

CBC NEWS

MARCH 2017

Dear Member

Welcome to the latest edition of the CBC News.

Many thanks to Jim: A huge thanks goes to Jim Connor for his excellent editorship of the CBC News and for keeping us up to date with all the CBC challenges and successes. Unfortunately, Jim is not able to continue in his role as editor so we are looking for a new editor. If you feel you can help or if you want any more information please have a chat with me at any time.

Opening day- 15 April 2017: Yes, I am pleased to say that our opening day is just around the corner. President Gordon will be delighted to welcome one and all to our first day of serious competition and serious frivolity all wrapped up in the highlight of the year. As ever, the day and the season will start at 1pm for 1.30pm in the the clubhouse. This is a club dress day with the chance to thrash the President or the Vice President on the green – depending on who you are rooting for – and re-acquaint yourselves with friends and fellow competitors you have perhaps not seen for a few months.

Now if that were not enough we also have a first class cabaret lined up for you to follow our opening day's fun. Our cabaret this year features the wonderful Lee James. The attendance list is now up in the clubhouse so why not make a day of it. Bring along your family and friends if you wish but to avoid disappointment please put your name down ASAP as this is always a very popular event.

Welcome to new members: The committee have recently interviewed a number of people who have applied to join our happy bowling community. It is our pleasure to extend a very warm welcome to Paul Dickie, Mark Hewitt, Alex Johnston, Ian McLeod and David Scott. Also a warm welcome back to Bob Young. Other applications are being dealt with.

AGM: It was great to see our AGM so well attended this year with nearly 100 people present for the main meeting. Our newly appointed President, Gordon Birnie, took the opportunity to thank Kenny Logan for his hard work and a very successful year in which we celebrated the 125th anniversary of our foundation. The AGM was also delighted to endorse the nomination of Richard Bryce as Vice President for 2017. A full list of all your office bearers and the new committee is contained in the minutes of the AGM and will also be on display in the entrance hall to the main club-house.

It was agreed that our annual fees should be raised to £155 for a full member, £93 for an associate member, £52 for those under 21, £10 for a junior member, £10 for pre entry and £2 for non playing members. Subscriptions can be paid at any time now but treasurer, Sandy MacKay, will be in the Club-House from 7pm on Wed 12th April and Fri 14th April to collect fees if you have not already paid by then.

President Gordon and all committee members are your representatives on the management team. If you have any ideas, suggestions or concerns about your club, the facilities provided or our bowling competitions, please do not hesitate to share your thoughts with them.

Green Ranger has a smashing time: You could be forgiven to thinking the Green Ranger, Gordon Munro has enough on his plate at this time of the year. Unseen by most of us but hopefully appreciated by us all, Gordon usually spends hours and hours of weeding, cutting, fertilizing, sowing seeds, repairing damage from crows, leveling, patching, repairing machinery, planning maintenance programmes etc on our behalf. However, his workload increased considerably a few days ago after the tining machine broke down! Not once but twice!! Our brand new tining (punches holes in the green to let the air into the grass roots) machine, advertised as having “rugged durability” cracked up. After three weeks absence to fix the first breakdown, Gordon was delighted to get back to work with the machine and on its maiden voyage the self same component disintegrated and the whole caboodle is kaput! Needless to say Gordon is less than impressed and I don't think I would like to be the recipient of the letter of displeasure he has just dispatched to the complaints department of the supplier.

Mono blocking smooths the way: If you have not been down at the club recently or even if you have you will certainly notice a difference when you return and wonder if you are on the right path. Gone are the potholes round the green and now it's mono blocks all the way. You will of course also notice that the straggly hedge that many members spent many hours nurturing and trying to tame has also gone, in favour of a much more manageable fence. Many thanks to house convener Bill Cumming for arranging and progressing these much needed ground improvements.

One step at a time: Our resident blacksmith Ricky Stevens and house convener Bill Cumming have also been busy on our behalf. We now have a very swish permanent step onto the North East corner of the green. This is a welcome change for the green setters who hitherto have had to lug portable steps to and from the green and hopefully it is also a bit safer for one and all. Talking of green setters, Green Ranger Gordon has asked me to let you know that the green setting rota is now in the club for your information.

On the Bench and in the House: It will soon be time to dust off, sand down and top coat our park benches ready for another season. I will send an email out shortly as soon as the work round the green is completed to advise when we can get this work underway. Many thanks to all those who have put their names down to sponsor a bench and if anyone else can help with this or any other house maintenance please let me or Bill know.

Bar Convener required: After many very successful years as the club's Bar Convener, Jim has decided it is time to let someone else take the helm. He is happy to stay on for the next year to guide and support a new post-holder but intends to step back over the next year. The bar is the main income stream for the club other than club subscriptions so it is vital that we maintain and develop this facility. If you can help either with suggestions, or if you would be willing to manage the bar provision, please have a word with Jim or any other committee member ASAP. We very urgently need someone's help here so please step forward if you can or if you would be willing to share the job with another CBC member.

Ladies' Coffee morning: The ladies will be holding a coffee morning on Saturday 1st April starting at 10am and running through to 12am. Ladies' Captain, Ann Douglas, extends a warm invitation to all members to come along for a coffee and a blether. Perhaps you could indulge yourself at the baking stall and try your hand in the raffle.

CBC Country Style: Another great night in our social calendar shows just how much talent we have off the green in CBC. Many thanks to all those who spent so much time planning and rehearsing their act to make our evening such a great success, yee haa.

How should CBC be?: A recent Bowls Scotland seminar in Glasgow gave food for thought for two of our committee members and the committee have agreed that a review of CBC members thoughts and ideas should be canvassed. A sub committee will be convened shortly to formulate a development strategy. I will give details of the sub committee membership in the next CBC news but we ask that in the meantime you give some thought to what changes you would like to see in the development of our club. A questionnaire will be sent to all CBC members in due course to kick off this work.

CBC the continuing History: Last year we celebrated our 125th anniversary. As you are aware we have a booklet, on paper and on-line, celebrating the first 50 and 100 years of our CBC history. The committee have agreed that an update covering the last 25 years would be very welcome. We are therefore looking for someone to compile this piece of CBC history. If you think you can help please let any committee member know. You will of course get full access to committee minutes and records of our bowling achievements over the past 25 years and any other help and advice that we can provide.

CBC Bridge takes a break: The CBC bridge club has attracted some 30 members and regular Tuesday afternoon meetings have been well attended. The club will have their final meeting on Tue 4 April at 2 pm. If you are interested in joining us for the start of the next season in October please let me know and I will add your name to the distribution list.

Significant Birthdays: We have a raft of CBC members celebrating significant birthdays this month so Happy Birthday to Ian Fraser, Sandy MacKay, Dave Stewart, Sheila Fisher and Evelyn Lowe. Also to Andy Cunningham, Jeff Little, Alan Mather Jnr, Jock Renstead, Deric Todd, Pat Clark and Faye Stevens who had significant birthdays last month.

100 Club: During the last year over £1.500 was paid out in monthly prizes from the 100 club income. The same amount was generated for club funds. Every month there is a winner and you could be one of them, but not, I hasten to add, if you are not a member of this lucky community. You can't win-it if your not in-it! Fret not though, I have an easy solution. A one-off payment of £24 in cash, cheque or standing order will elevate you from the status of envious onlooker to potential winner. If you wish to elevate your status thus please get in touch with me ASAP. Alternatively, why not come and see me on either of the subs payment nights. You will easily recognise me, I will be the one with the woolly hat, one tooth, fingerless gloves and a very well burnt candle.

Any suggestions?: CBC news is produced for your information and use. Any suggestions or articles for the news would be very welcome. Please have a word with me at any time or send an email to jandjmacp@gmail.com

Dates for the Diary

Ladies Coffee morning	Saturday 1 April – 10am to 12am
CBC opening day	Saturday 15 April – 1,30pm
Opening day Cabaret:	Saturday 15 April – 7.30pm
Ladies opening day	Monday 17 April 1.30pm

**John MacPhail,
Editor**

