COBPC NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2025 NO. 107

FRIENDSHIP GAMES – 16 & 17 AUGUST

Another successful trip enjoyed by all 21 attendees. This was the last round played at Villingen-Schwenningen in the Black Forest where the COBPC came 3rd, the highest ranking in the 6 years. Overall, we finished 5th, again a credible result given that this was the first time we had participated.

The games were also preceded by a trip to Munich by 9 of the group where they were able to visit the Eagles Nest, the fairy tale castles and the highlight of the tour bringing back memories, The Hofbrauhaus.

If like me you have to Google The Hofbrauhaus, it is a beer hall originally built in 1589 by Bavarian Duke Maximilian I as an extension of the Staatliches Hofbrauhaus in Munchen brewery. The general public was admitted in 1828 by Ludwig I.

The next round of games will be held at Neusiedl in Austria, over the weekend of 22 & 23 August, 2026.

Photos kindly taken by Liz Bugg. Click on the link to view: https://photos.app.goo.gl/jwps5u2td2X4cJSc8

BOULES BLITZ TOURNAMENT IRELAND 23 – 24 AUGUST

2 City of Bath teams joined the Boules Blitz in Cork which this year hosted 21 teams, including a number of strong teams from Dublin with experienced French players.

John Carter and Dom Singleton were successful on Saturday winning through to the main competition on the Sunday.

Next year the Blitz will be held the weekend after the Friendship Games on 29 & 30 August.

This is an opportunity to not only play in a competitive competition but also to take a few days off exploring the wonderful coast of Southern Ireland and perhaps a pint or two of Beamish or Murphys said by many to not only rival, but better Guiness.

As places fill up quickly from around February and you are interested in attending, please let Cary know as he will receive notification of the tournament from the organisers.

CLUB TRIPLES 31 AUGUST 2025

12 teams competed with a round robin in the morning followed by a knockout in the afternoon.

Congratulations go to Ann Charman, Pam McKeown and Mary Bradridge who won the gold 13 – 10 against Cath Harvey, David Bonham Carter and June Heath.

The silver was won by John Carter, Tony and Mary Humphries.

A special mention must go to Cath, David and June on their success in not only reaching the final and pushing the eventual winners as close as they did, having only taken up the sport in the last 18 months.

Thanks go to Liz Bugg for the photos from the event. Click on the link to view: https://photos.app.goo.gl/Xsg4wzkjUqd2ZfBi7

GWR TRIPLES COMPETITION 7 SEPTEMBER

Congratulations to Tony Humphries, Wade Edwards and Dom Singleton for reaching the semi-finals of this year's GWR Triples competition, which was won by a team led by Phil Bradshaw. Congratulations also to Geoff and Jude Wyatt who, along with Mary Elliot of RWB, won the silver division.

The winners and runners-up from this GWR event will represent the region at the

national-level Champion of Champions event held at Mansfield PC on Sunday 12 October.

GUERNSEY OPEN 5,6 & 7 SEPTEMBER

Hot of the press Consolage II was a popular win for long time supporter of the Guernsey Open, Terry Basson from Bath, playing with his team mates Chris and Di Baross (team name 'Good Buddies'), all sporting their Club colours.

LANSDOWN PETANQUE CLUB CRICKET CLUB - MELEE 27 SEPTEMBER 2025

If you would like to take part in this charity Melee and Raffle on Saturday 27 September 2025, registration 9:30 am for a 10:00 start.

Proceeds to the LCC 2025 Bicentenary Charity "200 for 200 CAMPAIGN" (RUHX and Dorothy House). £10 per person entrance, guaranteed at least 4 matches, cup awarded to the winner. The Club House will be open for drinks and lunch. Last day for entries 15 August and the entrance fee must be paid by 5 September. For more information, please contact Anita White at LCCPetanqueClub@hotmail.com

https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61573002646672#

BRUNEL LEAGUE

This year's Brunel League is reaching its conclusion with our development team, 'City of Bath', having played all twelve matches whilst our first team, 'The Larks', have played ten and are still trying to arrange their remaining two fixtures.

The City of Bath team has come in at a respectable ninth position out of thirteen teams in the league. The Larks are currently seventh place but with two home matches still to play they have an outside chance of finishing in second place in the league.

You can follow the fortunes of our two teams on the Brunel League website https://brunel.leaguerepublic.com/

THURSDAY LEAGUE

After a flurry of activity in the last few weeks the Thursday League has finally crossed the finishing line for this season.

Well done to all our team captains for getting their matches played. Congratulations go to CoB Phoenix and the Unbelievaboules who both won their respective Divisions. The final league tables are on League Republic, but read on if you're interested in how all our club teams have done this year:

Division 1:
6th 'No Half Measures'
7th 'Banjacs'
8th 'Parkies'

Division 2:
1st 'CoB Phoenix'
4th 'Poets'

Division 3:
4th 'Max's Mob'
5th 'CoBoulers'

Division 4:
1st 'Unbelievaboules'

A reminder that, as in previous years, there will be an end of season dinner and

Presentation Night, details are still being finalized and will be published shortly.

20th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLUB – 21 SEPTEMBER 2025

Place the date 21 September in your diary. The club is holding an all day melee (6 rounds) as well as a hog roast and live music lead by our own Wade Edwards.

Joining in the melee is voluntary and you can come to enjoy the hog roast, the music and the company of your fellow club members and guests. If you only want to play 3 or 4 rounds in the melee, this will be okay.

The day's functions will commence from 11.00 a.m. onwards with the hog roast at 2 p.m..

The cost for the day will be £15 to help cover the cost of the roast and music. If you would like to attend or even bring guests, please let Cary know cary@carybush.co.uk . Payment can be accepted via the bank (sort code: 40-09-44, acc no: 90213977; or credit card; or cash.

https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=rm&ogbl#inbox/WhctKLbmlCWDScKRszvkpgzbTWpxVMzpfDjRnBRqsThxHdBnbMhQmBBxTXhDmQQhHlFnTZb

Cary Bush cary@carybush.co.uk

OTHER CLUB NEWS:

QUEEN SQUARE PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENTS

BANES are looking to use the funding associated with the implementation of the Clean Air Zone in Bath city centre to make public realm improvements in the vicinity of Queen Square.

Earlier this year, they appointed Jacobs and Stride Treglown to undertake a feasibility study of potential improvements.

PROJECT AIMS:

- Improve the Square and its surroundings, taking into account their uses by both residents and visitors.
- Enhance Queen Square itself, improving access to, from and within Charlotte Street Car Park.
- Complement any highway projects being carried out in the area under the CRSTS or similar programmes.

Queen Square: Working with Jacobs and Stride, they now aim to:

- Contribute to improvements in air quality brought about by the introduction of the Clean Air Zone
- Enhance pathways, landscaping and seating within the Square, in line with historic design but recognising modern uses of the space and maintenance requirements
- Improve the space for enjoyment by boules and other events users

Having held early discussions with selected stakeholders, an initial masterplan has been drawn up which looks to meet these aims.

The original project page – the new plans are towards the bottom https://www.bathnes.gov.uk/queen-square-public-realm-improvements

The updated plans https://www.bathnes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Queen%20Square%20updated%20designs.pdf

The full report https://www.bathnes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Queen%20Square%20Engagement%20Summary%20Report.pdf

QUEEN SQUARE PETANQUE

If you haven't played at Queen Square on our weekly Wednesday morning sessions, why not give it a try for a small charge of £1.50p.

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, 4 October, 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.

COACHING – LARKHALL

Due to holidays and inter-regional competitions coaching will resume in mid-September and posted on the WhatsApp group. Or ask a coach for details.

If you'd like advice on purchasing boules then please speak to one of the coaches who will be happy to give you advice on size and weight. https://www.dcpetanque.net

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 August draw:
1st prize winner: Mel Grosnevor
2nd prize winner: Christine Cox
3rd prize winner: Chris McGinn

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

- 21 September – 20th anniversary of the Club
- 27 September, Lansdown Petanque Club, Cricket Club Charity Melee (*see above and poster in July's Newsletter*)
- 28 Sept to 3 Oct - Santa Susanna Trip, Spain
- 4 October – Monthly melee
- 12 October - Cancer Charity Match. If interested give your team's name to Gary gryhaskins@yahoo.co.uk
- 1 November – Monthly melee

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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