

# CBC News

[www.corstorphinebowlingclub.co.uk](http://www.corstorphinebowlingclub.co.uk)

May 2016

**Dear Member,**

When will this weather improve? It has been a terrible start to the new season with the temperature dropping to a ridiculous level in the evenings. (unlike the former Editor, John McPhail who has just sent photos of him playing bowls in Oz under floodlight in the evening because it's too hot to play during the day!!!). It's to the credit of the Green Ranger that he has managed to maintain the Green at a decent pace. Those of us who have played on other Greens that are much slower will appreciate it all the more.

**A few cautionary safety words.** Please do not place bowls on the top of the lockers. It doesn't bear thinking about what would happen if a bowl fell on top of someone. Also, the back door in the Gents locker room should only be used for disabled access/exit and emergencies. It should never be left open as it is an invitation to a sneak thief to gain access unseen.

Could all Gents please check that they have not left some rotting food in their locker as there is a distinct 'fishy' smell in the locker room!!!.

And a request from the Green Setters - for those of you who chew gum, please put it in a piece of paper when disposing of it. It's a messy and unhygienic business trying to chip off pieces of hardened chewing gum from the bins around the Green.

You may think Bowls is a gentle, harmless game but there is potential danger all around as unfortunately Richard Bryce found out the other week. He stumbled on a bowl and fell, breaking a bone in the area where he recently had a hip replacement. He is back on the road to recovery but will be using crutches for a few weeks yet. It was great to see you in the Club last Wednesday supporting the Team, Richard. Our thoughts and prayers are also with Jim Lynch and Audrey Orr who have had lengthy spells in hospital. On a brighter note, Colin Stenhouse is recovering well after his recent hip replacement.

**Bowling Matters.** The planned closure of the Green for a day will not now take place, as a liquid treatment is being used instead of granules. The granules will be used at the end of the season. Heat is still needed to encourage the growth of the grass and to get rid of the moss.

As the internal competitions get underway it's good to see some of our newer members progressing through the preliminary/first rounds of the various competitions.

In the different Leagues, the Ladies have made a steady start in the First Division of the Edinburgh Bowling League, picking up some points each Monday evening. In the Water of Leith, the Ladies have made a winning start in defence of their title, on Wednesday afternoons. If/when the weather improves, why not come along and support the Teams.

In the Gents Leagues, after a disappointing first two matches, the first XVI have had a couple of very good results and are mid table in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division. The second XVI have continued where they left off last year and after some great victories are sitting at the top of their 1<sup>st</sup> Division. The third Team have also started well and are second in their 1<sup>st</sup> Division. Let's hope it continues.

On the Seniors front, both teams have made an indifferent start in the Tuesday North & West League but as this is a long 18 week season, it won't be long before they are climbing up the league. In the Thursday RMBA (Retired Mens Bowling Association) league, the team have started with two good victories.

In the Club representative competitions, it has been a very disappointing year for the Gents in the ELBA (Edinburgh & Leith Bowling Association) and District 15 of the Bowls Scotland matches where most of the teams went out in the early rounds. The exceptions are that we still have two representatives in the Bowls Scotland Senior Singles and I have just heard that the ELBA Senior triples (Ian McLaren, Sandy Macniven and Jim Melles) have won through to the finals day which will take place at 2pm on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June at Wardie Bowling Club. The players would appreciate your support at Wardie.

The Ladies have had better results with a Senior Rink and two Senior Singles progressing to the Bowls Scotland semi finals at Sighthill BC on 18<sup>th</sup> June and hopefully more to come from the Ladies. More details nearer the time on the weekly activity email.

**Friendlys.** Friendly matches with other Clubs from all over Scotland are an integral part of bowls where friendships that can last for years have been formed. Sadly, they seem to be in decline. The Ladies have 7 friendlys and the Gents 3. We used to have a couple of mixed friendlys but they 'died out' a few years ago. Some of the Ladies friendlys are only 2 rinks but in fairness to our Ladies, it is the other Clubs that are struggling to raise the numbers rather than them. With something like 125 members you would think the Gents would have no problem raising a Team to play a friendly so it was particularly disappointing

that we could only get 16 players for our recent friendly at Gala. Okay, there was the little matter of a Scottish Cup final on the same day. Fortunately, Gala gave us two of their members and we had a great day playing 6 x triples, which Gala won, by the way. And a little aside, each Gala member paid £10 for the 'privilege' of playing in the friendly – they paid for our meal as well as their own!! We are very fortunate in this Club that once you pay your annual fee everything else is paid for. The next Gents friendly is Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June at 12 noon (please note the earlier time) at Carrick Knowe so hopefully we can get 24 members. It's a great day and a great learning experience for newer members.

**Hat Days.** It's good to see members taking advantage of the mixed hat days as it is boosting the numbers on a Monday and Friday afternoon (Mondays at 2pm and Fridays at 1:45 but try and get along early for that one). Monday evenings vary from 6:30 to 7pm as it gets lighter in the evening – think its 7pm from 30<sup>th</sup> May.

**Try Bowls** – on a cold Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April we ran our Try Bowls campaign and had interest from 3 adults and 2 children. Six new people also turned up for our first Saturday Hat Night later that day. Hopefully more people will show interest during the season when it gets a bit warmer.(I keep hoping)

**Some Club Bowling dates.** Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July – Bowls and Barbeque starting at 10 am. Open to all members, this is a singles competition organised by Scot Mitchell with all proceeds going to the Lady Captain's Charity. It's a fun day and should be better supported than it has been over the last 2 years. The list is on the 'Mixed' board.

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July- Strawberry Fayre. Just come along for a fun day of bowls regardless of experience and enjoy some fresh strawberries and ice cream.

The Seniors Committee have asked me to mention the Bob Horsham Cup on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June at 2pm and the Hyland Rigg Cup on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June also at 2pm. Lists are currently on the Seniors Notice Board, but **PLEASE** if you put your name on the list, turn up on the day as we have to hastily re-arrange the teams and format when people do not turn up. This was particularly embarrassing last year at the Hyland Rigg when 6 people did not show and the format had to be changed which meant the number of trophies did not match the winners. Hyland Rigg's daughter has been sponsoring this event for some 25 years and she has been present every year to present the trophies which she buys in memory of her father.

As you probably know the Ladies are off to Spain in October and the Gents have just decided to go to Praia da Luz in Portugal on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2017. Any new interest, contact Kenny Logan asap.

**On the Social Scene-** Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June was set aside for a cocktails night but this has now been moved to 20<sup>th</sup> August to make way for a Soft Shoe Skiffle Band who are due to appear at the Fringe in August.

[www.edinburghfestival.list.co.uk/event/506248-soft-shoe-skiffle-band](http://www.edinburghfestival.list.co.uk/event/506248-soft-shoe-skiffle-band).

A rare opportunity to have a group instead of a solo singer and with songs like Singing the Blues, Putting on the Style, Wild Rover, Dirty Old Town etc, it's sure to be a good night. The list is in the Club and with almost 50 names up already its heading for a full house.

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July – Cabaret to start off the week of 125 years celebrations.

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July – at Bainfield BC – closing dance to finish off 125 celebrations.

Further dates for you diary:-

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August – Quiz & Bingo with Joan McBain & Pat Calder.

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> August – Cocktails & Canapes

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September – closing Night Cabaret. The return of the popular Jamie Mac

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October – Andy Chung, Singer/guitarist

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November – Quiz & Bingo with Jack & Victor (aka Kenny Orr)

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Cabaret.

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January – Burns Supper. Prof Geoff Palmer will deliver the immortal memory.

**Congratulations** to John Cowe, Bill Irving and Mohindra Dhall who have significant birthdays in May. 5000 to 1, that was the odds on Leicester winning the English Premier League. What are the odds on the same numbers coming out 2 weeks in a row in the Club lottery? Well that's what happened and Theresa Blair was the only person to have these numbers on both weeks. Congratulations Theresa.

**Licensing Officer Visit** – we had a second visit from a Licensing Officer at beginning of May. First thing he checked was the Visitors Book so please continue to complete it properly. Apart from suggesting a different form to record the training records (which I will do and get all volunteers to complete) everything else was in order. His parting comment was to expect another visit from the Police (as they have nothing better to do on a Saturday night) so please make sure we abide by the rules.