

NEWS 2023

Finals Weekend 2023

We were fortunate to have two fine days for the finals of our club competitions on the 2nd and 3rd of September.

All competitors in these competitions have played knockout matches over the last weeks and the emerging finalists competed on Saturday and Sunday to win the cup or trophy for their chosen events. Spectators were treated to a display of excellent bowls matches, we congratulate all finalists for their contribution to an enjoyable weekend of bowls.

Previous 'News' items have announced the results of the Nominated Pairs competition, the Open Triples competition and the OFFA trophy.

<u>ONE DAY Competitions</u>	Finalists	Winners
Men's Singles	John Gilbey v Victor Griffiths	John Gilbey
Ladies Singles	Rosie Griffiths v Sarah Cawdell	Rosie Griffiths
Open Singles	Cliff Geary v Jef Cawdell	Jef Cawdell
Novice Singles	Roger Piosek v Harry Ardill	Roger Piosek
Open 2 woods Singles	Jef Cawdell v Steve Misseldine	Jef Cawdell
Men's Pairs	Len Ward & Victor Griffiths v Jef Cawdell & Mike Jones	Jef Cawdell, Mike Jones
Ladies Pairs	Jane Stainforth & Lucy Comerford v Sarah Cawdell & Sheila Cadge	Sarah Cawdell & Sheila Cadge
Open Pairs	Cliff Geary & John Jeacock v Jane Stainforth & Valerie Gomersall	Cliff Geary & John Jeacock
Ladies 2 wood Pairs	Diana Lawrence & Jane Stainforth v Valerie Gomersall & Lucy Comerford	Valerie Gomersall & Lucy Comerford



2023 Mens Singles winner



2023 Ladies Singles winner



2023 Open Singles winner (Rosie Griffiths presenting)



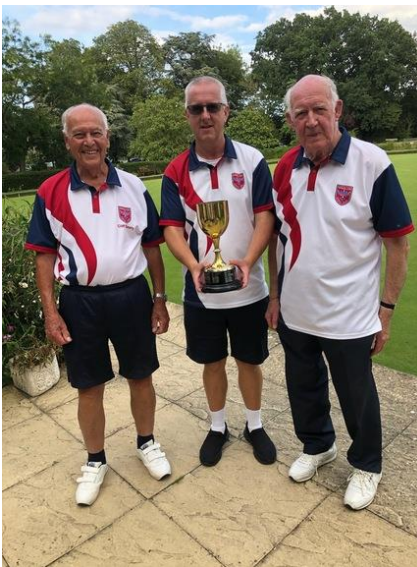
2023 Novice Singles winner



2023 Mens Pairs winners



2023 Ladies Pairs winners



2023 Open Pairs winners



2023 Open 2 woods Singles winner



2023 Ladies 2 woods Pairs winners

Mens Triples 17th September 2023

On Sunday the 17th of September the last competition finals match was played.

Two teams, John Gilbey, Victor Griffiths & Terry Pomroy, and Cliff Geary, Randell Moll and Roger Piosek, having progressed through the knockout rounds to meet in the final.

The rain began to gently fall as the first bowl was played and increased in intensity until play was suspended after six ends. Twenty minutes later, after a cup of tea was consumed, the rain stopped and the game was completed. The match was keenly fought and the winners agreed that the contest could have gone either way, despite the comfortably looking 16-7.

Congratulations to the Mens Triples winners John Gilbey, Victor Griffiths and Terry Pomroy



Mens Triples winners



Mens Triples finalists

2023 Presidents Day: Spoon Drive

Presidents day 2023

Sincere thanks to our President, Gliff Geary, for hosting the spoon drive. We were fortunate to have wonderful weather. The final club activity for 2023 was keenly played with spectators also enjoying the match.

A spoon drive is an internal club competition where randomly selected teams of three play four 5-end games against other teams. Competitors play in a different position for each game against a different opposing team. Each competitor records his or her game score, resulting in a total number of shots won at the end of the competition. The competitor with the highest score after the four games wins the prize. It sounds rather complicated, but when organised so well by John Jeacock, thank you John, everything ran smoothly and the afternoon was enjoyed by all 30 players.

We took a tea break between games and at the end of play we enjoyed a substantial meal. We thank Cliff's family of helpers who organised the meal and looked after us for the evening.

And the winner, actually two players achieving the same number of shots won, were Sheila Ward and Colin Bishopp.



Joint winners



On the Green



Nominated Pairs - 28 August 2023

24 members gathered at the club for our annual Nominated Pairs competition.

The 12 pairs were drawn into 2 groups. Each team played the other teams in their group over 5 ends with the group winners playing each other in the final.

The final was contested over 6 ends between David Midwinter & John Jenkins and Len Ward & Victor Griffiths.

Ultimately Len & Victor ran out the winners, congratulations to them and to David & John for reaching the final.

Thank you to all those that help set up and cleared down the green and to all the spectators that turned up to watch.

Thanks and well done to everyone involved in another enjoyable afternoon of bowls



Nominated Pairs winners



Nominated Pairs finalists

WBC v Bradwell (JL Trophy) 26th August

The second match for the JL trophy was played at Bradwell. After the first match Winslow was one point down so there was a high expectation that we could retain the trophy.

However, Bradwell was also determined to win this year and the return match turned out to be a difficult day for all our teams.

Although we won on two of the four rinks, we were well beaten on the other two.

Len Ward's team won by 20 shots to 15 and Cliff Geary's team fought back from a first half deficit to win by 18 shots to 17. The other two teams led by Tony Lawrence and John Jeacock were down at the break and were unable to recover the deficit after the tea break. Unfortunately we had to surrender the trophy.

Our President, Cliff Geary presented the Trophy to the Bradwell President, John Bullard.

OFFA Trophy – Drawn Triples 19 August 2023

18 members gathered at the club for our annual OFFA Trophy competition.

The 6 teams were drawn into 2 groups. Each team played the other teams in their group over 2 ends with the group winners playing each other in the final.

The final was contested over 8 ends between Cliff, John Jeacock & Sheila Cadge and Colin, John Jenkins & Jane.

After the 8th end the scores were level so an extra end was needed to split the teams.

Ultimately Cliff, John Jeacock & Sheila Cadge come out on top after a close measure.

Thanks and well done to everyone involved in another enjoyable afternoon of bowls.



OFFA trophy winners



OFFA trophy finalists

WBC v Bradwell (JL Trophy) 12th August

We had a day of mixed fortunes, especially with the weather. It was nice and sunny when we started, but soon turned to occasional drizzle, but we carried on till half time at ten ends. We continued after tea until we had a absolute downpour and everybody ran for cover.

At this point the Bradwell captain and I had a discussion on safety to play and it was decided to call the game off.

The one problem we had was that some rinks had completed 10 ends some 11 and some 12 so we drew a line under 10 ends and counted the score, the final result, surprising because we were loosing heavily on two rinks, was 30 shots to Winslow and 31 to Bradwell.

So we go to Bradwell for the next match one shot down.

Open Triples Competition - Sunday 6 August 2023

On Friday 4 August, having seen that the BBC and the Met Office were both forecasting 80% chance of rain, I made the difficult decision to postpone the Open Triples Competition that was due to be played on Saturday 5 August. Having looked at the fixture list and the remaining competition matches that need to be accommodated I decided that the best thing to do was to play on Sunday 6 August as the weather forecast looked much better. I am very sorry to have had to do this as I know that a number of members that were due to play on Saturday could not play on Sunday but I wanted to do my best to ensure that the competition could be completed.

As it transpired it didn't rain in Winslow until about 4:30 on Saturday but I understand that it rained hard all day in Buckingham.

I was delighted that 15 members were able to attend on Sunday which meant that we had 5 teams battling for the trophy. I decided that simplicity was the key so opted for a random draw for teams and then we would play a knockout competition.

Teams A & B would play a preliminary round match and then the Semi Finals would be between the winners of A & B against Team C and Teams D & E would contest the other one.

Dorothy kindly draw the names out of the hat for me and the teams drawn were;

A	Kay	Jef	Valerie
B	John Thorogood	Stan	Lucy
C	Roger H	Sheila C	Roger S
D	John Gomersall	Dorothy	Rosie
E	Jeanie	Victor	Sarah

The preliminary round match between teams A & B was a very close affair with neither team picking up more than 1 shot per end for the first 6 ends. At the end of the match both teams had won 4 ends and the only 2 shots scoring end of the match proved to be decisive with Team A going through to the Semi Final.

Team D lead their Semi Final against Team E and found themselves 3 shots ahead on the final end. Team E fought hard and picked up a 2 with the last bowl but it wasn't quite enough so Team D qualified for the final by 1 shot.

Team A took the lead early on against team C in the second Semi Final and also went into the final end 3 shots up. Team C bowled very well to be holding the 3 they needed to send the match into an extra end with the last bowl of the match to be played. Unfortunately for Team C they didn't end up scoring the 3 they needed so Team A progressed to the final. There were some sensational bowls played in this match and one end I will never forget when the leads (Roger H and Valerie) put all of their 6 bowls within a foot of the jack with each bowl knocking the previous one out of shot position next to the jack – quite incredible!

Compared to the preceding matches the Final between teams A & D was a relatively high scoring match. Both teams won 4 ends but Team A ran out winners due to a slice of good fortune rather than having played the better bowls.

I hope that all the members that were able to participate enjoyed themselves as much as I did.

Congratulations to our first competition winners of the season...Open (Drawn) Triples Winners - Valerie, Kay and Jef.



On the Green

Away v Olney in B&D League Monday 31 July 2023

4 Triples made the "long" trip over to Olney for our penultimate B&D League match on Monday evening. Our team included Mick Bigby making his debut for the club.

It was a cool but pleasant evening and given the weather recently I'm sure I speak for everyone when I say we were delighted that it didn't rain.

Another close match ensued with 2 Winslow Triples wining and 2 losing. Unfortunately the 2 that lost did so by more than the 2 that won so we lost the game 65:73 giving Winslow 4 points and Olney 10.

On rink 2 Roger P, Lucy and John Gilbey fell behind 4:12 after 9 ends but fought back strongly in the second half ultimately losing 15:18. I suspect a couple more ends would have seen them overtake their opponents.

On rink 3 our Triple of Jeanie, Cliff and Colin had a tough evening. At the half way stage they were doing well and were only trailing 6:8 but in the second half their opponents took control of the game winning 12:30.

Rink 4 had the closest final score with Sheila Cadge, Victor and Len wining 15:14 to secure 2 valuable point for us. After 9 ends we were 4:10 down but our team won 7 of the last 9 ends to complete a terrific turnaround.

On rink 5 Mick, Sarah and Jef had a very slow start and found themselves 0:5 down after 3 ends. Once they settled down and got on the scoreboard with a single shot on end 4 they didn't look back wining 11 of the next 15 ends wining 23:11 to give us our other 2 points.

Good luck to everyone playing in our final B&D match of the season at home v Stoney Stratford on Tuesday 8 August.

Away v Bletchley Town Saturday 29 July 2023

For the third time in 18 days we sent 4 Triples to Bletchley Town, this time for a friendly match.

We were welcomed by captain for the day Gordon and were able to play in sunshine which made a change from the weather we have had to contend with recently.

This was an unusual fixture in that 3 of the 24 bowlers were playing in their first match. Winslow were represented by Pete Joyner and Roger Hayman who are both new bowlers this year and we are delighted that they have chosen to play some competitive bowls having only recently taken up the game.

This was another close match with the outcome not decided until the penultimate bowl of the game. All four Triples were involved in contests that swung one way and then the other ending up very close.

On rink 2 Stan, Mike and Len fell behind 2:12 after 8 ends but fought back to 12:12 over the next 3 ends. We then won the next 2 ends to take the lead but eventually our opponents finished slightly stronger and we lost 15:18 – a great comeback by our team!

Rink 3 was almost a mirror of rink 2 with Roger H, Roger P and Jef taking an 11:2 lead after 8 ends. Our opponents then won 5 ends in a row to lead by 2 shots but a decent finish saw us win 22:18.

Rink 4 followed a similar pattern to rink 3 with John Jenkins, Sarah and Colin leading 15:2 after 8 ends. Unfortunately we only won 2 of the last 10 ends and were eventually overtaken on the final end to lose 18:19.

Rink 5 was a closer affair with Pete, Cliff and John Gilbey winning 16:14 but it could have been a much bigger win had they not lost a big score on end 3. Nonetheless they did not let this setback get them down and they won 11 of the 18 ends which is quite some feat.

The final score was 71:69 to Winslow. As we also, rather embarrassingly, had a clean sweep taking home all 4 raffle prizes.

As you can see from the above our highest winning rink was that of Roger H, Roger P and Jef.

It was very pleasing to see that both of our debutants finished on winning teams, lets hope that this continues for some time.

This week my thanks go to

All the members of Bletchley Town who prepared the green and the refreshments and Kevin for running the bar

Pete for stepping up from reserve at short notice

Roger H and Pete for representing the club for the first time

Thanks and well done to everyone involved in another enjoyable afternoon of bowls

Home v Newport Pagnall (B&D League) Tuesday 25 July 2023

Another tough day for Winslow in the Bletchley and District League will all of our teams losing meaning a 14:0 loss for us.

Our Triple of Stan, Cliff and Lucy put up a good fight but unfortunately lost the last two ends of their match to fall to a 15:12 defeat.

We have now played 3 games in this competition and have won 1 and lost 2. Let's hope for a better result at Olney on Monday

Away v Bletchley Town (B&D League) Sunday 23 July 2023

As I type this report I look out of the window and see the rain falling (again). Having called off the match with Long Crendon on Saturday because of non-stop rain I am somewhat struggling to believe that we played our Bletchley & District Mixed Triples League match in beautiful sunshine yesterday.

Unfortunately for us the weather was probably the highlight of the day.

This match was rearranged as the first attempt to play it was stopped by (you guessed it) rain! Unfortunately we had a number of players from the original game that could not play on Sunday so I was grateful to those who filled in for us.

It seemed that Bletchley took the opportunity to strengthen their team calling up an England Ladies International bowler (who won the Ladies County Pairs competition the day before) along with the National Men's Senior Pairs Winners (2016/17) and this worked out well for them.

Sadly all of our Triples lost (meaning that Bletchley score 14 points to our 0) but on another day the outcome could have been very different as 3 of the matches were quite close.

Our Triple of Diana, Richard and Tony were level after 11 ends but their opponents finished very strongly

Roger S, Dorothy and Colin were level with 2 ends to go having fought back from being 8 shots down but were eventually beaten

Victor, Sarah and Jef had a very close game with neither side ever gaining a significant lead but ultimately they lost by 3 shots

My thanks this week go to

Diana, Fiona and Tony for agreeing to play so we could put out a full team

We have played 2 games in this competition and have won 1 and lost 1 so not a bad start. Fingers crossed for a positive result when we play Newport Pagnell on Tuesday evening.

Thanks and well done to everyone involved in another enjoyable afternoon of bowls

WBC v Bradwell (B&D League) Thursday 20th July

We started in the rain and finished in the gloom of the early evening, and although the green was difficult we managed to win on 3 rinks out of 4 and by 78 shots to 55 overall.

A special mention to Rosie and Victor Griffiths and Colin Bishopp for a splendid 30 shots to 7 win on their rink.

Away v Woburn Sands Sunday 16 July 2023

4 Mixed Triples travelled to play at Woburn Sands on Sunday.

We were welcomed by captain for the day Chris and the game got underway in very overcast conditions. As was the case in the Bucks Plate game the previous day the match was more affected by the wind than it was any rain.

As often seems to be the case Winslow had 2 winning and 2 losing Triples. On this occasion the winning Triples did not win by as many shots the losing Triples lost by so Winslow lost by 9 shots (55:64). Our highest winning rink was Diana, Sarah and Tony, well done to all of them.

On a personal note my Triple was involved in a crazy game. After 10 ends we were 16:2 down and we just couldn't catch a break. Then for reasons I cannot fathom the game turned on its head and we won 7 of the last 8 ends scoring 17 shots to 1 to win 19:17. It really was a game of 2 halves and well done to John Jenkins and Cliff for helping me to make it happen.

My thanks this week go to

The members of Woburn Sands that prepared the green, ran the bar and provided our refreshments

Cliff for standing in for Roger S

Sheila W for playing a full game when I know that she prefers to only play 9 ends

Thanks and well done to everyone involved in another enjoyable afternoon of bowls

Away v Broadway Saturday 15 July 2023

Bucks Plate Quarter Final

Our Bucks Plate Quarter Final against Broadway turned out to be a rather one-sided match. 4 Men's Triples set off at 8:30am from Winslow to travel to Chesham to play on their artificial green. With heavy rain forecast we started our match more in hope than expectation of completing it without getting soaked.

As it happens there was some rain but the wind proved to be more of a problem. Perfectly delivered woods were swept sideways changing the path of the wood by as much as a metre turning good woods into bad and vice versa.

Winslow managed to win on one rink with another narrowly losing out in the closing ends but overall we were well beaten. I think this should go down as "good experience" for those of us that have never played on a non-grass outdoor surface before.

I am delighted that we were able to qualify for the Quarter Final of this competition and hope that maybe we can do the same again next year.

Congratulations to Broadway and we wish them the best of luck in the next round.

Thanks and well done to everyone involved in an eventful morning of bowls

Away v Cheddington Sunday 9 July 2023

4 Triples from Winslow travelled to Cheddington and were welcomed by Mick. Once again we played 18 ends straight through as is the practice at Cheddington.

Overall this was a very close match but it was a very different story when each rink is examined. One triple won by a big score another was well beaten with the final 2 having fairly close games. In the end 2 of our Triples won and 2 lost and the final score was 67:71 in favour of Cheddington. Our highest winning Triple this week was Rosie, Roger Piosek & John Gilbey winning by 17 shots.

This week my thanks go to

All the members of Cheddington who prepared the green, the refreshments and for running the bar
Jeanie for stepping up from reserve at very short notice

Thanks and well done to everyone involved in another enjoyable afternoon of bowls



Home v Aston Clinton Sunday 2nd July 2023

Aston Clinton captain for the day was Sheila and Winslow Club Vice Captain John Gilbey captained for us.

We played 4 triples in rather cooler weather than recent games and took a tea break after 9 ends.

At half time Winslow were down by 28 shots to 34 but a good second half saw us claw this back with an incredible win on rink 5 by 34 shots to 7 for John Jenkins, Rosie Griffiths and John Jeacock.

Although we lost on 2 rinks the triple on rink 2 consisting of Sheila/Len Ward, Robin Galvin and Colin Bishopp made sure of an overall victory for Winslow by winning the last 3 ends to ensure a 7 shot victory on their rink.

So the overall result was Winslow 71 Aston Clinton 62

It was first time as skips for Colin Bishopp and Mike Jones so well done to them. Thank you to Tony and Diana for preparing the refreshments.



On the Green

WBC v Chandos Park Sunday 26 June 2023

Another 5 rink team from Winslow was welcomed to Chandos Park by Captain Norman. Once again we played 18 ends straight through as is the practice at Chandos.

This was probably the closest match I have been involved in with all 5 rinks having very close games.

The highest scoring triple scored 18 shots while the lowest scoring triple scored 14 shots. Probably more by chance than design, when the game ended Winslow had not lost on a single rink but only won by 6 shots.

For those interested the scores were 16:14, 15:15, 16:15, 17:15 & 18:17. As you can see every head to head went down to the last bowl of the rink – you can't get much closer than that!

We had 2 highest winning rinks this week, congratulations to Jeanie, Mike & John Gomersall and Roger P, Steve & Jef for winning by just 2 shots.

The rink of Rosie, John Jeacock & Len are certainly worthy of a special mention as they fought back from 1:13 down after 8 ends to win 18:17 by scoring a 3 on the last end.

This week my thanks go to:

All the members of Chandos Park who prepared the green and the refreshments and Cheryl for running the bar

Victor for stepping up from reserve to play for our opponents when they had a player drop out at short notice

Lucy for making her first appearance of 2023. We look forward to seeing her on the green representing the club again very soon

Norman and Colin for completing their game as a pair for the last 4 ends when their skip was beaten by the heat of the day

Thanks and well done to everyone involved in another enjoyable afternoon of bowls



On the Green

Away v Aylesbury Town Saturday 17 June 2023

I was delighted that we were able to take 5 Triples to Aylesbury where we were welcomed by Captain Darren. On this occasion we played 18 ends straight through as is the practice at Aylesbury.

This was a very to and fro match with the outcome in the balance all the way to the final end. Ultimately Winslow won on 3 of the 5 rinks with a final score was 78:73, an narrow 5 shot win for Winslow.

Our highest winning rink this week was that of Diana, Sarah & Tony winning by 9 shots.

This week my thanks go to

All the members of Aylesbury who prepared the green and the refreshments for our visit

Sheila C for stepping up from reserve to play when Jeanie had to drop out at short notice.

John Jeacock for being our unused reserve

Thanks and well done to everyone involved in another enjoyable afternoon of bowls

Away v Scots Sunday 11 June 2023

On a very hot and muggy afternoon, with thunder forecast, we were welcomed to Scots by Captain Doreen. With the combination of the heat and inclement weather pending we agreed to reduce the game to 16 ends rather than our customary 18.

All 16 Winslow players arrived in good time and we were able to "Kick-off" early.

This match followed a very similar theme to other games we have played this year where we had 2 rinks that won well, 2 that lost and 1 rink where the game was very close.

The final score was 59:70, an 11 shot win for Scots.

Interestingly the scores were level after 14 ends but unfortunately 4 of our 5 rinks lost both of the last 2 ends to give Scots their win.

The eagle-eyed amongst you will have spotted that we took 16 players to Scots. This was because Victor and Rosie agreed to play half the game each. This proved to be a godsend as about half way through the game the heat took it's toll on one of our players and they had to stop playing. Fortunately we had a player on-site to take over at this point. I am delighted to report that the player taken ill has since made a full recovery.

Our highest winning rink this week was that of Roger P, Steve and Jef winning by 12 shots.

This week my thanks go to

- All the members of Scots who prepared the green and the refreshments for our visit
- Rosie and Victor for initially agreeing to split the game between them but then playing on when we were a player down.
- Mike and Norman for being our unused reserves

Thanks and well done to everyone involved in another enjoyable afternoon of bowls

Saturday 3 June - Men's Triples

On a beautiful sunny afternoon 18 of the male members of the club participated in a hard fought battle to qualify for the final of the Men's Triples competition.

It was terrific to see some people playing who do not regularly play competitive matches for the club and I hope that they enjoyed the experience.

Many of the players also commented on how nice it was to see other members come along to watch / support us during the play. There were also several groups of spectators viewing the matches from Tomkin's Park. Wearing the new team kit, our competitors put on a good show for all.

Congratulations to Team C (John Gilbey, Victor & Terry) who won all 3 of their matches. They will be joined in the final by Team A (Cliff, Roger P & Randell) who won 2 of their 3 matches and qualified by being 1 shot ahead of Team B (Jef, Norman & David M) on shot difference.

The date of the final is to be decided in the next week or so.

Thanks and well done to everyone involved in another enjoyable afternoon of bowls

Home v Brackley Saturday 27 May 2023

On a beautiful sunny afternoon we welcomed Captain Elaine and members of Brackley to Winslow for our game consisting of 4 triples.

Although not playing in the game Victor cut the green on Saturday morning and Rosie ensured that the clubhouse was fresh and clean – thank you to you both.

The game itself was a rather one sided affair from the beginning. Although in the early stages Winslow were winning on 2 rinks and losing on the other 2 the scores were very different and Brackley soon built a lead that would never be threatened. The final score was 53:97, a well deserved win for Brackley.

Establishing which was our highest winning rink was a simple process as we only had one rink that won. Congratulations to Tony, John Jeacock and Diana in achieving what none of the rest of us could do. Having said that our rink of Cliff, Colin and Fiona came close to winning and were just overtaken at the end of the match.

This week my thanks go to

The green-keeping team headed by our greenkeeper Roger P. The green is running much faster this year than last. I am sure that Roger would be the first to say that this is in no small part down to the clubs investment in a new lawnmower this year.

Sarah and John for running the bar

Len for organising the refreshments and Jane & Kay for serving them.

John Jeacock for standing in for one of our players that had to drop out for personal reasons.

John Jenkins and Sarah for being our unused reserves

All members of the club that clean and generally maintain the clubhouse

Thanks and well done to everyone involved in another enjoyable afternoon of bowls

Home v Wing 21st May

Our match against Wing on Sunday included a number of "firsts". New member Jeanie made her club debut, we had tied highest winning rinks and Winslow scored 100 shots for the first time in many a game,

We enjoyed ideal playing conditions during the match with glorious sunshine all afternoon although the end nearest the clubhouse did get a little chilly once the shadows started appearing.

At the half time tea break the scores were tied at 55:55 with a quite remarkable 33 shots being scored on one rink in just 9 ends!. As per the previous week at Thame, Winslow won on 3 of the 5 rinks with an overall score of 100:83 coincidentally giving us another 17 shot win.

The highest wining rink accolade was shared by two rinks both of which won by 17 shots (17 seems to be becoming our lucky number). After a slow start and falling 0:4 behind the rink of John & Valerie Gomersall and John Jeacock fought back well winning 7 of the last 9 ends achieving an excellent 27:10 win. While the rink of debutant Jeanie, Roger Piosk and your captain were never really troubled after picking up a 6 on the forth end and finished with a 26:9 win.

This week my thanks go to

Roger P and Victor for cutting the green before the game. In my opinion the green is running very well and is an absolute pleasure to bowl on. John Gilbey mentioned that our recent French visitors couldn't believe that it was real grass.

Sarah and John for running the bar

Roger Shelton for organising the refreshments.

Sarah for standing in for Wing as they had a player fall ill on the morning of the game

Richard and Tony for being our unused reserves

Ken & Joan and the gardening team to their hard work around the green

Neil Holman, he (and anyone else at the game) knows why!

Thanks and well done to everyone involved in another enjoyable afternoon of bowls

Away v Thame 14th May

Our match on Sunday marked three firsts. It was our first away match of the season, our first ever visit to play Thame (outdoors) and it was the first time that John Jenkins had played for Winslow. Thame is a lawn bowls and tennis club which has a very impressive new clubhouse and a number of floodlit tennis courts adjacent to the bowling green. We received a warm welcome from captain Bill and the other members of Thame before kicking off our 18 end match.

The match proved to be a rather strange affair

one of our rinks won by a large margin.

a second rink raced into a commanding 10+ shot lead before being pegged back to a very close finish but they held on for a win

a third rink fell behind by 10+ shots but fought back over the last few ends to minimise their loss

the fourth rink had a close game but were never seriously in trouble of losing and won 4 of the last 5 ends for a solid win

and our final rink were behind all game but also won 4 of the last 5 ends to minimise their defeat

Winslow won on 3 of the 5 rinks with an overall score of 84:67 giving us a 17 shot win (with 15 of those shots coming in the last 3 ends).

The highest winning rink was certainly not as close as it has been in recent weeks with John Gilbey, Robin and John Jenkins winning by 20 shots. Congratulations to all three of them, a great start to his Winslow bowling career for John Jenkins and I hope he keeps up his 100% winning record for many weeks to come.

My thanks go to Kay for being on standby as our unused reserve this week and also to John T for taking up the challenge of playing his first game as Skip while I have been captain.

Thanks and well done to everyone involved in another enjoyable afternoon of bowls.



On the green



After the game



Home v Bucks Masonic Thursday 11 May 2023

On a pleasant afternoon we started our home match against Bucks Masonic with all weather forecasts indicating a strong chance of rain in the middle of the afternoon. With this in mind we scheduled a brief break at the side of the green for a revitalising cup of tea after 9 ends.

After our traditional "spider" competition was won by Robin, who was making a guest appearance for our opponents, the game got underway.

Winslow made a strong start and at the break we were winning on all four rinks. The tea break came at a good time as it started raining as the tea was being poured so it gave the players an opportunity to shelter from the rain for 10 minutes. Once the rain eased we made our way back onto the green and I'm delighted to say that the rain then stopped and did not reappear to we were very fortunate to be able to play 18 ends and we hardly got wet at all.

Bucks Masonic faired better in the second half of the game but the lead that Winslow established early on proved to much and in the end we prevailed by 88 shots to 42 with all four of our triples winning.

Tony, Rosie (Victor) & David were our highest winning rink (16 shots) but the Triples of John Gilbey, Norman & Colin and Jef, Roger P and Sarah both had double digit wins.

On this occasion we had 2 reserves for this match which was just a well as the day before we were due to play both sides had a player drop out so thanks go to Colin and Sarah who filled in and as I have already mentioned above special thanks to Robin for playing for our visitors.

Bucks Masonic have a tradition of running a sweepstake during the mid game break to predict the final points difference between the teams and which side would prevail. With a final difference of +46 for Winslow I asked what happens when no one get the result right. I was somewhat taken aback when I was told that there was a winner with the correct answer. I can only admire David's confidence in his teammates when he predicted such a big win for Winslow!

Huge thanks to Len and John J for providing the half time cup of tea and the hot meal after the game. This clearly took a lot of effort and I for one appreciated their efforts. Thanks also to John J for running the bar and the raffle.

Thanks and well done to everyone involved in another enjoyable afternoon of bowls.



Announcing the game

Home v Waddesdon 7th May 2023

In a very busy Tomkins Park we hosted Waddesdon for a friendly match consisting of 4 Triples. With the match falling during the Coronation weekend we found ourselves playing in amongst the celebrations in the arboretum. This created a great atmosphere but did cause problems with communication as the band was literally the other side of the hedge around the green.

We were very fortunate that the match was played in the sunshine as the previous day had been non-stop rain and the Bank Holiday Monday (as I am writing this) does not look much better.

In a very close game, at the half time tea break Winslow were not losing on a single rink and held a narrow 7 shot lead and I feared the usual second half turnaround! Sure enough by the end of the match Waddesdon had won on 3 rinks with Winslow only winning on one.

Fortunately our 1 winning rink did so by such a margin that it more than offset the scores on the losing rinks to give Winslow another win. Well done and thanks to Roger S, Sarah and Cliff. The final score was 63:55 to Winslow.

I have already mentioned our highest (only) winning rink but special mention should also go to the rink of Sheila W/Victor, Roger P and John Gilbey who fought back from 5 shots down to only lose by 1 and the rink of Rosie, John Jeacock and Len who lost by just 2 shots having been 5 behind with only 3 ends remaining.

With our winning margin being only 8 shots these 2 come backs were, in their own way, just as important as the big win on Cliff's rink and show the importance of fighting to the end as every shot counts in the overall total.

The eagle-eyed amongst you would have spotted that one of our Triples had 4 players (see Sheila/Victor above). We did not play a "Rink" but split the match with Sheila W playing the first 9 ends and Victor playing the last 9. This is something that I am very happy to do in friendly matches so if you would like to play in a game but feel that 18 ends is too many for you then please put your name down to play and let me know and I will "pair" you up with another player so you can play half the game each.

Special thanks go to Roger P and Victor who managed to get the green cut on the morning of the match. Quite some achievement considering the rain the day before and I for one certainly appreciated it as the green would have been very heavy if it had not been cut.

Our crowds seem to be growing week by week. Of course this week it was helped by the activities in the park and we had many members of the public watching over the hedge but I noticed at least 3 prospective members, and a former member, come to see us and we were also supported by Kay and Dorothy (I'm sorry if I have missed anyone else that was in attendance).

Thanks and well done to everyone involved in another enjoyable afternoon of bowls.



On the green

Home v Bucks West End Sunday 30 April 2023

On a warm but rather overcast afternoon we hosted Buckingham West End for a friendly match consisting of 5 Triples. The BWE team included their Captain John Nash as well as President Geoff Higgins and Chairman Joelle Jones.

With showers an ever present threat we started the game more in hope than expectation of completing it.. At the half time tea break Winslow held a narrow 7 shot lead but we all know what happens after the break!

A couple of Winslow rinks managed to hold their leads but one of the BWE rinks was clearly rejuvenated by their refreshments and only lost 1 of the subsequent 9 ends gaining an impressive and ultimately match changing win. Congratulations to Eric, Joelle and John B for achieving this turn around.

Although there were a few drops of rain towards the end of the match we managed to complete it without any unexpected interruptions.

The final score was 78:88 to BWE with Winslow winning on 2 of the 5 rinks. Our highest winning rink was Sheila C, John J and John G (who also won the Spider competition) winning by a solid 8 shots but Roger S, Rosie and Len were not far behind with a 6 shot win.

This match was an opportunity for Diana to make her Winslow debut. I hope that she enjoyed her first game and will represent us on many more occasions.

On this subject I would encourage all members that have not represented the club before to consider doing so. Our weekend matches are friendly games playing in a great spirit and often one of the teams has someone playing for the first time, it's a great opportunity to have some fun playing against another club.

I would like to thank Stan for being on standby as our reserve. He was not needed on this occasion but is now guaranteed a game next time he puts his name down. Thanks to John J for running the bar, Pat, Len, Sarah, Rosie and Victor for preparing the refreshments and to all those who turned up early to help set up the green. Thanks also to our green keeping team for all their hard work over the last month getting the green ready for us. I think it is looking in very good shape for this time in the season and I expect it will be a good surface for us to bowl on this summer.

Finally thanks to all those who turned up to support us. At one point we amassed a crowd of 5 people (not including the many members of the public that stopped to watch as they walked through the park)! Thanks and well done to everyone involved in another enjoyable afternoon of bowls



On the green

WBC v Bicester Saturday 22nd April 2023 at Winslow

Another excellent performance by Winslow this weekend with none of our rinks losing and three winning by very impressive scores.

On a very pleasant afternoon Winslow started very well and at the planned break point of 9 ends we were up 57:20. However the weather had turned a little and rain was looking likely so the Captains agreed that we should skip the tea break and play through in an effort to complete the match before the rain came.

As it turned out it stayed dry all afternoon although it certainly got colder and by the end of the match I think all the players were glad to get into the clubhouse to get warmed up.

The second half of the match was a closer affair with Stan, Rosie and Len winning their last end to secure a hard earned draw and Sarah, Richard and Jef winning a very close game on the final end.

Our highest winning rink was Roger S, Victor and Cliff winning by a very impressive 19 shots. Any other weekend 2 of our other rinks might have expected to win this accolade as both rinks of Norman, Colin & Tony and Sheila C, John Thorogood & John Gilbey won by 11 shots.

All together this gave Winslow a win 99:59.

Bicester had 2 bowlers playing in their first competitive match. We all know how daunting this is and we hope that they enjoyed themselves and that they go on to play in many matches in the years ahead.

We had our own debutant with Tony playing his first game for Winslow. Of course Tony has been playing at Wing for many years so not such a daunting task for him as it was for the Bicester newbies and it's great that Tony has started his career with us on a winning rink.

I would like to thank Richard for filling in when Roger P sadly hurt his back so was unable to play. Hopefully Roger will be fit to play next week and more importantly to cut the green in the coming week!

Thanks also to John Jeacock for running the bar, Len and Sarah for preparing the refreshments and to all those who turned up early to help set up the green. Finally thanks to Kay for turning up to support us.

Thanks and well done to everyone involved in another enjoyable afternoon of bowls. I look forward to seeing you on our Open Day next Saturday (29 April)

WBC v Buckingham West End Saturday 25 March

The match was played at Slade Indoor Bowls Club in Buckingham

Congratulations to all members (Norman, Dorothy, John J, Roger S, Cliff, John G, Sheila W, Roger P, Steve, John T, Len and Jef) that played in this fixture as everyone played their part in an excellent victory with Winslow winning on all 4 rinks!

At the tea break after 9 ends Winslow were 7 or 8 shots up on all the rinks. All regular players will know that the break often brings with it a change in momentum of a match and this proved to be the case as Bucks West End started to have an impact on the scoreboard after they were "refreshed".

Bucks fought back particularly well on 2 rinks with scores tied after end 17 but in both cases Winslow showed great character to hold on and win the last end.

The other 2 rinks were a little more one sided with the rink of Steve, Roger P and Sheila W being awarded the pens for being the highest winning rink (+10 shots).

I would like to thank John Thorogood for filling in at very late notice when we had a player unavoidably delayed. With just 75 minutes before play was due to start John agreed to play and you could have knocked me down with a feather when I arrived at Slade to find he was our first player to have arrived – thanks very much John.

Most of our team are regular indoor bowlers but special mentions need to go to Roger Shelton and Len & Sheila Ward who volunteered to turn out for us despite having limited indoor experience. The indoor game is very different to outdoors (and short mat) with the woods swinging considerably further and running much faster so it takes some adjusting to get both the line and length right. All 3 players got to grips with this after a few ends and delivered important bowls during the match. I hope that you enjoyed this experience.

For anyone interested the final score was Winslow 79:56 Bucks West End

Thanks and well done to everyone involved!