Curling at Fenton’s, 8th December 2018

Its early December and, as an antidote to Black Friday and the pre-Christmas present buying and ordering of turkeys etc., members and guests from Kent Local Section and beyond again took part in the ‘Annual Curling Competition’ near Tonbridge Wells. Yet again, the participants were a mixture of ‘regulars’ i.e. those who had embarrassed themselves on the rink in previous years, and newcomers. Following their success (oh really Tim!) last year we were joined again by a team from the Belgian Local Section. Overall the standard of play ranged from the mediocre through to the sheer fortunate! The game looks deceptively simple; just launch your stone on the ice and land it squarely in the centre of the ‘bullseye’ – how difficult can it be? Well it isn’t that easy or at least based on our experiences it doesn’t seem so! Judging the exact effort required to launch the stone so that it actually reaches the target area and doesn’t go sailing through and crash into the boarding at the back is definitely tricky. A main attraction of curling is that strength, fitness or physical size have no bearing on how successful you will be at the game – it really is all down to skill…..or lack of it! As an illustration of the skill and technique involved look at the photos below – it really is great fun so why not come along in 2019 (details below)

Demand to participate was higher than ever this year and so we had sessions booked at 1000, 1200 and 1400, with most of us meeting up for lunch in between of lasagne or chicken curry followed by lemon drizzle cake (which this year I remembered to order – not difficult given the threats I received should I have forgotten it for a second year!). For the first time since we started I managed to end up on the winning team, though I have to admit that our 5 to 1 thrashing of our opponents did not include much contribution from me. The matches on the other rinks were equally competitive and an enjoyable time was had by all

If you are interested in curling see http://www.fentonsrink.co.uk/ - however, we had such good fun I have provisionally booked the whole of the Fenton’s rink again on 30th November 2019 so why not join us for a ‘Chemistry Curling Competition’! Watch out for an e-alert or check on the KLS web site for full information nearer the time

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