



Season's Greetings

It's that time of year again and we all wish you a very Happy Christmas and, maybe, a Bowling Good New Year!

We wish we could bring you a present of a new Indoor Bowls Hall, but the reality is that we can't, not yet.

We intend to keep on working and campaigning to get a suitable facility for you all to enjoy during the Winter Season – and for many to use throughout the year.

Hopefully you will all respond when we ask for your help by attending meetings and fundraising.

Are You Missing It? We Are

Yes, we on the Steering group are certainly missing our bowls at the Leisure Centre and we are sure you are too.

We know some have done Dunholme, some have looked at Lincoln with others scooting to Scunthorpe.

We also know that for some the journey involved is too much and they have decided not to continue going, no matter how good the facilities are at these distant venues.

Rest assured we are still looking and planning what can be done to bring Indoor Bowls back into the Gainsborough area.

This is our second Newsletter because we feel you need to know what is going on and what we have been doing to make Riverside Indoor Bowls "The Place to Be"!

Hopefully from the other articles you will see that we are laying the foundations for that future facility and that we need YOUR help.





Charitable Status Update

We held a meeting back in September which was open to all club members to attend.

At that meeting it was reaffirmed that the name of the club has changed and also that the funds held by WLIBC be transferred to the Riverside Indoor Bowls Club. This has now happened. WLIBC is now no more.

We also told everyone that we would be applying to become a registered Charity and this happened in mid-October.

We were helped on this project by Burton & Dyson, Solicitors in Gainsborough, to prepare and submit the application to the Charity Commissioners. This was done by them free of charge, so we are very grateful to them for their generosity.

From our investigations of finding funds to move forward it quickly became obvious that we needed to be a registered Charity to access many funders. Being a Charity is also useful when it comes to paying Business Rates as Charities get extremely beneficial terms.

We are still waiting for approval from the Charities Commission but when that comes through, we will be ready to move forward with regard to fundraising both large and small. Please see the other articles about some ideas we want to implement.

Fundraising

One thing is certain if we do want to get ourselves a new venue and that is our need for funds – MONEY in other words.

As soon as we get confirmation of being a Charity, we will be looking to raise some large amounts from grant makers and seed funding from you, our members. Without funds we can't move forward.

So far, our ideas to boost our coffers are:

100/200 Club – everyone commits £1 or more a week and we have a draw each week with a prize equal to half the money collected each week. We are looking to do this by Standing Order and probably have a half yearly payment direct from your bank. If you are interested or want to help run it, get in touch now!

Promissory Note – This is a commitment by members to provide funds should we become successful in a matched funding bid. Members will commit to provide an amount of money when asked to pay. This could be any amount you want from £50 upwards – with no limit 😊

Other activities – We are considering other ideas such as Crowdfunding, Holding Events and Amazon Smile. Each could be a useful way of helping to build our funds and our community of Indoor Bowlers.

Over to you! – We don't have a monopoly on ideas – so if you have any ideas or suggestions, or want to organise a social fundraiser please let us know.

Let's get "Internetting"!

We now have a Facebook Page and a website for you to access and tell your friends about.

You can join the Facebook group named "Riverside Indoor Bowls" and share it with your friends and also make comments. It's a great way to keep in touch and up to date with what's going on.

Here is the link

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2131562037104265/>



Our new website is also up and running to promote what we want to do and how we hope to fund our ongoing running costs. Here's the web address <https://riversidebowls.weebly.com/>

We are currently using a free website system but once we are up and running, we intend to get an interactive club site for online bookings and league information.

Last but not Least - Venue Update



We have been working over the last few months towards getting a venue in Gainsborough by holding meetings with a number of people, getting estimates and developing a comprehensive business plan.

Unfortunately, it now looks likely that another business has stepped in with a better offer than we could make. We remain undaunted.

We have three or four other potential places in mind but, as with everything, these things don't happen overnight.

Meetings will have to be had with a number of parties and our business plan tweaked to suit each potential location.

We can't say much more at this stage about these venues but rest assured, as soon as we are ready to move forward, we will let you know.

Of course, we don't know every place with potential. So, if you know of a place in the Gainsborough area that might be right for 4 or more rinks of Indoor Bowls – get in touch!!

"Contact us"

We keep saying "Get in Touch", well we do have an email address that you can use RiversideIB@outlook.com

FreeDigitalPhotos.net for picture used
