draw at 6pm (see poster above). The Bar will be open.

#### December

**Friday 5 December** - festive Christmas Soirée. Mince pies and mulled wine with carols, with singing led by Kath Sullivan & Farel Goulborn, accompanied by Keith Parry on keyboard.

The year will end with the New Year's Eve party, so dust off your glad rags and party poppers.

#### Regular events

TV@the Clubhouse sports events where the Bar will be open.





Regular short mat bowls league games are taking place on Monday evenings (with a break while the interior work in the Clubhouse takes place). Bar open for all members.

Darts league has restarted on Tuesday evenings, with regular home and away matches. You are welcome to support the teams. Bar open for all members.

Book club – new on Thursday evening, monthly from Thursday 20 November (see book signing poster above).

Wednesday evenings - members gather socially to have a drink at the Bar (open for all) and can partake of a simple meal cooked by John (5 food hygiene rating). These are busy but relaxed nights. New – themed meals on selected dates (see poster above). Sign up at the Clubhouse or email <u>John</u> (the Club's caterer).

Those who have access to the Clubspark booking system will now see all the activities taking place at the Clubhouse and when the Bar is open. Please email <u>Felicity</u> for a log in to the booking system.

#### **Pickleball**





Pickleball has arrived at CFC.
Join us on court 4 for fun social sessions

Winter schedule

Monday: 12-2pm

Wednesday: 2-4pm

& some Sundays, if tennis
matches allow.



More information about adding pickleball to your membership is here: <u>Cheam Fields Club - Information about pickleball memberships</u>

#### Website

Angela James has kindly volunteered to update the current club website. The new website will have a more modern streamlined look, be more user friendly and reflect who are as a club and what we do. If you have come across a website, particularly that of a multi-sports club, that you think looks good and works well, please send the link to <a href="mailto:cheamfields@gmail.com">cheamfields@gmail.com</a> for forwarding or direct to Angela.

#### **Tennis section news**

Tennis continues to thrive at the Club, especially adult social sessions and arranged sessions in the mornings. All six courts, including our two new artificial clay courts, are busy every morning. Junior tennis is also thriving and the Saturday morning coaching, run by our head coach Mark Love, attracts over 80 juniors. The Cuddington Croft School initiative and the summer camps have contributed to the numbers of new junior members.

#### **American Tournament, Sunday 31 August**

After drawing partners, 20 players took to their courts for five rounds of friendly yet competitive tennis on a sunny but blustery afternoon. With the Clubhouse Bar open and a sandwich buffet provided by John, the players could afterwards relax and catch up whilst the scores were totalled. Congratulations to Rob S and Kwai G for their first-place finishes. Thank you to everyone who took part and made it such an enjoyable afternoon at CFC, and thank you to Gemma for organising.

#### Handicap tournament - mixed doubles

Matches are now being played (Cup, Shield and Plate competitions) with the final on Saturday 1 November 2025 (all welcome). The tournament was open to all members aged 14 years and over, with partners assigned randomly. Handicaps were allocated to the 42 entrants, and matches are being decided on tie breaks. Many thanks to Gemma and all others who have helped to organise.

# Bowls section news - season round-up

Following on from the Club's very busy 110th anniversary year, we thought 2025 might be slightly quieter. However, this season has been as busy as ever!

Before the season started we transferred to a new IT system, which worked very well and has made administration much smoother. In April the number of Bowls members was slightly down, however, many of those who no longer feel able to bowl rejoined the Club as Social members and we thank them for their continued support. Our recruitment programme, including Bowls Big Weekend, Thursday Evening New Bowlers and the Cheam Charter Fair, was successful and we're pleased to say that overall our numbers remained constant this year.

More players put their names down for league games this year, meaning that we could fulfil our fixtures and ensuring that our final league positions improved on last year's. We finished mid-table in most of the ladies, mixed and open leagues and the men retained their place in Division 1 of the East Surrey League, although a very exciting match at Ashtead took it right down to the wire!

We had a good number of entrants, individually and as a Club, in the various district, county and national Bowls competitions. Noteworthy successes include – in the Sutton and District: Andrew Granat reached the semi-finals of the Paston Cup, Andrew and Phil Bailey reached the semi-finals of the BLESMA men's pairs, and Phil and Julia Cheeseman reached the quarter-finals of the St Raphael's mixed pairs. In the County competitions: our ladies team of Irene Valentine, Marje Mitchell, Sandra Greaves, Liz Bristow, Jan Healey and Joan Hitchins came 3rd in the Top Four competition and Irene, Marje, Liz and Jan reached the quarter-finals of the Senior Fours: Jan also reached the Surrey semi-finals of the National Women's Champion of Champions and Andrew reached the Surrey quarter finals of the National Men's Champion of Champions. Well done to everyone that entered and helped to spread the Cheam Fields name far and wide!

Our twenty-one internal Club competitions generated plenty of interest and with so many competitions the winners are too numerous to list here, but notable winners were: Open Champion - Bill Beney, Men's Champion - Bernie Pettit, Ladies Champion - Marje Mitchell.

Special mention also to Kevin Hemmings who was presented with the McLaughlan Trophy, for his tireless work and support over the season. All the trophies were presented on the Sunday evening of finals weekend at the Presentation Evening and Meal, attended by approximately 60 bowlers and their partners. The full list of winners and runners-up has been circulated and a copy is on the notice board. Congratulations to all!

Many thanks to the Green Team who have worked exceptionally hard throughout the year, ensuring that the green has been in tip-top condition for play. Even Brian Wilson, a 2024 nominee for Bowls England Greenkeeper of the Year, commented on how well our green was playing this summer. High praise indeed! In readiness for next season, the Green Team will continue working over the winter to further improve the green. Also, in readiness for next season, we have a new shirt design. Looking forward to 2026 already!

The Bowlers AGM will take place on Saturday 25 October at 10.30 am in the Clubhouse.

# **Policies**

# New club policy - Compliments, suggestions and complaints policy

All feedback and complaints received will be processed under this policy, and are appreciated. We need to hear from you both when something is good or is not right, so we can continue to grow and improve as a club for all our members.

# **Updated club policy** – Privacy policy

Following a major update in 2024, the policy has been revised to include more information about Mailchimp, which the club uses to send details of social events to members. If you are not receiving emails from Mailchimp, please contact Felicity.

# Membership

Since the beginning of the membership year, 72 new members have joined us, and you are all very welcome in our community. Our total membership numbers stand at 467.

Many of our new members have spotted our promotional flyers, and the club banner at the Cheam Charter Fair. Many thanks to Ed Bowes for his eye-catching design work.

# **Premises hire**



With best wishes from the General Committee

# **General Committee contact information**

Alan Swinton	Club chair	chair.cheamfields@gmail.com
Sheila King	President	c/o cheamfields@gmail.com
Gemma	Treasurer	treasurer.cheamfields@gmail.com
Southam		
Heather Locke	Club secretary	secretary.cheamfields@gmail.com
Felicity	Membership secretary	membership.cheamfields@gmail.com
Alexander		
Stan Moore	Club facilities manager	c/o cheamfields@gmail.com
Marje Mitchell	Social secretary	c/o cheamfields@gmail.com
Kevin	Bar manager	c/o cheamfields@gmail.com
Hemmings	_	
Mike Tarrier	Tennis committee rep	c/o cheamfields@gmail.com
Jan Healey	Bowls management	bowls.cheamfields@gmail.com
	committee rep	

Club email address: <a href="mailto:cheamfields@gmail.com">cheamfields@gmail.com</a>