

AUTUMN'S APPROACHING

WELCOME - NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS – JUST ONE WEEK – VOLUNTEER AWARDS – BOWLS IN THE COMMUNITY AND MUCH MORE

Welcome to the September issue of the BDA newsletter.



What a busy summer it has been for the team! August was particularly busy with a daily presence at the Bowls England National Championships in Royal Leamington Spa with the BDA 'Coach Bowls' marquee. As well as information on the new coaching qualifications and modules there was also the opportunity to sign up to "drop in" coaching sessions which were very well attended.

August also focused on disability bowls with daily press releases featuring all of the applicants for the Love Fisher Brown award, the delivery of a 'Working with Disabled Bowlers' module at the Championships and an exhibition match led by Paul Brown, Chairman of Disability Bowls England and winner of a bronze medal at the Glasgow Commonwealth Games in 2014.

As we move into the indoor season we look forward to clubs engaging with the **Just One** week as a means of bringing new members into your club. (See details below)

The BDA will soon be looking to apply for further funding from Sport England in order to continue to grow the sport. To help us with this we are devising a questionnaire, available to every bowler so you can tell us why you play the sport, how often you play and what could be done to bring more people into the sport. This will go live in October so please have a look at it and send it back to us so we can bring about change to the sport.

Susan Cooper
Development Director

The Bowls Development Alliance's **Just One** campaign is targeted to increase clubs and players awareness of hosting recruitment events.

The campaign's focus is to encourage clubs to host social events where their current club members bring along friends and family to show them how the sport could benefit them physically and socially.

If every member brought along just one friend and they joined, our sport would be in a much stronger position. Clubs from around the country including Devon and Lincolnshire have hosted **Just One** events and many people attending have subsequently joined the bowls club.

From the 2nd- 9th of November, we are encouraging all indoor clubs in the country to get involved with the campaign. Why not host a **Just One** social morning or a **Just One** evening with music, entertainment and the opportunity for people to try bowls. More information about the campaign can be found from the **Just One** section of our website. We would love to see and hear how your events have gone so please register your clubs interest on the **Just One** section of our website www.playbowls.org and let us know about your success!



Did you know the BDA now has its own twitter account? Follow **@BowlsDA** for regular updates on BDA funded activities, Play Bowls Road Show locations and much more.



Bushey Bowling Club achieve Clubmark certification - *Congratulations!*

On Thursday 16th July 2015, Bushey Bowling Club were the proud recipients of a Clubmark certificate. They are pleased to be only the second bowls club in Hertfordshire to be awarded this certificate of excellence.

The club held a lunchtime celebration with honoured guests from the Hertfordshire bowling community and Hertsmeire Borough Council in attendance.

The club thanks all members for the work that they have put in on a daily basis to enable the smooth running of the club which has helped them to achieve the award.

Pictured right Bushey members with Graham Marriner and Kieran Crombie who assisted the club with their application.



Active Norfolk - Keeping fit whatever your age



Active Norfolk recently held an eight week pilot session with two sheltered housing sites. The scheme saw residents interacting with weekly short mat bowls sessions. The sessions were aimed at all residents regardless of age, levels of fitness or ability.

Betty Price, a 102 year old Palgrave House resident, pictured left, thoroughly enjoyed the sessions, she said "It was really nice to get out of my flat and meet people. I found I was getting exercise without too much effort and would definitely love to do it again!" Betty managed to bowl really well, finding it easier not to use the ball ramp provided.

The sessions ended in a tournament between the two sites, congratulations to Palgrave house for your victory!

The pilot scheme was a success and Active Norfolk hopes to extend the programme. The pilot has shown that bowls can be enjoyed by anyone anywhere.

White Hall Bowling Club Mark HM Queen Elizabeth's 63-Year Reign

White Hall Bowling Club, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex hosted a friendly game of Bowls with the Royal Hospital Chelsea Pensioners. The event to commemorate HM Queen Elizabeth's 63 year Reign by unveiling a newly planted English Oak Apple Tree. The Oak Apple Tree is the symbol of King Charles 11 the founder of the Royal Hospital Chelsea who hid in an Oak Tree from the Parliamentarians, as well as the symbol on the White Hall Bowling Clubs badge.

On arrival at the club, the Chelsea Pensioners were read a welcome letter from Buckingham Palace, followed by a game of Lawn Bowls, dinner and an exchange of gifts.

The Royal Hospital has since invited members of White Hall to visit them for a game of Lawn Bowls and dine in June 2016. Her Majesty's 90th Birthday year. The club is in the process of raising funds to extend its pavilion in order to accommodate people with physical and mental impairments in playing Short-Mat and Outdoor Bowls. The Royal Hospital Chelsea have offered their support in reaching our "DREAM."

Report by John Foster - Vice President, White Hall Bowling Club



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Plymouth Life Centre IBC secure Love Fisher Brown Award

Having been announced as Love Fisher Brown Award winners in July, Plymouth Life Centre IBC hosted a celebration event to mark the formal presentation of the trophy on the 21st September. The event, which was attended by Ellen Falkner (CEO of award sponsors AeroBowls), Paul Brown (Chair of Disability Bowls England), Councillor Smith of Plymouth District Council in addition to representatives from the BDA, Active Devon and the club itself, opened with a Scope group session (pictured, right) which takes place on a weekly basis. The formal



presentation of the Love Fisher Brown Award was then made by Ellen Falkner to representatives of Plymouth Life Centre IBC before Paul Humphreys, Development Manager for the BDA, addressed the bowlers, coaches and volunteers who made up a sizeable audience. Humphreys commended Plymouth Life Centre IBC for their inspiring work in providing opportunities for disabled bowlers stating *"the standard of entries for this years award was incredibly high but the range of the opportunities provided at this centre and the depth of commitment set Plymouth Life Centre IBC apart. The work that you do here means so much to so many so all that I can say is please keep doing it."*

The day culminated in a question and answer session with Ellen Falkner before she took to the green for an exhibition match against Paul Brown. Please see page 5 for a picture special from the celebration event.

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The Love Fisher Brown Award was created in 2014 to identify, recognise and reward clubs and other organisations providing participation opportunities for disabled people to take part in bowls. Entries for the 2015-2016 award, sponsored by AeroBowls are now being taken with the relevant forms, terms and conditions and additional information available via www.playbowls.org

For more information on the award, please contact Paul Humphreys via paul@playbowls.org

Bowls Development Alliance recognise volunteers for key contribution to disability bowls



The Bowls Development Alliance were delighted at the Bowls England National Championships in Royal Leamington Spa, to recognise the work of two individuals who give up their time freely to encourage those with a disability to get involved in bowls.

The first award went to Ian Litchfield (pictured, left) who has pioneered a new piece of adaptive equipment that has enabled him to take the sport of bowls, boccia and petanque into care homes in and around Daventry. Ian is also a founder member of Bowls Daventry who were the recent runners up in the Love Fisher Brown Award that recognised the group's achievement in engaging with over 500 disabled people.

The second award was presented to Gilly Ainslie (pictured right) who is a qualified Level 2 Coach Bowls Coach, Tutor and Assessor and regularly delivers the 'Working with Disabled Bowlers. Module across the country.

Gilly has been instrumental in developing all year round opportunities for those with a disability at her club in Plymouth. She has encouraged a wide range of disability organisations to come down to the club and try the sport and now has more than twenty individuals with a range of disabilities playing bowls every week.

Our congratulations and thanks go to both Ian and Gilly for their vital contributions in making the sport of bowls accessible to everyone.



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Active Sussex take a trip to Hollingbury Park!

Over the last two years, the BDA has worked closely with Active Sussex, the County Sports Partnership for Sussex. We were delighted to hear that following their Hot Spot status, their work with bowls clubs continue to develop, with numerous clubs now on course to achieve the Clubmark accreditation.



One club which has achieved Clubmark accreditation is Hollingbury Park, who invited the team from Active Sussex to the club to try their hand at bowls.

So how did they get on? Mike Biggs, the club coach said, "A great afternoon spent with the Active Sussex Team. After a short session of how to deliver a bowl which they all picked up very quickly and a few practice ends it was obvious that we had a group of natural bowler's. So it was straight into a bit of competitive team bowling where they all really shined. Lots of laughter and good humour. We finished the day off with tea and cake and presented winner medals".

Why not challenge your CSP?.....

Older People's Day Lets Do It!

Thursday 1st October coincides with the UN International Day of Older Persons and is all about celebrating older people getting active.

We are encouraging all Indoor Bowls Clubs to run a range of activities at your club on that day and welcome older people from your local community to come and try bowls.

It is a real opportunity to recruit new members and showcase your club to the local community.

Please visit www.playbowls.org to download a poster which you can use to promote the event.

If you decide to make a real celebration of the day then let us know and we will publicise it on our website.

Take lots of photographs on the day and email them to us and we will post them onto our social media outlets.

The clubs listed opposite already have events planned.

Location	Time & Contact
Dorchester Bowls Club Sandringham Centre, Armada Way, Dorchester DT1 2TN. www.dorchesterbowlsclub.co.uk	Starting at 10am to 2pm Contact - Sue Lofthouse Tel No. 01305 260817
Browston Hall Indoor Bowls Club Browston Green, Browston Great Yarmouth NR31 9DW www.browstonhall.com/inbowls.htm	Starting at 10am to 12noon Contact - Mike Harvey Tel no. 01493 667591
Wymondham Dell Bowls Club 54b Norwich Road, Wymondham Norfolk NR18 0NT www.wymondhamdell.co.uk	from 2.00pm until 6.00pm Contact David Naunton Tel no. 01953 602099
Horncastle Indoor Bowls Club Coronation Walk, Horncastle Lincs LN9 6HP www.horncastlebowls.co.uk	from 2pm until 4pm Contact Jayne Taplin Tel No. 01507 522147
Hartlepool Indoor Bowls Club Mill House Site, Raby Road Hartlepool, TS24 8AR www.bowlshartlepool.com	Sunday 4th October Starting at 10am to 3pm Contact - Dave Kilner Tel No. 01429 260321

Let's Do It!

Do you have a news story for the next edition? Then why not email into to us at office@playbowls.org



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2015 Love Fisher Brown Award Winners Plymouth Life Centre IBC

Award sponsored by:



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Coach Bowls at the Bowls England National Championships



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