

JANUARY LUNCH AT THE PALACE HOTEL, DOUGLAS

Those members that booked last month's luncheon due to be held at the Best Western Palace Hotel in Douglas will no doubt remember the arctic conditions that hit the Isle of Man the day before, and prompted me into the difficult decision of cancelling the event. The fact that Katie, from the Palace, contacted me to query if we would like to cancel and re-arrange another date to let her know as soon as possible, and that also the Manx Met Office was forecasting more icy weather on the way, led me to believe cancellation was correct. I contacted Manx Radio asking them to announce the cancellation whilst John Cuddy put the information on Facebook and Eunice sent out an email. I also phoned people without email, so did our best to let everyone know. We now know the forecast was incorrect, the snow went away and out came the sun! However, it was extremely cold and I for one was very happy to stay at home and watch the Indoor Bowls World Championships (hoping to pick up a few tips!).

This is the first time I have had to cancel a lunch due to bad weather and I am sorry if we didn't manage to contact everyone. If ever there is a doubt, please contact the venue or the hostess (me!).

Barbara Mason

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NEW MEMBERS

Latest new members to join the Association are as follows :

Barbara Gibson (Central) Steve Knowles (North)

Derrick Leach (North)

Please give them a very warm welcome!



200 CLUB WINNERS – JANUARY 2022

In view of the cancellation of the January lunch, the draw for the 200 Club was made "in absentia", the winners being :

Les Hulme (144) Ravina Talbot (140)

Peter Quayle (22)

Each wins £25, and cheques have been posted to them..

Remember you have to be in it to win it!

If would like to take up a number, please contact me via mobile 413767, email frankja@manx.net or via the MRA office. New members are always welcome.

Alan Franklin

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MRA FAIRWEATHER WALKERS : March 2023

The short walk this month is on Laxey promenade on Monday, 13th March at 1.30pm. Park in the car park area near the harbour or at that end of the prom, and which is where we shall meet up. The longer walk is around Clay Head/Ballanette on Monday, 27th March at 1.30pm.. This is a fairly flat walk lasting approx. 2 hours. Parking is at a lay-by on the old Ballameanagh Road near the entrance to Ballanette.

Please wear sensible footwear and bring along anything else you may need.

There is a What's app MRA walking group which is a useful means of contact so let me know if you would like to be included. Any questions please phone me on 622632 / 346239.

I hope to see you there, for either or both walks. It would be lovely to see some new – and old – faces too!!

Sally 622632/346239.

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MRA DISCOUNT CARD

The MRA membership card serves as a discount card with a number of manx retail outlets, covering both services such as dry-cleaning (Christophers and Carnation Cleaners, both in Douglas) and products such as electrical goods (Pascoe’s and YESS Electrical, also both in Douglas). Full details of the current range of discount offers available are now on our website – click on the “More” icon on the top line of the opening page and you will see it highlighted. It helps the negotiation and continuation of the discount offers that you mention and use your MRA card wherever possible – and reminds the outlet of just how much our spend with them is worth. A clear case of “use it or lose it”!

I would also mention the Ocean Views restaurant in Onchan Park which offers a 10% discount on your bill, even if including family and friends. Many of you will know it as it has been the scene for a number of our excellent lunches as well as the forthcoming venue for March, whilst they have just taken the back page space to advertise in the Islander. Their menu changes monthly, the current lunchtime or evening offer Tuesday to Friday being £19.85 for a 2 course meal or £24.95 for 3 courses.

TEN PIN BOWLING

On Friday 3rd Feb, Barbara organised a ten pin bowling session at Ramsey in the refurbished and renamed Energy FM facility. Twenty members took over 7 of their lanes and, whether or not you'd played before or if this was something new, fun was the name of the game. The lane to watch was no. 8 where Richard Hamer and Jim Cottier were going head to head, racking up the strikes. However, they were unaware that in lane 6, the silent assassin Ken Horsley, was racking up spares and battling with Chris Blyth. Eventually Ken pipped Richard and Chris by one point to become top dog!

A fun session, loads of laughs, followed by tea/coffee and cake - what an enjoyable way to spend an afternoon. And a prize for the best player in each lane.

Thanks Barbara for arranging everything, nailed it again.

Les Crellin

CAN YOU HELP?

We are looking for someone to host the Indoor Bowling held at the NSC in Douglas starting in October. Sessions are held on Thursday afternoons from 2pm until 3.30 and run through to early April. Hosting requires sorting the group into teams, which change each week, and recording scores. If you are willing to give a hand and would like further information, please contact Peter Maillard on 674214 / 481619. Many thanks.

Eunice Langton

The MRA is a very busy and active organisation and as such there is a great deal of administration that needs to be undertaken. As I am sure members are aware we operate from an office in Ramsey. It is from the office that all the activities we undertake are managed. To keep the wheels turning in a timely and efficient manner we employ an administrator three mornings a week. Since 2017 the role of administrator has been undertaken by Eunice Langton who has done a wonderful job for us and all of us are indebted to Eunice for her efforts and dedication for nearly 6 years. Eunice has undertaken the role extremely well and we know that she has worked far more hours than we have paid her for, and Eunice has always regarded these considerable extra hours as her contribution to the MRA for which we are extremely grateful.

Due to ongoing health issues Eunice is reluctantly having to step down from the role, and she will certainly be missed, but on behalf of all the MRA I want to thank her for all of her considerable efforts and wish her a speedy recovery. As token of appreciation of her service we have awarded Eunice honorary membership and we look forward to seeing Eunice at many MRA events in the future.

