

**Prize Bingo** took place on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm at the Manx Legion Club in Douglas. Dabbers were at full pelt and there were several prize winners at each table. After a lovely hot Dog supper (Cheese role as a veg option) Members enjoyed a lovely get together. Thanks to Hosts Jim and Ann Cottier and to the Staff at the Manx Legion

**Fair Weather Walking Group.** Our next walk takes place on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April at 11am at Glen Maye. Meet in the carpark at 11am to take a walk down the glen to the Waterfall and back we shall then head to St Johns for refreshments. If you require a lift from Douglas or more details, contact host Sally Farrell on 346239

### **Outings and Visits**

**Tynwald Tours:** 30 members enjoyed a most informative tour of the Tynwald Chambers recently with our excellent tour guide the Speaker of the House of Keys the Hon Mr Juan Watterson SHK. Members were amazed at the amount of history there is between the three tiers of Tynwald. Some of our newer members did not realise that the IOM has the longest continuous parliament in the world over 1000 years set up by the Vikings. **Jim Cottier.**

**Tour of the IOM Creameries;** We have booked two tours of the IOM Creameries at Tromode on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April** at 10am and on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May** at 10am. Tour takes approx 45 mins to one hour. Cost per person is £5 numbers are limited so please chose your date and book your place. Members only due to limited nos that can attend the Tour. More details contact Ann Cottier 472742.

**Visit to Heroes on the Water** Aquatic Centre in Port Soderick. This centre was set up to help out Veterans and members of the Blue Light Emergency Services to enjoy various water based activities. We have been invited to take a 2<sup>nd</sup> tour of the centre on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April at 10.30am.** There is ample parking near the centre . Refreshments will be served after the tour. Numbers are limited. For further information contact Ann Cottier 472742.

### **Lunches 2026-**

**April 24<sup>th</sup> Ramsey Golf Club (Friday) 12.30pm** Speaker from the **Viking Project**

**May 27<sup>th</sup> (Wed) The Abbey Ballasalla .12.30pm** Speaker from the Manx Military Museum.

**June 24<sup>th</sup> (Wed) Falcons Nest Port Erin** at 12.30pm Speaker from Rushen Heritage.

### **Forthcoming Events:**

**MRA AGM Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 10.am Onchan Pensioners Club Onchan. Everyone welcome to attend. Agenda is enclosed with the Islander. If you require a copy of last year's AGM please contact the office.**

**Beetle Drive Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm** Onchan Methodist Hall at 2pm £6 per head to include refreshments. Host Ceila Marshall 460965 and Ann Cottier 472742 **See attached Flyer to book your place.**

### **Ladies Day at the ten pin bowling.**

A lovely spring afternoon – a pleasant afternoon tea to look forward to – but first, two games of ten pin bowling to enjoy at the Ramsey EnergyFM Bowling centre in the company of a dozen MRA members.

Four lanes with three competitors in each, and whilst everyone was doing their competitive best, the skill levels were perhaps best described as variable – though the different techniques on display – from Moira’s “slow bouncing bomb” to Paul’s speedy throw with a sometimes loud impact on the pins – proved interesting. Not that that was overly significant, as the main purpose of the afternoon was the opportunity for a bit of skeet, to catch up with news of our colleagues, to have a laugh and to enjoy the social opportunity – and just maybe, the occasional strike or spare to enhance one’s score.

Lane one was led by a guest, Tony Greenwood, with a score of 178 and lane two by Paul Mullan and a score of 206. Meantime, close behind in lane four was David Farrell on 204, whilst lane three proved a very close fight between Suzanne Slatter on 212 but just pipped by Margaret Campbell with 215 – but which meant both ladies comfortably led the leaderboard.

Chris Blyth

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# **MANX RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION**

## **April 2026**

### **ISLANDER**



**Charity No 807**

**Formed in 1998 by Margo and John Naylor**