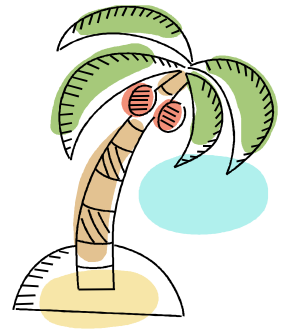


# PALM READER

The Palmerston Indoor Bowls Club Magazine



December 2019  
Issue 77

## Christmas Message

The Board of Directors and the JMC wish you health, happiness and good fortune for the Christmas Season and the forthcoming year.



## Club Closure

The club will be closed on Friday evening 20<sup>th</sup> December and open again on Monday morning 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 for bowling as usual.

## Bowling Shoes.

Please ensure that you do not wear bowling shoes outside of the club as you could be bringing dirt into the club premises and could damage the new rink carpet

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



## **SNOW AND ICE**

### **Be prepared:**

- 1. Give your car a Winter checkup**
- 2. Take a blanket, torch, bright vest, scraper and de-icer**
- 3. Make sure your mobile phone is charged up**
- 4. Before leaving check the [Palmerston website](#) for up-to-the-minute news to see if the club is open**

**Find the website now while you have time. Just put “Palmerston bowls” in your search box and click the link to our site.**



### **BATTLE OF THE SEXES**

Men are like fine wine. They start out like grapes, and it's a woman's job to stamp on them and keep them in the dark until they mature into something you'd eventually like to have dinner with.

Women are like fine wine. They all start out fresh, fruity and intoxicating to the mind and then turn full-bodied with age until they grow sour and vinegary and give you a headache

## **Member cards: how did it go?**

Looking back to the start of the winter season on 16th September, we have done remarkably well getting through the first few weeks without major problems. It was quite a tall order introducing a new member card payment system for rink fees. Not only were the bowlers wondering what to do with their cards, the person on the other side of the desk was being trained "on the job". And there were 25 stewards to train!

The main problem for the stewards is that everything happens in a rush in the 15 minutes before a bowls session starts. Then a week goes by before their next 15 minutes of mayhem. In some cases, stewards share a slot, so it is a fortnight to forget what to do. But we have survived thanks to a few dedicated helpers who spent many hours each day being on hand to help when required during these early weeks.

By and large our stewards are now comfortable with the process and the members also know what they need to do to pay for their team. Occasionally there is a problem which needs resolving but these get less and less each week.

That isn't to say the technology couldn't be improved. I think we all would like the machine to beep when it reads the card. And the tills aren't quite as reliable as I would like. Some days we have to "reboot" a till by switching it off and on again. It then takes a couple of minutes for it to become ready to take payments. If this happens when there's a queue at the desk, please be patient, we have always managed to get the payments through in time.

Although this project is basically complete, the benefits will continue to increase as more and more members top up their member cards with their debit card instead of cash. I think this will naturally increase as people get more used to contactless payments in the shops.

There are still some areas where we are only taking cash and not taking card payments, and these can be addressed in the future, but the great majority of payments are now made through the till system, mostly with member cards, so we have achieved what we set out to do.

Thank you for all the encouragement and favourable comments I have had from many of you. Perhaps those who aren't so happy have kept quiet but at least it seems most people are now used to the system and know what to do. The most common complaint I have had is "I didn't realise how much I was spending on bowls until I had to keep topping up my card".

***Russell Gadd***

## **SEASONS GREETINGS FROM PRESIDENT NEIL**

### **DEAR MEMBER**

It hardly seems possible that the Christmas season and the break is almost upon us. From the bowling prospective this marks the half-way point of our indoor season

From a Presidents point of view, it has been manic. The friendly matches have gone really well, in fact we have had a surplus of people each week which has made the job of team selecting much easier. Much thanks to all those of you who have supported these matches.

We would always welcome new players. If you are interested please look out for these matches on the friendlies board or speak to Shirley, Roger or myself.

The various men's and ladies' teams have been very busy in the various National Competitions. Spectators and supporters are always welcome at these matches. Details can be found on the website.

The club had the honour, recently of hosting the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hampshire Indoor Bowls Association with a match against the English Indoor Bowls Association.

From a personal point of view, I have been delighted with the response to my charity particularly from members including myself (2) who insist on bowling a wrong bias. I will display, before the break the total raised so far. Thank you all for your generosity.

There are a lot of exciting things planned for the second half of the season. Watch out for the information on the electronic notice board.

I must thank Maggie and Peter for taking on the running of the Friday club night which seems to be a great success.

On behalf of Vice Presidents Shirley, Roger and myself. We wish all members a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



### **BATTLE OF THE SEXES**

**A woman walked into the kitchen to find her husband prowling around with a fly swatter. 'Killed any?' she asked.**

**'Yes' he said. 'Three males and two females'**

**'How the hell can you tell their sex?'**

**'Easy', he said.' Three were on a beer can and two were on the phone.**

## **NOTES AND REMINDERS**

**Please be aware that you are not supposed to go from the lounge area to the rink area to bowl until the previous players have completely left the rink area.**

**Car Park**, please ensure that you enter and exit the car park in the correct manner failure to do this could cause an accident.

**Have you**, changed your phone number or address? If so, please can you inform Lesley Howell to enable her to keep her records up to date.

**Walking Across the Field.** A small reminder that if you walk across the field please ensure that the bottom of your shoes are completely clean prior to entering the club as we have had a couple of instances of grass and mud being trod into the carpet.

**Ditches**, please do not step into the ditches as this breaks off the rubber spikes. One hand on the bank and remove the bowl from the ditch with the other hand.

**Chewing Gum**, please refrain from chewing gum whilst bowling as gum has been found on the green and is difficult to remove and it damages the carpet.

**Mobile Phones**, please remember to switch your mobile phone off or at least put it on silent when you enter the club.

**Eating on the Bowls Concourse**, please do not eat on the bowls concourse this includes, crisps or chocolate.

**Leagues**, Substitutes are not allowed to skip, and please remember to put full names on the score card not just forenames.

**Printer Cartridges**, Thank you for the cartridges but no more are required at this time.

## End of Windows 7

Those of you who have a computer more than two or three years old might be running Microsoft's Windows 7 and you will have been warned that on January 14, 2020, Windows 7 will leave "extended support." Microsoft will stop issuing routine security updates, and software developers will eventually stop supporting it with recent versions of their software.

If you are doing anything which involves your money, such as online shopping or banking, you won't want to run it after then. Even without doing financial transactions on it, beware of leaking personal information (ID theft) or having your email account hacked (some of our members have already had theirs hacked).



So what to do? Obviously you could scrap the PC and buy a shiny new one. If you do, consider perhaps a tablet or a Chromebook which is likely to be less vulnerable than an overly powerful Windows machine. This is an article on Chromebooks:

<https://www.androidcentral.com/can-chromebook-replace-my-laptop-2018>

But if your machine is still in reasonable condition there are other choices. You could try an entirely different operating system called Linux. It runs better than Windows on older computers. I personally run Linux Mint at home. I also have Windows 10 but I only use it for Palmerston work. If interested see my article "Computer too old" in Palm Reader 70 September 2017, which you will find on our website in the newsletters section.

Did you regret not taking the plunge to take the free upgrade of your Windows 7 to Windows 10 in 2016? The good news is you can still do this for free, if your computer can take it, despite some advice that it costs over £100 to do it. And it's not a sleazy source. This article explains why it is still available from Microsoft.

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/this-free-windows-10-upgrade-offer-still-works-heres-why-and-how-to-get-it/>

Although this article includes tips on how to do it, the following article from Which is easier to follow if you decide to go ahead

<https://computing.which.co.uk/hc/en-gb/articles/360009159719-How-to-upgrade-from-Windows-7-to-Windows-10-for-free>

If you have any queries on Linux or the Windows upgrade, feel free to talk to me. I can demonstrate Linux on my laptop, which I usually have with me when I am stewarding on Saturday mornings.

*(if you want to look at any of these internet articles, find this edition of Palm Reader on the Palmerston website then you can click the links).*

**Russell Gadd**

**LIVE WELL! ENJOY TODAY**

**DO SOMETHING FUN! BE HAPPY!**

**HAVE A GREAT DAY Remember**

**“Its health that is real wealth and not the pieces of gold and silver**

**LASTLY CONSIDER THIS**

Your kids are becoming you ...but your grandchildren are perfect!  
Going out is good Coming home is better!  
You forget names... But it's OK because some people forget they even know you!!!  
You realise you're never going to be really good at golf.  
The things you used to care to do, you aren't as interested in anymore, but you really  
don't care that you aren't as interested.  
You sleep better on a lounge chair with the TV “ON” than in bed, it's called “pre-sleep”  
You miss the days when everything worked with just an “ON and OFF” switch.  
You notice everything they sell in stores is “sleeveless”?!?!  
What used to be freckles are now liver spots.  
Everybody whispers.  
You have 3 sizes of clothes in your cupboard.... 2 of which you will never wear.  
But old is good in some things: Old Songs, Old Movies, and best of all...

**Old Friends!!**

Stay well, “OLD FRIENDS!” Send this to other “OLD Friends!” and let them laugh in  
AGREEMENT!!! It's Not What You Gather, But What You Scatter That Tells You What Kind Of  
Life You Have Lived.

TODAY IS THE OLDEST YOU HAVE EVER BEEN: YET THE YOUNGEST YOU'LL EVER BE,  
SO ENJOY THIS DAY WHILE IT LASTS

**Do not regret growing old.**

**It is a Privilege denied to many.**

One day a woman said to her husband, ‘I want you to show me your feminine  
side.’

‘very well,’ he replied, and walked out of the door.

When he returned an hour later, she asked, ‘Where on earth have you been?’

He said, ‘I’ve been parking the car.’

## Green Etiquette.

1. Be conversant with the Laws of the Game and Observe them.
2. Respect the decision of the umpire.
3. Be punctual to commence play at all matches, and come to each match correctly attired.
4. Keep quiet and refrain from moving when players are on the mat.
5. Stand behind the mat whilst your opponent bowls.
6. **Always stand still at the head, when a player is about to bowl.  
Movement at the head, or talking at the mat, is very distracting.**
7. Always allow your opponent the right to the head as spelled out in the laws of the game.
8. **Walk close to the centre of the rink, with minimum delay when changing ends.**
9. Do not delay play. Always play your bowl with minimum delay.
10. Never deliver your bowl before the previous bowl has come to rest.
11. Keep track of play and be ready to bowl when it is your turn.
12. Every player at the mat end should assist collecting the bowls when the end is completed.
13. **Always pay your skip respect by waiting for their decision. Do not step onto the mat and indicate which way you intend to play. Wait for the skip's instructions.**
14. Never applaud lucky bowls, - accept them graciously.
15. Never complain about lucky bowls, they tend to equal each other out over the season.
16. **Respect the green's surface at all times:-**  
  

<b>Do Not</b>	<b>a/ DROP BOWLS ON THE GREEN</b>
	<b>b/ STAND ON THE EDGE OF THE GREEN</b>
	<b>c/ STAND ON THE EDGE OF THE BANK</b>
	<b>d/ WALK IN THE DITCHES</b>
17. Always inform your opponent if you wish to leave the green.
18. If you lose, be a good loser, and do not blame your loss on; other people, the green or weather conditions.
19. **Win or lose, always shake hands with your opponents and thank them for the game.  
Do not be taken with your win today, because the position could be reversed tomorrow.**
20. Offer your opponents a drink after the game.
21. Always be polite to Markers and Umpires, they have given their time to assist you in your game.

**ABOVE ALL, ENJOY THE GAME OF BOWLS FOR, ITS PLEASURE AND FOR LASTING FRIENDSHIP**