

CBC News

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June 2016

Dear Member,

First of all the very sad news of the passing of Peter Clyne whilst on holiday in Spain. Peter was an active member for many years, including many of the Bowling trips abroad where his sense of humour came to the fore. A good bowler and even when he went to non-playing about 7 years ago, he was a regular visitor to the Club particularly on a Friday evening when he entertained everyone who was in his company. His jokes were legendary – a bit corny at times, but he always made me laugh and he will be sorely missed. As I write, we don't have details of the funeral due to the normal complications when someone dies abroad, but an email will be sent out to Members when this is known.

On a happier note, it is huge congratulations to Jean Meiklejohn who has just won the Senior Ladies District Final and now plays in the National Finals at Ayr from 26th – 31st July. Congratulations also to the rink of Ellen Hay, Vicky Page, Evelyn Lowe and Chris Bentley who won the Water of Leith Fours at Juniper Green and we almost had further success in the Triples at the same event when they were narrowly defeated. Hopefully, we will have further good news to report when the Triples of Ellen Hay, Moyra Ferrier and Joan Mitchell compete in the East of Scotland finals at Colinton B.C. on the 5th July.

June 12th also saw the Ladies Captain's Charity Day and despite the poor weather the Club and Green were full for a great day with the winners of the Jubilee trophy being Chris Bentley and her partner, Anne Watson of Bainfield. Jean was overwhelmed by the generosity shown with more than £800 being raised on the day for Maggie's Centre and the following week Jean handed over £1,200 to a representative from the Centre, being money raised to date.

And it's also well done to young Jamie Gunn who played so well in the Willie Wood U16's only losing at an extra end. You, and hopefully more youngsters like you, are the future of this Club, Jamie.

More congratulations to Bob Page and Bernie Callaghan for being selected for the Senior Edinburgh and Leith Team (also known as Matt Purdie) to play against Midlothian on 4th July. Yours truly is a travelling reserve.

June 18th also saw the Gents return to the Club having retained the trophy for our annual friendly against Carrick Knowe B.C. The following day, we had the pleasure of hosting the District final of the Mixed Pairs and in a tremendous game Hilda and Adam Melrose of Sighthill defeated Lorraine & Colin Mitchell of Carrick Knowe to qualify for the Ayr finals.

Internal competitions are progressing and the Ladies' Championship is now at the semi final stage with Rebecca Rutherford playing Pat Reid at 12 noon on Sunday 3rd July. As yet, the date of the other tie between Joan Mitchell and Jean Meiklejohn has still to be arranged. Good Luck to all.

The Bowls & BBQ Singles competition will run this Saturday from 10am and it is good to see it fully subscribed, with some of the profits going to the Lady Captain's charity.

I've heard around the Club in recent weeks about the reluctance of some of our newer Ladies and Gents to get involved in Friendly matches for fear of letting the Club down. These are just the sort of matches where you gain experience and make new friendships and you should never have any fears about playing Bowls. Let me tell you a story which may ease any fears you may have. A strange thing happened on the Green at Ardmillan B.C. the other week which Ian Stirling has only seen on 5 occasions in his long bowling career which has seen him travel the world. At the trial end I knew that the rink I was on had a huge swing so I was determined to push the bowl out wide. As my bowl swung in to the feet of the players at the far end, I looked down and yep, I'd done it again, the Jack was at my feet!! Now, I might just have got away with it but I happen to have the quietest spoken(not!) Skip in the Club in Bernie Callaghan so it is surprising you didn't hear his laughter back in Corstorphine. And to add salt to the wound, he said afterwards it was the nearest I got to the Jack all night! Harsh very harsh. Still that was £1 in the pig – perhaps it should be more as I am now responsible for 3 of the 5 times Ian Stirling has seen this happen. C'est la vie. But the moral of the story is to enjoy your bowls, if you make a mistake, have a laugh and get on with it and get your

name down for these sort of matches. An ideal time would be during our 125th Anniversary week when all the matches will be great fun. Just over 50% of Members have returned their preference forms so far, so get your name down for the various matches. We want all members, if possible, to take part in the celebrations. Closing Date for returning forms is 1st July. Blank forms are on the bar.

Work on the Green is continuous throughout the season. You may remember last month, I said that a liquid treatment had been applied to the Green instead of granules. This treatment did not work too well, so Gordon Munro has advised that the Green will be closed until 6pm on Thursday 7th July for application of 2 treatments (weather dependent). We have had very poor wet weather over the past few weeks, so please take care when delivering bowls. Any “chips” on the Green take weeks to fix and the damage can spoil the game for others. Please take note of comments in the tie book and the board at the end of the corridor near the entrance to the Green for temporary measures e.g. individual rink closures, moving mats up etc. We are fortunate to have a large bowling membership and there are few Clubs in Edinburgh that will have a full Green most mornings so inevitably wear will occur but with a bit care we can minimise it.

Bins Everywhere. You will have seen 3 bright red BIFFA bins appearing around the Green in the last few weeks. This is because Edinburgh Council will stop collecting Trade Waste from 1st July and all businesses will be required to employ a private Company to collect it. Furthermore, we have to split the waste into different bins for recycling. The Environment Agency and the Council have the power of inspection to ensure that recycling targets are met. Once the Council have collected the old bins sometime after 1st July, we will get the red ones in behind the green fencing.

One big problem, is that currently no private Waste Company collect the grass for recycling although BIFFA will uplift if it is bagged and placed in the General Waste bin, clearly a temporary but unsatisfactory and labour intensive solution. We will continue to use the brown bins until the Council realise that we are Trade (which may not be too long), but if anyone requires top quality fertiliser for their garden/ allotment please get in touch.

Training in CPR and the use of our defibrillator will be given on Thursday 7th July at 7pm and will be provided by Scott Mitchell and Andy Cunningham, both qualified in its use. A list is in the corridor near the Changing rooms for those who wish training.

The weekly Club lotto is doing very well and Alister Paterson has told me that he has just handed over £500 to the Treasurer. Well done Alister for your continued involvement in this.

Hearing stories of passports, purses, and false teeth being lost and found and won't embarrass the people involved but it does highlight what an interesting Club we have.

On the Social Scene- after a very entertaining Night on June 18th with a Skiffle Group, the following is arranged for the rest of the year:-

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

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

Saturday 6th August – Quiz & Bingo with Joan McBain & Pat Calder.

Saturday 20th August – Cocktails & Canapes

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

Saturday 15th October – Andy Chung, Singer/guitarist

Saturday 5th November – Quiz & Bingo (Kenny Orr)

Saturday 17th December – Christmas Cabaret.

Saturday 28th January – Burns Supper.

Congratulations to Joan Mitchell, Brian Sharp and John Stewart who have significant birthdays this month. Also, to Vicky & Bob Page who celebrated 50 years of marriage on the 24th June.

I'm always looking for articles or little stories to tell so please drop me a note anytime.

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