

# PALM READER

The Palmerston Indoor Bowls Club Magazine

March 2014  
Issue 60

## Richard's Leaving

By now most of you will have heard that Richard is retiring from full time work at the beginning of April this year. This wasn't an easy decision, but in the words of many a politician and football manager, he wants more time to spend with his wife and family! Now seems the right time, for many reasons, for us as a couple to put ourselves first and, after 35 years of being married to a chef, I'm looking forward to the novelty of spending weekends with my husband.

17 years ago we met with Bill and Renee at their house and outlined what we thought we could do for the new bowls club they were involved with. No one knew at that point what demand there would be for catering, so it was a leap of faith for all of us. Admittedly, the first few years were a struggle, but as the club grew and flourished so did the catering.

In April the catering torch will be passed to a new, safe pair of hands and, although Palmerston Catering Ltd will cease to exist, we hope our legacy will be that you'll continue to support Debbie in the way that you have always supported us.

And, just in case you thought that Richard would be disappearing from your lives for ever, fear not, he will still be working for Debbie a couple of days a week.

So, on behalf of Richard and myself, we'd like to say a huge THANK YOU to all our friends and customers and to PIBC for the past 17 years, it's been a blast!

Chris Stray

The next Palm Reader will be published in September. I would very much welcome articles from any member for other members to read. Preferably send by email to:

palmreader@  
palmerston-bowls.org.uk

*Marie Leonard*

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## Restaurant Open

The restaurant will be open for business as usual during the week the club is closed in April for laying of new underlay, except closed on Monday 7th. To contact the restaurant direct please ring: 01329 232214

Palmerston Business Park (Off Newgate Lane) Fareham.  
Tel No 01329 232005 website: palmerston-bowls.org.uk



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## Palmerston Web Site

### This is an example page from the website

If you haven't seen our website I encourage you to have a look. Below here are a few snippets from recent news items. But that isn't all that there is on the site. Look at the left hand column and see the range of information that you will find.

This is not only information for prospective members such as membership details, contacts and directions, but also a lot of information for members. The latest league results with full details, competition updates, calendar of matches through the season - all continually updated. When the league programmes are available in August you can download them here. Also application forms for leagues, new memberships, competition entry, Palmerston Cup entry. The current league and competition rules. And when finals week is on there is a comprehensive programme which is updated with results as the week progresses.

There's a gallery of pictures - we hope to expand this more. And a couple of videos. Take a look and bookmark it for the future.

### Leagues now open for new team applications

Applications to form new teams for next Winter's leagues will now be accepted where vacancies exist. For details and form please see the [Leagues](#) section.

### Palmerston finish third in Ladies Riversmeet

The Ladies Riversmeet Hampshire League was extremely tight this year. Although our ladies came third, the top three were only separated by 3 points. They won their match against league winners Chawton Park, but agonisingly not quite enough to overtake them - one more rink win would have done it. But still an excellent year, well done. The final table is in the [Competitions](#) section.

### EBYDS School of Excellence at Palmerston - Sunday 16 February 2014



You can search the Palmerston site or the internet here using "the world's most private search engine"

start  
page™

Search

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## **A FEW REMINDERS**

Have you changed your phone number or address? If so please can you inform:

**Lesley Howell**

If you've changed your car did you remember to get a new car park sticker?

Used postage stamps are collected and given to Canine Partners Charity. There is a box in the ladies changing room. We also collect milk bottle tops.

Bras are collected for the Air Ambulance Charity. They should be put in bags and placed in the large bag in the ladies changing room.

Bonus Ball, you have to be in it to win it. The bag with the numbers is on the table as you come into the club, please remember to put a pound in the tin for every

## **A Huge Thank You**

A very big thank you to Ron Packman on behalf of the club, for making the numbers for the tables in the restaurant.

## **My Coaching Experience at PIBC**

I would like to share with bowlers, regardless of the number of years they have been participating in bowls my experience whilst being coached!

Like others in my shoes, I was a little apprehensive attending my 1st coaching session but I should not have worried. I was made to feel most welcome and over a 4 week period I took on board as much information as I possibly could.

Terry and Graham (sadly Graham is no longer with us) were very professional but made those training sessions fun! To this day I sometimes call on my memory to think back to what they would have advised when I have to 'think for myself'.

This is my second session as a novice bowler and I can safely say it will take many more years before I could or even would dare to say 'I think I know it all' because nothing could be further from the truth... I seriously believe we will all continue to learn in this sport for as long as we play it.

I am always very grateful our coaches are so approachable. When I don't understand something or in deed watch others bowl and 'wonder why'. I find the coaching team very approachable and happy to pass on their knowledge or answer to any question!

I take my hat off to the coaching team for passing on their invaluable experience, taking time to explain as much as they can in the time allotted. These coaches give up their time for us as volunteers and should be applauded.

So thank you coaches I am and will continue to be grateful to you all, you do an amazing job for the benefit of our sport and for the up and coming youth.

The youth day was a delight to watch gone are the days for our sport to be considered an old persons game!

There are so many amazing people at PIBC who all work as volunteers, it is because of these volunteers the club continues to thrive and is the success it is.

I thank you all.

## **BOWLS, BIKES & PERU.**

So what is the connection you are wondering!

Well I have done all three quite recently, the most recent in May 2013 was to join the Palmerston Bowls Club and how pleased I am too I must add.

I have found the facilities and the people at the Club quiet magnificent. Taking part in the various leagues is I hope helping to improve my game, albeit rather slowly I must say, but I am gradually managing to get closer to the jack week by week. No not you Jack the little yellow one!

Standing on the mat watching the my ball curve it's way onwards towards the target reminds of some 4 years ago when I sat astride a Suzuki DR 650 cc trail motorcycle some 4680 metres up in the Andes studying my route along the mountain track downwards through the clouds towards the meeting point probably some 10 miles away and 2000 metres below me.

Motorcycling has been and still is a major part of my life and a few weeks before Christmas Sheila offered to cash one of our ISA's to pay for a new bike. So I am now the proud owner of a shiny new Yamaha FJR1300AE motorcycle. I wish that Yamaha offered a speckled blue option to go with my new Drakes Pride Professional Bowls, but I had I am afraid to say to be content with 'Black'!

So my busy life now includes taking part in several evening leagues leaving me time for my RoSPA Tutor duties during the day helping riders to improve their skills and to take the RoSPA Advanced Motorcycle Test. I have also been encouraged to try my hand in a Friendly Match so I am looking for as much advice that I can get so that I don't disgrace myself.

I have so many friends in the biking world that are now being added to with my new friends in the bowling world, so in my 76 year I am looking forward to the future as the world of Bowls awaits me.

Oh and by the way, a special thanks to Lesley for making my wife and I feel so welcome to the Club and to all those who help to run the various leagues and matches, for without them Palmerston would not I am sure exist

## **Lighter Side Blonde Jokes**

### **SPEEDING TICKET**

**A police officer stops a blonde for speeding and asks her very nicely if he could see her license,. She replied in a huff, "I wish you guys would get your act together. Just yesterday you take away my license and then today you expect me to show it to you."**

### **IN A VACUUM**

**A blonde was playing Trivial Pursuit one night. It was her turn. She rolled the dice and she landed on Science and Nature.**

**Her question was, "If you are in a vacuum and someone calls your name, can you hear it?"**

**She thought for a time and then asked "Is it on or off?"**

## The EBYDS School of Excellence

The EBYDS School of Excellence was held at Palmerston IBC on Sunday 16th February.

Congratulations to Maxine Fletcher, Ian Nunn the Hampshire Organisers and the cast of Coaches, Markers and Umpires who volunteered their time.

Palmerston had five young Bowlers entered , the youngest being only eight years old. Alice and her sister Emily nine, both had only started bowling this season.

Although we did not have a winner or runner up, we did have a young lady Robyn Longland who was third, a wonderful achievement as it was only the second year she had entered this event.

Congratulations to all our young Bowlers for taking part and also our Coaches who made it all possible.

Palmerston was praised for its venue and services by all visitors.

Ian Mullholland

### The participants with Margaret Holden and Tom Bishop





## **Puppies due at Easter**

Last year, one of the charities that Palmerston Indoor Bowling Club supported was Canine Partners – a charity that aims to improve the independence of those living with disabilities. Two dogs came to visit, and show a little of what they do.

The first was a Golden Retriever/Labrador cross called Gino. He has now completed his advanced training and is now helping a Partner to live their life a little more easily. We await his 'Graduation' later in the year.

The second dog that visited the club was Tina, a very pale yellow Labrador who is a Brood Bitch for Guide Dogs and Canine Partners. Her life is occupied with doing demonstration work for Canine Partners and having puppies. She has had 2 litters, of which the first litter (7 puppies) are in advanced training or are out working. The second litter, 9 months old, are in the early stages of their training; 4 for Guide Dogs, 3 for Canine Partners.

Tina is due puppies on Easter Saturday, and although the start of her pregnancy was a little unsettled, it has been confirmed that she is carrying 7 healthy puppies. She is now keeping well and the 'bump' is beginning to show.

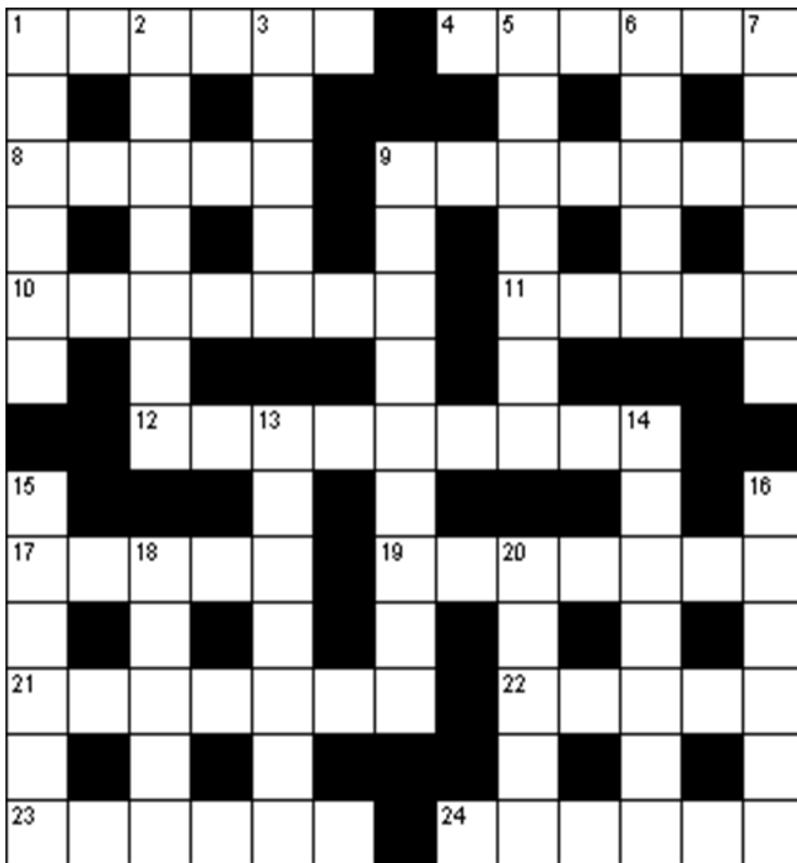
It is thanks to your ongoing generosity and support that Canine Partners can continue to do their work and place an increasing number of dogs with partners. The bottle tops, stamps and ink cartridges you send through to us via Molly and Brian all helps. The demand to supply dogs far outstrips the ability to supply.

Duncan and Tina William

### **Car Park**

**WILL ALL MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE, THAT IN THE INTEREST OF SAFETY, WILL DRIVERS PLEASE OBSERVE THE ONE WAY SYSTEM WHEN ENTERING AND LEAVING THE CAR PARK.**

## Crossword 1



### Across

- 1 Shade of meaning (6)
- 4 Not so fast (6)
- 8 Eye shield (5)
- 9 Employees' restaurant (7)
- 10 Link (7)
- 11 Awry (5)
- 12 French cheese (9)
- 17 Stone carver (5)
- 19 Malicious retaliation (7)
- 21 Abbreviate (7)
- 22 Requirements (5)
- 23 Quiet, modest and well-behaved (6)
- 24 Soldier on watch (6)

### Down

- 1 Tyro (6)
- 2 Toxic element (7)
- 3 Slice a joint (5)
- 5 Leaking (anag.) (7)
- 6 Edible mollusc (5)
- 7 Fame (6)
- 9 Boat with two hulls (9)
- 13 Watch carefully (7)
- 14 Trig ratio (7)
- 15 Entertained (6)
- 16 Liverpool's river (6)
- 18 Tempest (5)
- 20 Meeting place (5)

### Lighter Side

A senior citizen was driving down the M25, his phone rang, answering his wife says "Herman, I just heard on the news that there's a car going the wrong way on the M25 , please be careful!" "Hell" says Herman, "It's not just one car ... it's hundreds of them."

An old couple were lying in bed one night. The husband was falling asleep but the wife was in a romantic mood and wanted to talk. She said "You used to hold my hand when we were courting." Wearily he reached across, held her hand for a second and tried to go to sleep. A few moments later she said : "Then you used to kiss me." Mildly irritated, he reached across, gave her a peck on the cheek and settled down to sleep.. Thirty seconds later she said: Then you used to bite my neck." Angrily, he threw back the bed clothes and got out of bed. "Where are you going? she asked.

"To get my teeth"

# RINK NEWS

## NEW UNDERLAY

Dales Sports Surfaces, who maintain our rinks (and over 60% of the other indoor clubs' carpets), visited recently to assess the condition of both the carpet and the current underlay. From a visual inspection of the carpet and seams, the assessment was that there was probably 4 to 5 years life left in the carpet. The underlay, which was installed approx. 8 years ago, was showing marked signs of wear. It is perhaps worth mentioning that the normal life of the underlay is generally reckoned to be 6 to 8 years – the previous underlay lasted approx 5 years.

To gain a more objective idea of the underlay condition, Dales use a straight line test bowl and measure the distance this covers across many areas of the rink. The method is described below together with the measurements we obtained. This apart we are beginning to see the results of the wear in bowl speed and, in particular, the amount of dust that our rotary brush cleaner is bringing to the surface of the carpet.

The Board agreed to the installation of a new underlay which will be carried out in the week beginning 7<sup>th</sup> April 2014. The work will take a week and includes some board levelling work and a deep clean of the carpet.

The underlay will be put down in 2 operations; the carpet will be pulled back halfway, the underlay put down and the carpet then re-fixed before the other half of the rink is tackled in the same way. We will be using a new underlay, unique to Dales, and not the more common Duralay product. This is a harder rubber, slightly thinner (my electronic dernier guage measures this at about .5mm) but Dale's boast is that this will give a guaranteed speed of 17 to 18 secs for an existing carpet. However, it is expected that this will require 2 stretches to get up to this speed and it is planned to carry these out at the time of the installation in April followed by a further stretch in August 2014, ready for the 2014/15 season.

## VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

As most members will appreciate, when we pull the carpet back in "Wimbledon" style, there is a considerable bulk to move. **Dales would welcome any help to carry this out and it would be very helpful if we could provide 4 to 5 people (in addition to the Dales staff). If you feel fit and strong enough to lend a hand for this then please let me know.**

## RINK SPEEDS MEASURED IN METRES

	RINK 2	29.45	→	29.23		
		29.99	→	29.60		
	RINK3	29.14	→	29.27		
		29.74	→	29.96		
	RINK 4	28.98	→	29.09		
		29.90	→	30.17		
	RINK 5	28.98	→	28.82		
		30.36	→	30.24		
	RINK 6	29.41	→	29.70		
		30.10	→	30.03		
25.64	RINK 7	29.00	→	29.35		25.77
25.57		30.07	→	30.16		26.10
-	RINK 8	29.13	→	28.99		-
		29.36	→	29.21		

### METHOD.

- Distances travelled were measured using a Drakes Pride test bowl running from the bar end, with the ramp positioned approx. 2 metres from the ditch.
- Distances shown in the shaded areas were from the centre of the respective rink.
- Distances shown between the rinks were taken from the dividing line between rinks.
- Two measurements were taken at each location.
- Two measurements were taken from the "T" s on rink 8 with the test bowl running across the rinks.
- Rink 1 was in use for a league game and was not tested.

### CONCLUSIONS

- Distances were fairly consistent and showed the expected slight shortening of the distance travelled down the centre of the rink, due to the extra foot traffic on this line over the years.
- The distances measured across the rinks showed a marked shortening of the distance travelled and gave conclusive evidence of the extra wear in the underlay in the bottom and top panels.
- Whilst the distance travelled across the rinks showed a dramatic decrease, the likely affect when bowling to a jack on the "T", is estimated to be a loss of approx. 18 to 36in in length in comparison to the speed the underlay is giving in the middle area of the rinks.
- With hindsight, and if time had permitted, it would have given a more complete picture to have measured speeds across the rinks in other panels, moving towards the centre of the rink. This is expected to have confirmed the expected gradual deterioration as the measurements moved further from the "T"s - the area where most wear is experienced.

## RINK MARKERS

Many of you will have noticed that the old coloured plywood markers were gradually being stamped on, broken, chewed, coffee stained and so on. In an effort to provide a more resilient product, opaque coloured Perspex ones have been made (see photos below) and it was hoped that we might see a longer period of stability. One has unfortunately been shattered by a fired wood striking it as it denoted a toucher in the ditch – quite understandable – but less understandable is why markers should “disappear” from the rinks. Can anyone shed any light on this? – answers on a postcard please....



Andrew Miller

Rink Manager