

Diary Dates

2011

MARCH

- 12th Coffee Morning 10.30 a.m.
"Who Wants to be a Millionaire?"
Fish & chips supper £4.50 7.15 p.m.
- 14th Indoor "roll-up"
- 16th Ladies monthly lunch
12.30 for 1.00 p.m. start
- 21st Indoor "roll-up"
SBC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
7.00 p.m.
- 23rd Pub Quiz & Social Afternoon 2 p.m.
- 25th "Meet the President" Night
- 26th Games Night
Faith supper £1 Raffle 7.15 p.m.
- 28th Indoor "roll-up"
- 30th Pub Quiz & Social Afternoon 2 p.m.

APRIL

- 4th Green re-opens
- 9th Men v Ladies 2.30 p.m. Faith tea
- 16th Scotlands H
Belgrave A
- 18th Opening Day
Weavers A
Glenfield H
- 20th Holwell H
- 21st Oakham A
- 23rd Western Park H
Little Bowden A
Woodpeckers H
- 25th St Margarets H
- 27th Birstall H
- 30th Holwell A

MAY

- 2nd Merlins H
Sands H
- 3rd Keyworth A
- 4th Blaby A
- 5th Belgrave H
Enderby A
- 7th St Margarets H
Knighton Victoria A
- 9th Kegworth H
Steamers A
- 11th Goodwood A
- 12th Leicester Banks H
- 14th Coffee Morning 10.30 a.m.
Aylestone Hall H
Sibley A

Colour key: Men: Ladies: Mixed: SBC

Another social success! Casino evening reviewed

THE Casino Evening held as part of the Winter Social programme attracted more than 40 people as some Members brought along friends and family.

Everyone had a very enjoyable evening. An excellent supper, prepared by Social Programme Director, **Anita Lowder**, was very much appreciated by all.

This was a most successful evening which raised a significant amount of money for Club funds, and everyone hopes that a repeat performance can be arranged some time in the future.

The final event in the current programme - a **Games Evening** - will be held on Saturday **26th March**. We urge as many as possible - together with family and friends - to give this event their full support.

Our thanks are offered to **Anita Lowder** who has been responsible for an excellent programme of social events throughout the close Season. These events play an important part in generating the special spirit of friendship and camaraderie which permeates our Club as well as generating much-needed funds for the Club as we seek to keep membership subscriptions low.

Thanks!

OUR thanks are due to **Noel Evatt** for his work in painting the kitchen and "touching up" the damaged paintwork in the main clubhouse area.

An important job well done!

Congratulations



Mick and Zena Hall celebrate their Golden Wedding on 25th March.

Anita Lowder also reaches an important birthday milestone this month.

Please tell us about any special event in your family for inclusion in future editions of the Newsletter



Official Newsletter of the Syston Bowling Club

No. 60 March 2011

Presidents' pre-Season briefings



President
George Dodge

YIPPEE! The season is about to start, all (or most) of our DIY jobs are done and we can get on with the important thing in life. Our season will start, as usual, with the Ladies v Men, but this year a lot of the Ladies are away on some trip (*You know what*

Ladies are like!) so we will be a bit short handed where catering is concerned. We have therefore decided that we will have a faith tea to help out Catering Manager, **Rod Heggs**, as he is new to the job.

The green is looking better and hopefully will get better still. Our Green Ranger, **Roger Bentley**, is doing a great job helping contractor **Chris Mews** with his side of the work.

Our Club's AGM is on Monday, 21st March. As you know, this is an important meeting and I urge you all to attend.

The standard of bowling in our Club has got better and better over the last number of years and I am certain that, with dedication, concentration, diligence and attention to **Des Eggitt's** coaching, we will win more matches this season. But let us not forget to have fun doing it. Availability sheets will soon be up, so please help your Captains by making yourselves available for as many matches as possible and put your names down as soon as the sheets go up.

"Meet your President" Night, on **Friday 25th March**, is, of course, not just to see me, but it's really so that the Club can collect your subscriptions and, just as important, your competition entry forms. I recommend that

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AT the beginning of March, when we have a few Spring-like days, with blue skies and sunshine, I'm sure that we are all raring to get on the green. We hope to see a vast improvement in the playing surface this year,

thus avoiding some of the unfavourable comments from a few visiting Clubs.

(*Etiquette rules emphasise that you should not criticise another Club's green or their players during a visit.*)

This year, the Ladies have joined the Friday evening Loughborough Triples League. Although we always play to win in our friendly matches, this League will provide more competitive playing opportunities for those who wish to take part.

The Club's AGM is being held on Monday 21st March and I am retiring from the Board of Directors to concentrate on my year as Lady President. I have found the monthly meetings very interesting and I am full of admiration for the work that my fellow Directors do - especially our Chairman, **Colin Grimes**. **Colin** has managed to develop a great rapport with the Syston Town Council which has been to our decided advantage as a Club. Please support the Board and attend the AGM to make your views and opinions known.

Finally, I wish everyone a happy and successful season in 2011. Enjoy your bowling!

"If you think you'll lose - you've lost!"



President
Chris Biddles

SYSTON BOWLING CLUB Clubhouse Telephone: 0116 269 2105

All communications to **The Chairman**:

Mr Colin Grimes, 8 Quenby Crescent, SYSTON, Leics LE7 2BW
Telephone: 0116 2608 412 email: systonbowling@btinternet.com

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 Club "library" development

YOU may know that Bowls England are asking for donations of books to raise funds for the National Paraplegic Bowling Team. You will also see that, thanks to the generosity of members, the clubhouse "library" shelves are overflowing.

It has therefore been agreed, after consultations with the Presidents of both the Men's and Ladies' Sections, that **ALL** the books currently held by the Club will be packed up and donated to Bowls England so that the shelves may be cleared and we can start again to build up the library with a brand new selection.

However, before this happens, we are offering Club Members the opportunity to buy any of the books currently held in our library stock. Please feel free to buy as many as you like, leaving 5p per book in the "honesty box"

Alternatively, if there are books you feel should **not** leave the library to be passed on to Bowls England - or if you now have "new" stock to start up our new collection, please place them in the box labelled "**Books to be kept/New stock**".

Many thanks for your co-operation.

Norma Grimes

49 Club update New year starts in April

LATEST lucky winners are: **Ruth Wheeler, Val Foreman, Margaret Porter** and **Ray Wood**

49 Club participants are reminded that a new year begins in April. Under current Rules, the membership of all existing participants will be automatically renewed unless they inform **Anita Lowder** of their wish to withdraw by not later than Friday 1st April.

After that date, participants are committed to a **full year's membership** unless and until they can find a replacement to take over their number(s).

www.systonbowlingclub.org

for Diary, Fixtures, Results, Honours Boards, Press Releases, Newsletters, photos and other Club details

Gardening Group news



IT can now be confirmed that the slide show and talk on *the History of the Walled Garden*, which had unfortunately to be postponed, due to illness, will now take place on **Tuesday 5th April** at 2.0pm for 2.30pm. Admission will be £2 which includes tea and cakes. Any money raised will go to the **VISTA** charity. This should be an interesting afternoon and is open to everyone. In place of the talk originally scheduled for 22nd February, the Garden Group had a quiz followed by afternoon tea. Many thanks to the ladies who provided some delicious cakes and scones.

On **Friday 25th**, members gathered at the Queen Victoria pub for lunch and then travelled on to **Launde Abbey** to see the snowdrops. Unfortunately, it was a very cold, rainy day and very muddy underfoot, so we were all very pleased to get inside and have tea and scones.

We have arranged a visit to **VISTA** HQ, in Leicester, for **Friday 25th March**, meeting at the Clubhouse at 10.00 am so that we get to **VISTA** by 10.30. After the visit we will proceed to a local hostelry for lunch. If you are interested in joining us, please put your names down on the sheet on the notice board, or ring **Chris Dodge** (269 8923).

Brian Adams



SAD to have to report that **Brian Adams** has been diagnosed with lung cancer which requires extensive chemotherapy and supportive treatment over the next few months. In the meantime, he has given notice of his intention not to bowl this Season and to relinquish his roles as Men's Vice-President and Captain of the Loughborough Triples League team in order to concentrate fully on recovery.

We offer him our sincere best wishes for a speedy and successful outcome.

Pete Murray has agreed to cover for **Brian's** Loughborough Triples League responsibilities during his absence.



The Club Coach Column

Back to Basics No 6

1. Some players hold a "preference" at bowls - preferring to play on a particular hand because they are conscious of a weakness on the other hand. Check up regularly on your weaknesses and work to eradicate them, either with your Club Coach or during informal roll-ups.
2. Most of our fears about an opponent or his/her prowess - real or imaginary - will vanish if we tell ourselves that we can't be reprimanded for losing. Never dwell upon or anticipate defeat.
3. "Face, shoulders, hips, knees. Face of the wood, bias side, grip and position of four fingers and thumb." Apply this simple pre-check to all your draw shots to make everything streamlined.
4. An open mind is a balanced mind. Don't close your eyes to your weaknesses but go after them when someone points them out to you.
5. Silence begets good length. Talk a lot and you'll soon lose it. Make it clear to your fellow players if you don't want to talk at any particular point; it can always be done diplomatically.
6. Each time you lose, look for the cause - it usually presents itself. In most, if not all, of your narrow defeats, you can, perhaps, recollect driving when you should have saved by a draw - and vice versa. It's all a matter of bad or good judgement.

If you have any particular problems on which you would appreciate the advice of our Club Coach, please do not hesitate to contact him at any time.

Final Notice!

Annual General Meeting

Monday 21st March 7.00 p.m.

It is your duty as a Member to be there to share your views on the future management of the Club

To celebrate or not? ³



THE Board of Directors are considering whether to organise a **Royal Wedding Party** in the clubhouse on **Friday 29th April**.

The idea would be to import a large plasma screen TV into the clubhouse for the day, on which Members and their families and friends can watch the whole event starting at about 9.30 a.m. (*The actual ceremony is scheduled for 11.00 a.m.*). The club Bar would be open, coffee, tea and biscuits would be available and a faith lunch would be organised for about 1.00 p.m.

Obviously, there would be little point in proceeding with these plans unless we could be assured of strong support from within the membership. At the forthcoming AGM, therefore, the views of the membership will be canvassed. Please come along to make your views known.

Should we celebrate as a Club or not? What do YOU think?

Presidents' pre-season briefing Concluded from front page

you enter as many competitions as possible if only because you seem to up your game in competitions and get a lot of enjoyment out of them. Remember, the more you put in, the more you get out. This year, in a departure from previous practice, all competition draws will be made at a special social event on **Friday 6th May** starting at 7.30.

I am pleased to see a very good response to my appeal for used stamps and ink cartridges for my charities, **VISTA** and **Inter Care**. These are very worthy charities so please keep up the good work.

Finally, I urge you to support your Club and the Committee members, who put in their time on your behalf in so many ways behind the scenes.

And finally finally, have an enjoyable season; have good fun with good friends and good companionship in this great Club of ours.