



# BRIDGWATER PETANQUE CLUB

*Newsletter No. 1      March 2025*

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The current membership period expires at the end of March and hopefully all current members will be renewing their membership. The cost remains the same as last year, £5, and you will not be required to complete a new membership form unless your circumstances have changed. You can renew your membership in a number of ways:

- Hand Barry £5 in cash
- Hand Barry a cheque for £5
- BACS

Our bank details for direct payments are:

Sort Code: 30-99-50

Account No. 54049363

Name: Bridgwater Pétanque Club

## £ FUND RAISING £

Negotiations with the Town Council regarding a new terrain in Victoria Park are ongoing and hopefully we will soon have a clear idea as to how much money the Club will have to raise to pay for the new facility. We can then approach possible funders

for help. In the meantime, we should be looking for ways to increase our bank balance ourselves. This approach will reduce the amount of money required and demonstrate to potential funders that the Club is proactive. Two suggestions so far are:

1. A Raffle
2. A Boot Sale

With eight teams plus supporters taking part in the annual Town Twinning Pétanque Competition on the 6<sup>th</sup> of June there will be an opportunity for us to raise awareness of our Club and, at the same time, raise some money. A basket of items relating to the countries of the teams taking part might be an appropriate prize to offer, So, if anybody has a bottle of Portuguese wine or a packet of fancy Italian pasta or anything relating to France, Malta, Germany, the Czech Rep or the USA that they would like to donate please let us know.



Spring is the time of year when many people have a bit of a clear out. Unwanted items are often

either put out with the rubbish, taken to the recycling centre, donated to a local charity shop or sold at a boot sale and there are a number of good boot sales held in the Bridgwater area to choose from. If you have any items that you think might be suitable for being sold at a boot sale, please put them aside. When a date has been identified we can collect all the items together. Please be aware that items need to be small enough to fit into a small hatchback so no unwanted tandems or grandfather clocks. Jewelry, books, toys and games, unwanted Christmas/birthday presents and even potted plants can all be sold. CDs and Videos not so popular but classic vinyl LPs can fetch a good price.

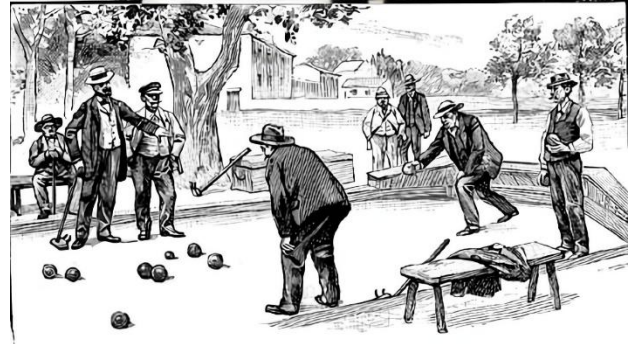
The above are just two ideas for making the Club some much-needed money. Any other suggestions will be gratefully received.



## Playing Away

Now is the time of year when most pétanque clubs will have finalised their fixture lists for the season. So, if we want to arrange some friendly matches with some of our near neighbours we need to get a move on. Ideally it would be good to have a team of six so that we can play a mixture of pairs and triples. However, as we are only a small Club and people are not always available to play, a team of three or four may be sufficient.

The two nearest Clubs are Wellington and Weston-super-Mare, both of which are about half an hour's drive from Bridgwater. Please let Michael know as soon as possible if you would like to be involved and the days you can or cannot play. Arrangements can then be finalised.



## PAINTING THE WALL WHITE



Dan, the Bower Inn manager, has agreed to supply the materials if Club members want to repaint the wall and several members have already said they are willing to help. It might take a day or two to complete the job and the first task will be to remove the flaking paintwork and crumbling masonry. As soon as a date can be arranged Club members will be notified and invited to turn up in their overalls ready to get going with a scraper or brush.

Other suggestions for improving the terrain environment and playing surface welcomed.



## New Members

The size of the terrain currently available to us means that we are restricted to the number of members we can have playing at any one time. This can have a consequential impact that may potentially affect the recruitment of new members. However, problems like this can be overcome by increase the number of “Club Days” we have from twice a month to every weekend and on days other than Sunday. From the beginning of May, we will also be playing in the evenings.

New members may bring with them new ideas for raising funds and may help introduce the Club to 21<sup>st</sup> Century technology and social media like Instagram and TikTok, things some of us know nothing about.

If you have friends or relatives who might be interested in having a go at pétanque bring them along. If they like it, they might like to join us and become members. Membership forms can be found on our website: [bridgewaterpetanque.club](http://bridgewaterpetanque.club).

CLUB  
LOGO



Sometime ago Club members were invited to put forward their suggestions for a Club Logo that could be used on our website, posters etc. So far only one suggestion has been received so it has been necessary to cobble something together from clipart just for the time being. Surely somebody can come up with something better!

## COMPETITION TIME



1. What might Alison and Barry be thinking/saying to each other as they watch their opponent throwing his boule in a recent Devon Winter League match?
2. How many words of three letters or more can you make from the word PETANQUE

Email Michael with your answers.