

He thoroughly washed the seats, so we were unable to sit down for twenty minutes until the seats had dried! We trundled off behind steam, loitering at each station to do the shunting. It took four hours to cover 60 kms (say 38 miles) – not even averaging 10 m.p.h., but I loved the experience.

I expected her to follow the train, unaware that I had the car keys in my pocket! It was about 4 hours before I got back to the car and Anne had spent all that time waiting with only a guide book to South Africa to read! She had been warned by the tour leader not to leave the car!

On another occasion in South Africa, I was given the opportunity to travel on a footplate behind a steam engine. My wife Anne was sitting in our hired car when I waved “good bye” to her.

On that trip Anne went with 13 male train enthusiasts as the only lady! She always tells me that she saw more of South Africa chasing and riding on trains than on the normal tourist routes!

WYCHWOOD BOWLS CLUB

The Wychwood Bowls Club starts the new season with an opening evening on Wednesday 19th April at 7-00 p.m. – a time for members to pay subscriptions and enter the club competitions. Anyone interested in joining our club will be more than welcome to come along on the same night to meet the members. We do need new people to join as the club is now down to 26 members and to keep it in operation we need some young blood. There will be an open day for all to try their hand at bowling on Sunday 14th May, so put that date in your diary. For all those who are new to the villages, the green is situated behind the Shaven Crown.

Although the club is in Shipton it is called the “Wychwood” club and open to all of the villages including Ascot, Milton and the surrounding areas as far as Kingham, from where we have a member. So with all the new housing in and around Shipton and especially Milton, we should be able to get some interest. If not, the old village activities will disappear and we will then have to travel to other clubs on already busy roads. So if you are interested young or old, male or female, join us on nice summer days for a few hours of fun. We are not the fuddy duddies that bowls perhaps used to portray, and we have a lot of laughs on the green and at the end of the match at the bar when all members have a good chat with the opponents. And for those who like competitive play we always go out to win the match.

There are also club and county competitions to enter, so if you are interested please ring me, Sheila Cambray on S-U-W 830174 or our captain Colin Pearce on S-U-W 830405

S.Cambray (sec.)