

## News and Views: 2021–2 Season – Week 5 – 11 January 2022

### *Important News*

**Firstly:** the **Cock Inn** regrettably resigned from the League in the build-up to this week's matches, with immediate effect, as they continued to struggle to raise a team. Their results in Weeks 1 and 2 were declared null and void (they were unable to play in Week 3, and in Week 4 it was their turn to set questions and act as question masters).

The [C League fixture list](#) has been revised accordingly. We thank the members of the Cock team for their contribution to the League over the years (going back as far as 1992) and wish them all the best for the future.

**Secondly:** the **Nags Head 'B'** conceded this week's game to the **Poachers** as they were unable to raise a team. Hopefully most if not all of the issues are temporary and Mark's team will be back in action before too long.

**Thirdly:** **Rushton Diamonds** have relocated to the **Harrington Arms** (in Gawsorth) as the Royal Oak is not expected to open on Tuesday evenings for the foreseeable future. The relocation may involve some rearrangement of fixtures on evenings when the Diamonds and the Academicals are both scheduled to be at home, but there is a cunning plan that may make this unnecessary. Watch this space ... in the meantime, the [A League fixture list](#) has been updated with the name change.

And **finally**, we were saddened this week to hear of the death of **Anne Goddard**. Anne had been a regular member of the **Cock Inn** team since the 2004–5 season, having first played in 2000–1. She had been ill for a while, and this was one of the reasons for the Cock's recent decision to resign from the League (as reported above), but her death was very sudden and unexpected. We send our condolences to the other members of the team, and of course to Anne's family and other friends.

### *Results*

There were only six games this week. There was only one game in the C League, due to the reduction in the number of teams, and in the A League the Nags Head 'B' forfeited their game against the Poachers due to a (hopefully temporary) lack of players. Three were won by the teams that went "first first" and three by those going "second first". This would suggest an evenly-balanced set of questions, although the spreadsheet came up with some surprising figures for various teams. More on this in the [Cars & Vans 4U Trophy](#) section, but for now

we should maybe just congratulate the **Queen Bs** and the **Nags Head** for their excellent scores.

The Queen Bs recorded their first win of the season, over Waters Green Weavers, while the Nags' score of 180 was the highest of the night.

## *Tables*

In the B League the **Nags Head** and **Harrington Academicals** both moved up two places, to second and third respectively. But the unbeaten **Park Taverners** remain top by two clear points.

Any changes in the C League table were mainly down to the Cock Inn's resignation and their results having been expunged from the records (as they used to say in the Football League). The main beneficiaries were the **Sutton Club**, who went to the top of the table (from second) despite not playing. This was at the expense of the **Park Timers**, who also didn't play but had played the Cock, meaning that they've actually (well, effectively) played one game fewer than they had last week.

The only change in the A League table was that the **Queen Bs** went above the Harrington (formerly Rushton) Diamonds, who didn't play, thanks to their victory over the Weavers. There are still two unbeaten teams in the A League, the **Queens** having won a close-fought game against the Dolphin and the **Poachers** having beaten the Nags Head 'B' by default.

## *Individual*

Top scorers this week were **Haydn Thompson** and **Alice Walker**, with 48 each. There were also three scores of 42: **Alan Hodgson**, **Alan James**, and **Paul Prior**.

There were ten personal best scores this week – 4 in the A League, 5 in the B and just one in the C. But as many as 22 players failed to beat their lowest scores of the season so far – 7, 10 and 5 in the A, B and C Leagues respectively.

With the **Dolphin Dragons** not playing, it was all change at the top of the B League Individual table. Last week's top two – **Dave Barber** and **Liz Horrocks** – dropped to fifth and seventh respectively, to be replaced by **Paul Prior** and **Malcolm Asquith**.

Next week neither the **Queens** nor the **Sutton Club** have a game. It's a fair bet that the majority of the Sutton Mutton team will be hoping to take advantage of their stable-mates' week on question setting duties; and in the A League there's at least one individual who will be champing at the bit!

## A League

### Results

<b>Poachers</b>	–	–	<b>Nags Head 'B'</b>
Nags Head 'B' unable to field a team – <b>Poachers</b> win by a walkover			
<b>Queens</b>	<b>161</b>	152	<b>Dolphin</b>
Haydn Thompson (pb)	48	42	Alan Hodgson
Alice Walker	48	27	Peter McBride
		21	Derek Owen (pb)
<b>Waters Green Weavers</b>	147	<b>161</b>	<b>Queen Bs</b>
Ian Grieve	33	39	Neil Drummond (pb)
Graham Bailey	33	36	Phil Davies (pb)
		36	Tony Browne

### Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
<b>Queens</b>	5	5	0	0	872	10
<b>Poachers</b>	4	4	0	0	525	8
<b>Dolphin</b>	4	2	0	2	644	6
<b>Nags Head 'B'</b>	4	2	0	2	490	4
<b>Queen Bs</b>	5	1	0	4	726	4
<b>Harrington Diamonds</b>	4	1	0	3	599	2
<b>Waters Green Weavers</b>	4	0	0	4	619	2

### Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 5
<b>Alice Walker</b>	Queens	5	<b>240</b>	54	42	48
<b>Haydn Thompson</b>	Queens	5	<b>219</b>	48	36	48
<b>Alan Hodgson</b>	Dolphin	4	<b>192</b>	54	42	42
<b>Ian Grieve</b>	Waters Green Weavers	4	<b>156</b>	42	33	33
<b>Peter McBride</b>	Dolphin	4	<b>147</b>	48	27	27
<b>Graham Bailey</b>	Waters Green Weavers	4	<b>147</b>	42	30	33
<b>Tony Browne</b>	Queen Bs	5	<b>147</b>	42	21	36
<b>Ashton Davies</b>	Poachers	3	<b>141</b>	51	42	
<b>Ian Tams</b>	Queen Bs	5	<b>138</b>	36	24	24
<b>Phil Davies</b>	Queen Bs	4	<b>129</b>	36	27	36

## B League

### Results

<b>Harrington Academicals</b>	<b>165</b>	84	<b>Waters Green Lemmings</b>
Alan James (pb)	42	24	Bob Langstaff
<b>Plough Horntails</b>	110	<b>141</b>	<b>Park Taverners</b>
Dave McGuinness	24	30	Graham Wallace
Pat Jeater (pb)	18	27	Heather Wallace (pb)
Anne Jeater	18		
Malcolm Asquith	18		
<b>Nags Head</b>	<b>180</b>	97	<b>Chester Road Tavern</b>
Paul Prior (pb)	42	33	Mitch Moores (pb)

### Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
<b>Park Taverners</b>	4	4	0	0	563	8
<b>Nags Head</b>	4	3	0	1	674	6
<b>Harrington Academicals</b>	4	3	0	1	635	6
<b>Plough Horntails</b>	5	2	0	3	701	4
<b>Dolphin Dragons</b>	4	2	0	2	633	4
<b>Waters Green Lemmings</b>	4	1	0	3	435	2
<b>Chester Road Tavern</b>	5	0	0	5	546	0

### Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 5
<b>Paul Prior</b>	Nags Head	4	<b>165</b>	42	39	42
<b>Malcolm Asquith</b>	Plough Horntails	5	<b>147</b>	33	18	18
<b>Dave Partington</b>	Harrington Academicals	4	<b>144</b>	42	30	33
<b>Anne Jeater</b>	Plough Horntails	5	<b>144</b>	42	18	18
<b>Dave Barber</b>	Dolphin Dragons	4	<b>138</b>	42	27	
<b>Rob Parkin</b>	Harrington Academicals	4	<b>138</b>	39	30	30
<b>Liz Horrocks</b>	Dolphin Dragons	3	<b>132</b>	48	39	
<b>Andy Johnson</b>	Nags Head	4	<b>132</b>	42	27	33
<b>Graham Wallace</b>	Park Taverners	4	<b>120</b>	36	27	30
<b>Ian Musgrave</b>	Nags Head	4	<b>117</b>	33	24	30
<b>Shauna Barstow</b>	Park Taverners	4	<b>117</b>	33	21	21

## C League

### Results

<b>King's Gambit</b>	81	<b>125</b>	<b>Sutton Mutton</b>
Susan Taylor	21	27	Wynne Keith-Davies (pb)
Michael Taylor	21	27	Mike Proctor

### Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
<b>Sutton Club</b>	4	2	1	1	565	5
<b>Sutton Mutton</b>	3	2	1	0	389	5
<b>Park Timers</b>	2	2	0	0	389	4
<b>King's Gambit</b>	3	0	0	3	281	0
<b>Pack Horse Bowling Club</b>	2	0	0	2	227	0

### Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 5
<b>Chris Butler</b>	Sutton Club	4	<b>93</b>	27	18	
<b>Simon Rumsey</b>	Sutton Club	3	<b>87</b>	36	21	
<b>Wendy Brown</b>	Sutton Club	4	<b>87</b>	24	21	
<b>Mick Graves</b>	Sutton Mutton	3	<b>81</b>	36	21	21
<b>Mike Proctor</b>	Sutton Mutton	3	<b>78</b>	33	18	27
<b>John Green</b>	Sutton Club	3	<b>75</b>	33	21	
<b>Wynne Keith-Davies</b>	Sutton Mutton	3	<b>75</b>	27	24	27
<b>Michael Taylor</b>	King's Gambit	3	<b>69</b>	24	21	21
<b>Emma Griggs</b>	Sutton Club	2	<b>66</b>	33	33	
<b>Glyn Bradley</b>	Park Timers	2	<b>66</b>	33	33	

## Cars & Van 4U Question Setters' Trophy

	Week		Setters	Difficulty	Balance	Ent'ment	Total	Last Yr
1	3	GK	<b>Waters Green Weavers</b>	8.91	9.16	7.00	25.08	11.37
2	4	GK	<b>Cock Inn</b>	6.54	8.99	6.56	22.11	(21.38)
3	1	GK	<b>Nags Head 'B'</b>	7.71	5.81	7.67	21.18	25.60
4	1	Spec	<b>Nags Head 'B'</b>	7.40	5.53	7.06	19.99	23.74
5	2	GK	<b>Shamrock Bar</b>	7.15	5.55	6.06	18.76	11.51
6	2	Spec	<b>Harrington Academicals</b>	6.73	5.26	6.33	18.34	20.57
<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Spec</b>	<b>Harrington Diamonds</b>	<b>5.29</b>	<b>6.03</b>	<b>5.78</b>	<b>18.10</b>	<b>21.29</b>
8	3	Spec	<b>Waters Green Weavers</b>	6.69	4.77	6.11	17.56	18.04
<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>GK</b>	<b>Harrington Diamonds</b>	<b>5.74</b>	<b>4.26</b>	<b>6.42</b>	<b>16.42</b>	<b>16.28</b>
10	4	Spec	<b>Park Taverners</b>	6.95	1.13	6.33	14.41	13.42

All marks for the **Harrington Diamonds'** questions are unremarkable (no pun intended): Difficulty and Balance all around the 5 mark, and Entertainment either side of 6. This might sound like damning with faint praise, but at first sight at least, no one has much cause for complaint about these questions.

Most teams that went "first first" scored slightly higher than their average marks, but among those that went "second first" there was a huge range. The **Waters Green Lemmings** scored only 71% of their average score overall, while the **Nags Head** scored a massive 120% and the **Queen Bs** weren't far behind with 118%.

The Lemmings' low score can probably be explained by the fact that they were a man short (I think I'm right in saying they are normally an all-male team these days). In view of this, the excellent scores achieved by the Nags and the Queen Bs might suggest that the even-numbered Specialist questions and the odd-numbered General Knowledge were somewhat on the easy side; but the other three teams playing this way round all scored slightly *less* than their averages (**Queens** 95%, **Plough Horntails** 82%, **Park Timers** 89%).

I can vouch for the fact that the Queens, for one, fielded an absolutely bog-standard team this week, so I am unable to explain the discrepancy. Maybe we should just congratulate the Queen Bs and the Nags for their outstanding performances.

Overall, according to the spreadsheet, the teams that went "first first" enjoyed the benefit of a slight bias in both sets (105 to 97 in the Specialist, 104 to 95 in the General Knowledge).

The Diamonds' positions in the table above might look rather disappointing, but as I've said before, the standard does seem to be quite high so far this season. Even the 16.42 scored by the General Knowledge questions would have put them in 17th position out of 34 last time around.