

- NOVEMBER**  
 8th Men's Presentation Night  
 14th County Ladies' AGM  
 22nd Games Night Cheese & Wine - £3.50
- DECEMBER**  
 1st Men's Section AGM  
 6th "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?" Faith supper  
 13th Coffee Morning  
 15th Xmas Lunch - Melton Indoor Club
- JANUARY**  
 10th Coffee Morning  
 New Year's Party with dancing to music of 60's to 80's. Faith supper  
 24th "Call My Bluff" Jacket potato with chilli/curry - £3.50
- FEBRUARY**  
 7th Games Night Shepherd's pie & crusty bread - £3.50  
 14th Coffee Morning  
 21st Roy's Race Night. £1entry. Cobs available @£1
- MARCH**  
 8th **CLUB CABARET NIGHT - Craig Douglas** and Jackie Lee - £8.50  
 14th Coffee Morning  
 21st Stand up Bingo and Quiz - Faith Supper

**RAFFLE prizes are invited for all of the above social events.**

Colour key: Men: Ladies: Mixed: SBC

**SPECIAL NOTE:**  
 Indoor roll-up at the Melton Club every Monday throughout the Close Season starting at 1145 hrs.  
 Please turn up by no later than 1130hrs to enable draw for rinks to be made.

## Another Club Cabaret evening success

A NEAR capacity audience in the Clubhouse on Sunday 26th October enjoyed a great night's entertainment of music and comedy. Music was provided by local singer, **Toni Sue**, whose stylish programme provided an excellent and well-received mix of country numbers and chart hits of the 60's & 70's. Headline act, ventriloquist and comedian, **Neville King**, ably demonstrated that, even at 81 years of age, he has not lost his touch. While his main stage "companion", the **Old Man**, did not feature prominently in the performance, his absence was more than made up for by the quality and range of Neville's comedic talent and voice-throwing skills using other "stooges" (like **Ken Renshaw** and **Colin Grimes**) whose help in "The Runaway Train" was especially memorable. **DON'T MISS THE NEXT CABARET ON 8th MARCH**

**SYSTON BOWLING CLUB** Clubhouse Telephone: 0116 269 2105  
 All communications to **The Secretary:**  
 Mr Roy Hill, 31 George Toon Court, SYSTON, Leics LE7 1ZQ  
 Telephone: 0116 260 1532 email: [systonbowling@btinternet.com](mailto:systonbowling@btinternet.com)

## And then the fight started .....

**AFTER** retiring, I went to the Social Security office to apply for benefits. The woman behind the counter asked me for my driver's licence to verify my age. I looked in my pockets and realised I had left my wallet at home.

I told the woman that I was very sorry, but I would have to go home and come back later.

The woman said, 'Unbutton your shirt'. So I opened my shirt revealing my curly silver hair. She said, 'That silver hair on your chest is proof enough for me.' and she processed my application.

When I got home and told my wife about my experience, she said, 'You should have dropped your pants. You might have gotten disability, benefits too'

### And then the fight started....

A woman is standing nude, looking in the bedroom mirror. She is not happy with what she sees and says to her husband, 'I feel horrible; I look old, fat and ugly. I really need you to pay me a compliment.'

The husband replies, 'Your eyesight's damn near perfect.'

### And then the fight started.....

**A VERY WARM WELCOME BACK to Roy Hill following his successful cardiac surgery**



Official Newsletter of the Syston Bowling Club

No 33 - November 2008

## Early notice of Men's AGM

### Exercising your democratic rights

**ALL MEMBERS** are advised that the 2008 Annual General Meeting of the Men's Section will be held in the Clubhouse on Monday 1st December starting at 7.00 p.m. (The Ladies' AGM was held on 5th November)

This is the single most important meeting in the Section's calendar since it provides the opportunity for each Member to exercise his democratic right, to hold the old Committee to account, to elect a new Committee, to give direction and purpose to those elected and to discuss important issues affecting future Club policy.

It also offers Members, in general, the chance to meet to discuss matters of mutual interest in an informal and friendly atmosphere and to air any concerns they may have about the way in which the Club seeks to meet their needs and expectations.

**EVERY MEMBER** of the Section should attend. No-one should be absent without good reason.

As integral parts of a Company now officially incorporated as Company Limited by Guarantee, the Sections have a number of obligations to fulfil at the AGM in order to comply with Company Law. Nevertheless, the AGM will handle these in a very "user-friendly" way while upholding the basic democratic principles which are enshrined in the law governing the operation of not-for-profit organisations.

Members will therefore be presented with a full report of the activities of the Men's Executive Committee over the past year and, most importantly, will receive a full set of accounts to show exactly how the Section's finances have been managed during the past year. Elections will then take place for Members to serve on the Executive for the year to December 2009. Everyone will then have the opportunity to have their say on any matter of concern or

interest in an informal "Open Forum" session.

**Notice**  
 Notices of the meeting are already posted in the Clubhouse. These provide details of nominations already received for the range of positions on the Executive Committee which are to be filled, by election, at the AGM. It is also made clear that additional nominations for any of the posts would be warmly welcomed. The final date for receipt of such nominations, by the Secretary, is also clearly featured. If **YOU** would like to join the Committee, please do not hesitate to contact Club Secretary, **Rob Wilbourn**.

See you there?  
**NOTE: The AGM for the Syston Bowling Club** (formerly "The Syston Joint Bowling Club"), to which all Members of both Sections are invited, will be held early in March 2009. Full details in due course.

Your views, opinions, news and any other material of interest to Members would be welcomed for publication in future editions. Please send to **George Dodge**, as Editor, by the first Monday in every month

## 2 Word games

### The challenges of the English language

**LOVERS** of the English language might enjoy this. It is yet another example of why people learning English have trouble with the language. Learning the nuances of English makes it a difficult language. (*But then, that's probably true of many languages.*)

There is a two-letter word in English that perhaps has more meanings than any other two-letter word, and that word is 'UP.' It is listed in the dictionary as being used as an [adv], [prep], [adj], [n] or [v].

It's easy to understand UP, meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake UP?

At a meeting, why does a topic come UP? Why do we speak UP, and why are the Officers UP for election and why is it UP to the Secretary to write UP a report?

We call UP our friends and we use it to brighten UP a room, polish UP the silver, we warm UP the leftovers and clean UP the kitchen. We lock UP the house and get the car fixed UP.

At other times the little word has a real special meaning. People stir UP trouble, line UP for tickets, work UP an appetite, and think UP excuses. To be dressed is one thing but to be dressed UP is special.

And these uses of up are especially confusing: A drain must be opened UP because it is stopped UP. We open UP a store in the morning but we close it UP at night. We seem to be pretty mixed UP about UP!

To be knowledgeable about the proper uses of UP, look the word UP in the dictionary. In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes UP almost 1/4 of the page and can add UP to about thirty definitions. If you are UP to it, you might try building UP a list of the many ways UP is used. It will take UP a lot of your time, but if you don't give UP, you may wind UP with a hundred or more.

When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding UP. When the sun comes out we say it is clearing UP. When it rains, it wets UP the earth. When it does not rain for awhile, things dry UP.

One could go on & on, but I'll wrap it UP, for now. My time is UP.

Oh...one more thing:

What is among the first things you do in the morning & the last things you do at night?

Answer: U P (*Spell it!*)

Don't screw UP. Pass this on to everyone you look UP to in your life. Now I'll shut UP!

### REMINDER

For cheap holidays on Madeira at any time of the year, contact **Colin Grimes (2608412)**

## Des sez ....

### Club Coach, Des Eggitt offers words of wisdom to improve your game

- \* **DRAW SHOTS** are the gilt-edged securities of the game and pay the best dividends.
- \* If there is any secret to success in bowls, it can be summed up in two words: **Systemisation and Standardisation**
- \* A firing shot, when you are shots down in the head, is a lottery. Such a shot could go against you or miss completely. In either case this is a wasted shot. The "yard-on" shot or controlled weight draw, which leaves your wood in the head, is always the better option. In general, firing should be left to the discretion of the Skip.
- \* Looking for results in the head is futile if we don't do the correct thing by the wood at the mat end.
- \* Most players' problems in the game are cause by a lack of confidence - a lack of belief in our ability to play the shot which is required. Failure to curb such pessimism encourages the growth of a sense of negativity and inferiority. Always remain positive and optimistic. Play the shot. Have a go!
- \* It is surprising to note that several Members do not appear to understand the use of stickers on woods. One important role of the sticker is, of course, to be part of the Club Dress Code - to help identify the player as a member of a particular team. The primary role, however, is to help the player to identify the bias side of the wood. The small, circular patch should be fixed at the centre of the bias side (*inside face*) of the wood and the larger, ring section should be fixed to the outer (*non-bias*) side of the wood. A systematic check that the bias side is facing the jack as you decide to deliver either a backhand (*left to right swing*) or forehand (*right to left swing*) will prevent you bowling the wrong bias. Both parts of the sticker should never be fixed to the same side of the wood.

### BOOM boom!

Patient: I have a fear of lapels  
Doctor: You've got cholera

## CASC Update

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**FOLLOWING** prolonged correspondence between the Board and the Inland Revenue (**IR**), it has now been confirmed that the Memorandum and Articles (**M&A**) of Syston Bowling Club comply fully with regulations for registration as a Community Amateur Sports Club (**CASC**). However, **IR** have refused to accept the Board's argument that, at the 2008 AGM, by unanimously resolving that the Board should take whatever steps were necessary to register as a **CASC**, the membership gave an implied approval of the **M&A** drafted in accordance with **IR** requirements.

Before they will confirm **CASC** registration status, **IR** are insisting that they be provided with written evidence - in the form of Minutes - that the membership in General Meeting has *specifically* approved revisions to the original **M&A** which the Board submitted.

Having considered the options (*and the costs involved*) the Board has decided not to call an Extraordinary General Meeting but to wait for the normal AGM scheduled for March 2009 to seek the necessary approval of the membership for the changes.

The **M&A** is a 12 page document - so providing every Member with an individual copy to study in advance of the AGM would be an expensive operation.

The **Memorandum** describes the objectives of the Club and itemises the powers Club enjoys in order to fulfil those objectives. Most importantly, it defines the "not-for-profit" status of the Club and commits the Club "to provide facilities for and to promote the sport of green bowling to all sections of the local community".

The **Articles** represent the "Constitution" of the Club. They set qualifications for membership, establish the Board of Directors and other Sections and Committees within the Club structure, lay down rules for General Meetings and elections and set out other rules for the day-to-day management of the Club.

A copy of the full text has been posted in each of the Changing Rooms and on the main Club noticeboard. The important clauses relating to **CASC** status are printed in red. All Members are urged to look at the document to assure themselves that there are no causes for concern. Anyone wishing to receive a full copy of the document should contact Board Chairman, **Colin Grimes**, who will be happy to supply it.

On grounds of cost, at the 2009 AGM, the Board does not intend to supply each Member with a copy of the full document. Only copies of the specific amendments

I was approached by a policeman holding a pencil and a very thin piece of paper.  
He said: "We're trying to trace a missing person."

required by **IR** will be provided. It will be assumed that all Members will have had the opportunity to examine the documentation in advance sufficient to be able to consider - and hopefully approve - a formal Resolution at that meeting that the revised **M&A** be adopted.

## A cautionary tale

### Cans can be dangerous

**A woman** went boating one Sunday, taking with her some cans of beer which she put into the refrigerator of the boat.

On Monday she was taken to hospital and placed in intensive care.

She died on Wednesday.

The autopsy concluded she died of Leptospirosis. This was traced to the cans from which she drank directly without using a glass. Tests showed that the can was infected by dried rat urine - which contains toxic and deadly substances - and hence the disease Leptospirosis.

It is highly recommended that you should thoroughly wash the upper part of drink cans before drinking out of them. Cans are typically stocked in warehouses and transported straight to the shops without being cleaned. Studies in the USA have revealed that the tops of drink cans are more contaminated than public toilets (*i.e. full of germs and bacteria*). So wash them with water before putting them to the mouth to avoid any kind of fatal accident.

**You have been warned!**

# Ladies' Section Supplement

## The year in retrospect

Ladies' President, Anita Lowder, looks back on a hectic year

**W**HAT a year! It's been hectic but great, at the same time. We lost more matches than we won but, on the whole, enjoyed ourselves. Match statistics published in last month's Newsletter show just how close we came to achieving far greater success on the green. With a little more effort next year .....

### Anniversary year

Being our 75th anniversary, we had a County game, Executive match and we went to play the Royal Household at Windsor. The semi-finals and finals of the Secretaries' Salver were scheduled to be played at Syston but the weather intervened. We had a President's Day, which was a great success, and the Ladies' Section Annual Dinner at the Masonic Hall which was well-supported and enjoyed by all. Some of our Members also enjoyed a memorable trip to Spain.

### Nominated charity

I am delighted to be able to report that my Charity did very well this year. The bottle on the bar for loose change had to be emptied more than once and a successful plant sale added to the sum collected. The joint Presidents' Charity Day, involving an auction, craft fair and evening cabaret, added to the appeal and, after sharing the proceeds with Diabetes UK (the Men's President's nominated charity) added a further £300 (approx) to my cause. At the time of writing, as I approach the close of my year in office, a total of £1071 is available to be presented to the **Syston Medical Centre**. My sincere thanks to everyone for your outstanding support for such a good cause.

### Challenges of Change

It has been an exciting year to be President at a time when our sport and our Club are going through a wave of change.



At national level, the amalgamation of Ladies' and Men's Associations into **Bowls England** will, in due course, present us all at local level with some further challenges.

Our Club itself is going through changes as we develop further as a Company Limited by Guarantee and prepare for registration as a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC). I am confident that all these changes will be for the best in the long run.

### Competitions

My last but one function was the Presentation Lunch held on 4th November at Beedles Golf Club. Many of our Members and Life Members attended.

The meal was superb! It looked the part; tasted the part and was served hot. We would recommend the venue to anyone thinking of arranging a function with full catering.

After the meal, we presented **Muriel** with a box of chocolates and card to honour her 94th birthday on 5th November. We also had a trough of flowers and a card for **Dorothy** who was unfortunately not well enough to attend. (*It will be her 90th birthday on 12th November.*)

The main purpose of the day was the presentation of trophies to all of our Competition winners. Everyone involved turned up a lots of photographs were taken.

### The year in retrospect (cont)

My thanks go out to all the Members who participated in all of this year's Competitions and, especially to **Margaret Abbott** for the efficient way in which she organised and managed the Competition programme making sure that everything ran smoothly and all events completed on schedule. Let's hope that next year will be as successful as this one has been.

My special thanks are also offered to **Chris Biddles** and again to **Margaret Abbott** for all their hard work in setting up the day's successful and enjoyable day's programme.

### Appreciation

A thorn in my side has been my health which, at times, has interfered with my duties and responsibilities as President. I am so sorry that I was not personally able to carry out all of my duties and obligations throughout the year. However, with the help of my very good friends - and the Club in general - my commitments were fulfilled and targets met.

Many thanks to everyone involved for all the support given to me throughout my year in office. I wish my successor, **Janice**, every success in the year ahead.



Happy winners all!

**Josie Hubbard**  
&  
**Barbara Wright**  
Triples  
Runners-up



**Chris Biddles**  
&  
**Marilyn Wood**  
4 wood  
Pairs  
winners



Ladies'  
4-wood Singles  
Champion  
and  
2-wood Singles  
runner-up  
**Kate Toon**

Ladies'  
2-wood Singles  
Champion  
and  
Club  
Competitions  
Secretary  
**Margaret Abbott**



## BOOM boom! Part 2

- \* I went into a shop and asked: "Can someone sell me a kettle?" The assistant said "Kenwood". I said, "Where is he then?"
- \* I was in the jungle and met a monkey with a tin opener. I said: "You don't need a tin opener to peel a banana."

He replied: "I know. This is for the custard."  
\* A cowboy walks into a car showroom and says "Audi!"  
\* I visited the offices of the RSPCA today. The place is tiny. You couldn't swing a cat in there

"We will remember them."

