

Get bowled over

IN A BID to recruit more members Jedburgh Bowling Club is one of 70 clubs joining Bowls Scotland's £10 Membership initiative this month, as part of its 2014 for 2014 campaign, which aims to introduce 2014 new players to bowls before the Glasgow Commonwealth Games.

Like many clubs the Borders club recognised its membership was declining so is pulling out the stops to bring in newcomers, particularly adults and families.

"Just now we have around 65 members which looking back to 10 years ago is down by almost 20 members," says Club Secretary, John Taylor.

"So for £10 Membership initiative we're aiming at people of every age; families, people who have finished playing other competitive sports like rugby, football and golf, retired people looking for a game to keep them active."

Fun, easy to play and affordable (annual membership at Jedburgh is just £50) Taylor believes bowls has universal appeal.

"Bowls is one of the easiest sports to take up, the rules are very simple and it's a sociable game," he continues.

"There are very few people that can't play it and it's also one of the sports where you can become good at it very quickly.

"Once you play it's a game that can hook you, so if you get them to that first game it's something that you will come back and play again."

Hooking new members is just what the club plans to do through the £10 Membership Initiative. The club has three coaches and has picked four days starting on 24 August when it will open its greens to newcomers.

As an additional attraction the club will this weekend open its new clubhouse. The rebuild, which began in April 1998, supported by Bowls Scotland and the club, will now form part of the governing body's regional framework.

The new clubhouse was made possible through the club's fundraising and a £60,000 investment from sportscotland, £45,000 from the Jedburgh Common Good Fund, £30,000 from BCCF Environmental Group, £5,000 from Roxburgh Sports Council and £5,000 from Scottish Borders Council's Community Grant scheme.

"It's taken us a long number of years to get this far and we've had a



few knock backs," admits Taylor.

"To any club out there who is looking to do something similar I'd say don't take no for an answer. Look at what you've got, look at what the members want and put a good plan in place.

"We've now got to make it work, we've got to make the club stronger, and we've got to open longer so we are planning thoroughly.

"You've got to look at the bigger picture so that when you are long gone there is still something that the next generation can use in the town."

For further details of clubs who are participating in the £10 Membership Initiative please visit: www.bowls-scotland.com. If your local club is not listed but you are interested in finding out about getting started in the sport then please e-mail: 2014for2014@bowlsscotland.com

Find a club in your area offering the £10 Membership Initiative

NORTHERN
Aviemore
Lerwick

MORAY, BANFF & BUCHAN
Aberlour
Banff
Dufftown
Moray

ABERDEENSHIRE
Ellon
Newhills

ABERDEEN & KINCARDINE
Cults
Drumoak Durris
Crathes
Stonehaven

ANGUS & DUNDEE

Abbey
Arbroath
Dudhope
Frickheim
Hillcrest
Kirriemuir
Muirhead & Birkhill
Parkview
Strathmartine

PERTSHIRE
Bridge of Earn
Inchture

FIFF
Abbeyview
Crail

Crossgates
Dalgety Bay
Duffus Park
Freuchie
Kirkcaldy
Ladybank
Lumphinnans
Nethertown
Rosyth

STIRLINGSHIRE
Bridge of Allan

DUNBARTONSHIRE WEST & ARGYLL
Campbeltown
Oban

DUNBARTONSHIRE EAST
Kirkintilloch

WEST LOTHIAN
Bankton Mains

EDINBURGH
Brunstane
Colinton
Jessfield
Leith
Stenhouse
Trinity

MIDLOTHIAN
Kirkhill

LANARKSHIRE NORTH
Biggar
Newmains

Shotts Ironworks
LANARKSHIRE SOUTH
Hamilton
Uddingston

GLASGOW
Jordanhill
Kelvindale
Kingswood
Partickhill
Westerton
Woodend
Queen's Park
Stamperland

RENFREWSHIRE
J. G. Fleming
Ralston

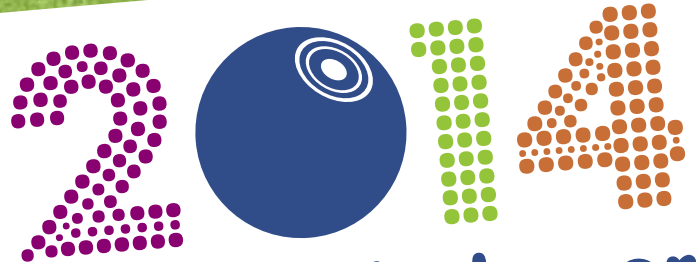
INVERCLYDE
Ardgowan
Kilmacolm

AYRSHIRE NORTH
Largs
Millport

AYRSHIRE MID
Dunlop

BORDERS
Jedburgh
Peebles

DUMFRIESHIRE
Beechgrove-Moffat
Canonbie & District
Dumfries



Get bowled over

join the 2014 for 2014 campaign

Join the

£10 Club MEMBERSHIP OFFERS



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Starts nationwide Monday 19th Aug

Try one of Scotland's most successful Commonwealth Sports

- Up to six weeks temporary membership
- Four coaching sessions from club volunteers
- Access to club social bowls sessions and facility*
- Equipment provided
- Socialise and meet new friends

For more information please visit the Bowls Scotland website www.bowlsscotland.com

*Local restrictions may apply where pre-planned club events are taking place.