



## **CBC NEWS**

### **April 2018**

**Dear Member:** Welcome to the latest edition of the CBC News.

**Opening Day delayed** - due the continued terrible weather, Opening Day has been put back one week to the 21<sup>st</sup> April. Be there around 1:30pm for a 2pm start, hopefully. The Green is about 3-4 weeks behind where it should be for this time of year with virtually no growth. **The Cabaret will still be held on the 14<sup>th</sup>.**

**This year's Coffee morning is tomorrow Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> April from 10:00 to 12:00.** A warm welcome is extended to all Members. Come along and enjoy some delicious home baking. Raffle prizes and baking contributions will be most welcome.

**Sponsorship** - we are currently trying to finalise some sponsorship from Specsavers. No, it's not to provide the Selection Committees with Glasses (which could come in handy nevertheless) but is likely to be to pay for the printing of our fixtures booklets plus some form of discount on showing the booklet to Specsavers when purchasing new Glasses. Full details will be announced when the deal has been finalised. With the payment of subs nights being pushed back one week to the 18<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> because of the delayed opening of the Green, it is hoped to have the Specsavers name included in our fixtures booklets by that time. Most Clubs that have sponsorship are sponsored by Funeral Directors so we are bucking the trend a little.

Despite the cold weather, work around the Green continues where possible. Gordon Munro has advised that a recent soil analysis has shown positive improvements on the Green since a similar analysis was taken in 2012. A programme of treatment was recommended at that time by the Consultants and this has resulted in the improvements mentioned in the report. It all indicates that the quality of the soil and growth capabilities are heading in the right direction and further recommended treatments will be applied over the next few years. Gordon also advised that the Green will be closed all day on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June to apply a granule fertiliser which then requires to be watered in.

Tom Mitchell has weeded and treated the mono block paths and also tidied up the flower borders. Ian Pickard meanwhile is busy with his brush, painting the hut and fence.

The benches are in pretty good condition having "wintered" in the Gents locker room and will be put out around the Green during week commencing 16<sup>th</sup> April after which Stewart Mason and Dave Stewart will clean /shampoo the carpet in the locker room and corridors. Paul Allan meanwhile will be power hosing the slabs at the front and fire exit when it gets a bit warmer.

It has been a hive of activity within the Club also with Bill Cumming recently carrying out maintenance in the Gents toilets. I won't go into the gory details as its a very unpleasant job but essential in ensuring the efficient operation of the Gents.

Anyone visiting the Club in the last few days will have noticed the absence of a bar (it was temporarily relocated to the meeting room). It was stripped bare and Bob Leslie has done a magnificent job in sanding, varnishing and waxing the bar tops, a process which takes fully 3 days. Normal service will be resumed for Friday evening.

Bill has also spent many fruitless hours trying to get quotes from Companies to extend the Ladies Honours board and match it with the current one. It seems to be too small a job for big firms and too time consuming for a one man business. Bill won't be beaten on this but it may take a few weeks yet. All this, on top of him, making sure that we are compliant with all the Security, Safety and Fire regulations required to run the Club.

The above are just some examples of why this is such a great Club to be a member of. A huge thanks to you all and others who give up of their time to help out.

**Introduction to Bowls** - you may remember at the AGM the Committee suggested looking at a discount scheme for people who are new to bowls to try to encourage new Members. This has been implemented by a number of

Bowling Clubs but it seemed to meet with lukewarm views and any change to fees would require amendment to our Constitution. The Committee agreed to look at it further and now intend to offer, up to 3 months trials during the bowling season to people who are completely **new** to bowls. **They will not be members or have club keys**, we would treat them as guests, equipment will be provided as will coaching and supervision. At the end of the trial period, membership will be offered to them at the full member rate. Full Details will follow.

**Anyone for Bridge?** - The Bridge section has just finished its winter session and will recommence after the bowling season finishes. It started up in January 2017 and there are around 20 members from within and out with the club. The Bridge Section are always looking for new faces who may wish to play bridge but may feel their standard is such that they are hesitant to join a formal bridge club. We are fortunate that Alistair Rattray, Joan McBain, George Fortune and Neil Sutherland are willing to use their knowledge to instruct those less experienced. It is undertaken in a relaxed manner with coffee and biscuits at "halftime". There is also a free bar and snacks at Christmas and the end of the season in March. A small charge of £2 is made and this has not only paid for the foregoing but allowed £500 to be paid to bowling club funds. Anyone interested should contact John, Joan or Sandy Mackay.

**100 Club (or 120 Club)?** - 2017 was a bumper year for the CBC 100 club. Over £1,600 was paid out to the lucky winners and a similar amount donated to club funds. If you are not in the 100 club you will not have been one of the lucky winners but you could be this year. For a one -off payment, by cheque, cash or standing order of £24 you can join the 100 club. There is a draw every month and the winner gets roughly half the monthly income for the 100 club - currently around £120. The other half goes to your club funds so it's a win, win situation.

Please have a word with John MacPhail if you wish to join the 100 club. He will be in the clubhouse on the evenings when yearly subs are being collected (18<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> April). If you wish to join or are already a member and pay by cheque or cash, John will be happy to help. Why not buy a second number for yourself or a family member.

**Songs to Remember** - On the 11th November 2018 it will be 100 years since WW1 ended. On that Sunday evening our own In-house Group, The Chancers will front a programme of songs, poems and stories from and about that era. Keep the Home Fires Burning, On the Road to Passchendaele, Pack up your Troubles in Your Own Kit Bag, In Flanders Fields, No More Soldiering for me, Take me back to Dear Old Blighty and The Green Fields of France to name but a few. If you have a story to tell, a poem to read or a song to sing, John MacPhail or Bill Cumming would be delighted to hear from you. Alternatively if you would just like to accompany us on that evening, song sheets will be available for you to join in, or, you can just listen to some songs that you do not hear so much these days. Attendance sheets will go up in the bar area nearer the time together with more information. In the meantime, please note your diary and ask your friends if they would like to come and join us for this special evening to remember those that sacrificed so much

The last games night of the winter takes place on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April but we might get away with another Monday now that Opening Day has been delayed. It's been another success, with much laughter and banter during darts, pool, dominoes and the card school.

**Significant birthdays:** Many happy returns to Donald Mackay and Billy Samuel who celebrate birthdays this month.

Congratulations to the following who have been members for a significant number of years:-

Pat Calder, Scott Mitchell, Bobbie Sinclair and Deric Todd (all 20 years), Henry Lang (25years), Eddie Edmond (30 years), Bobby Brown, Alan Craig, Brian Henaghen, Vicky Page, Ian Pickard, Bill Stewart and David Sutherland (all 35 years), Kenny Logan (40 years) and finally Ian Sutherland (45 years).

**Dates for the diary:-**

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Apr 7:30-** David John returns with his extensive repertoire from Mick Jagger to Deacon Blue. Tickets £8. **PAYMENT SHOULD BE MADE BY MONDAY 9<sup>th</sup> APRIL**

A full programme of Events is being drawn up, but if anyone has any ideas, pass them on to me or any Social Committee member.

*Any News items? Please let me know.- [james773@btinternet.com](mailto:james773@btinternet.com)*

*Jim Connor, Interim Editor*