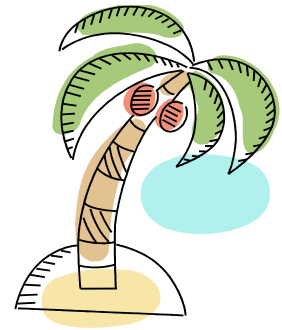


PALM READER

The Palmerston Indoor Bowls Club Magazine



September 2015
Issue 64

Our New President

Hello everyone I am Daphne Blackburn and I have taken over as the club President for the year. As President I have chosen the Parkinson's Society as my charity, and as you will all know by now I have completed my first task in raising money for the charity, I abseiled down the Spinnaker Tower and to date have raised over £1400 pounds.

There will be many friendly matches held throughout the year where we have bowlers from other clubs come to visit and play and I need your support to make these games successful which will both help the club and my charity. It is also good to show off our wonderful club and its facilities.

PARKINSON'S^{UK}
CHANGE ATTITUDES.
FIND A CURE.
JOIN US.



WE DESPERATELY NEED

A Lady Vice President to be President in April 2017 - April 2018. The main duties involved are to play in and front the friendly club matches & to chair the meetings of the J.M.C. Financial support is available for top rink prizes etc.

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

CLUB COMPETITIONS

Entry forms are now available for the Men's and Mixed Internal Club Competitions. These forms can be found on line using the club website or hard copies can be found in the club foyer opposite the Steward's desk. The Closing Date for entries is Sunday 27th September 2015.

PALMERSTON CUP COMPETITION

The Palmerston Cup competition will run again this year. At this stage it looks as though there will be at least 14 teams entered, in which case the competition will run on Sunday evenings from late September 2015 until mid to late March 2016. More details will be available in the next edition of the Palm Reader.

Keith Fleming

The Website

A website is a very important part of today's technology. It is also one of the best ways of conveying information to both people we know, as well as those who we don't. For some time now the Palmerston Indoor Bowls Club site has been designed and maintained by Russell Gadd. Call it fortuitous or just a moment of complete fluke, but I saw the notice board at the club a few weeks ago that listed all the roles of the committee. I happened to make a passing comment similar to: - "I wouldn't mind helping to run, maintain and update the website, possibly to even give it a new look and design". Well the word was passed to those in the know and next minute, I was in touch with Russell and talking all things html, php, MySQL, scripts and conversion rates.

Whoa, I hear you say. What on earth are you talking about? Well, put simply, these are just some of the terms of phrase used in web design. Russell and I chatted in the office one morning for about an hour or so discussing things of the web. The result of that chat? I was to take over the Palmerston website in its entirety. I am sure that you will all like me wish to pass on our thanks for all that he has done so far. Without this chap Palmerston simply wouldn't have a web presence. As I mentioned earlier, people rely heavily on being able to access information at the touch of a few mouse clicks. I am now prepared along with the help of all you club members to continue the excellent work started by Russell.

Please do not hesitate to contact me via the usual email address:

webmaster@palmerston-bowls.org.uk

Steve Ellis

NOTES AND REMINDERS

We are considering obtaining a Defibrillator and I hope to arrange a time when detailed information can be given to as many members as possible.

We are now collecting newspapers only for the Stubbington Ark - they are used for bedding etc for the dogs.

The Sweets/Cakes etc from the various charities appear to be misused in that the money is not being put in the appropriate boxes, please ensure that if you buy something put the money in the box.

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

We continue to collect bras for the Hampshire and I.O.W Air Ambulance, please place in bag provided in Ladies Changing Room.

Stamps are welcome for Canine Partners; again there is a container in the Ladies Changing Room.

The Bonus Ball which has been running for many years could do with more support! At present we have 49 numbers available each week with the winner getting £30 and the club £19. The form and box is always on the desk outside the committee room. When the lottery numbers increase to 59, the money will be £40 for the winner and again £19 for the club. Every little helps.

The club handbooks for 2015/16 are now available; please help yourself from the desk.

Janet Mudd Hon Secretary

CLUB CAR PARK

The club car park has a one way system that needs to be adhered to, please do not take short cuts as this could result in an accident.

CAN YOU HELP

Can you spare some time by joining our team of Stewards.

This can involve as little as a couple of hours a week and it is a vital role in the running of our club.

For this you will be given 2 tokens which will pay for 2 games of bowls.

Please support your club by volunteering now, for further information please contact: Marie Leonard on 01329 841084

YOUR CLUB NEED YOU

FIRE ALARM TESTING

Many of you will be aware that Bernard Spall has been a regular visitor to the club on Mondays to carry out tests on the fire alarm system to ensure that all is working satisfactorily. It is something that we are legally required to do and we are very much indebted to Bernard for the diligent and efficient way he has carried out these duties over the years – on behalf of the club may I express our heartfelt thanks.

Unfortunately, Bernard is no longer able to continue in this role, and so we are in urgent need of a volunteer (or volunteers, as this could easily be done on a job-share basis), to take over the fire alarm testing. The testing is a clearly defined, step-by-step procedure, so there is no need to feel daunted at the prospect of taking it on.

If you are interested in helping, please leave a note for me at the desk, or send an email to the Palmerston web site

CARPET CLEANING

As the winter season approaches, we will once again need to start hovering the carpet on a weekly basis. Last season, there were enough volunteers to ensure that each person only had to complete two cleans during the whole season. Unfortunately, not every volunteer from last season is available this year; so once again, we are putting out an appeal for volunteers to keep the carpet in the condition that we have become accustomed to.

The hover is not particularly heavy or difficult to manage, so the job could be done by most people. For information, a clean takes approximately an hour and a quarter, and is good for the waistline!

If you feel that you would like to help, then please contact me.

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.

Andrew Miller

Rink Manager



Social News

The Social committee have planned a fairly full social programme for the 2015 / 2016 season.

We are trying to vary the format somewhat to include a disco type dinner / dance and a buffet / dance with a disco. Don't worry, no "head banging" we will be dancing to music the majority will enjoy. We intend to hold at least one quiz during the winter season.

All the dinner / dances are subject to selling a viable number of tickets (at least 60) and although we intend to run all the proposed functions we have in the past had to cancel some, as well as the dinner only functions, through lack of support. We may well try the dinner only events again in the future

The social functions are run so that all members and their partners can have fun, using our wonderful facilities, in addition to enjoyment we all get from the bowling aspects of the club. As with all the other voluntary officers and helpers at Palmerston, the social committee spend many hours planning and running the functions. Please read the notices carefully with regard to the purchasing of the tickets. We have to finalise numbers for catering a week in advance of the dinner / dances.

We would like to thank all members who attend the dances for their support and invite everyone to give them a go.

Please watch out for all forthcoming events on the Social notice board.

Social Calendar 2015 /16

September 26th - Autumn dinner / dance with Phil Owen

October 14th - Quiz afternoon and tea

October 31st - Halloween dinner / dance with Derek Ince

November 28th - Winter dinner / dance with Gary Matthews

December 12th - Christmas dinner / dance with the Simpsons

January 16th - Buffet / dance with DJ Daz

February 13th - Valentines dinner / dance with Phil Owen

March 19th - Irish night dinner / dance

All dates and entertainers are subject to any unforeseen change. All dinner / dances are subject to selling a viable number of tickets (at least 60)

SOCIAL NEWS CONTINUED

Cribbage

The crib meetings have been well supported and all who have attended have enjoyed themselves. The numbers attending have increased each month and its hoped that it will continue to do so. The meetings are usually held the last Wednesday of the month at 2pm. Cribbage cannot take place during the summer months due to the Club being closed in the afternoons. September is when the next crib meeting will be held and the booking form will be posted on the notice board in August. Dates for all crib meetings during the winter season will be displayed on the notice board when dates have been confirmed.

Sylvia Wrightson, Shirley Hunt, Brian Hayles

Social Committee

Booking Procedure.

I must remind you once again of the procedure when booking the restaurant for a private function. If you have decided on a specific date you need to fill in an application form (available at the reception desk) requesting the hire of the restaurant and forward to me. Only when I receive your application form is your request confirmed. A reservation made by a telephone call to me is not a confirmation. If you do not forward an application form to me you could lose the date you requested. I must also point out that before signing the application form, please read the conditions of hire stated on the back of the form.

Your signature is a statement that you accept the conditions as read.

The member who sponsor's a function must attend on the night as he or she is responsible for overseeing the entire evening and dealing with any problems that may arise. It is also the responsibility of the member to have a completed list of the names and addresses of the guests that are attending the function. All guests must be signed in by the member as temporary members when entering the Club. This is one of the conditions of hire that must be adhered to, but there have been occasions when no list has been presented.

Please also ensure that the fire alarm procedures are announced at the beginning of the evening. This is mandatory.

You can phone me if you have any queries about the hiring of the restaurant.

My phone number can be obtained from the duty steward.

Sylvia Wrightson

Director of Catering.

The Grumpy Bowler.

Being a `Bowler` can be a pain can't it!

I am, I must point out though, referring to my back, but my eyes are very close to being included I must admit.

And there are one or two other matters concerning bowling that do irritate me these days.

Why do the two front doors need to open in the different directions?

OK they may have `Pull` and `Push` on them but I don't always remember to read the signs and as I can never remember which is which 9 times out of 10 I get it wrong.

So why not install a rotary door as that way everyone knows which way they go and you just have to push a bar.

While I am on outdoor matters I would also like to suggest that we ban short cars from the car park!

In my attempts to park as close to the front door as is possible I cruise around the lines of cars and when I see a gap I put my foot on the throttle to get there before anyone else can see it. You can imagine my utter frustration when I find a short car hidden behind the big 4x4. Oh yes ban short cars!

Why anyone would want to take on the role of President of the club with all its responsibilities I really do not know, well until I noticed the real reason.

The President gets the best car parking place right next to the front door!

I am seriously considering applying for the post this year as I am fed up with finding myself having to park at the back of the car park and to trudge all the way to the front door. Of course if the walk ways were covered that would make it much less disagreeable when it is pouring down with rain.

But why not cover the complete car park so everyone stays dry!

On another matter, I have always been frightened of the dark and when I say "Frightened" I mean absolutely petrified. Why do the loos and the changing rooms need to be kept in complete and utter darkness? When I open the door my heart misses a beat as I find myself confronted with a black void. For all that I know there may be a gaping chasm or some ugly creature waiting there to devour me as I enter. I will stretch my arm inside to get the lights to switch on, often without success and then very reluctantly raise my leg. But even when I do manage to get the lights to switch on I am in a state of minor panic half expecting them to turn off once I am inside.

My final gripe is about the `Roast Potatoes` that Debbie serves up in the restaurant. I have been doing the best that I can to keep my weight down and then Debbie goes and ruins all of my efforts by serving up the most generous portion and glorious roast potatoes that anyone can imagine. Why can she not think of us a little more and at least serve us a slightly smaller portion as 6 potatoes is really just too much for me. But I suppose that I could take a `Doggy Bag` and take them home for a fry up later! Now that is an idea isn't it!

The Grumpy Bowler.

Out Going Presidents End of Year Speech

I was taken completely off guard by the presentation of an Inscribed crystal glass depicting my year as president. For once I was speechless, all I managed to mumble was thank you. It deserved better words than that.

A year ago I said as president there were some hard acts to follow. If I have managed to do this, it has been because of all the help and advice I have had from various people in the club thank you to all.

A special vote of thanks goes to Daphne & Barry who have attended all the friendlies and helped behind the scenes

I would also like to thank someone who organised the getting of raffle prizes and the sorting of the tickets on match days

Thank you Marie.

My charity was the Gosport & Fareham branch of the Multiple Sclerosis Society which has had great support

In January Marie and I were invited to attend their annual dinner at the club and I was delighted to give them a cheque for £1250, since then however we have raised another £250 which I will hand over shortly.

This excellent sum was due to the donations of money and raffle prizes from the club and club members

On behalf of the Society and myself thank you.

David Mac Gregor

On The Lighter Side

I found myself in a pub in County Cork.

A group of American tourists came in.

One of the Americans said, in a loud voice :

"I hear you Irish think you're great drinkers.

I bet 5,000 euro's that no one here can drink 30 pints of Guinness in 30 minutes."

The bar was silent; the American noticed one Irishman leaving.

No one took up the bet.

Forty minutes later the Irishman who had left earlier returned, and said,

"Hey Yank, is your bet still on?"

"Sure" said the American, "Thirty pints in 30 minutes for a bet of 5,000 euro's."

"Grand," replied the Irishman, "so pour the pints and start the clock."

It was very close but the last drop was consumed with 2 seconds to spare.

"OK Yank, pay up." said the Irishman.

"I'm happy to pay, here's your money." said the American.

"But tell me, when I first offered the bet I saw you leave.

Where did you go?"

The Irishman replied: "Well sir, 5,000 euro's is a lot of money to a man like me, so I went to the pub across the road to see if I could do it."