

SECRETARY'S AND TREASURER'S REPORTS FOR YEAR TO 31 OCTOBER 2025

At the AGM in March this year, Olive A Allardyce, our long serving Treasurer stood down due to poor eyesight, but she is still keeping a watch on the finances by taking up the role of Financial Adviser as well as being appointed a Guardian of the SBF. In her place, John M Lassa, our Secretary was nominated as the new Treasurer, with assistance from Lesley Honour, a new and upcoming committee member.

This last year has seen many changes in the membership of our Executive committee. As Colin Mclachlan our President, saw out his year of office, attention was drawn to the fact that no Vice-President was in the wings to carry on the Presidency in 2026. The committee have decided not to recycle previous holders of the Presidency and therefore run the Fellowship with the help of the Guardians, committee and the Secretary/Treasurer (who is also a Trustee). This arrangement will run until such time as more members join our committee, which will then create the need for a new elected President and Vice-President.

So the Fellowship continues into its 72nd year with a membership of some 11,000 members. Demands on our funds continue to increase as we support our disabled and aged members throughout the country. Last year the committee thought to introduce a capitation fee but this proposal was not well received, so the continuance of the badges with pens was proposed, which seemed to go down well, as some 4,800 were ordered by members.

In conclusion, I hope some of you will come to our AGM held at Cardonald Bowling club, Glasgow, at 130pm on the 21st March 2026.

Best wishes to you all in your bowling efforts both club and nationally.

Yours in Fellowship

John M Lassa

Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT – YEAR TO 31 OCTOBER 2025

The year has been slightly challenging, as the role of the Treasurer has been brought under the remit of the Secretary. The transition was not too difficult as the previous treasurer helped to make this move as smooth running as possible.

At the start of 2025, there were 259 Clubs in Membership. However, 25 Clubs have made no contact with the Fellowship over the past year, in spite of several e-mails and 29 Clubs have resigned, and 2 closed.

Most Clubs have remitted their Fees by Bank Transfer and we would ask Clubs to continue to do so as Banks move away from cheques and cash, with 3 clubs continuing to make an annual donation to the Fellowship instead of taking Badges, and donations were received from 2 Clubs – namely Red Deer Bowling Club on the closure of its green, and a donation from the family of a former member of Hawthorn Bowling Club. 4 Life Memberships were taken out during the year.

Over the years, the Fellowship Trustees have ensured that Funds were held in reserve to meet at least one year's financial commitments, however, this has not been possible now as costs have increased and the Investment Account was redeemed. However, our Property Bond continues to yield interest at 4%.

The Accounts for the year to 31 October 2025 show a net shortfall of £4,480, against the previous year's shortfall of £15,184. A copy of the Examined Accounts will be available on our website to download.

During the year, we continued to receive applications for assistance and one Grant for an Emergency illness was made totalling £750. Three Para Handy wheelchairs were purchased for Foxley and Danderhall Bowling clubs and the Finding your Feet Organisation based at Paisley Indoor Club - a total cost of £2,850. Newburgh, Alloa, Westerton, Rutherglen, Giffnock, Balgay and Broughty bowling clubs received Grants totalling £1,489.60 towards the purchase of bowling aids, including Bella Bowling Seats, Bowling Arms, Bowls gatherers, Bowls launchers, Set of bowls for a semi blind bowler and a Bowler stroller.

This year we introduced a pen as well as a badge for members. This proved popular as some 4800 were ordered. I think if the badge had only been promoted, our income would have been drastically reduced. The annual Membership Fee will continue to be £2.00 per Member for 2026.

Applications for help can be made at any time by those Clubs who have paid Membership Fees.

To assist Clubs in accessing Bowling Aids, we continue to use Colin Bain of David Gourlay Bowls, based at the Glasgow Indoor Bowling club, however we will be trialing online orders from our website so clubs can purchase directly from DG Bowls SBF members price list. Details will appear on our web page in April.

John M Lassa

Treasurer

