

Diary Dates

APRIL

- 11th Coffee Morning
 Scotlands - (H)
 Belgrave - (A)
- 15th Glenfield - (H)
- 16th Holwell - (H)
- 18th Western Park - (A)
 Little Bowden - (H)
- 20th Loughborough Triples: Queens - (A)
 Blaby - (A)
- 22nd St Margarets - (H)
 Club Coaching Session 1 - 6.30 p.m.
- 23rd Oakham - (A)
- 25th Birstall - (H)
 Holwell - (A)
- 27th Loughborough Triples: Merlins - (H)
- 29th Club Coaching Session 2 - 6.30 p.m.
- 30th Enderby - (A)
 Belgrave - (H)

MAY

- 2nd St Margarets - (H)
 Knighton Victoria - (A)
- 5th SBC Board Meeting - 10.00 a.m.
- 6th Goodwood - (A)
- 7th Leicester Banks - (H)
- 9th Coffee Morning
 Aylestone Hall - (H)
 Sibley - (A)
- 13th Quorn - (H)
- 14th Evington Park - (A)
- 16th Sibley - (H)
 Loughborough Granby - (A)

Colour key: Men: Ladies: Mixed: SBC

In Memoriam - Concluded

*We are not Europeans. How can we be?
 Europe is miles away over the sea. We're the
 English from England. Let's all be proud!
 Stand up and be counted - shout it out loud!
 Let's tell our Government and Brussels too
 We're proud of our heritage - the Red, White
 & Blue.*

*Fly the flag of Saint George or the Union Jack
 Let the world know - WE WANT ENGLAND
 BACK !!!!*

**Don't smoke, drink or gamble. Don't
 eat salt, sugar or fat. Don't overeat.
 Don't play around.
 You may not live longer, but it will
 seem that way!**

Recipe of the month

Ladies' President, Janice Willbourn

AUNTIE DOT'S BISCUITS

200g Margarine
 200g Sugar
 200g Plain flour
 15ml (teaspoon) Baking Powder
 Pinch of Mixed Spice
 200g Sultanas
 1 Egg
 Cornflakes (crushed)

Method

Cream margarine and sugar until light and fluffy.
 Add flour, mixed spice, sultanas and egg to make a stiff dough.
 Roll one teaspoon of mixture into a ball and roll in crushed cornflakes.
 Place on greased baking tray.
 Cook for 15-20 mins in oven Gas Mark 4 (180C)
 Leave to cool on tray for about 5 mins.
 Transfer to a cooling rack with a fish slice.
 Transfer to a suitable container when cold and then freeze.

Teas for visiting teams



CATERING Manager, **Gerry Kennell**, writes to thank all those Ladies who once again have offered their time and assistance with the preparation and serving of teas to all our visiting Teams.

Duty rotas have now been published for the Season. Please give as much notice as possible if you are unable to attend on the dates specified.

If any Member who is not currently involved or any Member whose wife/partner would like to get involved to help with this important task, please contact Gerry.



THE SYSTON GREEN



Official Newsletter of the Syston Bowling Club

No 38 - April 2009

Green to be resurfaced

Board decides "Enough is enough"

BASED ON early experience of the quality of the playing surface during the opening week, the Board have decided that the green will have to be re-surfaced at the end of the 2009 Season. Chairman, **Colin Grimes**, says: "The reputation of our Club can no longer be threatened as a result of the poor quality of our green. While it is still possible that some improvement might be experienced as the Season progresses, it is now clear that the current surface is worn out and needs to be replaced.

The Board has decided that enough is enough! We have therefore agreed that a new surface will be commissioned immediately after the end of the 2009 Season."

Meeting the cost

We are currently seeking a number of competitive quotes and expect the total cost to be in the region of £12000. At the time of writing, the Syston Town Council appear to be sympathetic to our proposal for a "partnership" approach to meeting the significant costs involved. They are considering making a contribution of up to £4000 (about one third of the likely cost). This will leave the Club with a residual bill of about £8000 which both Men's and Ladies' Sections will be expected to help to cover.

Other measures

During the current Season, pending the commissioning of re-surfacing, the Board is hoping to be in a position to re-instate the post of Green Ranger, to advise on how to get the best out of the existing playing surface. At the same time, the Ranger would be invited to attempt to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of the current ground staff to enable the Board to determine what action, if any, might be taken to improve the quality and standards of the service currently being provided.

Under the direction of Director and Men's Vice-President, **Pete Murray**, arrangements are being made for a regular weekly programme of true level rolling of the green. The programme of maintenance and treatment, recommended by external consultants at the end of last Season, will continue to be followed by the Council ground staff throughout the Summer.

Apologies

In a bid to minimise the risk of seriously adverse reaction from visiting Clubs, unless significant and early improvement in the playing surface is observed, Captains are to be asked formally to offer apologies to all visiting teams, asking for their patience and understanding during the current Season since re-surfacing had now been agreed and improvement anticipated for 2010 onwards. In the meantime, we ask for the patience and forbearance of all of our Members and for their sympathetic understanding during the likely difficult months ahead.

www.systonbowlingclub.org
 for Diary, Fixtures, Results, Press Releases,
 Newsletters and other Club details

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

SYSTON BOWLING CLUB Clubhouse Telephone: **0116 269 2105**

All communications to **The Chairman**:

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 Telephone: **0116 2608 412** email: **systonbowling@btinternet.com**

49 Club policy reaffirmed

IN RESPONSE to the reported operational loss on the **49 Club** shown in audited accounts for last financial year, Members at the AGM agreed that all participants should be reminded of the basic principle that on joining the Club one is committed to paying for the full year (up to end of March). If anyone drops out mid-year, it is that individual's responsibility either to pay any outstanding balance up to the end of March or to find a replacement who will take over the number(s) without any break in continuity.

This policy provision will be understood to have been accepted by everyone who takes part in the Club in the future.

All Club participants are reminded that the new Club year started on Saturday 4th April so everyone now owes £52 for the new year.

The winner of Week 1 draw was **Gerry Baker** (Bonus Ball 21).

In memoriam?

GOODBYE to my England. So long! my old friend.

Your days are numbered, being brought to an end.

*To be Scottish, Irish or Welsh that's fine
But don't say you're English, that's way out of line.*

The French and the Germans may call themselves such.

So may Norwegians, the Swedes and the Dutch.

You can say you are Russian or maybe a Dane,

But don't say you're English ever again.

At Broadcasting House the word is taboo.

In Brussels it's scrapped, in Parliament too.

Even schools are affected, staff do as they're told.

They must not teach children about England of old.

Writers like Shakespeare, Milton and Shaw,

The pupils don't learn about them anymore.

How about Agincourt, Hastings or Mons?

When England lost hosts of her very brave sons.

Concluded on back page

Des sez

*Club & County Coach, Des Eggitt,
issues reminder about coaching
sessions*

ALL MEMBERS in both Sections are reminded that the first two practical coaching sessions are scheduled for 22nd and 29th April starting at 6.30 p.m.

Everyone interested in taking advantage of this important service is asked to register on the notice to be found on the main noticeboard just inside the main door.

Out with the old

.....

THE FINAL social event of the close season, which took place on 21st March, was a great success.

It was good to see **Roy Hill** back to his usual self and very much in charge of the stand-up bingo. This was followed by three quizzes and an excellent faith supper.

In preparation for the new season **Pete Murray, George Stone, Roger Bentley** and **George Dodge** re-installed the rubber matting in the gutters and fixed the tables onto the benches and moved them into position around the green.

The bay trees and other containers have been re-planted with seasonal bedding and the flagpole lanyard has been replaced. New rink markers provided by the grandson of **Margaret Abbott** will help to improve the general image of the green in the Season ahead.

Unfortunately, due to vandalism, the score board has been severely damaged and has been taken down. An additional memorial bench, originally provided by **Mick Hall** but which was removed following vandalism, will be re-instated under the scoreboard awning.

OBITUARY

IT IS with deep regret that we record the sad passing of **Edgar Walden** after a short illness. Our sympathies are extended to his daughter and family who have requested that any donations in Edgar's memory be made to **LOROS** .
R.I.P.

Gardening Group report

*New members and activity
programme*

THE SECOND monthly meeting of the Gardening Group was held on Tuesday, 17th March when it was very encouraging to welcome six new members.

A demonstration by **George Dodge** on how potatoes could easily be grown in a bag of compost, was followed by an informative talk by **Des Eggitt** on his specialist subject of sweet peas.

Later there was a demonstration of how to take cuttings of fuchsias etc.

It was decided that the next garden visit would be to Woodhouse Eaves on Tuesday, 7th April, meeting at the clubhouse at 1.00 p.m.

The meeting ended with a mini auction of plants brought in by members. It was agreed that a minimum charge of 50p per plant would be made and that the total amount raised from such activities at the end of the year would go towards paying for a Christmas meal for Group members.

The next meeting will take place at the clubhouse on Tuesday, 14th April starting at 7.00 p.m.

**"He must be smart. He's insulted
everyone around and he still has
his own teeth!
George Burns**

"Lively" AGM signifies a vibrant Club

ANY CLUB that can attract more than 50% of the membership to an AGM and whose Members unanimously endorse the annual report of the Board and the draft Resolutions commended to them by the Board has good cause to be proud. When, in the **Open Forum** session which followed the formal business, those same Members felt able - encouraged even - to offer open, honest and, at times, critical, views on the way in which the Club is managed, we saw evidence of a strong, open and democratic organisation at work.

Our Club can be justly proud of the way in which it is managed and operated. No single Member should feel inhibited about expressing a view on the way things are managed and every single Member should have full confidence in his or her individual importance to the vibrant organisation which is **Syston Bowling Club**.

Long may it continue!

Thanks are due to the team of willing volunteers who have agreed to serve as Directors for the busy year ahead. Regrettably, the search for a Club Treasurer continues.

Craig Douglas 3 cabaret success

THE RECENT concert starring **Craig Douglas** and local artiste, **Jackie Lee**, played to a full house and proved to be a great success.

Jackie opened the evening with a medley of favourite songs, including several requests and proved once again what a fantastic singer she is.

The main attraction was **Craig Douglas** who (still) has a lovely voice and a very charming personality.

He sang all his old hits as well as some more recent numbers and proved very popular with the audience.

The evening ended with **Jackie Lee** again singing more well-known songs and requests.

Pete Murray and various assistants worked extremely hard behind the bar and were kept very busy all night.

The refreshments were very popular. Thanks to **Anita Lowder** for preparation of the rolls carried out earlier in the day and to **Janice Wilbourn** for serving in the evening.

Finally, thanks to **Brian Adams** for arranging the evening which turned out to be even more successful than last year.

Note

Tickets for the next in our series of Sunday Cabaret nights, scheduled for 12th July, will soon be on sale. Watch out for full details to be posted on the main noticeboard and be sure to book early to avoid disappointment.

