

## **DIRECTOR OF CLUBHOUSE AND FACILITIES – 2018 AGM REPORT**

Vince Hayward our House Manager continues to be a mainstay of the Club and has managed the clubhouse exceptionally well and having moved in to the Club's bungalow, his hands on approach is even more in evidence. He and his team now have a professional air and courtesy of service envied and commented on by many of our guests and visitors. This is evidenced by the pleasing increase in the income from hirings from last year to this year. That doesn't just happen, it takes initiative and drive.

VP lunches still dominate the season's social scene and are very often over booked....a tribute to Neil Morton who excels by what is produced from his kitchen. This coupled with the common sense approach and management by Vince have ensured that the occasions continue to thrive and also raise a lot of money for the PAC. The 1st team home match meal deals continue to attract a lot of people and help to raise the numbers supporting the Club and matches. I'm hopeful the Board will agree that this can continue in its present form. Thanks to Jim Olsen, Peter Hancock and Barry Gray for their organisation and support.

Quiz nights, meat draws, the bonus ball & Xmas draw also continued and have contributed significantly to various good causes including PAC. Lyn and I have attended most of the musical evenings organised by Neil Tonge and it would be encouraging to see more support for these. The Burns Supper attracted a similar number as last year and was celebrated in true Celtic spirit. The annual Golf Day was not so well supported as in previous years despite the attractions of the excellent South Wilts Golf Club. My thanks go to Liam Gilbert who raised 3 teams making up just under half of the field.

I suggested last year that we should get rid of the concrete posts and metal leaning bars around the main pitch following a health & safety assessment. We have since sourced Duralock fencing with a RFU discount and the Board applied for a grant. The work done over the NatWest Force weekend in June by Barry and a team of volunteers and extra hours put in since have made the pitch look much more professional, in keeping with our standing and reputation. My sincere thanks to all concerned...it looks great!!

It still costs us over £14,000 per year to keep the condition of the pitch up to an acceptable level which is why I have been strict about its use and will continue to monitor it closely. I will be putting forward a suggestion for the Board to consider an irrigation system for the main pitch, using 'grey' water from the new clubhouse showers.

There were many highlights at the club this year, including the Autumn Ball, the Sporting Dinner, the hugely successful Mini Festival and of course the Beer and Rugby Festival. The work involved to produce these events is quite amazing and I and the Board are grateful to all those involved.

As I step back from the Board, I thank my fellow Board members for their time and effort. I wish the Board good fortune with their endeavours in the coming year. I can now also pay tribute to those who have held these positions before us. Like them I am retiring to the back benches and will undoubtedly (on occasions) over a pint or two in the bar (when the wit is out) be heard to say "it wouldn't have happened in my day!!!!".

Pat Clash  
Director Clubhouse and facilities.