

	<p><b>RAM</b> The online <b>Newsletter</b> For <b>Witney Town Bowls Club</b> <b>April 2018</b> <a href="http://www.witneytownbowlsclub.co.uk">www.witneytownbowlsclub.co.uk</a></p>	
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### Forthcoming Events

Open Morning Saturday 21st April 10am - 1pm  
Royal Wedding Race Night and supper Sat 19th May 7pm

After a long and enjoyable indoor bowling season it's now time to get ready for the delights and challenges of the outdoor bowling greens. The weather hasn't decided what season it's in yet so be prepared for whatever it might throw at us and pack everything, i.e. waterproofs, sun cream and all-weather head gear!! Our Green has been suffering with the weather, along with the rest of us so the Greenkeeper has requested that we delay opening for a few days. With long awaited sunshine in the forecast it will hopefully be fit for play on Wednesday 18th April, so come along and get those trial ends in ready for matchplay!

Let's take a look back over the last few months, with plenty to be positive about in both short mat and long mat activities. Our 3 teams in the West Ox league had mixed fortunes throughout the season, each posting some excellent victories, but also some very narrow defeats. The Canaries finished highest of the 3 in 3rd place, the Rams just behind in 4th and the Woolies a little further down in 7th! North Leigh came out on top by a country mile ahead of Witney Mills Weavers.

The Wed Open Triples League has thrown up some interesting, and at times surprising results! This year the team from NorLye has come out on top of the rest in a closely fought contest. It has proved a popular league and has been played in good spirits throughout.

Friday night is SMILE night, especially for 'The Jam' who have retained the title, so well done Brian, Bob, Roy and Caroline. It would be great to have a few more players in this tournament next indoor season so keep it in mind for October!

The Sunday short mat Tens competition was won by our own Reds team.

The Monday and Friday roll-up sessions have been very well attended all season, so thanks to those who have been willing to organise everyone and ensure smooth play each time!

Our long mat activities have included friendlies at Banbury and Oxford City and County. We also took part in the Bob Edwards Trophy at Carterton and won it this year, so well done to those that have supported this event. In the City and County Tens competition we once again reached the semi final stages, but once again failed to proceed any further. We will be back! Two teams took part in the North Oxford league at Chipping Norton but neither made it through to the semi-finals. With more members gaining experience on the long mat this winter, we continue to gain strength in this aspect of the game so well done everyone that's taking part!

Thanks must go to Deanna for organising another excellent winter tour to Bournemouth at the end of February. Despite the near freezing temperatures and a biting wind the indoor bowling was surprisingly successful this year, winning on 2 of the 4 days!

As we bid farewell to the indoor season, so sadly we have to bid a fond farewell to two of our oldest members, Ben Smith and Muriel Cantwell. They will be remembered dearly by all who knew them.

Now it's time to look forward to our outdoor bowling. We have an Open morning on Saturday 21st April from 10-1 so encourage anyone you know that's interested in trying bowls to come along, the kettle will be on!! It's great to see lots of names up for the first few games and hopefully this support will continue throughout the summer please! **Don't forget that most of our Home matches are followed by a buffet tea, this requires your help so please please sign up for duty on the Tea Rota as soon as possible! No shopping required, just enthusiasm and a cheery smile will do!!**

Our Ladies and Men's teams are under new captaincy this year so show your support as they do battle against both old and new teams in their respective leagues. The Ladies in particular will have 2 more matches this season as a team from City and County has joined the league. It seems the boundaries of West Oxfordshire have been stretched even further now to encompass Oxford and Banbury, maybe it's time this league was renamed?!

Alan will once again be hoping for plenty of bowlers taking part in the Monday and Tuesday Triples leagues, he has already received entries from several local clubs for Mondays but there's still room for more of our own. Tuesdays are 'in house' so the more the merrier! Ian Hale will welcome entries for the club competitions this year, so forget the 'I'm not good enough' and make it 'I'll give it a go' instead! Don't forget you can now choose your partner in the Mixed Pairs competition!

Please keep an eye on the calendar by the kitchen door for any private bookings, it would be appreciated if visits to the pavilion could be avoided if possible during these. If you do however need to access changing rooms please be considerate of the users. These bookings are a very important source of income to our club, all that have made use of our facilities have been very pleased with them and we often get repeat, and new bookings as a result.

Just a reminder to check the website for up to date information about club activities, socials and fixtures. Also about the state of the Green, and any enforced closures due to adverse weather! Please note that if it is deemed necessary to use the nets to protect the playing surface this applies to everyone using the green, whether it be for roll ups or competitions. These decisions are made in conjunction with the Green Keeper to ensure the best conditions throughout the summer for all of us, so please respect any notices posted at the club.

Summer well, whatever the weather and enjoyable bowling to everyone!