

This is in memory of Pat Butler RIP. Most of it was written before he took ill and I have thought long and hard about releasing it so soon after his passing. I have taken sage advice and have chosen to do so as he was a major contributor, supporter and a faithful follower of the blog. Other words have been said both orally and in print so I will add nothing else here save to sayThis is for you Butsie!



Enjoy this one cos it will definitely be the last, as the self importance of being Vice President, then President kicks it. It is not fit and proper that I should continue my rants in my new position as a certain decorum is needed (and shorter hair and no beard apparently, according to some of the resident snowflakes!) Soon I will be too grand to even throw my own bowls. I will have to get a minion and say, "Here sonny, roll that up for me, there's a good chap!" What's that I hear you say...."Probably will do a better job?" No point at getting at others if I cannot get at meself!

As you may know, it takes a while to compose the blog as I get new ideas and some tout material comes in. I frequently wake up at night and think, "You can't write *that!*" so I have to chop and change. Herewith the chopped and changed product....

As with the previous blog, this is a biggie so those who read it using a mobile phone may wish to break it into installments.

There's normally little to write about during the close season, but the AGMs will always throw up a few gems. As usual at the Social one, there was a salvo of pointless questions from the back of the hall. As I was sitting at the front I could not identify the sources but they just managed to sound silly with their pettiness. Listen folks nobody died, the receivers were not called in! And pleeeeaaseeee yet again, most of us can read so there is no need to go through the minutes line by line. It wastes time and people were not listening anyway.....we were speculating on how to spend our appearance fees! That last bit will mean nothing to outside readers!

Annnndddd.....we all make mistakes. With some it is releasing an honorarium a whole month early! With others it isahem....oh, something like growing a beard perhaps, or someone taking the keys away after the indoor bowling season so that the morning bowlers could not have their therapeutic roll up ! ☺ I am also reliably informed that one of the older girlies sat through the whole proceedings with a face like a gorilla sucking a lemon! Who annoyed you this time dearie? Can't have been me cos you don't speak to me!

The Bowling AGM was as usual conducted with greater civility even though we were not getting appearance fees (see above). Again, time was wasted by people not doing their research and asking silly questions. Perhaps if they were allowed to speak at home, we would not have to listen to their yearly mind numbing pontifications! And bad form to the wit who castigated Gerry Lee for his small inside leg measurement! Good things *do* come in small packages.....but not always! Gerry....you are OK with me son!

And for a refreshing adult beverage of choice....who are the *Fractious Twins*? Answers privately to me!

And as a *segué* (pronounced segway!) into the next piece.... a little three liner from the green! And nothing to do with the aforementioned Gerry Lee....

"You're short!"

"Nonsense, I 'm right on the kitty!"

"Nope....you're just short!"

Whose missus leaves his clothes out for him every time he goes out? Does she wipe the dirt offa your face with a damp hankie as well? Shame on you Alan De Bruin!

Some of you will know that I do a monthly broadcast piece for Belfast 89fm called *"Those Were The Days.....So They Were"*. It involves interviewing friends about childhood days! My first one was with Belinda De Bruin and the lovely Maire Smyth. Now I normally go with one take as we say in the trade but a certain First Lady wanted her segment redone as her voice just wasn't *"quite right!"* Another involved Pat Butler with a cameo appearance by the President. Now as it happened, the aforesaid current President did not tell the aforesaid current First Lady about his aforesaid cameo appearance and apparently the little *vignette* he told about hiking off school to go to the *Radio One Club* did not happen to him but to *her*! On both accounts she was spitting nails. I quote, *"He has no life so he had to steal mine!"* Way to go Maire!

Listen to Pat's interview below:

<http://www.belfast89.com/paul-anthony-recorded-at-falls-bowling-club-schooldays/>

Cut and paste if the link does not work directly!

And talking Presidents, it's about time we started showing him some respect! Instead of his current handle of *Stevie Stiff*, I suggest *Skateboard Steve*. Ask Liam Aldridge about it! And further talking Presidents.....apparently Carl "*The Bouncer*" is his new head of security!

And still on Presidents. Apparently his plum duff is to die for....according to his missus. And his apple cake is none too shabby either by all accounts. What a master baker I hear you say!

I attended some of the Indoor Lady President's night, initially in the company of Marion McCullough and vouch that a good time was had by one and all. Someone later mentioned that hubby Rab McCullough *supported* the entertainer for the evening. Listen dearie, Rab McCullough supports NOBODY! Rab McCullough is Rab McCullough! Respect Man!

I left before the "*Take Your Pick!*" and the Raffle. And remember folks it is *raffle* and not *ballot* which is an Occupied Six Counties/Ulsterism and grammatically incorrect! Two things to point out. Ex Controller Paddy Montgomery won naff all for the first time since he was eight and a half! And apparently someone took the money rather than the TV. No idea who it was as my informant was too polite to tell me but either you have a house full of TVs dearie or you really need the money!

And for those who have not seen them already, please find below some pics of the revelers from the night.....



Mrs McGlue: "Smile Desi!"

Mr McGlue: " I AM smiling!"



“What’s it to ya! Any more of that nonsense and I’ll get my Michael to tell you one of his jokes!”



How come you never see Billy T and Stephen Watson in the same room?

The morning Indoor bowlers continue to amuse themselves in the T and T competition. Come along and watch Artie “The Stick” in action. Pure joy! And who was it who shouted “Peachy!” when his team mate put one right on the kitty? “Cackle” Grey that’s who!

And which Liam Aldridge locked us in after a recent session by forgetting to take the chain off the side door? Egress through the front door was possible but that would have meant that a fiend could have broken in and stole the mats and jacks. So what did my besties do. "*You are the VP, you stay still somebody can come and lock the front door!*" So they all bugged off and left me and Big Al holdin' the fort. The only reason *he* stayed was that I was giving him a lift. Chris eventually arrived and sorted it. What I wanna know is who is gonna reimburse me the 20p tip I gave him later!

Whose loyalty card has been swiped so many times that the club logo on it is almost non-existent!

Ya know the way a certain lady bowler gets her crepe pans relined every two years? No? Talk to me privately!

As you may have heard the Head Grasscutter went to a Society wedding where one of his sprogs was getting hitched. He rejoiced in the fact that it did not cost him a penny as the in laws paid for everything including the £450 a night accommodation, his wedding shoes and a free bar until 4.00 in the am! Some say "*good ole Petsey*"some say "*tight as a bodhran drum!*" At least I hope you bought a drink the next day you skinflint! You must be worth a few bob after hiring out the Club chainsaw to all and sundry! The well heeled in laws apparently find him.....ahem....amusing, but not in the funny sense! And thanks to Harry Sergeant for informing me that he was spotted outside "*Cash For Gold*" trying to pick up some bling for his wife to wear at the do! *Quelle delicatesse* Petsey boy!

The President's Dinner went down well. Did you hear that Dan Cregan asked his "*plus one*" for her phone number and she refused! Ah well Danny Boy....you will never hear her utter the strains of "*It Was Old And It Was Beautiful!*" And who almost threw a stop because the gravy did not arrive on time!

And with no connection whatsoever...hardly..... which Vet bowler, resident of Fruithill Fold and general whinger complained that his mini fry cost him £11.50 in a bespoke establishment in the east of the city. I hope that included tea and *brown* toast ! At least you got to ride the Glider....if nothing else!

And talking *bespoke* and *folds*.....Sean Magorrian, your new "*gated*" community at the bottom of Fruithill Park!? It's a fold!

Good to see the Tree Surgeon reapplying for membership. He was sorely missed.....by someone.....apparently!

Who treats his bride to ice cream, coffee and a rice crispies square of a Monday evening at Maud's Ice Cream parlour outside the ghetto on the Lisburn Road? He prefers a skinny steamed "*lattay*" I am led to believe! Don't forget your roots laddie! You are from Andytown. A cup of bovril should be more to your liking!

And who simply has to have his chips twice fried?

Apparently we have a dynasty in the Club?!? Really?

I have mentioned this before but the objective of a Lawn Bowls game is to WIN.....not to shake as many hands as is humanly possible! A player shakes his opponent's hands at least twice before the game, once after, then finally after the nosebag at the end! He also shakes the mitts of his fellow team mates at least twice as well. Some actually go into the bar and look for hands to shake! Brendan Griffin has been known to do twenty seven shakes in the course of an evening! I think it was bad form on the part of the last Committee that he did not get an award for the pressing of the flesh!

 **John Kerr** updated his profile picture.
February 3, 2014 · 🌐



Johnny Boy.....is there something you wanna share with the rest of the group????

I am reliably informed that Michael "The Joker" Gannon regularly murders "American Pie" at sociable evenings. His lovely bride occasionally drops in to help him out a bit but it does not make it any better....apparently!

Is there a bigger fan of Westlife than Carol Anne Parker? If there is I wanna know about it!

So the Jolly Boys are at it again! Warsaw this time with the Murphy twins, the Hon Pres, Tommy Spence, Gerry Lee, Paul McGeough, Liam Trainor and someone else I can't remember! I wonder will any of them visit *Nowy Swiat* (New Street) and *Chmielna*? "Yes dear the others went but I sat in my room playing solitaire!" ' Course you did Tommy!

Regarding the above, I always contact the person, pre publication, if he has been, or is going to be involved in something unsavoury, real or nearly real! I did so with Tommy. He asked me to add in a piece about bratwurst which I simply cannot use here!

And I know a clean joke about bratwurst. When Mozart was little he was a sickly boy. The doctor told his mother to feed him German sausage. She tried it but it only made the *brat worse!* You can have this one for free Mr. Midweek Selector....add it to your range of Xmas cracker jokes!!!!

Who was miffed when she was not invited to the recent "C" list girlies shopping trip to Liverpool? All credit to them on their return to the Club where they repaired to the back room for singing, mam dancing and pizza. Hubbies sat outside waiting for them to roll out and drive them home. Nice to see they sat with dignity although one of them did try to raise the conversation up a notch with his very own form of wit (see above)!

On a recent visit to the hospital. I was asked by a physio, what form of physical activity I did. I told her bowls! After she picked herself up offa the floor and wiped the tears from her eyes she asked what sort of pre game stretching exercises we did. After I picked meself up offa the floor and wiped away *my own* tears, she told me that stretching was important in any sport! Soooo team captains.... Get your boys out on the pitch for gentle warm ups including laps before the game then after it get them out for some warm downs! What next communal baths? *Get off....!* I hear you say. But remember we *do* have three mixed competitions every year! Definitely a reason not to have them I hear you say!

Which Vet mistook a bin lorry for a glider and tried to flag it down outside the Club! Really need to wear me glasses more!



Seem like nice boys! See anyone you know here?

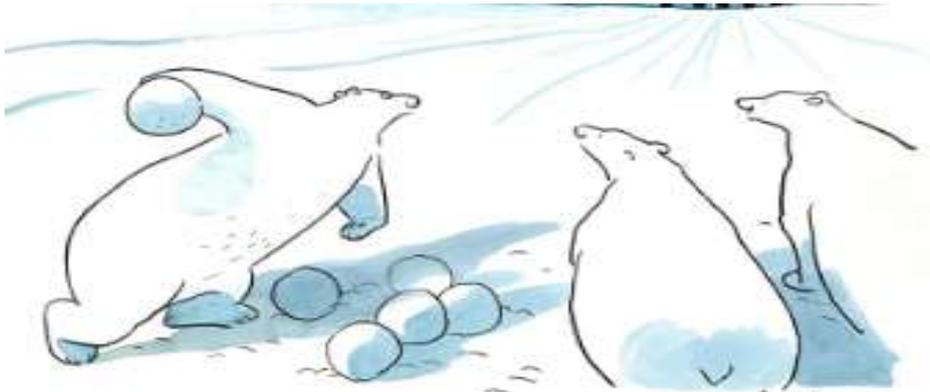


Or Here? Gerry, I know you played water polo too. Why were you training in the kitchen!

It's amazing how the Xmas decorations in the Club always appear every year and nobody puts them up or takes them down!



It's ok young Murphy. No need to hide the pint....yer da knows you drink!



Does this remind you of "Smiler" Kerr's Opening Day?

Who referred to who(m) as being “*Greasier than a chip shop window!*”



Words fail me!

And who turned up last Saturday in the Club wearing a Xmas jumper with the price tag still attached?

And who ignored his mates at a recent funeral and sat with somebody called David Corkhill (who?!). The aforementioned Petsey Boy McGarrity that's who!!



And Happy Holidays from Phil Molloy!

And finally.....



Found in Jock's Locker Room.....personalized pen! Owner can collect from me!

PS Still have no idea who David Corkhill is!