



BOWLS THROUGH THE AGES PAGEANT & TOURNAMENT Saturday 25th July 2026, 10am

Garrowhill Bowling Club are delighted to be able to hold our “Bowls Through the Ages Pageant and Tournament” as part of the Glasgow Commonwealth Games 2026 Festival.

Our Pageant and Tournament, supported by Glasgow Life, Glasgow City Council, Sportscotland and Glasgow Commonwealth Games 2026, aims to show how bowls has been at the heart of communities since the games inception 7,000 years ago and up until the present day in the United Kingdom and right across the 56 countries that make up the Commonwealth.

The day aims to bring together the young and not so young, experienced bowlers and first time players as a gathering from a wide range of backgrounds and groups in the community for an inclusive, sociable fun day celebrating the game of bowls and the long lasting influence that Glasgow has had on the sport world wide.

Further information about this exciting event will be available on our website.
Come along and support our event.

“Here’s to a Brilliant Glasgow 2026 Festival”

**EGYPT AROUND
5,000 B.C**



Archaeological findings suggest a form of bowls was played in Egypt around 5,000 B.C



**ANCIENT
ROME**



The Roman game “bocce” is a direct ancestor, likely spread across Europe by soldiers



**SIR FRANCIS
DRAKE**



In 1588, Sir Francis Drake famously insisted on finishing his game of bowls at Plymouth Hoe before battling the Spanish Armada.



**THE
BOWLING BAN**



Archery Conflict: In the 14th to 16th centuries, monarchs like Edward III and Henry VIII passed laws against it to ensure subjects practiced archery instead.



**MODERN
BOWLS**



In 1864, William Wallace Mitchell of Scotland published the “Manual of Bowls Playing,” which formed the basis for modern rules.

