

# “Short Mat Times”

ISSUE 6

Dear All

Here we are again with issue 6 of the Newsletter, which I hope you will enjoy. Although the lockdown seems to be going on a long time I do hope you are getting some positive things from it. My positive outcome is that I now feel I do not have to be in a hurry with everything, I can take my time and relax a little more. I am enjoying walking everyday and watching the world go by. Margaret x

## CONGRATULATIONS

to Alan and Margaret who have just become Great Grandparents

### HOLIDAY TO POTTERS IN NOVEMBER

If you have booked to go to Potters in November I would advise you that I have spoken to Bob Weaver.

He is waiting to hear from Potters next month and will hopefully have more details about whether this holiday will go ahead. I will keep you all informed as to the position through the Short Mat Times.

Hopefully we can have something to look forward to at the end of the year.

Audrey.

We are sorry to say that the planned match and evening do on the 8th August has had to be cancelled, due to these unfortunate circumstances. We hope to revive it again—maybe next year. Watch this space! Margaret, Dennis, Bill and Margaret



### History of how Jeanette and Tony got into short mat bowls!

In 1989 Tony came home from his Friday boys night out saying they had visited a different Working Mens' club to usual and had played bowls! That was it.

As most of you know I have been involved in Girl Guiding for ever and not long after Tonys' game of bowls the Guiding Region held a 'Dabble Day' for leaders at a large school, this involved many activities of which you chose to do 3 on the day. My first was cake decorating, can't remember 2nd but final session was short mat bowls, which Tony recalled as being what he had played earlier that year although they hadn't played again.

So I turned up for my last session on the day not sure what to expect but we were met by 3 gentlemen! who turned out to be Eric Harris, Max (can't remember his surname) and Roy Duke!! plus 3 mats and an assortment of bowls.

After some tuition we played for about an hour but being the last session of the day we all had to assist clearing the equipment- thus my first lesson on how to roll the mat up along the floor!! The men were impressed on the help they got and being me I asked them where I could find a club for me and Tony, not realising that Eric and Max ran the club at Christchurch, North Finchley and that Roy and Eric also organised all the London competitions etc.

Unfortunately we couldn't join Christchurch as the sessions started at 4.30pm and we were both still working.

Eric kept in touch with me and in 1990 rang to say a new club was starting at St. Margarets' and I contacted Jo Canning and the rest is history!!

We did discover shortly after we started playing that Ashmole school had mats which they put down 2 or 3 nights a week for anyone interested (no-one to give info on how to play) but we went along for practice until the school decided they weren't being used enough.

Jeanette