



NEWSLETTER

Issue 3 – December 2023

Welcome to your third 51 Petanque Club Newsletter - in which we wish to bring you the latest news about the Club and provide details of upcoming events. Subsequent Club Newsletters will be published as and when necessary but normally no less frequently than bi-monthly

BEETLE DRIVE

The Beetle Drive organised by Claudine was held in the Village Hall on Friday 27th October. As well as the time-honoured tradition of completing the building of Beetles, a tombola was run before the start of the evening and at the interval - 5 tickets for £1- only numbers ending in 5 or 0 were awarded a prize.

Disappointingly, this latest event was not as well supported as the last occasion. Additional locations for advertising the event have now been suggested and will be acted upon for similar events in 2024.

The evening managed to raise £55.82 towards the Club Funds.

BINGO FUNDRAISING EVENING

The 51 Petanque Club Bingo Evening was held in the Village Hall on Thursday 23rd November. The event was very well supported by the Village and surrounding communities, but considering it was for the benefit of the Club, sadly very few members attended. Hopefully we can attract more members next time to get together for what is a great evening's fun and a good excuse to meet up in the warm for once!!(not forgetting that Pat's Bar is also open throughout!)

A fantastic and eclectic range of goodies had been collected recently and throughout the year by Claudine for the line and full house prizes – with more than half, plus money being donated by Club Members (including Claudine, Fleur, Graham, Ray and Maureen Beales) and supporters from outside the Club. A special mention also must be made in respect of extra prizes donated by Claire and Andy Naden, which were used for an extra game at the end of the evening – Thank You Claire & Andy.

Special thanks go out to Claudine and Jean Leach for their superb organisation of the evening, and to Richard Baker for his very clear calling.

The evening managed to raise £403.80 towards the Club Funds – a truly superb effort.

51 PC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Please be advised that the 43rd Annual General Meeting of the 51 Petanque Club will be held on Thursday 11th January 2024, at the Great Ellingham Recreation Centre, commencing at 8pm. All members will shortly receive by email the formal Calling Notice, Agenda, Minutes of the last AGM, Financial Report and various supporting documents.

Can we please encourage as many Members as possible to attend this important meeting, especially those Members who wish to play in the League during 2024. The Team compilations need to be finalised at this meeting, in order for them to then be registered with the Norfolk County Petanque Association in time for the Leagues to be formulated.

Please also see the note below regarding "**Committee Positions**"

51 PC WEBSITE

Please spend a moment and take a look at the Club website – <https://51petanque.co.uk> where you will also find lots of useful information about the Club. The Committee wishes to extend it's most grateful appreciation for all the efforts of Michael Mills, who created and regularly updates this site.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Christmas Party was held in the Village Hall on Saturday 2nd December. The price per head was £15 and what fantastic value for money this proved to be. The Menu comprised: - STARTERS - A choice of Leek & Potato Soup or Tomato & Basil Soup served with French Bread, MAINS - Duck Confit, Coq au Vin, and Vegetarian Chilli (V) - all Served with Rice, Sauté Potatoes & Green Beans, DESSERTS - Cheesecake, Bavarian Apple Tart, Chocolate Brownie, FOLLOWED BY – Cheeseboard, Mince Pies and Tea or Coffee. There was also a ½ bottle of wine per person or alternative drink. All of this wonderful fare was prepared and assembled on the night by Claudine and Mandy, and our sincerest thanks go out to them for their superb effort.

On the night 31 people attended and had a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Unfortunately, a couple had to cry off at the last moment and stay at home due to the nasty cold weather conditions.

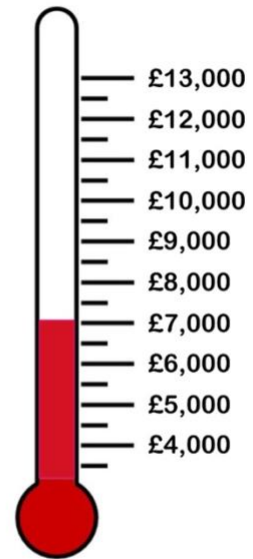
As well as the excellent meal, a number of games were played during the evening. These included A4 sheets on each table upon which were faces of celebrities that had been cut up and rearranged in a random way, they were fairly easy to recognise though. Fleur compered the next game: she read out the first words of a Christmas song and people had to name the song and the original artist. Two tables shared the highest number of points so shared the prizes (silly Xmassy things). Finally at the end of the meal, 10 people volunteered and sat on 10 chairs, they were then asked to get up and find an object which could not be something they were wearing - or in their pockets, whilst they were searching a chair was removed so that the last person to return was eliminated. This continued until only one was left and declared the winner who received a selection box (the Winner: Jake Beales!).

REPLACEMENT TOILET FUND-RAISING PROJECT

The Club is seeking to replace the existing Portaloo's with a modern plumbed-in toilet block.

The replacement block has already been purchased, but the Club still has to complete the installation – total estimate - £13,000.

Please help support our efforts towards raising the rest of the funds required.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Thursday 11th January – The 43rd Annual General Meeting of the 51 Petanque Club will be held on Thursday 11th January 2024, at the Great Ellingham Recreation Centre, commencing at 8pm.

Indoor Petanque – PC 51 will again be holding indoor Petanque evenings in the Recreation Centre on 18th Jan, 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd Feb, 7th and 14th Mar. The evenings will start at 7:30pm through until 9:30pm at a cost of £2 per head. The special indoor boules will be provided by the Club.

Saturday 16th March – As a new fund-raising venture, PC 51 will be organising a music evening featuring Murphy's Lore - an Irish folk band as the name suggests, performing at the village hall on March 16th 2024. Tickets will be on sale in the New Year possibly towards the end of January. As this is not a Recreation Centre organised event we hope that members will help with the selling of tickets to make it a successful event. We may try to supply an Irish supper as food generally is our biggest profit-making service.

COMMITTEE POSITIONS

As advised at the Club's last AGM, the current Secretary and Treasurer will be retiring at the next AGM. We wish to extend our most grateful thanks to Claudine and Andy for their invaluable contribution over their years of service to the Club.

We are therefore looking for volunteers to put themselves forward for election to these important positions on the Club's Committee for 2024 onwards. Please give your serious consideration to this request – this is a great opportunity to become a member of the Management Team of our thriving and widely respected Club. A brief Job Description/Terms of Reference for both positions, and Nomination Forms will be published shortly along with the AGM Calling Notice.

Please put your name/s forward asap to the Secretary by email at:- petanqueclub51@outlook.com

Find us at <https://51petanque.co.uk/> and on  at <https://www.facebook.com/51petanqueclub>