

# Diary Dates 2012

## APRIL

- 14<sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning  
**Scotlands H**  
**Belgrave A NB: 2.00 p.m. start**
- 16<sup>th</sup> **Wolds** L&D TL H 2 p.m.start  
**Sands** L&D TL A 2.p.m. start
- 17<sup>th</sup> **Ladies' opening Day**
- 18<sup>th</sup> **Glenfield A**
- 19<sup>th</sup> **Holwell H**
- 21<sup>st</sup> **Western Park H**  
**Little Bowden A**
- 23<sup>rd</sup> **Finches** L&D TL H 2 p.m.start  
**Ringers** L&D TL A 2.p.m. start  
**Blaby H**
- 25<sup>th</sup> **St Margarets A**
- 26<sup>th</sup> **Oakham H**
- 28<sup>th</sup> **Birstall H**  
**Holwell A**
- 30<sup>th</sup> **Greenfields** L&D TL H 2 p.m.start  
**Merlins** L&D TL A 2.p.m. start

## MAY

- 1<sup>st</sup> **Keyworth H**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Enderby A**  
**Belgrave A**
- 4<sup>th</sup> **Shepshed H**
- 5<sup>th</sup> **St Margarets H**  
**Knighton Victoria A**
- 7<sup>th</sup> **Weavers** L&D TL H 2 p.m.start  
**Swallows** L&D TL A 2.p.m. start
- 9<sup>th</sup> **Goodwood H**
- 10<sup>th</sup> **Leicester Banks H**
- 12<sup>th</sup> **Coffee Morning**  
**Aylestone Hall H**  
**Sibley A**
- 14<sup>th</sup> **Crusaders** L&D TL H 2 p.m.start  
**Steamers** L&D TL A 2.p.m. start

Colour key: **Men: Ladies: SBC:**  
**White Plums: Green & Royals**

## Club library

New titles are regularly added to our stock. Thanks to all of our donors. Keep checking to see if there's something you'd like - and keep your old books coming in.

*Norma Grimes*

## Gardening Group news

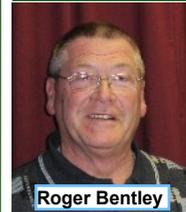


Christine Dodge

**MEMBERS** of the Group enjoyed getting together for a long chat and a very good meal at **The Gynsills** recently.

Arrangements are now in place for our visit to **Chatsworth** on Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> April, when a full coach of group members and their friends will be meeting at the Clubhouse by 9.15am for a 9.30 start. Hopefully we will have good weather so we are able to spend time in the gardens as well as the house and shops.

## The Magnificent Eleven



Roger Bentley

**A BIG** "Thank you!" To all those who turned up to help to prepare the green and surroundings ready for the opening of a new Season. Seats were brought out of winter storage, rubbers were re-laid in the ditches and the whole area was given a Spring clean. Rink markers had already been repainted by **Dave Hudson** and **Kate Toon** who gave up their Sunday to complete the task. Real dedication!

Members owe a deep debt of gratitude to them and to **George Dodge, Noel Evatt, Eric Hall, Rod Heggs, Gerry Kennell, Pete Murray, Stan Page** and **Colin Wilkinson** who made up the Working Party on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March in response to my general appeal for help. **Rod Heggs** also helped later in the re-laying of greenside slabs.

**Thank you all very much!**

**"Statistically, 6 out of 7 dwarves are not happy."**



Men

SYSTON



GREEN



Ladies

Official Newsletter of the Syston Bowling Club

No. 73 April 2012

## AGM launches the great "future funding" debate

**THE** well-attended AGM, held on 12<sup>th</sup> March, marked the launch of a debate on the future funding of the Club. Club Chairman, **Colin Grimes**, invited Members to recognise that the current system, involving a flat rate annual membership subscription for all, which raised less than half of what it actually costs to run and maintain the Club, placing heavy reliance on income from social and other non-bowling sources, could not - and should not - be sustained. In addition, it was his personal view that there was a strong case to be made for a claim that the "one-size-fits all" approach to membership subscriptions could be seen as unfair on the Ladies' Section since they played far fewer games than the Men. Of particular concern, as reported in the March edition of this Newsletter, was the increasing contribution made by the minority of Men who gave regular and active support to social/non-bowling events thereby heavily subsidising the majority of Members who were "only here for the bowling".

In the open discussion which followed, a range of suggestions emerged. A (temporary) suspension of charity fundraising, the introduction of a system of green fees payable per game - possibly linked to a reduction in the "core" annual subscription - and setting the annual subscription at a level which truly reflected the actual cost of running the Club were all raised for consideration.

There was general agreement that things could not go on as they are at present. However, it had to be recognised that the Club membership fees needed to remain competitive with neighbouring Clubs if a loss of Members was to be avoided.

Emphasising that any agreed changes would not be considered for implementation before the 2013 Season, the Chairman thanked everyone for their participation in the debate and urged that it should continue in order that all possibilities might be identified and explored.

He asked all Members to put forward any suggestions they might have to their respective Executive Committee representatives. After discussion of all ideas received by the Executive Committees, Section representative Directors would bring any proposal that enjoyed general support back to the Board of Directors who would take these proposals into consideration when setting policy and a budget for 2013 onwards.

## Centenary congratulations

**LITTLE** Bowden Bowling Club celebrate their centenary this year. We offer President **Tony Burke** and all Members our warmest congratulations.

**MINUTES of the AGM are now available from Admin Director, Val Foreman, or can be downloaded from the Club web site: [www.systonbowlingclub.org](http://www.systonbowlingclub.org)**

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](mailto: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*

## Lady President's piece



Sheila Parker

**I DO** you hope that you all enjoyed the jazz night. I have had lots of positive comments so I think it was a success. We raised £280.00 for Rainbows, so thank you all very much for your support. The total raised so far is £831.00 which is wonderful.

The next charity event will be on Sunday, May 6th. It will be a Men v Ladies bowls match starting at 2 o'clock. It will be a faith tea, so we hope to raise money by having a "spider", a raffle and maybe a £1.00 entry fee. Any other ideas Members have would be welcome. The entry lists are already posted in the changing rooms, so please add your name.

The bowling season seems to have arrived very quickly, so I suppose this is when my duties as President really begin. I wish everyone a very successful, happy and healthy bowling season.

## Men's President enjoys a surprisingly good night



Stan Page

**I MUST** admit that when somebody asked me if Maureen and I would like to go to an evening of jazz music, we looked around for for the nearest door! However, after talking to **Janice** and **Rob Wilbourn**

we decided to give it a go. On Sunday, 24th March we turned up at the clubhouse totally unprepared for what lay ahead.

After selling some raffle tickets to a packed house, we settled down still not knowing what to expect. The band started to play and we were immediately won over. Everybody who was there clearly had a great night. Maureen and I thoroughly enjoyed ourselves along with everybody else.

My thanks go to **Janice** and **Rob** for organising the band, who were fantastic. Special thanks also to **Sheila Aindow**, **Kate Williams**, **Sheila Parker** and **Janice Wilbourn**, four ladies who had worked all day to make the evening a brilliant success. Two others Club stalwarts, **Dave Hudson** and **Pete Murray**, also deserve thanks for their superb service behind the Bar. Well done, the pair of you!

If there is another evening of jazz organised by **Janice** and **Rob**, do **NOT** sit at home and miss it.

**Buy a ticket and go and enjoy yourself!**

## Gordon Pell Poet?

**BOWLS** is a game that everyone can play Young or old. And on a lovely Summer's day

You meet friendly people who are out to enjoy

A game that can be played by a girl or a boy.

Whether you are six feet three or three feet tall

Get out on the rink and have a ball!

Syston Bowling Club is where you should be

To play this great game - and coaching is free!

So come on and join us in this great game we play.

The decision is yours, so please don't delay.

See for yourself that the above is all true

Come in and join our very friendly crew.

## 49 Club update

**LATEST WINNERS** are **Marjorie Clowes**, **Betty Wheatley**, **Don Creasey** and **Margaret Trigg**

A fresh year starts on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April.  
**Good Luck!**

**"A mate of mine recently admitted to being addicted to brake fluid. When I quizzed him on it he reckoned he could stop at any time."**

## Welcome! to Club Patrons

Efforts to recruit Patrons continue. Your support for advertisers is strongly urged



*Jennings*  
**Ladies' fashions & lingerie**  
**Gift vouchers available**

**15 HIGH STREET, SYSTON**  
**Tel: 0116 260 6747**

**WITH** others still expressing interest in becoming Club Patrons, we are pleased to welcome support from one more local business providing services relevant to the needs of our membership. Now that the new Season has started, watch for related advertising around the green.

If you know of a local business which could benefit from the Patron scheme, please contact Club Chairman, **Colin Grimes**, so that a formal approach might be made.

## need a helping hand?

A local firm offering top-quality advice and support services to individuals and to businesses including personal taxation, tax planning, bookkeeping, payroll management and budgeting.

**adam longley**  
accountants limited

**For a free consultation:**

**Tel: 0116 260 4364**

**Email: info@adamlongley.co.uk**



## Men's Handbook correction

**MEMBERS** please note that the telephone number of Men's President, **Stan Page**, shown on Page 2 of the 2012 Handbook is incorrect. As correctly signalled on Page 3 his number is **0116 260 0446**.

## Thank you

**CLUB** Chairman, **Colin Grimes**, wishes to thank everyone for their supportive best wishes as he underwent total knee replacement surgery in Leicester General Hospital on 3rd April. He is now home and well on the way to a full recovery

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

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

## Making ready for 2012 Season

**THE SECRET'S OUT!** Contrary to the apparent belief of some Members, it can now be revealed that it is not a group of "Green Fairies", taking time off from creating crop circles, that prepare the green and surrounds for the new Season. CCTV spy camera footage reveals **Roy Hill** refurbishing the score boards; **Stan Page** & **George Dodge**, are discovered making and fixing new trellis to the sides of the old score board; **Chris** & **George Dodge** planting two gold climbing roses to grow up the new trellis (all paid for by proceeds from meetings of the Gardening Group) and a Working Party of nearly a dozen, under the direction of Green Ranger, **Roger Bentley** (see separate report) can clearly be seen working tirelessly to give us a green to be proud of.