

the **SYSTON GREEN**

Official Newsletter of the Syston Bowling Club

No 136 – May 2018



Presidents Message Jenny Dewick

Well the season has got off to a rather damp start, looking forward to having some sunshine any time soon.

Firstly I would like to thank Dave Hudson and Martin Warner for braving the elements and cutting black lengths of rubber for the ditches, they look superb. Secondly thank you to Kate Toon for disposing of the old jam jars out of the back store, where she encountered quite a bit of pond life, where the jars had collected rain water - not a very pleasant job, and thanks also to Kate Williams and Eileen Heggs who made some lovely cushions for the ladies changing room.

The county competitions will start very soon, so good luck to all Syston people involved.

It was lovely to see Janet Lowe, who came to have tea with us recently - we send Janet our love and all good wishes.

Regards Jenny

Jenny's Charity

At April's coffee morning Jenny arranged for Maggie Falconer a lady from 'Wish Upon a Star' (her chosen charity for this year) to come along and give a very informative talk to explain more about the excellent things they do and how it all began.

I have also received the following article from her colleague, which provides more detail together with a photograph of the founder.



When You Wish Upon a Star has a simple mission, to grant the Wishes of children living with a life threatening illness. The charity was founded in Nottingham by Barbara White who was so inspired by a seriously ill four year old with a dream to meet Mickey Mouse that she wanted to bring smiles to the faces of many more brave and courageous children. Our Wishes have the power to transform the lives of the children and families we work with and since 1990 we have proudly granted over 17,500 Wishes across the UK.

How It All Began In 1989, Barbara met a delightful little 4 year old girl Johanna who was very sick, but still managed a smile! Johanna told Barbara that she would love to go to Florida to meet all her favourite characters, so Barbara started fundraising for the family to have a trip of a lifetime, but sadly during this time Johanna's health deteriorated and her Wish could not be granted as this brave little girl passed away. Meeting Johanna and her lovely family was inspirational to Barbara and seeing all the heartache they went through, inspired her to start When You Wish Upon a Star in September 1990, so more children living with a life threatening illness could have their magical Wish granted.

We believe every child deserves to smile and with support from our supporters we can give children and their families something to look forward to through times of uncertainty and often financial as well as emotional strain. Wishes allow the family to put their child's illness on hold as they have fun and create precious memories together.

Every year in December the charity take 100's of children living with a life threatening illness to Lapland to meet Father Christmas. This truly is such a magical trip for these very brave and courageous children.

For more information on how donations make a difference please visit www.whenyouwishuponastar.org.uk to see recently granted Wishes and find out about our upcoming fundraising events as we celebrate over 28 years of granting Wishes. You can also 'Like' us on Facebook or join us on Twitter.

Please let me know if you need anything else. I look forward to meeting you and the members later in the year.

Kind regards

Alexa
Alexa Wigfield

From the Green Rangers Diary.

I am very pleased to know that a number of dedicated Club Members have looked after the green and surrounds during my recent illness, thank you for your help. Its good to be a member of such a great club.

You will I'm sure have noticed that all the gutters are now clear and that the rubbers are all in place.

Our contractor Chris Mews intends apart from his usual green maintenance, will towards the end of the month, spike the green and apply a fertilizer, after which he intends to roll the green.

Myles Clare.

George Dodge. Club Chairman. Club Security

Can I remind all members to remember to lock up when you are the last to leave the Club House.

Last week the door to the Club House was left unlocked over night, ***THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE***

It is your responsibility to make sure that your Club House is locked and secure when you leave.

We were very lucky that we had no intruders in the Club House, not only could we have lost all the furniture, but all the stock behind the bar, costing the Club a lot of money, but not only that, If the club house had been occupied by squatters, we could have lost the Club, so please make sure you lock up after you.

Welfare Report

I am pleased to report that Margaret Abbott is up and about again after her fall and was busy in the kitchen for our home match against Oakham and hopes to play against Goodwood.

Diana Lewis underwent a postponed operation on Friday 27th April and is recovering as well as expected.

Myles Clare was unable to turn out for the Green & Royals for their match against the Ringers (Belgrave) on 23rd April following a bad fall but fortunately Geoff Ellis helping in the kitchen swapped duties and enabled us to field a full team with a comprehensive win. Many thanks Geoff. Latest news on Myles he is resting on doctor's orders, feeling tired and frustrated and awaiting a hospital check

It was good to see Janet Lowe at the Club when we played Blaby. Janet is still undergoing intensive treatment but (on a good day) looked well under the circumstances and remains bright and positive.

Captain Kate Williams has been under extreme pressure over the opening stages of the season due to her husband Carl needing to undergo open heart surgery. Club members have rallied round to help and we wish Carl a speedy recovery.

Brian Arnold is in a similar situation with his wife Joan being re-admitted to hospital. We wish them well.

We understand Doreen Payne has now returned home but no further details known at the time of writing.

Mick Russell is under the weather at present although I understand he had an enjoyable roll up on the green recently which lifted his spirits. We hope to see you back in circulation Mick as soon as possible.

Finally, I have received a report that Linda Brown has been hospitalised following a broken replacement hip. Linda has been unable to bowl for the Ladies over the past two years due to family circumstances.

As always, please inform me if you are aware of any member(s) who are indisposed and might benefit from assistance or support from the Club.

ROB (Wilbourn)

Tel: 01664 424813

email: r.wilbourn213@btinternet.com

Garden Group News from Chris Dodge



Unfortunately weather conditions conspired against us for our planned visit to Belton House and gardens, but I'm sure we will in the future be able to organise another. However 4 younger members did brave the elements and found the house itself very interesting, and then had a good lunch in the garden centre opposite.

The weather is beginning to warm up and suddenly the garden is bursting with colour as the whole of nature is busy preparing for summer. Most plants, whether large or small, put out vigorous new growth, and so this is the best time to trim straggly growth and get shrubs, hedges and trees back in shape. Don't worry if they look a little bare afterwards as branches will soon be covered in new foliage. Continue to hardening off new plants bought from garden centres and nurseries. They have usually been raised under protection and if put out into the garden too soon without a period of acclimatization first, their growth will be stunted and they may even die.

Make sure that fruit trees growing in pots or at the foot of a wall or fence do not run short of water after flowering. Good care taken with watering now will help to produce a fruitful yield. At the time of watering also apply a good liquid feed.

If you want more information about gardening you are always welcome to our Garden Group meetings, and our next meeting should be on Tuesday 5th June, starting at 2.00 pm, but keep an eye on the notice board.

SOS to All Playing Members.

All of our bowlers should be aware that we are in **great danger** of losing some of our friendly fixtures due to lack of response of members making themselves available for matches. This is causing much concern for Captain and Vice Captains who are under a lot of pressure to fulfil our commitments for this first season operating as a mixed club.

Everyone is urged to make themselves available in good time on the availability sheets and also make sure they confirm their ability to play once they have been selected.

Finally it must be re-iterated that ***it is the responsibility of all members to make their own transport arrangements for away games***

Membership promotion opportunity

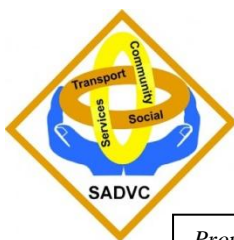
The Club will have a presence at a special exhibition to be organised by the Syston and District Volunteer Centre on Saturday 9th June running from 10 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

What's in it for you?" is the theme of this groundbreaking exhibition which will feature the wide range of organisations and companies, based in Syston and neighbouring communities, which offer to all ages social, cultural, medical, sporting, educational, financial and emotional support - and opportunities to get involved as volunteers - thereby easing problems and enhancing lifestyles.

Derek Burdon, Chairman of the Board of Trustees at the Volunteer Centre, says:

"So many within our local communities are currently suffering unnecessarily. Great comfort and support could be gained from a wide range of local professional and volunteer service providers. The main problem is that not enough people know about what is on offer. This event is a serious attempt to address that issue, bring all the organisations involved under one roof to advertise and promote their services and benefits. The Volunteer Centre is happy to produce and co-ordinate it as part of our 40th Anniversary celebrations."

All Members are encouraged to visit the exhibition to learn more about the exceptional range of volunteer led support services which are available to our local communities. Entry is free and refreshments will be available.



Syston and District Volunteer Centre

"Linking local volunteers with local needs"

Promoting and sustaining personal independence, community and family ties through the provision of subsidised transport and other volunteer-led services, harnessing and directing local volunteer energies and skills to best effect within the community.



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Syston Bowling Club

invites

YOU

to a fun-filled, family

OPEN DAY

Sunday 24th June starting at 2.00 p.m.

- * **FREE** tea/coffee and refreshments
- * **FREE** coaching
- * Full **Bar** service

"Probably the cheapest pint in town"

- * Teenage to Third Age: Male or female
 - * **Watch or take part**
- * "Target" **bowling competition**, with prizes for all!
 - * **Wheelchair** friendly
 - * Bring flat shoes/trainers
- * Discounted first year **membership** offered for anyone joining on the day
 - * **Craft and bric a brac sale**
 - * **Indoor Pub games**

More information can be obtained from
Tel: **Valerie Foreman** - 0116 260 9635
or **email**; systonbowling@btinternet.com

Syston and District Volunteer Centre



YOU can help us to banish loneliness from our local community

Volunteer as a driver to enable lonely people stay in touch with family and friends, to keep appointments and to continue to play an active part in community life.

- * Become a fully-trained driver for our small fleet of minibuses used for group activities and excursions.
- * In return for a generous mileage allowance, use your own car for our Social Car programme offering a more personal service.
- * Determine your own pattern of availability and remain in full control of the number of hours involved.

If you have a spare hour or two in your week and would like to help to improve the quality of life for your lonely community fellows, we would love to hear from you.

For more information call into the Centre, ring, email or visit our website.

Syston and District Volunteer Centre
18 School Street, Syston, Leics LE7 1HN
Tel: 0116 2607 888 **email**: admin@syston-vc.org
web: www.syston-vc.org

Financial Report

Brexit opportunity?

The recent Lords vote highlighted how many uncertainties remain – yet Brexit fears may have created strong UK buying opportunities.

Barely a week goes by in which Brexit doesn't loom large on the political agenda.

Yet with 11 months to go until the UK's formal departure from the EU, much about the nature of that exit remains unclear. Just last week, the Lords voted through an amendment that adds to the pressure for Theresa May to consider keeping the UK in the customs union.

Major political uncertainties of this nature undoubtedly have the capacity to impact investor sentiment, particularly in the short term.

"The UK equity market was weak in the first three months of the year, dragged down by continued Brexit uncertainties and some signs that the outlook for UK growth has deteriorated somewhat," said Nick Purves of RWC Partners. "A significant number of companies, and especially those most exposed to the UK consumer, have reported that trading conditions are also being adversely affected by the decline in real wages, which resulted from the Brexit-induced fall in sterling at the end of 2016 – but, of course, wage growth has ticked up significantly in recent months."

Indeed, irrespective of any of the merits or drawbacks of Brexit itself, it is clear that some investors are unnerved; primarily by a perceived delay in policy decisions. On that score, the agreement of a transition period undoubtedly acted as a sop to markets – not least bond markets.

"Brexit negotiators agreeing to a transition period until the end of 2020 should be supportive of sterling and domestic credit over the medium term," said Gary Kirk of TwentyFour Asset Management.

Value opportunities

Moreover, although a perceived lag in policy making remains – and may even extend beyond Brexit issues – several fund managers believe that UK equities are undervalued relative to equities in other leading markets. Over time, they expect that disparity to close, as global investors catch up with the corporate reality on the ground.

"UK equities have the potential to close the underperformance and undervaluation that has accrued due to Brexit and politics," says Adrian Frost of Artemis. "Over time, worries over these areas may subside. In the meantime, we anticipate that the recent strong upturn in M&A activity will continue. In turn, this may cause the government to agonise further as to its attitude and policy towards such matters. Current policy resembles the Hampton Court Maze on a foggy day."

Even allowing for any policy fuddle, UK markets have taken a significant hit in recent months. In the first three months of 2018, the US S&P 500 fell around 2% and the MSCI Europe ex UK by 4%: the FTSE 100, however, dropped by 8%; although it has recovered more than half of that ground in April (Source: Bloomberg). Indeed, overseas investors started the year with their allocation to UK stocks at a three-decade low, while sterling struck a 31-year low against the dollar. In this correlated dip in UK asset prices, some managers see an opportunity.

“Financial markets had a strong start to 2018 but the UK remained out of favour,” said James de Upaugh of Majedie. “Against a somewhat subdued macro backdrop, we see some very attractive opportunities in UK stocks – large, defensive companies, trading on historically low valuations, many of which are undergoing operational change.”

Indeed, corporate earnings in the UK have been strong in recent quarters – including over the first three months of 2018 (<https://tradingeconomics.com/united-kingdom/corporate-profits>). This trend may also imply an underlying economy that is in relatively good shape, despite the dip in the rates of investment and growth seen since the referendum, and the slowing of the growth data in the first quarter of this year (<https://tradingeconomics.com/united-kingdom/gdp-growth-annual>). Neil Woodford of Woodford Investment Management believes that both UK assets and the broader UK economy have been serially undervalued since the referendum. As a result, he believes opportunities are plentiful, so long as investors can show patience.

“We believe the market consensus is far too cautious about the outlook for the UK economy – the fund has increased its exposure to some very high-quality UK businesses, which trade on eye-catchingly low valuations, and where future growth expectations are too modest,” says Woodford, who manages the UK High Income fund. “These include Barratt Developments and RBS. New holdings that we’ve bought this year for similar reasons include Lloyds and Bovis Homes.”

Should you wish to discuss any of the detail contained in this article, please contact - Pardeep Singh Narwal on 0116 242 6 777 or email narwalwealthmanagement@sjpp.co.uk

The opinions expressed are those of the managers referenced and do not constitute investment advice. This is not a recommendation to purchase, sell or subscribe to financial instruments, an offer to sell investment funds or an offer of financial services. This does not constitute a Financial Promotion as defined by the Financial Conduct Authority. No financial decisions should be made on the basis of the information provided.

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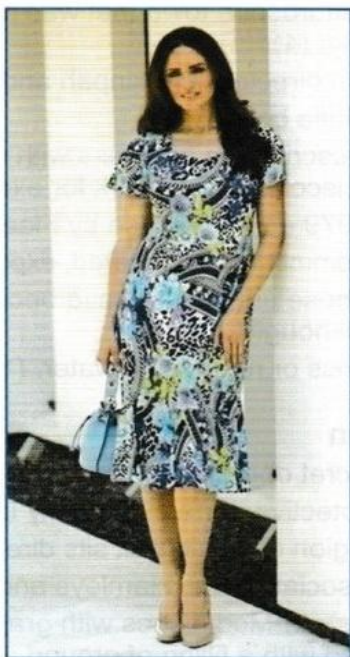


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In return for their generous financial support for our Club, Members are urged to consider these companies first when considering the purchase of goods and services.

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Margaret Abbott, Julie Warrington, Win Collins, Marjorie Lowes and
Pamela Pipes**

Happy Birthday



Lucky Winners for April are: Paul Wright (13) Josie Hubbard (38) & again Josie Hubbard (38) and Marilyn Wood (20)



Congratulations to the winners!!!

FREE!!!!

Yes free, an offer you can't refuse.

Dave Houseman is offering, one to one, private lessons on how to play the UKULELE. He says you need no musical ability; you don't need to be able to read music as all the notes and scores are by numbers.

He assures me that it's easy and most rewarding. He would like to start a Syston Bowling Club ukulele band.

This offer is only available to Syston Bowling Club members and friends.

Please contact George Dodge in the first instance to get into this one off offer.

Message from the Editor

Thanks to everyone for their contributions to this edition.

Please continue to provide me with regular updates of club activities.

Tel: 01162741755 email: suerenshaw22@gmail.com

Due to the Bank Holidays Please let me have your items for the June edition by midnight Saturday 2nd June 2018.

Thanks Sue

SYSTON BOWLING CLUB

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Telephone: 0116 2698 923 email: systonbowling@btinternet.com