

WITNEY TOWN BOWLS CLUB

News Bulletin 92
June 2026



Where do we even start!!!!!! So much going on this month, but pride of place must go to highlighting our fabulous Family Open Day this weekend. We had over 50 visitors of all ages stop by to have a go on the green, and a splendid time was had by all. Welcome to our new members and we look forward to introducing you to the joys of bowls over the coming months. A special thank you to Captain Chris and all his Junior Development Team who put in so much hard work laying the groundwork for the day, and to all those members who came down to help.

Australian Pairs Competition



Last weekend saw the first-ever Witney Town Australian Pairs competition, which was held to support fundraising efforts for the Witney Pink Ladies, our town's breast cancer charity. Not only did the weather cooperate, but a great time was had by all – once we figured out the rules! We were able to raise a whopping £300 for the charity, and all who participated agreed that Aussie Pairs was a winner and should be repeated next year. Congratulations to Pauline Conrad Banks and Mike Jones, who took home the inaugural trophy, and well done to runners-up Caroline Bloomfield and Jim Casson.



Our winners Pauline and Mike J.

Monday Outdoor Triples League

The fourth week of the competition saw heavy downpours force the cancellation of the morning session, although the weather improved sufficiently for the afternoon matches to take place. Wickers and Glancers, Cruisers and the Meercats currently lead on 6 points, followed by Loose Ends on 5 points; however, several teams have games in hand so it's still very early days!

Men's League

The A Team are lying third in Division 3 and the B team second in Division 4. It's well worth mentioning that after no wins last year, the B team have already won 4 matches this year.

Ladies League

In Division 1, the Rubies recently enjoyed solid wins against Carterton and Hanborough and lie 5th in the table (only 2 points off third). In Division 2, the Sapphires are in second place following a 10-0 defeat of Witney Mills. It's encouraging to see a number of our ladies making their first league appearances this year.

Cougars, Panthers and Tigers Mixed League Teams

The Panthers are currently 5th in Division 1; the Tigers and Cougars 4th and 5th in Division 2, although very few games have been played.

County and National Competitions

We have a number of members who have advanced in the county competitions this year; we wish them continued good fortune! Martin L is in the quarter finals of the Allison Cup and the Longford Cup. Alan S and his team of Micky, Fabrizio and Brian S have reached the semifinals of the men's 4s, which will be played at HOME on Saturday 18 July.

Congratulations to Pauline, Jean and Mavis who have made it to the quarterfinals of the county triples AND the county 4s (with Barbara S). The triples match will be played at HOME on Tuesday 23 June at 6 pm.

The Ladies will be playing Carterton in the National Top Club competition at HOME at 6:15 on Friday 19 June – please come down and show your support!

Club Competitions

Willett Plate

The next afternoon internal competition day will be Sunday 5th July when the Willett Memorial Plate will be up for grabs.

Last year's winners were: Cilla Joyce, Ben Healy & Jack Healy. Players and spectators will be able to enjoy an afternoon tea.

There are two ways to sign-up:

- On-line via the club web site, or
- Add your name to the list that can be found on the Competitions notice board at the Pavilion.

The key details:

- Open to ALL WTBC members.
- 2-wood mixed triples.
- 12 teams. Team membership is drawn, so, enter as an individual.
- Teams will be drawn into two groups of six.
- Each team plays three rounds of 40 minutes.
- A final between group winners determines the overall plate winner.
- £4.00 for players (£3.00 for refreshments only).

The Halls Cup, also known as the Friday Evening Mixed Pairs League, starts on 26 June.

Club Friendlies

Friendly matches have been very well supported this summer, resulting in a current record of nine wins and five losses, with three matches cancelled.

Tuesday Turn Up and Play League

Rosemary, Dave, Phil and Tony are currently closely contesting the top of the TAP league.

Junior Development

Witney Town Bowls Club is very grateful for a generous donation from the Rotary Club towards the purchase of a set of junior bowls. This will be a great help to us as we establish our junior section, and try to attract bowlers of a younger age to get involved. Many thanks to Harold Jerred who helped facilitate this generous gift. We have also received the loan of another set of junior bowls from Bowls Oxfordshire.

The students from Henry Box are making excellent progress transitioning to the grass. We need more helpers on Wednesdays from 3:30-4:30 as we aim to offer more opportunities for them to play matches, against our own members and also juniors from the local area. Please be on the lookout for more developments in this area!

Committee Notices

- Although printed fixture lists have been distributed, these can be subject to change. The most up to date version of the fixtures will always be found on the website, under "Fixtures". If in doubt, please check online.
- At the end of a social event, or post-match hospitality, please assist the bar staff by helping to tidy up.
- Please remember that there is no access to the kitchen during Slimming World sessions
- Bowls cabinet – at the end of the rollup sessions, please ensure that bowls are stored in the cabinet in the correct area (by size) rather than being placed back in willy nilly!
- A polite reminder that phones are not to be used on the green.
- Jam jar alert – Brian B is in urgent need of more empty jam jars, please leave them on the bar (no empty pickle or chutney jars please!!)

100 Club

Congratulations to the May 2026 Winners

1st Prize £100	Sue Greenall
2nd Prize £80	Phil Horton
3rd Prize £50	Brian Messenger
4th Prize £40	unsold
5th Prize £30	Basil Morris

The unsold £40 prize will be redrawn next month.

Next draw will be Monday 29 June at the Open Triples League.

Their Last End

News from Pat Walker at Burford Town:

It is with a heavy heart I have to inform you that Alex Fleming's wife Ann passed away in the early hours of Friday 12th June after a short illness.

She was an active member of Burford Town bowls club for many years. She organised their gala on many occasions, was secretary and competition secretary, and a very good bowler. She stopped bowling about 2 years ago, but became an active social member, always helping and supporting fundraising events. She will be sorely missed by many.

Pat Walker

Burford town bowls club

And Finally

Many of you will know that Pat Smith recently celebrated her 90th birthday – congratulations Pat! As part of her birthday celebrations she is inviting friends to contribute, should they so wish, to Christian Development Uganda, a charity which she has supported for more than 30 years. To find out more, please visit her fundraising page www.stewardship.org.uk/pages/Pats90thbirthdayfund or visit the website www.christiandevelopmentuganda.org.uk.