



# FRIENDS OF ENGLISH BOWLING

NEWSLETTER

July 2011

Dear Friends,

This is our first Newsletter for 2011 and we would, firstly, like to welcome our new 'Friends' to the Association. We must also thank all our existing members for their continued support during 2011.

### ***Executive Committee***

Jeff Applegate is the new Promoter of the Bowlers Draw and together with Barry Donovan, Geoff Hunt and Howard Pryse make up the Bowlers Draw sub-committee. This sub-committee is well supported by the Executive Committee, especially at the February meeting when the Bowlers Draw tickets and information are concatenated. John Durston has resigned as Chairman of the Friends and our Vice Chairman Angela Harris has taken over the role of Chairman until the AGM.

### ***Membership***

To date, the Friends membership for 2011 stands at 210 an encouraging increase of 27 on this time last year. There have been three deaths and 34 new members have been recruited in the last 12 months. We are delighted to report that all 47 Unified and Singleton Counties are now Association Members. Corporate Members have become increasing difficult to recruit and retain and so any help Members are able to give with this task would be greatly appreciated as would the introduction of new individual Friends to our Honorary Membership Secretary Mike Poole - Tel: 01707 320358, e-mail: mikesarapoole@btinternet.com

### ***Support of Bowls England Championships and Competitions***

This year we intend to underwrite Bowls England up to the value of £28,000 to help meet the costs of several of the National Championships and Competitions. Included once again is the Middleton Cup, where our support is of direct benefit to the Counties and we will also support the Johns Trophy and Walker Cup - £1,000 each. For 2012 when the Johns Trophy will be played on a League basis similar to the Middleton Cup, the support for the Johns Trophy will be in line with the Middleton Cup.

### ***Hospitality at Worthing and Leamington***

Again we plan to support the Bowls England sponsor's hospitality marquee at Worthing, where you will be able to meet old friends and like-minded bowlers over tea and coffee. The marquee has become a great success and because of this we will again support a similar initiative at Leamington, albeit on a more limited scale. If any members can help with the teas in the tent or selling Draw tickets at Leamington please contact Angela Harris on 01452 616755 or e-mail: angelaharris933@btinternet.com. These initiatives enable us a further opportunity to promote the Friends to more, men and women alike, and to also give us a base for Bowlers Draw ticket sales. This year we hope to increase our activity at both Championships to promote the Bowler's Draw.

### ***Bowls England E-mail News & County News***

All Friends on e-mail continue to receive a copy of these news sheets as a privilege of membership. If we do not have your e-mail address could you please let Mike Poole know on: mikesarapoole@btinternet.com

### ***Supporting Youth Bowls***

The Friends will once again support the cost of youth trips to Worthing during the National Championship fortnight.

### ***Bowlers Draw 2011 - Raising money for your Club and the Friends***

This year, we are again running the Bowlers Draw, in order to protect the financial benefit this Draw provides to grass-roots bowling; Clubs and Counties; and as a fund raising venture for the Friends.

Jeff Applegate, the Promoter, continues to receive requests for additional tickets and process Club Returns (with ticket stubs and cheques) ready for the Draw that takes place at the Bowls England (Women's) Dinner on the 25<sup>th</sup> November 2011 at the Walker Stadium, Leicestershire.

Counties and Clubs who raise funds through the draw are supporting their White Rose and the Amy Rose teams - the Junior Two-fours competitions.

Jeff and the Executive are very keen to thank all Friends and Clubs that are supporting this year's Draw - but sadly only about 13% of Clubs participate. If every Club that, at present does not participate, sold just 10 books each, it would be of great benefit to Bowls especially for those Counties who have to travel long distances to play in the finals.

This year, one enterprising President is selling the Draw tickets to raise money for her Charity and has sold around 120 books so far - incoming Presidents please note!

#### ***Friends Matches***

Adie is pleased to report that he has sufficient players for most of this season's matches but reminds everyone that reserves are often needed and would like to hear from anyone else interested in playing. You can contact Adie on 01249 656793 or by email at [lloyd.adie@googlemail.com](mailto:lloyd.adie@googlemail.com)

If you would like the Friends to celebrate your Club's Anniversary next year, contact Adie as soon as possible..

#### ***Friends Website***

A major effort has been made in the past year to refresh and update the Friends Website. Please visit our site at our new address of: [www.friendsofenglishbowling.co.uk](http://www.friendsofenglishbowling.co.uk) for news and updates. Barry Donovan is our liaison Officer for the website and would be pleased to receive any comments from members - Tel: 01206 869804, e-mail: [barrydonov@aol.com](mailto:barrydonov@aol.com). The Website is now being maintained by Gary Jack.

#### ***Annual General Meeting***

This year's AGM will be on Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> August 2011 at the Bowls England Headquarters starting at 2.30pm a half hour later than usual.

The Notice of the Meeting is attached / enclosed and the examined end of year accounts will be available at the meeting. A form for the nomination of Officers and Committee members is attached / enclosed which must be returned to the Friends Secretary, Jeff Applegate, by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2011. We would encourage as many of you as possible to attend the AGM if you are available.

Kind regards and best wishes for the 2011 season from your Executive.

Jeff Applegate - Secretary

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