



Forthcoming Events

Bingo and Supper_ Sat 4th November 7pm

Autumn Bazaar - Sat 11th November 10am-2pm

Pavilion Maintenance Day - Tues 14th November

Annual General Meeting - Sun 26th November @ 3pm

Welcome to the indoor season, no more 'wets' to pack for a few months, hooray!!

The outdoor summer bowling was 'put to bed' on Saturday 7th October with our Annual Presentation Lunch. This year we headed over to Millets Farm Centre to Limbricks restaurant, a new venue which proved a popular choice as we had 66 members and friends in attendance! The feedback has been very positive, with most agreeing that the venue, food and service were excellent.

Ian and Mavis did a good job of polishing the trophies which Alan then presented to this year's winners. Congratulations to all our finalists and well done to everyone that took part in the club competitions this season. The other 'winners' on the day were those that held the right tickets in the well supported post-meal raffle, thank you!

This summer also saw several club players do well in County Competitions:- congratulations to Brian Smith on winning the Alison Cup, and Tim Ludlow, who secured victory over Brian Bloomfield in the Longford Cup. Brian B's squad reached the quarterfinals of the men's County 4's but were defeated at Headington, after a long round trip from the Isle of Wight!

Not to be outdone Caroline and co reached the quarterfinals in the Ladies county triples and pairs, but suffered narrow defeats in both. However, some of our ladies did enjoy more success, Barbara Singh and Sandra Grindrod came out on top in the county unbadged pairs competition, and Irene Whatmore was paired up with Pam Shepherd of Banbury Central in the Blay Benevolent Trophy, and they were the eventual winners. Shirley Crick represented Witney Town as Ladies singles winner in the county champion of champions, where she reached the semi- finals!

In our team events the Blues finished top of the West Ox league this year, the men came 3rd in division 2, and the ladies held a respectable mid table position. Our men's team also had an excellent run in the League Cup, reaching the final for the first time in the club's history, however their opponents Headington are old masters in this competition and proved too strong on the night.

Congratulations and well done to all on some excellent bowling this summer!

The milder weather has, of course heralded the start of the Indoor season, and this will be just as hotly contested both on the short mat and the long mat! We will follow the fortunes of our 3 teams in the West Ox short mat league, and also teams in the short mat 10's, and then there's the Bob Edwards Trophy matches at Carterton and the City and County Tens competition on the long mat!

As always alongside the competitive bowling we have a number of 'friendly' fixtures to fulfil. Please make yourselves available for these 'fun' games as they provide valuable opportunities to socialise with members of other local clubs. Any Home fixtures will include a buffet tea so if you don't want to bowl but could help with preparing the tea please let Captain Brian know!!

As the winter season gets under way there has been a lot of enthusiasm for the short mat roll-up sessions. The large numbers that have attended on Monday afternoons and Friday mornings do however bring their own issues and the present arrangements may have to be adapted – for example fewer ends could be played before switching teams around, and those sitting out could have a 'rolling' tea break. Bowling could then be continuous giving people the opportunity to play more rather than sitting around waiting. After all, this is a 'roll-up' session not a match-play session, and we want everyone to enjoy it!

Sadly in recent months we have had to bid a final farewell to some of our longstanding members and friends. Bill Carvey was well known around the local Bowls circuit and a great supporter of our club alongside Jean. Hilda Grindrod continued bowling into her 90's for Eynsham short mat club and attended our own club socials with Kevin and Sandra for many years. We remember them fondly.

Thanks to members for your consideration to other users of the pavilion, Thursdays especially throughout the summer seemed to work well for both bowlers and Slimming World attendees! The dividing screens allowed access to changing rooms with minimal disruption to Corrina, and she was considerate in finishing sessions early on evenings when men's league matches were being played at home. Long may this arrangement

continue as it and other lettings are bringing much needed revenue into the club.

Your help and support is requested with the club's Autumn Bazaar on **Saturday 11th November**, please speak to Irene if you can help on the day, and donations/ideas for fundraising are always welcomed! Let's hope the weather shows some support this year too and the sun shines on us all!

Tuesday 14th November is a Pavilion Maintenance day; if you want to help with general cleaning, tiling or painting please put your name on the list. All help gratefully received!

Don't forget to attend the AGM on **Sunday 26th November** please! Any items for discussion must be received by Lyn Cooper at least 1 week prior to the meeting. We're also looking for new committee members and match selectors for the coming year, so don't be shy!!

Some Christmas dates for your diary.....

Christmas lunch **Sun 10th December**; Spartan Rangers Xmas Jumper Night **Fri 15th December**;

Grand Christmas Draw **Fri 22nd December**; New Year lunch **Sat 6th January**.

Alan can provide more details about next year's trip to Okehampton starting **21st January**, and for the bowls tour/winter sunshine break to Praia da Rocha, Portugal starting **8th October**! Come along and enjoy the fun and friendship on one or both of these opportunities!

Winter well and happy bowling/ socialising to all members and friends!

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