



*Manx Retirement Association*

*Founded in 1998 by John and Margo Naylor*

# *The Islander*

---

DECEMBER 2025

*Events Programme*







Ten Pin bowling Ramsey-This session took place on 3<sup>rd</sup> October. Unfortunately it coincided with some of the worst weather to hit the Island in recent times with serious flooding and fallen trees that did deter some members venturing out. However those that did make it to Ramsey enjoyed the usual banter, gentle competition and modest physical activity of bowling followed by tea and cake whilst watching the wind blow and sea spray hitting the bay. The next opportunity for 10 pin bowling at Ramsey is being held on **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm.**

We hope for much better weather and plan for regular sessions in the future. Thank you. Host Chris Blyth.

MRA Annual Quiz Night This took place in the Manx Legion Club with 35 members in attendance. Quiz Master Steph Cottier took everyone through their paces and after an enjoyable evening the team who came top were the Trouble Makers, runners up were the Roses and Thorns. A lovely hot pot supper and Raffle was enjoyed by all.

Jim Cottier

October Lunch was held on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October at Ocean Views in Onchan. 80 members enjoyed a carvery which was delicious, plenty of food and plenty of choices, this was followed by dessert tea and coffee and altogether it was an excellent meal. Following the 200 club draw and raffle our Speaker Major Shane Lucas took us through a typical day in the mines at Laxey a century ago. We learnt how they descended in to the mines, what they ate, a Cornish style pasties one side meat the other a pudding. Following the talk there were several questions . Our grateful thanks to all the staff at Ocean Views and to Major Shane Lucas for his talk.

Howard Parkin







November will see us host another Winter Warmer lunch at the Manx Legion on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> with a choice of two soups and 3 hot puddings, a raffle, tea and coffee. Speakers will be Jim and Ann Cottier on the subject of the work of the Royal British Legion.

Beetle Drive Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October- Some 24 members enjoyed a lovely afternoon of fun and joviality with some beautiful and artistic beetles being created on the score sheets. After an hour of dice shaking and beetle mania we concluded the afternoon with tea and homemade cake. Winner was Doug Drown with runners up Sally Farrell and Sheila Trace. The booby prize being awarded to Connie Collister. Many thanks to Celia Marshall for organising this event. We hope to hold another one in the spring.

Ann Cottier

Christmas Lunch is being held at the Empress this year on **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 12.30pm.**

Festival of Trees at the Airport. The MRA will be setting up a display at the Airport in support of this event . We are setting up at the end of November with other Charities in support of Housing Matters so come and look at all the exhibits. It will be on until 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2026.

Co Op Community Funding -Thanks to members generosity, we have received not only £1000 from the Co op Community funding scheme as well as £907 from our members who signed up to this scheme donating a 1p in every £1 spent at the Co op. A huge thank you. The money will go towards supporting our activities.





# MRA EVENTS LIST

December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	1	210.30am Ramsey Coffee Morning 1.30pm Whist	310.30am Tech group  2pm Rummikub	410am Stretch & Flex  1.45pm Indoor flat green bowls	52pm Ten Pin Bowling	6
7	8	910.30am Castletown Coffee Morning 1.30pm Whist	10	1110am Stretch & Flex  1.45pm Indoor flat green bowls	121.30pm Mahjong	13
14	15	161.30pm Whist	17Christmas Lunch 12pm	1810am Stretch & Flex	19	20
21	22	231.30pm Whist	24	25	26	27
28	29	3010.30am Douglas Coffee Morning 1.30pm Whist	312pm Rummikub	1	2	3



# TEN PIN BOWLING

RAMSEY BOWLING ALLEY

Queens Promenade, Ramsey, Isle of Man, IM8 1ET

**FRIDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025 AT 2PM**

---



**BOOK YOUR PLACE HERE**



Join in a fun afternoon of Ten Pin  
Bowling at Ramsey Bowling Alley  
hosted by Chris Blyth

Use the link on the poster to book  
your place







# *Christmas Lunch*

*17<sup>th</sup> December 2025*

*The Empress Hotel*



*BOOK YOUR PLACE HERE*

## *Menu*



### *Starters*

*Vegetable Soup with Warm Bread (Vegan)*  
*Chef's Pate with Cherry & Apple Chutney and Melba Toast*  
*Salmon & Cod Fishcakes with Sweet Chilli Sauce*  
*Trio of Melon with Mixed Berry Compote*

### *Mains*

*Roast Turkey & Ham with Stuffing*  
*Roast Sirloin of Manx Beef with Yorkshire Pudding*  
*Pan Fried Teriyaki Salmon with Wilted Pak Choi & Jasmine Scented Rice*  
*Chef's Festive Nut Roast with Vegan Jus (Vegan)*

### *Desserts*

*Peach and Mango Cheesecake with Fruit Coulis*  
*Warm Christmas Pudding with Home Made Brandy Sauce*  
*Cheese & Biscuits with Grapes and Savoury Biscuits*  
*Please ask for Vegan Dessert Options*  
*Freshly Brewed Coffee or Tea with Mince Pies*







*Another year has passed by, and it is time to remind you that your MRA renewal subscription for the coming year is now due on 1 January 2026 for membership up to 31 December 2026*

*We look forward to welcoming you to some interesting activities and friendship within the MRA and we do hope you will renew for another year.*

*Please use the link below to complete your form to renew your membership*

**MRA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM**





# MRA INDOOR FLAT GREEN BOWLING

*BOOK YOUR SPACE HERE*



Our Winter bowling continues at the National Sports Centre on Thursday 8th January 2026 and will run for ten sessions up to Thursday 12th March 2026. (10 weeks) It is popular, and numbers are restricted. Anyone who cannot be accommodated will be put on a standby list.

- To ensure that members who wish to play regularly apply, a subscription of £40 is charged which includes the administration fee. Usually, non-refundable. Please note that the fees have remained the same as last session.
- We start on Thursday, 8th January 2026 at 2.00pm sharp to 3.30pm. Please meet at the hall by 1.45pm - weekly until Thursday 12th March 2026. We also enjoy an “cuppa” and a chat after the game
- The cost to members will be a maximum of £4.00 per session payable through the £40
- We will need a minimum of 20 registered and paid-up members to ensure that the sessions can go ahead. This is because the payment for the use of the NSC centre has to be paid for before play can commence. Placement will be given to the first 25 paid enrolments.
- Trophies will be awarded to the lady and gentleman with the highest average scores over the 20 sessions. Qualifying minimum is 12 sessions. Other awards may be given depending on funds. An awards lunch will be arranged shortly after our last game to which all, including friends and family are invited.
- Bowling shoes and bowls are available in the bowling hall and are included in the fees.
- Lockers may be available through the NSC, not through the MRA.
- Our fees reflect the cost to the MRA of hiring the bowling hall, providing prizes and maintaining the trophies.

Your host is Neil Corlett - come and join us! Ph: 469470





*We wish you love and peace.*





*And in the coming year, may it bring  
you blessings of prosperity, health and  
success.*

