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2024

A
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Foreword

I feel proud and greatly honoured to be President of our extremely friendly bowling club during its 100th year. It is therefore with much pleasure that I have been given this opportunity to introduce and welcome you, the reader, to this Centenary brochure which not only tells the story of the Club but also chronicles the history of Oatlands Park within the wider local community.

This brochure is just one of several exciting activities my committee have planned to celebrate the Club's Centenary and you can read all about them on our website, oatlandsbowls.co.uk. One that we are particularly looking forward to is a 24-hour sponsored Bowlathon in June, with 50% of proceeds going to Woking & Sam Beare Hospice. If you are an individual or a local company that would like to support us in this barmy venture, please donate at our Just Giving page: [justgiving.com/crowdfunding/loatlandspark](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/loatlandspark)

With a 100 year history, it is difficult to single out particular individuals but, in relation to my time at the Club – I joined in 2002 – I feel I cannot allow the occasion to pass without acknowledging, paying tribute to, and mentioning the tremendous contribution towards the Club's fortunes made by two of our members: Keith Pollington, who has actively supported and promoted the Club for over 40 years; and Steve Maddocks.



They have both, on numerous occasions, held every official post the Club has to offer. Steve continues to produce an informative and amusing weekly blog which, I am sure, the entire membership greatly enjoys whilst where would the Club be without Keith? I certainly would not be writing this article if I had not been 'recruited' by Keith and he has, of course, persuaded countless others to become members. Keith and Steve undoubtedly represent the heart and backbone of the Club. Thank you both for your fantastic contribution towards the Club's fortunes; it is greatly appreciated.

Lastly, I would like to thank Ciaran Duke for his excellent work in compiling this brochure and express enormous gratitude to our Club sponsor, Botanical Place and to all the advertisers without whose support this would not have been possible. *Thank you all so very much.* 🙏

Barry

Barry Judd,
President - Oatlands Park Bowling Club

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In researching this booklet, we would like to acknowledge two local organisations that provide excellent historical information about Oatlands and its environs:

Oatlands Heritage Group (oatlands-heritage.org)

Broadwater Conservation Society
(broadwaterconservationsociety.co.uk)

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TOM FORD

ISABEL MARANT

CELINE



A Short History of Oatlands

A rich and fascinating history closely intertwined with English royalty

Oatlands Village sits between the larger towns of Weybridge and Walton-on-Thames in the north of Surrey and is thought to have derived its name from 13th century landowners as a likely reference to the cultivation of oats in the wider area. However, the catalyst for the village's development was a grand royal Tudor palace, built by King Henry VIII.

In 1514, Henry visited Oatlands, a vast area of agricultural and parkland, and spent time hunting stags on Chertsey Meads with horsemen, greyhounds and spears. In 1529, he acquired nearby Hampton Court from the disgraced Cardinal Wolsey and immediately arranged for it to be enlarged in order to accommodate his growing retinue of courtiers. Hampton Court became his favoured residence and in 1537, he expanded his presence in the area further by

acquiring the manor of Oatlands, absorbing it into his vast hunting estate that would now stretch from Weybridge to as far as Coulsdon.

1538 saw the construction of Oatlands Palace, which Henry built for his then-future fourth queen, Anne of Cleves. Proving his sustainability credentials, some of the foundations are thought to have been stones from nearby Chertsey Abbey which had been destroyed in the dissolution of the monasteries. Similar to Hampton Court, the palace was a substantial red-brick structure complete with gateways, towers and open courts. There are even suggestions that secret underground tunnels existed between the two palaces.

Henry's marriage to Anne in 1540 lasted only 6 months before it was annulled, whereupon he secretly married Anne's 17-year-old lady-in-waiting, Catherine Howard, in the chapel of Oatlands Palace. His sixth wife, Katherine Parr, also spent ▶

A Short History of Oatlands (continued)

time at Oatlands and the palace served as a royal residence for successive Tudor monarchs, including Edward VI, Mary I, and Elizabeth I who used it as a retreat and hunting lodge.

During the early 1600s, the first Stuart king, James I also spent time at Oatlands, where he initiated silkworm breeding and planted rare trees in the parklands while his queen, Anne of Denmark, made numerous alterations to the palace, enhancing its grandeur. On James' death in 1625, Charles I succeeded to the throne and his youngest son, Henry Duke of Gloucester, was born at Oatlands Palace in 1640. To honour his birth, a cedar tree symbolising strength, nobility and durability was imported from Lebanon and planted in the Palace grounds. Ironically, Henry only lived until the age of 20, but the tree has survived and can be seen adjacent to the main drive into today's Oatlands Park Hotel, almost 400 years later.

In 1646, during the Civil War, Parliament briefly held Charles I under house arrest at Oatlands and he was eventually executed in 1649. During Oliver Cromwell's subsequent short reign as Lord Protector, the estate was sold in order to help recoup the cost of the Civil War and Oatlands Palace was demolished. Today, very little remains of the original Oatlands Palace except for the Tudor gateway in Palace Gardens and bricks from the demolished building that were reclaimed to help build various locks and bridges on the River Wey navigation canal.

After the Restoration in 1660, the Oatlands estate reverted to the Crown and over the

next 150 years, it was leased to a succession of wealthy tenants. One of these, the 7th Earl of Lincoln, erected Oatlands House in 1725 and later remodelled the gardens to include a small amphitheatre and, clearly being a man of exquisite taste, a bowling green! In the 1770s, his grandson Henry, Duke of Newcastle, enlarged the house further and built Broadwater Lake. He subsequently sold Oatlands to Frederick, Duke of York in 1788 who, along with his wife Federica, Duchess of York, would become the last royal residents.

In 1794, a wing of Oatlands House was destroyed by fire, but it was rebuilt in Gothic style and the Duchess of York, known for her eccentricity, lived there until her death in 1820. A monument to her can be found on the appropriately named Monument Green in Weybridge.

In 1824, the playboy Duke of York sold the estate to a renowned dandy and gambler, Edward Hughes Ball Hughes - known as "The Golden Ball" - but a lavish lifestyle and mounting debts ultimately forced him to sell up too. However, by 1846, there were no takers for such a large estate, so St George's Hill and Oatlands House were sold separately while the remaining land was divided into 64 different building plots.

In 1856, Oatlands House was converted to what is now the Oatlands Park Hotel while many of the building plots became the backbone of what is Oatlands Village today: a village built on a tapestry of royal connections, architectural developments, and community growth, all under the shadow of the once-magnificent Oatlands Palace. 🏰

So where exactly was Oatlands Palace?

Contrary to a common misconception, the palace was not where the Oatlands Park Hotel is situated today, nor was it in Oatlands Village - although these formed part of the vast Oatlands estate. The palace itself stood on a footprint of 14 acres, a little way down the hill in what is now Weybridge, bordered by Grotto Road to the north and east, and Palace Drive, Old Palace Road and Palace Gardens to the south and west. Little remains today, but part of the original walls and gateway can be seen from Tudor Walk.



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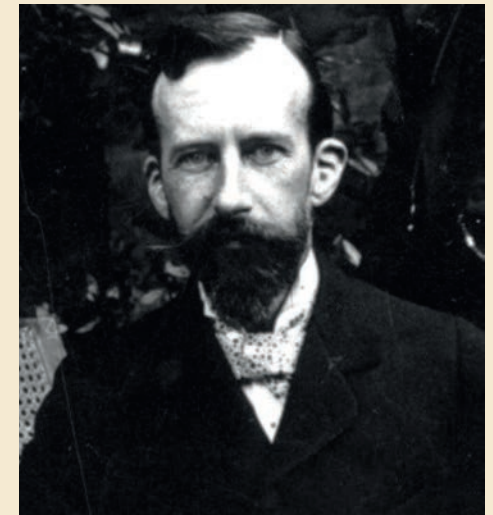
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The Roots of Oatlands Park Bowling Club

Baths, beer and bowls: What happened in the years preceding the Club's foundation in 1924

Oatlands Park Bowling Club owes a debt of gratitude to many local benefactors, but probably none more so than Francis Burdett Money Coutts, later the 5th Earl of Latymer. Francis lived at various times in both Weybridge and Oatlands and was an eminent figure in the banking world, running Coutts & Co., a distinguished private bank with a rich history catering to the elite, including the British royal family.



Francis Burdett Money Coutts

Aside from his banking career, Francis was a patron of the arts and had a keen interest in literature and poetry. His wealth and influence enabled him to contribute significantly to the cultural scene in Victorian and Edwardian England, making him a respected figure beyond the financial sector. In 1883, Francis decided that the working men of Oatlands Village deserved somewhere to relax after a hard day's labour and offered a piece of his land on St Mary's Road, along with £500 to be put towards the cost of constructing a new Working Men's Club.

A meeting was held in the school on 4th June at which a 23-strong committee of 'gentlemen, ladies and working men' was formed and over the following year, additional donations of £330 were secured meaning that the project could go ahead. Plans were drawn, contracts issued and by the end of 1884 the building was completed, comprising a coffee room and games room on the ground floor, with a reading room, a four-bed dormitory and a bathroom on the upper floor: a luxury facility that members could enjoy for threepence a bath, plus a penny for a towel!

The Club was formally opened by Lord Brabazon on Valentine's Day, February 14th 1885 and was a reason for great celebration in Oatlands, with bunting strung throughout the village and children waving flags.

However, coffee can only go so far in helping a working man to relax and, within a month of opening, the members met to discuss the possibility of beer being served in the club. With a majority not surprisingly in favour, the committee decided that beer should be limited to a maximum of two pints per evening per member, with one pint to be served before 6pm and one pint after. Arriving after 6pm therefore meant they would miss out. The concept of the Happy Hour was born.

As the Club developed, it is believed that a small bowling green comprising possibly three rinks, was established on the land behind the main building and together with the numerous indoor games such as darts, draughts and dominoes, the Club provided suitable well-earned rest and relaxation for the working men of the village. ▶



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The Roots of Oatlands Park Bowling Club *(continued)*

During the First World War, a large property, Erin Lodge (at 21, Oatlands Avenue) was made available to The Red Cross Society for use as an auxiliary military hospital. In the summers of 1916 and 1917, weekly whist drives and other events were held on the 'lawn' of the working men's club (most likely the three-rink bowling green) in order to raise money for the wounded soldiers from Erin Lodge. All the patients in Erin Lodge were made honorary members and joined in all of the sporting activities at the club, undoubtedly including bowls.

At the end of the war, in March 1919, it was decided at a public meeting that a permanent war memorial should be created in Oatlands and that should take the form of a recreation ground. Accordingly, after a public subscription, 8 acres of land were purchased from Captain Clermont Wood of the Barham Lodge Estate for £3,500 and 3.5 acres of the existing allotments were acquired from Francis Burdett Money Coutts, who was

then living in Kensington Lodge, St Mary's Road (now Oatlands County Primary School) for £350.

The recreation ground was opened on 19th July 1919 and in November 1921, the entrance gates on Oatlands Drive, adjacent to a memorial inscription marking the occasion, were opened for the first time. In 1923, the construction of a new, larger bowling green and tennis court in the middle of the recreation ground began but sadly, Francis passed away in the July of that year, aged 70, meaning that he never lived to see its completion.

Francis Burdett Money Coutts' life and work reflected the intersection of finance, nobility and philanthropy. He embodied the quintessential characteristics of a British gentleman of his time and his legacy has continued to influence long after his passing.

Oatlands Park Bowling Club opened in 1924 - exactly 100 years ago - and is still there to this day. 🏹

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POLLINGTONS NEWSAGENTS

SQUIRE'S HERSHAM CELEBRATES 40 YEARS SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Squire's Garden Centres Hershham is celebrating its 40 year anniversary this year. Originally built around old farm buildings, the Hershham centre opened in 1984 and was the third garden centre to open in the group. Squire's now has 16 centres based across Surrey, Sussex, Berkshire, North and West London. A successful family-owned business proud to serve the local community.

Award-winning Garden Centre

In this anniversary year of Squire's Hershham, the centre was awarded the prestigious award of 'UK Garden Centre Plant Retailer of the Year' by the Garden Centre Association (GCA), the leading industry membership body. The coveted award recognises excellence in standards in garden centres across GCA members throughout the UK. Squire's has always aimed to be at the forefront of developing best practice and innovation in the UK garden centre industry, and the presentation of this award to Squire's Hershham is testament to the commitment and dedication of the centre team. The team were presented with the award for consistently high standards, inspirational displays and quality plants. The award is made each year following thorough assessments by GCA Inspectors who visit garden centres nationwide, with plant areas being inspected in both spring and autumn.

A Local Family Business

The business was founded by D.J.Squire in 1936, initially as a nursery and landscape gardening business which developed into one of the first garden centre businesses in the UK when Squire's Twickenham opened in 1964. This was followed by Shepperton opening in 1975 and then Hershham in 1984. The company has become one of the best success stories in the industry, remaining in the Squire family under the leadership first of D.J.'s son, Colin Squire OBE – who is still actively involved in the business – and, today, Colin's daughter Sarah Squire, who is Chairman.

Plants to be Proud of

Squire's offers a wide range of quality plants and garden products, together with an extensive selection for garden furniture, houseplants and gifts. The business is proud that 85% of plants are sourced from UK nurseries. In 2022, Squire's acquired Barnsfold Nurseries, based in Horsham and a long-standing supplier of bedding plants to the business, this has marked a return to offering more home-grown plants.

A continued drive for customer excellence prevails, with highly qualified and experienced horticultural staff to hand to help with plant related questions. Squire's customers can also shop online for local delivery within a 5-7 mile radius of their local garden centre

In addition, all centres have free parking along with a Café Bar serving breakfast, drinks, snacks, lunch and afternoon tea. Four centres have extensive pets and aquatics departments at Squire's in Badshot Lea, Twickenham, Stanmore and Washington. West Horsley has aquatics only.

Community Support

Proud to be part of the communities it serves, Squire's has close connections with schools, local groups and charities. Encouraging the next generation of gardeners, Squire's hosts a year-round programme of workshops and events for all ages and abilities.

To mark Hershham's 40 year anniversary, there will be a celebratory tea party in August – see Squire's website for more information on this and other events. And from one celebration to another, Squire's would like to extend very warm wishes to Oatlands Park Bowling Club on its centenary year and on being part of the local community.

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An Oatlands timeline



Oatlands Palace
c.1540

Broadwater Lake
c.1760

Oatlands House
c.1810

Oatlands Village
c.1910

Oatlands Village
c.1980

1200s



Oatlands derives its name from 13th century landowners, most likely as a reference to the cultivation of oats in the area.

1514



King Henry VIII visits Oatlands on a state journey. Hunts stags on Chertsey Meads with dogs and spears.

1538



Henry builds Oatlands Palace for Anne of Cleves. Marries 1540; divorces 6 months later. Marries Catherine Howard in the palace chapel.

Early 1600s



James I lives at Oatlands Palace, succeeded by Charles I, whose son was born at Oatlands in 1640. Cedar tree planted in his honour.

1650



Oliver Cromwell becomes Lord Protector after Charles I's execution in 1649. Oatlands Palace demolished and bricks used in Wey Navigation.

1725



7th Earl of Lincoln builds a new Oatlands House on the estate. Gardens include a bowling green - the very first time lawn bowls came to Oatlands.

Early 1900s



Brooklands opens as the world's first purpose-built motor racing circuit. The English Bowling Association (EBA) formed to standardise the game of lawn bowls in England.

1880s



FB Money Coutts donates land and funds for the building of Working Men's Club. Opens in 1885. Later adds a 3-rink bowling green to rear.

1856



Oatlands House converted into a hotel. Building begins on the former plots and Oatlands Village begins to take shape.

1846



Hughes sells off the entire Oatlands estate in lots comprising St. George's Hill, Oatlands House and grounds, and 64 smaller building plots.

1824



The last royal resident, Frederick, Duke of York sells Oatlands to dandy and gambler Edward Hughes Ball Hughes, aka 'The Golden Ball'.

Late 1700s



Oatlands House gardens further landscaped and Broadwater Lake is constructed. Fire destroys a wing of the house in 1794 but rebuilt in Gothic style.

1914-18



Red Cross takes over Erin Lodge to care for wounded British soldiers. Hotel becomes a New Zealand Military Hospital.

1919-23



Recreation ground completed in 1919 as a permanent war memorial. In 1923, work on new bowling green begins. FB Money Coutts dies.

1924



Oatlands Park Bowling Club founded in 1924 - initially as a club for gentlemen players only.

1958-62



Kensington Lodge, St Marys Road (former home of FB Money Coutts) purchased by Surrey County Council, demolished, and replaced by Oatlands School.

1970s & 80s



Oatlands Park introduces a ladies' club in 1973. Becomes Integrated as a mixed bowling club in early 80s.

2024



Oatlands Park Bowling Club begins its centenary celebrations, prepares for a 24-hour Bowlation, and looks forward to the next 100 years!

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The Basics of Bowls

Demystifying the game, why our members love it - and why you should give it a go!

Lawn Bowls is a sport for everybody, whatever your age, gender or physique. It not only helps to improve your fitness levels and mental wellbeing but it's also a great way to relax in the fresh air and to make new friends.

Bowls can be played in singles, pairs, triples or four-player teams. In singles and pairs, each player has four bowls, triples play with three each, while four-player teams have two bowls per player. All the action takes place on a bowling green, a flat grassed area approximately 35m square. This is divided into six playing areas called 'rinks' - a bit like lanes in a bowling alley. This means that up to six different games can be played at the same time.

After a coin toss, the first bowler (the lead) places a mat at one end of the rink, stands on it and rolls a small white or yellow ball called the 'jack' to the

"I enjoy being outside and playing in a tactical game with friends. Bowls is competitive (and winning is nice!) but the competition not all consuming. With Bowls, the enjoyment always comes first." Claire



other end of the green as a target. The players then take turns to bowl and the aim is simply to get your bowls as close to the jack as possible. They are helped in this quest by one of their fellow team members who has been elected to stand by the jack and report back how close the bowls have actually ended up; they always seem so much nearer to the jack when viewed from a distance! This person is known as the Skip.

When the players at the mat end have played all their shots, they swap positions with the Skips who then take their own shots so that everyone will have played the same number of bowls.

Once all the bowls have been played, we come to the scoring, where a competitor or team gets one point for each of their bowls that is closer to the jack than the opponent's closest bowl. ▶

"As a complete novice, I was surprised just how easy it is to get the hang of the game. It took a couple of sessions to become confident but since joining, I haven't looked back." Sue



The Basics of Bowls (continued)

This passage of play is known as an 'end' and once completed, the direction of play is reversed for the second end and so on until the match is complete.

It might sound easy, but the fact that the bowls are not quite round means they don't travel in a straight line. Instead, they will curve as they slow down and getting the right 'line', combined with judging the right length, makes for a great tactical challenge.

Little wonder then, that Bowls can take minutes to learn, but a lifetime to master! 🏹

"If you like fresh air and sunshine (mostly!) and would like to play an immensely satisfying game with new friends in a beautiful setting, then Oatlands Park Bowling Club is for you." **Ciaran**



From mid-April until the end of September, we have free roll-up sessions every Tuesday afternoon and we also have weekend open mornings every May; check our website for details.

Whether you are an absolute beginner, an occasional player or an experienced competitor, you are guaranteed a warm welcome at Oatlands Park - so why not come along, say hello and give bowls a try?

Just be prepared to enjoy yourself!

"We love Oatlands Park Bowling Club because it doesn't take itself too seriously and is such a lovely place to spend a couple of hours on a summer's afternoon. It also provides many social events which encourage friendship and companionship." **Chris & Jan**



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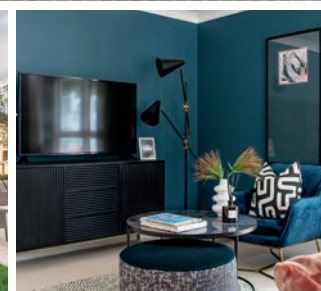
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A Bowling Story: The Joy of Skipping

Club Captain, Paul Stickney, shares the trials and tribulations of being a Skip

Whether bowls is played in teams of four (known as 'rinks'), three ('triples') or two ('pairs'), one player is always nominated as Skip. The Skip is usually the most experienced player whose role it is to stand by a distant jack and to guide and lead the other players towards it. This is particularly significant in rinks, where the Skip must inform, direct and cajole the other three players, often of varying skill, to form a unified team and to deliver a sequence of bowls, perfect in both line and length.

The probability of achieving this is remote. The average bowling wood weighs 1.5kg and is designed to run in a curve rather than in a straight line. The minimum allowable distance from mat to jack is 23m and is often longer. Add to this the vagaries of the green, where there may be slight

changes in level or small bare patches which could affect the line of the bowl: no green is perfect. The weather can also have an effect: if the green is damp, it will get faster as it dries and vice versa. It therefore requires great skill to stoop, and with a sweep of the arm, send a wood on a graceful curving path to rest within a whisker of the jack.

Nonetheless this is what the Skip will urge the players to achieve.

Typical exhortations could be "Take more green", "Don't be short" (for reasons explained later) or even "Add a yard to your last wood" – which, bearing in mind that a yard equates to just one-and-a-half rotations of an average-sized wood, is quite an ask! Unsurprisingly, these directions are not always achieved and Skips can become frustrated.

Imagine the scenario where a detailed instruction is given: "Here's your green, come just inside ▶

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A Bowling Story: The Joy of Skipping (continued)

this wood and then round to just behind the jack!" accompanied by expansive explanatory arm-waving. Then this is followed by a wood completely off line that whistles past everything and ends in the ditch.

Some Skips have little time for human frailty and may express their views in pungent terms. A story is told of a bowler stepping to the mat and enquiring politely "Which is our nearest wood?" to get the reply "The one in your *@!%* hand"!

The tables are turned, however, when the first three players in a rink have played their shots and take their turn by the jack whilst the two opposing skips step up to the mat. There they face the critical gaze and baleful glare of six pairs of eyes; six players all too ready to reciprocate comments they may have received; and six players who suddenly realise how much easier it is to see the correct bowling line when looking from jack to mat rather than the other way.

Frequently, the Skips are faced with an impenetrable barricade of woods bowled short completely blocking all routes to the jack. Their previous instruction "Don't be short!" has clearly not been heeded. They are then expected to play brilliant shots that consolidate their team's score or save them from disaster. Surprisingly, this can often be achieved and in many instances, the performance of the Skip is the key to success in a match. When a Skip pulls off a brilliant shot, it is invariably greeted with warm appreciation from the rest of the team. This sometimes lasts almost until the second, rather less successful shot.

Of course, tensions between Skip and team are rarely as intense as described; in fact, an overcritical Skip can be demotivating and detrimental to the team's performance. Most recognise this and keep their more extreme thoughts to themselves so generally, peace and harmony reigns... but there is often a bit of muttering! 🙄

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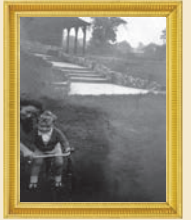
1966: JOINED BY KEITH

To all our customers and paper girls and boys that have worked for us in Walton, Hershams, Halfway and Oatlands over the last 90 years.

THANK YOU

Brian, Tony & Keith Pollington

A Trip Down Memory Lane...



A selection of Club members' reminiscences and a few fun facts about Oatlands

Oatlands Park Bowling Club has always been about friendship and family. Husbands play with wives; daughters play alongside fathers; we even have a trio of siblings in our current ranks and some families have played for multiple generations.

In the first half of the 20th century, Edward Scuse, who lived at 69 St Mary's Road, was a very prominent figure in the village community. A local postman who had served in the Cavalry Regiment during the First World War, he became secretary of the Working Men's Club between the wars and had a lifelong involvement with bowls, holding every office within the club. As uncle of current member Barry Griffin (pictured above in 1947, aged 3) the family connection lives on!

DID YOU KNOW?

Oatlands was once home to no fewer than six pubs.

- The Lion on St Marys Road, closed 1956
- The Sailor's Home on St Marys Road, closed 1959
- The Beer House (also known as the New Inn) on the corner of Oatlands Drive and Victoria Road. Demolished in 1965 and now a block of flats
- The Prince of Wales in Anderson Road. Closed since 2020.
- This leaves just the Oatlands Chaser and the Flint Gate Inn (named after an ornamental gateway in the walled gardens of the Oatlands Estate).

DID YOU KNOW?

Oatlands has had many celebrity connections over the years.

- Madeleine Albright, US Secretary of State to Bill Clinton, went to school in Oatlands during WWII
- Dame Julie Andrews was married at St Mary's Church in 1959
- Sir Tom Jones was a regular at The Flintgate in the 60s
- It was also motor racing driver Tiff Needell's local in the 70s
- Actress Felicity Kendal used to live on Oatlands Chase
- And TV presenter Michael Aspel is a long-time resident, living just off Oatlands Drive.

The Pollington family of local newsagents has also been associated with the Club and village for decades. Brothers Brian, Tony and Keith are all keen playing members and have almost 80 collective years of playing experience between them – but they all agree that they are still learning! Keith remembers Oatlands in the 1950s, when successive FA cup finalists would stay at the Hotel before going to Wembley. *"It was a temperance hotel at the time meaning no alcohol was served, but that didn't stop Newcastle United popping over to The Flintgate for a beer or two"* recalls Keith. *"Teams also had training sessions on the recreation ground before the big match and we'd think nothing of it"*.

Another life member, Howard Quinnell, recalls joining the club in 1968, his father having joined some years earlier. *"I joined by accident. I had cycled up to give my father a message; Oatlands were playing"* ▶

A Trip Down Memory Lane... (continued)

Godalming and were one short. I wasn't allowed to go home so stayed and played." Today, 56 years later, he's still playing. Bowls can hook you like that.

The driving force behind the Club in those days was Reginald Owen who served as our secretary for a magnificent 35 years - the longest-serving secretary of a club ever in Surrey.

Howard's daughter, Sarah-Louise, also has many happy childhood memories. "I'd spend a lot of time up there searching for coins in the ditch which the members would scatter for me to find, then help my mum and Grandma with the teas. For me, Oatlands means family: Grandpa, Dad, Reg Owen, Mum and Grandma all being involved."

Oatlands Park Bowling Club is more than just family in the literal sense though; it is about a wider sense of community, lifelong friendships and above all, having fun. It is an ethos that has served us well for 100 years and continues to this day. 🏏

DID YOU KNOW?

Stroll around our roads and you'll find history on almost every corner.

- Palace Drive, Tudor Walk and Grotto Road all hark back to Oatlands Palace
- Cleves School is named after Anne of Cleves, for whom Henry VIII built the palace
- York Road is named after Frederick, Duke of York, the last royal resident of Oatlands House
- Latymer Close relates to the 5th Earl of Latymer, Francis Burdett Money Coutts
- New Zealand Avenue is named in honour of the soldiers who fought in WWI and were cared for when the hotel was requisitioned as a military hospital.



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