



› A Community Brought Together by Recreation

Community and sporting groups at our grounds

We are proud to host a wide range of clubs, schools and community organisations who bring life to our grounds week in, week out. Here is a selection from across the three sites of Bath Recreation Ground, Glasshouse Academy Ground, and Broadmoor Lane Orchard;

BaNES Carers

Bath Area Play Project

Bath Carnival

Bath City FC Foundation

Bath Drama

Bath Rugby Minis

Bear Flat Cricket Club, Combe Down Cricket Club and Teams Representing
The Star, The Bell and The Ram

Beechen Cliff School

Bike Bath

Book Club

Community Residents' Picnic

Connecting Families (BaNES)

Palladian Academy Trust – Sports Days

Pera Annual Tea

Power of Play Nursery

RUH X

School Sports Days

Social Touch Rugby

Tai Chi

Think Psychology

University of Bath and Bath Spa University – Summer Graduation Celebrations

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› Strategic Direction 2022 – 2027

Our Vision

To create a leading model for the future provision of recreation property.

Our Mission

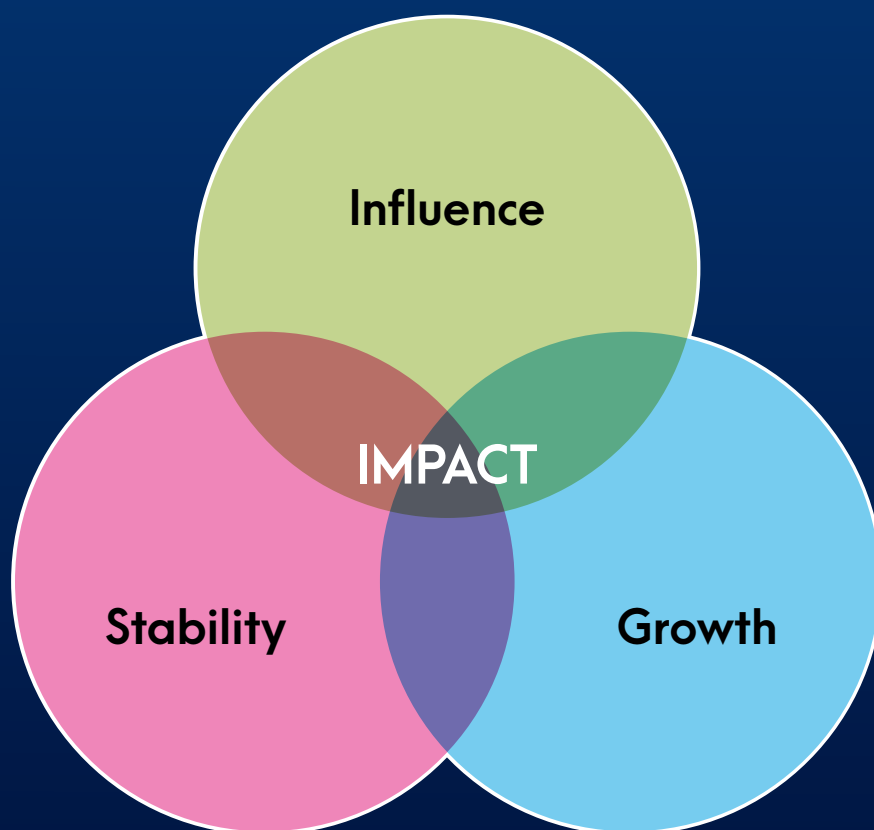
To provide sustainable opportunities for our community to live active, healthy and happy lives.

Our Strategic Intent

To be recognised as a trusted partner for recreation in and around Bath.

Our Enduring Purpose

Nurturing Positive Lifestyles.



Influence

To broaden the range of partners that we work with, including local schools, businesses, organisations and charities. And reach out to the wider public to communicate the impact of our charitable work.

Stability

To secure the future by ensuring that we have a financially stable and diversified income revenue stream in order to continue to do the good work we do through the Glasshouse Academy and Buds programmes.

Growth

To measure the impact each site and each activity has on the community, and to investigate the opportunities for managing new sites in or near Bath.

The objects of the charity are the provision, with or without charge, of property in or near Bath for use as indoor and outdoor recreational facilities for the benefit of the public.

➤ Message from the Chair

This past year has been one of real momentum for Bath Recreation. We have continued to strengthen our role as an enabler for sport, recreation, and community activity across the city, while keeping sight of our charitable objects — the provision of property for recreational use for the benefit of the public.

Much of what you read in this report demonstrates how that purpose is being delivered in practice: through our own programmes at the Glasshouse Academy and in local schools; through the support we give to clubs and community organisations who use our grounds; and through partnerships that extend our impact across both sport and culture. At its heart, our work is about nurturing positive lifestyles — creating the conditions for people to be active, to connect, and to flourish.

We are also mindful of the foundations that sustain this work. The income generated through our trading company and our anchor tenants at the Recreation Ground ensures that Bath Recreation can continue to invest — not just in our existing facilities, but in the latent potential of sites that will serve the city long into the future. The proposed redevelopment of the stadium represents the next step in securing that long-term stability, providing decades of income that can be channelled directly into recreation for the people of Bath.

This year we also mark, with sadness, the passing of our former trustee and friend, Dave Durden. As Chair of the Somerset Playing Fields Trust, Dave brought a wealth of knowledge, a constant source of wise counsel, and a genuine passion for community sport and recreation. He was an excellent trustee, a valued colleague, and above all a friend who will be dearly missed.

I want to thank my fellow trustees for their expertise and commitment, our executive team for their dedication, and the many partners and friends of Bath Recreation who share our belief in the importance of recreation. Together we are building on a proud history while looking firmly to the future.

Mike Laughton

Chair, on behalf of the Board of Trustees

> Update on the Rec

Our Position

Bath Rugby's aspiration to improve its facilities is public knowledge. As the landlord, Bath Recreation supports these aspirations in principle and we are excited about the possibilities.

Architectural and design considerations are for agreement between the tenant (Bath Rugby) and the local planning authority (B&NES) and we are working closely with Bath Rugby to gain a deep understanding of the community impact the redevelopment will deliver.

Our purpose is to provide land and facilities that create opportunities for the local community to lead healthy, active and happy lives. To deliver this we must optimise all of our land and facilities and generate income. An improved stadium and lease terms will support this charitable purpose both operationally and financially.

Legal Position

There has been much discussion about the legal position with regard to the Recreation Ground. Since 2017, we have had clarity in that Bath Recreation has all of the powers of an absolute owner and that, since 2022, the land is not subject to any enforceable covenants.

The two significant and positive outcomes of these rulings are, firstly, that Bath Recreation, who own the Recreation Ground and lease land to Bath Rugby and B&NES, will have greater financial security to continue their charitable work, and secondly that a vastly improved stadium may be built, subject to planning permission and commercial agreement.

Enhancing recreation in and near Bath

Bath Recreation's purpose is to provide recreation facilities in or near Bath, our passion is to nurture positive lifestyles. We do this alongside many other local charitable bodies with whom we have developed

strong, active relationships such as St John's Foundation, the Medlock Charitable Trust, George Cadbury Trust, Rotary Club of Bath, Bath Rugby Foundation, Bath City FC Foundation and Bath Festivals. Our partnerships are developing every day as we strive to deliver greater impact.



The Recreation Ground is a vital component of our impact, encompassing the rugby stadium, the leisure centre site, Bath Croquet Club and other facilities. Alongside diverse community activities, it also provides the security of our income through two anchor tenants: Bath Sports and Leisure Centre and Bath Rugby.

To date we have protected and enhanced a number of sites in Bath, including upgrading the listed buildings and facilities at the Recreation Ground (£1.2m), the Glasshouse playing fields site in Combe Down (£600k) and Broadmoor Orchard in Weston (£75k) but we want and indeed need to do more.

In much the same way that a multi-million pound refurbishment of the Leisure Centre in 2015 delivered by B&NES and GLL improved the community offering we believe that a redeveloped stadium can provide enhanced year round impact and secure income for the charity to support other recreation facilities in and near Bath long into the future.

› Strategic Partnerships

Bath Recreation has been shaped and strengthened by the partnerships that surround us. Some have been there since the beginning — Bath & North East Somerset Council, the Medlock Charitable Trust, and St John's Foundation — whose early support and commitment laid the foundations for the work we continue today. While our relationship with them has evolved, they remain valued friends of the charity.

Our current partnerships reflect both the breadth of recreation in Bath and our commitment to enabling others. We are proud to work alongside Bath Rugby Foundation, and we work with the University of Bath through sponsorship of the Team Bath Netball Pathway, helping ensure aspiring netballers across the

South West remain connected to the very top level of the game. We also collaborate with Bath City Football Foundation, and Bath Rotary Club, each bringing their expertise and networks to community life.

Beyond sport, we are delighted to support Bath Festivals, Bath Film Festival, and Bath Carnival — cultural celebrations that bring people together and showcase the creative spirit of our city.

Together, these and many other partnerships—past and present — demonstrate how Bath Recreation plays its role as an enabler within the wider ecosystem, building on history while continuing to shape opportunity for the future.

The logo for Bath Carnival features the word "BATH" in a small, blue, sans-serif font, flanked by two small blue dots. Below it, the word "CARNIVAL" is written in a large, bold, blue, hand-drawn style font with a thick underline.The logo for "Party in the City" features the words "PARTY" and "CITY" in a large, bold, purple, sans-serif font. The word "IN" is smaller and positioned between "PARTY" and "CITY". To the right of "PARTY" are two small, stylized musical notes and two small stars.The logo for the Rotary Club of Bath features the word "Rotary" in a large, bold, blue, sans-serif font, with "Club of Bath" in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font below it. To the right is a yellow gear icon with a white center.The logo for the Medlock Charitable Trust features the word "medlock" in a blue, sans-serif font, with "charitable trust" in a smaller, grey, sans-serif font below it. Above the "o" in "medlock" are three small circles in blue, green, and blue.The logo for Bath & North East Somerset Council features the words "Bath & North East" and "Somerset Council" in a green, sans-serif font, separated by a thin blue horizontal line.

Improving People's Lives

The logo for St John's Foundation features a red sunburst icon to the left of the words "ST JOHN'S" in a large, bold, black, sans-serif font, with "FOUNDATION EST. 1174" in a smaller, black, sans-serif font below it.

➤ Community Spotlight: Bear Flat Cricket Club

The 2025 Season: Growth, Success, and New Horizons

The 2025 season was destined to be an exciting chapter in the history of Bear Flat Cricket Club. With both senior teams entered into the Somerset Cricket League, the Bears returned to their roots, playing across Somerset in divisions 5 and 7, with everything to play for and ambitions set high. May arrived and the Glasshouse came alive with the sounds of bat on ball and the cheers of young cricketers, as nearly one hundred children took part in the club's vibrant youth program. The players, All Stars and Bear Cubs, engaged in both supervised training sessions and competitive fixtures, played in the Bath and District Under 11s and Under 13s leagues.

Thanks to the vision and dedication of the coaching team—Andy Ebdon, Ollie Cox, Richard Bahadoor, Rob Wilson and Paul Wood—the youth program has exceeded all expectations. Their commitment, enthusiasm, and expertise have created an environment where young cricketers thrive, improve, develop new friendships and a connection to the club.

The season's finale was an enjoyable event on 5 September: the annual youth awards ceremony. Every child received a medal to commemorate their participation in the 2025 program, a tangible recognition of their hard work, improvement, and team spirit.

The senior teams delivered their share of drama and triumph. The 2nd XI dominated Division 7, clinching the championship with an impressive record: 18 matches played, 13 wins, 3 draws, and just 2 matches conceded with no losses. The 1st XI's campaign was equally compelling. In a season marked by competitive cricket and nail-biting finishes, the 1st XI missed promotion by a mere 5 points.

Among the most exciting developments of 2025 was the club's commitment to providing opportunities for women and girls. Introducing plans for an all-girls team and a women's side was always the plan but the energy within the group accelerated the timeline. The initiative

quickly gained momentum, and the coaching team organized women's "taster sessions" that attracted an impressive twenty-two players registering their interest. The session had enthusiasm and positivity, affirming the appetite for women's cricket within the local community. Indoor sessions have now been planned in the winter months.



Bear Flat Cricket Club

Bear Flat Cricket Club's commitment to excellence and inclusivity was formally recognized last year when the club was awarded Clubmark status. This ECB accreditation serves as a mark of quality, indicating that the club is not only well run and sustainable but also provides a safe, rewarding, and fulfilling environment for every participant. For parents and carers, this recognition offers peace of mind, reinforcing their confidence that Bear Flat CC is the right place for their young children to learn, grow, and make lasting friendships.

The club's home at the Glasshouse continues to be a cornerstone of its success. The quality of the playing facilities is among the very best in the Somerset Cricket League, with a well-maintained pitch that is a genuine joy for cricketers of all levels. The Glasshouse has supported the progression of the youth section and provided a safe, comfortable environment where children can enjoy the game. The club has steadily grown, and its cricketing pathway is nearly complete. In two seasons, it hopes to have an Under 15 youth squad and prepare its youngsters to progress into adult open age cricket.

The Glasshouse has become more than just a ground; it is a home for the Bears and a gathering place for the Bear Flat family, and we thank Bath Recreation for its support in making this possible.



Bear Flats Cricket Club

➤ Community Activity and Partnerships

Bath Recreation exists to fulfil its charitable objects: providing property in and around Bath for use as indoor and outdoor recreational facilities for the benefit of the public. That purpose is brought to life through the way we deliver and support activity across the city — guided by our ethos of nurturing positive lifestyles.

The Buds Programme

The Buds programme continues to be one of our most valued and enduring activities. Each week our coaches deliver high-quality PE in seven Bath schools – Twerton Infants, St Michael's Juniors, St Andrew's, Oldfield Park Juniors, St Martin's Garden, St Philip's Primary and Roundhill Primary – reaching around 500 children each week. Many of these children face barriers to participation, yet Buds continues to demonstrate the power of consistent opportunity.

Twerton Infants' headteacher recently reflected:

“At a time when funding for schools is more challenging than it has ever been, it is remarkable that Bath Rec Trust has remained a constant positive force for good in our community... our children love the time with the coaches, the teachers benefit from the support, and it is at no cost to the school. It's a win-win-win.”

That sense of consistency is rare in a sector where programmes often come and go. Buds has endured — embedded in school life, trusted by staff, and loved by children.



The Glasshouse Academy

At the Glasshouse site, the Academy continues to offer a clear pathway for young people as they progress through school. The curriculum is designed to grow with them: from building foundations of empathy and teamwork in the early years, to pathways of leadership and resilience in adolescence, and ultimately preparing for life beyond school.

The Academy is now under the leadership of Chris Pile, whose connection to Bath Recreation's journey goes back to the very beginning of our work to positively shape young people's relationship with sport and recreation. His long-standing involvement has ensured continuity while also bringing fresh energy and innovation to the programme.

Parents and carers continue to tell us about the difference this work makes:

- “My son loves attending Glasshouse, since he started his confidence has improved so much.”
- “It has definitely helped with confidence and self-esteem... going to club really makes her smile.”
- “A friendly team helping younger children to socialise through play and sport – thank you.”

Alongside weekly sessions, we have added holiday provision, workshops, and events that give children memorable experiences. Whether it is trying a new sport, creating something in a craft session, or simply sharing in a water fight at the end of term, these moments build confidence and a sense of belonging.



Palladian Academy Trust

Our partnership with the Palladian Academy Trust remains a cornerstone of our activity.

Through coaching, PE leadership, and shared use of both the Recreation Ground and Glasshouse grounds, hundreds more children take part in festivals and events that celebrate teamwork, sport, and shared experience.

The Glasshouse itself is firmly established as a community hub, home to cricket clubs, disability sport, nurseries, and local groups. It continues to show what can be achieved when facilities are cared for and shared widely.



Partnerships and Sponsorships

Partnerships remain central to Bath Recreation's ability to deliver impact. This year our sponsorship of the Team Bath Netball Pathway has sustained opportunities for aspiring players across the South West to remain connected to the very top level of the game. It has also enabled Glasshouse Academy members to experience world-class facilities at the University's Sports Training Village, provided CPD for local teachers, and given a whole school the chance to enjoy a day of sport at the university. Alongside this, we worked with the Bath City Football Foundation and continued our backing for Bath Festivals, Bath Carnival, and the Bath Film Festival, which all play a vital part in bringing the community together. We also supported Larkhall Athletic Football Club as they completed a redevelopment of their site — now a fantastic community asset — and provided a long-term marquee loan to the Twerton and Whiteway Community Network, enabling volunteers to use it independently at local events. Together, these collaborations highlight the breadth of Bath Recreation's role: not only

delivering activity directly, but enabling others whose work enriches life across the city.

Looking Ahead

Across Buds, Glasshouse, Palladian, and our partnerships, we are seeing real and lasting change. Children are more confident. Families are engaged. Local clubs and organisations are thriving through collaboration.

Our task now is to build on this momentum. By sustaining what works, expanding where there is need, and strengthening the partnerships that underpin it all, Bath Recreation will continue to provide opportunities that endure and inspire. Looking further ahead, the proposed redevelopment of the stadium represents much more than a new facility for sport. It is the key to securing decades of stable income that will be invested directly into indoor and outdoor recreational facilities across Bath — ensuring future generations continue to benefit from high-quality spaces to play, connect, and thrive.

› Trading Company Update

Bath Recreation's trading arm exists to strengthen the charity's financial foundation. Money raised through this work serves our charitable objects by enabling us to invest directly into our current properties and to unlock the potential of our wider estate. In doing so, we ensure that the grounds and facilities entrusted to us remain well maintained, sustainable, and able to support recreation for future generations.

The trading arm is made up of three specialist teams:

- **Sports Ground Team** – delivering high-quality maintenance and management of playing fields and facilities.
- **Tree Team** – providing professional tree surgery and arboricultural services.
- **Landscape Team** – offering a full range of landscaping and grounds maintenance services.

We work with both commercial and domestic clients, ensuring that our services are competitively and fairly priced in line with industry standards. By maintaining strong business practices, we protect the reputation of the charity while ensuring the trading arm is a sustainable enterprise in its own right.

Alongside this commercial work, the trading arm creates opportunities for learning and skills development. We support traineeships, schools, and community projects such as forest schools and outdoor education, giving young people practical experience in teamwork, problem-solving, and outdoor skills.

Ollie's story illustrates this in practice. While studying at Lackham College, Ollie combined his studies with two days a week of practical experience at Bath Recreation Trading. This gave him valuable hands-on skills in tree surgery and landscaping, alongside the knowledge gained from his college course. On completing his qualification, Ollie was offered a full-time contract with Bath Recreation Trading as a trainee tree surgeon and landscape operative. His progression demonstrates the opportunities our trading arm creates for young people to build

sustainable careers, while also strengthening our team with fresh talent and enthusiasm.

In combining commercial strength with community purpose, the trading arm continues to grow as a resource that supports both the charity and the city it serves.

A quote from Ollie:

The combination of college and time with the team helped me build skills and confidence in a real work environment.



➤ Governance & Finance

Bath Recreation is governed by a Board of Trustees and the Charity ensures that the Board encompasses a broad range of expertise, knowledge and competencies within legal, property, financial, education and sport.

Current Trustees/Directors:	Mike Laughton (Chair)	Naomi Defroand (Vice Chair)
	Martin Harman CBE	Jason Dalley
	Alistair Colston	Cassie (Stokes) Wilson

The Board of Trustees has a programme of governance, policies and procedures that are reviewed annually in accordance with the charity's Scheme and Articles of Association.

Bath Recreation Ltd accounts are audited by MHA Monahans annually and financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice.

Current professional consultants/advisors (reviewed annually) are:

Legal Advisors:	Veale Wasbrough Vizards
Tax Advisors:	Bishop Fleming
Auditor and Accountants:	MHA Monahans
Investment Advisors:	Investec / Rathbones
Property Valuations:	Avison Young
Bankers:	HSBC

Our latest financial reports and other information are on the Charity Commission website www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission

Bath Recreation Limited, a charitable company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales with a company number 10735297 and registered charity number 1173521.

Registered Office: Bath Recreation Ground, Pulteney Mews, Bath BA2 4DS.

Bath Recreation (Trading) Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of Bath Recreation Limited, company number 13553734.



Design & Print



**OUTSOURCED
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www.outsourcedbranding.co.uk

The logo for Bath Recreation is centered on the page. It consists of the words "Bath" and "Recreation" stacked vertically in a white, sans-serif font. Between the two words are three white circles of equal size. The entire logo is enclosed within a thin white rectangular border.

Bath ● ● ●
Recreation

www.bathrec.co.uk

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