

New Members

Whether they're new to the area, new to bowls or considering changing clubs, we're always looking for new members. If you know anyone who might like to try their hand at bowls or join Woodford, please ask them to contact me on 01327 261560.

County Competitions

The draw for this years County competitions has been made. Dates are to follow.

Men's Singles (Second Round)

Tom Rigby v Mike Arnold (Whyte Melville) (home)
Colin Brock v J. Freeman (Abington) (away)
Alf Macari v R. Singleton (Whyte Melville) (away)

Men's Pairs (First* & Second Rounds)

Richard Tyack & Alf Macari v Jack Woodford (Byfield) (home)*
Tom Rigby & Brian Collett v M. Walker (West End) (away)
Colin Brock & Chris Golder v T. Brown (Abington) (home)

Men's Triples (First Round)

Richard Tyack, Alf Macari & Ian Goodwin v J. Freeman (Abington) (home)
Colin Brock, Tom Rigby & Chris Golder v R. Pain (Brackley) (away)

Men's Fours (Second Round)

Colin Brock, Tom Rigby, Brian Collett & Chris Golder v R. Singleton (Whyte Melville) (away)

Gardens

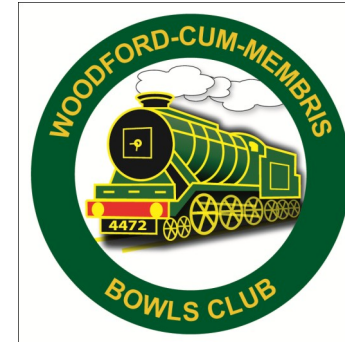
Last season the flowers planted by various members looked beautiful and brightened the grounds, so this year we are planning to do more of the same. I have arranged the donation of some flowers and compost from Whetherday Nursery in Badby, a number of pots courtesy of Green Interiors on Byfield Road and Norman and Barbara Langdon have kindly offered to spread their green fingers across the club. If anyone would like to help or donate any flowers or plants, please contact Tom on 01327 261560.

Draw Night – 11th April

Once again, we plan to hold a draw night at the Clubhouse to which you are all invited. It's an opportunity to get together before the season starts and to find out who stands in your way of silverware this season. Refreshments will be served.

Ladies Gala—24th July

This summer the ladies will have a chance to don their finery and play host to our female friends at other clubs. It will be a fantastic opportunity to show-off the club and its members to others and we should all give them our full support. The first meeting of the sub-committee will be held at Joan Bodily's home (19 Manor Road) on Wednesday 16th February at 7.30pm. Refreshments will be served. If you'd like to be involved, please call Sue Collett on 01295 760223. She can even be contacted by email now at the colletts@hotmail.co.uk.



Woodford-cum-Membris Bowls Club

Newsletter

February 2011

www.woodfordbowls.co.uk

Volunteers

As with most clubs, we depend entirely on the help of volunteers. When you turn up expecting to play at the start of the season, most of the hard work has already been done — preparing the green, grounds and facilities — by a small group of volunteer members and friends of the club.

Remember that this is your club and it will only be as good as you make it. So please don't just leave it to the few who always volunteer. An hour here and there, weeding the path, watering the flowers, cleaning the windows, even making a cup of tea for those working — it can make all the difference.

The green

On behalf of the club I'd like to thank those who have volunteered to tend to the green this year — John Hayward, Chris Golder, Brian North, Brian Collett, Richard Tyack, Mike Brassington and Alf Macari. Our thanks must also go to Paul Shrimpton, the cricket club groundsman, who has already done a lot of work and has agreed to continue helping us throughout the season.

As there was no improvement to the green after the winter, I have sought the guidance of Ken Barber, head greenkeeper at Staverton Park Golf Course, who also has over 40 years experience tending to bowls greens. He has agreed to work with us, free-of-charge, throughout the year.

Work is well underway and much has been achieved already. Paul and I are mowing and aerating the green at least twice a week and we were very lucky to be given the use of a verti-drain, kindly lent and driven by Andy Johnson from the Blue Coat School in Birmingham. The whole of Saturday 5th was spent working on the green and my thanks go to John, Chris, Mike, Linda, Paul Shrimpton and Ken Barber who worked tirelessly.

The next few weeks will be spent spraying the green with fungicide and pesticide, continued aeration and preparing it for levelling, seeding and topdressing. If you'd like to help out, please call me on 01327 261560. We'd love to see you down there. Alternatively, if you'd like to follow our progress, I've started a diary on the club site. Just go to www.woodfordbowls.co.uk/2011. Weather permitting, the green will be open from Sunday 24th April.

Tony & Linda James

In recognition of the tremendous dedication and generosity they showed the club and its members during their many years with us, the committee invited Tony and Linda James to become life members of the club. I'm glad to report that they have both accepted our small token of gratitude. Their letter will be posted on the clubhouse notice board.

Subscriptions & Competition Entry Forms

Enclosed with your newsletter is an annual subscription and competition entry form. These **MUST** be returned to either Tom Rigby (73 Byfield Road) or Linda Brassington (83 Byfield Road) before the end of March.

200 Club

January's winners were...

£50 John Cook
£10 Clarry Bodily
£10 Ian Reid-Jones
£10 Tony James

February's winners are...

£50 Tom Rigby
£10 Olwen Kirkham
£10 Clarry Bodily
£10 Linda James

If you would like to buy a number in the draw or add another to your collection, please contact Sue and Brian Collett on 01295 760223.

Competitions

In light of the limited time to play competition matches last year, teams will now only play one another once in this season's Triples League, to allow members adequate time to complete other competitions and enjoy a social bowl. For the same reasons, it was also decided that we would not be holding a chosen pairs competition this season.

Loan repayments

At its first meeting in January the new committee decided that, funds allowing, the repayment of clubhouse loans would be made a priority. Therefore, two final payments will be made, one in March and the other in June. The committee, past and present, would like to thank those members who contributed towards the financing and building of the clubhouse. It's a testament to what can be achieved through goodwill and determination. Our sincere thanks go to the five members who have stated that they do not wish to receive payment and would like to donate the funds to the club.

Dates for your diary

Draw Night	11th April	President's Day	3rd July
Working Party	16th April	Captain's Day	17th July
Quiz Night	25th June	Ladies Gala	24th July

Cliff Fox

I recently spoke to Jill Fox. As we know her husband, Cliff suffered a brain haemorrhage last Autumn and was seriously ill for some time. She is well, although having some trouble in slowing Cliff down, and is looking forward to seeing everyone in April and playing as much as she's able to this season.

Donation

Woodford-cum-Membris Parish Council has donated £275 for carrying out necessary repairs to the green and facilities. Our thanks go to Bernadette and her fellow councillors.

Fundraising

This season there are many changes planned, some of which are essential and others which are less so. I know that a number of you already raise funds for good causes and we would be delighted to hear any ideas you may have. Please contact either myself or Sue Collett.