

## Bowls club celebrates opening of new pavilion

MEMBERS of Hayle and District Bowling Club gathered to celebrate the opening of their £85,000 pavilion this week.

And with an artificial green large enough to accommodate 48 players, they are now looking forward to hosting county and international matches.

Treasurer John Wallis said the official opening marked the end of a long struggle to re-establish the club after it was evicted from its previous home in 2000.

"Things have been a bit hectic and we are delighted to have finally got the club fully up and running and in a position to stage county games," he said.

"Our men's A team have already won the Mining Division title and have been promoted to the premier league."

The now defunct West Cornwall Bowling Club had operated from its base at Queensway until it was forced to make way for a new housing development.

Following a concerted effort by members to raise funds, their new green – the only artificial surface in the Western League – was constructed at their current home in Ellis Park in September 2006.

But since then the club has been competing with changing facilities and toilets housed in temporary cabins.

The shell of the new pavilion, built with £35,000 from Cornwall SITA Trust, was completed last September then fitted out with kitchens and toilets by club members.

"We are lucky to have a few members with plumbing and carpentry experience – this club is a community project for Hayle," said Mr Wallis.

"The cabin was nowhere near big enough and now we will be able to entertain visiting teams and host county matches."

Mr Wallis said the 80-strong membership was extremely grateful to club member Mr Jeffery, the Liverpool-based Foundation for Sport and the Arts and Hayle Town Council for contributions.

Thanks also went to Groundwork Devon and Cornwall, Help the Aged, Cornwall Community Funding, the Co-operative Society, Bradford's of Camborne and Hayle Area Plan Partnership.

More than 70 people attended the ceremony which saw Wendy Reading of SITA cut the tape to declare the pavilion open. Christine Hoare, Peter Brown and Peter Hayeans represented the Cornish Bowling Association, with



*At the opening of the new club pavilion at Hayle and District Bowls Club, are, from left: John Wallis (treasurer), Wendy Reading (fund manager for SITA Cornwall Trust) and Len Phillips (secretary).*