

## **A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE 'PAST TIMES TROPHY' COMPETITIONS**

The present 'Past Times Trophy' competitions are the successors to the old 'Times Herald' Men's and Ladies two-rink competitions - one rink playing at home, the other rink away.

After the Times Herald withdrew their support from the old competition the present Past Times Competitions was created in 2002 by Derek Harvey and Jean Colvin with the help of the sponsorship from the 'Bowlsweat Direct' and 'Past Times' shops. Mike Colvin took over running the Men's competition from Derek in 2004.

'Bowlsweat Direct' initially supported the new competitions by providing the perpetual cups and for the first two years the 'Past Times' shops covered the cost of the Individual and Club mementoes.

Originally the competitions raised £1000 a year for charity, but this dropped substantially when sponsorship ceased and the cost of the Club and Individual mementoes had to be funded from the competition entry fees. However, each year Mike and Jean Colvin still continued to make significant donations to local charities derived entirely from the competition entry fees.

In 2015 Mike and Jean decided that they needed a break from running the competitions and, following discussions with the Sutton & District Bowling Association (S&DBA), agreed to pass on their running to the S&DBA. The S&DBA assured Mike & Jean that they will continue to follow the excellent precedent they set in successfully running these competitions over many years and that their format would remain unchanged. In particular the surplus income from the competition entry fees will continue to be donated each year to worthy local charities.

Since 2016 under the custodianship of the S&DBA the competitions have retained their name and distinctive identity and have been assigned their own web page on the S&DBA website (<http://www.sdba.org.uk/past-times-competitions.php>). It is hoped that by having a presence on the internet the number of clubs entering the competitions will increase and will include all S&DBA affiliated clubs.

Commencing in 2016 the Competition Secretary for the Ladies competition has been Margaret Woods and the Men's Competition Secretary has been Peter Gammage.

P.G.

October, 2019