



CBC NEWS June 2019

Dear Member

Apologies for the late issue of this month's edition - been busy bowling, in the bar and even managed to spend some time at home.

Well, what a month June has been. I said last month that the weather had been fairly kind to us, how wrong was I with several deluges the likes of which we have never seen before and streets flooded all over the area. The amazing thing was that 3 hours after the first downpour, the Green had drained and play started for the evening unlike several Clubs in the area whose Greens remained waterlogged all evening.

The Ladies have excelled themselves representing the Club in the many Associations' competitions. Pride of place must go to Chris Bentley who succeeded in winning the Bowls Scotland District finals in both the Ladies Singles and the over 55 Singles. Chris now goes on to the National Championships at Ayr where she will start her "Over 55" campaign on Monday 22nd July at 12 noon on Green B. Hopefully she will be successful and her next match is scheduled for the following day at 11:30. The Ladies competition will start on Thursday 25th and Chris will be on the Green at 1pm and hopefully the following day at 1:30pm. It's also congratulations to Rebecca Rutherford on winning the District Junior Singles (under 25's) and Rebecca will play her first match also on Monday 22nd at 12 noon, the same time as Chris but on the next Green(C). Her next match, hopefully, will be the next day at 11:30. Congratulations to both Ladies on getting to Ayr and the best of wishes from everyone at the Club for a successful and enjoyable competition.

Special mention must also go Joan McBain and Bobby Sinclair who I think surprised themselves by winning through to the district finals where they lost to a very strong Team from Balerno, just missing out on Ayr. You can be very proud of yourselves, many of us can only dream of achieving what you did.

More success followed in the East of Scotland Bowls finals when the rink of Faye Stevens, Laura Mackay, Moyra Ferrier and Chris Bentley won the district final before losing narrowly to the Fife winners. Theresa Blair then won the Water of Leith Singles and the Ladies have also won through to the Top 10 Final which will take place at the beginning of August. We had great representation at all the finals with teams qualifying for the latter stages in all the events. You have done yourselves proud Ladies and are a credit to the Club.

What about the Gents I hear you say. Well, in a very tough district there was progression through early rounds, falling short at quarter and semi final stages. The exception being the triple of Bernie Calaghan, Clint Cassidy and Mark Hewitt who had a great run to the finals missing out on a trip to Ayr when they came up against a very strong side from Sighthill on their own Green. Better luck next year.

Going back to the beginning of June, it was great to have one of **the** great bowlers, Alex Marshall MBE at the Club on a sunny Sunday afternoon. Alex and his wife Diane came along with a good range of Aero products. While Alex gave advice on the bowls on display and Members tried them out on the Green, Diane was selling bags, shoes and clothing inside, making it a profitable day for sales (I reckon up to £3,000 worth of sales on the day as 6 sets of bowls at over £300 each were sold). The day was rounded off with one lucky bowler, Val Mather, getting the chance to play 4 ends against the great man. Alex must have wondered what he had let himself in for when Val "nailed" the Jack with her first bowl. What other Sport would you find a World Champion playing a game with someone relatively new to the Sport?

Later on in the month, whilst the Gents played their annual Friendly against Carrick Knowe BC (which ended in a draw), President Ricky represented the Club at the Edinburgh Bowling League Charity Triples at Willowbrae with two of our new members, John Greig and Andy Innes. They thoroughly enjoyed their day winning their section but losing at the quarter final stage and they made new bowling friends. Raising money for Charity is a big thing with the EBL and current President, Steve Kirk from Whitehouse & Grange has chosen Circle as this year's Charity. Circle help to support vulnerable families. Steve has pledged to do a run a day to raise funds. There is a sponsorship in the entrance hall and on the Gents notice board. If you could pledge a donation, the EBL & Circle would be extremely grateful.

The following day, Faye Stevens hosted her Lady Captain's Charity Pairs. A great day was had by all. Good weather, good bowling, a great lunch and Faye's Charity, "Make a Wish" benefitted greatly pushing donations for the year towards £1,000.

Sunday 30th June saw our annual Millar Cup (a mixed pairs competition). The numbers were slightly down on previous years but perhaps the Ladies' exertions during the month meant that some wanted a rest. Nevertheless competition was as keen as ever with Pat and Ronnie Clark eventually emerging as Champions.

With the league season well under way, the Teams are doing fairly well. I don't have the latest on the Ladies' Water of League. Some Clubs are struggling to raise a Team which has prompted a proposal to let men play in the Team. This met with strong opposition half way through a season but the proposal was carried, resulting in one Club refusing to play. I'm sure there is more to come about this.

The Gents first XVI is second in the third Division, the second XVI is second bottom of its first Division and the third Team are mid table of the first Division. The North & West Senior Teams (B are mid table and A are towards the foot) . The RMBA, Team A are second top of Division 1 and Team B are well in front of Division 2.

In other matters the new hut has arrived to house all the Green machinery and grateful thanks to Ian Pickard for applying 4 coats of paint to make it blend in with the other huts. A third treatment has been applied to the Green to get rid of the moss with a little success. One of the issues being that chemicals which used to be used for this are now banned. The Green has been showing signs of getting quicker but the rain has certainly not helped.

Some people have reported not getting the additional discount from our sponsors Specsavers and Richard Bryce is trying to meet with the Manager to try to resolve this.

What can you get from the Honesty Bar for 1p? I don't know either but that was what was left in the basket. I think perhaps someone intended it to be a £1. It has been used fairly honestly recently but please check that you put the proper money in the basket when buying items. We have an "I.O.U." System in place if you don't have change at the time so there's really no excuse for failing to pay. The same can be said about the bottles of water in the kitchen when occasionally money is short, and while we are at it we have also had small shortages in the lottery money. We operate on trust at this Club so it would be a pity to remove these services should losses increase.

How about a pens amnesty? Some 200 pens have been placed at the Tie book since the start of the season. Surely it can't all be down to visitors not returning them. Please have a look in your lockers to see if you have any extra. In the bar, for those of you who like a bit chocolate with your drink, we now sell Cadbury's Dairy milk and Frys Cream bars at very reasonable prices. One of the many signs of getting on a bit (and I have a lot) is that you can get a bit absent minded . I know a few members have told me that they would be willing to help in the bar, but I have forgot who, so I would be obliged if you could advise me again and I will arrange for the appropriate training. I have done many daft things on the Green such as delivering my first bowl to the far end of the rink only to look down and see the Jack at my feet but so far I haven't forgotten my shoes or taken 2 bowls insted of 3 to a visiting Club. The latest is someone taking the correct number of bowls but one was a size 3 and the other a size 4. I know who you are but your secret is safe with me.....at the moment. Such is the joy of being a Senior.

On the Social scene we had an excellent young singer in Claudia Toner at the Club on the 29th June but once more it was poorly attended. We could easily have had another 25 people in the Club that night. It's disheartening for the Social Committee who work hard to arrange these functions, particularly when people call off after the buffet has been ordered. If you don't use it, you'll lose it as they say and we will struggle to get a Social Committee next year. Upcoming events include the Strawberry Fayre on Sunday 14th July at 2pm. Just come along on the day with family, friends etc., have a game of bowls, if you wish, or just enjoy a bowl of strawberries with Luca's ice cream.

Saturday 10th August sees the return of Leona Rae, a fabulous singer well known around the Edinburgh Club scene. Please try to come along. And a note for your diary Ladies. On Saturday 5th October, when the Gents are away on tour, it is planned to have a Ladies Night. More info to follow in the coming months.

Classified Ads.- the bowls bag and the Blazer advertised last month have found new homes. The complete set of James Bond books is still available: perhaps the cost of £100 new has put people off but Faye Stevens is only looking for a nominal sum of say £10 for the 14 books, less than £1 a book.

Jean Meiklejohn has a set of dark blue Taylor Aces, size 4 for sale at £80. Jean has won the Championship and been to Ayr with these bowls and has just downsized.

Congratulations go to Nan Stirling and Ian Lang who have significant birthdays in June and look out for some big birthdays to come in July.

Any News? Drop me a note and I'll include it in the news.....if I remember!!!



Dear Member

Jim Connor James773@btinternet.com

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