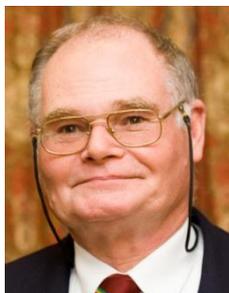


the SYSTON GREEN

Official Newsletter of the Syston Bowling Club

No 122 - September 2016

SYSTON CARNIVAL



Club Chairman, George Dodge, writes: Well done and thank you to all who helped on our stall in the Syston Carnival.

Although the weather was not kind the stall, managed mainly by Ladies, raised a whopping £239.50. An outstanding achievement considering the weather and a very welcome boost to Club finances.

So thanks again to the helpers and to those who supplied all the goodies that were for sale.

To those of you who couldn't help this year, you might find yourself able to lend us your support next year, perhaps.

(Editor's note: Special thanks are due to Jan Holmes for taking overall charge, Marlene Murray, Eileen Heggs, Norma Grimes, Kate Toon, Betty Creasey, Christine Dodge and Val Foreman from the Ladies' Section; Pete Murray, George Dodge, Dave Hudson, Colin Grimes, Rod Heggs, Don Creasey and Ken Renshaw from the Men. All their hard work in setting up - and subsequently dismantling - the stalls, under difficult circumstances is greatly appreciated. Please forgive me if I've missed anyone out.)

FUTURE PLANNING

Club Development Officer, **Colin Grimes**, writes:



As the playing Season draws to a close, based on our experiences this year, thoughts must increasingly turn to future developments within the Club and the formulation of plans and setting of "targets" for next year – and beyond.

The next meeting between the Club and the Council is scheduled for early November.

At this meeting it is probable that the thorny question of weekday visitor parking will be raised once more. With the benefit of the very helpful advisory letter from the County Solicitor, plus a carefully structured set of arguments to be prepared by the Club, we hope to be able to persuade the Panel that we can take the matter onward to full Council early in the New Year so that any decision can be implemented in time for the

start of next Season.

Following the rather disappointing outcome of the County-led initiative to try to involve younger players, I personally plan to propose to the Board that we put together a coherent plan at Club level to achieve greater success. As we have seen this year, we are beginning to suffer from the effects of an ageing membership and therefore need to redouble our recruitment efforts targeting all ages, including the young. Also in the coming weeks, the Board will select members of the Working Party to consider the proposal for full integration of Men's and Ladies' Sections. Initial consideration will be given to the matter at the September meeting so, if you would like to be involved, but have not yet put your name forward, please contact Club Chairman., George Dodge, as quickly as possible.

It will be really interesting to see how the integration debate develops and what ideas are brought to the table for a structurally sound and viable Club moving into the future. If **YOU** have **ANY** thoughts or ideas which **YOU** would like to see included in the discussions, about any aspect of the Club's management and structure, please do not hesitate to have your say. Contact any member of the Board or any member of the Working Party, once it is established, to ensure that your voice is heard. No-one currently has all of the answers. Only through the synergy of all Members working together will a set of proposals, acceptable to the membership as a whole, eventually emerge. **PLEASE PLAY YOUR PART.**

CATERING MANAGER



As this has been my first year as Catering Manager, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has worked in the kitchen preparing the teas - whether we're hot or cold - and the excellent way they have gone about it. Having done the work myself, I know that it is hard work, but very rewarding when you hear how much it is appreciated by our own members and, especially, the visiting teams.

I know that it's late in the current Season, but can I please remind everyone involved about the absolute necessity of observing basic rules of health and hygiene in food handling - washing hands, not licking fingers, using the correct colour chopping board

(see guide in the kitchen), wearing latex gloves when handling food and using a plaster on cuts and sores.

Can I also remind everyone of the need to finish off the job, after clearing up, by mopping the kitchen floor and emptying the waste bins.

Stan Page

EX-PRESIDENT'S GIFT



Members might like to know that the family of **Arthur Holling**, (pictured left) who was Men's Club President in 1986, has kindly donated his bowling kit to the Club. His woods have been taken into stock and will be used for coaching purposes.

We thank the family for their generosity and assure them that the woods will be put to good use.

WINTER INDOOR ROLL-UPS



As you will be aware, our green closes on 1st October this year. For Members who wish to continue bowling over the winter months, as in previous years, starting on Monday 3rd October, I will be booking rinks for the Monday session starting at 11.50 a.m. If you wish to participate, please arrive in good time, preferably before 11.30 a.m., to enable me to pick the teams and for the green fees to be paid.

If you or any of your friends wish to participate, they will be made very welcome. Hopefully, this will encourage them to join our Club in the Season to come.

To enable me to book the appropriate number of rinks for the first session on 3rd October, please add your name to the list which will be posted on the Club noticeboard.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any help or further information. **Tel: 01509 732 688**

Finally, can I offer a warm vote of thanks to Noel Evatt for doing a sterling job in standing in for me during my enforced absence last year.

GARDEN CLUB UPDATE



There is very little to report this month. Because of summer holiday commitments and the competition season, which have especially affected the number of available drivers, we have been unable to arrange any outings to places of interest. This is always a problem at this time of year and in the past we have considered hiring transport, but it usually proves to be too expensive. This will have to be discussed at our next meeting. In the meantime, Friday, September 23rd appears to be free so we should be able to go to Trentham Gardens as previously arranged. Meet at the Clubhouse at 10.0am. Full details of this and the next meeting will be on the notice board shortly.

LADIES' CAPTAIN



Well the nights are drawing in and that heralds that the end of the bowling season is nearly upon us. As you are all aware the ladies have been struggling to make teams over the last few weeks.

It has been a very difficult year and I would like to say a big thank you to the ladies for supporting me whenever you have been able to. Many ladies have been supporting me in every match which I realise has been hard. A big thanks to the men that have been helping me out, we couldn't have managed without you, Let's hope that next season brings the ladies better health and look forward to

seeing you on the green next year.

I hope you all winter well and come back fighting fit next year.

The results so far (at 1st September) are,

Played: 19 Won: 8, Drawn: 2, Lost: 9 with a net Points deficit of only -5.

ART EXHIBITION



For those who might have missed the August Coffee Morning, the Club's Art Group, so ably led by Pauline Wright, mounted an exhibition of their work. By general agreement, we clearly have a lot of very talented Members. **Well done!** everyone!

PATRON PRESENTATION



Also at the August Coffee Morning, Club Patrons, Chris Meynell and Family, Independent Funeral Directors, renewed their valued patronage of our Club for a further year, taking the opportunity to present their cheque to Club Chairman, George Dodge.

We are truly grateful to Chris and his family for their continuous support throughout the year. Three generations of the family regularly attend our Coffee Mornings. For the past two years they have also organised a special "Christmas Lunch" prize draw.

The family company can be relied upon to provide an exemplary

specialised service whenever the need might arise.

COACHING CORNER

BACK TO BASICS -YOUR JOB IN THE TEAM OF THINGS

It might be a little late in the Season, but it's never too late to learn! Here are some basic tips re-printed from one Club's web site, obviously targeted at new players – but older heads are not necessarily wiser!.

WHEN ASKED TO PLAY LEAD

New players will normally need to be experienced in placing the 'Jack' before being asked to play Lead, but this really only comes with practice. Jack practice in training is essential (See last month's "Syston Green" for advice) but there is no substitute for a 'match' situation. When asked to play lead, accept the challenge, and

just try to place a legal 'Jack' (23 metres from the front of the mat, and on the rink - not in the ditch). An experienced 'Skip' is unlikely to try to influence you, unless he feels that a game is 'slipping away'. It then becomes Lead's responsibility to place the Mat within the legal limits - so that the front edge is a minimum of 2 metres from the bowling end of the rink (maximum), and 25 metres from the other end (minimum). It is recommended to place the mat slightly forward of maximum, but not too far, unless instructed by the 'Skip'. Cast the jack and the 'Skip' will centre it with the help of the Lead who gives signals, indicating direction and amount of movement required.

With the first bowl, Lead should try to have it finish within one yard of the Jack - ideally on - or as close as possible to - the Jack. Lead then hopes to repeat or improve the advantage with the second bowl. Lead's game is simply drawing to the Jack, not adding weight to try to promote/improve on a shorter-length bowl, or to try to take out an opponent's wood. "*One on the jack; one at the back.*" is a good mantra for a Lead bowler.

A good Lead sets the head for the rest of the end. Don't get worried if your bowls get moved. You've done your bit. Now let the other players do theirs. Remember at all times that you are part of a team and you will gain more experience as you go along.

WHEN ASKED TO PLAY SECOND

New players are normally asked to play Number Two. In training, much emphasis is placed on drawing to the Jack, and a good Number Two player should just do that - trying to get each bowl finishing within one yard of the Jack, and building the 'Head'. Of course, there will probably be bowls around the Jack, possibly short bowls blocking a natural draw, and/or the Jack may have been moved. The differing situations will present challenges, and the experience to be gained should significantly improve a Number Two's game. As Two, you are normally responsible for keeping the score. At the completion of each end, enter the score onto the card as soon as the result has been declared. (It is easy to forget), and maintain the correct totals. Compare your card with that of your opponent at regular intervals. Make sure that the score board also agrees with your card.

The Number Two also has to be versatile in playing shots and must be able to draw the bowl, both forehand and backhand, taking directions from the Skip, if given. As well as just drawing to the Jack, a Number Two should be capable of bowling to any point, as instructed by the Skip, even to trail the jack or remove a shot bowl. A team with a good Number Two will, on average, win more than they lose.

WHEN ASKED TO PLAY THIRD

New, or inexperienced players are unlikely to be asked to play Three. Playing here you need to be an accurate bowler with much experience in match play. However, if asked, do accept the challenge. It may be that the Skip has players who are very experienced at drawing to the Jack, and needs to use them to get the team consistently into a holding position. If your team is 'down' then your role may be recovery - which could well be interesting!

You need strength and accuracy to be able to carry out the Skip's directions without rancour or prejudice. You need to bowl to specific positions, with appropriate weight and 'green'. Increased weight may be required to move woods, or use them to 'wick' off into an advantageous position.

You should get on well with the Skip. After you have bowled, it is finally the 'Skip's' turn. You will meet your 'Skip' halfway, where you may confirm the position - how many shots your team are holding or are 'down'. Only offer advice if asked for, but if the position is recovery, the 'Skip' may wait for you to reach the 'head', so that tactics can be discussed.

When the 'Skip' is bowling, it is your job to direct play and **advise if there has been any significant changes in the 'head'**. This is particularly important if your opponents have gained 'shot' wood with their Ship's first bowl.

After all bowls have been played, it is your job to count the shots and do any measuring of the bowls. The player who holds the shot wood will call for the number of shots that they hold - or think they hold. It is up to the opposing Three to measure, and confirm. Before measuring, the 'shot' bowl is often removed, and also any other counting bowls that are close into the Jack and unchallenged. Quite often, with shot bowls removed, it is less clear who may have the next closest bowl. Be alert to what is agreed - since once the bowls are cleared, it is too late!

WHEN SELECTED TO PLAY SKIP

Inexperienced players are not asked to play Skip, since this would be unfair. Playing here you need to be a very accurate bowler, probably with several years' experience. But, if you are asked, the team may have realised your potential, and want to see how you fare. Your team-mates will undoubtedly give you support and encouragement, and, win or lose, you will get some valuable experience.

Experienced Skips will be good bowlers and know the laws of the game inside out. They should be authoritative, shrewd, and be able to communicate and generate a good team spirit, by encouragement. A good Skip will watch the green and the opponents for any weaknesses and will try to pass these on to the team. Nobody plays a bad shot on purpose, so, as Skip, don't complain to your team-mates. Being openly

berated by your Skip is not good for morale. Having a good, well respected Skip all contributes to a winning team.

A 'Skip' should be able to play a large variety of shots, from accurate draw, to playing bowls with force in order to open the head; maybe to ditch the jack or even kill the end. It is said that a Skip should be single minded, and perhaps, somewhat unorthodox. "Skips should never be short" is a useful general tip.

Another saying goes "If you're holding shot you must 'cover', if you're shots down you must 'retrieve', and this would be good advice for any 'rookie' Skip. When the team are many shots down, it is important to be 'up to the head', to cut down the deficit; Skips can often steal ends by accurate play, or simply by luck! When the team are holding shot, the Skip often tries to add additional counting woods, but slight mis-judgements are often met with groans as counting bowls are lost.

PLAYING IN TRIPLES

Several matches are Triples format, where there are only three players in a team, each playing three bowls. In this type of match, there is effectively no Number Two player. The Skip prepares and marks the score-card. It is therefore very important that the Skip knows the correct score after each end. The Third (now playing as Number Two), advises the Skip of the score.

Each player, having three bowls, needs to do more with his/her shots. The Lead player should still draw shots into the head, but may be asked to reach another position as directed by the Skip. The Third (now Number Two) player may be asked to add weight to remove shots, more than a Number Two would normally play when there are four in the team. The Skip having three shots will have more influence, but would always look to having a holding position to protect, rather than trying to recover.

CLUB COACHING

For coaching advice and assistance, ring **Ken** on 0116 2606 743 or **Gary** on 0116 2607 922

CLUB DIARY

SEPTEMBER

- 10th Coffee Morning
Kirby Muxloe H
Leicester Banks (Mixed) A
- 11th Fosseyway H
- 13th Board Meeting 10 a.m.
Birstall H
- 14th Keyworth H (NOTE CHANGE)
- 15th Whissendine H
- 16th Fosseyway H
Clubhouse Trophy – 5.30 p.m.
- 17/18th Competition Finals weekend
(see noticeboard for schedule)
- 19th Western Park H
- 20th Men's Management Group
7.00 p.m.
- 21st Oakham H
- 23rd Garden Group visit to Trentham
Gardens (See noticeboard)
- 24th Oakham H
Rothley (Mixed Trips) A
- 26th Rothley H
- 28th Closing Day H

OCTOBER

- 1st Bagworth H
- 3rd Melton Indoors Roll-up 11.20
start
- 5th Club Pub Quiz and social
afternoon 2 p.m. start
£1 for refreshments
- 7th Candlelight Bowls 5.30 p.m.
- 8th Coffee Morning 10 a.m. start
- 10th Melton Indoors Roll-up 11.20
start
- 12th Club Pub Quiz and social
afternoon 2 p.m. start
£1 for refreshments
- 15th Warren Indoor Triples League
v Melton Bowls

BIRTHDAY BUMPS

Happy birthday wishes to all of the following with birthdays in September and October: **Peter Adams, Trevor Allen, Gerry Baker, Don Creasey, Rod Heggs, Jean Hemmings, Gary Kilbourne, Janet Lowe, Marlene Murray, Sheila Parker, Ken Renshaw and Kate Williams.**

59 CLUB UPDATE

Most recent winners are: **Josie Hubbard (38), Hazel Rayns (17), Sheila Aindow (08) and Margaret Dexter (37)**

Congratulations to them all!

Please note that number **57** remains available. Please contact **Val Foreman** if you would like to take it up.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

The monthly advisory feature supplied by Club Patron, Pardeep Narwal, Narwal Wealth Management Ltd

This month: “Withering on the vine”

New Citizens Advice research reveals three in ten people using pension freedoms have put retirement savings in a bank account.

A third of people who are withdrawing cash from pensions worth over £100,000 are simply transferring the money into bank accounts, according to Citizens Advice (“*Life after pension choices*”, Citizens Advice - August 2016)

The *Life after pension choices* report, which was published last week, comes almost 18 months after people were given more choice about how to use their pensions.

But the findings have alarmed many financial experts, who warn that cashing out and keeping the proceeds in low interest accounts will mean retirees miss out on the returns they could get if they left their pot invested.

Following the Bank of England’s decision to cut interest rates to an all-time low of 0.25% in August, banks have been quick to reduce savings rates still further. Santander announced the interest rate on its popular 123 current account will halve in November. NatWest recently reduced to just 0.01% the interest rate on its Cash ISA for deposits of less than £25,000.

Illusion of safety

People might think that putting their pension savings into a bank account is the safest option, but it suggests they are going without financial advice. At current rates of interest, money in the bank will simply wither away once the impact of inflation is taken into account.

If people want to retain control of their pension pot [rather than use it to buy an annuity] they need advice on leaving it invested, so that it keeps pace with inflation and sustains them throughout retirement.

The research explores other choices people have made with money withdrawn from their pension:

- 29% use the money to pay for daily living costs.
- 18% invest the money.
- 16% use the money to pay off debts.

The figures also reveal that 9% of people had unforeseen tax problems after accessing their pension, such as tax deductions they weren’t expecting. This rises to 30% among people who took their whole pension pot in one go. A further 6% reported that their benefits had been affected.

The report suggests that a lot of retirement planning is done in people’s heads, or not at all. It’s imperative that people seek the right information and advice, especially those who have yet to make a decision about their pension pot.

More information

Should you wish to discuss any of the detail contained in this article or any other financial issue, please do not hesitate to get in touch - Pardeep Singh Narwal, Partner - St. James’s Place Wealth Management on 0116 319 0084 for a no obligation meeting.

Please note our office has moved from the Old Vicarage on the High Street to Suite 3, 73 High Street, Syston LE7 1GQ
(The value of an investment with St. James's Place will be directly linked to the performance of the funds you select and the value can therefore go down as well as up. An investment in equities does not provide the security of capital associated with a deposit account with a bank or building society. The levels and bases of taxation and reliefs from taxation can change at any time. The value of any tax relief depends on individual circumstances)

MIXED FORTUNES IN LOUGHBOROUGH TRIPLES LEAGUE

Congratulation to the White Plums and Captain Dave Hudson who topped Division III of the Loughborough and achieved promotion to Division II.

Commiserations to George Stone and the Green and Royals who failed to secure their place in Division III by only 4 points and have been relegated to Division IV for next Season.

TEAM PERFORMANCES

Full scores in all matches – Men’s and Ladies - are featured on the Club web site – www.systembowlingclub.org

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We are grateful for the active support of all of our growing list of Patrons, especially those regularly featured in this Newsletter.

For full details of Patron benefits and costs, please contact Colin Grimes on 0116 2608412.

In return for their generous financial support for our Club, Members are urged to consider these companies first when contemplating the purchase of goods and services.

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MEN'S COMPETITION FINALS WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Saturday 17th September

- 11.00 a.m.** **Pardeep Narwal Champion of Champions Trophy**
Ken Renshaw v Pauline Wright
4-Woods Club Championship
Tom Jordan v Gerry Kennell **Umpire: Pete Murray**
4 Woods "Maidens" Competition
Derek Renshaw v Geoff Ellis **Umpire: TBA**
- 2.30 p.m.** **Two woods Pairs Championship**
Tom Jordan and Pete Murray v Gerry Kennell and Stan Page
"Syston Town News" 2 woods Triples Trophy
Colin Grimes, George Dodge and Pauline Wright v Dave Hudson, Keiran Jordan and Jan Holmes

Sunday 18th September

- 11.00 a.m.** **4 Woods Pairs Championship**
Pete Murray and Derek Renshaw v Colin Grimes and Dave Hudson
4 Woods Mixed Pairs Championship
Gary Kilbourne and Maureen Page v Noel Evatt and Marilyn Wood
- 2.30 p.m.** **2 Woods Singles Championship**
Derek Renshaw v Stan Page **Umpire: TBA**
Triples Championship
Colin Grimes, Roger Bentley and John Lambie v George Dodge, Colin Wilkinson and John Lester

ALL MEMBERS ARE URGED TO COME ALONG TO SPUR ON EACH OF THESE COMPETITORS. WE WISH THEM ALL THE VERY BEST OF LUCK.

PRESENTATION NIGHT WILL BE HELD ON 8TH OCTOBER STARTING AT 7.00 P.M. PLEASE WATCH THE NOTICE BOARD FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

EDITORIAL COPY DEADLINES

Because of holiday commitments, there is unlikely to be a Newsletter in October. All copy for the November edition should be sent to Colin Grimes (systonbowling@btinternet.com) by no later than **Monday 31st October**.

ENDPIECE

We are still looking for an Editor of this Newsletter. This edition once again demonstrates that all likely needs of the publication can be handled using nothing more "complicated and challenging" than Microsoft Word. When material is submitted to the Editor by email, the Newsletter can be put together using simple "cut and paste" methods. Photographs and pictures can either be placed directly on the page or be imported using your scanner. It really is a relatively simple process.

The biggest problem remains a lack of input from members which can involve a lot of "chasing" and/or writing of copy by the Editor!

This month's edition has again been printed in black and white (greyscale) to demonstrate that colour production is not absolutely necessary.

SYSTON BOWLING CLUB

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