## **West End Bowls Club**

## **Back to Bowls - Blackwater Valley Ladies League**

## (Sent to Lady Playing Members by Blind Copy)

Given the latest news from Bowls England I think we can expect to be able to play in the Blackwater Valley League this season.

The Blackwater Valley league is due to be played on Friday evenings from 28 May to the 6 August. Matches comprise two triples; one home and one away. The League is limited to clubs within 7 miles of the Blackwater River. The participating clubs that are furthest away from West End are Tongham, Farnham and Fleet. Matches start at 6.15pm.

In 1919 the home team served tea and biscuits after the game and most clubs reciprocated, although one or two served a full ploughman's supper to our away team. This may not be possible this year and I will consult with John, (our health and safety officer), and with the league secretary about this nearer the time.

This will be the eighth year in which we have taken part – we have won twice, came second once and third twice.

The Ladies Captain (Angela Woodley) has delegated responsibility for running the league to me. I would like to prepare the schedule before the start of the season. I intend to select the teams in advance and leave individuals to arrange their own substitutes as necessary. It is important that, when you arrange a swop, you ensure all team positions are covered adequately as a single heavy loss can affect the final results.

The number of games each person plays depends on how many members wish to take part. It usually works out to three or four games in the course of the season.

Some of you will recall that in 1919 some of the important ladies' competitive games had to be played on a Friday and there was one evening when only two regular league players were available. The ladies who did not usually play league, or other competitive games stepped up, so that we could fulfil all our commitments. Both teams won handsomely and transformed our place in the league. So, if you think you may not be experienced enough to play in a league please put your fears behind you and give it a try. These are nice friendly games played in a good spirit but with a nice competitive edge.

2021 is the club's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and I hope you will all want to participate and give it your best shot.

Please let me know if you would like to play and give me details of your availability. I need to know if there are particular games you cannot manage or if you are restricted to playing at home. Just e-mail me or give me a ring. It would help if everyone replied as soon as possible and by the end of March at the very latest.

It will be great to get together again. In the meantime keep alert, safe and well.

## Pat Turner (01276 62600) patriciaturner@ntlworld.com