COBPC NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2025 NO. 108

BRUNEL

After four months of trying to get the last game played, it took part on the 22nd October at LSC.
The game finished 6 points to CoB Larks - 1 point to Compton.
Before the game 4 points were needed for second place.
After hard fought games we came out 6-1 winners.
It's the highest placed finish ever in the Brunel by a CoBPC team.

#		P	W	D	L	MATCH PTS	GAME POINTS +-
1	Bath Premier Cru	12	10	0	2	59	303
2	The Larks	12	7	0	5	52	148
3	The Clangers	12	9	0	3	49.5	81
4	Bath Grand Cru	12	8	0	4	49.5	83
5	Pirates	12	8	0	4	47	95
6	Northey Arms	12	7	0	5	44.5	66
7	The Nomads	12	6	0	6	44.5	45
8	The Compton	12	6	0	6	39.5	-46
9	City of Bath	12	6	0	6	38.5	-72
10	The Saltford Raptors	12	4	0	8	36.5	-61
11	Horton Boules Club	12	2	0	10	29	-225
12	Stingers	12	4	0	8	28.5	-215
13	Filton Petanque Club	12	1	0	11	28	-202

THURSDAY LEAGUE

The season finished with a flourish last Friday at the Bathwick Boatman with our annual Dinner and Presentation Evening.

As always it was a tremendous night with a capacity attendance, so a big thank you to everyone who has supported the league throughout the season and of course to those of you who came to the Boatman to help celebrate the season's winners.

Two of the top awards this year went to club teams, Phoenix and the Unbelievaboules who were our Division 2 and 4 champions – well done!! The most consistent club in this year's competition was the Northey, whose teams were runner's up in each of the four divisions.

The basic format of the league has remained unchanged for many years and as organisers were always interested in the views and thoughts of captains (and players) on how we might improve things. Your thoughts on 'a postcard' to mike@bathboules.co.uk please.

We look forward to seeing you all again next season.

THE EURO CUP IS CALLING

We have entered two teams again for the 2025/26 competition and details have been posted on the Club Bulletin board. The first round must be completed by 23rd November and we have an away tie against Cricklade 2. We need to get our squads organised.

For those not familiar with the competition, it's a knockout cup and the first three rounds are generally drawn geographically. Round one is always against another GWR team.
Each match comprises five games over two rounds: two games of triples, followed by three games of doubles. The Western Challenge cup replicated the format, the only difference being in the Eurocup each club team must include at least one member of the opposite gender in their squad for each match.

Steve and Greg will be our respective team captains and we need to know who is interested in playing to finalise the squads - Steve's team will be centred on those who played in his squad in the 24/25 competition. There is no limit on the numbers of players in each squad, only the numbers that can play in each round.

As a club we've got through to the semis three times in recent years, so we have a good track record. Help us to make it a fourth time this year!

If you're interested in playing for us this year's competition. If you would like to be included in the squad, or as a reserve, please let Steve stevecharman171@gmail.com or Mike mike@bathboules.co.uk

20th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLUB – 21 SEPTEMBER 2025

This was a great day as club members past and present got together to celebrate the Club's 20th Anniversary.

Some members took part in the melee, always competitive games but played in good spirit.

Results are as follows:
1st Nick Nicholas, 5 wins, 1 loss, +28 diff
2nd Colin Batchelor, 5 wins, 1 loss, +23 diff
3rd Di Baross, 5 wins, 1 loss, +18 diff
4th Jules Turnball, 4 wins, 2 ties, +13 diff
5the Geoff Wyatt, 4 wins, 1 tie, 1 loss, +24 diff
6the David Taylor, 4 wins, 1 tie, 1 loss, +11 diff

Terry wrote *"I am privileged to record this special event, having personally seen the club grow, into the biggest Boules club in the West.*
Over 70 members attended to enjoy all the events; so very well organised by Cary Bush and his many volunteers. Of course, several members have now passed – sadly no longer able join in with the day's celebrations .
One of the original founding members and first Chairman was the late Don Grimes. Don wanted a permanent home for the club; achieving this in 2014 with the committed help of Clive Burge of 'Larkhall Football Club'.
On the day, the sun shone brightly as members played in the Melee and Wade's professional band entertained us during the splendid Hog Roast feast.
I feel honoured, to have been among the people who have become so very special in my life."

A big thank you to all those who volunteered their time on the day. For the hog roast, Wade Edwards and band members for the fantastic jazz and the cake makers.

SANTA SUZANNA TRIP

See article from Dominic Singleton attached with the newsletter

The trip will run again next year. There may be added a couple of optional days in Barcelona either before or after the competition.

The dates for the competition next year are: Sunday September 27th to Friday October 2nd October.

CANCER CHARITY MATCH 12 OCTOBER

The City of Bath Pétanque Club hosted The Tiger Trophies Cancer Research Charity Day. 40 Teams from many different clubs across the South and South West came together for a fun day of Pétanque with many in fancy dress to raise money for Cancer Research.

The mornings play consisted of groups of 4 teams playing 3 rounds which decided which teams played in which cup in the afternoon.

Thank you to all who took part on the pistes and behind the scenes. Your support makes a difference. A fun day was had by all.

Results:

Gold Cup winners Le Crabe
Gold Cup runners up Gin & Tonic
Gold Plate winners LCC Great Boules of Fire
Gold Plate runners up The Jays

Silver Cup winners The Detectorists
Silver Cup runners up Pinkboules
Silver Plate winners That's Alright
Silver Plate runners up Saltford Stars

Bronze Cup winners Last Minute.com
Bronze Cup runners up The Remarkaboules
Bronze Plate winners Westenders
Bronze Plate runners up My Dog could do better

Pewter Cup winners Affordables
Pewter Cup runners up Pink Tigers

Pewter Plate winners The Simpsons replacements
Pewter Plate runners up Boomerangs

Message from Tiger Trophies -
Thank you to the City of Bath Petanque Club & Larkhall for hosting The Tiger Trophies Cancer Research Charity Day. It was a fantastic crowd and brilliant day. Thank you to everyone for supporting the day and such a great cause. Once we have the confirmed final amount raised we will let you know but we have smashed last year's total

Photographs of the day in the link below: https://www.facebook.com/share/r/1A2uzR5zoN/ and attached to the newsletter

7 SEPTEMBER, GWR TRIPLES

Please note, this information was missing from the article published in the September edition of the COBPC Newsletter.

John Randall, Jim Collins and Lesley Eastlake reached the GWR Triples finals at Cricklade, losing to Phil Bradshaw's team.

OTHER CLUB NEWS:

MOVEMBER

Hi Lads,
Some of the clean shaven of the membership have decided to take part in "Movember".

It is to grow a moustache during the month of November. We are going to try and raise around £400.00 to take Gary and Traceys, Tiger Trophies cancer competition to £2,000.00 in total, sum raised.

If you would like to take part or sponsor a participant, please let Steve know at stevecharman171@gmail.com

FIREWORK DISPLAY – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

I have had a request from the football club, for volunteers to help at their firework night on Friday 7th November. Arrive at 4:45pm to be ready for when the gates open at 5:30.

Duties include, stewarding, burger flipping, car parking and other roles.

If you could help, you'll get entry into one of the best firework displays around. Please let Steve know if you would like to volunteer, Your support will be greatly appreciated.
stevecharman171@gmail.com

CLUB XMAS DINNER

The committee are happy to announce that this year, instead of having a formal dinner at a local restaurant we will be holding a Christmas party at Larkhall Sports Club on December 7th 2025.

The party will start at around 5.30 with the buffet being served at 7.00. In addition to meeting up with fellow club members there will be a number of organised games (not petanque!) as well.

The cost will be £18 per person and should be paid directly to the City of Bath Petanque Club, sort code 40-09-44 account number 90213977. When making the payment please include your name as the reference.

Please contact Mary Bradridge (marybradridge@hotmail.co.uk) or Ann Charman (charmans171@talktalk.net) for further information or to reserve your place.
(see posters attached to the newsletter)

SPRING BULB DONATION REQUEST

Last November, by the Petanque hut at Larkhall, around 100 spring bulbs were planted in the grass. It helped brighten the change from a gloomy winter to a rejuvenating spring. This year we would like to double the number of bulbs.

Can you help by picking up a small pack of your favorite bulbs with your weekly shop and donate them to the club?

Given that the grass cutting season starts around April, please select ideally low growing perennial bulbs, the leaves of which will die back into the grass e.g. snowdrops,

crocuses, muscari, miniature daffs/narcissus, dwarf tulip, etc..

However, if you like taller spring flowers such as tulips, daffs, etc. they can be accommodated at the edge of the grass near the fencing.

Please place any donations by the end of October, in the "Bulb Box" in the shed so that planting can start in November.

Thank you for your support.
The guerrilla gardeners.

QUEEN SQUARE PETANQUE

If you haven't played at Queen Square on our weekly Wednesday morning sessions, why not give it a try. It's developed into a bit of a tradition where some players go for lunch or coffee after play in central Bath.

MONTHLY MELEE

Our next monthly melee is Saturday 6 December, 2025, registration 9:15 – 9:45 am for a 10.00 start. £3 p.p. to enter. Games are 4 x 25 minutes. This is open to all members and non-members. All abilities welcome.

CARD PAYMENTS AT THE CLUB

We now have a 'sum up' machine for taking card (or phone/watch) payments. It is plugged in and located to the right of the opening hatch in the shed (on the shelf). There is a written sheet of instructions with the device. If anyone wants a quick lesson on how to use it please see Annette - it really is very easy, and the more people that can use it the better.

It has been used to charge non-members who come to the shed for a drink and who invariably do not have any cash on them. They are charged £1.50 for a drink only, which brings us into line with what the football club charge.

Some weeks it has been quite busy, so we need everyone to be able to take a payment to facilitate this. If you're playing close to the shed, it is very quick and easy to take payment and let people help themselves.

When it's been busy we have taken the opportunity to top up the water in the urn in between games.

So far it's worked well as people have been appreciative of the opportunity to buy a hot drink, it raises funds for the club and people visiting for the football are taking an interest in the Petanque club.

WHATSAPP GROUPS

We have a numerous groups on WhatsApp you can request to join, e.g. Queen Square; Message Board; Coaching; Brunel; Maintenance; etc. Its purpose is to be an instant avenue for communication to all members of CoBPC.

Its use will be to inform members of competitions, club events, updates and such like. It is not a platform for general chit chat. If you are not already in one of the groups and wish to be included, please inform Steve Charman stevecharman171@gmail.com and Anne Knight for Queen Square anne@bathboules.co.uk
If you wish to be removed from the groups let Steve or Anne (only for Queen Square) know.

100 CLUB

There are 3 cash prize winners every month now! So, if you've not already bought your tickets…. you've got to be in it to win it!

Winners for the September draw:
1st prize winner: Steve Charman
2nd prize winner: John Carter
3rd prize winner: Cary Bush

Winners for October draw:
1st prize winner: Brenda Burge
2nd prize winner: Chris McGinn
3rd prize winner: Annette Hall

Check out the Club Facebook page for the videos.
https://www.facebook.com/bathboules/

There are still tickets available and as ticket numbers increase, then the prize pot increases, and the funds raised for the club increase – it's win win all round! Please see Annette, or email her on annetteh40@yahoo.co.uk if you wish to buy tickets, increase your holdings or ask for a form from the clubhouse.

CLUB HABERDASHERY

We have a wide range of club specific clothing, bags, and ancillary items for purchase via the 'Club Shop'.
https://www.michaelhope.co.uk/products/club-shops/city-of-bath-petanque-club/city-of-bath-petanque-club
Orders are generally turned around in 5 – 7 days and can be collected from the Box premises or delivered for a small fee.

GWR & PE

Please check the GWR and PE websites for playing calendars and updates on competitions and events:
https://www.gwrpetanque.com/full-calendar and https://petanqueengland.sport80.com/public/events.

COBPC COMMITTEE

After our last AGM 2025, these are your appointed Club committee members:

- Bryan Huish, Chair
- Chris Garcia, Vice Chair
- Cary Bush, Treasurer
- Jenny Newman, Secretary
- John Stanfield
- Eileen Anderton
- Wade Edwards

YOUR CONTACT DETAILS

Please make sure your membership and contact details are up to date so that you receive all club news and newsletters.

MANY THANKS

Many thanks to all who contributed articles to this month's newsletter.

CLUB WEBSITE

Check out our wonderful, revamped website.
https://bathboules.co.uk/

FACEBOOK

If you have some petanque news you wish to share as a member, then please send to Chris for the facebook page. Any articles received are posted at the discretion of the editor.
Thank you to Chris Garcia for doing the Facebook site and for the contributions received for posting. Visit https://www.facebook.com/bathboules/

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Movember
- 6 December – Monthly melee
- 7 December – Club Xmas Party, LSC, 5.30 p.m.

WEEKLY TIMES OF PLAY

Larkhall Club - Sat 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Tues 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Queen Sq - Wed 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., £1.50p to play

GWR PETANQUE

GWR is the Great Western Region of Pétanque England who organise and promote the game of Pétanque or Boules (French bowls) in the West of England counties of Gloucestershire, North Somerset & Wiltshire.
https://www.gwrpetanque.com/

PETANQUE ENGLAND

Check out their website https://www.petanque-england.uk/

Editor

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