

Ambassador Newsletter



COCA-COLA KING KEGLERS LEAGUE

Ron Deacon, the popular left handed bowler from Bradford, in Yorkshire who every Saturday travels together with team-mate Steve Russell to London, leads the Coca-Cola sponsored King Kegler League after two weeks play.

Having now bowled 16 games, Ron has won 13 and lost 3, and is carrying a 199 plus average. After last week's games, Steve Russell moved well up the table into fifth place. In his first four games, Steve was playing his namesake Phil Russell, from Wembley, and this turned out to be a great tussle. Steve rolled a first game of 204 to Phil's 191, but in the second game, Phil with eight strikes scored 238 and Steve with seven strikes, 215. One game all with two to play... Phil continued his high scoring to record a 248 game which gave him a three game total of 677, and entitles him to membership of the Ambassador Record Holders' Club, whilst Steve turned in another 204 game. In their final games, Steve squared the series winning 202 - 176. For Steve Russell, four great games all over 200, an 825 series, but winning only two of the available four points, this is the class of bowling you will only find in this great league.

World Champion David Pond, (Harlow) moved into third place after a top four game series of 855, which included games of 209, 225, 223 and 198. Tony Mercer, son of the famous bass singer in the Black and White Minstrel Show, won for the second week running, the high single game with a 269. In the First Division, of the 16 bowlers, the top six are all holding a 190 plus average, but the surprise of the league so far is Chris Buck from Southall who just cannot get going. Chris only last week, became the first bowler in Britain to have scored a 700, three game total in five different centres.

In the Second Division, it is very tight at the top, with only three points separating the top five bowlers. Bobby Mansfield from Walthamstow just maintains the lead from Bedford lad John Dawson by 6 pins, with the two Wembley Bowl Mechanics Bernie Caterer and Chris Petty in third and fourth places respectively, after their thrilling games, one of which ended in a tie at 214.

Mick Burridge, 300 bowler from Southend won five of his eight games this week to help him move up to table to share middle spot with club mate Jess Morley, the Great Britain doubles gold medalist.

In the Ladies Division, Ann Garratt from Greenford keeps the top spot, but is being strongly challenged by favourite for the title, Dolly Miles from Hillingdon. The Ladies' High Game for this week was shared by Joyce Morris and Mary Betts both from Basildon with 231, and Joyce won the 4 game series high with 775.

The Coca-Cola sponsored King Kegler League rolls off at Ambassador Lanes, Edgware, every Saturday at 4.00 p.m.

BOWLER OF THE YEAR EVENT 1967

BASILDON The Singles Event which was held at this Centre on Sunday July 13th, proved to be a popular attraction. Having arranged for four squads plus a re-entry squad, we were startled to find it necessary to add one session before the re-entry time to accomodate the participants. Bowlers game from all parts of the country including Manchester, Hemel Hempstead, Edgware, Stevenage and Ipswich. However, the honours of the day in the Men's and Juniors sections all fell to the home bowlers.

HARLOW The Singles event took place at Harlow on the 30th July, and although the first two squads had a poor attendance it was overcome by the fact that there were thirty-four re-entries.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD With the Singles Event completed, so ends this year's Bowler of the Year Tournament. Most bowlers will agree that this year's format was an improvement on previous years. Although local bowlers with the exception of the Ladies and Juniors events did not succeed in gaining entry to the Finals, I am sure that they will wish the competitors who qualified at Hemel the very best of luck. Local bowlers are represented by Josie Worboys - Ladies Singles and three juniors, Steve Turnbull who qualifies at Hemel, Dave Salih at Edgware and Kim Dixon at Stevenage. To all of them a special pat on the back and may we have the pleasure of welcoming you back home from the finals with a title and trophy in your bowling bag.

HOUNSLOW On the 30th July, it was Hounslow's turn to stage the Bowler of the Year Doubles. There was an extremely good entry of 45 pairs including entries from as far away as Northants and Ipswich. The winners of the handicap division, who had travelled all the way from Corby in an effort to get away from their own local rivals, were Alec and Audrey Tew, with a fine score of 1,675. I am sure Alec Tew will not mind me saying that his wife was the star of the team rolling a scratch series of 777 (173-204-211-189). All the other places were taken by locals, John Fisher and Nigel Hawker coming in second with 1,665 and Tim Timberlake and Dave Smith third with 1,634. The scratch winners were Geoff Liddiard and Chris Buck with a series of 1,620.

PORTSMOUTH Our Bowler of the Year Singles rolled off with 66 entries. After an exciting and tense battle, a local bowler, Pete Symmons managed to win. However, he had to pull out all stops to average 200 per game.

STEVENAGE The Singles, the final event in the Bowler of the Year Tournament provided a day of excitement for bowlers on Sunday the 6th August. Starting at 9.30 a.m. the tournament rolled continuously until 6.30 p.m.

First on the lanes were the juniors, and their enthusiasm was infectious. There was Steven Roberts, sending down a ball that was the envy of many adult spectators. And young Kim Dixon, standing only "knee high to a grasshopper" looking as though he was going to go hurtling down the lane complete with ball. But it was Steven who carried the day by winning both scratch and handicap events in the Junior Division, with scores that were better than those bowled by most senior bowlers. So Steven Roberts now goes through to the finals, together with the scratch winner in the other Divisions. The Ladies Division had only eleven competitors, but what a magnificent show they put on! Full of confidence, handling the ball with graceful ease, they fought it out to the accompanying cheers of the onlookers.

At the quarter stage of the re-entry round, it looked as though Nell Bowen of Harlow would repeat her scratch victory of last year. But it was not to be, for Nesta Freshwater, from Corby, turned on the pressure to win with a 714 series. In the handicap section, success went to Edna Hardwick of Northampton, who rolled 833. Consolation for Nesta was the second handicap prize won with her score of 806.

The Men's Division was a ding-dong battle from start to finish. The atmosphere was electric, and the cheering, jeering and war-cries were fantastic. Not even a sonic boom could have been heard in the bowl above the din. One of the high spots of the day was Roy Gentle's first game, when he slammed in strike after strike to finish with a terrific 245 score, a wonderful game that remained unbeaten for the rest of the day. There were surprises galore, such as Joe Brown, a 137 average bowler, who turned in a second game of 213. And Bob Endersby, with a 180 average, who crashed to earth with a mere 110 game. This was a tournament that will long be remembered in Stevenage - the excitement, the atmosphere, this was the very heart of bowling! The eventual winner in the Men's Division was Bob Kemp from Bedford, who took both Scratch and Handicap titles with 789 and 877 respectively.

Steven Roberts, our star junior bowlers, has done it again! Bowling in the singles event at Edgware, he won both Scratch and Handicap Junior Divisions. As if this was not enough, he has followed this up by winning both events at Harlow! There is no doubt that Steven can go far in the sport if only he will pay attention to his coaches. At times, due to lack of junior competition, he tends to be too casual in his bowling. If he can concentrate on slowing up his approach, and lowering his back-swing, he will be a formidable opponent when he enters the senior listings.

Two more Stevenage bowlers in the news. Firstly, one of the lady bowlers, namely Rhoda Curtis, who took third place in the Ladies Handicap Division at Basildon. Rhoda, mother of three children, rolled a 797 series with handicap to figure in the prize list. Secondly, Bob Endersby, who took second place in the Men's Handicap Division at Harlow. Bob rolled 185, 222, 213 and 171, to give him a 791 scratch series, 855 including handicap.

Congratulations to you both and thanks for keeping Stevenage's name to the fore.



ROGER CREAMER AT EDGWARE TRYING HARD TO LOCK UP AT
NIGHT
HOW DID JOHNNY JONES MANAGE?

NEWS AROUND HEAD OFFICE

Friday the 18th August gave us two good reasons for spending our lunch hour or two in the 'Captain's Cabin'. Firstly, we went along to have a farewell drink with Mr. Miller and wished him every success in his new venture. We are all sorry to see him go.

Secondly, we celebrated Ann Nurser's (Accounts clerk) twentyfirst birthday. "Happy Birthday Ann".

Arriving back at the office, we found that Mr. Miller had provided us with a 'plated' lunch, followed by gateaux. Then at coffee time, which happened to be about a quarter of an hour afterwards, Ann produced fresh cream cakes, so by the end of the afternoon, we were all feeling mighty sick at the sight of gooey cakes, not to mention a few pounds heavier!

Around six o'clock, the Executives of Ambassador Bowling were joined by Mr. Kay of Muzak, Mr. Sargant of Madame Tussauds, Miss Lawrence and Mrs Carey in Mr. Woolley's office to drink to Mr. Miller and wish him 'good luck' in his new post with Madame Tussauds. Mr. Michael presented Mr. Miller with a watch, saying how sorry he was to see him go and thanking him for his services to the Company. Afterwards, much to the surprise of those concerned, Mr. Michael presented watches to all those who had put in five years service with the Company namely, Mr. Woolley, Mr. Wormald, Mr. Jones and Mrs. Carey. A very pleasant evening was had by all.

We would like to take this opportunity at Head Office in joining with all the staff in the Centres and wishing Mr. Miller every success and luck in his new position.

Congratulations to Terry, our Switchboard operator, on her engagement earlier this month. Unfortunately Terry won't tell us what her fiance's name is, and has in fact dared us to publish the fact that she is engaged! Anyway, to Terry and her nameless Fiance, many congratulations once again, and best wishes for the future.

Greetings to David Hutton who joined the Promotions Department on the 29th August. David is just 20 and is engaged to Hazel Longman. Before coming to Ambassador he worked for Classic Cameras Limited, and he will be taking over a great deal of the paperwork at present done by Johnny Jones and Mr. Wibden, thus enabling them to travel to the Centres more frequently. We hope your stay with us will be a long and happy one, David.

This month we say goodbye to one of our well loved Internal Auditors, Jeremy Slocombe, who is leaving ATV Network Limited to take up selling accounting machines. Believe it or not Jeremy, we will be sorry to see you go, and wish you every success in your new career.

This seems to be the month for goodbyes, for next on the list is Sheila Gordon, who, after having been with the Company since arriving from Scotland last June, is returning home. All at Head Office wish her the best of luck.

Taking over from Sheila will be Michele Proctor, who before joining us was a nurse at Roehampton Hospital. Michele should be of great help to Joan Carey, who is in charge of doling out the aspirins and patching up people's scrapes and bruises.

After more than three years with the Promotions Department, Miss Terry Doherty is leaving Ambassador Bowling to take up a position outside Tenpin Bowling. We are sure that all Centre Staff will miss Terry as much as the people at Head Office. It has always been a feature of the Promotions Department that when a Centre required assistance of any kind, they could be sure that it would be forthcoming through the good offices of Terry, and we all wish her very much success in her new career.

Taking over from Terry will be Pamela Banks, who in fact has been with the Company for the last fortnight, working as a temporary for Mr. Wormald. Pamela joins the Promotions Department on Monday the 18th September to "learn the ropes" before Terry leaves. Pamela herself is getting married on the 30th September to Peter Roberts, and so after her fortnight's honeymoon, it will be as Mrs. Roberts that she joins the Department.

BASILDON

All our efforts were in vain to allow room for the printers to staple the back cover on the July issue of the Newsletter. Needless to say that although we didn't get down to putting pen to paper, the thought was there, and that is what counts. It's a cheering thought that although we might hover near the bottom of the Management Competition, we always appear on top of the Management Commitments list and are invariably the first Centre in the Newsletter. Seriously though, we do apologise to all our avid readers for not supplying them with the words for which they crave, however the truth was that we were far too busy brooding on the profundities of another contributor.

Work is going ahead on the organisation of the Centre rounds for the J.Y.B.C. National Championships. Having almost completed the display materials and squad time board, Jim York their Chief Coach is threatening us with the job of addressing a hundred or so envelopes to parents of J.Y.B.C. Members. One thing has been taken care of though, and that is raising the necessary funds to send the winners to Wolverhampton. Thanks to the generosity of the Eleventh Frame Club who have agreed to sponsor the winners and their two chaperones.

The Basildon Ambassadors who were chosen as this Centre's London League representatives two years ago, have just completed their first season as an independant League and Challenge Match Team. During the past twelve months, this five man team has played seven challenge matches, winning them all with an average of 907, reached the National Finals of the T.B.P.A. Tournament, set new house records for Singles, Doubles and Five Man Team, and have just won the Pavilion League at Southend on Sea - the strongest League in this area of the Country - without losing a single match. The League, which ended only this month was decided on the last night between the Ambassadors and the well-known challenge team Tiny's Radio Taxis. In their previous encounter a 2886 series from the Ambassadors had gained them a 4 nil victory and now they required just two points to make certain of the League title. A closely fought, tense first game saw the Ambassadors lose by a mere 3 pins, 883 to 880, but the second

game of 997 game them a 136 lead and saw them safely to the two points, for despite losing the third game, the total pinfall point was still theirs by over 60 pins. Apart from their success as a five man team, the team members have won every league which they have entered this season.

They have been equally successful in Tournaments at this Centre, Dave Buckley having, just this month, won the Bowler of the Year Singles title with an 864 scratch four game series. Dave has also rolled games of 290, 279 and 277 this season, each of which contained 11 strikes. Colin Tucker and Don Wood won the Scratch section of the Bowler of the Year Doubles tournament and Barry Prince has won the Area Championships Singles Title and the T.B.P.A. Scratch Singles Tournament.

All seven members of the team have completed at least one League this season, with a 180 plus average, their highest being Colin Tucker and Don Wood with a 189 and the team has an average of over 900 in all matches played.

Lathol Coasters are the Champions of the Industrial Summer League. They ended up five points clear of second placed Acadex Drakes, having won 31 of their 39 games. The highest game of the season was a great 261 rolled by B. Langton and the highest series came from W. O'Connell with a 605. Steve Edge had the best average of the season ending up with a 176.

Once more we are inundated with French Students. The local lasses are having a whale of a time much to our embarrassment which reminds 'ED' of a little thing called COMPENSATION:

Weep not for little Leonie
Abducted by a French Marquis!
Though loss of honour was a wrench
Just think how it improved her French!

EDGWARE

Arrangements have now been completed for the "Lunn-Poly" Classified Tournament which will be held at this centre between 29th October and 10th December. The prize for the overall winner will be a double holiday in Sallant, Spain. It is a newly discovered resort situated high up in the Pyrenees, just five miles from the French border. Sallant has extensive Ski fields and all the facilities for a wonderful winter sports holiday. Entry forms and rule sheets for this Tourney will be circulated to all centres in the coming weeks.

The latest facility for our League Bowlers this coming season is an Advanced Bowling Clinic, which will enable them to experiment with their game without running the risk of dropping their league average. With a large proportion of our league bowlers holding an average less than 150, we at Edgware are eagerly looking forward to the results of this experiment. It is hoped that the clinics will be held on Sundays at 6.00 p.m. - details later.

The A.T.V. Summer League is now drawing to a close and recently it has produced some of its finest achievements since the league was formed. Two individual performances worth noting are the 255 game and 608 series rolled by Fred Willis and the 236 game and 631 series rolled by Charlie Went. It looks as though Phil Comber is going to take the high average as he is holding a 175 over 42 games and is eight pins clear of his nearest rival, Ken Bignall. To date, the team high game and series is held by the Golden Shots, who rolled a fine 608 game and 1664 series. The Summer League promises to produce a very close finish as there are only eight points separating the top eight teams. A.T.V. have 80 registered players in their league, which is surely one of the largest leagues to come from one Company in the country.

September 11th sees the A.T.V. League's A.G.M. which will be held at Elstree Studios, a film show and buffet will commence after the meeting has closed. Looking to the future, the A.T.V. Tenpin Bowling Club Committee have already arranged their Xmas Dance which will be held at the Maple Leaf Ballroom, Boreham Wood, on the 16th December. L.S. Michael, Esq., O.B.E., Managing Director of Ambassador Bowling Limited, is the Club's President, and is always a regular and most welcome guest at their Club Dances and Presentation Nights. Footnote. Great speculation has arisen as to who is going to win the League Jackpot which now stands at £40.

The dreams of the top bowlers in the U.K. have been realised due to the formation of the Coca-Cola King Keglers League. We at Edgware are proud to be hosts to this league and feel sure that we can offer them the finest bowling conditions in the country, now that we have new pins and that the lanes have been re-surfaced by George Neeve. We eagerly await the commencement of this league on September the 2nd, knowing full well that the Men's and Women's highest average bowlers in Britain will be participating.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Life for Bowling Centre Management may be called many things, but monotonous is rarely a word used when describing his job. A Saturday night shift, is perhaps the most difficult of all, one never knows what type of situation one is going to be confronted with during the course of the evening. For example, on a recent Saturday the Manager was having a quiet cup of tea at 7.00 p.m. to fortify himself before the rush commenced, when he received a message that the Pay Desk Operator was dubious about allowing entry to a large group of people, and it was soon obvious that the "Flower People" had arrived in Hemel Hempstead. You name the position and sure enough there was a flower there!! A decision was required!!! What to do!!!! A quick reference to the managers' manual was out of the question, for that would take half-an-hour and he was sure it would not come up with the answer. They appeared reasonable and well behaved and so he left them in.

Half an hour later, congratulating himself on the decision, for everyone in the group was bowling correctly, and not out for a skylark, he glanced at the approaches they were bowling on, and was immediately concerned at what he saw. Can you really go up to a 6ft. hunk of man and say to him "Excuse me Sir, but the roses you are wearing in your hair are shedding their petals and could be hazardous to other bowlers"? No, it could be taken the wrong way, best to leave it and clear up when their games are finished, it will make a change to sweep up flower petals, rather than scrape chewing gum off or mop up 'cokes'.

Their games complete, shoes changed, everything gone smoothly. Hello - they are not leaving - but heading towards the Bar - must see Charles, our Bar Steward's face when they arrive. Peering through a window, the Manager sees an expression that can only be described as a cross between a prize Sunflower and a withered dandelion appear on his face.

"Hello", he greets, "have you all come from the Chelsea Flower Show?". He meant it too! For Charles, through no fault of his own, has been on duty seven days a week for the past few weeks and is not quite up to modern trends.

Having finished their drinks, the group depart, Manager says "Goodnight" to them all, and glances at his watch - 9.00 p.m. and the night has not really started. He decides to pop into the Bar and explain things to Charles, what the

flower people mean - like love everything etc. - first mistake of the evening - for Charles now appears behind the Bar with a glorious Dahlia fixed above his left lobe. Ah well!!

As he walks back to Control, he wonders about the problems that would be created if 'oldies' such as 'The biggest Aspidistra in the World' came top of the hit parade, or whether the Snack Bar would do a bomb if "Boiled Beef and Carrots" were revived.

What's next? Someone's cherries haven't paid out again! Life monotonous - hardly!!

Many bowlers have been enquiring from Management as to the whereabouts of that popular couple Maggie Isaacs and John Clements. Maggie and John who announced their engagement last December have been missing from the bowling scene for the last three months. The reason for this is that they have been very busy setting up their new home in Chalton, Bedfordshire, ready to receive them after their marriage on September 9th.

We are sure that their many friends in the Centre will join us in wishing them every happiness for the future, and look forward to seeing them both as Mr. & Mrs. Clements.

HARLOW

A party of children were taken to see the sights of London by three members of the J.Y.B.C. Each child took a packed lunch and they all went by coach to places of interest. At the end of the evening they spent about an hour bowling at the Harlow Centre.

(The promotions office received a card, for which they would like to thank the J.Y.B.C. very much indeed.)

For the past month, Harlow has enjoyed the company of Tom Lithgow, but we now have to say farewell, for he has moved to Portsmouth to take over as Manager there. We give him our best wishes for the future.

HOUNSLOW

Tracz Trophy League News Well! Portsmouth hammered us. O.K. So what - there's always next year. The match at home was lost by 961 pins, the match at Portsmouth was lost by 892 pins, but are we downhearted??? NO!

Olive Young took the Ladies high series with 500, and Tricia Stock took the high game with 181 which helped to alleviate our defeat a little. The coach was late in starting, but was well packed - 42 people in a 41 seater! All together there were 48 of us, bowlers and supporters, in Portsmouth. Some of our best bowlers were down on their luck for the day. The weather was dull, but a suitable respite on the way back livened the proceedings somewhat, and with liquid refreshment having loosened the voices, the road was serenaded from then on. Our thanks must go to Phil Mills for driving us, and putting up with the row, and also the Portsmouth Bowl and bowlers for a marvellous spread - did someone say "Any scotch eggs left"?

Could it be that the location of T.I.M. the speaking clock has been changed? On two occasions recently, Alan Peden phoned Edgware, dialing the correct number, but each time was connected to the speaking clock. Is this a sign of the times?

Some bowlers are funny people! We had a customer who was quite willing and even eager to bowl, except that he refused to wear bowling shoes. Despite lengthy explanations by control and management staff, he was still not convinced that the wearing of the special shoes were necessary. He finally succumbed to the explanation that it was for his own safety, but we are sure he was convinced that we were trying to extract a whole sixpence from him by false pretences. However, reason prevailed in the end and he bowled his single game, after which he sat and meditated for half an hour staring at an empty lane. We could not imagine what he was thinking about!

Marion, the Day Control Operator, doesn't know our Pom Lillicrapp of the Big A and Churchill Leagues very well, so that when he phoned through to the Centre a week or so ago, he was announced on the office line as a "Mr. Plutocrat" to speak to the Centre Manager! Another classic to add to Pom's list of mistaken names.

IPSWICH

Bowling Personalities for September, 1967

Nothing could be more appropriate this month than choosing Jim Raudy and Sally Jennings as our Ipswich personalities. Or to put it in the right perspective, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Raudy. Yes, it was wedding bells at Ipswich last month for Ipswich's "star" bowler and his lovely bride.

Airman 1st class James Raudy of Portland, Oregon, has without doubt been regarded by all as one of the nicest American visitors ever to pass through the doors of the Ipswich Centre. For the past two years he has consistently topped the averages in the Centre, holding above a 190 average in most leagues in which he bowls.

Jim met Sally when she worked as the Centre's Secretary, and under his guidance, her average has improved considerably. Sally is now a member of the Tolly-Cobbold Bacchantes - generally regarded the leading women's team in East Anglia. And, of course, the couple kept the Ipswich flag flying recently when they finished second in the national finals of the T.B.P.A. doubles. It has also been a particularly good year for Jim. He was a member of the U.K. team which won the U.S.A.F.E. Championships, and is a leading player in the powerful USAF Bentwaters side.

Everyone agrees they make a lovely couple and while we would like to see them around for a very long time, Jim and Sal return to the U.S.A. in October. Ipswich's loss will be a U.S. Centre's gain. Jim Raudy's sporting approach to tenpin is exceptional and even though he consistently rolls 600 series there is never any conceit towards those with a lower average. Best of luck for the future, Jim and Sal - from everyone in the Centre.

Premier League Bowler Derek Baynes hobbled into the Centre recently with a leg injury, but having discovered his team were short of a bowler, he sportingly offered to try and help out. Before starting, he warned "I might have to drop out halfway through." Looking like Long John Silver, himself, Derek struggled up to the foul like hopefully swinging his arm. The result -

a 243 game - just a pin short of the league's best this season. Derek might be wise to consider putting himself in splints for each match!

Churchman's League News

By League Secretary, Haig Joyce.

Monday the 21st August served to bring the summer league to a successful conclusion in fact probably one of the most successful seasons in the history of the League. We had a higher number of bowlers than ever before and the standard of bowling generally was consistently better with record scores being achieved. In spite of this however, it was a team of very average bowlers who must take pride of place, namely the "Gamblers". They had a fantastic season crowned with success, losing only one game, and almost achieved the near impossible, that of winning the League without a single defeat.

The Gamblers almost weekly astounded the pundits by nominating that they would overcome even the best opposition and did so in no small way. They disposed of such teams as Colchester Casino, the Archers, the Astra Five and the Moonstrikers with consummate ease. In fact, their wins against these teams were generally by the largest margins of all. Naturally, an element of luck played its part at times, but what team can hope to win a league without some luck being present at the right time?

As a matter of interest therefore, I decided to compile a table of results and try to analyse the results shown, but frankly, apart from the team showing a great determination to succeed, there was little to be disclosed from a cold table of figures. One point did emerge however. It appeared that when the 'Gamblers' played any opposition worthy of note, they played well above their normal capabilities, whilst their opposition faded temporarily for the night in question.

Apart from these points, most of the team succeeded in improving their averages from the previous season, and when a team as a whole, betters itself in this manner, there must obviously be a great chance for them to do well in the subsequent league. Whatever the result, the Gamblers are to be congratulated

on their effort, which serves to show all bowlers that it is not always the strong team which must win in a handicap league. After all, handicaps are provided with this specifically in view, and it all helps to generate interest for every team in the League, when they know they have a chance to win.

Gamblers, we salute you.

Pen Portraits from the Churchman's League - this month JIM RYALS

American Jim Ryals was born in Alabama at the small township of Bruton and is twenty years old. He started bowling in 1963 at Bruton Bowl which has 12 lanes and according to Jim, a similar atmosphere to our own in Ipswich. He bowled in two five man leagues, and in his first season, he achieved a 165 average. He feels however, that the general standard of the League Bowling over there is higher than over here. The male leagues are much more competitive and there are more 180 plus averages. This of course is to be expected, as the Americans have been at it longer than we have.

Jim's hobbies, apart from bowling, include baseball and basketball which he plays at home. In April 1966, after completing his schooling at W.S. Neal High School, and at the age of 18, he joined the services of the U.S.A.F. as a records mechanic. Just prior to this, however, he had a short spell with the Container Corporation of America, in the power department. Jim joined the Services for a four year term, and was posted to the base at Woodbridge. He still has three years to serve.

Jim's best average on leaving the States was 176, but he has found that his bowling has rapidly improved since his arrival here. He now holds averages well into the 180's and his best performances include a 266 game, and a 646 series. He likes this country and is enjoying his spell here. A likeable personality, Jim is sure to succeed in making many more friends in the Centre, before it is time for him to leave us.

Ipswich's team of nomads, the Thunderbirds, have just completed a week on the South Coast combining sunbathing with bowling, meeting old friends and making new ones. After an overnight stop at Winchester, the port of call was Portsmouth for the first match. Colin Prime bowled well for a 592 but the remainder of the team didn't hit form and went down to the Silent Four by more pins than they wish to remember. Well done Buster Brown, Rod Bumstead and Jim Coward who hit 570, 560 and 573 respectively. Having suffered a defeat for the first match, the Thunderbirds spent the rest of an enjoyable evening in the bar consoling themselves!

The next stop along the coast was King Alfred Lanes, Hove, where the opposition was the Free Radio team. This time, the Ipswich bowlers won a very enjoyable match by just two pins with Colin Prime again top scorer with a 558 backed well by Brian Skelt in the 500's.

Tuesday was spent travelling to Margate in torrential rain and Wednesday was spent bowling against the Cliftonville Northdown Stationers team and striving to read the lanes! No luck - all four bowlers struggled but none could even reach a 500. Deciding that discretion was the better part of valour, the lads departed back to Margate and cheered themselves up by sending doubtful postcards to all the staff at Ipswich! A trip on the Hovercraft and a view of the lifeboat being launched into a very choppy sea further assisted to remove the memory of Cliftonville from their system and with renewed vigour, a call was made upon old friends at Chatham. It was here that the team's highest series of the tour was bowled, and all four were very pleased with their performances.

The team returned home in time for a match against Bexleyheath and proving that the sea air was good for them won by 39 pins with a fine 601 series from Colin Prime. Having now returned for a rest, the Thunderbirds are busily arranging returns at Ipswich where they hope to gain revenge over Portsmouth and Cliftonville.

Well done Thunderbirds. You are true Ambassadors of Tenpin.

The experimental summer season of the East Anglian Scratch Trios League is over and with a reformation meeting called for the 17th September, it is certain that the league will continue for a Winter season, with it is hope, a number of

new teams. Approaches are being made to Walton, Norwich, Yarmouth and Cambridge and in addition it should be possible to bring in good scratch teams from Woodbridge, Lakenheath, Mildenhall, Bentwaters and possibly Wethersfield. With the top American bowlers from these bases and the best of the British contingent from East Anglia, this should be the league to watch from October.

The Summer League was won by Green Power who had a team average of 545 with the Yankee Terrors in runners up position with 529. Only an unlucky start by the Terrors prevented the top two positions being much closer and the battle between these two in the new season should be of much interest. The league high average was a 187 by Don Smith with Ray Smith, Robin Garton, Jim Ryals, Wes Maynard, Bruce Rudek and Dick Smith all close behind in the 180's. The team high series was 1768 by the Terrors who also recorded the highest trios game in the country as far as this season goes, with a mighty 703.

Applicants for this league are asked to book their places to avoid disappointment and to note that the league will roll at 5.00 p.m. every Sunday at this Centre throughout the Winter.

The First Floor Five from Ipswich engaged the Committee from Bexleyheath in a 5 man team challenge match on Sunday the 20th August, with the team from Kent winning by 140 pins. High scorers for Ipswich were Doug Vaughan 510, Ray Smith 504 and Jim Duncan 507 and for Bexleyheath Ray Webb 556, Buzz Morrison 549 and Bill Bridge 521. There was no doubt that our home side had bowled below their normal standard and a second match was arranged almost immediately. The Committee took the first game 882 - 859 but slumped in the second and the First Floor Five went into the last game 64 pins up and anticipating revenge. It was not to be. Jim Duncan and Tony Vaughan were having one of those days we all experience from time to time where little goes right and Haig Joyce was far from happy with a ball that didn't fit properly, his own being away for plugging. In spite of things, the locals held the Kent team until the seventh frame but with all the visitors striking and doubling, lost out eventually by 131 pins.

The Bexleyheath players proved a popular side that we would like to see back again and we hope they had a very enjoyable day. High scorers in the second match for Ipswich were Les Greenacre 537, Ray Smith 531 and Tony Vaughan 511 and for Bexleyheath Buzz Morrison, 562, Tony Kitchen 550 and Pat Duggan 524.

Some visitors to the Centre stared in amazement recently as an odd collection of people strolled onto the forecourt grass, sporting some weird lines in fashions. It looked as though some game or other, was about to be played and people soon gathered around to watch. Being a fine sunny evening, the onlookers might have been lead to believe that a game of green bowls was about to commence - but that theory was soon scotched as the "implements" were brought onto the scene.

They consisted of a broomstick, a bucket of dirty water, a wet discloth a chamber pot - and cans and cans of beer. The answer was DWILE FLONKING.

This supposedly ancient Suffolk game was given its first airing at the Centre when a bowling team took up a challenge from some expert dwile flonkers. For those who have never tried, the rules are quite simple. One team joins hands in a circle and with a shout of "Here yer go tergether now" they set off prancing around the circle. In the centre stands an opponent armed with the dishrag on the pole. The object is to twizzel the stick and try to hit the passing target. To miss is fatal - it means drinking a pint of free beer. Doesn't sound much of a punishment? You try drinking it at top speed from a chamber pot.

Centre Secretary Lesley Broadberry takes the credit for the organisation - wearing a T-shirt inscribed "It does me good" has taken some living down. Others were dressed in clothes made from sacking while mechanic Paul Webster displayed his home spun philosophy with a shirt inscribed "I like it" Mackeson's kindly supplied the beer and our team eventually won. Someone has suggested a dwile flonking league. On this occasion more than 40 pirts of beer were consumed and on the assumption that this is normal, no one would be likely to see a flonking season out - but what a lovely way to go!

Fifteen years old Michael Porter established a J.Y.B.C. Centre Record recently with a game of 222. Meanwhile David Hurren - a founder member of the Centre's schools programme - has got into the junior "King Keglers" list with a 158 average. Not bad after less than a year of competitive bowling. Congratulations to you both.

Although there were only twelve entries for the East Anglian round of the International Match Play Championships, Ipswich provided six qualifiers in the Men's Division and our only female entry, newly wed Sal Raudy, also won through to the Wembley Finals.

Surprise appeared the keynote of the day when the two major contenders failed to produce their normal form and missed out for this year. Top U.S.A. Keglers Bill Heisel and Jim Raudy could only average around 175 and in this competition it just was not good enough. Jeff Smith from Leytonstone, Ed Luther of Cambridge, George Jones, Ipswich and Kim Grenyer Hoddesdon all bowled very steadily and will be tough to beat under double elimination conditions in the finals. Kim's Mini Men team mates Debnam and Sagers are also through and for Ed Sagers it was a day to remember. Opening with six strikes in a row he finished his first game with 252 and then went on to record successive games of 173-225-246 and 208 for a top British qualifying five game series of 1104 for an average of nearly 221! If Ed rolls like this at Wembley the London Area Bowling Association needn't trouble to stage the finals - it's all over already!

PORTSMOUTH

It was with regret that we said goodbye to our Assistant Manager, Vic Spree. A presentation was made on behalf of the staff and bowlers to Vic on Saturday 26th August by Colin Deller, an Instructor at the Centre, who is returning to his home in Australia in September. The party was held at the Norfolk Hotel in Southsea and many of Vic's friends, bowlers and staff were invited.

Vic wishes to use this opportunity to express his thanks and appreciation to all Portsmouth bowlers and Ambassador staff for making his stay with Ambassador Bowling so enjoyable and interesting.

At present we are in the throes of a big change over of staff as we have also lost Graham Bryant our Second Mechanic well known in many A Ambassador branches. We welcome Roy Gibson as our new Assistant Manager and Vicki Stanley who is training to take over the Secretary's job when Joan Donno leaves us and moves to Lincoln later in the year.

The Club Bar has generously donated £50 to the J.Y.B.C. The money will help to cover the cost of the juniors travelling to Wolverhampton for the National Finals. Also R.T. Price, Jewellers of Albert Road, Southsea, have agreed to donate a cup for the junior league. Very many thanks to them indeed. Over 200 letters have been sent to all registered members to advise them of the J.Y.B.C. winter reformation and the National Tournament.

Thanks to Bill Paintin and Pete Hampson for organising a committee and all the hard work they have done.

Portsmouth's Major League beat the Tracz Trophy League, of Hounslow 29,114 - 27,261 in the return leg of the Geoff Stock Challenge Cup at Portsmouth on Sunday the 30th July. The high game, a 240 was bowled by Bert Brown of Portsmouth, and the high series, a 601 by Portsmouth's Jim Coward. For the ladies, P. Stock, of Hounslow, bowled a 181 game, and Olive Young's 500 took the high series. The team high game went to Portsmouth's Blue Devils (756) and the high series to the Grave Diggers, also of Portsmouth.

Friendship was in the making on Friday 28th July as French Students duelled for a cup presented by their teachers for the most number of pins taken in two games.

The Industrial League hit the news again, fighting it out with the Polyclean Pirates for top of the league, and the Dotty Dollies and Viking E.B.S. for second spot. Joan Leedham who only bowled double figure games during previous matches astounded herself by rolling 105 and 109 games.

Congratulations to Len Lennard who, bowling in the Magpie League, broke the league's High Series record with a 633 which was held by Twiggy Wigforth, who won in the previous week with a 630. Not satisfied with the high series record, Len went on to take the high game record, held by Pete Symmons. Len's game - 236.

Portsmouth accepted a challenge from the Ipswich team, The Thunderbirds. The Thunderbirds team, sponsored by Jerry Anderson of the T.V. Serial, consisting of C. Prime, D. King, R. Mann and B. Skelt played the Portsmouth Silent Four team, which included those well-known locals, B. Brown,

T. Wigforth, R. Bumstead and Jim (guess who) Coward.

Unfortunately for the Ipswich lads who had travelled so far to play this challenge match, the 13th was certainly unlucky as they lost by 335 pins (2,192 - 1,857) but of course, the main reason for a challenge match is the spirit in which it is played.

Footnote: How on earth did Jim Coward get into a team with the word SILENT in the name?

STEVENAGE

Stevenage bowlers have had their revenge on the "Apaches" of Harlow, who recently scooped the first prize in the Trios Tournament at Stevenage. The "Erks" doubles team, Ken Curtis and Ernie Gregory, bearded the lions in their den by winning the doubles event at Harlow.

Drawn to play on lanes 13 and 14 against the "Amflites" of Corby, and hoping that No.13 would not prove to be an unlucky omen, the "Erks" went into battle. At the start of the match it was obvious that the main opposition was to come from the "Apaches" who were hitting top form. At the end of the first game, the "Erks" lead was only 7 pins, but by the 4th game it had increased to 24 pins. This was a wonderful victory for the Stevenage bowlers, particularly as theirs was the only Stevenage team to challenge the "Apaches" on their home ground.

Welcome visitors to the bowl during August were the R.A.F. Cadets from Henlow. They were rolling in a special tournament, and afterwards they had a prepared buffet in the snack bar. So impressed were they, with the atmosphere and standards of bowling, they may well form a league of their own to roll regularly at the bowl.

The Stevenage Corps of Instructors held their first examination during August, and 7 trainee instructors who have been attending the 10 week course were successful. The examination lasted two weeks and consisted of seven written papers. Oral and practical examinations had taken place throughout the course. The pass marks were 75% and it says much for the enthusiasm of these voluntary instructors that none failed. The successful candidates were: Alan Harrison, Ernie Gregory, Ken Curtis, Mick Boyle, Joe Brown, Albert Flynn and Dave Smart. It is hoped that Corps members will soon have new shirts with their own special crest on the backs. These will also carry the new motto of the Corps, "Pro bono ludi" meaning "For the good of the sport".

Great news for members of the Stevenage Junior Youth Bowling Club! Ambassador Bowling have entered them for the J.Y.B.C. National Championships, to be held during October. Let us hope that we see young Steve Roberts and Nigel Owen showing their paces against other Juniors in the country.

Busy man in this sphere is instructor Alan Harrison, newly-appointed Secretary of the J.Y.B.C. Branch at Stevenage. Luckily, he is able to share the work with enthusiastic fellow-instructors, Mick Boyle, Bob Endersby and Joe Brown.

What about the team name of the leading team in our J.Y.B.C. It is "4 foot 2"! How's that for an expressive title? In second place are the "Postmen" only two points behind, and in third place are the "Dustmen". High average in the league is held by Steven Roberts with 166. Another young bowler showing promise is Mervyn Pierce. Mervyn holds the league high game record with a fantastic 215 game! And that is top class bowling.

News of the latest holiday trend. A bowling holiday! Keen bowlers Bob Speedy and Fred Bell, are spending the last week of August on holiday in Scotland. But it is a holiday with a difference, for each day they plan to play a match at a different bowl. Scotsman Bob, thought they might have trouble getting a passport for Sassenach Fred, but he understands that the frontier regulations have now been relaxed. Have a great time boys, and let's hear from you when you come back. Fred, who is the Manager of the local Keith Royle carpet shop, has persuaded his Company to sponsor a 5-man team, and is now busily engaged in designing a shirt badge for them. His latest shows a cat jumping from a car into a shopping bag. The name of the team? You've guessed it - "The Car-Pet Baggers"!

It looks as though competition will be hot in the new Masters Classic Cash League. Registrations from top teams in other bowls are coming in well. Among those already registered are the "Five Just Men" and the "Hemel Exiles" from Hemel Hempstead, the "Chipmunks" and "Globetrotters" from Bedford and the

"Playboys" from Northampton. With outside competition from teams of this calibre it looks as though our Stevenage teams will face some tough bowling. This sort of new blood will do much to raise the standard of our own top bowlers.

The league constitution will shortly be presented to entering teams. With a league championship prize of £250 a second team prize of £150 and a third team prize of £100 it is estimated that there will be no lack of teams wishing to enter.

More Firms and Associations are taking an active interest in tenpin bowling at Stevenage. Latest additions are the I.C.T. Apprentices Association and the Mayflower Wives Association from Welwyn Garden City. We are sure many of them will become addicted to the game, and some will undoubtedly join the newly-forming winter leagues.

We must mention 12 ladies who roll regularly on Monday nights. They all work for Douglas Kane Sealants Ltd., at Welwyn Garden City. Known affectionately in the bowl as "Becketts Harem" they are being coached by Deputy Manager Colin Beckett. The latest news is that they are so taken with the sport, they have purchased their own bowling shoes and are going to form their own ladies league. As ambassadors for their Firm they do a first-class job. How nice it would be if Douglas Kane Sealants Ltd., fitted them out with shirts then they could really represent their Firm.

A special Scratch Tournament was held on Sunday, September 3rd, to select teams to represent Stevenage in the New Towns Festival of Sport. Only regular Stevenage bowlers were allowed to participate. The Festival itself will be taking place, bowling-wise, at the Acorn Bowl, Wokingham on Saturday, September

9th. Here's hoping that Stevenage bowlers can bring the trophies back in triumph!

The time - 9 p.m. The place, Ambassador Bowl, Stevenage. The noise from inside the bowl grows louder and louder. Passers-by stop and gather inside the entrance to find out the cause of the commotion. Suddenly two police officers force their way through the crowd and into the bowl. Stern faces, they survey the sight that meets their eyes. They relax, smile, grin, then break into laughter! It is party night for the Lansdowne League! It took place on the night of August 21st, and what a night! This was bowling as it had never been known before. The atmosphere was that of Piccadilly on New Year's Eve. Manager Roger Brentnall had promised the League a really festive evening, and he certainly kept his word. The party started at 7.45 p.m. with a game of bowling bingo. As the numbers were called out at the control desk, so bowlers had to match them frame by frame, on the lanes. This was followed by a single straight game. Bill Roberts was in excellent form and won both games, the last with a magnificent 210 game.

Then the fun really started. The third game was a speed and obstacle race. In the first frame, the lead-off men had to open an envelope and follow the instructions it contained, before they could bowl. A bonus of five points was awarded the first team to complete the frame. The instructions were to blow up a balloon until it burst! Cheered on by the rest of their teams, the lead-off men huffed and puffed. Suddenly there was a volley of bangs, as balloon after balloon reached its limit and popped. Off went the lead-off men to bowl as fast as they could, followed by each member of the teams in turn. The first team to finish let out an all-mighty cheer and were each awarded a prize.

Each frame was different. In one, bowlers had to bowl with their backs to the pins, rolling the ball between their legs. In another, right-handed bowlers had to bowl with their left hands - and vice-versa. One of the funniest events was frame 9. In this, the last man to bowl had to complete his frame, then race down one side of the lanes to the pit area. He had to collect an envelope containing bonus points from Deputy Manager Colin Beckett, then continue along the pits and up the other side of the lanes to the concourse. We

shall never forget seeing "big" Mick Boyle thundering down the concourse, wildly waving an envelope in his right hand. Luckily, the spectators saw him in time, and scattered quickly. Just as well, for he would have swept them all before him.

There were literally hundreds of prizes to be won, ranging from bottles of liqueur to 10/- notes. The major prizes were given to the League by local traders, due to the inspired cadging of Charlie McLoughlan to whom the League gave a hearty vote of thanks.

Raffle prizes, comprising of whisky, port and sherry were donated by League President, Fred Bell, Vice President Derek Tassell and Secretary, Roy Gentle. Treasurer Dave Smart donated a large box of chocolates as one of the prizes.

After the fun and games, there followed the presentation of League Trophies won during the season. The Guest of Honour was to be John Newman, Editor of the National Bowling Magazine, "The Tenpin Pictorial", but unfortunately he was taken ill and was unable to be present. However, help was near at hand. Geoff Denton, Assistant Manager of the Mecca Locarno Ballroom sped into the breach, and made a fine job of presenting the trophies. Winners were as follows:

League Champions	All Stars	54 points
Runners-up	Brent's Devils	49 points
Third Place	The Kings	46 points
Team High Series	The Kings	1675
Team High Game	Purple Haze	614
Individual High Series	Dick Smith	649
Individual High Game	Bob Endersby	259
Highest Average	Dick Smith	181
Most improved average	Les Maxwell	126 to 143
Third from Bottom Team	Mad Hatters	25 points

It has happened at last. Kodak, League leaders for many weeks in the Town Centre League have dropped down to second place. They lost all four points to the "Three-Score" thus allowing "Ambassador Bowl" who hammered the "Metros" 4 - 0, to jump into top place. Although both Kodak and Ambassador Bowl have 43 points each, Ambassador Bowl have a pinfall lead of 324 pins.

How about "Hawks"? The top two teams may yet get a nasty shock from this up and coming team. They have improved by leaps and bounds in the last few weeks and are quite capable of becoming giant killers! The "Blue Knights" are happy now that Norman Fitt is back with them. All League members were upset when they heard he was involved in a motoring accident whilst coming to the bowl. However, despite his left hand and wrist being in plaster, Norman helped his team to win 4 - 0 against the "Erks".

The championship in the "Landregis" league is almost certain to be fought out between "Castro's Cuban Heels" and "Les Beat". With 29½ and 29 points respectively, it is virtually impossible for any other team to topple these two. Tragedy has struck this League for the second time this season. The first was the death of Mick Holland in a road accident. And now Brian Crane, the League's high average bowler, is seriously ill in hospital. Brian was injured by a ball while playing cricket. Best wishes for a speedy recovery are the sentiments of the whole league.

We extend a hearty welcome to our new Secretary, Mrs. Doreen Bone. Doreen does not join us until September 11th - officially, but she has been good enough to come in on occasional evenings to help Manager Rodger Brentnall out with the paperwork. We are not sure whether this is good training for Doreen's future position as Secretary of the bowl, or whether, by September 11th she will have had enough of us and seek a quiet job, possibly in some asylum?

WOLVERHAMPTON

The new winter season is due to start soon and this year we are expecting great things from all of our bowlers. Since the resurfacing, the scores have shown a great deal of improvement. Bowl Brunswick only just short of becoming our first senior members of the Record Holders Club. Naturally the league from which we expect the fireworks is the Sealandair Classic which has decided to move to Wolverhampton from the now defunct Hawthorns, so the bowlers in the other leagues had better get into the act quickly before the qualifying scores are pushed too high. The Surveyors have just been and they declared our lanes perfect, so come on bowlers, no excuses please.

Norman Waggott has just returned from his holidays, during which he visited his old bowl at Newcastle, and naturally had a game there. His opponent bowled a 578 series, good enough one would have thought. Norman then proceeded to roll a 691. I wonder if this Newcastle Brown will go down well in the Midlands.

While Norman was away, we had a clean up and painting session. We even got Phil Parkes, the Wolves Goalkeeper painting the ceiling. He was sent off in the local derby against West Bromwich Albion a few days later. There must be some connection, but for the life of me, I can't think what it can be!!

Madge Kelly is, at the time of writing, on a fortnight's holiday and has sent dirty postcards to almost everyone in the bowl. I reckon she must have spent hours scouring the shops for the choicest ones. I'm surprised at you Madge, an innocent young thing like you!

We've at last got an American team from the Ditton Priors base bowling in the Lanemasters League. Luckily for our bowlers, they hold good averages, but are not the maestros some were expecting. I don't know why, but some people seem to think that because a chap is American, he must be an expert bowler. Speaking from experience, foreigners always think that we are all Football and Cricket stars, and as we know that isn't true, so why should the other supposition be any more accurate?

We have a couple of good five-man teams, who would like some challenge matches on a home and away basis for Sunday afternoons. Any offers from our Centres?
