

Environmental and Ethical Group Update Winter 2024



ROOF REPAIRS & INSULATION



The 50 year old roof is being repaired and insulated and will shortly be completed. This is expected to significantly reduce heat loss (the old roof was uninsulated).

The Advisory Group was successful in obtaining a grant of £10,000 for roof insulation from the West of England Combined Authority (WECA).

It has also just been confirmed that the repaired roof will be able to support solar panels.

SOLAR PANELS

The Club continues to explore the feasibility of installing solar panels on the large, south-facing flat roof.

There are two main funding options – the use of co-operatives and owning the panels ourselves. The former does not require any capital outlay as the panels are owned by the cooperative, which sells the electricity generated back to the Club at a discounted rate. If

the Club installs solar panels, we have the capital to consider, but we would then be generating our own electricity.

WECA has awarded a further grant of £19000 should the Club go ahead and install their own solar panels.

ZELLAR

Zellar is a data-based system that analyses our energy usage data and makes recommendations that drive sustained action while making cost savings. Improvements in carbon reduction are presented in a simple and meaningful format, providing encouragement and attitude change within our Club. We hope to be able to produce reports in time, showing the benefits as we progress through our sustainable journey.



PLEDGEBALL



Our club has topped the LTA's September PledgeBall league and won £500 to spend on any sustainability project. Members pledged to sustainable actions, like taking a reusable water bottle when you go to play or car sharing. Every pledge earned us points and we ended up smashing it! We're looking at the best way to spend the money and all suggestions are welcome.

[The LTA Pledgeball League is back for 2024](#)

Apart from the welcome cash win, we hope the Pledgeball success has raised awareness in the club of our commitment to becoming more sustainable and ethical. You may also have noticed the trial of Two Farmers crisps at the bar, a brand that comes top in many sustainability rankings. In big ways and small, we're making changes for a better future.

ONE SMALL STEP FOR NATURE

Biodiversity Bank

The Wildlife hedge continues to thrive, and the planting of primroses and ox-eye daisies continues along with wildflower seed dispersal. All were delayed due to the weather conditions.

However, torrential rain did not deter the Redland Green Community Group and a Club representative from planting daffodil bulbs on the side facing Court 7.



Replacement of Privet Hedge

Research is underway to determine the best, low-maintenance hedging to replace the dead privet hedge which was located between court 7 and the hard courts.

Use of Herbicides

There will also be research into the use of eco-friendly, organic, and effective herbicides.

Bee Bold Pollinator Awards

The West of England Regional Combined Authority will sponsor the Bee Bold Pollinator Awards for 2025. It is hoped the Club will be able to apply but there is still much work to be done.



[Bee Bold Awards - West of England Combined Authority](#)

JOIN THE ENVIRONMENTAL & ETHICAL ADVISORY GROUP

Volunteers needed!

The Environmental and Ethical Advisory Group have achieved a lot in just over 2 years since we were formed. However, there are now only four of us and we are looking for more help. We are a friendly and enthusiastic group who meet quarterly. You will not be expected to do a huge of work just whatever you can manage or are interested in, we are all busy people.

Nature Volunteers

Our Policy is to 'Protect nature and improve wildlife habitat within the grounds of the Club'. We are also looking for volunteers to help with planting bulbs, wildflowers and sowing wildflower seeds. Also, tending the planters as we move to more drought tolerant, pollinator friendly flowers.

If you have any comments, queries, or suggestions please email Sally Chan at:
environmental@redlandgreen.co.uk

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And keep up to date on all of the exciting upcoming club events and player results!

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