



# THE BLOCK

AT THE CENTRE OF SHORT MAT BOWLING IN DEVON

September 2013

Number49

The winter season is upon us once again. Our start to the season is early and begins with the County Singles on the week-end of 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> September, Triples on 21<sup>st</sup> September. The draw was made at a County Committee meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> August and the times etc. have been sent to your Secretary but they are also on the Devon web-site ([www.devonshortmat.co.uk](http://www.devonshortmat.co.uk)). I am sure everyone is looking forward to meeting up again for some very competitive games throughout the winter. The first Inter-County game is on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September against Cornwall and after a really good season last year the County Premier Team will be looking forward to going one step better and bringing the ICC Cup back to Devon and the 'A' Team will aim to return to the winning ways of the 2011/12 season when they won the Final. Why not come along and support your County Team, I can assure you there will be some good bowling. I would also like to remind everyone that registration expired on 31<sup>st</sup> August so please check if yours has been renewed.

A reminder to everyone who has entered the County and National Competitions that if for any reason you cannot attend on the day please let someone know as early as possible. The contact numbers are on all the entry forms and on the web-site but they are printed below for your information.

Competitions Secretary – Richard Ivings 01392 210268 Mobile 07814113096

County Secretary – Irene Smith 01392 874416 Mobile 07968371176

County Chairman – Rose Morrison 01364 644614 Mobile 07786551404

Isca Bowling Centre (*for use on the day only*) 01392 462833 and ask the receptionist to pass on a message.

*Don't forget* to let either Irene Smith or Richard Ivings know asap if you are holding a Club tournament and we can add it to the list on the web-site. This often saves double bookings on any given day. (contact numbers above)

## News from the Clubs

Every year Exeter Nomads SMBC holds a Charity Tournament to raise money for local charities. This year it was held in aid of The Ryan Edwards Appeal. Ryan is a little boy who lives in Exeter and has suffered from cancer since he was diagnosed at the age of 2. He is now six and has only known life with hospitals, operations and constant medication. The treatment he requires cannot be given in this country so it means journeys to Germany and he is slowly improving but it is a long road. This of course is a great expense for the family. On Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May 48 bowlers from all over the County descended on Clyst St. Mary Village Hall to play in a bowls competition. The format was four groups who played a round robin with the winners of each group going through to a semi-final. This was between two Wonford teams on one mat and teams from Winkleigh and Ottery St. Mary on the other mat. The final was a very tight game between Andrew Smith, Pam Toleman and John Parnell (Wonford) and Graham James, Lorraine Axtell and Bob Weafer (Winkleigh). It was so close that an extra end was needed and the winning team was Wonford. Congratulations to both teams. The delight on Andrew's face was great to see. Congratulations to both teams. A lunch of steak and ale pie with mashed potatoes and vegetables, followed by chocolate gateau was served for over 60 people. Along with the entry fee, raffle and an Auction of donated vouchers we raised the magnificent sum of £550. Thank you to everyone who gave so generously on the day.

We have since heard that Ryan is out of hospital and back home and progressing well.

Irene Smith, Exeter Nomads SMBC

Uffculme SMBC have several under-18s in their Club and have been trying to arrange games with other Clubs who also have young members. They have offered the use of their Club once a month on a Sunday afternoon during the winter season for other under-18's to come and join them in a game. The contact at Uffculme is Christina George.

e-mail:- [cmg.consultancy@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cmg.consultancy@hotmail.co.uk) - Telephone:- 01884840678.

**Please note:-** The date for Merton Winter Triples has been changed and will now be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2013.

One of the 'moans' we often hear from local club members is that invitations for local open competitions are not reaching all the members of their Club. How your Club runs is of course a matter for you to decide, but surely everyone in the Club should have a chance to represent their Club, not just the person who receives the invite. Some tournaments allow more than one entry but if it is only one why not have a draw for the place as some Clubs do. So please try and put them on your Notice Board so that all your members have a chance. It is an ideal way for new players to improve their skills but sometimes they never have the opportunity if invites are always taken up by the same people.

The annual Merton Short Mat Bowling Club Summer Triples Tournament took place on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2013.

This year, we were sponsored by the following local businesses:

K Sheppard Plastering; Taw & Torridge Coaches Ltd; WCM Plant Hire; The Bell Inn, Monkleigh; Peter Bright Thatching; A W Tolley/Devon Eco Energy; Yeory Farmhouse Restaurant; Pound-Wise Bookkeeping Service; Malt Scoop Inn; Barometer World; R & S Ware; B. T. Autos (Winkleigh); Pearce Construction (Barnstaple) Ltd.

**THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT, also, thanks to all those who donated raffle prizes.**

Results: 1<sup>st</sup> prize went to Bishops Nympton who won every game making them the clear winners, the 2<sup>nd</sup> prize was taken by Langtree; they won three games and drew one.

All in all, a very successful day, although, one team failed to materialise and did not give any notice. This was a great pity as I had five teams on the waiting-list, so could have filled the position quite easily. Their non-arrival meant that one team from each "red" round had to sit out their game.

The presentation of the trophies was made by Miss Louise Rollason, landlady of the Malt Scoop Inn and chairperson of the Clinton Hall.

**A NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY: OUR NEXT TOURNAMENT WILL BE HELD ON 23<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER 2013**



**BISHOPS  
NYMPTON**

**LANGTREE**



Most of you probably know by now that the membership numbers have been changed this year. The original numbers have not changed but there is now a 1 at the start making them all five figure numbers and this is preceded by ESMBA and followed by DEV. The reason for this change is that ESMBA have joined forces with a company called Countdown Associates Ltd. who give discounts and offer cash back with certain listed companies. If you choose to use this then you will need your number for access online. Richard will be putting details on the web-site shortly and there will be leaflets available at County Competitions at Isca Bowling Centre. Your Area Representatives will also have supplies of these.

**Please send any items for the next issue to Irene Smith:- 40, Winslade Park Avenue, Clyst St. Mary, EX5 1DA Tel:- 01392 874416 or e-mail [jandismith@tinyonline.co.uk](mailto:jandismith@tinyonline.co.uk).**