

KENT PETANQUE ASSOCIATION GAZETTE

ISSUE No.69 MARCH 2012

WILLIAM BUNTING MEMORIAL COMPETITION



SPRING POKES ITS
HEAD ROUND THE
CORNER



at the "WHITE ROCK INN" Underriver



Sunday 11th March. It may have been the first day of spring in the valley at Underriver. An excellent pub, and top class well supported restaurant, in the beautiful setting of the Kent countryside. A goodly amount of 19 doubles teams played on the cosy picturesque terrain.

The 19 teams covered a wide range of abilities, with some very long time petanque players.

Appears that Club members have undertaken some spring tidying-up, including new grit on the playing surface.

WILLIAM BUNTING MEMORIAL COMPETITION



Good to see Oliver taking part in the Event.... Have not seen him play for a while. Oliver, a long term CLUB member of Seal P.C.

REPORT BY HOWARD SANDOM

Teams from all over the South East came together in the Spring sunshine on Sunday 11th March for The William Bunting Memorial Shield Doubles Competition at The White Rock Inn at Underriver, Sevenoaks.

In addition to local Kent teams from Hartley, Bat & Ball, The George Inn and hosts, Seal Petanque Club, the 19 teams included visitors from Portsmouth, Oxshott, Harrow, Borden and Crowborough which made for a great day's Petanque in the Kent countryside.

This is the second year of this open Doubles contest, originally known as The Apetito Shield going back some 20

William Bunting, Chairman of Seal PC for many years, who sadly died 2 years ago and was known to all clubs in the Kent region and beyond.

Five Leagues competed to produce a main competition in which last year's winners, Dave Chalkly and Racheed, and Seal PCs Steve Tait and Didier Thaler, went down in ...*continued*



WILLIAM BUNTING MEMORIAL COMPETITION

semi-finals to "New Blood" a team from Harrow and Jeff & Herbie from Crowborough. Eventual Winners in the Final were Theodore and Charlie (playing as New Blood) from Harrow with Jeff & Herbie the runners-up.

The score of 13 - 3 belied a very close and lengthy game which was great to watch..

The Plate finalists were "Beach Babes" - two feisty ladies from Portsmouth, who lost out to Seal PCs Susan Bunting and Howard Standom.

As Susan had the task of presenting the prizes for her late husband's event, it was particularly pleasing to see her amongst the winners. Prize money of £120 was awarded to Winners and Runners-Up of the main contest, together with vouchers for half price meals for 4 at The White Rock, kindly provided by landlord, Frank Scott.

This was a great day's competition in perfect weather conditions in a beautiful Kent countryside setting which was enjoyed by all.

Seal PCs next "open" event is The Courage Cup Triples which will be held at The White Rock, Underriver on 2nd September.

HOWARD SANDOM

As a postscript.....the original home of Seal P.C. was at the CROWN P.H. Seal. Not only one of the original petanque Clubs in Kent, but for several years was one of the largest and most popular of the Kent Clubs, holding several Open Sunday competitions and KPA/EPA competitions. Sad to say that the CROWN PH is now closed....for good by the looks of it.....with a new sturdy gate stopping access to what was the rear garden and petanque pistes....and strangely a large billboard advertising the pub as for "Offices to Let" ? Could be with or without office petanque pistes !

COLIN GILMORE-SMITH

I very much regret to inform you that our club Chairman, Colin ("Borneo") Gilmore-Smith died on 9th March.

Colin had been a mainstay of petanque in Chislehurst. He started playing at the Queens Head around 1990, then moved to The Crown, before settling at The Sydney Arms P.H. and founding our club around 1994.

I emerged late from The Tiger's Head in early 1995 to discover that - having never even played "beach-boule" - dear Colin had appointed me as Sec/Treasurer!

The Sydney Arms enjoyed considerable success in the 1990's, reaching Division 2 of the KPA, and Colin was consistently our best player by a country- mile. He was always supported by his partner, Mary Farrier, also a very useful player.

His recent ill-health had been matched by a decline in our club's league position, but Colin had remained as enthusiastic and supportive as ever.

He will be greatly missed by all petanque lovers.

ADRIAN RUFFLE

On a personal note.....I can remember playing against gentleman Colin and his team many years ago in a Wednesday night Summer League Match at Chislehurst. One of our team had the surname of "FLOWERDAY".....causing Colin to remark - what a wonderful language the English language was.

the K.P.A. WINTER LEAGUE CUP & PLATE FINALS

Held at Hartley Country Club on Thursday 1st March 2012. The finals were organised by MICK NASH the Winter League organiser and the evening was well supported by players from various Clubs.



The "BAT & BALL" team of Chris Pennell, Martin Pennell, Shane Dickman, Jes Paine, Nick East, Mark Toulson, and Richard Grzeszczak. The team have been playing for many years taking a few trophies from various competitions over the years, the team is resident at the "Bat & Ball" pub in Gravesend, noted for the ex-



The "TOVIL TITANS" team from Tovil Workingmen's Club Maidstone. Originally the basis of the top Kent Junior squad centred around Paul Hardwick, Faye and Steve Golder at TOVIL P.C. In recent years they have proved to be one of the top teams in Kent. The team.. Dean Ashby, Neil Phillips, Poppy Whatley, Scott Ashby, Steve Brown and Matt Whatley.

still at the KPA Winter League finals



Team "TOVILLIRS" From Tovil P.C. Maidstone. A likeable team of one lady and six gentlemen. Play with a mixture of fun and competition. They are... Nick Hoile, Barry Solliuex, John Middleton, Barbara Middleton, Ron Hill, Paul Collins and John Hines.

And from the George P.H. at Meopham the Team of the "GEORGE SLAYERS" . A mixture of different styles, a difficult team to beat. They are... Brian King, Michelle Cregeen, Alan Cregeen, Sheila King, Josie Griffiths, Colin Griffiths, and Del Couvret.



Kent Umpire RICHARD KING

And the results, and Champions for 2012.
 KPA WINTER LEAGUE KO CUP FINAL
TOVILIERS 2 (44points) v **GEORGE SLAYERS** 2 (32points)

KPA WINTER LEAGUE KO PLATE FINAL
TOVIL TITANS 3 v **BAT AND BALL** 1

A good night, good games and well supported, then into the bar



gardening section

Spring approaches, and winter fades into the distance, now is the time to attend to the important piste gardening duties, before the foot stomping petanque players arrive for the first games of the season.

Once again, as if proof was needed, last season's "dog-ends" still litter the piste and have not germinated to produce healthy tobacco plants. They still remain soggy unattractive dog-ends.

A sure bet that at each Club the same two or three players who tidied up the piste for the last three years will also be the same two or three players who will clean up this year. Come the start of the season, the pistes will look and play all the better for a clean up, and by and large the aesthetics of pistes and terrains at Clubs around the County are a lot better than they used to be.....a pleasure to play.

Most pistes suffer from nasty bits of unwanted debris and mucky bric-a-brac, empty fag packets, fox crap, cats crap, ultra strong weed killer.....agent orange land waster spray, or some such evil chemical.....that needs to be attended to. However some players do not feel the need to wash their hands after a game, and some players have a liking for licking their fingers prior to taking aim with a boule during a game. A resulting suggestion that petanque player mutations may appear in the near future. The days when English players followed the examples of the French (men) players by taking a pee against a tree as close to the piste as possible have more or less disappeared, favouring the luxury of the not so conveniently located toilet.

The never ending argument as to what constitutes the ideal petanque playing surface is split by as many beliefs as possible, however unlike French pistes which tend to be evolved from well worn village squares, or car parks.....most if not all Kent pistes are man made to the desires and requirements of a few, or to the mistaken desires and requirements of a few. The belief that a few house bricks and broken bits from a supermarket



trolley on the piste produce an interesting game.....is an option favoured only by the few. Or even the French option of playing an intimidating game on the nearby grubby farm track, part tarmac and part tractor ruts is not always to the liking of the travelling Brits.

And always "tap" the piste with your foot, within at least two metres of where you intend pitching the boule.....good for the image !

A point worth noting is that most venues now provide a much needed addition...a string boundary, a positive indication of the total playing

area....with a small "roll-off" margin.....not so common a few years ago. Needless to say....one of the many attractions of Petanque is the varied types of playing surfaces, size and contour and location of the many venues. Good players always seem to have the ability to adapt their style of play and prosper to suit the "local" terrain.

A gardening fact for the next "Quiz Night".....the record by Chris Barber/Lonnie Donnegan called "Digging my Potatoes" recorded in 1956 was one of the first records banned from air play both in the U.S. and by the BBC in the UK.....apparently "digging my potatoes" is sex slang for "getting up to the nonsense" in some southern American States.

news from the sunshine



Faye and Steve Golder of Tovil P.C. live a wonderful double life in the sun.....summer in the U.K. and winter in Tenerife.

The Gazette showbiz department enquired as to how they were faring over the winter....and Faye's reply is as follows.

Well...where do we start ?

We have totally avoided the winter at home thank goodness, although the locals are saying the past few weeks have been the coldest Tenerife has seen, sometimes as low as 16 degrees!

Think we are acclimatised to the heat though....cos that feels very cold to me...Steve has even bought a jumper!

Any way, apart from this small glip, generally it has been a steady 23 degrees and was hitting 30 degrees at Christmas.

We have been involved in our community out here and helped organise Christmas. We bought and



Wrapped presents and then helped Father Christmas give them to all the children round the pool on Christmas Day. Then cooked Christmas dinner for ten people, and ate it on the balcony.....was wonderful !

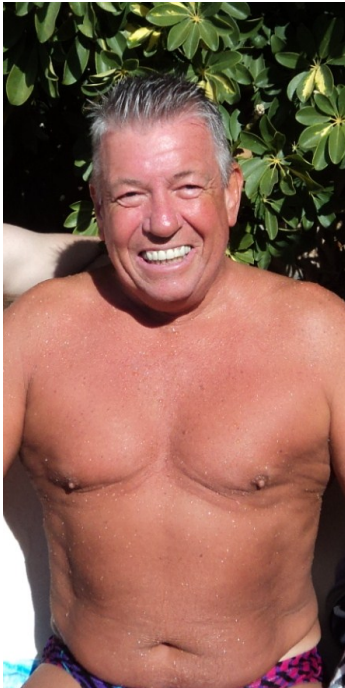
We organised and labled up the tombolo, which ran on Christmas Eve, the mince pies and sausage rolls, wine, beer and sangria (we made 18 litres of it) and served it free in our reception whilst singing carols around the Christmas tree. Was very Christmassy, and we were kept very busy.

We have totally refurbished our apartment over the past two years, the balcony being the last to do since we've been here this time. Now complete...we are now concentrating on Petanque.

continued



news from TENERIFE



We are members of Los Hermanos Petanque Club, here in Los Cristianos. There are 16 pistes beside the sea.

Many nationalities play here every afternoon except Sundays. As in England, Petanque players are like a family and we have made many friends and have much fun trying to understand the different languages that are spoken. Many players throw underarm and those who get frustrated at "scooting"....stay away. We play four against four to enable everyone to play and have melee competitions every month.



Everyone receives at least a bottle of wine. You soon realise the stronger players and we have often had friendly grudge matches with and against some Belgium and German friends....always faring quite well ! Some of us also play other Clubs in return matches.

Once a year they have a ladies carnival competition which is fancy dress only. This was last week and a great day, meeting with some of our Welsh Petanque Association friends Julie, Ian and Andy....all on holiday.

After play, we meet in a Spanish bar...."La Castanuelas"....for a cold beer or wine, after all it is thirsty work playing in the sun ! They provide picky food for us as well at no cost.

They have also sponsored us with "T" shirts and are very good to us.

Mum is OK. Had a few scares with her health but she has rallied each time. Everyone absolutely loves her and makes a great fuss of her. She sits in the sunshine watching us play petanque or lays around the pool with us, sunning herself. Her and Steve are as brown as berries.....I'm still very pasty which in itself brings conversation with people.

We've had many visitors since we've ben here which has been lovely.

We return to the UK on 1st April, so unfortunately miss the Home Nations Qualifier....we are looking forward to seeing everybody again and catching up.

Faye & Steve.... Tenerife

Many thanks to Faye and Steve for providing an insight into another world of winter, look forward to seeing them soon.



ON THE CASE

You may experience problems in getting your password accepted when registering with the EPA on-line ! This is probably caused by the "font" used for the password which makes it difficult to distinguish both numbers and letters, and upper and lower cases..... in particular letters, "L" , 'I" and number 1 ...

old for new



Old style new houses just completed on the site of the old Colyers Arms P.H. at Betsham. Nice houses. Colyers P.C. was one of the oldest petanque Clubs in Kent, and over the years many top Kent and England players played at the Colyers.



KPA award to play in the DUNKERQUOISE

Kent players should be aware that the KPA will be awarding assisted entry into two International Competitions this coming season. One triples entry into the Zeist Competition, Holland on 1st July, and the other for a triples entry into the Dunkerquoise on the weekend of 4/5th of August.

These awards will be made based on top teams playing in the Regional Triples Qualifiers, the Dunkerquoise award going to the top triple overall of the five Qualifiers, and the Zeist award going to the triple that is leading after the first three Qualifiers. Refer to 2012 Qualifier Rules for details.

David Baxter has been in contact with the two European Clubs to set in motion the preliminary arrangements....this a copy of the reply received from the organisers of the Dunkerquoise

Mr. President,

I am pleased to invite your triple champion, accompanied by a head of delegation to Dunkerque 4 and 5 August 2012.

Our invitation includes:

- The International Registration—The Saturday Lunch—The Saturday Night Dinner—Accommodation from Saturday to Sunday—Breakfast on Sunday morning—the Sunday Lunch.
- There is also the Friday afternoon, a competition open to all.

Please inform me, and confirm your participation on the Friday afternoon, and if we provide accommodation from Friday to Saturday the number of rooms that you will require.

Yours faithfully,

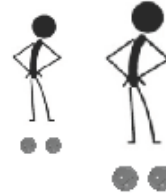
BERNARD LEMAITRE

PRESIDENT of the US DUNKIRK PETANQUE

Kent players have played in both the Dunkerquoise and Zeist Competitions in past few years and all speak very highly of the events and organisation.....prizes and awards are well worth winning.



Kent Pétanque Association
JUNIOR Playing With An **ADULT**
OPEN DOUBLES
COMPETITION



EARLY
DOORS

12TH MAY 2012

12.30pm REGISTRATION- PLAY STARTS AT 1pm

Duke of Wellington Petanque Club
Birling Road, Ryarsh,
Nr West Malling, Kent, ME19 5LS

Main and Plate Competitions

Entry to include: Trophy and Medals

Come and Play in this Competitive but fun, Social day designed to give youngsters a 'feel' for the game of Petanque. It should be a lot of fun!

- There is A maximum Number of Teams so Early Entry is advised
- ENTRY ADULTS £10.00 'All Inclusive'
- ENTRY JUNIORS Paid by the KPA
- THIS IS AN OFFICIAL KPA EVENT SO ALL PLAYERS MUST BE REGISTERED WITH THE KPA and WEAR MATCHING TOPS
- PRE ENTRY ONLY BY 5TH MAY 2012

ENTRY TO INCLUDE

Supper- One of the Duke of Wellington Pub's renowned scrummy Match Night Meals at around 6pm
Supper Only £6 MUST BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE

ENTRIES BY EMAIL TO kenpinder@btinternet.com
 Any Queries just Call 07796 166216

Poster Designed By
 ISOBEL PINDER
 2012

Arguably the driving force behind the start of Petanque at the Duke of Wellington, is and was KEN PINDER ex-of Gravesend Rugby Club Petanque. He has been more than willing to lend a hand to making the D.O.W. into the excellent Petanque venue that it now is, under the overall guidance of landlord Jonathon. And then it comes to a poster to advertise a forthcoming event at the D.O.W. KEN --Nuffin!

It would appear than KEN went to school with Harry Redknapp....don't do computers, and the last time that he used crayons and a ruler was some 50 years ago whilst sitting in school, dodging doodle bugs and spivs selling sausages made from saw-dust.

Like Harry....Ken is good at man management...."I can't do a poster"..."get someone else to do it".

The resulting poster above was originated by Ken's granddaughter ISOBEL, who applied the design principle of aiming the poster at Juniors....which has worked.... and is a very good effort from a youngster of 12 years of age.

So....you youngsters.....get your dad or granddad to join you at this competition in May.

of THINGS TO COME

The ROB COOTER TRIPLES

25th MARCH at STAR MEADOW SPORTS CLUB
DARLAND AVENUE -GILLINGHAM—ME7 3AN

Organised by MEADOW PETANQUE CLUB

Registration fee £15 per team
(half price for Juniors)

Registration 9:30 for 10am start

Prizes sponsored by Rob's family

All proceeds will go to Special Care Baby Unit
Darent Valley Hospital

Food & drink available all day including
Cooked breakfast—for further details contact
MARK COOTER 01474 354310

SUNDAY 1ST APRIL
HARRIERS MAYOR OF
MAIDSTONE
TRIPLES COMPETITION
At TOVIL WORKINGMEN'S CLUB
TOVIL ME15 6QS
Starts at 10

SUNDAY 15th APRIL
1st REGIONAL TRIPLES QUALIFIER at
STAR MEADOW SPORTS CLUB
DARLAND AVENUE GILLINGHAM ME7 3AN
Registration 9:15 starts at 10
Current EPA Licence Required plus match-
ing team strip tops.

THURSDAY 19th APRIL

The Whitehouse P.H.
West Farleigh

Heath Road ME15 0QN

8PM—Meeting and forum to discuss
ways of introducing events and
competitions at Club level, and at
Sunday open competition level.

SUNDAY 29th APRIL
At 10am At the Whitehouse P.H.
Heath Road—West Farleigh—ME15 0QN
Demonstrations of events and competitions
as discussed on 19th April.
Sponsored by the KPA

ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING
8pm 22nd MARCH
HARTLEY COUNTRY
CLUB

K.P.A. WINTER LEAGUE



pets corner

"TYSON" takes a well earned rest after a day toiling
under a heavy load. From a pet lover - Tunbridge Wells.



3 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

SANTA SUSANNA CUP YEAR 2012

There will be 3 International Competitions next year in the seaside town of SANTA SUSANNA, located not too far from Barcelona Spain.

1st Competition EASTER from 5th to 9th April

2nd Competition WHIT MONDAY 26th to 29th May

3rd Competition AUTUMN from 14th to 20th October.

For full details in English go to.....

www.santasusannacup.com



JERSEY OPEN MAY 2012



This major event attracts teams and players from Jersey, Guernsey, France and the UK, and will be taking place on Saturday and Sunday 5th & 6th May 2012. For full details contact GORDON DE GRUCHY on 01534 854357 or e-mail at gordon@jersey1.co.uk



CARREFOUR PETANQUE CLUB JERSEY

Last year a few Kent players entered Competitions organised by the Carrefour Petanque Club, enjoyed themselves, and did reasonably well.

This year 2012, the Carrefour Club will be running similar Competitions, and Kent players are invited.

These Competitions will follow on from the JERSEY OPEN to provide a nice few days of Petanque...."in the sun". Should you need reminding, the Jersey Open takes place on the 5th and 6th of May.....followed by the **CARREFOUR COMPETITIONS** on 7th and 12th May. The two Carrefour Competitions will be an Open Triples on May 7th with top prize money of £225 and an Open Singles on 12th May.

The Carrefour contact is...**MICHEL MOREL** and the Carrefour Web-site can be found at www.carrefour.org.uk.....where details of the Competitions, and entry forms can be located.

a special thanks go to

David Baxter, John Griffiths, Faye Golder, Ken Pinder, Howard Sandom, and Adrian Ruffle for providing info for this issue of the Gazette



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 See also Gazette Issue 50 for full report

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GAZETTE

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