

## DIARY DATES FEBRUARY 2015

Monday 16  
Melton Indoor Roll-up 11.20am

Monday 18  
Art Group 10.30am  
Quiz and Social afternoon 2.00pm

Monday 23  
Melton Indoor Roll-up 11.20am

Wednesday 25  
Quiz and Social afternoon 2.00pm

Saturday 28  
**Call My Bluff**  
Lasagne. Tickets £4.50

### MARCH

Monday 2  
Melton Indoor Roll-up 11.20am

Wednesday 4  
Art Group 10.30am  
Quiz and Social afternoon 2.00pm

Sunday 8  
**Men's Sunday Lunch**

Monday 9  
Melton Indoor Roll-up 11.20am

Wednesday 11  
**Ladies Lunch**

Saturday 14  
**Family Fortunes**  
Burger/Salad

Coffee Morning 10.30am

#### PLEASE NOTE

The times and dates of the  
Forthcoming Events may vary from  
those published above.

Please see Noticeboard for latest updates.

Throughout the close season regular social afternoons will again be held in the clubhouse every Wednesday, starting at 2pm with a Pub Quiz. Also starting in October will be our fortnightly series of Saturday evening entertainment. These programmes help to raise much-needed cash for the Club. We therefore urge all Members to give the events their fullest possible support.

Please watch the club noticeboard and future editions of the Newsletter for programme details, signing up to signal your attendance in appropriate cases.

### Birthday Bumps February

Happy Birthday wishes to:  
Hazel Rayns; David Anderton;  
Susan Disney; David Fox.  
Congratulations to you all

### 49 CLUB UPDATE

Most recent winners are:

Tony Hunt (39); Anita Lowder (4);  
Hazel Rayns (17); Majorie Clowes (15);  
Sheila Parker (22).

Congratulations to them all.

#### NEXT NEWSLETTER

Last copy date for the next  
Newsletter is

Monday 14th March 2015

email: [alancollins338@gmail.com](mailto:alancollins338@gmail.com)

SYSTON BOWLING CLUB Clubhouse Telephone: 0116 269 2105

All communications to The Chairman: Colin Grimes, 8 Quenby Crescent, SYSTON, Leics. LE7 2BW  
Telephone: 0116 260 8412 email: [systonbowling@btinternet.com](mailto:systonbowling@btinternet.com)

# the SYSTON GREEN

Official Newsletter of the Syston Bowling Club

No.105 February 2015

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2015



Administrative Director, Val Foreman says: "In preparation for the Club AGM to be held on Monday 9th March, you will shortly be receiving

copies of the Agenda, Report of the Directors and a personal copy of the Profit and Loss account and Balance sheet for the year ended 31st December 2014.

Please study these documents carefully, in advance, to prepare any questions you might have about the management of YOUR Club and come prepared to contribute to the discussions on our future direction.

We look forward to seeing ALL members in attendance at this important meeting from which the elected Directors explain past Policy and take advice on ways in which the operation of the Club might be improved.

Also, this year, there are vacancies on the Board to be filled. Colin Grimes, has indicated that, while he would be happy to continue to serve on the Board, he wishes to hand over the Chairman's responsibilities to someone else to guide the Club through the next stage of its

development. Following the resignation of Roger Bentley, on health grounds, we are in urgent need of a replacement Green Ranger.

The unexpected and untimely death of Anita Lowder has created another Vacancy.

The Club Constitution states that the Board shall be composed of four representatives from each Section plus a Chairman who may be drawn from either Section. We therefore need at least two ladies and two men to volunteer their services.

To date, following the distribution of the Preliminary Notice of the AGM, inviting nominations for election to the Board, no responses have yet been received. *\* See below* It is vitally important that these vacancies should be filled. YOU are urged to come forward to serve your Club.

Please contact me (260 9635) or the Chairman (260 8412) as quickly as possible if you would like to volunteer or for further Information.

#### STOP PRESS

*Since writing, Janet Lowe has been nominated to replace Anita Lowder, George Dodge has agreed to offer himself as Chairman and, on condition that she can be fully supported in the delivery of the programmes, Pauline Wright has agreed to continue as Social Programme Director. The vitally important post of Green Ranger remains vacant.*

## "PAY & PLAY" MEMBERSHIP TO BE INTRODUCED

*2015 recruitment drive gets underway.*

As part of preparations for the opening of the 2015 Season on 4th April, the Board is launching a new grade of membership in a bid to attract more players to the Club.

The unemployed and those on benefits can already qualify for a one year free membership. Anyone still in full-time education qualifies for a flat rate £10 per annum subscription.

Now, for anyone else who would like to try the game, but who is unable or unready to commit to full participation in the programme of fixtures and competitions, the Club is offering "Pay and Play" membership for a basic annual fee of £10 plus £3.50 per game played. This compares with the 2015 annual membership subscription for a full Club Member which has been set at £97.50.

In a joint statement, Club Presidents, Ken Renshaw and Sheila Aindow, say:

"We are keen to attract new members, especially younger players, to our Club. However, we recognise that those who are still working have only limited time to spare to devote to sports and other recreational activities. They are simply not able to make themselves available for selection for matches against other Clubs or for involvement in Club competitions. It might simply be a lack of confidence that holds them back from immediate, full commitment.

It is not surprising if such potential members feel that they would not get value for money if they joined as full

Members. Nevertheless, we would like to see as many people as possible benefit from the fitness, friendship and fun that is provided through the great game of bowls, a sport in which the young and old of both sexes can play on equal terms, accessed through a vibrant Club like ours.

In answer to these special conditions, and in order to minimise the barriers to participation, we are now offering such individuals this special membership deal.

The £10 + £3.50 "Pay & Play" deal offers unlimited opportunity to play as often or as little as it suits individual circumstances. Full Members will always be available to give advice and coaching at no extra cost. (Only Full Members will have keys to enable access to the Clubhouse).

Sets of bowls (woods) can be made available on free loan. The only equipment needed is a pair of grey trousers, a white shirt/blouse and flat soled shoes.

Under normal circumstances, the incentive is expected to be available for an initial one year only. However, subject to approval by the Board, this period might be extended according to personal circumstances."

Anyone wishing to take advantage of the above should contact one of the Club Secretaries - Rob Wilbourn  
Tel: 01664 424 814  
email: r.wilbourn213@btinternet.com  
or Valerie Foreman Tel: 2609 635  
email: vfpolo@aol.com.

**MEN'S  
SUNDAY LUNCH**  
Sunday 8th March 2015

**SATURDAY 14th MARCH**  
**FAMILY**  
**FORTUNES**  
**BURGERS/SALAD**

Please see noticeboard for up-to-date details

**SATURDAY 28th MARCH**  
**SING-A-LONG**  
**EVENING**  
**PIZZA/QUICHE SALAD & CRUSTY BREAD**  
**£3.50**

*Jennings*



*Ladies Fashions & Lingerie*  
**15 HIGH STREET**  
**SYSTON**

### **CHRIS MEYNELL & FAMILY**

INDEPENDENT  
FUNERAL DIRECTORS  
28 Wellington Street, Syston LE7 2LG  
t: 0116 260 7954  
e: [info@meynellfunerals.co.uk](mailto:info@meynellfunerals.co.uk)  
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**LOCKER RENTAL**

Members are reminded that lockers are available for rental at a modest fee of £10 per annum. The Board will be making allocations in March.

Any Member who would like to take advantage of the offer should add his/her name to the list posted on the noticeboard on the wall between the clubhouse windows.

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Hear4U & Syston Eye Care  
14 Town Square  
Syston LE7 1GZ

Hear4U 13 King Street,  
Hinckley LE10 1QT

**SATURDAY  
28th FEBRUARY**

**LASAGNE £4.50**

See Noticeboard for further details

**CALL MY  
BLUFF**



**CLUB COACH**

Des Eggitt, Club & County Coach

**THE FASCINATION OF BOWLS**

*(This is for ladies or gentlemen)*

What then is the reason for the amazing popularity of the game?

At the beginning of the century an Australian bowls historian attempted an answer to this intriguing question.

Bowls, he wrote, is a science, the study of a lifetime, in which you may exhaust yourself, but never your subject.

It is a contest, duel calling for courage, skill, strategy and self-control.

It is a test of temper, a trial of honour, a revealer of character.

It affords the chance to play the man and act the gentleman.

**COMPUTER BASICS SESSIONS**

A surprisingly strong response has been received to the proposal to offer help with computer use, starting on Tuesday 16th February for the following six weeks. Absolute beginners are offered up to 4 weekly sessions of an hour each. Those with some knowledge but who require help with specific processes and programmes will be offered not less than 2 hours support in each area.

The schedule of sessions has been posted on the main noticeboard. A fee of £2 per session will be charged with all proceeds going into Club funds.

Anyone who finds that the session offered is inconvenient should notify Colin Grimes as soon as possible.

It means going into God's out-of-doors, getting close to nature, fresh air and exercise.

A sweeping away of mental cobwebs, genuine reaction of tired tissues, it is a cure for care, antidote to worry. It includes companionship with friends, social intercourse, kindness and generosity to an opponent, it promotes not only physical health but moral force, there is an aura surrounding the game of modern bowls, an atmosphere, an examination of the spirit which at once communicates itself to anyone taking up the game.

It is an atmosphere largely compounded of courtesy, of kindness and really good fellowship and it is to be found manifest wherever the game is played.

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 on 0116 269 6548

Participants are invited to bring their own laptops or tablets so that as much "hands on" experience as possible can be gained from each session.

Colin Grimes says: "While I do have some experience in most aspects of computer use, I hope that everyone understands that I am by no means an IT "expert". I will not be able to answer everyone's needs. Hopefully, I will be able to share my experience and give Members the confidence to try new things – or simply get them started without fear. If there are questions that I can't handle, I can probably point people in the right direction and identify sources of appropriate support. I plan to make the sessions fun and very much "hands-on" from the start."

## CLUB FINANCES



Finance Director, Rolf Meyer, reviews the audited accounts.

The Board of Directors has good cause to be very pleased about the financial outcome of the year ended 31st December 2014.

When you receive your copy of the audited Profit & Loss Account and the Balance Sheet, you will see that in spite of the challenges presented by the extension project and the replacement of the sprinkler system for the green, we have managed to increase unallocated reserves by close to £1000, after making allowances for the £10,000 loan from the Men's Section.

Bar turnover and profits reached record levels; our close Season social programme netted close to £3000 over the year; coffee morning revenues increased by nearly 15% and fundraising (net of the Sport England grant) raised £10,500 on top of the £5000 raised in the previous year.

Sincere thanks are due to everyone who played a part – no matter how small, in contributing to this growth and success.

On the expenditure side, apart from registered increases in rates and utilities and additional expenditure on marketing and promotion (largely associated with the extension project) we demonstrated very tight control.

Of course, because of the significantly increased capital value of the Club, following the completion of the extension and the sprinkler

installation, depreciation naturally shows a marked increase. The net position has enabled us to add £43,740 to the Balance Sheet giving us an increase in net worth from £23,748 to £70,000.

With the benefit of the retained loan from the Men's Section, and continued benefit from the Section levies (£1500 Men; £500 Ladies) the Club is once again in a sound financial position With reserves to cover (almost) a full year's trading.

On behalf of the Board, I have no hesitation in commending the audited accounts or adoption at the AGM.

Of course, both auditor, Adam Longley, and I will be very happy to answer any questions you might have about the details at the AGM on 9th March.

## "CALL MY BLUFF"

Can you spot who is telling the truth and who is lying? You will have a chance to find out when, on Saturday 28th February, a panel of practised tale spinners will try to persuade you that they know the meaning of some of the more obscure words in the English language. This hugely enjoyable panel game, with prizes, has been a successful feature of our social programme for the past 10 years. As in previous years, the evening's entertainment has been devised by cacographic Colin (Grimes). Panellists include the nasute Norma (Grimes), rambunctious Rod (Heggs), prefulgent Pete (Murray) and kirtled Kate (Toon). Tickets, payable at the door, priced at £4.50 per head, include a lasagne supper to be served at about 7.30 p.m, before the start of the evening of fun.

If you haven't taken part before, come and give it a try. Lots of laughs guaranteed.

Christine Dodge

## GARDEN CLUB



The Garden Group held its first meeting of the New Year when we discussed future plans and ideas for visiting some new venues as well as old favourites.

Jean Ward had obtained details of Hodsock Priory which is famous for the wonderful display of snowdrops every year. We did try to visit here last year but poor weather prevented us and group members were keen to try again this year.

However, it was agreed that this would depend on weather conditions being suitable, not only for the drivers but for being safe to walk around the area.

Maureen Page also provided details of a new venue in Northamptonshire and we hope to be able to visit when this opens again later in the year.

We have also arranged for Richard Adams to visit the club on Tuesday, 24th February to entertain us with his slide and music show. This was very popular last year and we hope many non members will also join us.

Full details of times, dates, etc are on the notice board for all these events.

## BOCCIA - GOTCHIA



This is the kind of happy atmosphere you could be enjoying by coming to our Social Nights.

Our picture shows members and guests at the Boccia Evening held on Friday 30th January, with a Faith Supper.

For the uneducated Boccia is a kind of bowls game with a difference and a good laugh all the time!

Why not come along to our next Social Night?



## ANITA LOWDER

It is with sadness that we have to say goodbye to our dear friend Anita.

Anita will be sorely missed by everyone at our bowls club.

If you wanted something doing, Anita would volunteer, she was a hard worker even with her illness, never giving up either in the kitchen or out on the green.

So, Anita, now is the time for you to rest.

We all loved you.

*Janet Lowe*