

Bowls



WARWICK
BOAT CLUB
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A Warwick Boat Club Section Newsletter



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HARRY THE HAWK SET TO SCARE



Meet Harry the Hawk who is set to scare off any bird who dares to damage the bowling green this season. Harry is a kite who will be tethered to the edge of the green and will fly when there is a breeze. He is pictured with his minder, Peter Lamb.

See story about green on p3



Tony Allcock (right) with Mary Wheildon and club captain Mike Rigby at the presentation evening

Tony Allcock to hold pre-wedding celebration at the Boat Club

The president of Bowls England, Tony Allcock MBE, who spoke at the bowls section presentation evening last November, will host his Pre Wedding Celebration at Warwick Boat Club on May 3 this year. The day will include a bowls match featuring some of his guests and two WBC bowlers. The 40 guests, including the president of World Bowls, will enjoy a casual lunch with fizz and a dinner at 5.30pm. WBC staff and volunteers will be needed to help with the organisation and tasks such as serving tea and coffee, car parking help, washing up and erection of the marquee.

Cheers all the way for quiz evening winners



A team named Cheers, consisting of David Howells, Jean Liggins, Barbara Wigmore and Sue Probert, were the outright winners at the bowls section Quiz Evening on February 15. About 50 people attended the popular event with questions including sport, UK politics, history, geography and classic novels. Teams could choose on which subject to play their joker to double their points on that round. The winners scored 68 points and there were three teams in joint second with 58 points. They were: Lambs to the Slaughter (Peter and Jenny Lamb and Martin and Sandra Dean); Yorkshire Vikings (David and Pat Carson and Peter and Anne Gawthorpe); We Don't Know Anything (Dave and Chris Hurst, Di Wood and Vivienne Griffin). Halfway through the proceedings the contestants tucked into a buffet supper. Bowls captain Martin Dean thanked all who helped make the evening a success, especially organisers John and Muriel Fielding. A total of £231 was raised from the evening.



Pictured: Lambs to the Slaughter (Peter and Jenny Lamb and Martin and Sandra Dean); Yorkshire Vikings (David and Pat Carson and Peter and Anne Gawthorpe); We Don't Know Anything (Dave and Chris Hurst, Di Wood and Vivienne Griffin).

Boat Club bowlers heading for the seaside in May

By Chris Hurst

Monday 13 May will see the bowls section set off for their annual bowls tour. This year 40 members will be travelling to Eastbourne staying at the Langham Hotel, which is situated right on the sea front with fabulous views across the bay.

Our tour has been organised by Jacqui Ashley who, I'm sure, will have everything running like clockwork!

Three matches are to be played over the five day



tour. The first on Tuesday is against Hamden Park B.C. situated within Eastbourne's largest park. Wednesday's match will be a short walk from the hotel to The Parade B.C. located directly on the seafront and our final match against Seaford B.C on Thursday is

located between Brighton and Eastbourne.

As in previous years the skips will try and guide their teams to win daily prizes and try to avoid the dreaded wooden spoons. I'm sure whatever happens there will be plenty of laughter and exciting bowls.



Big day for our Mary as county ladies come for gala

Mary Wheildon is the Warwickshire Women's Bowls Association Senior Vice President for this coming 2019 season. She will be President next year. Her season as SVP starts with a Bowls Gala at her home club - WBC - to which all County Ladies are invited. The event is to be held on Thursday, 25 April. It will start around midday and finish around 6pm. Mary has organised a team of Boat Club volunteers to help in managing this event, which is prestigious for Mary on a personal level, but also for our club.



Bowling green to open for season on April 20

The bowling green will open for the season on Saturday April 20. Green coordinator Peter Lamb told the March committee meeting that the green would be prepared by Avonmore at the end of March. The grass would be cut at 5mm for the start of the season. He said he had purchased a hawk kite bird scarer which would be flown from a 12ft pole at the edge of the green from time to time to protect it from bird damage. The wooden surround would be repaired and repainted and 75m of ditch cushions would be put in. Pictured with Peter Lamb and the hawk kite are the ground staff who will be looking after the green this season, Dave Miller (left) and Michael Diles.

Rink booking times are formalised

The Bowls Committee has considered formalising booking times and has decided that rinks should only be booked for a maximum of the following periods:

Morning - 11.00 to 13.30
Afternoon - 13.30 to 17.00*
Evening - 17.00* onward.

* It is recognised that on occasion, e.g. Friday's Gala, the rinks are available earlier in the evening.

Captain Martin Dean said: "Matches will, as always, take precedence in rink booking. The hierarchy for rink booking is County, S Warks., Leagues, external club competitions (e.g. Top Club), internal competitions (incl. WTT), roll ups.

Of course, some common sense may need to be applied on occasion, e.g. if a game is nearing its conclusion but has taken longer than anticipated.

"At present, because the maintenance staff only work days, the green is watered in the morning. When mowing the green is also taken into account it is not possible to commence bowling

before 11.00.

"The watering cycle through the various sprinklers takes around one hour 15 mins. If we have sufficient volunteers who were willing individually, from time to time, to undertake the watering on a weekday evening then we could make the morning start time earlier. The watering process is relatively straightforward as it is time controlled across the six sprinklers. "Peter Lamb has indicated that he is willing to instruct volunteers in this task. Once the cycle is underway there is little to do until it finishes, except perhaps adjourn to the bar for a glass of wine or a pint.

"In the spirit of equality I should point out that the role is not gender specific.

"Please let me know if you are willing to volunteer to help with the summer watering of the green. Remember the more volunteers the fewer occasions each person will be required to cover."

Match fee change

The match fee for men's and Kineton District League matches this season has been set at £3 and there will be a charge of £1 for raffles. The bowls committee agreed to reduce the men's match fee by £1 from last season's price. The ladies' match fee will be £2.

Challenge Cup

Barbara Wigmore plans to organise some challenge cup matches on some Wednesday evenings and Saturday afternoons with a short fixed jack length for bowlers who do not want to play in matches.

Kineton League

A total of 45 members will take part in Kineton District League matches this season. Dave and Chris Hurst have organised 28 league matches with bowlers divided into five squads of nine players. The squad leaders are John Fielden, Martin Dean, Chris Hurst, Diane Harvey and Liz Lamb. The fixtures are listed in a booklet which has been distributed to all members. The first match is at Ilmington on Thursday April 25.

Social events round-up

The Diminishing Whist Drive on January 18 was won by Martin Lusby with Mike Wade runner-up. A total of 29 tickets were sold with a profit of £162 from the evening organised by Lyn Taylor

Over 50 attended the fish and chip supper and competitions draw on March 15. Peter Lamb has sent the full draw to members. There will be a Bridge Drive on April 5. Contact Carolyn Labrum.

Warwick Triples

There are 18 entries for this year's Warwick Town Triples. The finals day is on Sunday August 4.