

Jerusalem

A popular poem, Jerusalem by William Blake, was the opening hymn during the 2012 Olympic Games in London. This poem has an interesting connection to the Olympic Games since one of the lines in the poem ("Bring me my chariot of fire!") inspired the title of a British film "Chariots of Fire" which is the story of two athletes who competed in the 1924 Olympics.

Lawn bowling is not one of the sports represented at the Olympics. However, if we make a few small changes to Blake's poem, we could bring the noble game of bowls just a little bit closer to a future Olympics.

So, with apologies to William Blake, here is my rendition of Jerusalem:

And did those feet in ancient time
Walk upon Duncan's bowling green?
And was the holy Lamb of God
On Duncan's pleasant pastures seen?
And did the countenance divine
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was our club builded here
Not far from Crofton's satanic mill?

Bring me my bowls of burning gold!
Bring me my arrows of desire!
Bring me my tape measure! O clouds, unfold!
Bring me my chariot of fire!
I will not cease from mental fight,
Nor shall my bowl sleep in my hand,
Till we have built our dynasty
In this our green and pleasant land.