

The 2024 season has arrived and I am delighted and honoured to have been appointed President of the Essex Vice Presidents' Association. I have thoroughly enjoyed the relatively short period since joining the Association as all the members have made me very welcome and definitely challenged my bowling skills.

I wish to extend my sincere thanks to the outgoing President, Colin Peters, for representing the Association so professionally during the last year and supporting all our matches, which on most occasions involved a rather long car journey from his Essex outpost in Frinton.

In addition, I also wish to extend my thanks to all the committee who ensure the Association runs smoothly by arranging matches, selecting teams, organising the annual tour, sorting out the finances and producing the Handbook. In performing these and many other essential tasks, they ensure the reputation of the Essex Vice Presidents' Association is maintained at the highest level.

This year we are going north for our tour with a return to the Norwich area. Special thanks are due both to Tony Ellis who resigned as Tour Secretary this year but has still kindly helped to organize the event and to Ray Woollard who has excelled in arranging matches with a number of top clubs in the area.

Finally, I look forward to working closely with our Senior Deputy President Keith Jones and also meeting and playing bowls with a fantastic group of Bowlers.

Enjoy

George Dowding, Essex County BC