

## Bowlers urged to back new campaign

**Bowls England is urging all clubs to back a new campaign to secure the sport's future.**

Local authority funding cuts and pressure from developers are just two of the issues threatening many bowling facilities.

Bowls England has teamed up with the Sport and Recreation Alliance to help clubs raise the profile of the sport of bowls among MPs - and therefore to increase the chance of future Government decisions favouring clubs at a local level.

Tony Allcock MBE, Bowls England Chief Executive, said: "Local authorities are making significant cutbacks across their services to meet the Government's deficit reduction plan, and feedback from clubs over the winter has shown that bowls is not, and will not, be immune. This could have a significant impact on our sport for generations to come if we do not take some positive action. We cannot reverse some of the decisions that have already been taken, but we can provide clubs with the best possible chance of staying open by raising the profile of the sport with their local MP."

Bowls has already made the national news this year when John Woodcock MP introduced a Bill in Parliament in response to green closures in his own constituency of Barrow-in-Furness. The Bill seeks to give greater planning protection to greens from landowners seeking to build on them and could be used for all greens across the country. He also tabled an Early Day Motion (a petition) which has been signed by MPs from across the political spectrum.

Tony Allcock added: "This action generated lots of support in Westminster and many news stories across the country. We now need to build on this momentum and support the Bill when it gets a second reading in Parliament."

All clubs have been asked to write to their local MP, asking them to support the Early Day Motion.



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### Follow us on Twitter

**You can now keep up to date with the latest news, forthcoming events and results from Bowls England on the micro-blogging website Twitter as part of our commitment to keep members and other stakeholders fully informed.**



Twitter will enable individuals to keep in touch with Bowls England just by registering to follow '@BowlsEng'. Users will then receive automatic updates through either their personal Twitter account, which can be accessed through computer or smart phone.

Bowls England will be using Twitter to broadcast regular updates, and we hope this will help to raise the profile of our sport among current and future participants.

If you have not used Twitter before, you can join at: <http://twitter.com>

# Bowls England launches unique 'Cruise Club' partnership

Bowls England is delighted to announce the launch of the 'Bowls England Cruise Club' in conjunction with Cruise Holidays – offering members the opportunity to access superb value, exclusive offers and unrivalled customer service and clubs the opportunity to benefit from every booking made.

Cruise Holidays is part of the Travel Leaders Group in the United States, which has an annual turnover of £12 billion and is one of the largest sellers of cruises in the world. This buying power enables the Cruise Club to offer superb value as well as unique products specifically chosen for Bowls England Cruise Club members.

The Bowls England Cruise Club will provide a website, [www.bowlsclub.co.uk](http://www.bowlsclub.co.uk), with information, details and live pricing of all the latest cruise offers that can be booked online or by contacting a cruise specialist, who can give help and advice to ensure that your holiday gets off to the perfect start. Details of special offers will be circulated each week, and for every booking made the member's own club will receive a cash donation towards club funds.

Steve Cheal, Manager of the Bowls England Cruise Club, said: "I want everyone to share in this partnership. Customers will receive superb value, exclusive offers, competitions and unrivalled customer service as you would expect from a world leading company, whilst each member club will be rewarded with a cash donation for each booking to help with the running of their club or however else they would like to use the money as a thank you for promoting the Cruise Club within their own Bowling Club. We very much look forward to meeting Bowls England members onboard one of our cruises."

Tony Allcock MBE, Bowls England Chief Executive, added: "This is a great opportunity for our members to gain access to a unique service. As so many of our members already enjoy cruise holidays we see this as an ideal partnership and look forward to this partnership going from strength to strength."

All bookings will be safeguarded as Cruise Holidays is ABTA and ATOL protected and is part of the Freedom Travel Group Ltd, a Co-Operative Travel Company. For more information contact Steve Cheal on 0844 445 7781 ext 31.



*The lobby of the Queen Elizabeth - which also offers short mat bowls onboard ship*

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## Norgren BC, Warwickshire, to host 2011 International Trials

**The Bowls England International Trials will be held at Norgren BC in Warwickshire this month.**

The action starts on Saturday 21st May with the Senior Women's Trial, followed on Sunday 22nd May with the Junior Women's Trial. The following weekend sees the Men's Junior Trial on Saturday 28th May and the Men's Senior Trial on Sunday 29th May. Play is scheduled to start each day at 11am, with the afternoon session at approximately 2pm and spectators are welcome to attend - free entry.

Full details including selected teams can be viewed on the Bowls England website at: [www.bowlsengland.com](http://www.bowlsengland.com)

# National TV shows to feature 'Bowls - the sport for all'

Three of England's top young bowlers will be featuring on national television in the coming weeks as Bowls England continues to work to raise the profile of the sport nationally.

Commonwealth Games Gold Medallist Natalie Melmore was on hand at Thame BC in Oxfordshire on Wednesday 4th May to give expert guidance to BBC Sport's 'have-a-go' presenter Mike Bushell.

The duo were joined during the recording by both club members and children from the neighbouring Lord William's School, to demonstrate to the viewing public that bowls truly is the 'sport for all'.

Natalie said: "It was great to have the opportunity to show bowls off to the masses. Hopefully the publicity generated over the coming weeks will help to put bowls in the spotlight and encourage more people to have a go at our sport for the first time at their local club this summer."

Mike Bushell regularly presents the sports news on the BBC Breakfast Show, and is known for trying more than 250 different sports. The feature is due to be broadcast on Saturday 21st May just after the sports news at approximately 7.35am, 8.35am and 9.35am.

Bowls and Boccia went head-to-head at Chess Vale Bowls Club in Buckinghamshire to record a special feature for Channel 4's 'That Paralympic Show'.

Players from the host club were joined by Bowls England Junior Internationals Richard Catton and Charlene Turpie during the event on Tuesday 26th April, plus GB Boccia stars Dan Bentley and David Smith who demonstrated the sport of boccia.

Andy Loakes, Chair of Chess Vale Bowls Club, said: "The day went extremely well, with both Richard and Charlene proving to be great ambassadors for our sport. Dan and David were very impressive and they made Boccia look so easy, though as both Richard and Charlene found out it requires a high level of skill."

The feature is due to be broadcast during 'That Paralympic Show' on Channel 4 on Saturday 4th June.

*Bowls England wishes to thank the individual players, Thame BC, Chess Vale BC and individual club members at both clubs for their support in arranging and supporting the recordings.*



*Natalie Melmore discusses bowls basics with BBC Sport's Mike Bushell*



*Richard Catton and Charlene Turpie try their hand at boccia during filming for 'That Paralympic Show'*

Let us  
**Bowl**  
you over



**Bowls and holidays go together like, well, Paul Foster and Alex Marshall. So TUI UK & Ireland, part of worldwide travel giant TUI Travel PLC is delighted to be sponsoring Bowls England.**

- Our most famous brands are high-street holiday favourites, Thomson and First Choice, so it's a perfect match. After all, bowls is a worldwide sport, so why not play under warmer skies and enjoy a getaway while you're at it.
- We've got some great escapes to places like Cyprus. With an average 320 days of sunshine, it's the perfect year-round destination for bowls groups. You can check in to a superb collection of hotels here, specially geared up for bowls holidays.



Top billing goes to Thomson's beachfront Athena Beach in Paphos. It's home to a flat bowling green with 18 rinks, an indoor green with 6 rinks and an outdoor short mat with 8 rinks. And if you're here on a winter escape, you'll have your own bowls coordinator on hand to set up tournaments with local clubs. All that, plus you've got three lagoon pools, an Elixir Spa and an a la carte restaurant.

Or check in to First Choice's 4-star Avanti Hotel in the same resort. Along with a gym, tennis courts and a tropical pool, you'll find six full-sized artificial bowling green rinks which are floodlit, so you can play on come sundown. And friendly games and competitions with local clubs can also be arranged. Plus, it's a quick walk to the beach and Paphos' harbour is a five-minute drive away.

Another favourite from First Choice is the Holiday Village Aliathon which has a 15-lane bowling green, a club house, competitions and tuition. Just a five-minute walk from Paphos beach, it also tots up three restaurants, four pools and five bars. And the stylish complex is split into two themed sections – a fishing village and an Aegean village.

## Book a holiday with us...

If you're in a group of 10 or more you can get some great discounts. And if there are 15 or over, you'll get 23kg of luggage so you can bring all your equipment.

## To find out more...

Pop in to your local Thomson or First Choice travel shop or visit [www.thomson.co.uk](http://www.thomson.co.uk) or [www.firstchoice.co.uk](http://www.firstchoice.co.uk) Alternatively, give us a call on our dedicated bowls number 0871 984 3177.

# Show your support to Visually Impaired Bowls England

Bowls England is calling on clubs, counties and individuals to help raise funds for the World Blind Bowls Championships being held in Worthing in 2013.

The Championships will be held in Beach House Park, Worthing, from 6th to 19th July and we wish to raise enough money to fund lunches, medals and a grand farewell banquet to visitors from across the globe "provided by the Bowlers of England".

The Bowls England Directors, Presidential Team and Staff have all pledged to do their part with a range of planned activities including a Sponsored Slim, various Quizzes, a Coaching Session with a World Champion Bowler and even participation in the Marathon!

Tony Allcock MBE, Patron of VIBE and Chief Executive of Bowls England, explained: "I am sure that visually impaired Bowlers have from time to time gained your admiration and we now appeal to you to assist these members of our Bowls Family by organising a fundraising event at your club."



## HOW YOU CAN HELP

*Suggested fund raising ideas include:*

- Fun Day
- Spider
- Coffee Morning
- Quiz Night
- Raffle
- Karaoke

*Any funds raised should be forwarded to Bowls England - with cheques made payable to 'Bowls England VIBE Fundraising'.*

*More information is available on the Bowls England website at: [www.bowlsengland.com](http://www.bowlsengland.com)*



## Bowls England hits the road to meet clubs and counties

Bowls England's Development Officer Alistair Hollis hit the road this Spring to undertake a series of seminars as part of our commitment to keep Clubs and Counties better informed.

Each event was open to all clubs within the county and covered a wide range of topics including funding, services to clubs, marketing and recruitment.

Members were then given the opportunity to raise their own topics during an open 'question time' to conclude the event.

To date Alistair has attended events in Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Northumberland, Somerset, Warwickshire, Leicestershire, Buckinghamshire, Devon and Herefordshire.

Dates in Kent, Wiltshire and Durham are already confirmed for later in the year, and it is hoped that more counties will take up the offer of a visit over the next 12 months.

# Search starts for 'Club of the Year 2011'

Bowls England has launched the 2011 Bowls England/ Drakes Pride 'Club of the Year' - with six sets of Drakes Pride bowls on offer to the winners and four sets to the runners-up.

Canterbury BC in Kent won the title in 2010 - with Yeovil BC in Somerset named runners-up. This year the Adjudicating Panel will be looking for supporting information in relation to the following five points, taking special interest in recent achievements:

- What action the Club has taken to attract new members and participants, and how many (including Juniors and Members with disabilities)?
- What new services has the Club introduced for the benefit of its members or the local community?
- What new or improved facilities has the Club provided for its members?
- Has the Club introduced any coaching programmes or initiatives?
- What evidence is there of general improvements within the Club?



*Canterbury BC - Bowls England Club of the Year 2010*

### ***The Winning Club receives:***

Six Sets of Drakes Pride Bowls; The Tony Allcock Trophy (to be kept for one year); Two Free Tickets to the Bowls England Annual Dinner; Bowls England Pennant and Club of the Year Flag; Framed Certificate; A badge for each club member; A match at your Club against a visiting Bowls England President's Team

### ***The Runner-Up will receive:***

Four Sets of Drakes Pride Bowls; The D'Arcy Drayton Cup (to be kept for one year); Two Free Tickets to the Bowls England Annual Dinner; Framed Certificate; A match at your Club against a visiting Friends of English Bowling Team

Completed entry forms, supported by a portfolio of your Club's achievements (photographs/testimonials/newspaper cuttings etc) should be submitted by Monday 1st August 2011 to: Club of the Year, Bowls England, Lyndhurst Road, Worthing, BN11 2AZ. Details are available from Liz Rahman on 01903 820222 or e-mail: [liz.rahman@bowlsengland.com](mailto:liz.rahman@bowlsengland.com). They can also be downloaded from the Bowls England website: [www.bowlsengland.com](http://www.bowlsengland.com)

## **New laws for 2011 season**

**Following adoption at the World Bowls meeting held last October, all players are reminded that the Laws of the Sport of Bowls Crystal Mark Second Edition are now in use in England.**

The two main changes affecting general play are:

1. The winner of the previous end will deliver the jack and the first bowl on the next end, with the exception of an extra end when there will be a coin toss with the winner having the choice.
2. The Skip will be responsible for keeping the scorecard in all forms of the game - pairs, triples and fours.

Tony Allcock MBE, Bowls England Chief Executive, said: "Bowls England had proposed that the law on 'giving the jack away' be changed in response to calls from many clubs and individual bowlers during the consultation process and is therefore delighted that this has now been approved and is now implemented."

Copies of the new Laws of the Sport of Bowls Crystal are available now from Bowls England priced £2 per copy.

# Support for clubs through Running Sports

Running Sports is a programme created and funded by Sport England to support volunteers working within sport.



The Running Sports programme provides products and services in a variety of formats from books and workshops to online user guides.

Running Sports resources can help you to:

- grow your club
- get more people involved
- manage your club more efficiently, with responsibilities spread more effectively
- save money for your club by saving on taxes through the Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) system
- develop partnerships with other clubs and schools to increase your network of volunteers
- gain practical ideas for raising funds and sponsorship for your club

It also runs regular workshops across England to make sure that you and your club can get practical assistance in a wide variety of areas.

For more information on Running Sports just go to: [www.runningsports.org](http://www.runningsports.org) or telephone 0800 363 373.

## Sport England Small Grants Scheme amended

**Sport England has made the following announcement with regard to its Small Grants Programme:**

*"A decision was made at the beginning of the Small Grants programme to support bowls clubs to purchase essential ground maintenance equipment if a financial and operational need could be justified. Our policy has always stated that we 'do not fund the maintenance or replacement of existing equipment' and due to the popularity of the Small Grants programme and the competition for funding it is highly unlikely that we will fund projects of this nature in the future. This means that an application for any equipment that is like for like replacement is outside of policy because it is simply meeting an existing running cost and will not be able to deliver any additional output for the investment. Examples of projects we won't fund include a mower/roller to replace an old one where no additional sporting delivery will take place. Examples of projects that we may fund include a new mower/roller to cope with additional use, for example, on a new green or a club that has not previously owned equipment (mower, roller, irrigation system etc), or equipment has previously been hired."*

For more information on the Sport England Small Grants Scheme please go to: [www.sportengland.org/funding](http://www.sportengland.org/funding)

## World Bowls Review Sub-Committee

John Bell, Men's Senior Team Manager and Performance Director at the 2010 Commonwealth Games, is Bowls England's representative on the World Bowls Review Sub-Committee.

The formation of the Review Sub-Committee follows agreement by World Bowls Council Members in October last year that the time had come for World Bowls to look at its structure and organisation.

The Committee will also identify the responsibilities and obligations of Member National Authorities, including Bowls England, compared to World Bowls.

John Bell had been nominated for the post by the Board of Bowls England.

World Bowls has announced that the other members of the Committee are:

Neil Dalrymple (Bowls Australia)  
Garry Collins (Bowls Guernsey)  
John Carter (Bowls New Zealand)  
John Anderson (Bowls Scotland)  
Debra Ferguson (Bowls South Africa)  
Eddie Williams (Welsh Bowling Association)

Louise Martin CBE, Secretary of the Commonwealth Games Federation and Chair of Sportscotland, has agreed to serve as an 'independent' on the new Committee.

World Bowls President, John McArdle, will chair the Committee and World Bowls Chief Executive Gary Smith will serve as secretary to the Committee.

The Committee has been asked to provide a final report to the Board of World Bowls by December 2011.

# Bowls England statement on CRB Checks

Bowls England wishes to inform members that following the Government's announcement of the scaling back of the Vetting & Barring Scheme, it is continuing to look at the detail in conjunction with TMG, which administers Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) applications for the sport of bowls.

At this stage, there is a requirement that Members continue with CRB applications where there is 'eligibility', which means that applications will only be processed from Members who meet one of the following criteria:

1. Regularly teaching, training, instructing or in sole charge of children under the age of 18. This must take place on a regular basis and is not just for 'one off' events such as open days that may be attended by children under the age of 18
2. Frequently (once a week or more) caring for, teaching, training, instructing or advising children under the age of 18
3. Frequently (once a week or more) caring for, training, instructing or advising vulnerable adults

Club Welfare Officers/Child Protection Officers may also apply for a CRB check should they feel that it is relevant to their role within their club or county.

Bowls England understands the Government and the CRB have indicated that they are determined to clamp down on ineligible checks, and TMG has further advised that it will refuse to process ineligible checks. Therefore Bowls England will not process CRB applications from Members unless they meet one of the above criteria.

If you are in any doubt about your personal 'eligibility' please contact TMG CRB on 0845 251 5000 in the first instance. If you do meet the eligibility criteria, please e-mail: [gwen.sabin@bowlsengland.com](mailto:gwen.sabin@bowlsengland.com) or telephone 01926 430686 to request a CRB application form.

**BOARD MINUTES ONLINE:**  
The minutes of Bowls England Board meetings held since May 2010 are now available to view and download from the Bowls England website. Just go to 'Board' page located under the 'About Us' tab at: [www.bowlsengland.com](http://www.bowlsengland.com)

**NEW MEN'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP:** Please note that 2012 will see the introduction of a National Two Wood Singles Championship for men. Entry will be through your County in line with the other main Championships.

**DEVELOPMENT LOANS:** Is your club considering improving its facilities - then why not consider an interest-free Development Loan of up to £20,000 from Bowls England. Loans can be repaid over a maximum of eight years. This means clubs can budget with the security of 'no added charges'. For more information please e-mail: [moira.drost@bowlsengland.com](mailto:moira.drost@bowlsengland.com)

## English Bowls Youth Development Scheme

The English Bowls Youth Development Scheme (EBYDS) is a partnership initiative to provide a pathway to develop the sport of bowls for young people.

The National School of Excellence will this year be held at Beach House Park, Worthing, on Sunday 28th August.

The EBYDS is supported by Bowls England, EIBA Ltd, English Bowls Coaching Scheme, English Bowls Umpires Association and the Friends of English Bowling.

Connor Cinato of Northamptonshire won the overall title for 2010 following the National Finals held at Solihull IBC earlier this year.

For more information on the English Bowls Youth Development Scheme, contact the Secretary, Irene Scoble, on 01933 674380 or e-mail: [donirene12@uwclub.net](mailto:donirene12@uwclub.net).



*Connor Cinato pictured receiving the 2010 Award from Bowls England Vice-Chair Peter Arnold*