



## News and Views: 2017–18 Season – Week 8 – 12 December 2017

### Results

There were ten games again this week; this time it was the turn of the A League to stage four games.

One of those four matches ended in a draw: the one between the **Weaver** and the **Ox–fford**. Elsewhere there were some convincing victories, the biggest margin being in the B League match between the **Harrington Academicals** and the **Waters Green Rams**, which the Rams won by 164 points to 98.

### Tables

The only changes this week were in the C League, where the **Sutton Mutton** gained top spot with victory over the **Park Timers**, while their stablemates the **Sutton Club** had a week off. The winners of the Derby match at the Club on 9 January will take top spot at the half-way stage of the season.

The Mutton's victory over the Timers meant that the **Cock Inn** moved into fourth place with victory over the **Prince of Wales**. Apart from the draw in the A League, this was the closest game of the week in all three leagues: 108 points to 100.

In the A League, the **Ox–fford 'C'** stretched their lead at the top to three points as the **Ox–fford** were held to a draw. The top two play each other in another table-topping Derby match on 9 January, but the 'C' team are now assured of top spot at the half-way stage of the season.

In the B League the top three teams all won, and the **Waters Green Rams** will snatch the top spot from the **Nags Head** if they avoid defeat against the Harrington Academicals in their final game of the first half – or indeed if they score more than 93 points.

### Individual

The top scorers this week were both in the A League: **Alan Hodgson** and **Haydn Thompson**, both with 51. They were both sat in second place in their respective teams, but on opposite sides: Alan went third in the Specialist rounds, and Haydn went fourth.

Alan's score moved him up from seventh to fourth in the A League rankings. Also in the A League, **Alice Walker** moved into second place above **Graham Bailey**.

In the B League, **Keith Pointon** made an even bigger advance – from seventh to third. Keith is now just one question behind **Alan James** in second place, and he may well challenge **Alasdair Reid** for top spot at the half-way stage as he's the only one of the current top four that can play on 9 January. **Dave Partington**, who is in fifth place but only two questions behind Keith, is also in with a chance.

In the C League, **Shauna Barstow** regained the top spot and is now two questions ahead of **Jackie Hulme**, **Wynne Keith-Davies** and **Peter Wilcox**. There are also two players tied in fifth place, and three in tenth.

Alan Hodgson's score was one of only seven personal bests this week. The others were **Scott Dawson** (39), **Mike Proctor** (36), **Nick Crowdy** (33), **Tony Browne** (30), **Martin Biss** and **Pete Dykstra** (both 21).



# Macclesfield Quiz League

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## A League

### Results

<b>Wharfies</b>	109	<b>170</b>	<b>Church House Bollington</b>
Art Higham	33	36 36	Ed Baron Ashton Davies
<b>Ox-fford 'C'</b>	<b>179</b>	127	<b>Dolphin Dragons</b>
Haydn Thompson	51	30	Dave Cooper
<b>Weaver</b>	156	156	<b>Ox-fford</b>
Alan Gilday	36	45	Mark Watson
<b>Dolphin</b>	<b>171</b>	145	<b>British Flag</b>
Alan Hodgson (pb)	51	30 30 30	Tony Browne (pb) Neil Drummond Phil Davies

### Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
<b>Ox-fford 'C'</b>	6	6	0	0	1058	12
<b>Ox-fford</b>	6	4	1	1	981	9
<b>Church House Bollington</b>	7	3	1	3	1097	7
<b>Dolphin</b>	6	3	1	2	930	7
<b>Weaver</b>	7	2	1	4	1080	5
<b>Dolphin Dragons</b>	6	2	0	4	892	4
<b>Wharfies</b>	6	2	0	4	853	4
<b>British Flag</b>	6	1	0	5	874	2

### Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 8
<b>Haydn Thompson</b>	Ox-fford 'C'	6	288	54	42	51
<b>Alice Walker</b>	Ox-fford 'C'	6	264	48	36	42
<b>Graham Bailey</b>	Weaver	7	258	45	30	33
<b>Alan Hodgson</b>	Dolphin	6	255	51	36	51
<b>Peter McBride</b>	Dolphin	6	252	51	33	45
<b>Ashton Davies</b>	Church House Bollington	6	243	51	30	36
<b>Mark Watson</b>	Ox-fford	5	228	48	45	45
<b>Alan Gilday</b>	Weaver	6	219	42	27	36
<b>Liz Horrocks</b>	Dolphin Dragons	6	216	45	21	21
<b>Brian Bogie</b>	Wharfies	5	210	51	30	



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## B League

### Results

<b>Harrington Academicals</b>	98	<b>164</b>	<b>Waters Green Rams</b>
Dave Partington	33	39 39	Scott Dawson (pb) Keith Pointon
<b>Nags Head</b>	<b>159</b>	121	<b>Plough Horntails</b>
Alasdair Reid	39	30	Malcolm Asquith
<b>Royal Oak</b>	<b>141</b>	118	<b>Harrington 'B'</b>
Rosalie James Alan James	30 30	24 21 21	Geoff Parkin Martin Biss (pb) John Green

### Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
<b>Nags Head</b>	7	6	0	1	1055	12
<b>Waters Green Rams</b>	6	6	0	0	962	12
<b>Royal Oak</b>	7	4	0	3	1060	8
<b>Waters Green Lemmings</b>	6	3	0	3	799	6
<b>Harrington Academicals</b>	6	2	1	3	789	5
<b>Plough Horntails</b>	6	2	1	3	761	5
<b>Robin Hood</b>	6	1	0	5	832	2
<b>Harrington 'B'</b>	6	0	0	6	712	0

### Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 8
<b>Alasdair Reid</b>	Nags Head	7	258	54	24	39
<b>Alan James</b>	Royal Oak	7	228	39	27	30
<b>Keith Pointon</b>	Waters Green Rams	6	225	45	27	39
<b>Andrew Wright</b>	Nags Head	7	222	36	27	33
<b>Dave Partington</b>	Harrington Academicals	6	219	48	30	33
<b>Rosalie James</b>	Royal Oak	7	207	45	21	30
<b>Jon Thompson</b>	Waters Green Lemmings	6	192	42	24	
<b>Jim Kennelly</b>	Robin Hood	6	189	42	21	
<b>Malcolm Asquith</b>	Plough Horntails	6	183	39	24	30
<b>Andy Johnson</b>	Nags Head	7	183	36	18	24



# Macclesfield Quiz League

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## C League

### Results

<b>Park Taverners</b>	<b>123</b>	114	<b>Pack Horse Bowling Club</b>
Nick Crowdy (pb)	33	24	Michael Murphy
Shauna Barstow	27		
Pete Dykstra (pb)	21		
<b>Prince of Wales</b>	100	<b>108</b>	<b>Cock Inn</b>
Andy Ridgway	21	27	Peter Wilcox
<b>Sutton Mutton</b>	<b>127</b>	115	<b>Park Timers</b>
Mike Proctor (pb)	36	30	Glyn Bradley

### Table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Total	Points
<b>Sutton Mutton</b>	6	5	0	1	751	10
<b>Sutton Club</b>	6	4	1	1	734	9
<b>Park Taverners</b>	6	4	0	2	764	8
<b>Cock Inn</b>	7	3	1	3	833	7
<b>Park Timers</b>	6	3	0	3	745	6
<b>Prince of Wales</b>	7	2	0	5	777	4
<b>Pack Horse Bowling Club</b>	6	2	0	4	706	4
<b>Chester Road Tavern</b>	6	1	0	5	679	2

### Individual Top Ten

	Team	Played	Total	Highest	Lowest	Week 8
<b>Shauna Barstow</b>	Park Taverners	6	174	51	15	27
<b>Wynne Keith-Davies</b>	Sutton Mutton	6	168	39	21	24
<b>Peter Wilcox</b>	Cock Inn	6	168	33	21	27
<b>Jackie Hulme</b>	Cock Inn	7	168	33	9	9
<b>Andy Ridgway</b>	Prince of Wales	7	165	39	12	21
<b>John Poyser</b>	Park Timers	6	165	36	18	24
<b>Glyn Bradley</b>	Park Timers	6	156	36	15	30
<b>Mike Proctor</b>	Sutton Mutton	6	147	36	18	36
<b>Peter Bullivent</b>	Cock Inn	7	144	30	12	24
<b>Graham Wallace</b>	Park Taverners	4	114	30	27	
<b>Tony Moores</b>	Chester Road Tavern	5	114	30	15	
<b>Tim Hayes</b>	Prince of Wales	7	114	24	12	15



# Macclesfield Quiz League

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## Cars & Vans 4U Question Setters' Trophy

	Wk			Difficulty	Balance	Ent'mnt	Total	Last year
1	3	Spec	British Flag	8.50	8.82	7.11	<b>24.43</b>	24.69
2	1	Spec	Ox-fford	10.00	7.01	7.22	<b>24.23</b>	19.98
3	6	GK	Sutton Club	8.59	9.52	5.79	<b>23.90</b>	22.17
4	4	GK	Waters Green Rams	5.90	7.63	6.22	<b>19.75</b>	18.84
5	2	GK	Royal Oak	5.09	8.30	5.72	<b>19.11</b>	8.20
6	5	GK	Ox-fford 'C'	5.50	8.22	5.37	<b>19.09</b>	17.41
7	1	GK	Ox-fford	8.10	4.19	6.50	<b>18.80</b>	17.22
8	7	Spec	Wharfies	5.64	7.59	5.44	<b>18.67</b>	14.58
9	3	GK	British Flag	3.56	7.79	5.67	<b>17.02</b>	
10	2	Spec	Sutton Mutton	5.12	8.28	3.44	<b>16.84</b>	(11.50)
11	4	Spec	Pack Horse Bowling Club	3.95	8.29	4.40	<b>16.64</b>	(13.95)
12	7	GK	Wharfies	4.90	7.47	3.33	<b>15.70</b>	22.03
13	6	Spec	Sutton Club	5.72	4.50	5.22	<b>15.44</b>	
<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>GK</b>	<b>Chester Road Tavern</b>	<b>6.26</b>	<b>3.03</b>	<b>5.67</b>	<b>14.96</b>	(20.47)
<b>15</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Spec</b>	<b>Waters Green Lemmings</b>	<b>3.49</b>	<b>6.83</b>	<b>4.32</b>	<b>14.64</b>	22.21
16	5	Spec	Ox-fford 'C'	5.01	3.31	5.79	<b>14.11</b>	19.47

For the full spreadsheet, please click [here](#).

Two more teams that set relatively successful questions last season have come down to earth with a bump this year. Last season, the **Waters Green Lemmings** finished third with their General Knowledge questions and fourth with their specialist; the **Chester Road Tavern** finished 11th (out of 36) with their Specialist set.

This year, the Lemmings were let down by their Difficulty and Entertainment scores, the Tavern by Balance.

Both sets of questions seemed to be significantly biased in favour of the teams that went first in the Specialists: 95% to 88% in the Specialists, and 111% to 95% in the General Knowledge. Overall the bias was 105% to 92%. Only two teams won by going "second first": the **Ox-fford 'C'** and the **Park Taverners**. There was also one draw, where the **Ox-fford** had what appear to have been the harder questions.

As the above figures show, the Specialist questions were quite hard and the General Knowledge were quite easy (for the teams going "first first").

The C League gave the General Knowledge questions their 6th highest Entertainment mark of the season so far (out of 16). The A League ranked them equal 9th and the B League 12th. The Specialist questions were not popular in the C League however; they gave them barely half of the mark they received from the B League, which was itself lower than that from the A League. Although the actual marks from the A and B Leagues were fairly respectable, the A League ranked them only 12th out of the 16 sets we've heard so far this season and the B League 13th. The C League ranked them 15th.



## *Week 7: Postscript*

**Brian Bogie** has responded to [criticism](#) of the questions set by the **Wharfies** for Week 7. He writes:

"Sorry that people did not like [our questions].

"Our questions are set by all seven people who play for us, and we aim to do two things.

1. Set questions that are not just variations on a previously set theme.
2. Eliminate the luck involved in going first or second.

We also get them vetted, and take notice of the comments."

I still haven't heard from any of the people who were critical of the questions. [It's not too late ...](#)