

# the SYSTON GREEN

Official Newsletter of the Syston Bowling Club

No 138 – July 2018



## Presidents Message Jenny Dewick

The weather for our Open Day was lovely which, attracted a lot of new faces to our green. We were honoured to welcome Catherine Voyce and Tom Barkley of Syston Town Council to our Clubhouse, who both tried target bowling and thoroughly enjoyed it. I am happy to report that new members were signed up and will be playing for us very soon.

Thank you Ken, Tyler, Derek and Andy for organising the target bowling competition, and all the other willing helpers.

Thanks to all who distributed leaflets.

Let's hope we've found another "Tony Alcock"

Kind regards.

Regards Jenny

## PRESIDENT'S MEDAL



The Board are considering commissioning a new, top-quality, President's medal to replace the existing separate Men's and Ladies' versions and to reflect the new unified status of the Club and the high status of the office of President.

After a deal of market research, an acceptable design specification has been agreed and a competitive quote for production received.

***"Metal and hard enamelled pendant and top bar. Top bar rectangular shape size 30mm x 13mm plus bottom ring and staple on reverse. Enamelled one colour (green) and worded PRESIDENT. Pendant circular shape size 39mm diameter plus top ring, enamelled three colours (green, maroon and white), polished gilt highlights, matt recessed background and attached to 32mm wide Maroon ribbon. Packed in presentation case. Cost: £529.50"***

Strong efforts to find sponsorship have resulted in a single pledge of £250. As a next step, the Board have decided to offer Club Members the chance to contribute to the balance, enabling us to purchase something that will not only become part of the Club's heritage but which, at the same time, signals the membership's appreciation and acknowledgement of the hard work and commitment of those who volunteer their services to act as our President over the coming years.

Anyone interested in making a contribution of £10 (or more) is invited to contact Club Development Officer, Colin Grimes, as soon as possible.

## MEMBERSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

"The world is full of willing people. Those willing to work and those willing to let them!"

In keeping with this adage, the Board are concerned to receive repeated reports of a general lack of support from the wider membership for the extensive range of tasks that are necessary for the maintenance and development of the clubhouse and green.

Appeals for help in maintaining the green surrounds fall largely on deaf ears with the same small minority of Members being left to shoulder the burden. Similarly, the range of tasks involved in maintaining clubhouse facilities are ignored by the majority and left to the same small group of "activists".

In addition, it is clear that there are Members who regularly fail to help with such simple tasks as bringing in all green equipment following a game. Once a game is over, far too many Members simply walk off to the clubhouse without helping to return pushers, mats, jacks, rink markers etc to the rear store.

Every single Member should take pride in the quality of our fine Club. Every individual should be prepared to play a part in sharing the responsibility for the upkeep of all of our facilities on and off the green.

To paraphrase the famous words of JFK at his inauguration, "Ask not what your Club can do for you but, rather,

what can I do for the Club. While offering sincere thanks to those who do respond so regularly to calls for help and those who do take their responsibilities seriously, we appeal to all of those whose contribution and commitment falls short of the ideal to resolve to do much better in future.

### **CAR PARKING**

There is strong evidence to suggest that the benefits of our hard-won parking facilities close to the clubhouse are not being fully exploited. While some responsibility lies with visiting Clubs, players remaining ignorant of the change as a result of their Officers not passing on the message, we must bear some of the responsibility ourselves.

Visiting players will obviously become increasingly aware of the new arrangements as a result of their visits in the current Season – provided, at least, that Captains of the day regularly point out the improvement to them in their post-meal welcome speeches. For the current Season's fixture programme, Captains should take the opportunity to remind visiting Captains of the availability of parking when they consult about the number of rinks, start times etc. in the days prior to each game, urging them to pass on the information to selected players.

Captains should also ensure that the specified conditions covering parking are closely adhered to. Two parking marshals should be designated for every weekday game – including evening fixtures. Sadly, there is little evidence that this is happening at the present time.

It should be obvious to all that unless we can demonstrate that the facility is being used – and used in accordance with the conditions attached – we are in danger of having the privilege cancelled.

### **CLUB HONOURED WITH OFFER OF 2019 COUNTY MATCH**

The Club has been honoured to receive and accept an offer from Bowls Leicestershire to hold a County game against Herefordshire on Tuesday 30th July 2019.

County Match Secretary, Alan Bray, said that, in making the offer, he was responding to the many highly complimentary reports he had received about the high quality of the playing surface at Syston.

It is anticipated that some improvements to the green surrounds – such as the cutting back of hedges on the St Peters Street and Central Park ends of the green, to allow standing space behind the ditches - will have to be made in anticipation of a County match. We will also have to negotiate with the Town Council to be in a position to provide some extraordinary, once-off parking arrangements for the occasion.

Whatever the final outcome, we can congratulate ourselves – and especially those involved in raising the standard of our green over the past few years – on being honoured in this way by the County. We will do our best to make it a truly memorable occasion.

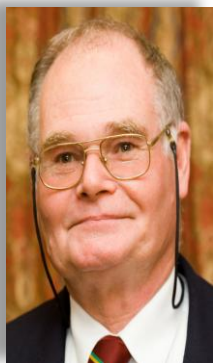
### **CARNIVAL CAKES APPEAL**

The Club will once again have a stand at the Syston Carnival on Saturday 1st September. By popular public demand, it is planned that we should, once more, offer cakes for sale, in addition to our usual range of bric à brac and crafts.

A general and early appeal to ALL Members – male and female – therefore, to “get cooking” and show off your talents to the rest of Syston. Deliveries may be made into the clubhouse at any time on the previous day. It would also be helpful if you could price your product in advance, so that the sale price at least equals the cost of the ingredients.

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### **From the Chairman**



Well what a turn out for our open day, at one time you could hardly see the turf for people all having a try at Bowling. A great success resulting in signed up 4 new playing members, with 6 or 7 wanting to come along for more coaching.

The atmosphere all afternoon was brilliant, every one joined in with the fun.

I thank all those dedicated members who turned out to help, you made all the difference.

A special thanks for those who made the cakes made the tea and cleaned up after wards. The cake was delicious, (well I had to try them didn't I.)

Those of you who for your own reasons didn't make it, you missed out on a really good fun afternoon. Once again thanks to all who turned out to help.

**George Dodge**

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*We are grateful for the active support of our entire 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*

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Syston, Leicester, LE7 1GQ

**Happy Birthday**

Dexter Ray, Marilyn Wood, Gary Jones, Gary Taylor, Colin Grimes, Pauline Wright, Pat Lilley, Margaret Gelding, Betty Creasey, Susan Howell, Jenny Aitken.

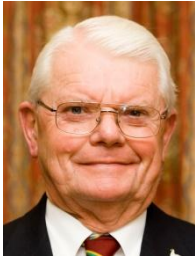
### BONUS BALL



Lucky Winners for June are: Mick Russell (10) – Linda Brown (57) –  
Sheila Aindow (8) – Sue Renshaw (53)



***Congratulations to the winners!!!***



#### **WELFARE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Janice and I** recently took a nice plant to **Marjorie Clowes**, who looked very well and smartly dressed. She seemed settled in Northfield House although her memory for names and happenings in the past is not good.

**John Lamble** will no longer be organising Tuesday afternoon roll ups he has become more restricted by pain from a long standing back problem. Chairman George has sent a letter of thanks to John in recognition of his efforts for the club over the years.

**Chris Biddles** has been conspicuous by her absence this season and a phone call to her revealed she had a thyroid problem, which is causing her constant tiredness. We now understand that Chris has been in hospital for a few days and is due to be discharged at the time of writing following a small operation.

**Val Foreman** has had a nasty fall and needed stitches on a gashed forehead. Best wishes to her as she recovers.

**Hazel Rayns**, I believe is the club's oldest playing member, is suffering with sciatica and is unable to bowl at present.

**Kate Williams**, who has been caring for her husband after his heart attack, is hopefully, back in circulation, as she has indicated she is now available for matches.

**Myles Clare** is on the mend, following his fall, and has been back on the green.

At the 9<sup>th</sup> June coffee morning, both **Mark Newman** and **Mick Russell** were in attendance, although neither are in the best of health. Mick had a roll up in May, but, unfortunately fell on the green and was helped back to his feet only with difficulty.

It was pleasing to see **Janet Lowe** at the coffee morning, looking quite well, and amazingly cheerful in spite of her ongoing and protracted treatment.

I have been handed a short letter from **Linda Brown** who reports that she has been discharged from hospital and is currently living with her mother. Linda is still receiving physio treatment and manages to hobble around with the aid of crutches but does not anticipate being able to bowl for some considerable time so has rejoined the club as a Social member.

A special request to members. In the event of accidents or falls similar to that mentioned above, members must be absolutely certain that the victim is in a fit state to be moved, otherwise there could be serious consequences. Far better to call ambulance or paramedic services to be on the safe side.

Another repeated request - Please let me have news on any member who may benefit from support by the club

Best wishes to all,

ROB

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r.wilbourn213@btinternet.com

DEAR LADIES.

THANK YOU FOR  
REMEMBERING MY  
BIRTHDAY. THE PLANT  
AND POT ARE LOVELY.

HOPE ALL THE BOWLING  
IS GOING WELL.  
HOPEFULLY I CAN COME  
AND WATCH A GAME OR  
2.

MY BEST WISHES  
AND REGARDS  
MARJORIE  
X X X X



This letter was sent to the club by Marjorie to thank everyone for the plant purchased to celebrate her birthday.

#### From the Green Rangers Diary

Once again in my enforced absence, I thank all those who have grasped the nettle and buckled down to attend to the green and the surrounds. You will I'm sure have noticed the new green baize has been installed, thanks to Kyle, Pete, and others. The new markers are in progress, thanks mainly to Kate, Dave and Martin plus others whose help was very valuable.

Myles Clare



#### Gardening Group News from Chris Dodge

Herbaceous and mixed borders can begin to look a little dull and jaded at this time of year. The main flush of colour is likely to be over and, if the weather has been dry, the plants will probably begin to lack vitality.

If there are no restraints on watering, spend half an hour or so giving the plants a good soak.

If you use a 'Miracle-Gro' feeder or the fine rose on your watering can you can give all the plants a feed at the same time. The best time to do this is in the evening when the sun has lost most of its heat, (in any case do not water the leaves of plants in direct hot sunshine) by watering at this time of the day it also gives the water a chance to get down to the roots before it has evaporated.

This will make the border look green and fresh again, and can be invaluable for later flowering plants and shrubs, giving them a boost.

Weed the beds and borders, before watering, give them a thorough once over with a hoe or weed by hand, if you use the hoe when the soil is dry, it cuts them off and they are less likely to re-root themselves, but try to wait a day or so to make sure the weeds wither and die first, or collect them up before watering.

If time or water shortages limit the amount of water that you can do in the garden, always give priority to the plants you are growing in containers. Hanging baskets will need abundant watering at this time - twice a day is not too often in very hot weather. More failures are due to water shortage than any other reason. Some plants like geraniums (pelargoniums) will tolerate a degree of neglect if they have to, others such as lobelia can be ruined if you let the container dry out for a single day.

Whilst talking about hanging baskets and containers, don't forget to dead head your flowers regularly or you will lose the continuity of a long flowering period.

One more thing, after all this work on your garden get your deckchair out and just sit and enjoy the fruits of your labours, perhaps with a nice cup of tea or maybe a Gin and tonic.

Please keep your eye on the notice board for the next Garden Group meeting.

## WEDNESDAY WYMESWOLD MIXED TRIPLES LEAGUE – DIVISION 2

Please see the details in the table below. As at 13<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Team	Played	Rinks Won	Rinks Lost	Rinks Drawn	Shots Win	Shots Drawn	Shots For	Shots Against	Shots Diff	Total Points
Kegworth	8	12	2	0	4	0	297	198	99	45
Syston	8	10	7	1	4	0	354	280	74	41
4Finches	7	8	6	1	2	0	258	240	18	31
Kestrels	8	7	5	0	3	0	216	200	16	41
Weavers	7	6	6	0	3	0	213	174	39	32
Wolves	6	4	3	1	3	0	161	146	15	22
Rams	7	3	8	1	0	0	152	239	-87	19
Foxes	6	3	6	0	0	0	121	180	-59	16
Webbers	7	1	8	0	0	0	126	196	-70	9

We have since played East Leake Weavers. The result was one rink won, one drawn. They beat us by 2 shots over all. Points Syston 3 points Weavers 5.

Well done everyone keep it up!!!

**Ken Renshaw**

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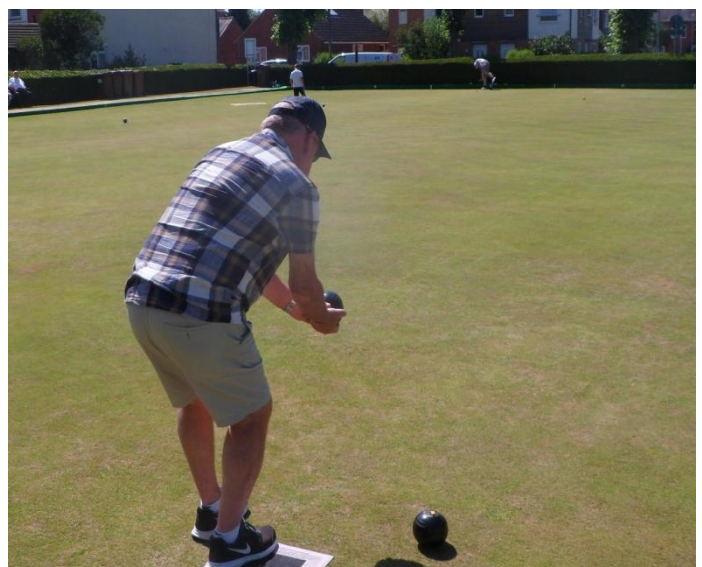
### A little ditty

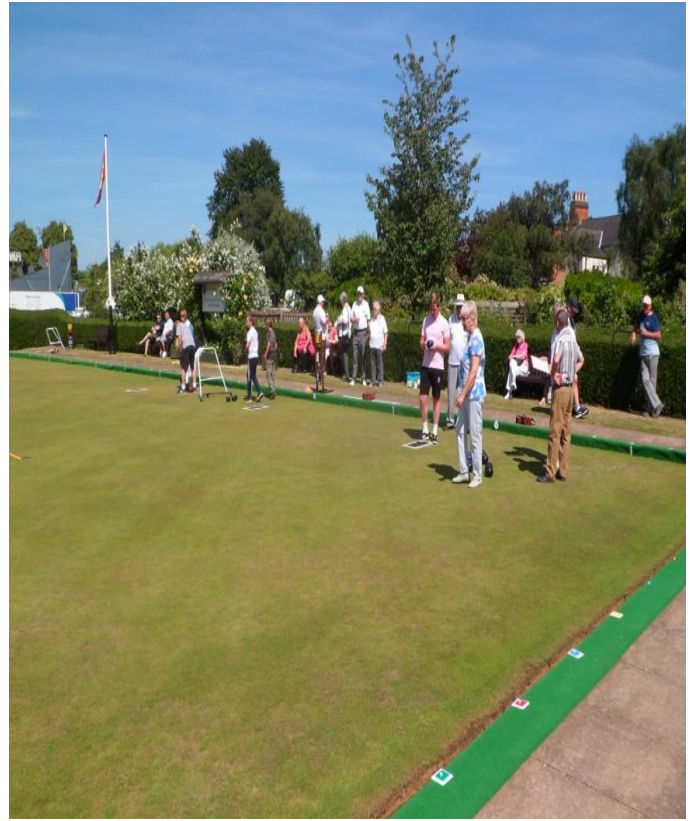
*There are several reasons for drinking.  
And one just entered my head.  
If a man cannot drink while he is living.  
How the hell can he drink when he's dead?*

*By Pat Lilley*

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A few photographs from the Open Day courtesy of Mike & Julie Favor





The following Photos are of Mick Hall, a member of our Club since 1972, who still has the desire to Bowl!!!





## True Story

I suppose the world should know of the happenings in Perth some years ago. I am assured by one of the people involved that this is not an urban myth! (I refrain from mentioning names to avoid giving offence.)

The story goes that Player A (the third) collapses on the green just as Player B (the skip) is about to let go of his bowl. The others call out to B to stop. B has a look and responds with "It's OK, I can draw around him!" The claim is that A heard this and this is the thing which gave him the will to survive his heart attack

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## A Selectors Prayer

Blessed are they who can play sport  
Blessed are they who can still be taught  
Blessed are they who accept with grace  
To play in any selected place

---

## Nobody's Darling

Up and down, walking, walking,  
Often measuring, sometimes chalking;  
Shifting mats - keeping score,  
thirty ends, maybe more;  
Aching back - tired of limb,  
Cheers for others, none for him,  
Night draws on, darker, darker,  
No one cares for he's the marker

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**PLEASE NOTE THE NEXT COFFEE MORNING IS SATURDAY  
11<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2018**

### 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](mailto:suerenshaw22@gmail.com)

**Please let me have items by Monday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2018**

Thanks Sue

### SYSTON BOWLING CLUB

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Telephone: 0116 2698 923 email: [systonbowling@btinternet.com](mailto:systonbowling@btinternet.com)