



ALMERIA LAWN BOWLS CLUB



St Patricks Day Tuesday 17th March 2016

A beautiful sunny day matched the occasion for our members attending the annual **St Patricks Day** celebrations. The bowling arena looked great thanks to Sheila Nuttall, Bryan Hughes and his visiting family decorated the Irish way with every bit of green tinsel that could be found.

It was once again tremendous to see all those members enthusiastically in fancy dress. This year as usual it commenced with a Spider, won by Leighton John and then followed by a game of bowls. In order that all those attending were able to play, our Captain, John Fitzgerald arranged teams between Ladies and Men. The ladies had a good day showing the men the way by winning well.

On completion of the games it was our own fancy dress prize giving time. The winner was Dave Brannon dressed as a bottle of Guinness followed by, Bryan Hughes and Leighton John. The lady's winner was Ann Hayhow, second Julie John and third Pat Deacon.

We were required to finish in a relaxed time to ensure we were ready for the buffet and music. The afternoon M.C. was Tony De Lacy and featured the very talented singer, Paul Christie. The bar and restaurant staff did us proud by keeping us well refreshed and by an excellent meal, namely beef and pork stews with vegetable served to one hundred and eighty hungry mouths.

The annual conker competition run by Joe and Joyce Sibley, ably assisted by Martyn and Ann Hayhow was won by Mick Dutfield.

The raffle sellers were our Lady Captain, Chris Parkinson, Eileen Phoenix, Christina Fitzgerald and Sandra Brown our Social Secretary who also did a great job organising the numbers and payment for the meal.

Clive and Sylvia Pritchard ran the nearest euro coin to the bottle. Finally, to ensure all monies was accounted for was Colin Wright.

Siobhan Herrity visited Etticut, Turre and spoke to Beth who owns the business and represents Vera Orphanage. She welcomed Siobhan and accepted the charity money collected on behalf of Sister Antonia and gave her a receipt for 1,348-67 euros. Included in the amount was the Tombola takings of 559 euro, the most taken for fourteen years.

All in all, this was a fantastic day and I am sure all members will share with me many thanks for the many years Siobhan has worked to make this day so successful. Fourteen years ago her late husband Ray accompanied her and although he is no longer with us continued until this day. She has decided that this year will be the last year accompanied by her good friends, Bob and Margaret-Kirby who have collected prizes and run the Tombola also for many years. Once again many thanks to all.

Photographs by yours truly will be found on our website www.bowlingalmeria.com

Vic Parsons
ALBC Press Officer & Deputy Chairman