

# Palm Reader



## Thank you, Marie.

For the last few years, Marie has edited The Palm Reader and served as Chief Steward, but has now stepped down from both roles. They are two time consuming activities, that are essential to the running of the club. However, she continues to support us all as Company Secretary. Thank you, Marie.

## Life as Palmerston's President.

Working along side my two vice presidents Adie Booth and Maureen Tomlinson we have been busy sorting the Sunday friendlies. These friendlies have been very well supported which has meant we have had to put some members as reserves but fear not you will get a game on the next match if you were a reserve in any previous games. Please continue to support these matches they are open to everyone so never think you're not good enough.

The friendly games consist of triples, 18 ends with a lovely two course meal after the match. The cost is only £13 and if you have a partner that doesn't bowl but would like to come and support you, they can join you for the meal after the game just paying for their meal.

As President you get the opportunity to raise money for a charity of your choice. My charity for this year is Sophies Legacy. Before Sophie passed away 3 years ago, Sophie and her Mum spent long periods of time in hospital and experienced the shortfalls of the NHS. Sophie wanted to change and improve these inadequacies, like improvements to food for Children in hospital, parents to be fed when staying with their child, play specialist to be available 7 days a week and increase funding in childhood cancer research. Her mum Charlotte is working so hard to make all of Sophies wishes come true. To help her, I am collecting food and toiletries and there is a box in the club for your donations which will be greatly received.

We have some up and coming events which everyone can get involved in. These are:-

31<sup>st</sup> January 2025      A 24-hour Bowlathon - more information will be advertised on the notice board to explain how you can help or get involved.

15<sup>th</sup> February 2025      I will host a Charity Valentines Ball, tickets will go on sale in the New Year.

Please continue to support the club friendlies and if you would like to know more about anything I have mentioned here, please just come and have a chat.



# The People Page

People with something to say, or a role they want to tell you about.



**Debbie Mondey**  
Safeguarding Officer

I have recently taken on the role of Safeguarding Officer for the club. I will be the first point of contact for any issue concerning any safeguarding matters.



**John Bailey**  
Palm Reader Editor and  
Facebook Page Admin

I haven't been at the club for long, and I am still learning how it works, so please be patient with me.



**Gerry Hansford**  
Health and Safety Advisor

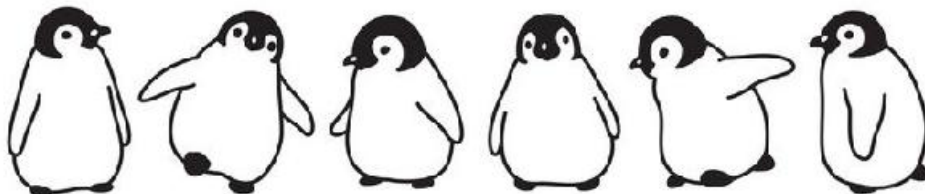
Please help to keep the aisles, walkways and exits free from obstructions. The walk ways at each end of the rinks get busy so please take extra care.

Report accident and incidents immediately, even if no injury has occurred, and complete the accident book, kept at reception

If you discover a fire, shut the door and sound the alarm. These are located by all emergency exits. If you hear the fire alarm, leave by the nearest emergency exit ( at each corner of the bowling area and in the restaurant) then make your way to the assembly point at the far side of the car park.

If you bring guests into Palmerston, you must point out the emergency exits and assembly point to them.

If you have any health and safety concerns, please email me at [hands@palmerston-bowls.club](mailto:hands@palmerston-bowls.club)



## Bowling in Spain!



A group of people from several clubs including Meon Valley and Palmerston visited Spain for a bowling holiday . We were very lucky with the weather as we were sandwiched between too wet weeks but we had a sunny warm week. We played 4 games of bowls ate and drunk too much . We raised over £100 pounds for The President's charity, by Adie fining us all for anything we might or might not have done wrong.

# LADIES CAPTAIN'S CUP

On Saturday 15th February 25, Chris Doig, (Ladies Captain) is running an all-day club triples competition for ladies who have NOT won a county final competition or played competitively for Hampshire.



The competition will take the form of a round-robin, and will cost £8 which includes bowling, ploughman's lunch and pudding. If this is successful, it will be an annual event.

A poster will be on the notice board in the ladies changing room for you to enter your name and preferred position. Chris is providing the trophy, and looks forward to seeing you on the day, so that you can experience how the game can be competitive and fun at the same time.



## “Come and Try” / Coaching Courses

During December we held some "Come and Try" sessions for anyone who might be interested in trying out bowling at Palmerston, and we expect to run more in the New Year.

"Come and Try" sessions are for complete beginners, to have an hour on the green under the guidance of a bowls coach. Hopefully that will be long enough to whet their appetite for more, and they might think about joining. We intend to run some four week coaching sessions afterwards that they can sign up to, but there will be no pressure. Just a fun way to spend an hour, entirely free, shoes and bowls will be provided.

Keep an eye on the Facebook Page and News TV, for dates.



### Book the Restaurant ...

Contact Debbie in the restaurant if you would like to book a private buffet.

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## Ladies Update

Palmerston lady bowlers are doing very well in the national team competitions this season.

They are through to the 4th round of the Yetton, which we now play Desborough on the 7th December at 10am, 2 rinks home 2 rinks away.

We have 2 teams through in the over 60's Double rink, both being played on the 6th December, against Victory at 10am then Banister at 2pm.

Also, we are through to the second round of the Vivienne, the date for this is the 9th January against Atherley, time to be confirmed.

## Follow us on Facebook

PIBC has a Facebook page, where we post news about events, matches and anything else that might interest the membership. The FB page can be seen by members of the public, so it also acts as publicity for the club. We would like as many people to Follow and Like the page as possible, because that brings us more 'reach', and better publicity.

Click on [this link](#) for the page. Or go to the [PIBC Website](#) and click on the Facebook logo.

We also have a private members group, that is not open to the public, where you can post feedback, sell items or anything else that you think is relevant.

You can request membership of the group at [this link](#) or by email.

[Media@palmerston-bowls.club](mailto:Media@palmerston-bowls.club)

# Merry Christmas

## CHRISTMAS OPENING TIMES

### COMPETITIONS AND RE-ARRANGED LEAGUE GAMES

MONDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER

There will be no exceptions for these games to be played on days of Mixed Drives. The games are to be booked before the 20<sup>th</sup> of December if no games are booked the club will not be open. There will be 2 sessions 9.30 am and 11.30 am

### MIXED DRIVES

The following dates are for mixed drives:

27<sup>th</sup> December

28<sup>th</sup> December

2<sup>nd</sup> January

3<sup>rd</sup> January

There will be 2 sessions each day starting at 9.30 am and 11.30 am. Please arrive 15 minutes before the start time to enable us to get organised for the draw. All drives will be for 12 ends.

There will be no bar or restaurant facilities so you will need to bring your own refreshments. All dress is casual hopefully we will see some festive wear and music will be played. The main thing is to have a good time and enjoy yourselves. If you have any questions or queries please contact:

Maggie or Peter Steward

# Merry Christmas



## ***Christmas Memories.***

Christmas lights twinkled and shone as bright  
 As the stars in the sky on a cold, clear night  
 A fresh thick blanket of soft fallen snow  
 Fell heavily, to coat every tree bough.  
 Lacy ice patterned the window pane,  
 And icicles hung from barns in the lane.  
 Folk wrapped up warm, rushed to and fro,  
 Carrying bundles of Yew, Holly and Mistletoe.  
 Laughing children, built snowmen, rode sleds, or ice skated.  
 While all the time, they anxiously and patiently waited.  
 Quietly whispered and footsteps went creeping,  
 To wrap presents in crepe paper, all crinkling.  
 The joyful church bells were merrily rung,  
 And the carollers our favourite songs sung.  
 The goose, all stuffed, was ready for roasting.  
 Fresh bread rose, all ready for toasting.  
 Candles glowed, blended with cinnamon fine.  
 The Christmas tree smelt of resin and pine.  
 Plum pudding, mince pies, and black bun ready to eat.  
 A cup of Cocoa, roast chestnuts, and oranges so sweet.  
 But most important were family and friends, all caring,  
 With cuddles, smiles, kisses, and hugs, all for sharing.  
 Dressed in slippers and bath robe, we sat by the fire,  
 Before Mum and Dad decided it was time to retire,  
 They read us a story, and reminisced for a while  
 Over things that made us all laugh, sigh, and smile.

*With love at Christmas and wishing you health and wealth in 2019. Brenda and Brian Lambert.*

## **"PING"**

He sees her every evening,  
 when the shopping's nearly done  
 and they're waiting in the queue  
 with their ready meals for one.

With identical baskets,  
 they stand silently in line,  
 when what he really wants to ask is  
 ....

"Your microwave or mine?"

*(Credits to Brian Bilston)*

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## **Christmas Bowls**

In halls adorned with festive cheer,  
 The green is set, the friends draw near,  
 Bowls roll smoothly on the lane,  
 Indoor warmth as snowflakes wane.

The mat is placed, the jack in sight,  
 Hands release with gentle might,  
 Voices murmur, hope and cheer,  
 Games of skill and love appear.

Sweaters cozy, laughter blends,  
 Holiday joy with family, friends, A  
 Christmas match, tradition holds,  
 In every wood, a story unfolds.

*A poem by the Microsoft AI, Copilot.*

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**Can you identify these Christmas songs from the initials of their starting phrases.?**

- 1) HYAMLC
- 2) TFNTADS
- 3) GRYMGLNYD
- 4) SNHNAICAIB
- 5) OTFDOCMTLGTM
- 6) DTHWBOHFLLLLLLLL

### **A GOLF POEM**

In My Hand I Hold A Ball,  
 White And Dimpled, Rather Small.  
 Oh, How Bland It Does Appear,  
 This Harmless Looking Little Sphere,  
 By It's Size I Could Not Guess,  
 The Awesome Strength It Does Possess,  
 But Since I Fell Beneath its Spell,  
 I've Wandered Through The Fires Of Hell,  
 My Life Has Not Been Quite The Same,  
 Since I Choose To Play This Stupid Game,  
 It Rules My Mind For Hours On End,  
 A Fortune It Has Made Me Spend.  
 It Has Made Me Yell, Curse And Cry  
 I Hate Myself And Want To Die.  
 It Promises A Thing Called Par,  
 If I Can Hit It Straight And Far.  
 To Master Such A Tiny Ball,  
 Should Not Be Very Far At All.  
 But My Desire The Ball Refuses,  
 And Does Exactly As It Chooses.  
 It Hooks And Slices, Dribbles And Dies,  
 And Even Disappears Before My Eyes.  
 Often It Will Have A Whim,  
 To Hit A Tree Or Take A Swim,  
 With Miles Of Grass On Which To Land,  
 It Finds A Tiny Patch Of Sand,  
 Then Has Me Offering Up My Soul,  
 If Only It Would Find A Hole.  
 It's Made Me Whimper Like A Pup,  
 And Swear I Will Give It Up,  
 And Take To Drink To Ease My Sorrow,  
 But The Ball Knows....I'll Be Back Tomorrow.

*Courtesy of Marie Leonard*

### **Situations**

#### **Vacant**

Well not really ...

But, we are looking for volunteers to help as:

#### **Facebook Reporters**

#### **Palm Reader Contributors.**

Facebook reporters will be asked to submit a short report on competitions and matches that you attend.

Palm Reader contributions can be on anything that would interest our members . From poems, and your bowls stories, and just about anything else.

If you are interested in helping, send me an email at:

[media@palmerston-bowls.club](mailto:media@palmerston-bowls.club)



### **Four Letter Words**

How many four-letter words can you make from the letter line below?

B	R	R	W	I	N	T	E	R
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## Why volunteer?

I joined Palmerston IBC a little over a year ago. I wasn't certain if I would like bowls, but my husband (John) had joined the year before and I thought it would be good to have something active that we could do together. He's retired and I still work full-time, so bowls seemed to be a good option of how we could spend time together AND socialise with a new group of people.

I've never been very athletic or sporty, so to find an activity that can be active and competitive that I enjoyed was something new. Until I started playing at Palmerston IBC, the most competitive thing I'd been involved in over the last few years was playing Scrabble! And, whilst Scrabble can be very competitive, it is also very sedentary. Scrabble was also *my* thing, and not John's, so not something we would ever do together.

I didn't know anything about the game of indoor bowls before I started playing, but I'm slowly getting there. When I started playing in October 2023 it was too late to be able to join any winter leagues, so I took advantage of the "Drives" that were offered on a Wednesday afternoon and Saturday. The Drives are a great way to practice with a wide range of people of different experience levels whilst gaining experience of the different positions within a team.

It has also been good to be able to take part in the leagues, both summer and winter. Most of the other players in my Summer League team have been playing for years and they have been able to offer me advice to help with improving my game. The people on my teams in the Winter League are mostly newer players, but the teams we play against tend to be more experienced. I've come to realise that playing against a team that is more experienced often makes me play better.

Palmerston IBC is more than just a place to play indoor bowls, it's also a place for socialising with the various dinner dances and friendly matches throughout the year. I have been enjoying both the game of Indoor Bowls and the people I've met at Palmer-

ston. And, because I'm not busy enough with work, I made the decision during the summer season that I would volunteer as a steward on Saturdays during the winter season. I often get asked by other members why I've volunteered, as it takes up one of my "free" days during the week. I never really considered the "why" before. The best way I can answer that question is by saying "I want to be part of the community at Palmerston IBC." If I hadn't wanted to expand my social environment, then I wouldn't have joined the Club. Stewarding on a Saturday has meant that I am meeting a wide range of players, from Palmerston and other Clubs, and I am being exposed to the more competitive side of the game of Indoor Bowls. Is it as exciting as a game of rugby? No, but it is a good alternative for those of us who want to be social AND competitive, especially as we all age gracefully.

*Andrea Bailey*



## Dinner Dance



The Christmas Dinner Dance was great fun, with everyone mingling in the bar for a few minutes before the doors were opened and we all filed in to find our tables. It was well attended, with 98 people in attendance, and the food, which was tasty and varied enough to suit most palettes, was served promptly by the friendly waiting staff. Mary and George, behind the bar, kept us well supplied, even making table visits, all the way through the evening. Lauren entertained us nicely, with a selection of songs from the fifties up to the present, with the occasional singalong and Christmas song thrown in for good measure. Well done, everyone.

## Christmas Quiz

- 1: Which GRYMG is a Christmas carol?
- 2: Originally associated with a Norse love goddess which plant do we still use as an excuse to steal a kiss at this time of the year?
- 3: What two words are normally pre-printed on a gift tag?
- 4: Who banned Christmas celebrations in England, in the middle of the 17<sup>th</sup> century?
- 5: Which reindeer was invented by Robin May to help advertise The Montgomery Ward Company stores?
- 6: What did JC Horsley print for the first time in 1843?
- 7: What is the name of the Jewish holiday that generally falls at (about) the same time as Christmas?
- 8: How many sides does a snow flake have?
- 9: What BR was Christmas number one in both 1975 and 1991?
- 10: On the sixth day of Christmas, what did my true love give to me according to the carol?

### Answers

1: God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen; 2: Mistletoe; 3: To, From; 4: Oliver Cromwell / Puritans ; 5: Rudolph the red nosed reindeer; 6: Christmas Card; 7 Hannukah; 8: Six; 9: Bohemian Rhapsody; 10: Geese-A-Laying.



## The President's Charity

The President's Charity this year, is Sophie's Legacy. They are a charity who support local families who end up in hospital with their child. Among other things, they offer the following support:

- Help with transport costs .
- Clothes when required in an emergency.
- Birthday parties in hospital.
- Emotional support.
- End of life wishes for children and their families.

Vouchers for meals at the hospital restaurant.

You can help by donating the following items



There is a donation box on the table by the desk.



# **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, no cutting corners.

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

**Car Stickers,** Have, you changed your car, do you need a car sticker just ask at the Stewards desk.

**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.

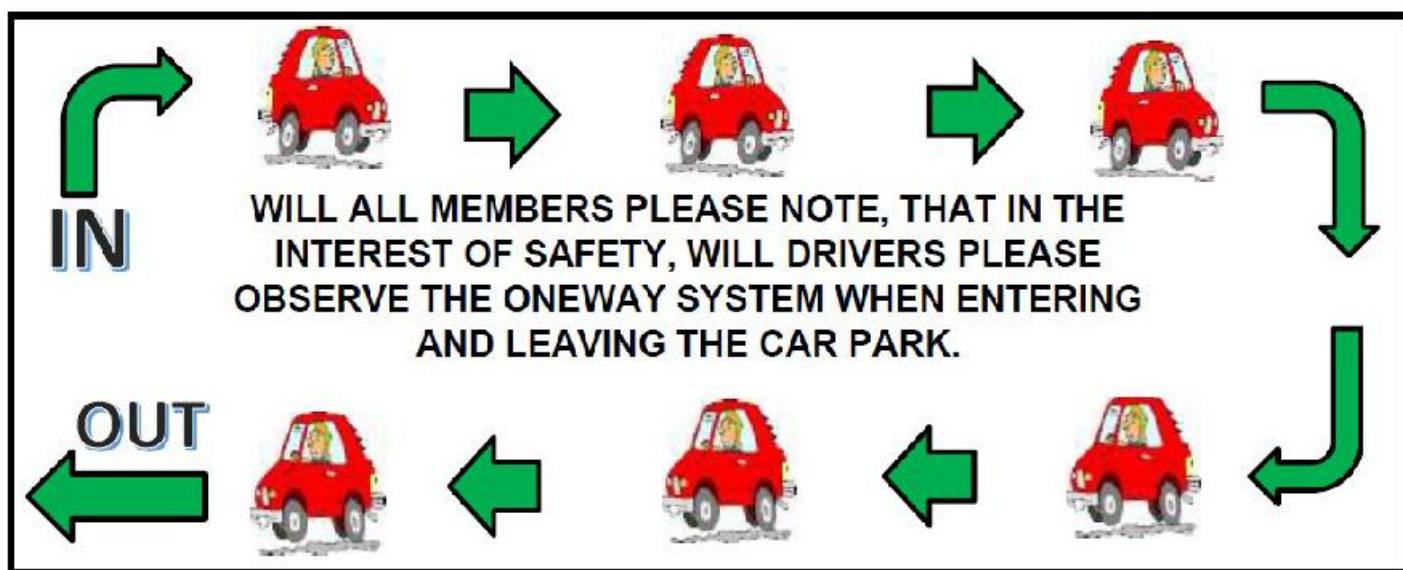
**Chewing Gum,** please refrain from chewing gum whilst bowling as gum has been found on the green and is difficult to remove and it damages the carpet.

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

**Score Cards,** please ensure that when you fill in your card that you have the player's full name or initial and full name on the card, please also ensure that you put the scores on the sheet that is up on the wall next to the bar.

**Mobile Phones:** please switch off your phone when you come into the club or at least put it on to silent mode.

**Please ensure that you use the One-Way system in the carpark.** You must drive around the carpark in the right direction, even if you want to park immediately in front of the building.



Let us know what you think of Palm Reader? Can it be improved?  
[media@palmerston-bowls.club](mailto:media@palmerston-bowls.club)