

the SYSTON GREEN

Official Newsletter of the Syston Bowling Club

No 130 – September 2017

TIME TO STEP UP TO THE PLATE



If, as expected, the principle of unification from 1st January 2018 is approved in General Meeting in December, Members will have a unique opportunity to elect a new management team. At the present time, the Club's affairs are managed by a Board of 9 members, Men's Management Committee with 14 members and a Ladies' Committee of 13 members - 37 members in total. If the proposed new management structure is adopted, this number will be reduced to a mere 17 - A Board of 12 and a Management Committee of 5.

In addition, current proposals mean that there will be a need for others to take responsibility - without the need to sit on committees - as League Captains, Vice Captain(s), Assistant Fixture Secretary, Minuting Secretary and Assistants to the Catering Manager or Director. Naturally, there are those currently serving in one capacity or another who will be willing, if not anxious, to continue in their role. Others will take the opportunity to stand down to make way for others. There are inevitable duplications. Men's and Ladies' Sections currently both have Secretaries, Fixture Secretaries, Captains and Treasurers, for example. Rationalisation under the new structure will be necessary.

At the same time, the new structure presents an opportunity for "new blood" to be recruited to lead the Club into the future. Every single Member qualifies for nomination to any of the posts which will be on offer. If **YOU** feel that you would like the opportunity to get involved, at whatever level, please make your interest known. Nomination forms will shortly be available from the Administrative Director, Val Foreman. Board Chairman, George, and I will both be very happy to offer advice and guidance on what is involved in each of the posts involved. Job specifications are posted on the Club noticeboard.

PLEASE do not assume that elections to any of the posts is a "done deal". All positions are to be declared vacant and, where there are multiple nominations for any of them, a ballot will be held at the EGM to elect the new postholders. **PLEASE** also avoid complacency and the all-too-frequent "leave it to the others" attitude. This is **YOUR** Club. **YOU** are responsible for its future management and direction. If **YOU** have a skill, talent or interest that can be put at the disposal of the Club, you have a duty to offer it. It is a unique time to consider **YOUR** Club's future direction and the part that **YOU** can play in influencing that direction.

IT IS TIME TO STEP UP TO THE PLATE TO OFFER TO UNLOCK AND MAXIMISE OUR CLUB'S FULL POTENTIAL.

Winning Rink!



George Stone, Jan Holmes, Pauline Wright and Tom Jordan, the winning rink at the recent Centenary event at Holwell Sports Club, are seen here with the Holwell President.

Virus alert!

Members are warned to watch out for this e-mail virus which even the most advanced programs cannot protect you from.

It appears to affect those who were born prior to 1955.

Symptoms:

1. Causes you to send the same e-mail twice.
2. Causes you to send a blank e-mail!
3. Causes you to send e-mail to the wrong person.
4. Causes you to send it back to the person who sent it to you.
5. Causes you to forget to attach the attachment.
6. Causes you to hit "SEND" before you've finished.
7. Causes you to hit "DELETE" instead of "SEND."
8. Causes you to hit "SEND" when you should "DELETE."

IT'S CALLED THE "C-NILE" VIRUS. Watch out for it!

PS: *Have I already sent this to you? Or did you send it to me?*

Relevant Matters of Law

This month's advisory feature has been supplied by Club Patrons, Salusbury Harding & Barlow, Solicitors

Terms You've Heard Of and What They Mean...Notary Public

A simple definition of a Notary Public is an internationally recognised legal officer who can authenticate or witness signatures, documents and facts with such authentication being relied upon abroad.

Knowing that you may well be asking yourself why you may ever need a Notary Public. Steven McCallister from local firm SHB Solicitors says, "I've worked as a Notary Public for over 12 years now and have acted for private individuals, families, and businesses. Increasing numbers of people have foreign business interests, property or other investments. A Notary Public is of invaluable assistance in ensuring smooth transactions and peace of mind for all parties involved in international transactions." Notaries form a small, highly specialised branch of the legal profession. One important difference between a Notary and a Solicitor is that, whereas a Solicitor's primary duty is to his client, the Notary's primary duty is to the transaction and the authenticity of the documents. As Notaries are recognised worldwide they have to ensure absolute integrity and impartiality in order to maintain the standing of the Notarial profession.

Notary services for individuals include:

- o Copies of passports - for example to open up a foreign bank account
- o Setting up a Power of Attorney
- o Certified copies of documents such as exam certificates
- o Transfers of land, houses, shares
- o Lost passports, share certificates or other documents
- o Statutory declarations and Affidavits
- o Declarations of single status when getting married
- o Permission to let one parent travel with children
- o Legalisation of documents by the Foreign Office and Consulates

For further information on Notary services please contact Steven McCallister via email: smccallister@shbsolicitors.co.uk or via telephone on 0116 262 6052.

Gardening Group - A personal note



I would just like to thank everyone who sent "Get Well Cards" and others who asked George to pass on their best wishes to me recently. It was a lovely surprise to find the cards waiting for me when I returned home from hospital after my knee operation. As I am only a Social Member of the Club I had no idea I had so many friends. All your good wishes are very much appreciated. I'm happy to be able to report that the operation on my knee went well and I'm now on the slow road to recovery, hoping to be back "in circulation" soon.

Tyler's Final flourish fades

A proud grandad reports



As Tyler's proud grandad I would like to congratulate him on reaching the under 18's County final.

On Sunday 3rd Sept. we arrived nice and early at the Leicester Banks Club to register. The game got under way with 2 trial ends. Based on that display, we thought that we were in for a good "tight" game. As the game continued, however, it was becoming clear that, on the day, Tyler's opponent was on his "A" game. We were very proud of Tyler's professional attitude to the game, keeping his spirit and playing some brilliant shots, but Lady

Luck didn't lend a helping hand. Towards the end it became quite clear that the game was moving out of reach.

Congratulations to Tyler's opponent, Kieran, from Thringstone, who is younger but who already has a great deal more experience. He is rumoured to be trialling for England.

In spite of the disappointment, I feel confident that, with another year under his belt, Tyler will be back!



Tyler Johnson

Your officers report



Board Chairman, George, writes: Once again I am delighted to be able to offer sincere thanks to everyone who turned up to help with setting up and dismantling of the Club's gazebo and stall, and to those who supplied *bric à brac*, crafts, books, DVDs, jigsaws etc at the recent Syston Carnival, helping to raise close to £300 for Club funds. What a wonderfully lucky Club we are to have such supportive Members. Thank you all, once again for a fine job well done.

The next meeting of the Bowling Club Liaison Meeting with the Town Council will take place on **Monday, 9 October** at 2 pm in the Old School Rooms in the Community Centre. If anyone has any items for the agenda, please let me know. This regular meeting with the Council gives us a fine opportunity to raise issues of mutual concern and to avoid misunderstandings between the two parties.



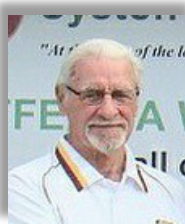
President and Club Coach, Gary writes: The Season is nearly at an end and I have enjoyed being your President. On the whole, the Season has been successful. I have enjoyed bowling with you all and hope that you all winter well.

For those who have won or achieved something, "Well done!" To those who haven't, there's always next year.

Please do not forget the winter Social programme and please attend if you can. The wide-ranging programme is already posted on the noticeboard (*and will be published in next month's Newsletter*) All the events are great fun to cheer up a miserable winter evening.

Over the next three to four months we all have a decision to make on unification that will deeply affect the Club. Whatever your thoughts, please support the decision that is made and give your full support to it.

If you need help improve your bowling - and it's never too late in the Season - please contact Ken or myself. We are more than willing to help. Everyone needs coaching so don't think you are too old or lacking experience. The coaches can make you a better bowler and help you enjoy your bowling more.



Midweek Captain, Pete writes: Where has the season gone? We are into the last month of midweek matches and I think it has been a very successful season so far. We have played 18 games winning 12 and losing 6 with a positive shot difference of 126, with a rare, first-time win over Nuneaton.

Everyone knows what a very good meal we get when we visit Nuneaton, so I must thank Jenny Dewick and her helpers for providing a wonderful hot meal when they visited us. It was appreciated by all concerned.

By the time this Newsletter is published, we will only have two midweek matches left, so I would urge everyone to put their names down on the Availability Sheets.

It's most encouraging to see the new bowlers putting their names forward and the way they are developing. Undoubtedly, they will be a big asset to the Club.

It seems that more and more Clubs are suffering through lack of players. Melton Town, for example, are only able to provide 12 players for a home match! As I have said before, I cannot understand why people join a bowls club and yet remain reluctant to play. Let's hope there is a big improvement next Season.

Ladies' Section AGM



Ladies please note that the Section AGM will be held in the Clubhouse on Tuesday October 17th starting at 2 p.m.

Please make every effort to attend to make your views on unification (*and other issues*) clear.

Thanks to TESCO

Many thanks to TESCO Syston for the generous discount they gave, using their Community Fund, when we purchased supplies for the teas provided to our visitors, Enderby, on 24th August. The bottles of wine they also provided were used in the raffle helping to boost Club funds.

CLUB COACHING

For coaching advice and assistance, ring **Ken** on 0116 2606 743 or **Gary** on 0116 2607 922

Non-members are welcome to take advantage of this free service. If you know of anyone who might like to try the game before joining, please encourage them to contact our coaches.

Men's Competitions results 2017

Winner	Runner up	
Champion of Champions		
Kate Toon	Tom Jordan	<i>"Tom Jordan fought hard"</i>
4-Woods Singles Club Championship		
Ken Renshaw	Kieran Jordan	<i>"Age and experience tells"</i>
2-Woods Singles		
Kieran Jordan	George Dodge	<i>"Age, on this occasion, obliged to concede"</i>
2 Woods pairs		
Pete Murray and Stan Page	Rolf Meyer and Ken Renshaw	<i>"Pete and Stan had to fight their way back from a bad start to take the title"</i>
4 Woods pairs		
Rod Higgs and Rolf Meyer	Tom Jordan and Brian Arnold	<i>"A very tight match"</i>
Maidens 4-Woods Singles		
Martin Warner	Gary Kilbourne	<i>"Gary says: "I vow to do better next year"</i>

At the time of publication, the *Triples Championship*, *Syston Town News 2 Woods Mixed Triples Competition* and the *Anita Lowder Mixed 2 Woods Pairs Trophy* are still to be decided. Matches will be played on 9th and 10th September.

Full results, including Ladies' competitions, will be reported in next month's edition.

Congratulations to everyone concerned!

Welfare and safeguarding of vulnerable children and adults

A major challenge which needs to be met

Those of you who have taken a close interest in the development of policies relevant to the unification process will have noticed that the proposed new Board structure includes, for the first time, a Welfare and Safeguarding responsibility. Anyone reading or listening to the news cannot fail to be aware of the current high profile given - especially in the sporting world - to cases of young people and other vulnerable groups being abused and exploited and the consequent rash of high profile court cases associated with abuse and exploitation.

As a result, all sports clubs, ourselves included, are now obliged to demonstrate that we have in place appropriate safeguards for young people and vulnerable adults.

For a number of years, we have published a broad policy statement committing our Club to upholding and maintaining the highest standards of protection. Pretty words are no longer enough, however. We are now required to demonstrate that we have put in place and actively follow sensible guidelines covering the range of risks involved.

The issues have recently been highlighted by the attendance of two 9 year old girls at our regular weekly coaching sessions. Through their influence, with active parental help, it is possible that their number could be increased from next Season. In any case, as a Club, we have long held the ambition to develop a successful Youth Section. Before any such expansion can take place, however, and as a first step in complying with our regulatory responsibilities, we need someone to volunteer to take responsibility for the development of a robust welfare and safeguarding policy.

This will involve appropriate training through attendance at one or more of the specialised courses organised by Bowls Leicestershire and Sport England. Then, on the basis of that training, advising the Board of Directors on how best the Club should respond to the range of issues involved. Once those policies are in place, there will be a continuing responsibility to supervise their ongoing implementation and, if necessary, further refinement and development in accordance with national guidelines.

If you feel that this is an area in which you would like to get involved, now is the time to make your interest known. Please talk either to Board Chairman, George Dodge or to Club Coach, Gary Kilbourne, who will happily supply whatever further information you might like.

Without your help in this specialised area, the Club is seriously hampered in our plans for further growth, development and success.

Welfare and safeguarding, both of children and of vulnerable adults, is a challenge for the Club that cannot be ignored, but one which demands active and successful responsive action. Please help if you possibly can - either alone or with the support of a few like-minded Members acting as a specialised sub-committee.

Birthday Bumps!

Happy birthday wishes to *Peter Adams, Brian Arnold, Trevor Allen, Don Creasey, Rod Heggs, Gary Kilbourne, Janet Lowe, Brian Madelin, Marlene Murray, Sheila Parker, Ken Renshaw and Kate Williams.* with birthdays in September/October.

59 Club update

Most recent winners are: *Hazel Rayns (17), Alan Ward (02), Colin Grimes (58)* and *Sheila Aindow (08)* **Congratulations to them all!**



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Centre Manager, **Mark Smith**
Tel: 0116 2607 888 or
email: info@syston-vc.org

Editorial copy deadlines

All copy for the October edition should reach Colin Grimes (systonbowling@btinternet.com) by no later than Friday 29th September 2017

HELP!

We are still looking for help in the production of this Newsletter

This edition once again demonstrates that all likely needs of the publication can be handled using nothing more "complicated and challenging" than Microsoft Word. In the first instance, anyone interested will be offered the opportunity to work side by side with Colin Grimes rather than being expected to assume full responsibility from the start.

When material is submitted to the Editor by email, the Newsletter can be put together using simple "cut and paste" methods.

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System Bowling Club

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We are grateful for the continued active support of all of our growing list of Patrons, especially those regularly featured in this Newsletter.

For full details of Patron benefits and costs, please contact

Colin Grimes on 0116 2608 412.

In return for their generous financial support for our Club, Members are urged to consider these companies first when considering the purchase of goods and services.

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See also Cloudscape Connect on page 7

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