

Committee Report AGM April 8th 2108

Chair's Report

Our membership is 72 today and we hope they all renew for next year. Subs will be accepted after this meeting.

This year however has been a mixed year.

Individually we had great success at a York Melee when a club member won all of her 5 games gaining a prize and in the winter league an HPC team won all 5 games at Brandesburton in North Yorkshire and winning a prize.

One member played for Team 4 of the Northern squad in the Inter-Regionals at Hayling Island which is the highest level an HPC member has ever played at.

We held the club singles, doubles and triples and gave out enormous trophies to the winners and we held regular melees. The competitions are working well. Some members are moving out to regional events or playing at Huddersfield when the regional players come here. We are becoming competitive at higher levels.

One of the disappointments of the year was a charity tournament. Despite extensive marketing it didn't work. We were fortunate to receive a grant of £250 to help with this even of which we spent £175. The balance went to club funds to assist with the logistics of running a big tournament and may be used for another similar event later.

The other big disappointment this year was the resignation of the treasurer. Sue had done a tremendous amount of work and she will be sorely missed. The committee workload is high and we hope that more volunteers will step up particularly as we expect this year to be the year we buy and build the log cabin clubhouse.

Our own website has updates on the progress of the new clubhouse but the crucial elements are that we have negotiated a lease on the grassed area next to the terrain and will be applying for planning permission in May. Once this is granted we will look for funding and assuming we get it we'll probably build in the autumn so it will be available for the winter. The budget next year shows the figures. We will probably spend £12,000 on this project.

I have to mention one fundraising activity. When registered members buy goods online many retailers will donate 1% of the total to our club. So far we've earned nearly £300 from this in a year and one member has

contributed most of this by buying his holidays online. Only a handful of members have registered but if many more did we would make even more lucrative. We'll publish the details in AWIP soon. Please ask your children and grandchildren to help you sign up.

Outside events were disappointing in 2017 with 2 scheduled events cancelled, one due to weather & the other due to numbers. However both £20 deposits have been carried forward to 2018. Extra effort will be made in 2018 to actively promote Outside Events.

Secretary Report

The Committee met on 5 occasions during the year but exchanged emails/texts/phone calls regularly as issues arose which needed attention.

The Secretary attended Northern Pétanque AGM and 2 Regional meetings

Contact was maintained with both Northern Pétanque and the English Pétanque Association (now Pétanque England) throughout the year and all significant events reported to the membership

AWiP was published 51 times during the year. One edition covered 2 weeks. A readership survey found that 69% of members with email availability read AWiP within 3 days of publication. A hard copy of the newsletter was posted on the notice board every week for the benefit of members with no email address. It is not known how many people read the hard copy.

The club Facebook page continues to attract new members from around the world and at March 16th had 1549 members which is significantly more than any other club or indeed Region. The Pétanque England Facebook page has 1402 at the same date.

The club Twitter channel which started in May 2016 has 88 followers from all parts of the world. The club website has 57 followers but has had 43,744 visitors since October 2012.

Treasurer's Report

Sue resigned a few weeks ago and Brendan agreed to take over the role. We are revising the treasury function to make it more transparent and efficient this year. The accounts are available to view on the website and the essentials are that we planned to make a small surplus but made a larger one because we received grants totally £1,250. Budget and Actuals are very close until the grants appeared.

Next year will be similar but the clubhouse project will inflate all the figures.

Club Captain

Our teams have played in the West Yorkshire League finishing 3rd out of 5. (last year 2nd out of 4). There was no Kirklees Autumn League last year.

We played a Club v Club fixture at Harrogate and narrowly lost 7-9. We took 18 members to Mansfield in another Club v Club fixture and lost 11-13 but won the return later in the year thus regaining the Huddersfield Cup.

We entered a team event at York and although we haven't had the results didn't do very well. We also played in the Harrogate Invitational Triples.

Two HPC players entered a competition in the Loire Valley where 2 of our former members now live. They played 4 games winning 2 but didn't qualify for the next phase.

Terrain Manager Report

While the area around the terrain has been improved and maintained with both club members and Kirklees college students having an input. Plus of course Barry bedding in a plant and ground cover in memory of our late member Pat Beazley.

it is noticed that the terrain still floods occasionally. What can be done to alleviate this problem I am not sure, without trenching a good part of the main area and laying a loose stone gully out under the path thru' to the grass beyond. This when recovered should remove any surface water from the terrain allowing play to commence more quickly.

The terrain needs a good spring clean and ideally the material that tends to gather at the edges should be raked back into the centre. Stringing needs to be renewed but these two are small jobs. Having both retired and moved home in the last year it is unfortunate that I have not been as active on refurbishment as I would have wished. Having now just about settled in I hope to very soon be in a position to complete two more benches and upgrade some of the existing benches to take boule bags not on the seat.

As part of our development programme we are planning to extend the terrain at the top end near the park gates. We are hoping for a 14 by 14 square which can hold 4 games or be used for finals and league games. Our recent "northern" events have been closed at 20 teams but with this extension we could take 28. This is in our long term view and may be over a year away.