



Our next interview victim is none other than Bruce McToose! While possessing one of the great first names in today's world, Bruce is a celebrity traveler and explorer who has recently discovered the sport of candlepin. His experiences worldwide enable him to be one of the most well traveled candlepin fans in history, and he shares some of his experiences here.

We'd like to thank Bruce for taking part in our interview series! And we'd also like you to have a look at his website: www.brucemctoose.com. You can have a look at his adventures from all his travels!

Bruce, why don't we start by telling the readers a little bit about yourself.

First of all, it's a pleasure and a privilege to be interviewed by such a great website like candlepingallery.org. Your site has been very beneficial to me as I tour the Candlepin Bowling Centers around New England and beyond. I have been a Traveler and Explorer ever since I left my hometown of Wagga Wagga, Australia as a lad. My skills as a dishwasher and assistant breakfast cook have enabled me to cover many kilometers and meet lots of great people.

You've mentioned your skills as a "dishwasher and assistant breakfast cook." Tell our readers where you cut your teeth in the trade. How do you use your skills these days?

I began my professional dish washing career as a lad in my hometown of Wagga Wagga, Australia at a small breakfast diner. After a while I was promoted to be in charge of the toast; and after a bit was made Assistant Breakfast Cook! As I travel around the world, sometimes my monthly food allowance from my producer Steve takes a bit longer to get to me due to the great distances and remote locations, so having skills to fall back on no matter where I am comes in very handy.

What's your specialty as a cook? I'm sure an "assistant breakfast cook" as a million recipes available to him!

Because of my great appreciation to www.candlepingallery.org for all their support in helping me tour the great candlepin centers of New England, I will, for the very first time ever, share with you my recipe for my most famous buttermilk pancakes! Make no mistake, this recipe has traveled with me over many years and many more kilometers, and so I hope you get a chance to try them and enjoy them. Here it is:

Mix 4 cups flour
4 tsp sugar
4 tsp baking powder
2 tsp baking soda
2 tsp salt
Add
4 cups Buttermilk
4 eggs
½ cup oil
Put it on the griddle and enjoy!

How did you become such an "intrepid traveler"? What qualifies one to be an "intrepid traveler?"

Actually, that description is the work of my producer Steve. He informed me that the words "Intrepid Traveler" scored top marks in his focus groups for our show. He mentioned something about "promising demographics" and "cost analysis ratios". That's how producers talk, I guess. I usually describe myself as "A Celebrity Traveler and Explorer."

The word *Intrepid* describes someone fearless, brave, courageous and bold. This is another reason I usually describe myself as a Celebrity.

Where did your interest in candlepin bowling come from?

Well that's an interesting story. At least, *I* think it is an interesting story.

As I was returning from filming our pilot show "Intrepid Travels Travels to Norway" where I had hoped to explore the famous Fjords, my Producer Steve asked me to stop by one of his vacation homes he has here in New England. Apparently it was less expensive to give me my monthly food allowance in person than to pay postage. Anyway, I was struck by New England's natural beauty, its friendly people and its fantastic doughnuts. So I was able to set up shop in my Producers Steve's pool shed and began my expedition of all things New England.

One of the first things I came across was this unique and exciting sport of Candlepin Bowling. It was like nothing I had ever tried before, so I have endeavored to visit as many Candlepin Bowling Centers as possible and attempt to set a new Candlepin Bowling Single Game Scoring Record which currently stands at 245.

New England's fantastic doughnuts? What's your favorite?

Now that's one of the toughest questions I've ever had to answer. I'm a big fan of maple frosted, and I just had a great butter crunch donut at Congdon's Donuts in Wells, Maine USA the other day, and you can't go wrong with honey dipped and oh now I'm really getting hungry.....

Have you spoken to the world record holder, Ralph Semb? I'd be interested to know if he approves of your quest to break his record score.

I have not had the pleasure yet to meet Mr. Semb. I am hoping to get a chance to interview him and to let him know how much I respect his accomplishment of scoring a 245 in one game of candlepin bowling. Come to think of it, I respect someone who can bowl a 45 in Candlepin Bowling! I really need to work on my game.

What's the biggest challenge you've faced visiting the USA so far?

Well, the first thing that comes to mind is parallel parking, but what I find really challenging is that your country makes the best donuts I've ever had. It takes all my Celebrity Traveler and Explorers discipline to not eat a dozen every morning. I mean, really, they are that good.

You know, parallel parking is a challenge for me, too! Why did you find it to be so daunting a task? Have you spent time trying to conquer it?

Well, it's the driving on the other side of the road that makes it such a challenge, doesn't it? Fortunately, my producer Steve has decided to provide me with an Intrepid Travels Motor Scooter to help save on transportation costs, so lately parking hasn't been an issue.

I noticed you've been asking fans on your Facebook page about their favorite potato chip. What's yours? Did you become a potato chip fan here in the States?

It's funny you mention that, because a short while ago I was at a cookout hosted by my good friend Nicole Kidman and someone there introduced me to Cape Cod Potato Chips. Not only were they very good, but I was impressed that you could make such a tasty chip from a fish like cod!

What about your family? Have you remained in contact with them since relocating to New England? Would you like them to join you here in the US and assist you in your celebrity travels?

I speak to my Mum and Dad every day, and I would love for them to come and see the beauty of New England. But the most assistance I would expect from them is helping me find great places to eat!

What are your goals?

My goals are to spread good will around the world and to bring attention to unique people and places. Then I'd like to have my own hot dog stand. What do you think of the name "G'day Dogs"?

Hot dogs! Have you tried any of New England's favorite hot dogs? And what sort of plans do you have for a place like G'Day Dogs? It sounds like a real winner!

If anyone out there has any suggestions for where I should go for the best New England hot dogs, I'd love to hear from them. They can e-mail me at bruce@brucemctoose.com.

G'day Dogs is just one of those goals that I've always dreamed about since even before I was a Celebrity Traveler and Explorer. Perhaps some day when I'm done traveling the world I'll settle down and set up my hot dog stand. Maybe I'll do it right here in New England. It's such a great place to be.

Is there anything else you would like to share with us?

Wherever your Intrepid Travels may take you, please remember what my good friend Carlos Santana once told me. He said "Bruce, always shoot for the moon, because even if you miss you'll reach the stars". G'day!