

JANUARY 2026



WEST MOORS MEMORIAL BOWLS CLUB

NEWSLETTER



Welcome to our
WMMBC Newsletter

As another year is upon us we look forward to an exciting 2026, full of fun, friendship, memories and of course plenty of bowling!



Some Memorable Moments from our Presentation Lunch October 2025

Over 80 members and guests attended our annual Presentation lunch at Remedy Oak Golf Club. Our President, David was master of Ceremonies and all the competition winners were presented with their trophies, by our Ladies' and Men's Captains, Karen and Trevor. As a memento for celebrating the Club's 75th Anniversary, winners were also awarded a specially engraved WMMBC medal.

Some photographic highlights of the Event, courtesy of Simon Smale.











Annual General Meeting

We had a great attendance at our Annual General Meeting with reports from our Secretary and Treasurer, and chaired by David Rose. The committee were voted back in, unopposed, with the exception of our Vice President, Chris Campion, who stood down from this role. We thank him for all his support over the last year. Carolyn Dearlove was voted in as his replacement. Minutes of the AGM can be found on the notice board.

2025 Social Events

We kicked off our Social Calendar of Events in October with our Friday night socials, followed by a Bingo night and then one of John Jepson's famous WMMBC quizzes. We celebrated a very cold New Year with a fun party, with games, music and dancing. You can find the remaining social calendar for 2026 further in this newsletter. Please do come along and support these events. It's a great way to meet other members and have some Fun. Any ideas for future socials would be much appreciated, the social team will be putting together a calendar of events for 2026/2027 later in the summer. Your ideas to Rob Matthews, Social Secretary please.



Christmas Draw

Another successful Christmas raffle took place in December organised by Trisha and Annie, with the assistance of Judith, Linda (and Debbie, not shown). As always it was brilliantly attended and great fun with an array of gorgeous goodies to win. Annie and Trish have decided to step down from this event after five years and we'd like to thank them both for their hard work.

If anyone is interested in taking on this event this year, please contact Rob or any of the social committee. Trish is also happy to have a chat about what this entails.



Work on our highly anticipated upgraded irrigation system is nearing completion, despite the recent weather! We have been reassured that the pipework will outlast any of our members and even many generations beyond! The contractors will be completing the work within our original budget.

Defibrillator Training

At our AGM, Martyn Kingdon kindly gave us a demonstration of our Defibrillator, and he will be doing another session on Saturday February 7th at 11.30am.

We'd like to thank him for his help and informative sessions, which has certainly eased people's minds about using this vital piece of equipment if necessary.



Dates for your Diaries

Friday 30 th January	Friday Night Social
Saturday 31 st January	Bar open lunchtime
Saturday 7 th February	11.30 Defibillator demo after which bar will be open
Saturday 7 th February	QUIZ night
Saturday 14 th February	Bar open lunchtime
Saturday 21 st February	Bar open lunchtime
Saturday 21 st February	Beetle Drive
Friday 27 th February	Friday Night Social
Saturday 28 th February	Bar open lunchtime
Saturday 7 th March	Bar open lunchtime
Saturday 7 th March	BINGO
Saturday 14 th March	Shortmat FINALS day
Saturday 21 st March	Bar open lunchtime
Saturday 21 st March	QUIZ night
Friday 28 th March	Friday Night Social
Saturday 29 th March	Bar open lunchtime
Saturday 4 th April	Bar open lunchtime
Saturday 4 th April	RACE night
Saturday 11 th April	GREEN OPENS
Sunday 26 th April	OPEN DAY

Spotlight on our Committee Members

**Mike Dorman -
Club Secretary**



Mike moved, with his wife, Steph, to West Moors nearly 5 years ago, from Northbourne, Bournemouth. They joined WMMBC in the summer following their move, having never played bowls before. He's now playing outdoor, indoor and shortmat. Apart from being a member of the winning Ringwood Shield team a couple of seasons ago, he has yet to win anything else. ("I suspect it may be a long wait" he says!).

Mike is currently our Club Secretary, a position that he finds challenging and time consuming, but rewarding (he still works 3 days a week as a manager in Poole Job Centre).

He is the oldest of 4 brothers and due to his father being in the Royal Navy, the brothers were all born in different countries, Scotland, Singapore, Wales and England.

Besides bowls, he has taught himself to paint (pictures not walls) and is a lapsed 5k/Park Run runner. Although he considers himself an introvert, he has been known to embrace roles outside of his comfort zone, which has required him to dress up and show off. Some of you have seen photographic proof we understand!

**Keith James -
Short Mat
Captain**



Keith joined the Post Office as a telephone engineer at 17. During this time he tried many enterprises from buying and selling cars to building music systems in the evenings and left his position at Post Office Telephones after 20 years along with a colleague and started a screen printing business. A new business followed selling Chrysler car parts and accessories online.

He's kept very busy these days with four young grandchildren

He's always been keen on motoring, having had several sports cars and motor bikes and has always loved driving and touring on bikes, just not so fast now!

Keith started playing bowls in 2017 and says "I didn't do any sport, apart from snooker as a kid, until I started bowling at West Moors. A lady walked up the drive one day a handed me a flyer for bowling and I thought, I could do that. So I gave it a go and found that I could do it!"

Keith in addition to being our Short Mat Captain plays indoors at the Dolphin in Chris Campion's Aussie Pairs team and John Jepson's Triples team. At West Moors he was men's Singles Champion in 2024. He says "I find bowling is really enjoyable, meeting so many people at lots of different clubs. You can't beat bowling on the green on a beautiful summers day playing in a match"

Short Mat News

All our competitions , internal and external are now up and running. We've been enjoying our club sessions, including the new Friday evening session, which have been well supported.

We have a lot of friendly matches arranged for the remainder of the season, both home and away. Don't forget to sign up on the noticeboard if you'd like to play. These are great fun and an opportunity to see other clubs and make new contacts (and to be reminded how fortunate we are to have such lovely facilities here at West Moors!).

Our partially sighted and disability group on alternate Fridays continues to be successful and this year we have also welcomed the U3A to our Club on a Thursday morning throughout the season. We've had some very nice comments about the club and how welcoming and friendly we are and we would like to say a big thank you to all our volunteer members for making these groups such a success.



Congratulations and good luck to Debbie Fry, who has qualified for ESMBA Mixed Fours National Finals on the 14th March.

Unsung Hero, Chris Campion, Bar Manager

Before retiring Chris was a truck driver for many years; delivering and collecting across Europe.

He transported various goods including classic cars. It was during the classic cars phase that he met a few famous people including Jeremy Clarkson and the Top Gear team, Stirling Moss, Chris Packham and Pete Townsend (The Who). He would have met Engelbert Humperdink and Chris Evans, but they heard he was on his way and went out for the day. (Nice houses though!)



Chris was first introduced to bowls (indoor) in 2015 at the Atherley Bowls Club in Southampton. Later, he tried outdoor bowls and enjoyed that just as much. He is also a well known bass guitar player on the Southampton music scene and only gave that up recently when ill health meant that he could, sadly, no longer play. Watching live music is still a keen interest.

Chris moved to Dorset in 2022 and promptly joined West Moors Bowls Club. He has won several outdoor bowling competitions including: the Bennett Cup, Men's Pairs, and the Brewer and Brewer Cup (Mixed Triples). In 2023 he won the NFBA Men's Singles Plate in an all WMMBC final against John Riddington.

He took up playing short mat in 2025 and won the Novice competition.

Chris also plays indoor at the Dolphin Bowls Club and is the proud owner of a 'hotshot' medal.

Chris is currently the Bar Manager of the Club, no small job , having to manage and supply the inventory and of course man the bar at every opportunity, He is also currently the mens' second team captain and is on the social committee. Chris was also last years Club Vice President.

Thanks for all your time and commitment Chris. We enjoy having your cheery face to greet us behind the bar!

A Bowls Quiz by John Jepson

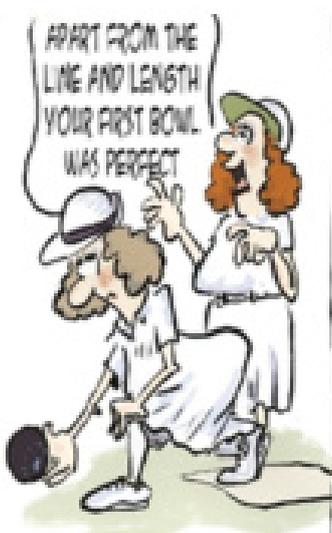
Identify the all-important word in each example. Within each answer there is a letter that spells out the name of a club member (letters are not in order so you will have to work out who it is).



Clear instruction is essential in lawn bowls for effective teamwork, strategy, and consistent individual performance. Communication helps a team coordinate efforts and adapt to changing game conditions. All instructions should be clear, explicit and above all this.

U.....(11 letters)

The FIRST letter of this word is the one you want.



Light-hearted banter is a common part of club culture and friendly matches. The humour often revolves around self-deprecation, playful jibes between teammates, or jokes about shots played. A term for such remarks is :

F.....(9 letters)

The SECOND letter of this word is the one you want.



In lawn bowls, the primary rule regarding communication is to remain quiet and still when a player is on the mat and about to deliver their bowl. General socialising should be saved for after the game. Failure to do so may affect the concentration of others and is termed as a:

D..... (11 letters)

The SEVENTH letter of this word is the one you want



“Winning is not everything” is a commonly heard phrase. It is easy to say but is not a recipe for improvement.

Ultimately, the drive to compete against others will push players to strive for mastery, making them better bowlers and enhancing their overall enjoyment within the sport. Not everybody has this quality within them, but all should try to achieve elements of it.

C.....(15 letters)

The FIFTH letter of this word is the one you want



5.

It is not a specific law violation with an immediate on-rink penalty, but players are expected to propel their bowls without "digging them" into the turf, as a matter of etiquette and respect for the venue. Wobble, bounce, step drift, tension, early head lift, poor balance, and rushed follow-through are the seven biggest 5 components of this word.

D.....(8 letters)

The FIRST letter of this word is the one you want

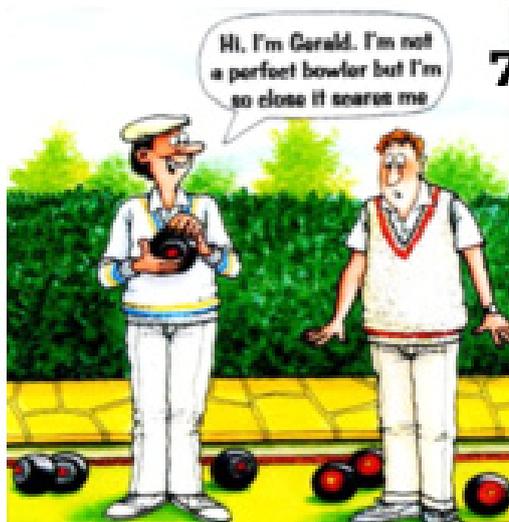


6.

The official code of conduct and etiquette for lawn bowls stresses the need for a positive and respectful atmosphere: Whilst humorous banter is acceptable within limits, the use of irony to mock or convey contempt is not. This word describes a statement that is given in a cynical way.

S..... (7 letters)

The THIRD letter of this word is the one you want



7.

In lawn bowls, one should maintain a humble and sportsmanlike attitude. A winner should maintain respectful interaction, and a loser should be graceful in defeat at the end of the game. Boasting and bragging is considered distasteful. Therefore one's attitude is a key component of bowls etiquette and one to be encouraged.

M..... (7 letters)

The FIRST letter of this word is the one you want



8.

In team games (pairs, triples, fours), the skip has sole charge of the rink and decides all tactics and strategy. Players must await the skip's instructions and should not offer unsolicited advice and should then try to execute his/her instructions. This word describes conformity to the skip's authority.

O.....(9 letters)

The FIFTH letter of this word is the one you want



9.

Whilst genuine enthusiasm is to be encouraged. This word is generally discouraged. It can be seen as a lack of sportsmanship and a distraction to other players.

O.....(4 letters) E.....(10 letters)

The THIRD letter of the first word is the one you want



10.

We all know that you can play shots using your forehand or backhand. However switching the actual hand that you bowl with during a game is:

F.....(9 letters)

The THIRD letter of this word is the one you want

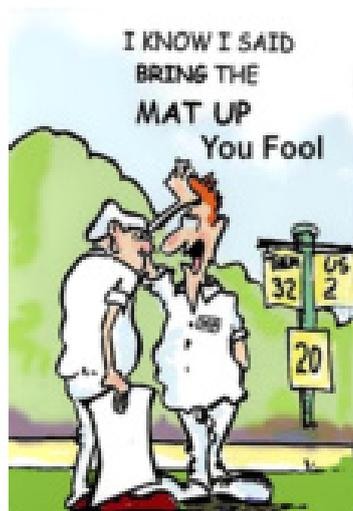


11.

When delivering a drive shot (a bowl delivered with force to break up the head) It is essential to consider the health and safety of people not only on your rink but on adjacent rinks. What is the correct way to communicate the potential danger.

W.....(7 letters)

The FIRST letter of this word is the one you want



12.

It's natural to feel frustrated when a game isn't going well, especially in a team setting where everyone's performance contributes to the result. Dealing with these emotions effectively requires a focus on communication, encouragement, and maintaining a positive team atmosphere. It is best to keep calm, unruffled and this word.

C.....(8 letters)

The SECOND letter of this word is the one you want

We're so excited for what's to come over the next few months. Some great short mat bowls to be played and of course the anticipation of Spring/Summer when we can all get our Vitamin D fix and enjoy some lawn bowling!

Don't forget to join our internal WMMBC Facebook group for up to date information about what's happening.

Scan QR Code for link.



Maurice Dower
CLUB MEMBER:
12. Composed (O)
11. Warning (W)
10. Forbidden (R)
9. Over Exuberance (E)
8. Obedience (I)
7. Modesty (M)
6. Sarcasm (R)
5. Delivery (D)
4. Competitiveness (E)
3. Distraction (C)
2. Facetious (A)
1. Unambiguous (U)

ANSWERS TO THE QUIZ

Thank you for reading!

Please send content suggestions to:	WEST MOORS MEMORIAL BOWLS CLUB. Behind the Memorial Hall, Station Rd West Moors
Carolyn.dearlove1@btinternet.com	memsec@westmoorsbowls.club