WITNEY TOWN BOWLS CLUB

News Bulletin 96
October/November 2026



The nights are well and truly drawing in, the green may look like the worms are having a field day, but it's dry and warm in the clubhouse and competitions are coming thick and fast!

Thanks to all of you who attended our Bingo Night, everyone enjoyed the evening and there were some big winners who went home happy! Thanks to Lorna for doing the calling, Brian for a superb cottage pie, and everyone who helped make the evening a success.

Witney Town Wednesday Short Mat Triples League

After the first eight rounds of the competition, the Woodpeckers, followed by the Novices, Allsorts and Burford Lynx.

Oxfordshire Short Mat Afternoon Triples League

After the first 5 weeks of competition, the WT Hawks are in second place (with a game in hand), with the WT Vultures in 3rd.

West Oxfordshire Evening League

After 5 weeks of matches, WT Rams are in 5th place, followed by WT Red Kites in 6th, Woolies and Canaries further down the table.

Short Mat Singles and Pairs Club Competitions

The draws have been made, and play has begun in both short mat club singles and pairs knockout competitions. There have already been some keenly contested matches.

National Competitions 2027 – CLOSING DATE APPROACHING!

There are only a few weeks remaining for club players to put their names down to enter the 2027 National and County outdoor competitions. Entry forms are posted on the boards next to the men's and ladies changing rooms; add your name and the club secretary will complete the entry process.. Closing date for entries is ***30 November 2026***. If you haven't entered before but would like more information, please see Alan Scholan or any of the club's experienced bowlers.

Defibrillator and First Aid Training

We are still looking to run a first aid and defibrillator refresher course at the club for club members, run by a local organisation who have successfully delivered this useful training for us in

the past. For those of you who have expressed an interest, I am awaiting a response from the organisers regarding a suitable date (which will be after Christmas/New Year).

Committee Notices

- Following the EGM and the approved change in the club's financial year, the date for the AGM has been set – it will take place on Sunday 21 March 2027 at 14:00.
- Please note that **only members of the management committee are authorised to open the cash boxes** in the kitchen (for teas) and table by the bar (for rink fees). Do not open them in an attempt to get change. If you don't have the correct change, please put in an IOU and pay next time.
- Spectators and non-players are reminded that there is a charge of £1.00 for tea or coffee.
- Bar staff – we could use more volunteers to be trained for bar work – please contact Peter or Margaret Davidson if you are interested.

Volunteer Cleaners Required

One of the many background tasks that members tackle, to allow us to enjoy our bowling and socialising, is keeping the Pavilion clean and tidy. Our volunteer Cleaning Team is calling for new members. The core Team members each give approximately one hour a week of their time. Nothing too onerous when shared. If you are willing to join the Team then please contact John Milsom. The Team will liaise with you to sort out task(s) and a time convenient to you.
Any help that you can provide will be much appreciated.

Christmas Bazaar and Decorating

Our annual Christmas Bazaar will be held on 14 November 10:00-13:00. There will be stalls, bric-a-brac, tombola, cakes, teas – we will need volunteers to help out on the day. A sign up sheet has been posted in the club for volunteers, or contact Wendy or Susan Close. We still need donations for the tombola and bric a brac stall; if possible please bring these (and cakes) down to the club on Friday afternoon (13th) - or on the morning of the bazaar.
Setup for the bazaar and preparation of the hall for Christmas will take place on Friday afternoon (13th) from 14:00 – helpers welcome! There will be no Friday afternoon rollup this week.

Sherlock Holmes Murder Mystery Night on 28 November

We are excited to announce that a murder will take place at the club on 28 November – but who is the victim – and who is the murderer? All will be revealed in a mystery that is being written and performed especially for our club by visiting actors. There will be the reveal that there has been a murder, interview of the suspects and the denouement during which the murderer is revealed. The audience will be seated at tables and have the chance to discuss among themselves the clues and identify who they think "dunnit"! Tickets for this event will be £8.00 and will include nibbles and dessert. 6:30 for a 7:00 start. A sign up sheet is posted in the club, or else please contact Wendy and she'll add your name to the list.

Christmas Party, Buffet and Christmas Prize Draw

We will once again be having a Christmas party and buffet lunch on Sunday 13 December, starting at 12:00 for 12:30. We will be having a hot and cold buffet, as well as some games to get you in the Christmas spirit. The cost will be £12.00, and the sign up sheet will be posted in the clubhouse in

mid November. If you can't make it to the club and would like to attend, please contact Wendy and she will add you to the list.
The Christmas Prize Draw will be held at the Christmas lunch. The sheets with numbers will be posted on the cupboard door in the clubhouse in mid November, please don't forget to put your £1.00 per entry in the bucket when you choose your number/s! As per last year, the Committee will be donating all the prizes for the draw rather than requesting members to donate. With 20-25 prizes on offer, drawing the numbers on the day should be a slightly less tedious process!

Spartan Rangers Christmas Themed Night – 11 December

Our annual Christmas celebration with Spartan Rangers will take place on Friday evening 11 December. This involves short mat games with our visitors, a hot buffet, and the option to bring out your silliest Christmas jumpers! Please sign up in the clubhouse.

100 Club Winners

Congratulations to these lucky winners in the September draw –

1st Prize £100	Peter Davidson
2nd Prize £80	Dave Close
3rd Prize £50	Phil Horton
4th Prize £45	Sue Greenall
5th Prize £30	Chris Jones

….and October!

1st Prize £100	Chris Tyrell
2nd Prize £80	Steve Cleaver
3rd Prize £50	Lyn Cooper
4th Prize £45	unsold
5th Prize £30	Mavis Hale

Next draw Monday 30 November at the rollup session