This is a catalogue of past news posts from the Home page. Some of this might be useful information, and it seems a shame to loose comp results and the like. Started in July '24, so anything previous to that – is lost. Sorry.

This squad was made up of the student club - which I coach and the High Performance athletes. The student club were larger in number and therefore gainded more medals but there are levels to this sport. The novices did particularly well. Many finishing their fights within in seconds. One player was only on the mat for 34 seconds in total for all his 5 fights. Just saying.

Dan gradings are coming up next month, so we should have got a small contingent through that milestone within their time at university.

17.2.26. What a day out!! We took a squad of 16 up to Warwhick Invitational Open last saturday (14th) and came back with 8 gold medals, 3 silvers & 3 bronzes. This covered the novice and intermidate catogories as there was no advanced/black belt section. All the novices, which made up 4 of the golds, all the bronze and 2 of the silver medals, obviously only started judo this academic year, ie September. I am completely astounded at how well they all did! Many of them won all their matches with ippon scores.

There were some spectacular stand out moments, one such was one of our intermidate men, seemed very determined to give his opponent back to their coach - by throwing him right into her lap!!! She only just got out from under the pair as the lunged towards her.

The support offered to everyone fighting by the rest of the team was truley gratifing! We made sure our spot in the bleachers was cleaned of all rubbish, adding to the statement of good judo spirit!
Yours a very happy & proud coach!

12.11.25. **LONDON OPEN 2025**;
Pictured above is the University of Bath Student Squad that went.
So we had a good day out. Our novice class brought back a gold and a bronze medal, intermediates 4 golds & 3 bronzes, advanced 2 bronzes. First comp of the season, many a bit rusty but all good experience leading up to BUCS (British University & Colleges Sports championships) in the spring! Training sessions are also going well, with regular attendance of around 30 - I'm sure by March we'll be more than ready!

The High Performance programme's athletes also made a showing, taking a gold & silver from a group of four. They are on a lead up to the British Champs next month.

4.11.25. So everything is underway now! Lots of things happening much behind the scenes, hence the radio silence on here. The uni of Bath student club is off to the London open this weekend, masive squad of over 20 - never been that big before! More have attained the level where they can now train along side the High Performance athletes - and are relishing the opportunity!

School clubs are going well. Numbers at record highs for many schools. All very encouraging! Special coming up next month, with Roxy P. Looking forward to that! A great judo player in my opinion. More of that below. Think that's it for now. Thanks.

4.9.25. We're almost ready to get back at it! Most schools start next week. QEH Bristol have a judo demo tomorrow morning (Fri. 5th), I'm hoping for lots of new enthusiastic judo-ists! An inter-school match later in the term might be on the cards...

In other news, many of the players from from the university of Bath are off to Japan next week for a 3 week training block! Lucky them, although with the temperature at around 35 & high humidity not sure its going to be all fun!

The student club is looking ready for another bumper year! Comps already marked down in the diary, socials being organised and 'fresher's week' is still some weeks off!

Tuesday's adult sessions should be opening up again next week. Need to make a couple of checks before it's official. Please get in touch if you're interested.

That's it for now I think. Any questions please get in touch! Look forward to seeing you all very soon!!
Finn.

14.7.25. Great news, we're on the Bath and Wiltshire Parent magazine website!! Click here for the *link*.
The feature is about our recent "Special" training event (as detailed on the '*training*' page of this website). We're all very excited about this. Hopefully more future articles will bring a greater interest in judo in the Bath area. Keep an eye open!

1.6.25. Lots of things happening in the judo world! Many of the athletes from the uni, Team Bath are out and about around the world! Doing training camps and qualifications in rediness for the next Olympics! Back home with us, I've just booked in our next Special. 22.6.25, see below for details, remember, its an invite only event! Give me a nod if you'd like to participate!...

24.4.25. Schools starting back soon, some next week. Any problems or info on starting please get in touch. Uni sessions are back as are our adult sessions on Tuesday evenings. Tuesday evenings are open to anyone (above 15, give or take). Get in touch for any details you might want to know.

ON OTHER NEWS, the university student club have their firsts black belts. Points and 'technical'/kata past last month. The two who past, started judo in October & November 2023 respectively. A great result, due to much hard work! We're looking for, hopefully the remaining 1st kyu students to finish to get their black belts over the next few months!

25.3.25. A little late, but results for the university national champs. Above is the squad we took. Large by some measure than any other uni. We won the men's & women's team gold on Sunday. Plus in the novice category the same day we won; gold in U57kgs Roxie*, u60kgs Oscar*, u90kgs Joe*, over 90s Jack*, Silver u78kgs Grace*, bronze u73 Alex*. On the Saturday in the individuals for kyu and dan grades the medal haul was; Black belt, gold u70kgs Anika, Silver u60kgs Adam, bronze u52kgs Lien, u63kgs*, Evie, u66kgs Gergo u73kgs Sam.
Kyu grades (leading to black belt but not yet) gold u66kgs Ammar*, u73kgs Ralf*, u81kgs Bowen*, u90kgs Ollie*, Silver u63kgs Rebecca*, u66kgs Jack*, bronze u63kgs Rebecca*. There were quite a number of places just outside the medals, which I won't put down. Many of the kyu grade students have only been training for around a year. Those marked with an asterisk come under my teaching, others are on the High Performance Programme. A very proud weekend, hard work for all those connected to it!

10.2.25. Next SPECIAL is now booked! With Ankit Rabi. Details are being emailed out to invitees. More info in the "up coming" section below. *Map link*

1.2.25. Warwick comp. Saw us take ten athletes from the university club. With a comparatively broad range of experience, both men & women. To cut to the chase, we came away with 8 medals; 1 gold, 3 silvers, 4 bronzes. Some of our players getting medals only started judo this academic year. Others although missing out on a medal did extremely well considering they almost total lack of experience! A good day, with a lot of effort. We're hoping by next year, we'll have some dan grades(black belts) & browns to enter a team! Onwards and upwards!

15.1.25. Happy New Year!! So here we are in a new year, ready to go! All our school clubs are starting this week as is the uni club and our Tuesday adult session (7-9pm). Contact us if you've got any questions! That's all for now but there are events coming up soon, so watch out for them!

11.11.24. London Area Senior Open champs yesterday. Full report to follow but briefly for those who might be interested; took a squad of 14, (2 from the High Performance, which you may have heard me talk about) the rest from the student club (which is coached by me), medal haul is as follows: 7 gold, 2 sliver and 3 bronze. Bare in mind, one gold medalist started in January, one bronze medalist started in March! That's all for now folks -

6.11.24. I've just added a fun little bit on the "*thoughts*.." page called "a word in your ear". I think it could tickle you? Give a read and let me know what you think! Bath Uni students are off to a comp this sunday - I'll let you know how we get on!

21.10.24. It's been far too long since this wonderful "Master Class" of Prisca's. I thoroughly enjoyed it, and learnt a lot from it! Not only purely how to do yoko tomoe nagi but it showed the tactical intelligence of the top performer, in respect to how their skill is influenced by the opposition, and all the variations possible and how to combat each in turn. Without such a comprehensive self knowledge, Olympic Silver medals are always going to be far off... I'm now considering how to change my teaching to incorporate this very pivotal piece of intelligence.

To see Prisca now as a World Judo Personality, and the confidence from these experirences she brings to the Master Class, was great to see! As I've said before, she's helped us out many times, at Specials and else where, for years now!

For those at the earliest stages of their judo career, just to say Prisca hasn't paid for a dinner since the Olympics. Either the restaurant or someone has covered the bill. There have been many other spin offs, which I don't think it is my place to relay but, if you were ever to get to such a position - just think how wonderful it could be!

1.10.24. Lots of really interesting things coming up!!! We're got another Special training event booked in, there's a comp for the really keen but most spectacular of all, is Prisca Awiti Alcaraz the silver medalist at this year's Paris Olympics, is doing a MASTER CLASS at the university next week!!!! Places are going fast, don't miss out!

5.9.24 Summer holidays are over, back to it! Well and truely over judging by today's weather! School clubs will start back over the next couple of weeks. If you're at a school we do and want to join, please get in touch for details.

BIG NEWS, adult classes start back next Tuesday (10th Sept). 7-9pm, over 14/15 years old, any level, no mat fees as yet. We're especially looking to help first timers into the fray.

4.8.24. Well the Olympic judo is all over now. Hope you enjoyed it, got to see some? The biggest news, for us was Prisca won Silver in the U63! She is featured on this site as she has help us out on several occations. Some of our pupils will have done judo with her in the Uni dojo!!!

24.7.24. Western Area International Open Tournament: - Got to say, I had a ball over the weekend!! The comp. was amazing, and looks to be even bigger and better next year, with more international clubs coming over. The camp, ah, what can I say? Brilliant!! I got on the mat and had a "pull around" with several players, who were very kind to the old man! The Bath Uni Student club came away with a silver medal. Only the one entered as its too far into the holidays for most. Please check out Gleeson Judo's Instagram account for video shorts etc. Great weekend. Hope you see you there next year!!

10.7.24 Not really much to report, last sessions of the term/year next week. Enjoy the "summer"! Haha. After next week, it'll be see you in September for all our sessions. Thinking about the Western Area International - for our younger athletes it a great opportunity to see high level judo on your door step but I was also thinking, well if you want to do the same, I've put a link at the bottom here to Team Bath's judo programme just so you can see where you might go with work and dedication....

1.7.24 Bit of a break, last two weeks of school sessions. Big news, the **Western Area International Open** is coming up towards the end of the month. At the University of Bath. Its the biggest judo event in the area, well worth a visit! Details- 'up coming events'

10.4.24 Tuesday Sessions are back up & running. Had a reasonable turnout last night for the first after Easter. The Army has joined us! Haha. Please feel free to join-in, we're getting new members almost every week! Old students are also joining! Great opportunity to get back into judo! See you soon

12 4.3.24 Bedminster Open, we took 6 from the student club. 2 golds 3 silvers. A great event, happy to see some old faces too!! We also did High Wycombe's open the week before, all medals there too. The boys and girls are really coming on! Check out our Instagram account for images etc..

13.3.24 Our next Speical is now booked in for the Sunday 24. One of our old students is helping with this one. Started with us when she was around 6..

25.2.24. Report now up-loaded to the website, link!

21.2.24 A great weekend up at **BUCS**. British uni champs for short. Full report to come but briefly, **23 athletes, 3 coaches**. I**ndividual medals, 5 gold, 1 silver, 4 bronze. Teams- Gold & bronze in mens, gold in women's.** *For us, ½ the student club players started in october, the others a year ago*! Not bad I would say.

15.11.23. Great session last night (Tuesday) at the uni, 14 on mat. Lots of hard work done by all! **STILL FREE TILL 2024!** Please come along, best facilities for miles around!

14.11.23. **Fantastic news, at Sunday's London Universities and college Open champs, the University of Bath's student club brought home TEN medals; 3 Gold, 5 Silver & 2 Bronze. This was from a team of 8, four of whom only started judo in October of this year!!** A truly outstanding performance!! I am duly incredibly proud of them all! For pic = link