

# WITNEY TOWN BOWLS CLUB



## News Bulletin 66 February 2024

Although we have (so far!!!) avoided a cold and snowy winter, it does seem that the grey skies and miserable rainy weather have been relentless! Although the days are getting longer, it still seems an age before spring. But looking at the green slowly springing back to life offers hope for brighter days. In the meantime, we continue to enjoy the indoor season and our social events.

### Anstey's Quiz Night

A big thank you to Simon and Christine who once again laid on a highly entertaining (and challenging) quiz night, to Brian Rollerson for serving as "runner", to Brian for the food, Bill for running the bar, and Roy for the washing up 😊. Winners on the night were Ben Healy and partner, Brian Messenger and partner, and Martin and Ann Lister.

### Temple Piper Wednesday Triples

It is very tight at the top, only 5 points separate the top five teams! As of 21 February, Little Lambs have a one point lead over Tail Enders, followed closely by Burford Town, Flying Shuttles and Allsorts.

### Afternoon and Evening Leagues

In the West Oxfordshire Evening League – the Rams continue to fly the flag for our club's four teams, moving up to fourth place. The Canaries lie in seventh, and the Red Kites and the Woolies are bringing up the rear. In the afternoon league, the WT Vultures are in second place, 7 points behind the Didcot Red Kites – only two matches remain so it will be a very tight finish. Updated results (when available) for these matches can be found online on the WT website, on the Leagues tab, under External League Links.

### Short Mat Pairs Competition

The first of this winter's internal short mat pairs competitions took place on Sunday 21st January. There were two groups of six teams – winners of each group (Mike Jones and Roy Radband, and Brian Carter and Fabrizio Boer) met in the final, won by Brian and Fabrizio. The next competition is Sunday 25 February, followed by the final opportunity on 24 March.

### 2024 Outdoor Club Competition Finals – Important Dates Reminder

The Club's calendar moves with the standard week numbers that are defined by Bowls England and flow down through the counties etc. Our club competition finals this year will be taking place over the weekend of Friday 30 August, Saturday 31 August and Sunday 1 September. Every effort will be made to concentrate the finals on the Saturday and Sunday.

## Clubhouse Cleaning

The Committee would like to thank Eileen and Mike Willemite, Peter and Margaret Davidson, Lesley and John Milsom, Caroline Bloomfield, Helen Scragg and Val Goldby who have taken on responsibility for cleaning the clubhouse and outdoor areas on a regular basis. If there are any men who would like to volunteer to clean the men's toilets and urinals, your offer would be gratefully accepted!

To make their lives easier it would help greatly if members who have tea and biscuits during rollups can continue to make sure the table tops are wiped clean, and biscuit wrappers disposed of. Please help us to keep the clubhouse and toilets clean, tidy and pleasant to use.

## Dates for Your Diary

**Easter Bonnet Afternoon Tea** – this year we will be holding an afternoon tea on Saturday 23 March at 2:00 pm. The price will be £5.00, prizes for the best Easter bonnet! The Easter Prize Draw will also take place at this time. The sign up sheet for the tea is now posted, as is the sheet to choose your prize draw numbers. Donations for prizes will be gratefully received.

**Race Night** – starter's orders for the Race Night, which will be on Friday 5 April, 6:30 start. The cost of £8.00 will include a hot one course meal; horses and bets will be paid for separately.

**Registration Night** – will be Friday 12 April; green will open on Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup>. Registration forms and more information will be distributed to members at the end of March.

## Their Last End

In this section we will acknowledge members from our club, and from around the county, who have recently passed away.

Penny Bradford – former Witney Town member

Ray Smith – long time Witney Town member and former Men's Captain

Peter Cross – Shiplake Bowls Club, former OBA President and Match Secretary

Janet Whelpton – wife of Ian Whelpton, former OBA County Secretary

Kathy Belcher - Headington Bowls Club

Gordon Harris – Witney Town member

## 100 Club January Winners

Congratulations to these lucky winners in the January draw –

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	£100	Lyn Cooper
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prizes	£85	Barbara Singh Alison Eastgate
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	£70	Peter Deadman
4 <sup>th</sup> Prize	£55	Mavis Hale
5 <sup>th</sup> Prize	£40	unsold

The next draw will be at the Wednesday Triples League on 28 February - prize fund of £350 this month.