

2011

SEPTEMBER

- 10th Coffee Morning
Kirby Muxloe H
Leicester Banks A
- 13th SBC Board Meeting 10 a.m.
Keyworth A
Birstall H
- 14th Barlestone A
Leicester Ladies A
- 15th Countesthorpe A
- 17th Soar Valley H
Battam A
- 19th Western Park A
- 22nd Holwell A
- 24th Oakham H
Rothley A
- 29th Closing day H

OCTOBER

- 1st Mowmacre H
- 8th Coffee Morning
- 11th SBC Board Meeting 10 a.m.

Colour key: Men: Ladies: Mixed
Loughborough Triples; Melton Triples

Indoor roll-ups at Melton

FOR Members who wish to continue bowling in the winter months, as in previous years, I will be booking rinks for the 11.50 Monday morning session, starting on 3rd October. If you wish to participate, please arrive no later than 11.30 a.m. In order to give me good time to arrange the teams and for the green fees to be paid.

If any of your friends wish to join us - whether or not they have any previous experience - they will be made very welcome. Hopefully, this will encourage them to join our Club for outdoor bowling in seasons to come.

Please do not hesitate to contact me (0116 292 1619) should you require any help or further information.

To enable me to book the appropriate number of rinks for the first week only, please add your name to the list posted in the clubhouse.

John Lambie

Gardening Group news

Owing to so many of the competitions being played recently, only a small group of us were able to enjoy a visit to Gates Garden Centre for lunch and shopping.

The last meeting was well attended and the two most important items discussed were the proposed visit to Westonbirt (*full details are now on the main noticeboard*) and future plans for enhancing the planting around the scoreboard area of the green. The next visit will be to Ulverscroft Grange on Friday, 30th September, meeting at the Clubhouse at 11.30am.

The next Garden Group meeting will be on Tuesday, 20th September at 2.0pm.

Men's President's Day *Concluded*

the work carried out by the Group in improving the surroundings of the green and the area under the former scoreboard.

He urged all Members to take full advantage of the comprehensive programme of regular social events planned for the Close Season - including fortnightly Saturday socials, occasional special Sunday Cabaret Nights, Monday indoor roll-ups at Melton, weekly Wednesday afternoon socials and continued monthly Saturday coffee mornings - stressing that non-member family and friends would be warmly welcomed to attend. He concluded by saying:

"... The prime aim of the Club is, and always will be, to play and enjoy the great game of bowls. However, Chris and I also feel that we are members of a special group of people - you are all our friends - people we know have helped us and will help each other in the good times and the bad. Thank you all!"

Club library

From 1st September many new titles have been added to our stock. Keep checking to see if there's something you'd like - and keep your old books coming in.



Men

SYSTON



GREEN



Ladies

Official Newsletter of the Syston Bowling Club

No. 66 September 2011

Men's President's Day celebrated

Vice-President's team prevails in pre-prandial match



President
George Dodge

FRIDAY 19th August, Men's President's Day, started with spider and a closely fought game between teams representing the President, **George Dodge**, and Vice-President, **Bob Dunlop**. **Pete Murray** won the spider and the Vice-President's team prevailed by a narrow margin in the match. An excellent dinner, prepared by **Margaret Abbott, Sheila Aindhow, Anita Lowder, Sheila Parker** and **Janice Wilbourn**, was enjoyed by close to 50 diners. Table floral decorations were provided by **Margery Clowes**. (*Where would the Club be without these tireless workers?*)

After the meal, President **George** thanked all Members for their support over the year and expressed the hope that, in carrying out his duties, he had lived up to their expectations. In reviewing the current Season, he expressed particular pride and satisfaction at the standard of bowling which had been achieved - especially by the midweek teams who were enjoying a particularly successful run of results. He was also delighted by the Club's winning of the **Mallinson Shield**, one of the Loughborough and District Triples League Charity trophies. (*Did anyone notice the misspelling of "shield" in last month's edition?*)

He drew attention to the apparent success of recruitment efforts over the year which had resulted in a surge of new Members (5 Ladies and 3 Men with other potential Members still to be formally registered).

The President then went on to single out those groups and individuals who were deserving of special thanks and praise for their exceptional support - often unnoticed and in the background. After presenting gifts to the Ladies responsible for the day's catering (*identified above*) he went on to call Captain **Myles Clare** and Vice-Captains **Ken Renshaw** and **Don Creasey**, Midweek Captain, **George Stone**, Loughborough League Captains **Pete Murray** and **Bob Dunlop**, Melton Triples League Captain, **Dave Hudson**, Club Secretary, **Rob Wilbourn**, Club Treasurer, **Brian Arnold**, Club Coach **Des Eggitt**, Catering Managers, **Rod and Eileen Heggs**, Green Ranger, **Roger Bentley** and Assistant Secretary and Club PRO Officer, **Colin Grimes** - to each one of whom he presented a gift. On behalf of the Men's Section, he offered a general and sincere vote of thanks to the team of lady volunteers who regularly helped to provide match day teas "*without whose efforts we would indeed be lost*" he ventured. Finally, he thanked all the wives of the whole Management Group without whose support senior Officers would not be able to function properly. He singled out his wife, **Christine, Brenda Dunlop, Janice Wilbourn** and **Norma Grimes** for special thanks in this regard.

The President then thanked everyone for their generous support for his nominated charities, **VISTA** and **Intercare**, urging continued support in the remaining months of his office.

He drew attention to the success of the Club Gardening Group, which would soon be three years old, expressing the hope that Members had appreciated **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

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2 Presidents in joint Charity initiative

2012 Syston calendar produced

PRESIDENTS -in-Waiting (subject to AGM elections, of course) **Bob Dunlop** and **Sheila Parker** have decided to nominate the same charity - **Rainbows** - for both Men's and Ladies' Sections of the Club for 2012. This welcome development is intended to maximise the Club's response to the usual annual Presidential appeals.

As a first step in their fundraising programme, **Bob** and **Sheila** have arranged for the production of a 2012 calendar. With the title of "**Syston - My kinda town...**" the calendar features reproductions of original paintings by **Bob Dunlop** himself (and one photograph taken by **Roger Bentley**) illustrating a variety of attractive corners of our Town - one for each month of the year. All proceeds from the sale of the calendar, which should make an attractive gift for family and friends at the end of the year, will go to **Rainbows**. A minimum donation of £3 is being asked for each calendar with envelope.

We are delighted to report that all production costs have been generously sponsored by **Parker Motor Services Ltd**.



Best wishes

OUR best wishes for speedy recoveries are extended to **Don Creasey**, who has had a replacement knee and **Margaret Dexter** who was hospitalised having broken her hip in a nasty fall. (Now at home.)

Mike Foster is to undergo surgery to re-attach a tendon in his right shoulder, obliging him to wear a sling for at least four weeks following the operation.

With only his left hand to drive his wheelchair, he reports that he expects some steering difficulties and warns that there is little hope of contact for anyone who is not in his current "circle" of friends!

We wish him the speediest of recoveries.

Views on NHS restructuring

THE British Medical Association has weighed in on the arguments about reforms to the NHS.

The Society of Allergists has voted to scratch the proposals but the Dermatologists advise against any rash moves.

The Institute of Gastroenterologists have a gut feeling about them but the Neurologists Federation thinks the Government should hold its nerve.

Obstetricians feel the Coalition are labouring under a misconception and Ophthalmologists consider the ideas short-sighted.

Pathology specialists have said "Over our dead body!" while Paediatricians advise politicians to "grow up!"

Psychiatrists spokesmen say the whole concept is madness while Radiologists claim to be able to see right through them.

Surgeons confess themselves to be fed up with cuts and have decided to wash their hands of the whole idea.

ENT specialists find the proposals hard to swallow and ontologists just won't hear of it.

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society thinks the whole policy is a bitter pill to swallow. Plastic surgeons say: "This puts a whole new face on the matter."

Podiatrists regard the proposals as a step forward but Urologists are p****d off at the whole idea.

The Anaesthetists think the whole idea is a gas and Cardiologists don't have the heart to put up any opposition.

In the end, the Proctologists have won out, deciding to leave the entire decision to the a*****s in London.

With acknowledgements to "REAL News" the newsletter for British Gas Retired Employees.

49 Club update

LATEST WINNERS are **Alan Ward**, **Peter Rawson**, **Ray Wood** and **Margaret Abbott**

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

The Club Coach Column

5



Des Eggitt

This month, Des stresses the importance of the Skip in developing compatibility within the team

THE very important role of the Skip - temperament, behaviour, encouragement and demonstration of bowling skills - will be paramount in guiding the rink towards compatibility. A Skip must not squash natural exuberance and will need to lift anyone of an introverted nature or who appears unmotivated or lacking in interest in the game. A Skip must clearly show the charisma necessary for leadership and a depth of knowledge about the strategies and tactics of the game in order to gain the trust of fellow players. He/she must be able to "read" each player in order to get the best possible performance out of him/her. A good Skip will listen to the other players when deciding what shot to play - if necessary putting his/her own inclinations to one side. All too often, one sees Skips stubbornly persisting with their own choice

with an "I am the Skip and I make the decisions" attitude which can often lead to the loss of an end or of the match. The main responsibility of the Skip is to keep the rink playing together as a cohesive unit. It is in the nature of the high profile position that the Skip's conduct and performance will be under the microscope. ("Leadership is an unflattering position") His/her conduct and performance should therefore be consistent and should be a demonstration of leading by example.

Compatibility is a very important aspect of successful rink play with each player sharing the responsibility for promoting and fostering it according to his/her own way and ability. No player can afford to stand outside, aloof and alone. This can only be detrimental to the rink as a whole. Each individual must strive hard for the good of the whole and, as a result, share a pride in belonging to a rink that is successful.

Lady Captain's column



Janice Wilbourn

AS we are fast approaching the end of the outdoor season, I would like to thank all the ladies for supporting all our matches. Even though we haven't won too many games, they have given their all and come second with good grace and a smile.

After a long break, this year saw us enter the Friday Night Loughborough Triples League, where we were moderately successful in spite of most of the matches being played in wet conditions. Results - played 11, won 4, lost 6 with 1 drawn - Well done!

Finally, I would like to congratulate our three lady Members, **Kate Toon**, **Chris Biddles** and **Barbara Brown** who won through to the third round of the County Two Wood Triples competition and lost only by one shot on the extra end - Well done again!

2011 results summary update

WITH only 3 weeks left of the current Season, results can be summarised as follows:

	P	W	D	L	+Pts	- Pts	Diff
Men - Saturday	32	12	1	19	2638	2765	-137
Men - Weekday	18	12	0	6	1715	1416	+299
Loughborough and District Triples League - Final placings							
White Plums	(Div 2) - Played 16: 63/128 Points: Shot Diff: +146 3rd Place						
Green & Royals	(Div 3) - Played 16: 69/128 Points: Shot Diff: +50 4th Place						
WINNERS of the Mallinson Shield							
Ladies - Friendlies	23	5	0	18	1047	1496	-449
Ladies - Trips League - Final figures							
	11	4	1	6	309	417	-108

Lobbying success

WE reported in last month's edition that the Club had joined in a lobby of Parliament urging special protection for bowling greens against moves by local authorities to sell off the land for development as part of their programme to achieve savings in expenditure.

"The Daily Telegraph" (30th August) reports that

"Ministers are to give local clubs new "right to buy" powers so that they can acquire spare land in their communities and turn it into new greens. Existing greens will also be protected. Eric Pickles, the Communities Secretary, said he wanted to preserve the sport's place as 'part of England's sporting and cultural heritage.'The new protections are reinforced by a Community Right to Buy which gives groups the powers to bid for bowling greens if they face being sold off."

Syston Carnival success - but

BY the close of the event, thanks to the efforts of all those involved, £300 was added to Club funds. While this might not seem a lot, to put it in context, **it is the equivalent of £4 for every registered member this year**, thereby going some way to easing the pressure on the Board to raise subscriptions next year as we seek to balance the budget. We also recorded a number of membership enquiries which also bodes well for next year. Special thanks are due to those Members - mainly ladies - who worked so hard to make the event a success. Qualifying for particular praise are **Janice Wilbourn, Val Foreman, Sheila Parker, Kate Toon, Josie Hubbard, Marion Hegginson, Aideen Talbot, Jean Ward, Betty Wheatley and Margaret Porter** who helped set up and run the stall. In addition, Associate members **Norma Grimes** and **Brenda Dunlop** lent their support throughout the afternoon as did **Chris Dodge** who, almost single-handedly, managed the plants and produce section of our stall and Lady President, **Chris Biddles** who donated a large collection of books for sale. Newly registered Associate Members, **Jan Holmes** and **Pauline Wright** worked tirelessly, both

Praise from Greenwood Cup visitors

UNSOLICITED and unanimously favourable comments were recorded from all eight visiting teams selected to play at Syston in the Greenwood Cup on 3rd September.

High praise for the range, warmth and nature of our hospitality and facilities (thanks to the work of President, **George Dodge**, Bar Director, **Pete Murray**, Umpire for the day, **Colin Grimes** and especially **Gerry** and **Verna Kennell** who were once more responsible for the excellent catering. Special pleasure was derived from the range of compliments received about the quality of the playing surface of the green which one player described as one of the best he had played on all Season.

before and during the event setting an example that others might do well to follow. Without such dedicated commitment, the Club would be a much poorer place. Even more praise is due to **Marlene Murray**, who not only worked from set-up to breakdown of the show, but who freely donated all proceeds from her exceptional collection of needlework and tapestry work to Club funds. For her commitment to the Club and to the nominated charities of our Presidents over the past two years, **Marlene** deserves our wholehearted gratitude.

What of the Men's Section, then?

President **George Dodge**, Vice-President **Bob Dunlop**, Director, **Pete Murray**, Club Chairman, **Colin Grimes** and Executive Committee Member, **Dave Hudson** (a regular stalwart whose support can always be relied upon) all worked hard to set up the stall undertaking the transfer of tables and chairs and other equipment from the clubhouse to the site of the stall. **Bob** and **Dave** were scheduled to play - and **George, Pete** and **Colin** were officiating in - the Greenwood Cup *Concluded overleaf*

4 Syston Carnival concluded

in the afternoon, which prevented them from taking further part. Fourteen other Members were also involved in the Cup matches. Of the remaining 30+ Members of the Men's Section, who might have been motivated to lend a hand - especially in the breakdown of the show and the carrying of the furniture and equipment back to the clubhouse - we saw none! We therefore had the regrettable sight of our ladies, who had stood on duty at the stall for long periods of the afternoon, staggering back to the clubhouse under the weight of the equipment involved.

Thankfully, because of the great spirit which pervades our Club, the job was done. It is very clear, however, that if we are to be involved in future Carnival events - and why not when they can be so effective in raising the public profile of the Club, recruitment and much needed funds? - we must expect much better support from our men. Otherwise, we are in serious danger of pushing too hard on the goodwill and co-operation of our ladies.

2011/12 Close Season Social programme launched

THE BOARD of Directors is pleased to announce, under the direction of Social Programme Director, **Anita Lowder**, the launch of the Club's Close Season Social Programme.

Full details are now posted on noticeboards and on the Club web site. Updates will be printed in each month's edition of "Syston Green".

Please give these events your maximum support, proceeds of which go to much-needed Club funds.



Visitors from Fleckney, S. Wigston, Little Bowden, Glenfield, Rothley, Bagworth, Mkt Bosworth and Barlestone prepare for the Greenwood Cup

Lady President's piece



President
Chris Biddles

TO repeat the words of Past Presidents when September arrives: "Where has the Season gone?" It has been such a busy time that I had difficulty in finding time for my **President's Day**, which will now be

held on **Friday 16th September**, 2.30 for 3.00 p.m. start. All Members welcome. Closing date for names on notices in changing rooms will be **Saturday 10th September**.

Our last match is on **Wednesday 21st September** and Closing Day is **29th September**. **Ladies' Presentation Day** will be held, once again, at Beedles Lake Golf Club on **Friday 21st October** - 12.30 for 1.00 p.m. start.

I would like to thank **Des Eggitt** and **Ken Renshaw** for all their hard work and for giving of their spare time coaching so many potential new Members. One of these, who has already joined, came as a visitor with the **Sunday Tourists** to Tewkesbury and was called upon to play, due to last minute illness. With borrowed shoes, trousers and woods, he had a good game and really enjoyed himself. He has since had his first competitive full Saturday game.

The Ladies' Section have gained three new Members as a result of coaching - **Pauline, Edna** and **Gillian**. **Pauline** has already played a few games and, hopefully, **Edna** and **Gillian** will manage a game or two even at this late stage in the Season.

I would like to thank Captain **Janice** for her patience. She has had a very difficult Season, sometimes not knowing until the eleventh hour whether the opposition could raise three or four rinks - some only able to field nine players in total! Not a very satisfactory situation.

Thanks to everyone who contributed in any way to the Club stall at the Carnival. (See separate full report)