



RALSTON BOWLING CLUB

Monthly Newsletter - July 2025

Hi all and welcome to our monthly newsletter for **July**.



EMAILS

We continue to have issues with some emails not arriving with some members and this is something we are working hard to resolve. Please take the time to visit the Members Section of the website to check your contact details. If they are wrong let us know or complete & submit the online update form, its quick & easy to use. If they are correct, check your Junk / Spam boxes in your emails, they may be going there.

Another busy month.....was June even better than May? Here's a summary in case you missed it.

June saw the **District 25s finals** played and we were delighted to have Abbie Harris and Andy Howat competing in the finals for a place at Northfield, Andy in the over 55s and Abbie in both the Ladies and Under 25s.

Both put in great performances with Andy narrowly missing out in the final in a hard fought game on a tough rink at Abercorn on Friday 13th. The next day saw Abbie at Charleston in very mixed weather conditions. A win in the Under 25s in the morning secured her place at Northfield and this was consolidated in the afternoon where she also won the Ladies title, representing Ralston Bowling Club as the District 25 winner in both disciplines at Northfield this year - absolutely outstanding achievement and a very well done to Abbie and of course her Ralston BC coach, Jim Cullen.

Although play continued at Charleston, the bad weather on the Saturday closed a number of greens across Renfrewshire and the resulting cancellation of the Renshaw Challenge Cup allowed more of us to get along and support Abbie on the day.



Once again the weather also got the better of the Crawford Anderson Mixed Pairs the week before (as it seems to every year!) This has now been moved to August 16th where we hope for a dry day for this popular competition. Please make sure and get your name up again to take part.

This year our own Craig Sinclair became President of the **Renshaw Bowling Association**, the first member to do so since Charlie McCuaig in 2005 and to have the honour as President of hosting the finals on June 8th made this an extra special day for the club and of course Craig himself.



The day started with VP David McLucas handing over the greens to the Renshaw Bowling Association and after the players were piped on to their rinks by the piper Michael Kerr, play commenced with some great bowls being played.

There were some tight games and great sportsmanship on display and Craig topped off the day with some great bowling himself, and ultimately winning the Secretary Singles Championship - a better script could not have been written. Well done to all the winners on the day.

Well done Craig, Renshaw President and 2025 Singles Champion

The 10th of June saw the Ladies have their Triples competition on a lovely afternoon, well done to Seonaith Aitken, Evelyn McArthur & Anne Marie Cullen for winning and hard lines to runners up Sally Brown, Rosemary Quigley & Lynn MacMillan, worthy finalists.



A busy week continued for the ladies section with their annual friendly against Robertson Park. Thankfully the weather changed from the original forecast!

Lots of great bowls were played with the final score 23-24, with Roberston Park winning by just the one shot. Another great day and the ladies are already looking forward to the return visit to Robertson Park next year.



On Sunday 15th June we held the annual Robert Walker Mixed Balloted Pairs, the weather stayed dry and a great day was had by all.

Hard lines to finalists Ryan Kerr and Christine Fraser who were narrowly beaten in the final. Congratulations and well played to Robert Fraser and Enid Peacock, the 2025 winners.

Thanks to Margaret and the family for once again hosting the event in memory of Past President, Treasurer and Honorary member Bobby Walker.



The following Sunday saw Ryan out again, this time with Abbie at the Bowls Scotland District 25 Under 18s showdown at Barrhead to see who would be representing District 25 in the under 18s at Northfield.

An outstanding result for Ryan who won the singles, topping Section 1 having won all of his games. Following a playoff with Lewis Beacon from Charleston, it was a tense decider with the game sitting peels after the allocated 40 mins. Ryan held his nerve to get the all important shot to be the overall winner and qualifying to represent Ralston BC and District 25 in the under 18s singles at Northfield.

Abbie came runner up in the pairs and qualified to represent District 25 in the Under 18s triples.

The Under 18s games will take place at Northfield on Saturday 26th July - hopefully some of you can get along and show them the clubs support.



British Isles Under 18 Ladies Single Champion

To cap off a hugely succesful month Abbie went down to Wales to compete in the Bristish Isles Bowls Championships.

An early wednesday morning start on the 25th saw Abbie taking a convincing lead which then went on to be a bit of a nailbiter with Abbie finally showing grit and determination to eventually win 21-19 against Wales.

Another incredible performance and result sees Abbie take the crown as British Under 18 Ladies Champion.

The final club competition of the month took place on Sunday 29th June, The McGregor Nominated Mixed Triples kindly sponsored by Immediate Past President and Past Lady President Stuart and Katrina Brown.

The weather stayed good and a great time was had by all.

A great performance overall from Jim Cullen, Anne Marie Cullen and Cheryl Gibb, winning all their matches to ultimately take the title.

Commiserations and well done to the runners up, Ian MacRae, Kathryn MacRae and Elizabeth Harrison who put in a fine performance to reach the final but were just pipped at the post.



All in all a fantastic month of bowls.

I'm sure all of us at the club would like to congratulate everyone in their successes and achievements over the last month.

A special mention has to go to our Juniors, Abbie and Ryan and their Ralston BC coach, Jim Cullen for a month to remember!



- Abbie Harris wearing her British Isles Under 18s Ladies Gold Medal
- Abbie wearing her District 25 Ladies U25s & Ladies Singles Medals
- Ryan Kerr wearing his Bowls Scotland District 25 U18s Singles Gold Medal
- Level 2 Club Coach Jim Cullen who has helped coach Abbie and Ryan throughout their 2 years at Ralston Bowling Club

Abbie and Ryan will both proudly represent Ralston at the Bowls Scotland National Finals at Northfield which starts on Saturday July 26th.

The whole of Ralston Bowling Club and District 25 will be giving these 2 young bowlers their full support.

Junior Coaching

Our junior Coaching continues & will run right through the summer, unless cancelled due to main club events or bad weather. Juniors are always welcome so please contact Freddie Graham or Jim Cullen - ralstoncoaching@gmail.com for further information or should you have any younger members of the family interested in participating and wish to register them.

Quiz Night

Due to a tight schedule and so much happening last month, this newsletter is going out a week later than it should.... as a result we have already held the quiz night to welcome many of our new "class of 25" members, and what a great success it was! With over 50 members coming along to take part.

With Quiz Masters Lynn and Kenny MacMillan taking charge, Robert and Christine Fraser looking after the pies, supplied by Vice President David McLucas it was a fun filled night and a huge thanks go to the aforementioned not forgetting Nicola Fraser keeping everyone watered throughout.

In a close finish the Winners were the Infamous Five of Helen, Janis, Peter, Peter and Norrie. Runners up Team Garda of Gena, Robert, Agnes, David and Andy came very close.



Meikleriggs Mixed Friendly

The following afternoon saw us head off to Meikleriggs Bowling Club for our annual friendly.

Big thanks go to President Tom and all at Meikleriggs Bowling Club for a fantastic day and their very kind hospitality and great banter on the greens.

Ralston played particularly well with Vice President David winning the bragging rights that he will hope to emulate next year in the return fixture at home.

The highest up Ralston rink was Katherine, Anne Marie, Jim and Ian and the day finished with a quiz with Ellen, Chris, Christine, Paul, Kenny, Lynn, Lorraine and Bob the winners.

Roll on next year for more of the same



Club Bars

A popular introduction last month was the “**Malt of the Month**” a mid-month restock was required of last months malt, the Cardhu Gold Reserve, which went down an absolute treat.



For July we have **The Glenmorangie, Triple Cask Reserve** - Rich and subtly spiced it brings new dimensions to Glenmorangies delicious range of single malt whiskies.

Inspired by the natural splendour of the Highlands to create a deep harmony of flavours, their whisky makers have married together three carefully chosen types of casks.

Uniting bourbon casks and new charred oak with rye whiskey casks – rarely used in the Scotch whisky industry – this bottling abounds with notes of pear, candied orange, honeysuckle and clove.

Priced at just £2.80 a dram it's a lovely easy drinking whisky

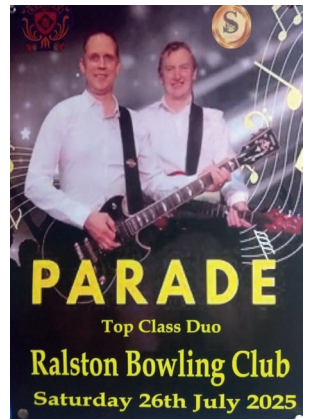
The bar and duty rota for this and next month is on the main noticeboard and continues to be updated each month. Please contact Gail Naismith should you be interested in becoming bar trained and helping out.

Monthly Dance

The next Club Dance is on Saturday 26th of July and there should be plenty of time to get back from Northfield for those that are going down to watch the Juniors.

All Members and friends are welcome to come along and enjoy another great social night in the club.

Please see Robert Fraser for tickets, there is no dance in August so don't miss out this month.



Still to come this month is the Cardonald Friendly, being hosted this year by Cardonald Bowling Club on Sunday 13th July. This is sure to be a great day and we look forward to seeing our friends away from home and hopefully manage to retain the trophy this year!

We also have the Kingston Triples on Saturday 19th July, which is again kindly sponsored by Bert & Evelyn McArthur - the entry sheet is on the board at the foot of the stairs so get your name down quick if you want to enter as this will be getting drawn soon.

As we carry on through the month dont forget to get your ties played as quickly as possible.... theres still a lot of bowling to be done before we reach the finals! New competition sheets are also now up so please check the boards often.

Best of luck to all still playing in the internal competitions as well as in the league and upcoming external competitions.

Best wishes,

Mags
Mags McLucas
Club Secretary
RALSTON BOWLING CLUB

