

Island Times Volume 1 Number 3



READING

Welcome to the third edition of The Island Times.

This week we concentrate on the English Championships at Leamington and the Island internal competitions. We also announce our latest sponsor.

You will have read that the English Championships have Morgan Merryweather, one of our star ladies' player, representing her other club in Oxfordshire, Headington. Morgan played in their team in the triples which got to the final. Unfortunately they lost in the final to a team from Surrey. Morgan's team were leading going into the last end 18 – 17 but the opposition scored 2 to take the English title by 19 – 18.

The club are very proud of Morgan and she is an inspiration to all our club members. Well done Morgan.

The Club are very pleased to announce their latest sponsors **SPECSAVERS in READING**.

They have produced a **Specsavers Reading** banner which will be on display by the green until the end of finals weekend and then will be moved to face the towpath.

Specsaver Reading have also agreed to support Finals' weekend and will be sponsoring the trophies give out to the winners and runners-up of the internal competitions. This is the first time that the Finals have been sponsored.

They will be present on Saturday September 12th offering free ear examinations and hearing tests to our members and friends. They will be on site from 10.00 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. to see our members. There is no need to book, just enter the clubhouse and see the **Specsavers Reading** staff.

They are also offering Goodie bags and cup cakes to people who take up this excellent offer.

There is also the chance to win tickets for free admission to music concerts.

They have also provided ponchos to wear if the weather is like last year and raining.

Specsavers Reading are also trying to source new bowls delivery mats for the club for next season.

PLEASE TURN UP TO THE FINALS TO SUPPORT YOUR FRIENDS BUT ALSO TO THANK SPECSAVERS FOR THEIR SPONSORSHIP OF THE CLUB AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THEIR OFFERS. THEY DESERVE YOUR SUPPORT FOR THEIR GENEROSITY TOWARDS THE CLUB.

Last Saturday, the Merle Gibbs Trophy was played for. Merle Gibbs was an IBC member who was also a painter and she painted a scene of the duel held on the Island in 1163.

The teams played a knock out competition over 11 ends. This is the first year it has been played since 2017 so well done to the ladies for their organisation.

Playing throughout the rain, the six teams were whittled down to two and it was a close final. The winning team of Chris Smith, Renee Ren, Adrian Barrett and skip Fred Clanfield beat Emma Phippard, Sue Rehm, Jamie Plumb and Kevin O'Connor

10 – 9 with the final wood deciding the match. Following the matches, Carol Goddard and Carole Allcock, assisted by Rebecca Ellenby, provided a BBQ and Paul Allcock ran the bar. Well done everyone and our thanks.

The internal competitions have progressed a little .

In the ladies' Triples, Norma Croshaw, Sheila Phillips and Helen Woodley have beaten Mandy Harlow, Susie Rahm and Pat Emmett to progress to the final.

The men's competitions are still taking place, it will be a busy week this week!!!

Oliver Tien and Derek Parsons won over Malvern Costelloe and Ray Emmett to be the first finalists in the pairs.

Alistair McLean beat Kevin O'Connor to progress to the final of the championship where he will play the winner of Dave Bennett and Steve Barlow.

The Handicap saw Graham Lyke beat Alistair McLean and he waits in the final for the winner of Mark Hiner and Ross Courtnage.

Graham Lyke. September 1st 2026.