

At the 2013 Annual General Meeting, attended by 45 members, the Chairman, J.D. Cowings, commented on the good summer weather and the success on the green enjoyed by both the Ladies and Men's Sections. The Club was also successful in achieving the Sport England Club Mark Accreditation and awards from 'Northumbria in Bloom' and 'It's Your Neighbourhood' for the bowling green's surrounds.

The Treasurer, J.T. Harrison, summarised the main points of the Accounts. Both receipts and expenditure were down at £22,984 and £16,665 respectively. The surplus of £6,319 was most welcome when compared with the deficit of £2,438 in 2012. The outstanding loan of £4,000 from BowlsEngland had been repaid and early repayment had earned a £ 600 rebate. Sadly, for health reasons, Alan Barritt is no longer able to scrutinise the accounts and the Treasurer enquired whether someone else would be willing to take on the task. Thanks were extended to Mrs M. Catchpole for her efforts with the Social account. The GPC recommendation that subscriptions for 2014 be unchanged was approved by the members. The Treasurer stated that grants of £1,000 from the County Council Community Chest and also £500 from the Co-Operative Community Fund had enabled the purchase of an aerator for the bowling green. Having held the office of Treasurer for eight years it would definitely be his final year in the position and requested that his successor be found early on to ensure a smooth changeover.

The Green-ranger, W.R. Liddle, reported that the winter maintenance programme was well in hand with progress displayed on the Clubhouse notice board. It would be appreciated if members would volunteer during the winter to swish the green to restrict the spread of fusarium. External expert advice had been obtained and we are now sourcing materials directly in order to manage maintenance costs. He congratulated the Green's Committee on the excellent state of the green surrounds and the two awards received.

Mrs C. Davison reported on the very successful social events held during the year, particularly the 90th anniversary of the formation of the Club. This was held on Presidents' Day with members wearing 1920s headgear and some in full fancy dress, the afternoon events were followed by a barbecue.

A lengthy discussion took place on the proposed change to the Constitution to create a class of Social membership. The Chairman asked members to complete the voting papers which had earlier been distributed and the voting was 34 in favour and 7 against. There being 83% of the votes in favour the proposal was carried. The associated Rule changes were approved by a show of hands. The members agreed with the GPC proposal for a Social membership subscription of £10.

Members were informed by D.W. Kirk that now the Club had received Bowls England Club Mark Accreditation it was important to retain this status and advised members to acquaint themselves with the Club Handbook and the policies and procedures. Until Junior members are recruited our accreditation is 'core' only and further work needs to be done to obtain full accreditation. Miss S.A. Storey stated that Club facilities need to be well maintained and that we have members who are appropriately qualified in First Aid and protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults. Our coaches must be trained and CRB (criminal record basic) checked. The recent BDA grant of £290 would have been £600 if we had Club Mark accreditation at the time of application.

Following the election of Officers and Committee members, Miss S.A. Storey was appointed as the Club's Welfare Officer. The GPC agreed to give further consideration regarding entering a second team in the Public Utilities League to provide more playing opportunities for members.

At the 2014 Annual General Meeting, attended by 43 Members, J.T. Harrison, the Treasurer, stated that expenditure had exceeded income by £2,810 due to the purchase of some £10,000 worth of equipment for the green offset by grants of £1,500. However, the

Club should now be fully equipped to carry out maintenance of the green for several years. Although the Bank Balance was in a healthy state at £12,000 additional insurance was necessary to cover the new equipment. A full review of insurance needs to be undertaken of the Club premises. A grant of £290 had again been received from the BDA to assist with development and coaching.

Organised functions continue to make an important contribution with the barbecue raising over £700 and the January Night Out around £400. Various outside groups who use the Clubhouse during the winter brought in over £1,500. Thanks were extended to Mrs M. Catchpole for managing the Social Account with the help of the ladies and which brought in £809. The members agreed with the GPCs recommendation that the membership fees for 2014 should remain unchanged. Due to personal circumstances, the Treasurer stated that some of his work had been delegated to the Section secretaries and that an Accounts Scrutineer was still required.

In the absence of the Green-ranger, the Secretary, D. W. Kirk, read out his report on green-maintenance activities. Thanks were extended to those members for their commitment when helping with the green during the season and for the tidy-up of the surrounds at the end of the season. The Chairman, J.D. Cowings, also thanked W.R Liddle and his helpers for the excellent condition of the bowling green.



PBC Barbecue Social Evening, June 2006



Presidents' Day, July 2006

Standing (l - r) : Mrs L. Porritt, J.T. Harrison, T.N. Robson, E. Scholes, A. Mahmood, Mrs J. Marshall, C. Bryson, R. Stafford, J. Smith, Mrs M. Brown, J. Smith, E. Caldwell, P. Telfer, Mrs N. Caldwell, J. Burn, A.O. Christie, M.L. Brennan, Mrs J. Cosby, M. McDonnell, Mesdames M. Williamson and M. Healy, A. Wilson, Mesdames A. Carr and D. Green, H. Robson (President), K. Harrison, Mesdames B. Johnston and B. Stafford, E.W. Lowthian, J. Waller, F. Marshall, Mesdames M. Tunnah and M.E.H. Nesbit, N. Green, Mrs S.M. Ridley, G. Warner, Mesdames H. Waddell and D. Walwyn-James, H. Porritt, Mesdames E. Donkin, M. Catchpole, A. Rutter and A. Lowe, R. Donkin, Mesdames M. Knight and W. Olds, A. Ridley, D. Carr, Mrs M. Lowthian and L. Danby

Front Row (l - r) : Mesdames L. Telfer, L. Harrison, E. French, D.A. McDonnell (President), M. Bryson, E. Emmerson and J. Marshall

Mrs A. Rutter reported on the social activities during the winter months and thanked those connected with organising and helping with the various successful events. The pre-season Dinner was held at the Highlander for the first time which whilst enjoyable the layout of the dining room meant the group of members were split up. It was decided to revert to the Ponteland Golf Club next year. Three county matches had been catered for and had gone well with thanks extended to the helpers on these occasions. The Chairman also extended his thanks to the members of the Social Committee for their efforts on behalf of the Club. He also informed members that the next January event would take the form of a "Burns Night" and would be held at the Ponteland Golf Club.

The Secretary stated that the "Taster Sessions" would take place next year in May and June as some members complained of the excessive time taken up when organised in May. He explained that, at present, our Club Mark is only 'core' and that if the Club wished to obtain full Club Mark accreditation it was necessary to allow children into the Club. We are still the only outdoor bowling club in the northern counties to have this qualification and is helpful when making grant-aid applications.

Following the election of Officers and Committee members Miss S.A. Storey was duly appointed as the Club's Welfare Officer. A letter from Mrs G. Stapylton was read out by the Secretary thanking members for their support during her term in office as BN Ladies' President.

At the 2015 Annual General Meeting, attended by 48 members, J.T. Harrison, summarised the main points of the Balance Sheet. The bank balance was approximately £17,500 with income exceeding expenditure by £4,294 but a bill for £4,800 had been received

with respect to maintenance work on the green. He expressed some concern with subscription income down £629 and the possibility of losing members next season. Income from functions also was down to £1,699 being £550 less than last year. Previously, it was in the region of £3,000 each year. The loss of income from the Arts Group did not help matters. A grant of £290 from the BDA in aid of development and coaching had been received. However, the cost of maintaining the premises was increasing with expenditure on the roof, decorating the Clubhouse and providing new tables. Green maintenance costs were down and the Treasurer thanked W.R. Liddle and his helpers for their work on the green. He also thanked Mrs M. Catchpole and other ladies for the management of the Social account which had raised £593. In closing, J.T. Harrison stated that this would be his last year as Treasurer and a replacement would be required to work alongside him in order to become acquainted with the work involved.

The Secretary, D.W. Kirk, read out W.R. Liddle's detailed report in which he thanked helpers for the work they too had carried out on the green and surrounds throughout the season and since Closing Day. The Chairman, J.D. Cowings, added his thanks to the Green-ranger and his helpers for maintaining the green in excellent condition.

In connection with the Club's social activities, Mrs A. Rutter thanked all the ladies who had worked so hard with the catering arrangements during the season and not forgetting their assistance at the coffee mornings held during the winter programme. The Chairman was thanked for producing tickets for events.

D.W. Kirk stated that having the "Taster Sessions" over a longer period and on different days had not proved successful and they should revert to consecutive Saturday mornings as before. The GPC would welcome suggestions on other advertising measures to recruit new members. Friday afternoon sessions with the pupils at Richard Coates School had taken place although an attempt to provide an after school Club had not met with much success. Members were thanked for their support during the sessions both on and off the green.

Before the election of Officers and Committee members, the retiring Chairman, J.D. Cowings, stated it had been a privilege to hold the position and thanked members for their support, particularly the Green-ranger, W.R. Liddle, and the Secretary, D.W. Kirk. The new Chairman, R.J. Varley, referred to the good work of the GPC and the three priorities ahead viz. recruitment of new members, maintain the high standards of the green and to keep the Club at the forefront in the County. Regarding the website, J. Barras has agreed to hosting the Club's online activities. Miss S.A. Storey was re-appointed as the Club's Welfare Officer. The proposed new Bowls Northumberland Mixed League to take place on Sunday mornings was discussed but it appears there has been little support from the Men' Section.

Further to the request by the Public Utilities League for the Club to nominate D.W. Kirk as their next President he was installed as League President at their Annual General Meeting.



PBC Display at Community History Day Exhibition, 1st November, 2008



Bernard Wright with CMBC Mayor Cllr Irene Brumwell



Presidents, July 2009

(l - r) : Mesdames J. Trimble and M. Richardson, E. Scholes, Mrs L. Telfer, P. Telfer, H. Robson (President), Mesdames D. Green, J. Nichol, D.A. McDonnell and M. Brown (President), E.W. Lowthian, Mesdames M. Cowan and M. Bryson, J.T. Harrison, Mrs C. Cobbing, A.O. Christie and Mrs M.E.H. Nesbit



Presidents' Day, July 2009

(l - r) : N. Green, G. Lowe, Mrs A. Lowe, C. Bryson, M. McDonnell, A. Mahmood, H. Howell, Mesdames J. Howell and C. Cobbing, D.G. Kennerley, Mesdames M. Taylor, M. Catchpole, S.A. Storey, M. Cowan, M.E.H. Nesbit, M. Robinson, J.T. Harrison, F. Knight, Mrs E. Gatenby, E.W. Lowthian, Mrs J. Marshall, G. Brown, P. Telfer, M.L. Brennan, Mesdames L. Harrison and J. Nichol, J. Gatenby, A.O. Christie, Mesdames M. Brown (President), L. Telfer and W. Olds, H. Robson (President), D.W. Kirk, Mrs D. Green, D. Carr, Mesdames S. Smith and M. Richardson, C. Titman, Mrs D.A. McDonnell, E. Scholes, Mesdames E. Trimble and R. Johnson, J. Waller, Mesdames J. Dineen, E. Emmerson, A. Rutter, M. Gibson, J. Trimble and M. Bryson, R. Smith



Opening Day, April 2011

Back Row (l - r) : J. Gatenby, A.O. Christie, C. Titman, Mrs W. Olds, D. Hepplewhite, Mesdames D. Green and J. Dineen, J.D. Cowings, Mrs P. Haylock , M.L. Brennan, Mesdames E. Gatenby and N. Caldwell, D.W. Kirk, R.I. Shuttleworth, E.W. Lowthian, Mesdames I. Young, R. Twizell, E. Cowings, L. Harrison and M. Robinson, F. Knight, M. Anderson, D. Franks, D.G. Kennerley, N. Green, Mrs ? J. Waller, Mesdames J. Nichol and D. Walwyn-James, J.T. Harrison

Front Row (l - r) : Mrs J. Marshall, P. Telfer, Mesdames P. Varley and J. Smith, C. Bryson, Mesdames J. Turner, C. Davison, S.A. Storey, M. Catchpole, M. Richardson, E. Emmerson, S. Smith and D.A. McDonnell, A. Mahmood, J. Smith, D. Downing, E. Scholes, Mrs L. Telfer, M. McDonnell, Mesdames A. Rutter and ?, A. Jackson, Mesdames I. Eden, and C. Donachey, A. Ridley, . Mrs M. Bryson, L. Danby , Mrs A. Carr and R.J. Varley

At the 2016 Annual General Meeting, attended by 41 members, J.T. Harrison summarised the main points of the Balance Sheet which showed a deficit of £609. The bank balance was just below £17,000. The good news was that the Club had 21 new members but have lost 13. Regarding the very successful social events, "Burns Night" raised £600 and the barbecue £700. The monthly draw made £560 and BDA provided a grant of £300. By far, the largest expenditure is green maintenance but other costs are rising including printing and postage. The GPC is looking into the request by PMH for the Club to make a contribution to the repairs to their car park. The GPC proposal to increase full membership subscriptions by £5 to £95 was agreed by the members. In closing, J.T. Harrison who became Treasurer in 2008 stated that this would be his last year in office. Also, for health reasons, A. Barritt would no longer be able to serve as Scrutineer of the Club's accounts.

W.R Liddle reported on the successful raising of the bank-sides alongside the PMH and the tennis courts and that boards around the green had been straightened. Dampness had caused slow growth at the start of the season with some damage to the green. However, the damage was not as much as bowler's poor deliveries which required the attention of the GPC to address this problem. The Green-ranger will oversee a team/committee of volunteers next season. Also, he proposed a change in the rota system so that the direction of play is only rotated on a weekly basis.



PBC Stand at the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations, June 2nd - 5th, 2012



PBC Presenters, Bernard Wright and Alan Ridley, 2012

Mrs A. Rutter reported on the social activities during a busy and successful winter programme. The mid-season barbecue was well attended and hugely successful. Thanks were extended to all those who were responsible for organising the individual events throughout the year. In particular, to those who organised the very successful "Burns Night". Miss S.A. Storey reported on the successful "Taster Sessions" which had attracted 13 new members.

Following the election of Officers and Committee members, the Chairman, R.J. Varley, announced that the GPC had agreed to J.T. Harrison being nominated as an HVP which was approved by all the members present. This recognized his exemplary service to the Club over 25 years as a Committee member, President in 2007, Club Chairman and Treasurer (particularly with the extension of the Clubhouse). In response, he thanked everyone for all their help and support over the years and that it had been an honour and a privilege to serve the Club.

It is pleasing to record that John S. Duff was 100 years old in July 2017. He joined the Club in 1978 and became President in 1984. John was an excellent bowler and prominent member on various committees. He was also a member of the pavilion extension Working Party in 1982, referred to in Section 8. At his home, he and his late wife Marjorie hosted several fund-raising events in the 1980s. Although now registered blind, he still visits the Club occasionally whilst on his daily walks and readily converses with friends on times past.

Centenarian John S. Duff

In recent years, with a combined membership level at about 160 (including Associate and Social members), the efforts of the Social Committee

and the response from other members has contributed greatly to the well-being of the Club. In particular, the funds raised from various social functions has helped greatly in sustaining subscriptions at an acceptable level. More importantly, however, the revenue-raising social events have provided funds for what appeared to be the never-ending costs incurred in making repairs to the old pavilion. Now, in addition to the extra running costs of the new Clubhouse there has been recently significant expenditure on green-maintenance and new machinery.



The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Gala Day Celebrations, 2nd June, 2012



The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Gala Day Celebrations, 2nd June, 2012

1.4 Financial Review of Social Activities

Looking back when the Club was formed in 1923, the members paid green-fees until the introduction of annual subscriptions in 1951. Together, with the proceeds from occasional social gatherings organized by the ladies, it usually provided sufficient income for normal outgoings. The PMH were responsible for green-maintenance costs until 1970.

From an examination of Treasurer's reports, the proceeds from coffee mornings in the 1970s averaged approximately £80 p.a., contributing 16% towards the total expenditure. As in other years, other income was obtained mainly from annual subscriptions and donations.

In the 1980s, the proceeds from coffee mornings and other social functions averaged approximately £200 p.a., contributing 7% towards the total expenditure.

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In the 1990s, following improvements to the pavilion, the proceeds from coffee mornings and an increasing number of social functions averaged approximately £700 p.a., contributing 9% towards the total expenditure.

In the 2000s, following both the erection and extension of the Clubhouse, the proceeds from coffee mornings and excellent social functions have averaged approximately £5,200 p.a., contributing 28% towards the total expenditure.

In the present decade, the proceeds from excellently supported social functions have averaged approximately £5,880 p.a., contributing 27% towards the total expenditure.

1.5 Honorary Membership

1.5.1 Men's Section

Normally awarded to members at Annual or Spring General Meetings, in recognition of services to the Club. However, in the case of R.F. Pascoe, the GPC Chairman, J. Oliver, proposed his election at a meeting held in May 1974, which met with the agreement of the members present. His name, however, was not put forward for approval at the subsequent Annual General Meeting but would have been accepted by members.

The year of an award, in chronological order, is shown in parenthesis.

- **Life Members**

- C.F. Jameson (1970). Founder member. Died 1977.
- R.F. Pascoe (1974). Left the Club in 1979.
- R. Selby (1975). Died 1981.
- W. Mole (1976). Died 1985.
- M. Johnstone (1976). Died 1979.
- R.S. Wilkinson (1977). Moved to Teesside in 1977. Died 1978.
- J.A. Main (1979). Retired to Devon in 1979. Died 2005.
- W. Middlemiss (1981). Died 1989.
- J. Carr (1983). Died 1993.
- E. Forster (1983). Died 1986.
- W. Wilson (1984). Died 1988.
- T.W. Cuthbert (1986). Died 2002.
- T. McPhee (1986). Died 1998.
- B.D.W. Wright (1988)
- J. English (1994). Died 2008.

- **Vice Presidents**

- ** W. Barrons (1941). Founder member. Died 1951.
- E. Scholes (1997). Died 2016.
- A.M. Maclean (1999). Moved to the Midlands in 2001. Died 2011.
- R.B. Baxter (2001). Died 2009.
- R. Stafford (2008). Died 2017.
- Mrs M.E.H. Nesbit (2012)
- J.T. Harrison (2017)

** In the early years, in addition to a Chairman, Vice Chairman, President and Vice President, several Vice Presidents were elected at the Annual General Meeting. W. Barrons was made a life Vice President in recognition of his long service with the Club.

1.5.2 Ladies' Section

- **Life Members**

- L.H. Loughton (1971). Died 1982.
- J. Mole (1972). Died 1988.
- F.M. Bird (1983). Died 1983.
- E. Mills (1983). Died 1989.
- E.M. Roper (1983). Moved to North Yorkshire in 1983. Died 2003.
- M. Cassie (1994)
- G. Cattliff (1994). Died 2005.
- D. Crofts (1994). Moved to Hampshire in 2004. Died 2013.
- L. Stockman (1994). Died 1996.
- E. Younger (1994). Died 2003.

1.6 Fund-raising Summary, 1935 - 2017

From the Club's records, it may be seen that members have participated in many activities to raise funds for the Club and deserving charities - both locally and nationally.

The principal functions which have taken place include Jumble Sales, Bridge Nights, Domino Drives, Whist Drives, Buffet Dances, Christmas Eve Dances, Old -Tyme Dances, Annual Garden Parties, Barbecues, Chinese & Italian Evenings, Coffee Mornings, Curry Evenings with Quiz, Fish & Chip Suppers, Hot Pie & Peas Suppers, Quiz Nights.

The beneficiaries from some of the above social events are as follows :

- 1935 Ponteland Memorial Hall
- 1936 Ponteland Memorial Hall
- 1943 Mrs Churchill's "Aid to Russia" Fund
- 1945 Ponteland Memorial Hall
- 1946 Royal Victoria Infirmary, Ponteland Memorial Hall
- 1947 Ponteland Memorial Hall
- 1948 Dunston Hill Emergency Hospital
- 1953 Ponteland Flood Relief Fund
- 1955 Ponteland Memorial Hall Extension Fund
- 1968 NCBA Benevolent Fund
- 1982 Guide Dogs for the Blind
- 1985 North - East Cancer Campaign
- 1986 Cancer Relief Fund, League of Friends of Hunter's Moor Hospital, EBA Building Fund and Northumberland Playing Fields Association
- 1987 PADAC Local Charity, Ponteland Hospital League of Friends and a participant in the Paralympic Games in Korea

1988	Ponteland Hospital
1989	Cancer Research UK
1990	Cancer Research UK and Crossroads - a charity caring for Carers
1996	English National Association of Visually Handicapped Bowlers
2002	NSPCC Charity
2006	English National Association of Visually Handicapped Bowlers and NCBA Charitable Trust
2008	Blind Bowling Association
2009	Asthma Relief Bowls Event
2012	World Blind Bowls participant
2013	RVI Great North Children's Hospital
2014	Great North Air Ambulance
2017	Great North Air Ambulance (HVP's fixture)

2

PBC Fixtures & Results

2.1 Men's Section

In the early years, the Club participated in the Northumberland & Durham B.A. (N&DBA) league competitions. Twelve regional preliminary round fixtures for the Cowen Cup were played on Wednesday evenings. Ten fixtures were played on Tuesday evenings for the John Sinclair Cup. The results in 1935 were disappointing and the Secretary thought ' *better results would be obtained if players would practice more* '. Wise words indeed. In 1936, the Club entered a team in the Chronicle Cup competition the proceeds from which were donated to the Royal Victoria Infirmary. The Club's results in the 1936 league competitions were the best ever achieved, and were better still in 1937.

In 1936, the Club played Morpeth in a friendly match which was re-arranged to be played in Ponteland ' *in order to augment takings.* ' Casual green-fees were given to the PMH towards its redemption of debt. In 1943, the Ponteland Civil Defence Bowling League was born as a result of the Club rink competitions arranged in aid of the ' Wings for Victory' Savings Week. A major benefit was the increase in Club membership from these activities. With food rationing, it was difficult to arrange faith teas for the friendly fixtures. Consequently, in 1946, some visiting teams brought their own snacks with the Club providing liquid refreshment, with the help of the ladies. On these occasions, the Club members paid for the visitors' green-fees.

At this time, there was much discussion as to whether the Club should consider

withdrawing from the N&DBA in favour of the Northumberland County B.A. (NCBA). The NCBA was founded in 1922, and was affiliated to the English Bowling Association (EBA), which was itself founded in 1903. Highlights of post-war fixtures held at Ponteland (PBC) are listed below.



PBC League Match Scorer, circa 1946



NCBA Edwardson Cup Winners, 1947

Standing (l - r) : R. Meek, J. Neal, J.M. Moorhead, W.L. Hepple, A. Walker, C.F. Jameson, R. Yates, J. Oliver, T. Fatkin, E. Morley and E. Forster

Seated (l - r) : W.V. Reed, K.B. Straughan, R.F. Pascoe, E. Stokoe (Secretary), W. Barrons (Chairman), J. Carr, J.H. Hall, H.B. Stobert and J. Robson

Front (l - r) : M. Johnstone and W. Urwin

In 1947, PBC won the Edwardson Cup for the first time by defeating Brighton B.C. in the Final by 39 shots, 92 - 53.

In 1948, PBC were runners-up in the Clegg Cup competition.

In 1949, PBC were Divisional winners in the Clegg Cup competition.

In 1952, PBC entertained the NCBA League Team.

In 1954, PBC hosted one section of the Northumberland Challenge Cup competition.

In 1955, PBC entertained visitors from Welham B.C., Yorkshire and the Surrey Tourists.

In 1956, PBC entertained the NCBA League team. In the Clegg Cup competition, PBC was the runner-up to Walker Park B.C. and were Divisional winners in 1957.

In 1963, PBC again won the Edwardson Cup, by defeating Whitley & Monkseaton B.C. in the final held at Willington Quay.

In 1964, as holders of the Edwardson Cup, PBC entertained the Rest of the NCBA League side. Also, in 1964, the Northumberland Challenge Cup was won by PBC for the first time. With the recent successes in the County competitions, the Club was invited by Portland B.C. to participate in the Alfred Bell Cup competition held annually between the north-eastern private Clubs.

In June 1965, PBC hosted one section of the Alfred Bell Cup competition.

In 1966, PBC was successful in winning the Edwardson Cup for the third time. It was considered a most creditable achievement because of the relatively small membership. Tom McPhee's rink had an excellent 40 - 3 score-line in the overall result 85 - 58. The first friendly and competitive Sunday matches were played during the 1966 season.

In 1967, as holders of the Edwardson Cup, PBC entertained the Rest of the NCBA League side.

In 1968, PBC hosted the private Clubs J.M. Oubridge Cup competition. In September 1968, the first PBC Ladies v. Gents match was arranged. This became an annual fixture in 1980.

In 1970, PBC hosted one section of both the Northumberland Challenge Cup and the Alfred Bell Cup competitions.

In 1973, PBC won the inaugural North-East of England Private Clubs League (NEEPCL) the matches being played on a Sunday. This was the first league competition to be played in white dress. Also, in 1973, PBC was the runner-up against Summerhill for the Alfred Bell Cup.

In 1974, PBC hosted one section of the Alfred Bell Cup competition.

In 1975, PBC hosted one section of the Northumberland Challenge Cup competition.



**PBC Team in the Northumberland Challenge Cup Competition
played at Ponteland, 26th July, 1975**

**(l - r) : A. Young, J.A. Main, T.W. Cuthbert, F.L. Kitto,
B.D.W. Wright, J. English, J. Oliver and T.R. Burn**

In 1977, the inaugural NEEPCL Gala Day Trophy competition, held at Summerhill, was won by PBC with Hexham as the runner-up.

During the 1970s, PBC had produced some poor results and, in 1979, won only one of their fourteen friendly fixtures. The highlight of the season was the invitation match arranged with the Mayor of CMBC, Cllr D. Adams, and County officials, which was followed by an excellent buffet supper in the PMH. Matches with the Mayor's team became a regular fixture.

In 1980, on the wettest June day ever recorded, PBC hosted one section of the Alfred Bell Cup competition. Only the excellent catering arrangements, which included hot soup, made the day worthwhile for the competitors. The season ended with a Ladies v. Gents match which was followed by a faith tea. This has proved to be a popular annual fixture at the Club.

The planned opening of the bowling green on the 25th April 1981, was delayed one week due to a heavy snow-fall. In 1981, PBC hosted one section of the Northumberland Challenge Cup competition and, in July, provided three rinks for a private Newcastle Chronicle & Journal match.

In 1983, PBC entertained the Perth B.C. tourists from Scotland and hosted the Lewis Wilson Cup competition.

In 1984, PBC hosted the private Clubs J.M. Oubridge Cup competition and entertained a Northumbria Police team. Matches with the local Police team became a regular fixture.

In 1985, PBC hosted one section of the Alfred Bell Cup competition.

In 1986, PBC entertained teams from both the West Midlands and the Bedfordshire Police Forces.

In 1987, PBC won the Clegg Cup for the first time. PBC entertained tourists from Kissingbury (Northants), London Parks, Malvern (Worcs) and West Edinburgh (Midlothian).

In 1988, PBC hosted another match with the London Parks B.A. tourists. PBC were runners-up to Gosforth in the Edwardson Cup Final.

In 1989, PBC entertained tourists from both Retford Town Bowling Green Ltd (Notts) and Shefford B.C. (Beds).

In 1991, PBC hosted one section of the Northumberland Challenge Cup competition. PBC also entertained the Norfolk Police which was followed by refreshments at Northumbria Police Headquarters. The Lewis Wilson Trophy competition was won by PBC for the first time.

In 1992, PBC again won the NEEPCL Gala Day trophy.

In 1993, PBC entertained tourists from both Wigton B.C. (Cumbria) and Dunnington B.C. (Yorks).

In 1994, PBC hosted the private Clubs J.M. Oubridge Cup competition.

In 1995, PBC hosted the Lewis Wilson Trophy competition, also one section of the Alfred Bell Cup competition. Ponteland progressed to the final, played at Portland B.C., only to lose to Hexham B.C.

In 1996, PBC hosted one section of the Northumberland Challenge Cup competition and an invitation match with the NCBA HVP's.

In 1997, PBC hosted the Edwardson Cup Final, won by St George's Hospital, and an invitation match with the NCBA HVP's.

In 1998, PBC hosted the Edwardson Cup Final, won by Collingwood. In addition, PBC hosted an invitation match with the NCBA HVP's, a County 2-Bowl Singles competition, the NEEPCL Men's Gala Day competition, and the Gosforth Tourists B.C. In the Knight Cup competition, Ponteland 'A' was promoted to Division 2.

In 1998, PBC hosted the Edwardson Cup Final, won by Collingwood. In addition, PBC hosted an invitation match with the NCBA HVP's, a County 2-Bowl Singles competition, the NEEPCL Men's Gala Day competition, and the Gosforth Tourists B.C. In the Knight Cup competition, Ponteland 'A' was promoted to Division 2.

In 1999, PBC entertained tourists from Potterton Int. B.C., Warwickshire and hosted the Edwardson Cup Final, won by Gosforth.

In 2000, PBC hosted the Edwardson Cup Final, again won by Gosforth, and entered both the Parliamentary and Nines Leagues.

In 2001, PBC hosted the Alfred Bell Cup, the Northumberland Challenge Cup, and the Edwardson Cup Final won by Gosforth for the third year running. As winners of the NCBA Nines League Division 3 competition PBC was promoted to Division 2.

In 2002, PBC hosted the Edwardson Cup Final, won by St George's Hospital. PBC was the runner-up in the NCBA Nines League and promoted to Division 1. The first pre-season trial match was played between the PBC Clegg Cup and Knight Cup teams.



NCBA Clegg Cup Winners, 1987

Standing (l - r) : A. Wilkinson, T. McPhee, M.A. Bennett, J. English and J. Graham.

Seated (l - r) : S. Wright, M. Wearmouth, T.W. Cuthbert, S. Rutherford and R.I. Shuttleworth

Front (l - r) : J.W. Nesbit (non-playing President) and T. Lumley

Absent : W. Ridley and R. Stafford



Lewis Wilson Trophy Winners, 1991

(l - r) : R. Stafford, D. Boland, R.I. Shuttleworth, T. Lumley, G. Bowmer and P. Telfer



NCBA Nines League Division 3 Winners, 2001

**Standing (l - r) : W.R. Liddle, R.I. Shuttleworth, G.D. Bennett,
R.A. Peckham, P. Telfer, H. Robson and R.J. Varley
Seated (l - r) : F. Knight, J.T. Harrison and R. Stafford**