



PALM READER

The Palmerston Indoor Bowling Club Magazine

September 2013
Issue 58

My First Edition of The Palm Reader

I have volunteered to have a go at producing the Palm Reader I do this with some reservation as the previous editor Brian is a very hard act to follow. I will endeavour to produce the Palm Reader on a quarterly basis but to do this I will need help from all of you, I would be grateful to receive your contributions whether it be letters, photo's, information on competitions, social events or information on leagues. I will get the next edition out in December but please remember I need your help to do so, you can contact me by email at amleonard1942@gmail.com or place any item in my pigeon hole.

THANKS TO ALL WHO SUPPORTED MY YEAR AS HAMPSHIRE COUNTY WOMEN'S PRESIDENT. MY CHARITY COLLECTIONS RAISED OVER £2,500.00 FOR CANINE PARTNERS, OVER £1,000.00 OF THIS WAS RAISED BY BRUCE BEDFORD'S SHAVE OFF.

Hello Everyone

I am Janet Livingston and I have the great honour of becoming the club President for this year. As President I hope that you will support me in the Friendly Games that are planned for this year also my charity which is Macmillan Cancer Support. I will be selling raffle tickets on the week running up to my Presidents Charity Match on Saturday 5th October, the raffle will be drawn on that Saturday. I have two designs of badges which will be on sale, please support me to raise as much money as I can for a worthy cause.

I HOPE THAT THE LADIES WHO PLAYED IN THE COUNTY MATCHES WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO.

Janet Mudd

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

In This Issue

- INFORMATION ON FRIENDLY MATCHES
- WEBSITE 'REBIRTH'
- RINK NEWS
- LEAGUE INFORMATION
- SOCIAL EVENTS
- COMPETITIONS

WELCOME

We should like to welcome the ex Havant bowlers who have joined us since their club was forced to close and hope that they will enjoy being Palmerston members.



Web Site Rebirth

Late night November 2012 somewhere in the depths of Stubbington: "Damn and blast it - why won't it work properly?" I was getting more and more frustrated. You know what it's like - you click on something and nothing happens. I had used this software before and, although it was pretty primitive, it seemed to do enough. Now it just wasn't doing anything useful. How am I going to update our website?

A quick googling reveals that the software is old and no longer supported. It doesn't look like something worth putting more effort into. Hmm. So I sit and think.

Our website has just 6 pages of information which hasn't changed in the past 4 years except for the occasional news item I've added. Do we spend time/money updating it? Do we abandon it? No I decide - this is the future. But it isn't very impressive. It was started as an effort to increase membership - a sort of internet advertisement, but any site which remains so static is quickly ignored. And it's of no interest to our 1000 members.

I stew over it for a couple of days. Although I've been into computers for 3 decades I have no knowledge of the innards of websites. Time to do some reading. I ask some questions on one of my favourite forums. These are people (geeks) much like myself and the consensus was - you can do it yourself - you don't need to pay others. Don't use "easy" web site creation software - they get you hooked - the more involved you get the more tied you are to their product. And there are tons of these, all different, all promising a great site for a few pounds. Buyer beware.

So I buy a couple of books and do some playing. Yes books - I prefer to learn from books not from web pages. After some hesitation - do I want to create yet another job for myself? - I make a decision and ask the Board for permission to take over the website.

Christmas passes and into 2013. I have given notice, found a hosting company and taken ownership of the domain name. I have captured the existing pages (easy for anyone to do). I begin creating a look-alike with the object of at least duplicating what is already there.

Thursday 16th January - I look at the weather forecast. "Good God - it's going to snow!". Panic - what a godsend! I must act quickly. I have only just managed to get 2 pages working. The site consists of 4 old pages and 2 new pages with a different format. The rest of the day is spent feverishly getting the other pages in line.

8:40 am on the 18th and it's white everywhere and snowing hard. I ring up Andrew. I quickly put the news on the website. Janet and Lesley are at the club supposed to be doing the money but starting to get phone calls - "...we are not open - we have had to close the Club". Gotcha!

This was an opportunity too good to miss. On Monday when the Club was open again I strewed a notice around the tables in the club: "Did you try to phone the club on Friday to find out if it was open or did you think of looking at the website? ...". What a perfect advertisement.

This was only the beginning. I had become a webmaster and the infant was about to grow. But that's another story.



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the website www.palmerston-bowls.org.uk/index.html. The browser's address bar and tabs are visible at the top. Below the browser window, the website's content is shown. On the left side, there is a vertical navigation menu with the following items: News, About, Memberships, Directions, Contact, Video, Links, Calendar, Leagues, League Tables, Competitions, Newsletter, Gallery, and Site Guide. The main content area on the right features a large blue header with the text "Palmerston Indoor Bowls". Below the header, there are several sections of text and links. The first section is titled "Competitions 2013-14" and contains the text: "The entry form for the Club Competitions (all except Ladies com download from the Competitions section. Closing date S". The second section is titled "Match Calendar" and contains the text: "The schedule of matches for the new Winter season is now virtu". The third section is titled "New League Programmes" and contains the text: "The new league programmes for next Winter season are now av Please note the reduced Summer opening times (see Calendar), can now print them here from this web site (see Leagues section". The fourth section is titled "Palmerston Cup 2013-14" and contains the text: "The draw has now been made. The schedule of matches and a".

A COUPLE OF REMINDERS

Have you changed your car, phone number or address if so please can you inform:

Lesley Howell

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.

We do need a Ladies Vice President to assist Janet Livingston and David Mac Gregor with the friendly matches etc. Can we have a volunteer please.

Palmerston will be hosting some important County Matches this year; County Men's over 60's against Wiltshire on November 6th at 2pm, Men's Liberty Trophy 1st round against Middlesex on Saturday November 23rd at 10am and the Ladies Atherly Trophy against Surrey on Sunday December 8th at 11am. These will be worth while watching because the bowling will be of a very high standard.

PALMERSTON CUP

This competition is for outdoor clubs bowling against each other on the indoor carpet at Palmerston. It is an Open Triples competition with each team providing three rinks of players. Thirteen teams have entered this year, which shows the competition is growing in popularity. The teams have been divided into two Pools, one with seven teams, the other with six. A team will play each other team in their Pool just once and a league table will be built up. There are six points for an overall win across the three rinks, and two points for each winning rink, so twelve points are available for each game. The top two teams in each Pool progress through to the knockout semi-finals and finals.



Matches are played on Sunday 6.30 p.m. The first match is on 2013 and there are matches each Finals on 2nd March 2014. The these Sunday evenings, **so if your night, why not come and support them.** A list of fixtures is displayed on the notice board and can also be found on the club website. Trophies and cheques for the top teams will be presented on Finals Night, when a free buffet is also provided.

evenings starting at Sunday 29th September week right up to the bar will be open on **team is playing that**

KEITH FLEMING

Men's & Mixed Competition Secretary

CLUB COMPETITIONS

The closing date for entries into the Mens and Mixed competitions is Sunday 29th September 2013. There is a new competition this year - an Open 2 Wood Pairs Competition. Open means competitors can be two ladies, two men or one man and one lady. Entry forms should be available in the club foyer, or can be downloaded at palmerston-bowls.org.uk

League Information

For the 2013/14 season we have 23 additional teams from last season in the same leagues. Much of this is due to additional members arriving from the demise of Havant Indoor Bowls Club.

There is a vacant slot commencing at 8:15pm on Tuesday evenings. This is planned to be filled with structured practice sessions where players will be encouraged to practice skills and eliminate weaknesses.

There will be facilities to practice firing, playing "yard on" or "push & stay", drawing to minimum length & drawing to various specific lengths all of which can be backhand or forehand.

It is intended to develop a scoring system which will measure the success (or otherwise) of your own practice sessions.

YOUR COUNTY NEEDS YOU



Hampshire County Indoor Bowls Association arranges friendly matches with other County Associations. This is a great opportunity to play on different rinks in a friendly environment.

All male bowlers are encouraged to apply for selection. After your first match you will receive your colts badge, after playing five matches you will have the opportunity to purchase a county blazer badge, after 25 matches you can purchase a special flash.

This season there are 16 matches, 10 on Sundays, one on Saturday and 5 on Wednesdays. For the most distant four matches, a coach is arranged to leave from Banister Park.

For further information please contact Bill Jackson

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF STEWARD

Firstly I would like to thank all of the stewards who are stepping down, without whom the club would not run as smoothly as it does.

I am looking to recruit new stewards to assist with collecting green fees, fire evacuation duties, checking visitors are signed in and collecting monies for temporary memberships.

As repayment for your services you will receive vouchers to be redeemed against your game of bowls.

All interested parties please forward your name and contact number via the club letter rack.

CHARLES LIVINGSTON

Forthcoming Social Events

A Halloween Dinner Dance is being held on October 26th. The entertainer will be Phil Owen, a vocalist guitarist, who has attended several of our Social Functions. Witches will be welcome and may park their "Broomsticks" in the car park!!

We will be having a "Spooky" menu.

Come along and enjoy an evening of dining and entertainment. Posters and booking forms will be posted on the notice board. A Social event in December is being considered but nothing yet finalised.

We will be holding our New Year's party again. An entertainer has been offered the booking and we are awaiting confirmation. The bar will be closed so you will need to bring your own drink and glasses. The provision of a buffet is yet to be discussed. The parties held for the past two years have been a success thanks to your support.

Further details will be posted on the notice board nearer the time.

Dates for 2014

Saturday 15th February: Valentine Dinner Dance

Saturday 15th March: Irish Dancers

Club Social Function's are held for you to enjoy and need your support to make them a success. Please keep supporting them. Watch the notice board for details of all functions being held.



Sylvia Wrightson



WINTER RACE NIGHT

The next race night will be on Saturday 23rd November

Details will be on the social board in due course

SUMMER BOWLERS

Next year in February time, I shall put up the sheets for booking teams into the various leagues.

The sheets will have the names of the team leaders who played this year on them in pencil.

If you want to play – fill in your team names.

If you do not want to play, rub out your name or add another team leader.

The winners of the summer leagues are as

follows

Monday:	D. Hiddleston
Tuesday:	T. McAlear
Tuesday:	G. Edwards (11.30)
Wednesday:	M. Brown
Thursday:	D. Hiddleston
Friday:	W. Roach.

Peggy Mudd

Friendly Matches

The friendly matches against other clubs are starting for the new season. These form an important part of the Palmerston culture i.e. meeting other clubs, bringing in revenue for the club and catering. We have a fairly full programme of mixed matches both from visiting clubs and our own internal friendly ones.

There will be a touring team from Diss and District visiting on the Saturday 9th November so we must make sure we have our 32 players for this fixture which will include tea and biscuits at half time but no after match meal.

On 26th January we will be travelling to the Riverside indoor bowling club which is our only away fixture in the friendly match season and requires six rinks.

Palmerston will be entertaining Bannister Park on the 16th March with again a full complement of 32 players needed.

Most of the other clubs visiting are regulars to Palmerston with the exception of Waterside who we play on the 19th January.

We had a good season last year with no cancellations due to lack of numbers. The club has increased the number of playing members including our friends from Havant.

Anyone who has never played in a friendly before is most welcome so don't be afraid to 'have a go', you will enjoy it. You will need whites and Palmerston stickers for the woods but these can all be bought quite reasonably.

Can I ask that members please support the fixtures for the 2013 / 2014 season especially with regard to the away match and the Diss / Bannister fixtures.

You can see all the friendly match dates in this edition of Palm Reader, on the notice board or on the website which is very informative and includes all other matches to be played at Palmerston

So please make the winter friendly season successful.

Thank you

Brian Hayles

Match Secretary

Date	Day	Home Away Other	Start Time	Home / Trophy	Visitor	No. Rinks	Match Type	Yes	No	Meal Tea
05/10/13	Sat	Home	14:00	President's Charity Match		8	Mixed triples / 4s	x		
13/10/13	Sun	Home	10:00	Liberty Trial		7	Mens fours		x	
13/10/13	Sun	Home	14:00	Palmerston	Oakley	6	Mixed triples	x		
20/10/13	Sun	Home	10:00	Liberty Trial		6	Mens fours		x	
20/10/13	Sun	Home	14:00	Bill Bowshell Trophy		8	Mixed triples	x		
27/10/13	Sun	Home	10:00	Liberty shakedown v Surrey		6	Mens fours		x	
02/11/13	Sat	Home	14:00	Atherley ladies trials		6	Ladies fours		x	
03/11/13	Sun	Home	09:30	Coaching Day		8	Mixed fours		x	
06/11/13	Wed	Home	14:00	Liberty v Wilts		8	Mens fours		x	
09/11/13	Sat	Home	14:00	Palmerston	Diss and District	8	Mixed fours			x?
16/11/13	Sat	Home	14:00	Anniversary Match		8	Mixed fours	x		
17/11/13	Sun	Home	11:00	Atherley Hants Ladies	Surrey	6	Ladies fours	x		
23/11/13	Sat	Home	10:00	Liberty prelim v Middlesex		6	Mens fours		x	
24/11/13	Sun	Home	14:00	Palmerston	Hants Hogs	6	Mixed fours	x		
01/12/13	Sun	Home	14:00	Palmerston	Romsey	6	Mixed fours	x		
14/12/13	Sat	Home	14:00	Ann Broadhurst Trophy		8	Mixed fours	x		
05/01/14	Sun	Home	14:00	Palmerston	Eastleigh Railway	6	Mixed triples	x		
12/01/14	Sun	Home	14:00	Palmerston	Totton & Eling	8	Mixed triples	x		
19/01/14	Sun	Home	14:00	Palmerston	Waterside	6	Mixed triples	x		
22/01/14	Wed	Home	14:00	Ladies Fun Day		6	Mixed fours	x		
26/01/14	Sun	Away	14:00	Riverside	Palmerston	6	Mixed fours	x		
02/02/14	Sun	Home	14:00	Palmerston	Tongham	6	Mixed fours	x		
09/02/14	Sun	Home	14:00	Palmerston	County BC	6	Mixed fours	x		
16/02/14	Sun	Home	10:00	Youth Tour		8	Mixed fours		x	
22/02/14	Sat	Home	14:00	County Ladies		6	Ladies fours	x		
23/02/14	Sun	Home	14:00	Betty Metherill Trophy		8	Mixed triples / 4s	x		
02/03/14	Sun	Home	14:00	Palmerston	Christie Miller	6	Mixed fours	x		
09/03/14	Sun	Home	14:00	Palmerston	BTC	6	Mixed triples	x		
12/03/14	Wed	Home	14:00	Hants Ladies	Herts	8	Ladies fours	x		
16/03/14	Sun	Home	14:00	Palmerston	Bannister Park	8	Mixed fours	x		
22/03/14	Sat	Home	14:00	Hants Ladies	Sussex	8	Ladies fours	x		
23/03/14	Sun	Home	14:00	Palmerston International		8	Mixed fours	x		

RINK NEWS

CARPET AND UNDERLAY

Many people have approached me over the past few months with questions such as “is it right that we’re going to replace the carpet this year” or “is it true that the underlay is being replaced”. It may be worth stating what the current position is.

UNDERLAY SITUATION

The present underlay was put down in August 2007; Dales Sports Surfaces, who maintain our carpet under contract, state that underlays will generally last for 6 to 8 years. Of course this depends on the type of usage it gets, from traffic volume to the number of “Barnes Wallis” type deliveries! What is evident at the moment is that, with the carpet running at 18.4 secs (and it hasn’t been this quick in my time as rink manager over the past six years nor at any time in our history according to the records) then there’s no need to panic, Mr Mannering! Obviously we are beginning to enter a period when we might start to see a deterioration in the physical state of the underlay which will result in slower speeds – I say speeds because past evidence (and Dales tell me this is generally the same elsewhere) is that the end carpet panels, nearest the bar and at the far end of rinks, where the surface gets most wear, will start to show a slower running speed. In the last few yards it will appear as if the woods are having a hand brake applied.

We will clearly have to monitor the situation in the next couple of years. If we want to replace the underlay alone then we are looking at a cost of approx. £12,000. One new development here is that Dales have started to market their own underlay, which is slightly thinner and harder than the standard (Duralay) product we have and which is in use at most clubs. The company state that it will guarantee a speed of at least 18 secs where this is used for existing carpets. I have a sample of this if anyone wishes to see it.

SOME PHOTOGRAPHS OF PAST RINK MAINTENANCE

Having chatted to a couple who had taken up bowling 2 years ago, it became clear that they wanted to know much more about the rink – what was under the carpet, how was it fixed, what was the carpet speed and how was it measured, what did the underlay look like etc. It occurred to me that there were probably many more like this that have joined in the past few years. So with apologies to those who have seen it all before, I have dug out some photos taken during our standard August maintenance break over past years.



This was taken, looking towards the bar, whilst the old underlay was being removed in 2007. Note the wooden flooring (10 x 2 ft chipboard), the direction of the underlay (approx. 4 ft wide and running in one piece from rink 1 to rink 8) and that only the last panel of carpet remains (the others have all been unstitched and rolled up).

CARPET

The carpet in use is the original one installed at the opening of the club in 1997. It was reversed in 2008 and cleaned to gain a few more years life and the prediction, at that stage, was that this would be in the region of 5 years. Having seen the condition of the reversed side in 2008 (the present playing surface), there seems little difference to the present day condition. With this background a senior director of Dales was invited to give an assessment of its condition. After walking across a wide area of the rink he felt there was at least 4 to 5 years life left, probably more!

In this case there is likely to be a need for the underlay to be replaced before the carpet. The problems that will need addressing include:-

Carpet replacement at present prices will cost approx £25,000; the underlay will cost approx. £12,000. If they are both done together the cost will be approx. £32,000.

Is it worth paying the additional £5,000 to retain the existing carpet, in all probability for a period that could stretch to 3 to 5 years beyond the life of the underlay. In this case the present speed is likely to be retained.

If both carpet and underlay are replaced there is undoubtedly going to be a 2 year period before the carpet settles to anything like the present speed (confirmed by Dales) but the cost will be cheaper.

If the underlay is solely replaced, will the carpet stand up to being unstitched/stitched again (it has been done at least 3 times to my knowledge). The answer provided by Dales is that the underlay could be replaced without having to unstitch the carpet (but we would need a strong group of people to roll back 20 metres plus of carpet in Wimbledon style!).

However this is something for the future. In the meanwhile the activity carried out during maintenance week was a stretch (top to bottom), and a carpet wet clean. The difference in colour, before and after, was quite noticeable – as the black colour of the chemicals testified in the recovery tank.

The speed was measured at 18.4 seconds.

Andrew Miller (Rink Manager)



This was taken in 2007 when the present underlay was being laid



The new underlay is being taped at the seams. This was done with standard parcel tape.



Stitching the old carpet



Stretching the old carpet



Modern day equipment for testing the speed of the carpet!

Articles, comments, letters and always welcome and can be placed in my pigeon hole or emailed to

amleonard1942@gmail.com