



Clarence Bowler



Clarence Bowling Club

Issue – January 2024



Clarence Bowling Club wishes each and every one of you a **HAPPY, PROSPEROUS and HEALTHY NEW YEAR**

Remember All your dreams can come true, if you have the courage to pursue them.

It is also



on the 10th February 2024
Chinese NEW YEAR - Year of the **Dragon**

Chinese New Year is the festival that celebrates the beginning of a new year on the traditional lunisolar Chinese calendar. In Chinese, the festival is commonly referred to as the **Spring Festival** as the spring season in the lunisolar calendar traditionally starts with *lichun*, the first of the twenty-four solar terms which the festival celebrates around the time of the Chinese New Year. Marking the end of winter and the beginning of the spring season, observances traditionally take place from Chinese New Year's Eve, the evening preceding the first day of the year, to the Lantern Festival, held on the 15th day of the year. The first day of Chinese New Year begins on the new moon that appears between 21 January and 20 February.

What's On
@ Clarence B.C.

St Valentine's
Dinner + Race Night
Saturday
17th February



60's Evening
Saturday
16th March



Karaoke Night
Saturday
20th April



Check Social Notice Board for more Details





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Looking Forward :

To make the most of looking forward it helps to just glance back to see where we have come from. 2023 was a pivotal year for the Club, the new Constitution has cemented our status as a Mixed Single Club capped by the election of a Lady President something that would never have been accepted not so long ago.

2024 will prove to be an interesting journey as the new Committee gets to work, but more importantly, the group of new members are really buzzing and seem determined to make Clarence Bowling Club, in the current vernacular, 'ROCK'. I am convinced that their infectious enthusiasm will permeate the membership and the Club will have no option but to thrive.

The Social side of the Club will be our life blood, but we should never forget that we are a Bowls Club and certainly during the summer months we should enjoy ourselves both on and off the greens. In simple terms I personally believe that we are a Bowls Club that has social events and not a Social Club that plays Bowls.

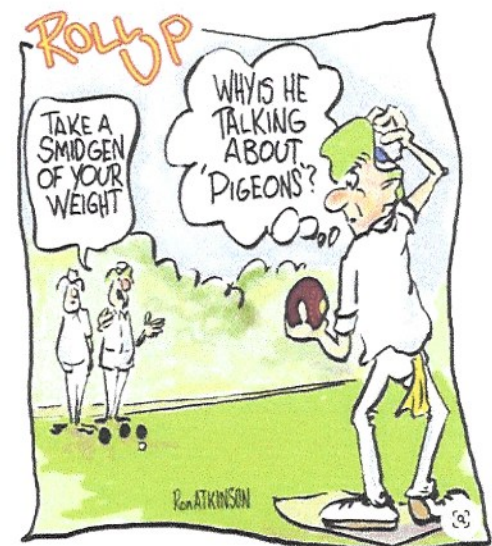
The new Outdoor season starts on 13th April, but the emphasis before then, and after, must be on recruitment AND retention of members so the sporting aspect of the Club must intertwine with the social ones to provide that feeling of 'euphoria' which will mean new members queueing at the gate.

Outdoor

The Club has entered the usual competitions for 2024 and our regrettable slip into Division 2 of the Men's O'55s League was disappointing we should see it as a challenge with – hopefully – promotion back into Division 1 at the end of the season. Don't Forget to support as many matches as possible and there will be a Pre-Season Meeting for all those members who will be playing on the greens on Saturday 16th March at 10am – 'it's a good day to pay' your fees. President's Day – when our greens open – is on Saturday 13th April

Indoor

Indoor is ticking along nicely and you have entered the leagues, competitions and of course paid the necessary fees – haven't you? The Indoor Finals will be played over the weekend of 23/24th March – everyone is welcome



Advice :

If your Skip wants an opinion, They'll give it to you".

It Makes you Think :

I love deadlines. I like the whooshing sound they make as they fly by.





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Short Mat

I had high hopes for short mat this winter with some 45 members indicating they were interested in playing. However, this has not translated into interest in League and Competitions and as a result I have decided that I do not have enough players to run a viable competition programme so we will be concentrating on roll-ups and League Matches. Hopefully next winter will see a better take-up.

Petanque

In case you are not aware Petanque is a year-round sport with some of the brave souls playing outside in the freezing cold.

If you are interested in playing Petanque during this winter contact Stephen Steer-Smith for information regarding session days and times.

The Greens

Full credit must go to Peter Franklin, our erstwhile Greens Manager, for his sterling efforts in maintaining the outside areas. Already this winter I have seen him beavering away outside from my position in the dining room standing by the nearest radiator. **WELL DONE PETER.**

I am please to announce that Mike Samways will be Peter's assistant. I hope that members will support our greens team by volunteering for outside work, when necessary, it will be very much appreciated.

Pavilion

Thanks also goes to Rob Skudder who with Terry Flashman will take on the House Manager's responsibilities. There will be a maintenance book for members to write in any problems with the building so that the 'House' team can rectify problems – please do not put in the book about the Gent's toilet lights we have known about them, probably since electric lights were invented – we will fix them, eventually

Working Parties

Please make yourselves available for working parties, either inside or out, when requested as the Club and its facilities are our showcase

Finally :

Thank you to every member for supporting Clarence Bowling Club in 2023 and we should all look forward to a good 2024

Thought of the Day :

Things turn out best for people who make the best of the way things turn out

It Makes you Think :

If you really want to do something, you'll find a way. If you don't, you'll find an excuse.





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Senior Strength & Conditioning

You know how important exercise is, as we grow older. Here are a few suggestions:

I start by standing outside behind the house and, with a five-pound potato sack in each hand, extend my arms straight out to my sides and hold them there as long as I can.

After a few weeks, I moved up to 10-pound potato sacks, then 50-pound potato sacks and finally I got to where I could lift a 100-pound potato sack in each hand and hold my arms straight out for more than a full minute!

Next, I started putting a few potatoes IN the sacks, but I would caution you not to overdo it at this level.

Small Ads

FREE TO GOOD HOME



Beautiful 6 mo. old male kitten - orange & caramel tabby, playful, friendly, very affectionate. Ideal for family w/kids.



Handsome 32 yr. old husband - personable, funny, good job, but doesn't like cats. Says he goes or cat goes.

OR

Call Jennifer - 265-5543 - come see both & decide which you'd like.

Gardening CLUB JANUARY

Often the coldest month

I used to make loads of money clearing leaves from gardens - I was raking it in

January might be the middle of winter but as the days lengthen the garden starts to grow. Now is a great time to plan for the coming gardening year and to order seeds and plants. Enjoy the fresh air, on dry sunny days, and check your winter protection, stakes, ties and supports are still working after any severe weather. Also put out food for birds and leave some garden areas uncut, a little longer, to provide shelter for wildlife in your garden.

TOP GARDENING JOBS THIS MONTH

1. Prune apple and pear tree
2. Clean pots and greenhouses ready for spring
3. Dig over any vacant plots that have not been dug already
4. Disperse worm casts in laws
5. Inspect stored tubers of Dahlia, Begonia and Canna for rots or drying out
6. Recycle your Christmas tree by shredding it for mulch
7. Start forcing rhubarb
8. Plan your vegetable crop rotations for the coming season
9. Keep putting out food and water for hungry birds
10. Make a polythene shelter for outdoor peaches and nectarines, to protect against peach leaf curl





13 Funny and Interesting Facts about the UK - Did You Know?

1. THE 1ST KING OF ENGLAND MADE A LAW THAT EVERYONE HAD TO BE IN BED BY 8PM.
2. FRENCH WAS THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF THE NATION FOR 300 YEARS.
3. THERE IS NOT A SINGLE POINT IN BRITAIN THAT IS MORE THAN 75 MILES AWAY FROM A COASTLINE.
4. 165 MILLION CUPS OF TEA PER DAY ARE CONSUMED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.
5. SOCCER, RUGBY, GOLF, BOXING, AND CRICKET WERE ALL INVENTED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.
6. WINDSOR PALACE IS THE OLDEST AND LARGEST CASTLE IN THE WORLD THAT IS OCCUPIED.
7. THERE ARE MORE CHICKENS IN ENGLAND THAN PEOPLE.
8. ENGLISH IS THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.
However, several other languages are recognized, such as Welsh, Irish, Cornish, and Scottish Gaelic.
9. LONDON WAS THE FIRST CITY IN THE ENTIRE WORLD TO HAVE AN UNDERGROUND SUBWAY SYSTEM.
10. THE OLDEST HOME IN THE UK IS ABOUT 6,000 YEARS OLD. It is furnished with furniture made of stone, and still remains today.
11. BIG BEN IN LONDON ACTUALLY DOESN'T REFER TO THE CLOCK. Big Ben is the bell that is located in the clock tower.
12. CHILDREN IN THE UNITED KINGDOM OVER 5 YEARS OLD CAN CONSUME ALCOHOL AT HOME AND OTHER PRIVATE AREAS.
13. CANADIANS CAN LIVE AND WORK IN THE UK! Canadians can live in the UK for up to two years with the UK Working Holiday visa.

The frogs and the tower

There once was a bunch of tiny frogs...

... who arranged a running competition. The goal was to reach the top of a very high tower. A big crowd had gathered around the tower to see the race and cheer on the contestants...

The race began...

Honestly, no-one in crowd really believed that the tiny frogs would reach the top of the tower. You heard statements such as:

"Oh, WAY too difficult!!"

"They will NEVER make it to the top".

"Not a chance that they will succeed. The tower is too high!"

The tiny frogs began collapsing. One by one...

... Except for those who in a fresh tempo were climbing higher and higher...

Continued on Page 6





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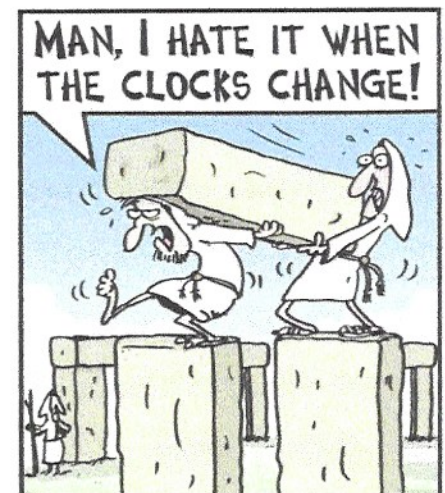
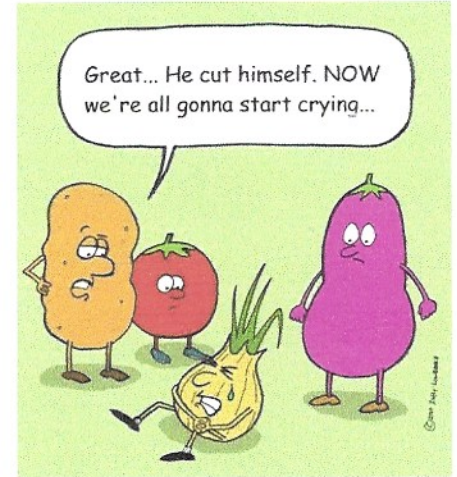


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More - Did You Know

- Though less common than earthquakes, the moon actually has moonquakes
- You actually lose a large percentage of your taste buds while on an airplane
- Although it may sound counterintuitive, your small intestine is actually the largest (internal) organ in your body.
- You probably know that snails are pretty slow creatures, but did you know that they also take the longest naps? One nap can last up to three years!
- You may be jealous of a bird's ability to fly, but it may soothe your envy to learn they can't live in space because they need gravity to swallow
- Bees can sting other bees – usually if they feel threatened or are protecting their territory. In other words, you're not the only one who's scared of getting stung.
- Whether you've seen a tiger in real life or in a photo, you know that they have striped fur. But they actually have striped skin, as well
- If you're a cat lover, then you may be surprised by this interesting fact: Cats can't taste anything that's sweet
- Most people know dolphins have incredible sonar abilities. But did you know they were studied as war tools during the Cold War?



Frogs and the Tower (Continued from Page 5)

The crowd continued to yell

"It is too difficult!!! No one will make it!"

More tiny frogs got tired and gave up...

...But ONE continued higher and higher and higher...

This one wouldn't give up!

At the end, everyone else had given up climbing the tower. Except for the one tiny frog who, after a big effort, was the only one who reached the top!

THEN all of the other tiny frogs naturally wanted to know how this one frog managed to do it?

A contestant asked the tiny frog how the one who succeeded had found the strength to reach the goal?

It turned out... That the winner was deaf.





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Quiz Time

It's time to test your 'little grey cells' and remember there are no difficult or easy questions only those that you can answer :

1. Daisy Duke was a character in which popular TV series of the 1970s and 1980s?
2. Coconut and what other fruit give pina colada cocktails their distinctive taste?
3. The U.S. purchased which territory, now a state, from France in 1803 for approximately \$15million?
4. Skegness is a seaside resort in which county?
5. Homer Wells is the main character in which John Irving novel?
6. What colour food dye can be obtained from chlorella algae?
7. With whom did Elton John duet in 1976 on Don't Go Breaking My Heart?
8. Which liquid gives grasshopper cocktails their green colour?
9. What is the name of the 1993 family film starring Bette Midler and Jessica Parker as witches?
10. Chris McCarron, Willie Carson and Brian Fletcher rose to fame in which sport

(Answers on Page 10) No Peaking

Life Sentence

A woman awakes during the night to find that her husband was not in bed. She puts on her robe and goes downstairs to look for him. She finds him sitting in the kitchen with a cup of coffee, and he appears to be in deep thought, just staring at the wall. She watches as he wipes a tear from his eye and takes a sip of coffee.

What's the matter dear? she whispers as she steps into the room. Why are you sitting down here this time of the night? The husband looks up from his coffee, do you remember 20 years ago when we were dating, and you were only 16? he asks solemnly. Yes, I do she replies.

The husband paused; the words were not coming easily. Do you remember when your father caught us in the back seat of my car making love? Yes, I remember, said the wife, lowering herself into a chair beside him.

The husband continued. Do you remember when he shoved the double barrel shotgun in my face and said, "Either you marry my daughter, or I'll send you to jail for 20 years." Yes, I remember that too. She whispered softly.

He wiped another tear from his cheek and said,
"I would be getting out today"





Clarence Social Scene

Clarence Downs presents
for **St. Valentine's Day**
on SATURDAY 17th February 2024

Sign Up Now A Pre-Race Dinner **£10**
Followed By **Roger's Race Night**



KARAOKE
KARAOKE NIGHT
SATURDAY
20th APRIL



AN EVENING OF 60'S MUSIC
AND SING-ALONG
SATURDAY 16th MARCH

Race Night
Tickets
From
Carol Edlin
or Lyn Leigh

FRIDAY NIGHTS
ARE FUN NIGHTS

Friday Fun Nights are re-starting on
6 October and will continue to 15 March 2024!
Bar opens from 6.00pm to 10.00pm.

Chat Room

Every Wednesday from 12.00pm to 2.00pm
in the Club Bar.
Come On Down - ALL Welcome

Ladies
Coffee
Mornings



Dates
6 th February
5 th March
2 nd April

Held on the 1st Tuesday of each Month

Keep your eye on the Notice Boards
and Web Site

Stay in touch over the Winter. Come to the Club for a drink and chat in the Bar and, if you like, join in some light-hearted games, including: cards, dominoes, board games, darts, short mat long mat and snooker.

This is also a great opportunity for our Social Members to use the Bar facilities and meet other Club Members.

Members can bring guests although the Club has rules regarding the number of times a guest can be signed-in in any one year.

If you have any queries or need more information contact:

Pete Williams 07903 816592 or
Vanessa Fairall 01934 417594

We are looking forward to joining you for some fun filled evenings!





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2024 - Dates for Your Diary

Public Holidays

Date	Day of the Week	Bank Holiday
29 March	Friday	Good Friday
31 March	Sunday	Easter Sunday
01 April	Monday	Easter Monday
06 May	Monday	Early May Bank Holiday
27 May	Monday	Spring Bank Holiday
26 August	Monday	Summer Bank Holiday
25 December	Wednesday	Christmas Day
26 December	Thursday	Boxing Day

Club Dates

Date	Day	Event	
09 March	Saturday	Spring Fair	
16 March	Saturday	Pre-Season Meeting	For All Members playing on the greens during the 2024 Season
30 March	Saturday	Craft Fayre	
06 April	Saturday	Club Open Day	
13 April	Saturday	Club President's Day	Club Greens OPEN
02 May	Thursday	VIBE Tournament	Start
05 May	Sunday	VIBE Tournament	End
24 May	Friday	BE Big Bowls Weekend	Start
27 May	Monday	BE Big Bowls Weekend	End
02 June	Sunday	Grandchildren's Fun Day	
24 June	Monday	Club Tour to Torquay	Start
28 June	Friday	Club Tour to Torquay	End
10 August	Saturday	Craft Fayre	
18 August	Sunday	Clarence Australian Pairs	Open Tournament
28 September	Saturday	Club Captain's Day	Club Greens CLOSE
tbd	October	Saturday	Autumn Fair
19	October	Saturday	Club Presentation Day
23	November	Saturday	Club AGM
30	November	Saturday	Craft Fayre

Club Web Site : www.clarencebowls.org





Still Laughing - come here - there's more :

AGING WITH HUMOR

WHAT DID HE SAY?

An elderly couple was driving across the country. While the woman was behind the wheel, the couple was pulled over by a police car.

“Ma’am, did you know you were speeding?” the officer said.

The woman, hard of hearing, turned to her husband and asked, “What did he say?”

“He said you were speeding!” the old man yelled.

The Police Officer then asked, “May I see your license?”

The woman turned to her husband again, “What did he say?”

The old man yelled back, “He wants to see your license!”

The woman then gave the officer her license.

“I see you are from Weston Super Mare,” the Policeman said. “I spent some time there once and went on a blind date with the ugliest woman I’ve ever seen.”

The woman turned to her husband again and asked, “What did he say?”

The old man replied, “He said he knows you!”

THE VET

Every Sunday a little old lady placed £1,000 in the collection plate. It went on for weeks until the priest, overcome with curiosity, approached her.

“My dear, I couldn’t help but notice that you put £1,000 a week in the collection plate,” he said.

“Why yes,” she replied, “every week my son sends me money, and what I don’t need I give to the church.”

“That’s wonderful. How much does he send you?” the priest asked. “He sends me £2,000 a week,” she replied proudly.

“Your son is very successful,” said the priest. “What does he do for a living?”

“He is a veterinarian,” she answered. “That is a very honorable profession,” the priest assured her.

“Where does he practice?”

“Well, she replied, “he has one cat house in Bristol and another in Swindon.”

Quiz Answers :

1. The Dukes of Hazzard
2. Pineapple
3. Louisiana
4. Lincolnshire
5. The Cider House Rules
6. Green
7. Kiki Dee
8. Crème de menthe
9. Hocus Pocus
10. Horse Racing

AND FINALLY

- Remember you are **not** alone
- Pick up the telephone

Have a Great Year

