

# Diary Dates

## 2011

### APRIL

9th Coffee Morning 10.30 a.m.  
 12th SBC Board Meeting 10 a.m.  
 16th Scotlands H  
 Belgrave A  
 18th Opening Day  
 Weavers A  
 20th Glenfield H  
 21st Holwell H  
 23rd Western Park H  
 Little Bowden A  
 25th Woodpeckers H  
 27th St Margarets H  
 28th Oakham A  
 30th Birstall H  
 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  
 10th SBC Board Meeting 10 a.m.  
 11th Goodwood A  
 12th Leicester Banks H  
 14th Coffee Morning 10.30 a.m.  
 Aylestone Hall H  
 Sileby A

Colour key: Men: Ladies: Mixed: SBC

## New badge design for Green & Royal Triples team



## STOP PRESS

### Men's Fixture changes

**MANY** apologies for these corrections which are all results of changes requested by the opposition:

#### Midweek

26th May Melton Town is now AWAY  
 15th September Countesthorpe is HOME

#### Saturday

7th May We will play a three-way match (Syston/St Margarets/ Knighton Victoria) with each team consisting of 4 rinks AWAY on the St Margarets green.

Our HOME match with St Margarets scheduled for the same date remains as printed in the Handbook.

Please see your notice board for further information. GD

## Men's changing rooms

**MAY I** make a special appeal to all Members of the Men's Section to be particularly mindful of the need for tidiness in the changing rooms throughout the Season. Space is at a premium and untidy facilities do untold damage to the reputation of our fine Club.

If you must leave your kit in the changing rooms between games, **PLEASE** make sure that it is stored tidily and stowed in a manner which causes minimum inconvenience to other users.

I will be keeping a careful eye on the situation and will not hesitate to fine anyone proven to be a consistent offender.

**Check all noticeboards regularly to keep up to date**



President  
George Dodge

SYSTON BOWLING CLUB Clubhouse Telephone: 0116 269 2105

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Official Newsletter of the Syston Bowling Club

No. 61 April 2011

# Vote of confidence

## Well-attended AGM elects two new Directors and endorses work of Board in developing the Club

**CLOSE** to two-thirds of the current membership attended the Club's AGM held on Monday 21st March. Copies of the formal Minutes of the meeting can be obtained from the respective Section Secretaries.

The Annual Report of the Board and the audited accounts for the year ended on 31st December 2010 were unanimously adopted. In the annual elections for Directors to serve for the period up to the end of the 2012 AGM, seven current Directors were returned unopposed to continue under the Chairmanship of **Colin Grimes**. **Val Foreman** and **Kate Toon** were elected to replace **Margaret Abbott** and **Chris Biddles** as Administrative Director and Regulatory Compliance Director respectively.

The Chairman paid warm tribute to the work carried out by **Margaret** and **Chris**, as Directors, during a time of significant change to the legal and administrative structure of the Club. He thanked and welcomed the two replacements, expressing full confidence in their potential effectiveness as Directors.

#### Open forum

Questions and discussions, which followed the formal AGM business, concentrated on the state of the green. **Chris Mews**, the specialist contractor retained by the Board to oversee the planned improvements in the playing surface, was present and gave detailed replies to all questions raised. While warning that a lot of work still needed to be done, he expressed the view that Members were likely to be pleased at the improvements which had already been achieved. A careful eye was being kept on the bare patches, which had been so disruptive in the 2010 Season, with re-turfing remaining as a "final option" in order to avoid further problems.

On behalf of the membership, the Chairman expressed thanks to **Chris** and to Green Ranger, **Roger Bentley**, for all their work during the year and assured those present that the Board would continue to accord the quality of the green the highest priority in their

policy considerations.

Continuing discussions with the Town Council about the possible purchase, by the Club, of a specialist lawnmower and other green-keeping equipment were reported. It was stressed that should the Board approve the purchase, this would require Members, after suitable training, to provide the necessary manpower to undertake additional cuttings of the green on a regular basis. Such additional cuttings would be of undoubted benefit, it was agreed. Storage of the equipment might also present problems.

The effectiveness of the current sprinkler system was being investigated and the application of watering agent at the appropriate time had been agreed to minimise associated risk.

Premises Director, **George Dodge**, provided background information on continuing efforts to address the problem of inadequate dressing room space.

*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 **Dunlop stands in for Adams**



**THE** Management Group of the Men's Section have unanimously approved the appointment of **Bob Dunlop** as Vice-president for 2011 in place of **Brian Adams** who, as reported

last month, has been unable to take up the post due to ill-health.

**Dunlop** (pictured) says: "It was an honour and a great surprise to be asked to be Vice President! I will do my very best with the help of the Committee and club members."

## 49 Club update New start this month

**IN** the final month of the 2010/11 programme, lucky winners were: **Brian Adams, Hazel Rayns, Josie Hubbard and Ray Dexter.**

**49 Club** participants are again reminded that, under current Rules, unless you have already given to **Anita Lowder** notice of your intention not to renew, all existing participants will be automatically renewed for a further 12 months.

Current 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](http://www.systonbowlingclub.org)

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

## Special thanks !

**SPECIAL** thanks are due to a range of people whose efforts have kept the Club very much "alive" during the Close Season.

**John Lamble** for his organisation of the Monday indoor roll-up sessions at the Melton Club. **Pete Murray** for his unflinching readiness to provide a to-class Bar service at all events. The stalwart team of volunteers **Pete Murray, Bob Dunlop, Dave Anderton, Noel Evatt, Myles Clare and George Dodge**, who helped to prepare the ditches and surrounds of the green ready for the start of the Season. Our **Ladies' Section** who, as usual, have given the Clubhouse a good Spring cleaning. Volunteers from both Sections who have supervised **Coffee Morning** arrangements. **Chris & George Dodge** for regular meetings of the Gardening Group. **Colin Grimes** for the weekly Wednesday Pub Quiz. **Roy Hill** for the supply of new rink markers. (See also **Anita Lowder** - above)

## Gardening Group news



**THE** latest visit of the Garden Group was to the headquarters of **VISTA** (the Mens' Club Charity this year) when 10 members spent a very pleasant morning being shown around their newly refurbished building. This was followed by coffee and then lunch at Grange Farm at Oadby.

Details of the next garden visit will soon appear on the notice board. Non-members are always welcome to join us.

## Winter Social programme successfully concluded

**THE** final social event of the close season took place on 26th March, when over 30 members and friends enjoyed a great evening of fun and games and an excellent faith supper.

The raffle was very well supported and **Pete Murray** and **Dave Hudson** were kept very busy running the bar.

The last few socials have been very well supported by the usual regular members as well as quite a few newer people and it is hoped that this will prove to be as popular next winter.

**Editor's note:** *Our sincere thanks must go to Social Programme Director, **Anita Lowder** (pictured), who has worked tirelessly over the Winter months - often under conditions of severe personal stress - to produce a top-quality social programme. She is an example to us all!*



## The Club Coach Column

### 1. Advice to Skips

1. All members of a rink, playing to support each other and not simply for their own game, must play to the Skip's instructions.
2. A Skip must make sure that the bowler on the mat knows exactly what is required from a particular shot (*i.e. hand, line into the head and weight*) in order to optimise the chances of success.
3. A Skip should **not** be one who relies on firing whenever the rink is "down". A firing shot is "hit or miss" and, more often than not, fails to achieve its objective.
4. A Skip must be able to play all of the shots. Make use of roll-ups to practice the whole range of shots but remember, always, the "*bread and butter*" shot is always the perfect drawing shot.
5. As Skip, never underestimate the potential of Lead and Second to help to win matches.

### 2. General guidance for all

1. In a fours match at Leicester IBC we were 18 shots to 8 down with five ends to go. Their front players were consistently outbowling our own front two. Then our Lead began to find a rhythm and we won the remaining ends by 1, 2, 2, 2 and 5 making the final score 18-20 in our favour. So, remember - the game is never lost until the final wood is delivered.
2. Also remember always to be positive not negative and never think that you can't play a particular shot. A good attempt is always better than a faint hearted (usually poor) delivery.

**I wish everyone good health and offer my best wishes for a successful and enjoyable outdoor Season.**

*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.*

## Green & Royal Triples 5

### team launched Captain Bob Dunlop reports

**THE** Men's Club colours are green, maroon (royal magenta), and yellow. Our Newsletter is known as the *Syston Green*. The address of the Clubhouse is "The Green, Syston". So, we now have a team known as the **Green and Royal** playing in Division 3 of the Loughborough & District Triples League. Sixteen players have been registered. It is planned that each will get at least three games and we are **ALL** playing for a place in the Team.

The first game on 18th April is against the **Weavers**. The team has now been picked and is already on the notice board. Please let me know as soon as possible if you cannot play.

As I am on holiday for the first game, **Noel Evatt**, as Vice-captain, will captain the side with **Colin Smith** as Secretary/Treasurer. I hope we get off to a great start under Noel's captaincy as we have the quality and strength to have a great season!

I have designed a team badge which, for this season, will be optional. (See illustration on back page) The cost of the magnetic badge will be £4. I believe this will link all the 16 players closer together as a team. Please order yours from **Colin Grimes**.

Would you believe it? In the Preliminary round of the League KO Trophy, on 17th June, we have been drawn at Home to play against the **White Plums** (*our own A Team*)! May the best team win!

Many thanks to **Brian Adams** for his help and advice in getting the team together. **BD**



## Men's competitions

Competitions' Secretary **Noel Evatt** reports an encouraging number of entries, so far, for the Men's competitions. He says:

*"I would like to remind everyone that the closing date for receipt of entries is **22nd April** and that this year, for the first time, all competition draws will be made at a special event held in the clubhouse on Friday 6th May. I urge everyone involved to be present to get this year's Comps off to a great start."*

**Tell and bring your family and friends.**

**Bring unwanted quality items for sale  
in aid of Club funds**



## **PRODUCE, PLANTS, CRAFTS, CAKES, JEWELLERY AND KNICK-KNACK FAIR**



at  
the clubhouse, Central Park  
on

**Sunday 22nd May 2011**

**Open from 10.00 a.m.**

*Come early to secure a bargain!*

**Coffee, tea and refreshments available  
Full Bar service**

*And while you're on site,  
why not try your hand at bowling on the green?*

*We'll provide all the equipment (flat shoes required)*

***Teenage to Third age - All welcome!***

**PLEASE GIVE THIS IMPORTANT EVENT YOUR FULL SUPPORT. SPREAD THE  
WORD TO FAMILY, FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS.  
FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED FROM PETE  
MURRAY**

## **Lady President's piece**

*Chris Biddles reflects*

**I AM** sure that we all look forward to the monthly editions of "Syston Green". Our thanks go to **Colin** and **George** for producing these. I know that sometimes they have difficulty in filling the pages and I would encourage anyone who has any interesting news or forthcoming events to contact them with the details.

Many years ago, **Mr Eric Roberts** (now deceased) a Member of the Men's Section, also used to produce a monthly Newsletter. I have retained some items that I found interesting among which I discovered the following contribution by **Mrs Mavis Sanderson** (also now deceased) a Past Life Member and Ladies' President:



President  
Chris Biddles

### **"Our Badge**

*I am very proud of our badge I suppose because in 1964 I helped to design it. Until then, we didn't have one to wear on our white blazers. Members who belonged to the Townswomen's Guild had just taken part in a "Syston This is Your Life" and, going through old records, discovered why they called the bridge that spans the brook on Melton Road "The Nine Day Wonder" bridge. We discovered that it had been built in nine days. We also discovered how many bricks had been used.*



*That then became the main theme of our badge. I think that **Kath Chapman** drew it up, the view taken being roughly that seen looking back towards Melton Road from the Working Men's Club.*

*The two coats of arms belong to the Patron Saints St Peter and St Paul. The yellow was incorporated into our hatband to freshen it up as it had been blue and white. When you have been involved in something that is a symbol of the Club, you will realise why I say I am proud of our badge.*

*The Men's badge incorporates the Syston White plum tree which is now almost extinct. There were some very good Syston Plum trees in the grounds of the orchards belonging to the Payne family in Upper Church Street. **Mr Payne** was the village blacksmith."*

***Mr Payne** was the grandfather of **Doreen's** late husband, **Harry**, and the old blacksmith's premises are now part of Forge Court.*

*Regarding the badge, I am very proud to own one of the originals which was given to me by Life Member and Past President **Dorothy Drayco** (deceased). I still have the letter enclosed with the badge saying that she would like me to have it.*

*The question of wearing Club badges has been raised many times. The County ruling used to be that you could not wear a Club badge on a blue County blazer. The rules have now been changed enabling you to wear your Club badge. However, if you are selected for a County game, then you must remove your Club badge.*

*Since the majority of Members now buy the blue County blazer, we can investigate the cost of the disc and price of the badges.*



Val Foreman

*Congratulations to **Kate Toon** and **Val Foreman** on their election to the Board of Directors. I hope that they enjoy the experience as much as I did. I'm sure that they will do a fine job helping to manage and develop our Club.*

*Finally, this month, on behalf of the Ladies' Section, I would like to pass on our good wishes, and hopes for a successful recovery, to **Brian Adams**, whose illness was reported in last month's Newsletter..*



Kate Toon