

APRIL

11th **Sunday lunch** 12.30 for 1.00 p.m.
 17th **Scotlands** (H)
Belgrave (A)
 21st **Glenfield** (A)
 22nd **Holwell** (H)
 23rd **Closing date for Competition entries**
 24th **Western Park** (H)
Little Bowden (A)
 26th **Blaby** (H)
 28th **St Margarets** (A)
 29th **Oakham** (H)

MAY

1st **Birstall** (H)
Holwell (A)
 3rd **Crusaders** (H)
 4th **Keyworth** (H)
 6th **Enderby** (A)
Belgrave (A)
 8th **Coffee Morning**
St Margarets (H)
Knighton Victoria (A)

Colour key: **Men:** **Ladies:** **Mixed:** **SBC**

Annual General Meeting

A well-attended Annual General Meeting of the Club, held on Monday 22nd March, gave unanimous approval to the Board decision to increase fees to £80 per year, elected a full complement of Directors to manage the Club during 2010 and, in the discussions which took place in the "Open Forum" session, made a number of interesting suggestions for the further development of the Club during the year ahead. The Minutes of the 2010 AGM are now available, on request, from Administrative Director, **Margaret Abbott**, or can be downloaded from the Club web site (www.systonbowlingclub.org).

Answers**"A test" p 2**

*be on the other (kerb) side
 To the right. The door(s) to get on and off must*

"A question" p 3

Yesterday, to-day & tomorrow!

Gardening Group

This highly successful and expanding special interest group, which has just celebrated its first anniversary, owes a great deal to **George** and **Christine Dodge** whose unstinting efforts deserve our special thanks.

Wednesday afternoon social

This recently launched, informal social event proved popular, regularly attracting 20+ participants. Thanks, here, to **Colin Grimes** for supervising the weekly quiz based on the "Daily Telegraph" model, and to **George Dodge** (co-ordination) and **Pete Murray** (Bar).

Clubhouse

Once again, we have cause to thank our Ladies' Section for their annual "spring clean" of the Clubhouse and **George Dodge** for undertaking all those little maintenance jobs that cry out for attention from time to time.

Membership

Thanks are also due to the wider general membership. Give yourself a pat on the back if you were among those who:
attended the AGM to give the strongest possible endorsement to the current work and future plans of the Board and support for the increase in subscriptions;
donated items for the raffles, which are held in conjunction with most social events, and help to generate significant income;
responded positively to requests from Green Ranger, **Roger Bentley**, for help with matters affecting the green, most recently, of course, in preparing the benches and ditches in readiness for the opening of the season;
volunteered to serve on the Board or a Club committee;
helped in the preparation, delivery or catering for any social event;
made the effort to support/attend any of the activities offered as part of our close season programme;
recruited a new member.
Whatever your contribution to the strength of our fine Club might have been,

Thank you!

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

All communications to **The Chairman:**

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THE SYSTON GREEN



Official Newsletter of the Syston Bowling Club

No 49 - April 2010

THANK YOU!

As we look forward to the start of a new Season outdoors, with high hopes of good weather throughout the summer months, we should take note of the exhortations of our coach and Captains to concentrate a little more in order to improve the Club's overall competitive performance.

As we look back on a very active close season, throughout which a wide range of activities have kept us in touch with one another, we must be pleased that have sustained that special camaraderie that sets our Club apart from others.

We should not underestimate the benefits such a varied close season programme. The Club becomes an integral part of our social lives. Fellow members are counted as true friends. Mutual respect and team spirit are fostered. We develop a sense of "ownership" and shared responsibility for the success and care of the club. Let us not forget, however, that the activities involved do not happen spontaneously and without a deal of effort on the part of individual committed members. Let us therefore pause to say "Thanks!" to those whose efforts have sustained us throughout the autumn and winter months.

Committees

First, thanks are due to the Board of Directors, Presidents and Committees in both Sections who have continued to meet on a regular basis to review the previous year's performance, to set revised objectives for the year ahead and to plan ways in which those objectives might be achieved.

The Board, in particular, have been busy supervising the programme of intensive care given to the green over the winter months while grappling with the problems of maintaining the future viability of the Club for the benefit of a hopefully expanding membership.

While it is, perhaps, invidious to single out individuals, there are a number of "key" contributors without whose efforts the Club would be a much poorer place.

Indoors

Thanks to **John Lamble** for his weekly organisational efforts enabling us to enjoy a friendly indoor roll-up every Monday and for

the associated Christmas lunch.

Socials

George Dodge and **Anita Lowder**, in particular, are to be thanked for devising and delivering a regular monthly social programme. Their efforts have again been complemented by those of **Brian Adams** who was responsible for two major Sunday Cabaret evenings.

Coffee mornings

We are grateful for all those (*too numerous to identify individually*) who have volunteered to organise our monthly coffee mornings. Thanks to the generosity of everyone involved, these events - and the associated raffles - have made a significant contribution to Club revenues.

Bar

Special thanks are due to **Pete Murray**, whose stewardship of the Bar and willingness to "open up and serve" whenever asked, have been an example to us all.

Concluded on back page

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**

THE Gardening Group held our first meeting of the new "season" on 24th March, when we were very happy to welcome four new members who all seemed to be enthusiastic and contributed very well to the meeting. Jobs to be carried out in March and April were discussed, followed by an item on container-grown fruit and vegetables: rhubarb, strawberries, potatoes etc. Future garden visits were discussed, including sometimes venturing further afield for special gardens and, in those circumstances, the concept of "passengers" contributing towards fuel costs. It was also agreed to explore further the possibility of arranging an annual coach tour during the season. It was suggested that the members provide suitable containers and seasonal plants to enhance the area around the green. This will be discussed further with the Directors at their next meeting (on 13th April.) The next Group meeting will be held in the clubhouse on **Tuesday, 13th April** at 7 p.m. Non-members and friends are also welcome to join us.

CD

49 Club update

LATEST lucky winners are: **Doreen Payne, Pete Biddles** and **Peter Rawson.** **Pete Hancock** was the first winner of the new year in the draw made on 3rd April. After a suggestion made at the Club AGM, all **49 Club** Members are being asked for their views on reducing the weekly prize money paid out in order to increase the scheme's contribution to Club funds. **Anita Lowder** has the necessary survey forms. The Board will decide future policy on the basis of replies received.

A test!



Which way is this bus travelling? Left or right?

How can you tell?

(Answer on the back page)

8 Ladies go to Germany The Rhine & Moselle Valley

AFTER starting at 6.30 a.m., we had a good trip down to Dover and our ferry crossing was very calm. We arrived in Calais with no problems then drove through France, Belgium and Holland to Germany. After this long journey, we arrived at our Hotel, rather tired, at half past midnight on the Monday.

Day 2

After a good night's sleep and breakfast at 9 o'clock, we had the morning free so had time to take photos. We then went to Slegfried Mechanical Museum, which was interesting, with some lovely music boxes. By this time we were getting a little peckish so had lunch. Three members of the party said they would like to try the Ahsbach coffee, which is the local brandy. After having this, one of our group said that she had never felt so happy!

In the evening we had our meal in the hotel with local (*very expensive!*) wine.

Day 3

Our excursion took us along the Moselle valley and on to The House of Anton Hammes for wine tasting (*red, white and rosé*) and a very enjoyable time.

We arrived back at the hotel for our evening meal (*after G&T in Janice & Sheila's room*). Dinner was at 8 o'clock but service was so slow that the apple strudel we ordered for sweet never came so we all retired to bed.

Day 4

We made our way to see the beautiful scenery of the Rhine valley then had a trip on the river with mulled wine to drink. Afterwards, we spent time in Boppard, a lovely place, then off to St Goar, home of the famous Cuckoo Clock Shop. Back to the hotel for our evening meal when the service was a lot better and we did get our apple strudel in the end.

Day 5

We had an early start for the trip home, which was a very long and tiring day, but all-in-all we had a lovely time with lots of laughs. **JW**

"There was a fire at the HQ of the Inland Revenue this afternoon, but it was put out before any serious good was done."

Ronnie Corbett

1. The wealth of age

Silver in the hair
Gold in the teeth.
Stones in the kidneys.
Sugar in the blood.
Lead in the feet.
Iron in the arteries.

An inexhaustible supply of natural gas.

Whoever thought we might accumulate such personal wealth?

2. Sound familiar?

This is the story about **Everybody, Somebody, Anybody** and **Nobody**. There was an important job to be done and **Everybody** was sure that **Somebody** would do it.

Anybody could have done it, but **Nobody** did it. **Somebody** got angry about that because it was **Everybody's** job.

Everybody thought that **Anybody** could do it, but **Nobody** realised that **Everybody** would fail to do it.

It ended up that **Everybody** blamed **Somebody** when **Nobody** did what **Anybody** could have done.

3. A question

Can you name three consecutive days without using the words Wednesday, Friday or Sunday?

(Answer on back page)

4. Ten Points to ponder

1. There are two theories on arguing with women. Neither works!
2. There is a fine line between "hobby" and "insanity".
3. A closed mouth gathers no foot.
4. Never miss a chance to shut up.
5. Never test the water with both feet.
6. If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you!
7. God made Man before Woman in order to give him time to think of an answer to her first question.
8. I was always taught to respect my elders but it keeps getting harder to find one!
9. Frustration is trying to find your glasses without your glasses.
10. The secret of longevity is to keep breathing.

5. Motivation

The Club Captain was always keen to motivate Members to come up with bright ideas to improve team spirit.

One day in the washroom, he placed a sign on the mirror directly above the handbasin. It had a single word on it: **"THINK"**

It obviously inspired somebody because, the next day, immediately above the soap dispenser, someone had carefully placed another sign. It simply read **"THOAP"**

Enjoy your Season!

Regular Pub Quiz prize competition launched

Wednesday afternoon initiative to be sustained to raise funds

FOLLOWING its success and popularity at the weekly Wednesday afternoon social gatherings, **Colin Grimes** has kindly volunteered to continue to offer a **Prize Quiz**, based on the **"Daily Telegraph"** Pub Quiz model.

Members, family and friends are invited to register to receive a monthly Quiz sheet containing 60 questions. An entry fee of **£1** per month will be charged. **50%** of entry fees received will be paid to the person gaining the highest aggregate score each month. (*In the case of a tie, the winner will be drawn by lot.*)

The winner will be announced and the prize presented each month at the Club coffee morning.

Quiz sheets can be collected from the Clubhouse at every coffee morning. Completed answer sheets must be returned to the clubhouse by not later than the Monday preceding the coffee morning each month.

If you are interested in participating, please contact **Colin Grimes** to register or to receive further information.

Like the **49 Club**, all proceeds will go to Club funds.