

## SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR YEAR TO 31 OCTOBER 2024

This year has been a momentous one in 2 ways. The milestone of having reached 70 years old! And closing our Glasgow office and moving the administration of both the secretarial and financial aspects to the Treasurer's and Secretary's homes – no mean undertaking!

Our 70<sup>th</sup> year began with a grand free raffle to member clubs who paid their badge fees prior to the end of May – some 120 clubs participated, and there were 40 winners of various types of bowling equipment eg mats, jacks, gatherers and bowls lifters. Later in May, a 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary bowls game was played at Langside Bowling club in Glasgow which was attended by invited clubs from as far away as Thornton in Fife to Whitehouse and Grange in Edinburgh. In a thrilling final, Kingswood defeated Carmyle at an extra end! A worthy display of fine bowling by both teams. In August, Langside were the hosts for the annual Ernie Noakes Trophy which was a draw, or something like that (I mislaid the cards). All enjoyed their day. And so the Fellowship closed for its 70<sup>th</sup> year of bowling.

The office move was a bit of an upheaval, as Olive our Treasurer and I removed our files and records on a daily basis, as the office slowly wound down. Creating space for all the extra documents at home has been onerous, but it had to be done.

So the Fellowship continues into its 71<sup>st</sup> year with a reduced membership of some 12,000 members. But with demands on our funds continuing to increase to support our disabled and elderly members throughout the country. I feel the time is approaching fast for a change in how our income is realised, by having a capitation fee per member, instead of supplying badges or pens. This would ensure that the thousands of pounds we spend buying the badges or pens would be used to help our membership! Yearly badges would be still available. Something for you all to think about in the year to come.

In conclusion , I hope some of you will come to our AGM held at Baillieston Bowling club, Glasgow, at 130pm on the 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

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

Yours in Fellowship

***John M Lassa***  
Secretary