



Bristol Indoor Bowls Club Newsletter August 2024

Message from the Chair – Danny Kite

Brian Blight

We are very sad to announce the sudden death of Brian Blight. He was taken ill during an internal league game and transferred to hospital, where he suffered a massive heart attack overnight, and sadly passed away.

Brian was a highly regarded long-standing member and friend of BIBC and had been a Board member in recent years. He was a regular volunteer, helping to run the club and was generous with his time in helping to coach fellow bowlers.

Brian will be sorely missed, and our thoughts are with his family at this sad time. We will let you have more details in due course.

Hopefully you have all had a busy and enjoyable summer, I know I have.

Whilst the indoor summer playing season is not as hectic as the outdoor one, this has given the Board a chance to catch up on some of the background necessities needed to keep the club vibrant. Some of these are coming to fruition whilst others are in the pipeline and will be reported on in future copies.

One item that will not seem obvious is that the audio-visual capabilities of the club have been improved and upgraded.

Another is the background work that has been going on with regard to bowls gatherers or pushers as they are more commonly known and due to the level of interest in this matter there will be a report further on in this newsletter.

Catering announcement

Metcalfe Catering, who have been running The Hungry Bowler for many years, have tendered their resignation and this has been accepted by the Board.

They will be leaving the club on 31st August.

Plans are being drawn up to continue a catering service from 1st September onwards and negotiations are still ongoing.

Watch this space as they say!





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Pushers

As I am sure you are aware, the Board was presented with a dilemma in that, following a high-risk assessment on the use of pushers our insurers advised that claims may not be covered and that the directors and/or members may become personally liable. Consequently, the pushers were removed from use.

The depth of feeling that followed was obvious and the Board strove to find a way around the situation.

Several options were considered, including some fairly radical designs based on other equipment used by less-abled bowlers. We approached both a Canadian and an Australian manufacturer of bowls aids, as well as local manufacturers with some suggestions – all to no avail.

Bebbington Steps produced the original pushers, but unfortunately, that company is no longer trading.

An alternative design was created, and several prototypes have now been produced. The latest example was presented to Julie Deferville and others, as she was the member who organised the petition that was presented to the Board.

This prototype has been accepted by the group, and actions are in place to manufacture them. They will be slightly smaller than the old ones, considerably lighter but just as manoeuvrable.

This, however, is only a partial answer to our predicament, and it is the method of use of the pushers that continues to cause concern and may again result in a high-risk assessment. Whilst the presence of pushers may be welcomed by many members, safety of all members is the main priority of the Board.

A list of conditions for use has been produced and if followed will allow the new pushers to be used safely, resulting in a lower risk assessment.

These conditions will be posted around the club and must be strictly followed. It will be up to everyone to police the use of the pushers to ensure the conditions are adhered to, which will allow their continued use.

Pushers will be used entirely at the personal risk of the user.

League Notes- Steve Neal

Below is a full list of teams showing confirmations received so far for the Winter 2024/2025.

Emails were sent to Team Secretaries at the end of July. If you have not received the email, please check your spam. I would be grateful if you can reply by the end of August.

If you would like to enter a team or join a team, you can contact me on my mobile, 07974 107729.

For leagues that are full, you can still register your interest to enter a team, as not all teams have confirmed yet.

Leagues will start week beginning 23rd September 2024. Schedules will be sent to Team Secretaries in the first week of September.





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| | | | |
|---|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| MON 12.00 LADIES TRIPLES vacancies | 8 | Mon 16.00 OPEN SINGLES – 1 vacancy | 16 |
| Emeralds | Confirmed email | Chris Brown | Confirmed email |
| Exiles | | Colin Davis | Confirmed email |
| Mondays | | James Newby | |
| On The Up | | Jim Creek | Confirmed email |
| Soul Mates | Confirmed email | Keith Chaney | Confirmed email |
| The Royals | Confirmed email | Mark Gill | Confirmed email |
| Two Plus One | | Mike Wheeler | Confirmed email |
| Whatever | Confirmed email | Pete Belsten | |
| | | Peter Degg | Confirmed email |
| MON 14.00 OPEN FOURS – vacancies | 13 | Peter Marr | |
| Allsorts | Confirmed email | Peter Sims | |
| BAC (BAWA) | Confirmed email | Ray Pike | |
| Beaufort | Confirmed email | Roy Billings | Confirmed email |
| Electrons | | Steve Brice | Confirmed email |
| Kingswood Park | Confirmed Phone | Steve Neal | Confirmed |
| Musketeers | Confirmed Phone | Terry Clash | Confirmed email |
| Reagle | Confirmed email | | |
| Surfers | Confirmed email | Mon 19.00 OPEN TRIPLES - vacancies | 9 |
| Teddy Boys | Confirmed email | Axemen | Confirmed email |
| The Grass Hoppers | Confirmed email | Bristol City A | Confirmed email |
| The Royals | Confirmed email | Famous Grouse | Confirmed email |
| The Toasties | Confirmed Phone | Metric four | Confirmed email |
| The Victorians | | Kids on the Block | |
| | | Mad Hatters | |
| | | Off the Rails | Confirmed email |
| | | Regal | Confirmed email |
| | | South Bristol Massive | Confirmed email |
| | | Callum poss adding team | |
| | | Peter poss adding team | |





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| TUES 10.00/12.00 OPEN TRIPLES - FULL | 24 | TUES 19.00 OPEN TRIPLES - vacancies | 17 |
|---|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| Abbots | Confirmed email | 2 + 1 | |
| Bilbie Bowlers | Confirmed email | Avonvale | Confirmed email |
| Canaries | Confirmed email | Backwoods | Confirmed email |
| Couples | Confirmed email | Bowlers in Disguise | Confirmed Email |
| Fantastics | Confirmed email | Bowls R Us | |
| Friars | Confirmed email | Damaged Goods | |
| Frys | Confirmed email | Dead End Kids | Confirmed email |
| Golden Bay | Confirmed email | Deep Rivers | |
| Greville | | Grababag | |
| Guess Who | | High Flyers | |
| Happy Jacks | | LA Combo | Confirmed email |
| New Beginnings | Confirmed email | One hit Wonders | Confirmed email |
| Shadows | Confirmed email | Phantom Menaces | Confirmed Email |
| SPARTANS | Confirmed email | Phoenix | Confirmed email |
| Spirit | Confirmed email | The Incredibowls | |
| St Annes | Confirmed email | The Unbiased | Confirmed email |
| The Ashtons | Confirmed email | The Owls | Confirmed email |
| The Fishermen | Confirmed email | | |
| The Girls | | | |
| The Goshawks | Confirmed email | | |
| The Hybrids | Confirmed email | | |
| The Skylarks | Confirmed email | | |
| The Valley Boys | Confirmed email | | |
| The Wrong Bias | Confirmed email | | |
| | | | |
| TUES 14.00 OPEN Fours - vacancies | 10 | | |
| BAC (BAWA) | Confirmed email | | |
| Chocolate Quarter | Confirmed email | | |
| Four Tops | | | |
| Heads & Tails | Confirmed Phone | | |
| Henleaze | Confirmed email | | |
| Nomads | Confirmed email | | |
| Oddbins | Confirmed Phone | | |
| St Annes A | Confirmed email | | |
| Teddy Boys | Confirmed email | | |
| Westbury Park | Confirmed email | | |





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| WED 10.00/12.00 AUSSIE PAIRS DIV 1 FULL | 19 | WED 14.00 OPEN FOURS - vacancies | 9 |
|--|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| ABC | | Bilbie Bowlers | Confirmed email |
| Ashton Mojos | Confirmed email | Downend Tuf Guys | Confirmed email |
| Birds of Paradise | Confirmed email | Griffins | Confirmed email |
| Daffodils | Confirmed email | Lord Raglans | Confirmed email |
| Down Unders | Confirmed email | PBA | |
| Dynamic Duo | Confirmed email | The Keynotes | Confirmed email |
| English Brewers | Confirmed email | The Druids | Confirmed email |
| Exeter Crocks | Confirmed email | The Royals | Confirmed email |
| Frys | Confirmed email | Victoria Park | Confirmed email |
| Kelly's Heroes | | | |
| Mallacoota | Confirmed email | | |
| Parakeets | Confirmed email | | |
| Poms | Confirmed email | | |
| Road Warriors | Confirmed email | | |
| Spirit | Confirmed email | | |
| Sydney Hopefulls | Confirmed email | | |
| Tasmanian Devils | Confirmed email | | |
| The Waughs | Confirmed email | | |
| The Wombats | | | |
| | | | |
| WED 10.00/12.00 AUSSIE PAIRS DIV 2 FULL | 19 | | |
| Barracudas | Confirmed Phone | | |
| Bondi Rollers | Confirmed email | | |
| Bristol Harlequins | Confirmed email | | |
| Crusaders | | | |
| Exeter Crocks Academy | Confirmed email | | |
| Phoenix | | | |
| Here We Are | Confirmed email | | |
| New Beginnings | Added | | |
| Nomads | Confirmed email | | |
| Old Crocks | Confirmed email | | |
| Platypuses | | | |
| Sapphires | | | |
| The Fair Dinkum Crew | Confirmed email | | |
| The Kangaroos | Added | | |
| The Koalas | Confirmed email | | |
| The Newbies | Confirmed email | | |
| The Wallabies | Confirmed email | | |
| Up the Creek | Confirmed email | | |
| The Youngsters | Confirmed email | | |





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| THURS 12.00 LADIES TRIPLES - vacancies | 9 | THURS 19.00 MEN'S TRIPLES (3wds) 1 vacancy | 18 |
|---|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| Dee Jays | Confirmed email | Avonvale | Confirmed email |
| Jezebels | | Bazbowl | |
| Outsiders | | Eagles | Confirmed email |
| Polkadots | Confirmed email | English Brewers | Confirmed email |
| Roses | | Gentle Giants | Confirmed email |
| The Keynotes | Confirmed email | Jack Happy | Confirmed email |
| Sapphires | Confirmed email | Just a Yard | Confirmed email |
| The Royals | Confirmed email | Kings | Confirmed email |
| Thursdays | | Metric Three | Confirmed email |
| | | Nomads | Confirmed email |
| THURS 14.00 OPEN TRIPLES - FULL | 19 | Office Ed | Confirmed email |
| 3+1 | Confirmed email | South Bristol Massive | Confirmed email |
| Allsorts | Confirmed email | Spartak | |
| Banana Bunch | Confirmed | The Aussie Johns | Confirmed email |
| Billabongs | Confirmed email | The Dark Horses | Confirmed email |
| Chocolate Quarter | Confirmed email | Triards | Confirmed email |
| Couples | | Tuf Guys | Confirmed email |
| Davrons | Confirmed Phone | Two + 1 | Confirmed email |
| English Brewers | Confirmed email | | |
| Exeter Crocks | Confirmed email | | |
| Heads & Tails | Confirmed Phone | | |
| Regnatrix | Confirmed email | | |
| The Abbots | Confirmed email | | |
| The Amateurs | | | |
| The Boys | Confirmed email | | |
| The Pirates | Confirmed email | | |
| The Three Wise Monkeys | Confirmed email | | |
| The Victorians | | | |
| Three + Three | Confirmed email | | |
| Travellers | Confirmed email | | |





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| FRI 12.00 OPEN PAIRS - FULL | 24 | FRI 18.00 JUNIOR/ADULT AUSSIE PAIRS - vacancies | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|--|--|
| Ashton Mix | Confirmed email | Quackers | |
| Backwood | Confirmed email | SJ's | |
| Barrier Reef | Confirmed email | Thiaretical | |
| BAZBOWL | | Moo's Team | |
| Billabongs | Confirmed email | Izzy Buzzy | |
| Bowled Over | Confirmed email | Cassowaries | |
| Cavaliers | | The Pirates | |
| Cointreau | | The Purnells | |
| Country Folk | Confirmed text | The Scott's | |
| Crusaders | | JR's | |
| Dambusters | Confirmed text | Intercepters | |
| Double Trouble | | The Hiccups | |
| Dynamic Duo | Confirmed email | | |
| Fiddlesticks | | | |
| Good Guys | Colin Confirmed | | |
| Hot Shot Ladies | Confirmed email | | |
| Jackalls | Confirmed email | | |
| Outcast | Confirmed email | | |
| Philistines | Confirmed email | | |
| Redbacks | Confirmed email | | |
| The Collins's | Confirmed email | | |
| The Marshes | Confirmed email | | |
| The Royals | | | |
| Wheeler Dealers | Confirmed email | | |

Crown Green – Jane Geater

Crown Green bowls took place on 17th March, kindly organised by Danny Kite and Mike Humphries, they also explained how to play and the rules of the game.

Members were a bit hesitant but soon got the hang of it.

It was run as a round robin knockout using all nine rinks and bowling in all directions which was an enjoyable and fun experience. The final game of six ends was won by Clive Drake and runner up was Chris Holloway.

Food was available from 3pm onwards which we were able to pre-order at the start of the afternoon and everyone had a good time.

We have decided to include Crown Green again next season and hope more players will join us on Sunday 6th April 2025 for the experience.





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Missing bowls

BIBC makes available many sets of bowls for short term use. The following set has been missing for some time; if you have them, or know of their whereabouts, please let Danny Kite or Rod Edgerton know – we need to keep track of club property – many thanks.

Drakes Pride Professional
Black
Date 2018
Japanese scene
Reg E44809
Size 00

SWCIBA representative- Jenny Tibbs

Somerset Women's County Indoor Bowls Association (SWCIBA)

Hello ladies,

Here we are again nearing the start of our winter bowls season at BIBC.

We ladies have great links with SWCIBA where we can play in county matches against other counties and or internal Somerset competitions (double rink, singles, pairs etc), it is open to all.

We also enter a couple of national club competitions, the Yetton Trophy and the Masons Trophy (which is an over 60s competition).

We have two noticeboards with the relevant information for each, the SWCIBA board is just outside the ladies changing room and the national board is inside the changing room beside the lockers.

Please have a look. I'll be adding information as it comes through so that everyone can see what dates are involved for your diaries.

We would love to see more ladies joining us in the above competitions. They can appear quite daunting but are really just another match for those who would like to progress to the next level.

We are a very friendly bunch who like to do as well as we can on the day but also enjoy ourselves.

If you'd like to know more, I'm happy to chat. I usually play on a Monday at 12.00, Tuesday at 14.00 or the Wednesday morning Australian pairs.

Those at reception can point me out to you.

Looking forward to meeting you!

Jenny Tibbs





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Junior News

Many BIBC juniors, both current and former club members, play for various outdoor clubs during the summer season. They take very active roles in the clubs, playing in league teams and individual club competitions. We've seen them have huge successes in the past, and this season has seen them repeat those successes at club and County level. Below are just a few examples of those success stories, which are still happening while we write this newsletter, so if we miss anyone, we'll do our best to include you next time.

Somerset young bowlers triumph

Bowls

SOMERSET'S young bowlers, including local youngsters Jack Vine from Norwest Bowls Club and Sam Dart from Purnells Bowls Club, once again brought home the trophy for an amazing third year running when they met their counterparts from Gloucestershire, Worcestershire and Wiltshire for their annual Under 25's Four Counties Competition.

The squad of Zach Broom, Sophie Hicks, Sam Dart, Peter Loaring, Lucas Powell, Aaron Broom, Stanley James, Imogen Cracknell, Jack Vine, Oakley Trent, Kimi Powell and Madi King along with sub, Olivia Starr, all travelled to Bristol Bowls Club on bank holiday Monday for their game and the weather



Hat-trick of victories for Somerset

was fairly kind to them while they were playing, but true to form, as they came off the green after the game it fairly bucketed down leaving everyone soaked to the skin.

However, nothing could dampen their spirits after an excellent 15 shot victory. And just to add to the Somerset celebrations Lucas, Aaron,

Stan and Imogen managed to score a Hotshot!

Somerset have some very talented young bowlers and it's great to see the really excellent standard of bowls they achieve. It makes you think - who said lawn bowls was a sport for the oldies? I don't think so - not any more!

NH

Sophie Hicks, with Lydia and Fliss Sheldrake represented Somerset County in the national Amy Rose competition for junior lady bowlers, and their success means that they will play in the national finals at Leamington.

Brad Cox represented Somerset in the White Rose competition – the equivalent of Amy Rose for junior men. Ed Hopegood summed up the performance as follows:

A cracking game, played in great spirit between two teams who will surely be strong rivals under the new format coming into force next season for the foreseeable future, due to the majority of the players being teenagers.

Brad Cox was runner-up in the County junior men's competition, while Lydia Sheldrake and Madi King were runners up in the Ladies County Pairs competition.





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In other news - Safeguarding

You may have noticed that on one of the notice boards there is a collage of club officers, employees and volunteers.

These are the individuals who help keep the club operating, but you might not know much, if anything, about the individuals shown.

We're pleased to feature Tracy Bartlett, one of the club's safeguarding officers.

As you will read below, Tracy has a great deal of experience within safeguarding, which is an essential part of any organisation these days. Below are some examples of how Tracy works with people with particular needs and is keen to point out that BIBC members may contact her on almost any topic – even bowls coaching!

I have worked within social care for over 30 years and currently work for Shared Lives - a national organisation.

Shared Lives schemes support adults with learning disabilities, mental health or other needs that make it harder for them to live on their own.

These schemes match someone who needs care with an approved carer. The carer, in turn, shares their family and community life, and gives care and support to the person with care needs.



Differently-abled people have been faced with significant cuts, in areas such as Day Services and within Support agencies on a national level. Similar difficulties with funding have caused bowls clubs to close on a national level.

Both Day services and Bowls clubs offer a safe place for disabled or isolated people to go for their wellbeing and to socialise. It also gives their families and carers a short break from their caring roles. My vision has always been for inclusion for all, within my work and home life.

I organised an open day at Severn Vale Bowls Club on 4 April 2022, where I am a coach for Bowls England. This was to align my work for Shared Lives with Bowls England to promote inclusion for the local people. I invited people within Shared Lives and people who attend some local day centres, together with some support agencies, health and social care professionals, carers, families and bowls members to come and have fun!

As a coach I trained the volunteers and completed risk assessments to ensure the safety and planning of the day went smoothly.





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As a Safeguarding officer for Bristol Indoor Bowls Club, I discussed it with Head Coach Danny Kite. Danny volunteered to support me with the event in 2023 then again in 2024 with the loan of some very interesting bowls equipment.

I'm pleased to say that both events went well, and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. With the club volunteers' support, money was raised for Shared Lives amenities' funds by baking cakes and organising a raffle. Our visitors were pleased to try the cakes with a hot drink in between bowls.

My passion has always been to promote inclusion for all. My bowls club aim was to open its doors to the local community, so they were pleased to help. I don't think any of us realised the events would grow to be so popular.

As an indication of further success, a Shared Lives person with learning disabilities – her name is Tina - told me that her goal had been to play bowls with her foster dad and had tried for years with other clubs without success.

With our coaching she went on to reach her goal within a year. She now a full member, plays for her local bowls club and was awarded the cup for most improved bowler by our club members as shown in the photo. This proves that if you follow your dreams, you can make them a reality.

I aim to continue my work within Shared Lives and for Bowls England, promoting lawn bowls during the summer and indoor bowls during the winter. I am also involved with supporting local schools to play bowls, as I believe it is good for all ages' health and wellbeing. It's been great to see people of all ages and abilities enjoying a sport together.

