

# THE PINFEED

Issue #1: 27<sup>th</sup> April 2014

BUTBAMedia

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Up & Coming Events:

CHESTERFIELD BOWL

**CHESTERFIELD FOURS**  
Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May

**The Chesterfield Bowl**  
Storforth Lane,  
Chesterfield, S40 2TU

A Word From  
Your Press Secretary



Welcome to the first edition of The Pinfeed, published by BUTBAMedia. **So, the first issue is more like a mini-magazine than a newsletter, but I hope that it will open up plenty of discussion and incoming stories for future issues!** As a newsletter we are aiming to spread the word of university bowling both within and out of BUTBA, featuring tournament reports and updates and even a few offers along the way. In my first year as Press Sec, I want to try out as many new things as possible to get BUTBA the advertising and press coverage it deserves as such a great bunch of people – so fingers crossed!

*Rachael*



## YOUR Newsletter

**One of the main focuses of our new newsletter is participation from all our members and beyond.**

We would like as many people as possible to email us with any ideas of things you would like covered along side or regular updates and reports. If you are hosting a special event, you are competing in a competition outside BUTBA, you would like to arrange an event or you just have some ideas or photographs to share, please email [press@butba.co.uk](mailto:press@butba.co.uk). *The Pinfeed* will be published on a fortnightly/monthly basis dependent on competitions, on a Sunday (except the first issue).



## BUTBA Sheffield Quads

The BUTBA Tour returned to MFA Firth Park, Sheffield once again this season, this time for the annual combination handicap Quads competition, hosted by the University of Sheffield. With many students competitors still delighting over some brilliant performances from the BUCS Championships, held here in late February, it promised to be an interesting competition.

Nottingham took an early lead in the competition on the student side, with their B team doubles bowling a combined score of 2783, represented by Tom White, Mike Hales, Frazer Bowen and Charlotte Richardson. Wolverhampton were hot on their heels at this point of the competition, with Matt Burbury, Ian Ashcroft, Evan Swann and Anthony Gathercole scoring a team handicap series in their doubles sets of 2761. On the ex-student side, some very high scores from Dave Abbott, along with teammates Paul Williams, Dan Chan and Dan Frazer, but Chink in the Armor at the top of the tables.

The University of Sheffield hosted the annual Sheffield Quads on 29<sup>th</sup> March.

### Prize Winners & Highest Scores...

#### Students:

MHGS: *Shaun Parsons* (257)

MHGH: *Joe Harrison* (285)

FHGS: *Rachel Hodds* (212)

FHGH: *Charlotte Richardson* (277)

MHA: *Sam Bond* (188)

FHA: *Rachel Hodds* (167)

Most Improved: *Roshni Patel* (+27)

Doubles: *Frazer Bowen & Charlotte Richardson* (1425)

Singles: *Poppie Simmonds* (755)

Trios: *Georgina Overy, Sam Bond & Roshni Patel* (2131)

Quads: *Birmingham A* (2830)

#### Ex-Students:

MHGS: *Tom Chuter* (251)

MHGH: *Dave Abbott* (280)

FHGS: *Kayla Knight* (189)

FHGH: *Stacey Spencer* (223)

MHA: *Tom Chuter* (198)

FHA: *Louise Parker* (155)

Most Improved: *Tom Chuter* (+13)

Doubles: *Paul Williams & Dave Abbott* (1364)

Singles: *Andrew Stratford* (660)

Trios: *Chris May, Jack Adams & Tom Prickett* (1901)

Quads: *Lads On Toure* (2564)

After the singles event, Die Angst Des Kelger Bein Sieben-Zehn Spaltung's had closed the gap for the top spot to just 6 pins, with a 660 (525 scratch) series from Andrew Stratford, though Chink in the Armor, represented in the singles by Dan Frazer, were still in the lead. Birmingham, in the student division, took over the competition after the singles, knocking Nottingham B down to 4<sup>th</sup> place, and seeing their A and C team sit comfortably in 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> respectively, with thanks to massive series' of 755 (359) from Poppie Simmonds for the A team and 695 (368) from Reena Kaur for the C team.

The competitiveness of the students became clear in the trios, as Sam Bond and Roshni Patel of Birmingham A scores 755 a piece along with teammate Georgina Overy to stay at the top. Wolverhampton, still lying in 2<sup>nd</sup>, were not about to let the gap close too much, however, with Evan Swann bowling a 690 (306) series, and Ian Ashcroft bowling a massive 734 (395) series, along with teammate Matt Burbury. Chink in the Armor appeared to struggle by the trios, letting their lead go to Die Angst Des Kelger Bein Sieben-Zehn Spaltung. Lads On Tour's team of Jack Adams, Chris May and Tom Prickett burst onto the scene however, bowling an impressive team handicap series of 1901 in the trios, pushing them up to fourth behind Tom Chuter, Ollie Lush and Chris Lane of Three Bowlers and an Alcoholic Ginger Bearded Hobo.

All was to play for by the quads, especially in the ex-student section. Despite picking up their scores, Lads On Toure finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the competition overall, scoring a combined team handicap total of 7435, just 89 pins behind Chink in the Armor (with Dan Chan and Dan Frazer joining Williams and Abbott), who finished on a 7524, winning the ex-student division. Unsurprisingly, Birmingham A won the competition overall for the student division, with a combined team handicap total of 8465, 360 pins ahead of runners up, Wolverhampton, finishing on an 8105.

## Ex-Student Updates

There have been a number of changes this season to the ex-student side of BUTBA, most importantly the amazing increase in numbers, especially new members that the ex-students have gained this year. We have seen new members from all over the country, and not just those who have made the transition from a BUTBA student member to an ex-student, which has been a really promising thing this season.

A Facebook group has also been set up purely for the ex-students, which is available at [www.facebook.com/groups/616693361698163](http://www.facebook.com/groups/616693361698163), which has increased communication between ex-student members ten-fold. There have been some great suggestions for how the ex-student side of the tour can be improved on the group also, so keep those coming in!

The ex-students also make up a number of Team Gotham, who represent BUTBA in the Midland Scratch League, with Danny Crook, Joe Crook, Charlie Baldwin and James Larkin bowling in the last round, seeing the team currently lying in 3<sup>rd</sup> place, just 1 point behind 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Sheffield Quads was a brilliant success for ex-students, seeing a diversity in the people winning prizes, including Tom Chuter who



bowled an impressive 13 pins above his entering average, and Dave Abbott who scored a massive 280 handicap game.

Exciting ideas in their initial stages are also coming into play on the ex-student side of the tour, most prominently hosting an Ex-Student Championships, as a one off competition to run along side the Student BUCS Championships, where ex-students will enter teams of 5 with members from their old university teams.

As an addition to the Ex-Student Championships, there is also a hope of having a Representative Squad, where the best ex-students will be chosen to represent their side of the tour based on their performances from the OOM and on a number of

other factors. Regular competitions between the ex-student and student Representative Squads as well as county competitions and in other tournaments are on the cards.

As a start of season warm up to those either making the transition from student to ex-student or for those wanting to join the tour, there is also plans to host an Ex-Student Welcome Tournament, which would run as a randomly selected team event in the hope of having a friendly and exciting start to the season, as well as a great opportunity to form some new friendships. For more information on any of these events or to have your say, contact Thumper at [exstudentpresident@butba.co.uk](mailto:exstudentpresident@butba.co.uk).

*Thumper*

## Current Order of Merit Standings

(After OOM 7: Sheffield Quads)

| Name                    | Best of 5 |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Student Male</b>     |           |
| Mark Hodds              | 97        |
| Jon Spivey              | 84        |
| Simon Atkins            | 82        |
| <b>Student Handicap</b> |           |
| Reena Kaur              | 108       |
| Charlotte Richardson    | 107       |
| Georgina Overy          | 96        |
| <b>Female</b>           |           |
| Louise Parker           | 47        |
| Danielle Ediker         | 37        |
| Nicky Donowski          | 28        |

| Name                       | Best of 5 |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Ex-Student Male</b>     |           |
| Lee Burrows                | 91        |
| Phil Manning               | 87        |
| Aiden Wright               | 85        |
| <b>Ex-Student Handicap</b> |           |
| Simon Wilkins              | 131       |
| Chris May                  | 126       |
| Matt Kokolski              | 126       |
| <b>University</b>          |           |
| Loughborough               | 56        |
| Nottingham                 | 55        |
| Birmingham                 | 49        |

## AU Awards

Awards ceremonies are starting at universities up and down the country, and *The Pinfeed* wants to know if you are nominated for or have won any awards from your union to share with BUTBA.

Contact [press@butba.co.uk](mailto:press@butba.co.uk) to send details of your nominations or awards.





University of Exeter student, Iain Butler is playing in the BTBA Team England Trials this year, along side ex-Loughborough student, Aiden Wright.

**The BTBA Team England Trials 2014 kicked off this year with the first third of the competition at MFA Sheffield on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> April. Iain Butler and Aiden Wright are just two of the bowlers taking part in the trials. *The Pinfeed* gets their views on the competition and how they are progressing...**

The trials for the 2015 squad who will be representing BTBA Team England saw a change this year, with the trials running as three separate events from the BTBA Tour, seeing the best of the best competing for a place on the squad. The first round took place in Sheffield, with both men and women bowling 24 games over a two-day period. With extremely challenging oil patterns and a highly competitive atmosphere, it is a world away from any competition usually experienced in Great Britain.

*Follow all the live action from this year's Team England Trials at [www.ustream.tv/channel/teamengland](http://www.ustream.tv/channel/teamengland)*

(Iain Butler); "I signed up to the England Trials because I wanted the experience of bowling on different oil patterns and differences between lengths. Knowing them in theory is all well and good, but in real life with the variables of lanes is the only way to get better. Having only bowled on lanes without ever knowing the pattern it's a chance to bowl many games on decent lanes rather than a house shot or Torquay's dry wooden lanes! This is also a chance for me to meet people on the adult bowling tour."

Iain started well in the competition, scoring highly in the first sets, however, being new to the experience of bowling twenty-plus games over just one

weekend came as a challenge not only physically but mentally. Iain, as many bowlers making the transition between university and BTBA bowling can state, bowling in BTBA events, especially events as prestigious as the Team England Trials, is very different from bowling BUTBA events.

"It's different not only because of the amount of games, but the atmosphere seemed friendly (like with BUTBA competitions) but highly serious. Seeing the differences and similarities between England's best who were bowling the trials along side myself gave me plenty of ideas of how to improve for the next round in Romford."

**Aiden Wright is currently lying in 10<sup>th</sup> place after the first round, with a 192.4 average on the short pattern, a 183.6 on the medium and a 174.5 on the long. Iain Butler is currently in 22<sup>nd</sup> place, bowling a 168.5 average on the short, 159.4 on the medium and an impressive 194.1 on the long. The next round will take place on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> June in Romford, followed by the final round in Poole at the end of August.**

**Aiden Wright talks about his experiences in the trials so far...**

“I didn't know what to expect given the strength of the field, flooded with current and ex team England bowlers at junior and adult level, also the volume of games (24) on three challenging oil patterns each running as a mini eight game tournament. I am hoping to use this opportunity to challenge myself on some harder conditions and think that the BUTBA tour is heading in a positive way looking to also challenge bowlers by using different oil patterns at specific events. I believe this year is seen as a 'trial' for the trials with tweaks to be made for the future. Maybe next year we can get a handful of current/ex university bowlers interested in taking part that will also provide us the opportunity to promote university bowling to the next generation aided via the media event held on the Saturday morning! Perhaps something we could do on the BUTBA tour is having a live stream! It definitely added something to the finals and gained a large audience for the first weekend helping to publicise the bowlers and the event.



Overall after the 24 games I personally lie in 10<sup>th</sup> place (from 27) having made the live stream finals on the short oil pattern. It's given me a lot of positives but best of all, a lot of things to work on for round two come the end of June. ”

## FEATURED CLUB

### University of **BIRMINGHAM** Tenpin Bowling Club

The University of Birmingham Tenpin Bowling Club has burst on to the BUTBA scene this year with a bang, with over 100 members and one of the highest entries to competitions this year, they certainly have become one of the most prominent student forces on the Tour. *The Pinfeed* gets the low-down from this year's Club Captain, Shaun Parsons, on how Birmingham are progressing and what their hopes are for the future of this ever-expanding club.

In order to get their club as well known as possible at Birmingham, UoBTBC has hosted a number of events throughout the year, including a weekly league and training session with Team England coach, Jon Zadel, as well as a large number of socials ranging from fancy dress nights to pool competitions. By making bowling about the fun of the sport over the competitiveness for their new members they have managed to build up a natural competitive streak in their team mates throughout the season, making them a force to be reckoned with on the BUTBA Tour as a club who not only have a number of brilliant bowlers (both now and up and coming), but have a unique enjoyable competitiveness that clubs thrive off.

With great input from all members, not just committee, UoBTBC has gone from strength to strength this season especially, and will hopefully be avid members of BUTBA for many years to come.

*The Pinfeed* talks to Shaun Parsons about the accomplishments and hopes for the University of Birmingham Tenpin Bowling Club both this year and in the future:

“ This year has been by far the biggest and the best in the club's recent history. We have broken every target we have set ourselves with ease. We currently have over 100 registered members, with around 30 of them competing in BUTBA events at various points throughout the year. We also had our biggest and most successful BUCS in recent times, taking 21 bowlers (and got to bowl along side our honorary member from Aston University), and had both Men's and Women's



If anyone from your university club or an ex-student that you know is organizing an event or competition, or taking part in any competition outside BUTBA that you would like to share with our members, please let us know as we would love to have you or your club in our featured section.

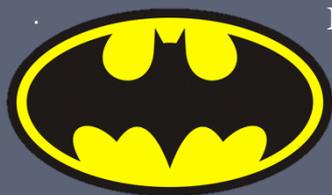
first teams finish in 4<sup>th</sup> place.

Our focus as a club is primarily to introduce new bowlers to the game, even if people don't want to compete they are very much encouraged to attend each week. The emphasis in our weekly sessions is on the "social" side of bowling – just turn up each week with friends and have a good time. From this we find that many people naturally want to improve, buy their own equipment and compete with no pressure from the club.

Focusing on the social side of bowling has definitely been a great success, especially when you consider our competitive results. Since only two of our members have bowled competitively before starting at the University of Birmingham, we are definitely keen to nurture new bowlers and ensure they see how fun the sport is regardless of ability.

In recent events, the club has tasted success winning Birmingham Baker Fives and Sheffield Quads – with another of our teams finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Quads. In addition to our handicap success at Sheffield Quads, we have also had scratch success with Sam Bond securing High Male Average (188) and Shaun Parsons bowling the Highest Male Scratch Game of 257”

**Despite being close to the end of the 2013/14 season, there is still plenty of opportunity for Birmingham to continue their growing list of achievements, foremost in them qualifying for the Wildcard Round of the BUTBA Cup.**



## Midland Scratch League Team Gotham

**Team Gotham are representing BUTBA in the Midland Scratch League this season in Division Two, having been promoted last season after a number of impressive performances. *The Pinfeed* recaps how the team are progressing throughout the competition after Round 4:**

After Round 4, Team Gotham have promotion in their sights once again, currently lying in 3<sup>rd</sup> place, just one point behind 2<sup>nd</sup> place team Stratford. As well as this, they are only 23 points behind Chesterfield in 1<sup>st</sup> place, and currently hold the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest team game of 1132 for the whole season. Gotham team member and avid BUTBA bowler, Curtis Berry is also currently holding the high game of the season, with a massive, and impressive to watch, 278 game.

The team as a whole are bowling increasingly well with each round, with almost every bowler on a 180+ average, including ex-student Phil Manning on a massive 208.9 average for 17 games, and this year's Ladies' BUCS Captain and BUTBA committee member, Louise Parker on a 197 average for 12 games.

Currently represented by 13 of our members, Gotham are looking to expand to enter a second team into the MSL, and possibly even further afield into the Southern Scratch League and the North East Scratch League. If you are interested in representing BUTBA in brilliantly competitive leagues such as these, get in touch with James 'Thumper' Larkin at [exstudentpresident@butba.co.uk](mailto:exstudentpresident@butba.co.uk).

## BUCS Rep Squad 2014 Announced at the BUCS Championships 2014 in Sheffield

**This year's BUCS Rep Squad was announced at the presentation of the BUCS Championships held at MFA Sheffield in mid-February. Re-live all the action from the weekend on BUTBA's YouTube Channel at [www.youtube.co.uk/BUTBAMedia](http://www.youtube.co.uk/BUTBAMedia).**

### Men's Team:

**Jon Spivey** (Captain, *Portsmouth*), **Mark Hodds** (Vice Captain, *Loughborough*), Steve Atkinson (*Plymouth*), Curtis Berry (*Nottingham Trent*), Matt Fidgett (*Loughborough*), Brian Gillespie (*Edinburgh Napier*), Curtis Hooper (*Loughborough*), Chris Hunnisset (*Portsmouth*), Sean Khua (*Nottingham*), Paul Marks (*Manchester Met*), Will Pearson (*Imperial*) and Jordan Wong (*Loughborough*).

### Ladies' Team:

**Louise Parker** (Captain, *Manchester Met*), **Rachel Hodds** (Vice Captain, *Coventry*), Hannah Bratton-Smith (*Kent*), Chloe Cheatham (*Sheffield*), Danielle Ediker (*Nottingham*), Rebekah Hamlet (*Lincoln*), Florrie Maxwell (*Loughborough*), Rachael McKenzie (*Leeds Met*), Tiffany Nock (*Leeds Met*), Carrienne Rogers (*Lincoln*) and Nikki Stam (*Loughborough*).

## BUTBA Cup

**BUTBA Cup is well under way this season, with the finals set to be held in Acock's Green on the 18<sup>th</sup> May, the teams are knuckling down to their final matches and preparing for the Wildcard Round.**

The Southern Group, completed, sees Loughborough progress to the finals in first place, on 231 points, ahead of Birmingham who are on 135 points. Due to an unfortunate match cancellation by Imperial, they finish in last place on 76 points. However, both Birmingham and Imperial have one more chance to make the finals as they both progress to face the runners up of the Northern Group for the final Wildcard position in the finals alongside the two group winners.

In the Northern Group, due to unforeseen and unfortunate circumstances, Nottingham Trent have had to withdraw from the competition, leaving their match points void. In light of these circumstances, Nottingham progress to join Loughborough in the two winners spaces in the finals in May. Sheffield also progress to the finals, being the highest qualifying team from the runners-up from both groups.

With Imperial qualifying for the finals last year, winning the Southern Group against Southampton and Portsmouth and Birmingham a new up-and-coming and highly competitive team on the Tour this year, the Wildcard Round promises to be both an entertaining and an interesting one.

With Sheffield and Loughborough both through to the finals in similar positions as last year, this could see Nottingham's competitiveness heightened, especially as they lost out on progressing to the finals by a meagre amount of points to Sheffield last year. But will it be Loughborough who reclaim their title of BUTBA Cup Champions and take the trophy back to their university for another year?



[Some of the members of last year's BUTBA Cup Champions team, Loughborough, including: Matt Fidgett, Rachel Hodds, Natasha Kirkup, Dan Frazer, Dan Graham, Mike Hurst, Mark Hodds, Chris Lane, Flora Rutter, Victor Yu and Aiden Wright]

# BUCS Great Britain Representative Squad 2014

A huge congratulations to our BUCS Representative Squad, who last month played their first fixture of the season against a number of county teams at the RAF base in Brize Norton, Oxfordshire. The competition was a brilliant start to the BUCS Rep Squads calendar this season, and has set the standard high for the team's accomplishments to come.



The Team who competed at RAF Brize Norton (from left to right): Sean Khua, Nikki Stam, Jordan Wong, Rachel Hodds (vice cap.), Brian Gillespie, Rachael McKenzie, Paul Marks, Curtis Hooper, Mark Hodds (vice cap.), Chloe Cheetham, Steve Atkinson, Carrienne Rogers, Chris Hunnisett, Florrie Maxwell & Matt Fidgett

**The 2014 BUCS Rep Squad played their first match of the season against county teams from Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire, Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

The stand out performance of the day was Curtis Hooper, who, in the singles, bowled a massive four game series of 1040, winning the section with a 260 average, including games of 290 and 278 scratch. Paul Marks and Steve Atkinson also bowled very well in the singles, with Marks coming 3<sup>rd</sup> on a 203.5 average, and Atkinson coming 5<sup>th</sup> with a 201.3 average. BUCS also won the 5-man team event, with the B team of Mark Hodds, Curtis Hooper, Sean Khua, Brian Gillespie and Chris Hunnisett bowling a team scratch series of 2860 over 3 games. Curtis Hooper also won the All Events, with a massive 7 game average of 244.4. Paul Marks finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> overall, on a 200.4 average, just ahead of Sean Khua in 4<sup>th</sup> with a 199.7 average.

## Rep Squad To Play in France

The next fixture on the BUCS Rep Squad calendar has been announced for the 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> July. It sees [awaiting confirmation] Will Pearson, Brian Gillespie, Jon Spivey, Mark Hodds, Rachel Hodds, Hannah Bratton-Smith, Louise Parker, Rebekah Hamlet, Jordan Wong, Curtis Berry, Paul Marks, Nikki Stam, Danielle Ediker, Carrienne Rogers and Rachael McKenzie, along with ex-students Pete Thornley and Aiden Wright and BUCS Manager Darren Ellis, travelling to Melún, France to compete in the international Ebonite Euro Fives competition, where a number of international level teams put their best five bowlers to the test on extremely difficult conditions.



## Meet The BUCS Rep Squad 2014...

In each fortnightly issue *The Pinfeed* will be learning a little bit more about each of your BUCS student representatives for this year. We start by learning more about this year's Ladies' Captain.



### Louise Parker

**University:** Manchester Metropolitan University  
**Home Centre:** Chesterfield Bowl, AMF Macclesfield  
**High Game:** 279  
**High Series:** 685

“I got into bowling by accident at the age of 8 – I'd initially gone to watch my brother in Chesterfield YBC, but when we turned up his team was a bowler short, so my Dad volunteered me to fill in. I had so much fun that

I finished the season and remained in the YBC until I was 18. I'm excited to be in the Rep Squad this year again, having been on the squad four times before from 2005 – 2009. My student days have been topped off by being selected as the Ladies' Captain. I am excited at leading the ladies' squad this year due to the fixtures that are being arranged. The squad will make a 2<sup>nd</sup> appearance at the Ebonite Euro 5's in France, and Darren and I are arranging a number of BUCS vs Counties matches involving Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Warwickshire following the success of the RAF Brize Norton match. There is also potential for coaching with Jon Zadel, the Team England coach and a match against the current Team England – so plenty to be excited about!”

## BUTBA Supports 'A Visual Difference Through Sport' With British Blind Sport

By Matt Warmington



**BUTBA Ex-Student member, Matt Warmington, is co-hosting the British Blind Sport Westfield Health British Trios Final at MFA Sheffield on May 17<sup>th</sup>, and is looking for volunteers to help in tasks on the day such as scoring and lane marshaling, as well as joining everyone to celebrate at the awards ceremony at The Copthorne Hotel that evening.**

Those who use the BUTBA Facebook page will have seen my appeal for volunteers for the forthcoming British Blind Sport Westfield Health British Trios Championship, taking place at MFA Sheffield on 17<sup>th</sup> May. I currently have a number of people from the tour willing to give up their time to help on this event but Rachael has very kindly given me the opportunity to give you a better idea of what this event is all about and about Tenpin Bowling for the Blind and Partially Sighted in general.

Tenpin Bowling for the Blind and Partially Sighted in the UK is governed by British Blind Sport, a charity which also serves as the National Governing Body for sports such as Archery, Cricket, Football, Athletics and Acoustic Shooting. Development work is currently underway to include Acoustic Tennis and Boccia. The game is played in the same way as for anyone else with the only obvious difference being the guide rails placed along the side of the lanes for Bowlers with no usable sight, known as B1s. No one else is permitted to use the rails. There are five sight categories, B1, B2, B3, B4 and B4+ although only B3 and above are permitted to compete internationally. Classification is extremely complicated and requires examination from an Ophthalmologist to determine as all eye conditions are different and vary from person to person. In international competition teams have to be made up of a mix of sight categories however this was abandoned by British Blind Sport in favour of further inclusivity, therefore anyone who is registered blind or partially sighted is eligible. Teams will usually bring sighted assistants with them to 'pin spot' (tell them what they've scored, what pins are left etc) but some do not so this will be one duty for volunteers on the day, the Bowlers are not offended by you checking what needs they have. Most players know the pin numbers as we have trained them using a tactile pin deck model.

Scores are hugely varied, the top average this season has been 182 by a B3 player, next is a 172 again by a B3. One player who is on the B1/B2 borderline has 148. The high average for a B1 is 102. The highest game I have personally seen by a visually impaired player was a 288 by a Taiwanese B2 at the 2007 World Championships in Australia. I was also lucky enough to go to the 2011 World Championships in Malaysia.

The actual tournament on 17<sup>th</sup>

May is the culmination of a league phase involving 24 teams from all over the country. Split into three groups each team play everyone else once, with matches played in each team's home centre and sent to a central scorer. The top three teams in each group qualify for the National Championship final and this year we will have teams from places such as Birmingham, Taunton, Portsmouth and Blackpool competing for the title, won last year by Sheffield. We believe that as a disability sport we must be fully inclusive and therefore we also invite all non-qualifying teams to the final to compete in a Plate type competition known as the Brenda Moore Trophy (named after our sponsor's late wife). On the day the 12 finalists will be split into two groups and play against all the other teams in their group and then play a positioning round against the equivalent team in the other group.



[The Great Britain Team stand proud with the Union Jack at the opening ceremony of the World Championships in Malaysia in 2011]

I hope this gives you an idea of what is involved, any questions please come and talk to me or Facebook me, we are looking for around eight volunteers on the day and in exchange for your help you will be provided with a volunteer T-Shirt (which we will need back unfortunately), a baguette lunch and an invitation to the evening awards dinner at the Copthorne Hotel in Sheffield. Duties will include pin spotting, scoring, dealing with any lane issues and generally supporting myself (Assistant Tournament Manager) and the Tournament Manager. If anyone fancies putting themselves in the Bowler's shoes and trying out what it is like to bowl with limited or no sight we will have blindfolds and 'Sim Specs' available on the day.

**Find more info about the event and others at hosted by the British Blind Sport at [www.britishblindsport.org.uk](http://www.britishblindsport.org.uk)**

## BUTBA Calendar 2013/14

### Competitions remaining in the 2013/14 season:

#### 🏆 Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May

(OOM 9) Chesterfield Fours  
The Chesterfield Bowl, Storforth Lane,  
Chesterfield, S40 2TU

#### 🏆 Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May

BUTBA Cup Finals  
Acocks Green Bowl, Westley Road, Birmingham,  
B27 7UH

#### 🏆 Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July

BUTBA 12 Hour Marathon  
AMF Shrewsbury, Brixton Way, Shrewsbury, SY1  
3AZ

#### 🏆 Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July

BUTBA Masters and Challenge Match (and  
EOSM)  
MFA Sheffield, Sicity Avenue, Firth Park Sheffield,

### BUTBA 12-Hour Marathon

BUTBA Marathon returns this year, moving to AMF Shrewsbury. Marathon is a brilliant event with five-man teams bowling overnight in one of the most entertaining and fun competitions of the year. For it's pure unique and friendly atmosphere, it's definitely worth a bowl. The fancy dress aspect also brings about a new side to the tour which hasn't been seen on such a large scale since the good old days of travelling to Hull for their universities Fancy Dress Trios before their annual Quads event.



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### Notable Scores & Personal Bests...



Name: .....  
Score/Series: .....  
Centre: .....  
Event: .....

**We want to hear from all our members of any personal best's or impressive scores you have.**

Contact [press@butba.co.uk](mailto:press@butba.co.uk) with a photograph and details of your scores to have them featured in the next issue of *The Pinfeed*.

