

Palm Reader



President's Report

We held a very successful horse racing evening. It was enjoyed by all that attended and raised £345 for The President's charity, Two Saints.

We are also putting up a small Christmas tree by my donation box. We are asking, instead of sending Christmas Cards, why don't you pop a label on the tree and a donation in my box, it will all go to help the local homeless.

The trip to Dorset was another very successful week. We all ate and drank too much, played some bowls, crib, darts, and pool. We had some very good costumes for our Halloween evening. We did well in the bowling with Rose Benyon's team winning and Adie's team coming third. With the fine money we made another £250 pounds for Two Saints. We are considering going again the same week next year if people are interested.



Two Saints

The President's charity for this year supports homeless people across the region.

Two Saints was originally formed in April 2001 through the merger of the Society of St Dismas (founded in 1962) and St Petroc Housing association (founded in 1972). Their head office is in Fareham although their services are located across the region.

Services include outreach to people who are sleeping rough, supported accommodation (direct access hostels, move-on accommodation, and resettlement flats), day centres, community support, Housing First, mental health support and landlord support services.



Their website is:

[https://
www.twosaints.org.uk/](https://www.twosaints.org.uk/)

Give directly at:

[https://www.justgiving.com/
page/palmerston-ibc-2](https://www.justgiving.com/page/palmerston-ibc-2)

Or place items in the box.

Why not play the Singles Ladder ?

Our new 1 Hour Singles Ladder, launched in September, is already proving a hit. In just a few weeks, 32 members have played 64 matches — (to end November and counting) and almost everyone has come back for more. That tells us something important: this format is enjoyable and worth trying.

So why not join in?

Some members may wonder if the ladder is “too serious” or only for the top bowlers. Not at all. If you’ve enjoyed our mixed drives, you’ll find familiar faces here. If you’ve played in the leagues, you’ll meet plenty of similar opposition.

The ladder is designed for everyone — not just the elite — and as it grows, we expect more evenly matched games, close scores, and plenty of excitement. Beginners, too, will be encouraged to step in once they’ve whetted their appetite with mixed drives.

The format is simple: win and you can climb up the ladder, lose and you drop a little. Movement keeps things fresh, and every game counts. It’s only 1 hour for £1.25 and you will get at least 40 bowls. It’s a great way to test yourself, improve, and enjoy non-serious competitive bowls in a friendly environment.

We currently play on Mondays at 4:00 pm and Tuesdays at 6:15 pm. If those times don’t suit you, let us know — we’re open to arranging additional sessions if there’s demand. No need to organise markers — we have an option of playing without a marker.

The Singles Ladder has the potential to become one of our most popular formats. Why not give it a try and see what you are missing. To sign-up to a session: see the list at the bottom of the league notice board or online - type this link into your browser tinyurl.com/1HrSingles



Thank You

Bill Jackson

**For more than twenty years service as
Finance Director, and keeping the club
financially sound for its entire
existence.**

SPRING BALL

WITH PAUL CASSEY

7th February 6:30 for 7:00

£27.50 Members - £28. 50 Guests

Black Tie or Smart Casual

New Game Format

Sets Play

This is a new format for some of the EIBA National Tournaments this season. The new format is called "SETS Play" and is being utilised in the Under-18 and Under-25 Singles Competitions as well as in the Open Pairs competition.

Under-18 and Under-25 Singles Competitions:

- Each match consists of two (2) sets of 9 ends with no time limit.
- If at any point in a set, one player is unable to win or draw given the number of ends remaining, the end is won by the opposing player
- If the game is tied after two (2) sets, a "best of three end 'tie breaker'" is played to determine the winner
- If the game is still drawn after three (3) tied ends have been played, then one (1) extra end is played.
- The match tie breaker is decided by the winner of each end, and not the total number of shots won in the three ends.
- Each set is played separately, and the scores from the first set do not carry over to the second set.
- The winner of the toss, prior to the start of the first set can choose to take the mat or give it to their opponent.
- The loser of the toss, prior to the start of the first set, has the option to take the mat or give it to their opponent on the second set
- The jack is respotted if it goes out of play to either side of the rink

Open Pairs

- Each match consists of two (2) sets of 9 ends, with a 3 hour and 30 minute time limit.
- If at any point in a set, one team is unable to win or draw given the number of ends remaining, the end is won by the opposing team
- If the game is tied after two (2) sets, then one additional end is played
- After each completed set each team has the option whether to change positions, however the opposition MUST be informed of the change, and MUST be completed before the jack is cast signalling the start of the next set or extra end.
- The jack is respotted if it goes out of play to either side of the rink

Past Presidents Friendly Match

I just wanted to say a very big thank you to you and your colleagues at Palmerston for our game on 19 October. Although I couldn't be there I've heard back from many of the players who've said how warmly they were welcomed by the members of Palmerston. They enjoyed a very friendly game followed by a very good meal. Could you please pass on our thanks to everyone at your club. *Malcolm James*



People Page

PERU AND BUST.

The Andes are the longest mountain range in the world and run down the western coast of South America for 4500 miles. So what was I, a 79 year old with a triple heart by-pass doing sitting astride a big Suzuki DR 650 Trail bike some 15,000 feet up in the Andes. I was on my latest motorcycle adventure with 6 of my dear friends.



We rode northwards out of Lima towards the Andes along Route 66 the Pan American Highway with me following our tour guide Franco with the other 6 riders close behind.

Our 1st Hotel on the Pacific coast was very good indeed, but during our 17 days in Peru the quality varied as way up in the Northern Andes there are few tourists and we had to make do with what was available. But it was all part of the adventure. The mountain roads and canyons made me feel as though I was 18 yrs old again. Even more to my surprise I found that my stamina, no doubt boosted by huge amounts of adrenalin, was standing up surprisingly well. Riding alone does have its drawbacks as I found out, but this was supposed to be a motorcycle adventure, so falling off and getting lost only added to my memories. Finding yourself on roads devoid of sign posts in a strange country can be rather concerning.

I finished up running low on petrol, then found an Indian lady with enough petrol in her tumbled down house to keep me going. Covering an extra 60 miles as darkness engulfed me on a pot holed road with oncoming traffic finally led me to our hotel for the night. A search party had been sent out for me but I got back before them! On the 12th day I took another tumble, this time on a tarmac road on a sharp right-hand bend on the brow of a small hump in the road. My leg finished up under the bike and wow it did hurt, but I said that I could carry on. It had started to rain and we were riding down hill when the rear brake was needed to slow for the numerous bends that confronted us. After some 75 miles I cried enough and managed to pull over to await

our back-up mini bus that was carrying our suit cases etc. My bike was tied onto the trailer and I sat inside, leg up on the rear seats.

The following day was to be a boat trip into the Amazonas that finished up with us in 2 dugout canoes with guides who paddled us silently through the backwaters of the Amazon with butterflies the size of footballs flying around us, monkeys swinging high up

in the trees and even a Sloe sitting motionless in the fork of a tree. My leg by this time was swelling up and most painful making moving around impossible. The boat crew pulled up onto an arinocca tree and hacked off a length of root and whittled out a beautiful walking stick that I now have at home.

The following morning left me with no option but to ask our guide to get me to a hospital. It was a Sunday and the small but well quipped mountain hospital X rayed my leg and informed me that it was broken into 3 pieces. (so I had ridden 75 miles with a broken leg) The Doctor plastered me up and I was wheel-chaired back out to the mini bus, but not before paying the bill that I had to question as it was just £17.00. We had decided to finish off our holiday with 2 days in the centre of Lima. The Hotel Bolivia provided me with a wheel chair so I was mobile now and could make my own way around the City whilst the others set off out to explore. I must say that I much enjoyed my short wheelchair experience out of the Hotel holding up the traffic to get across the road and meeting the locals. The homeward trip entailed 3 separate flights and with me in a wheelchair I was wheeled directly past all the queues and right up to my seat in the aircraft. What a way to travel!

Other than my annual membership fee to Palmerston it was the best £3500 that I have ever spent.

Gerry Gooch.

Christmas Bowls

CHRISTMAS IS COMING, and the club closes for 2 weeks
Monday 22 Dec - Sunday 4 Jan.

MIXED DRIVES

We are running the mixed drives again this year on the following dates and hope you will be coming along for a relaxed and fun game of bowls.

MONDAY 29th DECEMBER

TUESDAY 30th DECEMBER

FRIDAY 2nd JANUARY

SATURDAY 3rd JANUARY

This year we are unable to accommodate re-scheduled league matches and competitions.

Each day will have two sessions:

9.30am - 11.30am and 11.30am - 1.30pm.

There will be no bar or restaurant, so please bring your own refreshments. The atmosphere will be festive with casual dress (as Christmassy as possible) and music. Dressing up is optional but please try. Come along and enjoy yourselves.

Maggie Steward

Christmas Questions

The Christmas tree on display in Trafalgar square in London is an annual gift to the UK from which country?

By what name is Boxing Day (the 26th of December) also known?

When singing the "12 days of Christmas" in its entirety how many gifts are given in total?

How many sides does a snowflake have?

Norway, St Stephen's Day, 364, 6,.



"Christmas isn't a season. It's a feeling." — Edna Ferber

"Christmas magic is silent. You don't hear it—you feel it. You know it. You believe it." — Kevin Alan Milne

"The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear." — Buddy The Elf

"Maybe Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas... perhaps...means a little bit more!" — Dr. Seuss



"Thank goodness I remembered to bring those spares!"



Colchester Indoor Bowls Club

We were in Colchester for a couple of days and, seeing as we had a free afternoon, dropped into Colchester Indoor Bowls Club. Keith, the club manager, kindly showed us around and told us a bit about the club. They have six rinks, a compact bar area, a small restaurant and a bowls shop on site. Originally just three rinks, then an extension was added, which houses the other three rinks, changing rooms and toilet facilities. Annual membership is £120, rink fees are £4 for a two hour game.



Originally run as a members club, it was incorporated as a limited company, after lockdown, and a full-time business Manager appointed, when they realised that membership numbers were dropping and income falling off generally. This has the added advantage of protecting members from legal action, if the club should ever fold.

One of the things the new management identified, was that the summer season was under supported, and that was the easiest area in

which to develop extra income. A number of other changes have been implemented since then, with marketing and other initiatives aimed to increase summer membership and usage.

The directors take an active role in developing business opportunities for the club, while the general committee has been split into smaller groups with responsibility for specific areas of the club's operation. For example; there is a Bowls Committee and a Social Committee, each concentrating on developing the club's activities in those areas. We were interested to see that they have a Bridge Club and a Cribbage Club, as well as organising bingo and quiz nights and even a New Year's Eve party.

They use a commercial system, 'Bowlr', for managing online bookings, and allow bookings on an online monthly basis, with payment by cash or card at the bar. They don't have any volunteer stewards, but payments and rink management is overseen by Keith or the Bar Stewards, which means the club can stay open for longer during the summer season, offering more opportunities for members to bowl, and increasing income from rink fees, without raising prices.

Over all, it was a nice club, with friendly staff and bowlers, who all seemed happy to be there and were willing talk about their club. We would certainly join up, if ever we move up that way.

John & Andrea Bailey



POETRY

Christmas 2019.

This Christmas I remember the ones of long ago.
When there were frost patterns on the window
Framing snowy fields and a silver moon so low,
And the mantelpiece adorned with stockings in a row,
Above chestnuts roasting in an apple wood fire,
Beside simmering mash for pigs, calves out in the byre.

Each Christmas, I dream of days that used to be
Hiding presents here and there for all the family.
There were ribbons on the walls to hold the cards
While snowflakes danced across the farmyard.

Each Christmas I remember the fragrance in the air
Of mincepies and gingerbreads swirling everywhere.
The fat juicy goose in the oven was slowly left to roast,
The pudding slowly steaming; and cake is iced like frost.
Around pictures and mirrors, holly wreaths were hung,
We gathered at the piano and favourite carols were sung.

Each Christmas finds me longing for Christmases past.
As I cling to those fond memories that last and last,
Of those dear loved ones, who from this world are gone:
Mum and Dad, Brother and Wife; yet whose presence
lingers on.

Brian Lambert, December 2019.

Christmas Spirit

A spirit of giving felt grand,
As folks shared their time, hand in hand.
With laughter and cheer,
They spread love far and near,
Creating a bond that's well planned!

WEEDS bring MEMORIES.

The weather has been hot and dry
With hosepipe bans in place
No weeds to hoe, or long grass to mow
More bowls has taken place.

Spells of rain have now been seen
Making the garden lush and green
And I am on my hands and knees
Trying to get rid of countless weeds.

This mundane, fiddly, boring task
Has triggered memories of the past
Of when I was a Scout and Bob-a-Job
At posh old houses earning a "Bob"

Most often I weeded beds and borders.
On hands and knees, I followed orders
No matter how hard, or long the job
Most houses, just gave me a "Bob"

Many houses had leaded windows to wash
Small diamond shaped panes to clean, so posh
Another fiddly boring job
All I got was just that "Bob"

The weeding reminded me of another
My childhood times and with my father
At 67 he passed away, I was just 17
I often dream of what could have been.

My father had a part-time job
As a gardener to earn an extra Bob
He took me to houses where he earnt
Not hands-on I just watched and learnt

When I retired from my full time job
I needed to earn some extra "Bob"
So I worked on an 86-acre estate
As a gardener, well that's fate.

Note "Bob-a-Job" started in April 1949
Ending in 1992 due to Health & Safety concerns.

Derrick Fulker



SOLENT MOBILITY CENTRE

We have a partnership with Solent Mobility Centre. This means that Palmerston will receive 5% back to the club of any purchases made at the Centre.

To participate members must provide the unique code '0022' when making a purchase. This is a win-win for both.

BOWLSWEAR DIRECT

Bring their roadshow to the club on a regular basis. Look out for the notices behind the desk. They can supply bowls, bowls bags, bowls shoes, accessories, clothing and all Bowls related equipment.

BOOK THE RESTAURANT FOR PRIVATE BUFFETS...

01329 232214

Debbie@djc-catering.co.uk



Contribute to Palm Reader?

Palm Reader is our club newsletter, and while it contains a lot of club information, it should also be entertaining. Can you help?

Could you interview people for Palm Reader? Or write a short report on things that you have done? Bowls articles are best, but members have a wide range of interests, and other subjects are welcome. Or perhaps send us a poem, letter, short story, or a memory of a good Christmas or holiday?

Contact John Bailey via media@palmerston-bowls.club or the pigeon holes.



Courtesy of Peter Allwood

PARAPROSDOKIANS are figures of speech in which the latter Part of a sentence is unexpected. Winston Churchill loved them.

Some examples:

Behind every successful man is his woman. Behind the fall of a successful man is usually another woman.

A clear conscience is the sign of a bad memory.

I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not so sure.

Nostalgia isn't what it used to be. Nor is there any future in it.

Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.

Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in your garage makes you a car.

I'm supposed to respect my elders, but it's getting harder and harder for me to find one now.

And my personal favourite:

I am not arguing with you, I am explaining why you are wrong.



CHRISTMAS

— WORD SEARCH —



J I N G L E D E C O R A T I O N X D G F
 M T S S N X J C J O G I C I C L E T D U
 E I A Y D H O S D K F E I V S N L R M U
 T W T M H Z B D A E R B R E G N I G I B
 A Z H T Y S C Q J S S R E X R X B P A N
 L S P S E Z N Q A U T N T Q R S E U H W
 O L P L X N E O T O O A A I N E B X O G
 C E K E K X S W W W O B E L K L M Z V O
 O I N I W Z N R B M B S W M E J E O P N
 H G R G K F A U B Z A V S C H G T E N G
 C H E H A J T I S M T N C W T H P N S G
 T O E B X L I E T G S R C U P P Y A U E
 O P D E W M V S P N A K Q L E T R G A K
 H U N L J L I S R O E L O R S F E O L A
 L D I L S R T W E E F D M O B L Q O C L
 D D E H H O Y Y S L U I R Y D M T D A F
 S I R C B B E Q E R N F J N G B N W T W
 W N C S T C M K N T G V A I R U N I N O
 W G O Q V I H B T X U C D I K X Y L A N
 R F E E R T S A M T S I R H C O L L S S

— WORD LIST —

BAUBLE	COZY	GINGERBREAD	JINGLE	PRESENT	SLEIGH
BOOTS	DECORATION	GNOME	MITTENS	PUDDING	SLEIGH BELL
CANDLE	EGGNOG	GOODWILL	NATIVITY	REINDEER	SNOWFLAKE
CHRISTMAS	FEAST	HOT CHOCOLATE	NOEL	RUDOLPH	SNOWMAN
CHRISTMAS TREE	FROSTY	ICICLE	PEPPERMINT	SANTA CLAUS	SWEATER

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.com

“In our perfect ways. In the ways we are beautiful. In the ways we are human. We are here. Happy New Year’s. Let’s make it ours.” — *Beyoncé*

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.

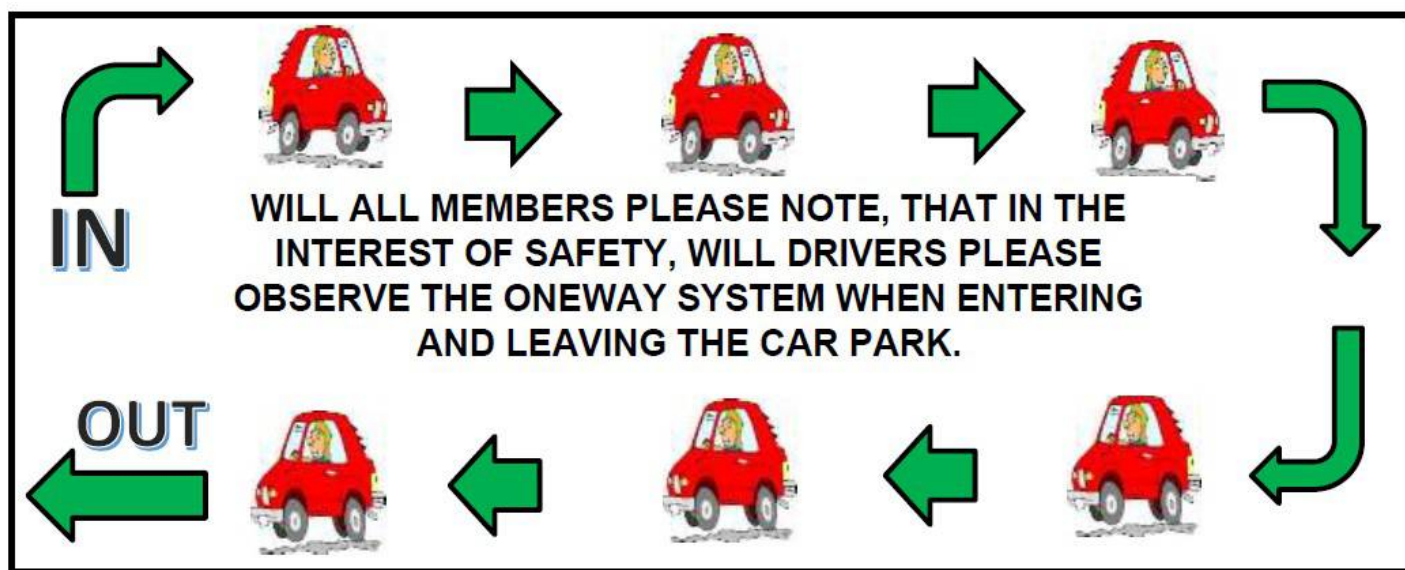
Chewing Gum, please refrain from chewing gum whilst bowling as gum has been found on the green and is difficult to remove and it damages the carpet.

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 surname 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