



# Scottish Bowlers' Fellowship

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## Secretary's Report for 2018

As in previous years, our membership has declined with a corresponding decrease in our income, yet our running costs never decrease. We are trying to find new income streams, but basically the £1 fee for our badge has not increased for 15 years, and we have to dip into our reserves more frequently to help with grant applications, annual account audit and weekly running costs in the office. **With this in mind, we anticipate that this will be the last printed magazine, as future content will be available on our website.**

In order to promote our organisation more energetically ; this year we took a stand at the National Bowling Championships in Ayr in conjunction with our badge supplier, Cockburn Designs,. All our Directors were involved in helping to run the stand over the course of the week. We engaged with many bowlers throughout the country including members from 55 clubs new to the Fellowship. In this way we hope that next year through a mailshot we will welcome new clubs to the Fellowship.

This year the 2 Fellowship competitions, the Gent's Bennie Cup and Ladies Rose Bowl continued, however I feel that the withdrawal of clubs from both competitions will make this event in the near future financially untenable. Clubs have to understand that this is a National Competition, and using excuses that they are unwilling to travel outside their district, or are reluctant to play in the evening, is not on! We are not like Bowls Scotland or the various area associations where we have 30 plus clubs in a district, therefore it is inevitable that if the competition is to run successfully, we must go outside the "comfort zone" of the district! Please be aware of this when you make your applications next year.

In September, our Tourists visited the Borders and played Jedburgh and Biggar Bowling Clubs respectively – an enjoyable weekend of bowls was enjoyed by all.

During the year our website has had many visitors from many parts of the world. By accessing our web, members can learn more about our Fellowship, as well as downloading application

forms etc.

In conclusion, I'd like to thank my Treasurer, Olive Allardyce for all her hard work in keeping the accounts in good order, Colin McLachlan, the Match Secretary for keeping me apprised of the fixtures and competitions, Kevin McKay for updating the website and Tom Cassidy for his guardianship of the Fellowship.

Finally, thanks to all other committee members who assisted me with the mailing of the Annual Report for 2018 and Badges for 2019.

**John M Lassa**

**Secretary**