

CBC News

www.corstorphinebowlingclub.co.uk

January 2017

Dear Member,

A happy New Year to all our Members and families.

Sadly, it was not a happy time for Ian Lang as his wife Irene passed away a few days before Christmas. Irene was well respected in Guiding circles and her participation in the Gang Show over the years. And there were many different guide and scouting uniforms on show at the Crematorium and back at the Bowling Club such was her popularity. Our condolences go out to Ian and his two daughters.

It is also very sad to hear of the death of Bobby Pryde who passed away on the 16th January after a long illness. Bobby was an active member for many years. He was President in 1982 and Champion in 1993 and 1994, the last time the championship was won in successive years. Bobby was always around the club and was also great fun on the Gents Tours until illness took hold. Our condolences go to his wife Norma, who was also a regular in the Club, and his family. All are welcome to Bobby's funeral at 10am on Monday 30th January at Warriston Crematorium and then back at the Bowling Club where no doubt many stories will be told of the fun we had with Bobby.

Following Alister Paterson's funeral last month, his daughter Elizabeth has advised me that over £1,600 was raised at the retiring collection and this tremendous amount has been passed on to St Columba's Hospice.

As you will know Alister was also very active within Corstorphine Rugby Club and the Rugby club have offered to donate a trophy in his memory with an annual match between both Clubs (Bowls that is, not Rugby!!). In my opinion, a great idea and also an ideal opportunity to recruit more bowlers as has happened over the years as the Rugby players get on a bit ! (we must have a couple of dozen ex Corstorphine Rugby players in the Club at present). Over to you mister Match Secretary to perhaps liaise with Dougie Taylor and/or Kenny Orr.

Around the Club work continues. Believe it or not the grass was cut a couple of weeks ago and Gordon Munro has been leveling the ditch areas to prevent excessive movement of the jack and bowls if they enter the ditch. Some disease has been detected and a treatment applied but that's not unusual at this time of the year. The fox has been pretty kind to the Green so far but the crows are having a great time pecking away looking for bugs. If that's all that happens this winter, Gordon Munro will be very happy. If you visit the Club in the next few weeks you will see workmen around the paths. They are replacing all the tarred areas with mono blocks as the tar is breaking up in places and would become a safety hazard. Work is expected to take around two weeks. Also planned before the start of the season is a permanent step on to the Green next to the back door. This could not be done before as that was the main emergency exit and required a continuous fence from the door down to the flat surface. Now that the main emergency exit on to Kirk Loan is operational, this work can be done, again for member safety and convenience. These are just two examples of efforts to maintain the fabric and standards of the Club. However, it costs money and the main source of income to pay for work such as this is through bar revenue. The accounts will be published for the AGM on 8th February and bar revenue will show a sizeable drop from 2015. I would encourage everyone to consider if they could use the bar more often (or even use the bar if you don't use it at all at present), not just at organised events but at other times also, e.g. before or after going out for a meal. Bring your friends and family along. Why pay pounds extra for bar facilities when you have a great wee bar here - certainly that's what visitors tell us when they see the range of gins, soft drinks etc. on offer. Don't forget, **everyone** benefits from the money raised over the bar, just take a look around the Club and see what has been done - and then look at other Bowling Clubs who have not been as fortunate as us. We don't wish to go down that road but we can't continue to have the bar open with no customers. All ideas welcome. Your attendance would be more welcome.

Since the last issue of the CBC news, we have had three main events. The Seniors' Christmas party, which is always a very good day and great meal (thanks to Pat Clark). At the end of it some £222 being the proceeds of the raffle was passed over to the Treasurer.

The Christmas Cabaret was a great success with many members saying that comedian/singer Robbie Curran was the best entertainment they have had in years.

On 13th January, our own folk/country group of Bill Cumming, John McPhail, David Morrison and John Robertson (friend of Bill and potential new member) gave us a free evening of folk and country music thoroughly enjoyed by around 60 members. It was also used to try out some new sound equipment hired for the night as our own sound system can't really cater for multiple microphones. Also, the aim is to try to get a system that can be heard around the bar area without deafening the people close to the band. Inevitably, there is some noise at the bar but there was also noise at some tables that transmitted down to the band. If people talk because they have difficulty in hearing the music, a suggestion may be that they take seats closer to the act. It was a great night and keep your diaries free for Friday 17th February when I believe another night is being arranged. Oh, and by the way a big thank you to the anonymous donor who paid for the hire of the sound system - you know who you are, it was greatly appreciated.

Our next organised event is the Burns Supper on Saturday 28th January. Always a popular night and fully booked for weeks, those on the waiting list should be advised in the next day or so of any cancellations.

100 Club News

Congratulations to Ellen Hay who has won this months 100 Club (£120)

We will soon be collecting yearly subscriptions for 2017. Traditionally membership of the 100 club is renewed at this time also although it is possible to join at any time. Many members have taken advantage of the opportunity to pay the £24 annual fee on a monthly basis. Unfortunately, changes to banking charges make this option unviable as every payment will now attract a punitive charge to administer. It is therefore necessary to ask members who pay monthly by direct debit to cancel this arrangement after payment in March 2017. John MacPhail will be in the club when yearly subscriptions are collected and will accept payment for the 100 club (£24) in cash or by cheque made out to CBC 100 club. Alternatively a direct debit of £24 can be made. If you are not a member of the 100 club or you would like additional attempts please have a word with John and he will be happy to take you on board.

Bridge Club - the newly formed CBC Bridge Club will start on Tuesday 31st January at 2pm and every Tuesday until the start of the Bowling season. Over 20 people have already expressed an interest and if you are interested in learning the game of Bridge come along or give John MacPhail a ring.

Other news - Reminder that the AGM will take place on Wednesday 8th February at 7pm. Everyone is encouraged to attend as your vote may count. If you wish to be considered for Committee please enter your name on the lists in the Club. The Seniors AGM will take place at 2pm on Friday 24th February.

A reminder that Spray Chalk and "Grippo" are now available behind the bar at a cost of £3 & £5 respectively.

Just for information, the owner of the other part of the burnt out building next door has applied to build two 3 bedroom flats.

On the Social Scene

Friday 17th February - provisionally booked for a repeat of our Folk Group.

Saturday 25th February - By popular demand a return of the disco that went down so well in November. This is the ideal night to have a blether throughout the evening as there is continuous music and the opportunity to dance to your favourites of the 60s/70s/80s and maybe even some 50s?

Sat.18th March - 6 Nations Final Day

Come and watch the 3 games and have a pie with your beer. We'll need to know if you are interested so look out for a notice about this.

Scotland v Italy 12.30 , France v Wales 14.45, Ireland v England 17.00

Sat. 25th March - enjoy our homegrown talent entertaining us with an evening of Country & Western. If anyone would like to do a turn, contact Bill Cumming or John MacPhail.

Congratulations – to Joan Johnston & Stuart Nicol who have significant birthdays this month.

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

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