

## 2024 Season highlights:

### Bad News!!

For the second consecutive year we were thwarted and the following message was delivered to all members:

**The Greens were due to open on Saturday 13th April 2024 but sadly, due to the unusually persistent rain over the past months, they are not yet fit for play.**

**The Club will open as usual but there will be no play at all for at least one further week!**

**All matches have been cancelled up to Saturday 20th April, with further inspections to be undertaken at regular intervals, so that bowling can commence as soon as the risk of damage to the greens is deemed to be over.**

However, the first Club morning on Monday 15th April went ahead as a social event at which there was tea and coffee on offer and the bar was available from 11am.

This was a good chance to meet up again and to enter your availability for the upcoming May fixtures (the sheets were all in the books).

Fingers crossed for better news soon.

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### Sunday 28th April:

**Our (first) Open Day!!**

These events are only successful with the support of the members and a big thank you goes to everyone that turned up and helped out on our first recruitment event of the season. Despite the rather gloomy forecast and overnight rain, the day was actually ok weatherwise (dry) and just a bit chilly.

We had a reasonable number of both men and women turn up, most of whom look like they will make good bowlers, and we hope to see them again at our Club mornings and/or the Friday Night Socials.

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### Monday 13th May:

Portishead Men took their first steps into the Bowls England "Club 2 Fours" competition with a tricky away tie against a strong West Backwell side.

This was an evening match starting at 6pm. Unfortunately, the rain started at lunchtime and didn't relent until way after the match was completed, so the eight brave Portishead Men that were picked for this game all got VERY wet!

These matches are decided on an aggregate score across the 2 rinks and, in a very close encounter, and after two and a half hours, the scores were tied with one end left to play on one of the rinks.

The match was finally decided by one shot with one bowl to spare, and with Portishead being the winners!

Congratulations to the participants and we hope you dry out in time to take on Frome (at home) in the next round!

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Monday 27th May:

Today was our Bowls England "Bowls Big Weekend" Open Day.

Despite a rather 'iffy' weather forecast, the day was bathed in sunshine, and it certainly brought the prospective bowlers out!

Many visitors came along to try 'rolling up'. They all did very well, and we hope to see them at our next Club morning.

Thank you to everybody that gave their time to help out. It wouldn't be possible without you!

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Sunday 2nd June:

Today saw the Association hold its 45<sup>th</sup> annual Open Pairs Tournament.

An all-day affair with 48 teams from around the area (7 different Counties this year!) battling it out over four rounds of 1 hour (max. 8 ends) to decide the winner.

The weather was glorious, and the greens looked really good.

Two teams managed to win all four of their games to finish on 20 points, but the winners with a shot difference of 24 were Adam Knights & Dan Rycroft from West Backwell.

Second place and only just "pipped at the post" with a shot difference of 20, were our very own Trevor Hodgetts & Dee Dee Johnson

Very well done to them, and everyone that took part, whether playing or organising.

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Sunday 30th June:

Today was our main Charity event of the year and we had a super afternoon for our Cream Tea Day.

We started with the ever-popular 'Spider' which was won by Mike Way.

Next came a very enjoyable Australian Pairs competition, the victors being Ed & Sandra Daisley who won all their games and had an impressive shot difference of +18. Well done Ed & Sandra.

The afternoon continued with our Charity raffle, in aid of our 2024 Charities, Great Western Air Ambulance Charity and Home-Start North Somerset, and a fabulous Cream Tea.

Many thanks to all those who donated prizes and to everyone who helped and whose hard work contributed to a very successful afternoon

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Tuesday 16th June:

Portishead Ladies & Portishead RBL held their annual Ladies Open Triples Day today and what a fantastic event it was!

The weather looked a bit dodgy after overnight rain but, thankfully, steadily improved during the day and the standard of bowling was very impressive

Well done to everyone that took part, and the honours were as follows:

- 1st place - Kingswood & Hanham
- 2nd place - The Rose Bowlers
- 3rd place - Olveston
- 4th place - Begbrook Green

Thank you to all the volunteers from Portishead Ladies & the Poppies for an outstanding effort in making the day run smoothly.

Thanks also to the cake makers who made some magnificent and delicious cakes, members and husbands who ran the bar, the car park attendant and many others that helped in some way or another.

All the money raised will go towards items that benefit us all at the Club.

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Sunday 4th August:

It was a fabulous sunny day for this year's Hardwick Cup where members from Portishead Men are partnered with members of Portishead RBL to play an Aussie Pairs Competition.

There were 2 groups of 8 teams, each team playing 4 matches of 8 ends. The 2 group winners then went 'head-to-head' to decide the overall winners.

The winners of Group 'A' were Dennis Poulston & Pete Jones and Group 'B' were Bob Swift & Ken Vass.

The final was decided over a further 8 ends with the winners being Dennis & Pete.

Well done to them and to everyone who participated, and special thanks to the organisers for a brilliant day

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Wednesday 7th August:

Portishead Men held their annual Triples Competition today, and the games were played with very good humour and much enjoyment.

It was good to see our Captain Dave and Chairman Richard back on the green and a special mention for an 'on-fire' Tom Kane who, in his first 3 ends, delivering 9 bowls he managed to achieve 7 excellent touchers.

Unfortunately, after lunch there was a downpour which lasted for about 4 ends, by which time everyone was soaked, but being real men, nobody minded (except Tony B). There was a mixture of very tight bowling and also some rather wayward deliveries, which we will put down to the conditions (not really!).

This was a mini 'tournament' day enjoyed by all and the eventual winners were Peter Robson, Tim Mather & Mark Stiddard, with the runners-up being Stewart Calderwood, Tim Downey & Mike Way.

The Charity also collected a few pounds for misdemeanours as well.

Well done to everyone that took part and/or organised the day.

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Sunday 12th August:

It was a VERY hot day for the PBC/PLBC Mixed Pairs Competition, but even so a most enjoyable day was had by all.

In 3rd place came Wendy and Eddie, 2nd place were Gaynor and Bob and 1st place went to Julie and Malcom with 6 points and the highest shot difference.

Well done to them and to everyone that braved the heat to take part.

Thanks to Liz & Geoff for their efforts in organising and ensuring the success of the day and to Myra and Susan for serving up the teas and coffees.

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Friday 16th August:

Today was the Men's Captain & President's Day and it was a fabulous sunny afternoon, enjoyed by all.

It started with the Spider which was won by Clive Hicks and was followed by three fun rounds of bowls, a terrific meal and some illuminating speeches!

Well done to Tim Downey who racked up the most points to be the overall winner.

Commiserations to Joy Murray (the Ladies Captain) who gained the wooden spoon by scoring the least number of points along with 2 other players but, unfortunately, Joy's scorecard was randomly selected (what a way to treat a guest!).

Many thanks to all those involved with the organisation, preparation and running of this event and who helped to make the afternoon such a success.

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Monday 26th August:

Our finals weekend is over for another year!

Well done to all those who entered and played lively, friendly and some very long matches on Friday, Sunday and today, and congratulations to all the winners.

Many thanks to Liz & Geoff for putting the schedule together and for organising a brilliant day, all those who marked, those who came to support, the bar servers and the never-ending supply of tea & coffee from Mavis & Margaret.

It wouldn't happen without all your help - thank you!

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Thursday 29th August:

It was the turn of Portishead Ladies to hold their Captain & President Day today, and what a great afternoon it was.

The weather was perfect with plenty of sunshine and a slight breeze, which inspired some excellent bowling. This was followed by a delicious 2 course meal with wine, and speeches by both the President and the Captain.

The traditional 'Spider' was won by Sarah, the overall points winner was Diane and the wooden spoon this year went to Mavis.

**Well done to everyone that took part and a special thanks to everybody that helped organise and run the day.**

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**Saturday 31st August:**

**It was a brilliant morning for Portishead Ladies annual Friendship Cup with the RBL Ladies this morning.**

**This is an open draw where one player from each club makes up a pair and there were 3 rounds played with the number of games won giving us the winner.**

**This year the winner had to be decided by highest number of games won, then shot difference and finally ends won! It was all very close!!**

**Very well done to the winners Carol Mellis (PLBC) & Sue Dando (PRBLLBC) with the runners up being Susie Sealy (PLBC) & Anne-Marie Tsagurnis (PRBLLBC).**

**Many thanks to Liz & Marg for organising, Barry for keeping the score, Gaynor for the raffle and especially the Poppies for hosting and giving us a splendid lunch.**

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**Sunday 22nd September:**

**Today should have been the Association Drive, marking the last outdoor bowling of the season and the closing of the greens for the Winter. Sadly, the weather again intervened and persistent rain meant the greens were flooded and no bowling was possible.**

**The season has ended as it began, under water!**

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**Friday 15th November:**

**This evening, we held our Annual Dinner and Presentation at Nailsea Masonic Hall.**

**It was a brilliant evening with everyone enjoying an excellent dinner, followed by the presentation of the Trophies and Awards.**

**"Thank you" to the venue for the excellent food and service during the evening.**

**Well done to all those who took part and supported all our competitions during the season and many congratulations to all our winners! (see below).**

**There is also an award to the person from each Club, voted for by the members, for their outstanding contribution during the season.**

**This season the Men's "Members Vote for Contribution to the Club" was Michael Way and the Ladies "Club Member of the Year" was Joy Murray**

**Well done to them for their excellent efforts throughout the season.**

**Men**

**Championship (Presidents Cup):**

**Winner: Mike Berryman / Runner-Up: Niall Morrissey**

**Sid Woods Trophy:**

**Winner: Geoff Tute / Runner-Up: Duncan Day**

**Fixed Jack:**

**Winner: Niall Morrissey / Runner-Up: Dave Linsdale**

**Gordano Cup (Pairs):**

**Winners: Rod Hawkins & Dave Girling  
Runners-Up: Mike Berryman & Tom Kane**

**Thirtle Salver (Veterans Triples):**

**Winner: Niall Morrissey / Runner-Up: Michael Way**

**Silver Jubilee Trophy (2 Wood Singles):**

**Winner: Niall Morrissey / Runner-Up: Mike Berryman**

**Hayes Cup (Points):**

**Winner: Rod Hawkins / Runner-Up: Tony Benford**

**Triples:**

**Winners: Peter Robson, Mark Stiddard & Tim Mather  
Runners-Up: Stewart Calderwood, Tim Downey & Michael Way**

**Australian Pairs:**

**Winners: Niall Morrissey & Stewart Calderwood**

**Hardwick Cup (PBC/PRBLBC Pairs):**

**Winners: Dennis Poulston (PBC) & Pete Jones (PRBLBC)  
Runners-Up: Bob Swift (PBC) & Ken Vass (PRBLBC)**

**Ladies**

**Championship (Pennine Cup):**

**Winner: Dee Dee Johnson / Runner-Up: Sue Tassell**

**Joan Neville Salver:**

**Winner: Gaynor Hastings / Runner-Up: Julie Swift**

**Fixed Jack:**

**Winner: Janet Linaker / Runner-Up: Sandra Daisley**

**Pairs:**

**Winners: Joy Murray & Janet Linaker  
Runners-Up: Gill Berryman & Angela Lawrence**

**2 Wood Singles:**

**Winner: Sue Tassell / Runner-Up: Dee Dee Johnson**

**R Mansell Salver (Points):**

**Winner: Dee Dee Johnson / Runner-Up: Sandra Daisley**

**Triples:**

**Winners: Angela Lawrence, Joy Murray & Dee Dee Johnson / Runners-Up: Irene Benford, Janet Linaker & Gaynor Hastings**

**Mixed Pairs:**

**Winners: Julie Sheppard & Malcolm Leach  
Runners-Up: Gaynor Hastings & Bob Swift**

**Friendship Cup (PLBC/PRBLBC Pairs):**

**Winners: Carol Mellis (PLBC) & Sue Dando (PRBLBC)  
Runners-Up: Susie Sealy (PLBC) & Ann-Marie Tsagurnis (PRBLBC)**

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