



# Blackhall Bowling Club

## **Rink June 2026**



### **The President speaks:**

*May has been a great month to play bowls and while it has been encouraging to see a busy green, there have been some lovely days and evenings when the green has been surprisingly quiet. There is something very satisfying when a number of ties and bounce games are being played – the anticipation of success, the well-worn phrases and regular excitement for any onlookers.*

*We recently added a Sunday Hat session (2pm start) to provide another opportunity for casual bowling to which members are welcome.*

*We are delighted to note we have attracted a good number of new members from our Open/Try Bowls Days. We offer our thanks to everyone who helped organise them, especially the coaches who set up such interesting rinks. I am sure you will make our new bowlers feel welcome and be ready to provide any help required. For those new members, we are planning on holding a get-together soon to see how you are getting on and answer any questions you might have.*

*Our internal competitions are starting to pick up pace. I would ask that you continue to pay close attention to the deadlines so that ties are played in a timely manner. Some recent singles ties were without markers so remember to invite your fellow members who I am sure will be happy to help. Externally, the various leagues are well underway as are a number of knockout competitions. Congratulations to Debbie Gibb and Susan Gardiner who are through to the quarter finals of the EBA Australian Pairs, good luck to you both!*

*The financial landscape remains a challenging one as I am sure all clubs are finding. To that end and following the successful event last year, we will be holding a Fundraising Fun Day on Saturday 18th July. (See details from Mike Ashwell on the next page.)*

*Hopefully the weather will be kinder to us this year as well. Enjoy your bowling and the social scene, June should be another great month.*

**Gary Wood**

**Hazel Matthews has set up a WhatsApp group for any who want to participate in occasional informal “Bounce” games. Contact Hazel to sign up.**



## What's coming up?

**Saturday 18th July – Annual Fundraiser :** This is a Fun day on the bowling green followed by a meal in the clubhouse. Raffle/ Auction prizes are welcome. The bowling starts at 4 and the meal at 6pm. All members are welcome whether you wish to bowl or not. Casual dress. There is a suggested donation of £25 per head. Pay direct to the bank or use the SumUp card reader in the clubhouse.

**Saturday 27th June – The Burgoyne Cup:** This is a mixed pairs bowling event held annually for the Burgoyne cup. Restricted to 32 bowlers of all standards, so an ideal event for our new members. Casual dress. Starts at 1.30 with light refreshments available.

**Saturday 11th July – Councillor's Cup:** This is a mixed pairs match against our closest neighbours – Maitland BC. Restricted to 24 players. Club colours to be worn. Starts at 2pm followed by a meal. £15 per member.

**Sunday 16th. August – Invitation Pairs:** Open to all members and their guest partners. The club wishes to expand this event to include as many playing members as possible. Plan ahead to invite your best bowling friend along. £20 per pair entry fee. Starts at 10am.

Our sponsor this month is **Cameron Optometry** and they have some interesting things going on in St Vincent Street.



# Looking after *your eyes* for the future

Cameron Optometry is a familiar name to many in the club, having been founded and run by Donald Cameron.

Today, the practice is led by the next generation, Ian and Lorna Cameron, continuing the tradition of expert, independent eye care in a welcoming and relaxed environment.

Alongside comprehensive eye examinations, the practice also offers a number of specialist clinics and services you may not be aware of, including:



#### TEAR CLINIC

Expert care for dry, sore or watery eyes.



#### VISUAL STRESS CLINIC

Assessments for reading difficulties, eye strain, headaches and more.



#### MYOPIA MANAGEMENT

Slowing the progression of short-sightedness in children with specialist lenses.



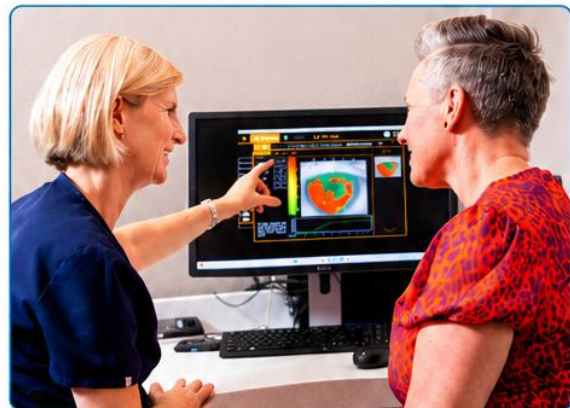
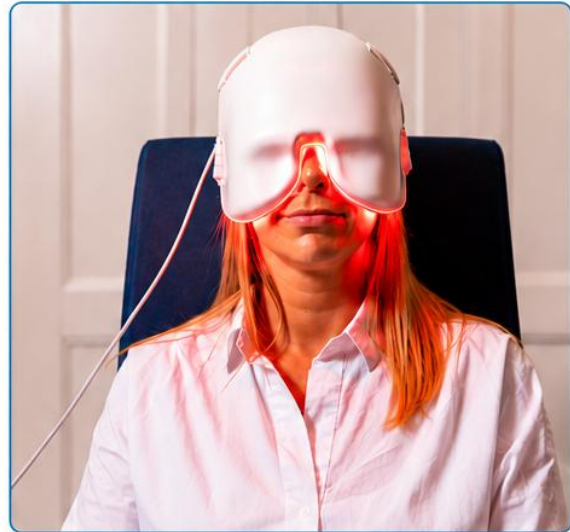
#### LOW VISION CLINIC

Helping those with reduced vision to live more independently.



#### AGE-RELATED MACULAR DEGENERATION CLINIC

Launching soon – advanced technology and treatments to support retinal health.



Whether you are due an eye examination, experiencing discomfort with your eyes, or simply looking for expert advice, we would be delighted to welcome you.



Cameron Optometry  
5 St Vincent Street,  
Edinburgh, EH3 6SW



Tel: 0131 225 2235



Email: [vision@cameronoptom.com](mailto:vision@cameronoptom.com)



Find out more:  
[cameronoptom.com](http://cameronoptom.com)



## Coaching at Blackhall Bowling Club

For the past 10 years there has been a team of coaches doing quiet background work and you might be interested to meet them. Most Saturday mornings 10-12 you will find them bringing on the next generation of would-be champions. Why not join them and pick up a few tips on etiquette and the rules of the game?

Coaches in a Bowling Club like ours are critical to the reputation and confidence of the club as we play external matches with teams from around Scotland. They have given the rule book considerable scrutiny and if you ever wondered what the laws say about a situation you encounter on the green then look no further than one of the team.

As well as keeping us on the right track, the coaches make great umpires when we are hosting visiting teams and disagreements arise. Having someone prepared to make a decision which brooks no dissent is a great facility, so we want to nurture our coaches as we learn from them as they protect us from some error of judgement.

The coaches also run a session on Thursday mornings in May and June, for about 25 of the older kids from Blackhall Primary School. This exposes them to the game and the rules so that, as well as having outside fun they learn and new skill and in due course may well come back to the sport.



Left to right: Bill and Elieen Batten, Les Dickson, Joan Pammenter,  
(Conor Cadden is camera-shy but an essential component.)

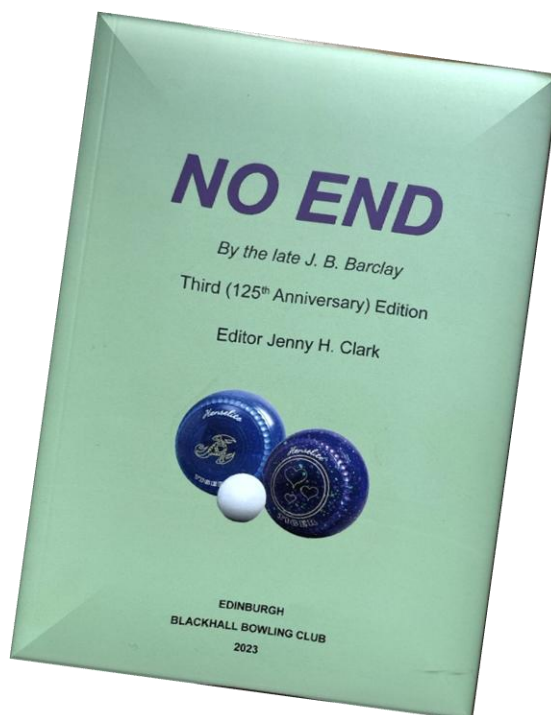
If you fancy your chances at becoming a coach or an umpire then speak to one of them and find out what is involved.

## Commonwealth Games features Bowling



You may have heard the Commonwealth Games is including Lawn Bowls. The matches will be held in the SEC from **24<sup>th</sup> July to 2<sup>nd</sup> August**. They have constructed 4 indoor rinks (no outside real bowls!) so it will be fascinating to watch the experts. TNT are showing the Games since the BBC and ITV did not offer enough to secure them.

You may be unaware that our previous Club Secretary, Jenny H Clark, as well as being 11 times the Ladies' Championship Winner, edited a book of the history of our club since its inception in 1898. The book is available in the Clubhouse and is required reading for all new members – there will be a test later in the year!



Print off this page and stick it on the fridge so you know what's coming up

## Key Events Calendar

### June

6th - Blackhall Sports Com Sports Day  
20th - Bowling and Fish 'n Chips  
24th - Ladies' Centenary Quaich  
27th - Burgoyne Cup (mixed)

### July

15th - Ladies' Championship Final  
11th - Councillors' Cup (at BBC) Catering  
18th - Bowls Fun day  
31st - Nellie Hastie Triples (Ladies)

### August

6th - Gents Championship Quarter final  
7th - Village Triples at Maitland  
8th - Trinity Friendly (at Trinity)  
11th - Gents Championship Semi-final  
15th - Gents Championship Final  
16th - Invitation Pairs  
19th - Corstorphine Friendly (Gents) at BBC 18.00  
23rd - Ryder Cup (Gents)

### September

2nd, 3rd, 4th - Autumn Pairs  
12th - Ladies v Gents Top 10  
20th - Anderson Cup  
23rd - Ladies' Closing Day  
26th - Closing Day

### October

24th - Halloween Social

### November

29th - Sunday Lunch Social

### December

3rd - Gents' Christmas Lunch  
14th - Christmas Lunch  
31st - Hogmany Party