



# CROQUET

GAZETTE

Issue 394 | December 2021



**IAN BURRIDGE  
WINS AC WELSH  
CHAMPIONSHIP**

**JAMIE BURCH WINS AC  
SOUTH OF ENGLAND  
CHAMPIONSHIP**

**ROGER GOLDRING  
WINS GC ALL ENGLAND  
HANDICAP FINAL**



## NEWS

# BUDLEIGH SALTERTON CC

# 2

020 was the year we planned to mark the 150th Anniversary of Budleigh Salterton Croquet Club. Covid-19 rather subdued our celebrations, but 300 pints of commemorative 'Budleigh Anniversary Ale' did refresh parts of the club that other drinks failed to reach!

At our AGM, a member tactfully suggested that our club logo could also do with a refresh and our members agreed, so a project was born. A wide consultation drew us to the conclusion that it was the sight of our lawns, bordered by the iconic Cypress trees, through which you look out across the sea into Lyme Bay, that defined our club. This was what made us unique and, from that thought, our new club logo was created; it first saw the light of day, flying below the smart new CA Flag during our hosting of the AC President's Cup.

We have also been planning to carry out a major project at the club. Our 1906 Lower Pavilion is in good structural

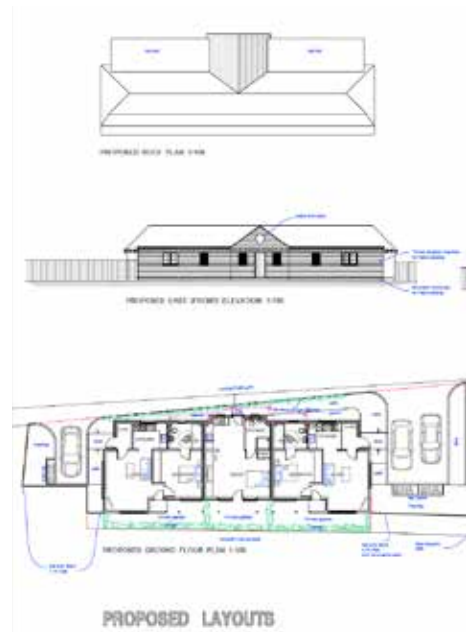


repair and we wish to retain the exterior shell and general appearance of the building, but we intend to transform the interior into three self-contained, one-bedroom holiday lets, each with off road parking.

We now have received full planning permission, a ringing endorsement from our membership and work will begin very shortly. The holiday lets will be marketed and managed for us by a professional letting agency, and should be available during 2022

So, start planning your winter croquet break. A week in Devon, where only an hour's drive will take you to Dartmoor, where walks, cosy pubs with log fires await. A few steps will take you onto our lovely lawns where you can, with prior agreement, join our GC and AC roll-ups. Some Winter tournaments might also feature and more details will follow!

| John O'Gorman



Budleigh Anniversary Ale

## LOCAL MP SUPPORT FOR CROQUET

**A**fter the reaction last year in the Scottish Parliament to a question from Tom Mason MSP about whether croquet could re-start after lockdown [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Prb\\_W6pdOH0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Prb_W6pdOH0) it is nice to see that other MPs have been less dismissive of croquet. These are some items that have been spotted where politicians have

been along to clubs this summer: [Rishi Sunak opens Bedale and Dales Croquet Club's new pavilion](#) | [The Northern Echo and Grand opening for Bedale croquet club's new pavilion](#) | [Darlington and Stockton Times](#)

<http://www.croquetnw.co.uk/running-croquet-hoops-for-the-bhf/>

[MP opens refurbished pavilions at Nottingham CC \(croquet.org.uk\)](#)

[Llanfairfechan club reach golf croquet final after hosting event](#) | [North Wales Pioneer](#)

[National croquet finals to be contested at Montgomeryshire venue](#) | [County Times](#)



The Croquet Association  
Issue 394 | December 2021



**Front cover:**  
Ian Burridge in action on his way to winning the Welsh Championship  
**PHOTOGRAPH** Garry McElwain

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# WELCOME



Winner, and keeper, of GC All England Handicap title, Roger Goldring **PHOTOGRAPH** Louise Smith

**W**ith social media platforms becoming a valuable source of information and livestreaming for events, we are now able to watch and learn from around the globe. Croquet in Spain is not just thriving, it's positively electrifying. Boasting spectators of over 100 in attendance, the live online videos of this year's Tier 2 Golf Croquet World Championship were watched and enjoyed by players far and wide. The cheers, the commentary, the shots and the dramas made us all feel welcome at the event, and as if we were there with front row seats.

But let's reflect on what really makes

croquet flourish, or more to the point who. From cooks to managers, referees to photographers, it's the people of our sport that should be celebrated. This edition will feature awarded members of the CA Diplomas and an exceptional recruitment drive from Rother Valley CC and their vision for the future, with the hope that in the near future our Spanish counterparts will share their success story with us. Where croquet clubs may be the hidden gems of society, it's our members who are the diamonds at the heart of our sports development.

**| CA Editorial Team**

## CONSULTATION OF THE 6TH EDITION OF THE GC RULES

**A** Consultation draft of the 6th Edition draft rules has been published on the World Croquet Federation website. If anyone has any comments they wish to make about them, please send them to Ian Cobbold (Chairman, CA GC

Rules Committee) who will collate them on behalf of the CA and forward them to the WCF. The deadline for receiving comments is 8th January 2022 but early comments will be appreciated. To read the consultation draft there is a link on the CA's website.



# CHAIRMAN OF THE CA COUNCIL

**A**s this is my first column, it feels appropriate to start with a few words of introduction. I first encountered croquet at Oxford University where there was an excellently located croquet lawn outside the college bar. The lawn itself was less excellent, with a tree between hoops 2 and 3, but at the time I didn't know any better! That started a journey on which I've been fortunate to play croquet - occasionally with some competence - in many CA member clubs, and in countries around the world. The common theme across all of these is the welcome from all. It seems whether you're playing in someone's garden, or on a finely manicured world-class lawn, provided everyone has a mallet in hand, we're one global croquet family.

As I take over as chair of the Croquet Association's Council, it would be traditional to thank my predecessor, Jonathan Isaacs, for his immense contribution to the CA. However, over the 2 years I have been part of the CA's Council, I have discovered the immenser (I know, but it should be a word) amount of activity in which he was involved than it may have appeared. Thank you, Jonathan, and enjoy your retirement from Council.

Council has overall responsibility for the high-level policy, strategy, scrutiny and transparency of the Association. But these achieve nothing without effective execution, responsibility for which falls to the Executive Board. Beatrice and her team lead this, but I am sure

they would be the first to say that they couldn't achieve as much as they do without the teams of other volunteers who staff the CA's various committees and working groups, and plan and run events from coaching to marketing.

There's always more we could do, but we're always limited by the amount of volunteer effort with the ideas, time and skills to make them happen. If you think you could help or look at elements of our sport and think "that could be better" then I urge you to get in touch with the CA and offer to help. There's a list of key roles and e-mail addresses on the back page of the gazette. If you're not sure who to contact, get in touch with me and I'll try to point you in the right direction.

Anyone, with any experience or background, is welcome; the only prerequisite is enthusiasm.

I also want to thank everyone who took the time to respond to the recent consultation on the future legal status of the Croquet Association. 118 clubs, federations and individuals took the time to respond, and collectively submitted 24,000 words of comment. As I write this, we are planning for the Council meeting at which we will discuss the next steps. It would therefore be presumptuous to speculate on what those might be. What is clear is that there are plenty of opinions, questions to which we will provide answers, before proposing a model which will be better because of your inputs. By the time you read this, some of this work will have begun; we will provide updates via the newsletter and on the website.

And finally, Happy New Year, and let's raise a glass to a return to conventional croquet season!

**Samir Patel**  
Chairman of Council



## CROQUET AND THE DIGITAL AGE

**S**port England has teamed up with CIMSPA (Chartered Institute for the management of Sport and Physical Activity) and the National Lottery to produce the most amazing FREE training, webinars, tutorials and mentorship in Digital Marketing for anyone in the sport and physical activity sector - [Digital Marketing Hub - CIMSPA - Sport England & National Lottery](#)

<https://digital.cimspa.co.uk/>

All the material starts with the basics for those who know nothing about digital marketing and progresses to more complicated topics. The webinars are held weekly but if you cannot attend the live presentations then they are all available to watch on demand.

For any croquet club that wants to understand the power of social media, how to come up on a Google search, how to advertise learn to play courses etc this is the place to learn about it.



**SPORT  
ENGLAND**

# BENEFACTORS TO THE ASSOCIATION

**F**or many years the names of members who have made donations to the Croquet Association in the last 25 years have been read out at the AGM so they can be recognised and thanked. Council has now decided this list of benefactors should be published annually. If any member who has made a donation to the CA thinks they should have been included on this list please contact the Hon. Sec. John Reddish

## CA Benefactors since 1986

1986 Peter Alvey  
Robin Ashdown Godby  
Humphry Osmond Hicks  
1988 J Bricher  
1990 Gerald Wellington Williams  
1991 Richard Francis Rothwell  
1992 Lorn C Apps  
Mrs D R M Heley  
David Matthew Caradoc Prichard  
Katherine Elizabeth Longman

1995 Alan John Oldham  
Tremaine Arkley  
Edward Patrick Duffield  
Robert David Caradoc Prichard  
Derek Cecil Caporn  
1998 George Lawrence Ormerod  
2006 Alan Blenkin  
John Beech  
2007 Tom Anderson  
Judy Anderson  
John Wheeler  
Pandora Wheeler  
2008 David Maugham  
Jeff Dawson  
2010 Tremaine Arkley  
Patricia Shine  
2011 Budleigh Salterton Croquet Club  
2014 Patricia Duke-Cox  
2016 Bernard Neal  
2018 Ian BurrIDGE  
2019 Alec Coleman  
2020 Brian Shorney

Most of these donations have been financial and some have been earmarked

for specific purposes. The names will resonate with members who recall the reasons for some of the contributions. A generous example is the entry for 2007: the Andersons and Wheelers donated the magnificent, solid silver, Beddow Cup to the CA. It had been claimed for herself by Miss D D Steel in 1933 and only reappeared in 1978 when Tom Anderson spotted a For Sale small advert in a local Bedfordshire newspaper. The Andersons and Wheelers bought it and it is now awarded to the winner of the Inter-Club Championship.

If you would like to make any kind of donation to the CA please contact Ian BurrIDGE, Hon. Treasurer. We will be very grateful and your name will appear in the published list of benefactors for the next 25 years!

**Quiller Barrett**  
President

# CHOIR OF THE EARTH

**D**o you know the HALLELUJAH CHORUS from Messiah? My foot is tapping as I write.

After discussion with the CA, we have written new words on a "croquet" theme for Hallelujah and we would like to form a CROQUET CHOIR to sing this together. I run an online choir ([www.choiroftheearth.com](http://www.choiroftheearth.com)) and we shall teach you the new words and the music in an online session, so there is no need to leave home to join in.

Once you know it, we shall invite you to record your own voice singing the tune and the new words onto your mobile phone (to a backing track). You will then send us your version by email and we'll combine all voices in the recording studio and play back the full CROQUET version to everyone in an online Concert Performance.

Let me set out my credentials first: my father played for the GB Team in Australia and the USA and acquitted himself very well in the President's Cup in his prime. As his eldest, I was introduced to croquet at an early stage and I was successful at Carrickmines and Hurlingham. My current CA handicap is 5. Now 63, I play when I can, which is never often enough.

I run an online choir called "Choir of the Earth" at: [www.choiroftheearth.com](http://www.choiroftheearth.com) and we have over 6,000 members from

over 35 countries. We do a lot of singing including MESSIAH and I thought it would be fun to learn a new version of the Hallelujah Chorus adapted especially for croquet players, whilst at the same time raising funds for the Croquet Association.

To find out more about the Croquet Choir, use this link: [www.choiroftheearth.com/croquet](http://www.choiroftheearth.com/croquet) and everything is explained there. The online sessions will be separate Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass rehearsals each for about 60 minutes during January 2022. It will be a fun way to spend some time together as croquet players from clubs all over the world can join in. During the rehearsals we can chat to each other via the online chat function.

The Concert Performance of all of us combined will be broadcast on YouTube in March – just as the season gets underway.

The fee to learn and perform this is £100 with £50 per person going to the CA. The balance will cover the VAT and costs involved.

Do come and join us!

**Mark Strachan**  
Founder – Choir of the Earth  
(formerly known as  
"The Self-Isolation Choir")





# CA DIPLOMAS

**C**ongratulations and thank you to the club members who have been awarded the CA Diplomas for 2021, their outstanding commitment and

dedication to their clubs and to their sport are paramount to the existence and development of Croquet. Here are some of the highlights from their croquet stories. The full citations are

available to read on the CA website: Home > Tournament > Honours > CA Diplomas. <https://www.croquet.org.uk/?p=tournament/honours/caDiplomas>



**Andrew Wimshurst, Nailsea Croquet Club**

As a club member Andrew has become indispensable. He has been on the rotas for mowing and hoop setting for many years. More recently, he has taken on the task of arranging the rotas for all the lawn work, liaising with the team members and the lawn manager. On occasions, he set all the hoops for a tournament single-handedly – a huge physical effort. Andrew has also given his time as a coach. He visited Clifton College every week for two years, coaching groups of pupils and was instrumental in the College becoming a CA club. In 2019 he coached a group of beginners at the Nailsea club. Andrew is a great sportsman, a hard worker, an innovator, a team captain, a coach, and a popular club member.



**Margaret Eccles  
Bury Croquet Club**

Margaret had served as our Club's Secretary for over three years and was due to retire from this post when the Covid Pandemic struck. Since then, she has undertaken '101' additional jobs as well as agreeing to continue as Secretary. Margaret loves playing both Association and Golf croquet and is Captain of one of our Teams in the Northwest League, where she is also well respected.



**Roger Sutton  
Sussex County Croquet Club**

Roger Sutton has been a member of Sussex County Croquet Club since 2012 when he took up croquet. From the beginning he has been a very active member, contributing a great deal to the club. A skilful player himself representing the club, he has a can-do attitude. He has had a very positive effect on the club and his influence has transformed the competition side within the club.



**David Bell  
Leicester Croquet Club**

As part of our ongoing development David actively promotes our club, organising Learn to Play courses for new members and "Taster" sessions for local groups and businesses. He also coaches G.C. for those players wishing to improve their game and technique. In promoting our wider profile, David has built and maintains our website. This has led to many contacts from potential members and is an invaluable source of information to existing club members. David is the sort of enthusiastic and hardworking member every club aspires to have. Leicester Croquet Club is very fortunate and values his contributions to the running of our organisation.



**Linda Gavigan  
Sussex County Croquet Club**

Linda Gavigan was Chairman of Chichester Croquet Club before she joined Sussex County Croquet Club in 2014. An enthusiastic member who throws herself into all sorts of challenges and plays a very active role within the club as a committee member. Linda has taken on marketing responsibility, initially joining the team at the CA and now for the Southeast Croquet Association. She has ensured that the club is given publicity through articles in local magazines and newspapers, and we have seen an influx of new members this year. Linda always sees a job through, and she takes on a wide variety of tasks to ensure the smooth running of the club.



**Peter Wallace, Tyneside Croquet Club**

Peter Wallace joined Tyneside Croquet Club about 25 years ago when his enthusiasm, willingness to help and good humour made an immediate impression on members. He soon volunteered for lawn watering and line marking, became part of the team that laid out the lawns each season, was frequently to be found working on repairs to equipment, fixtures and fittings on lawns and in clubhouse and became a much-valued member of Committee. When his wife, Caroline, died in 2019, Peter founded in her memory a ladies' golf doubles competition at Tyneside and endowed it with two impressive winners' salvers. Although his health had begun to fail and with near-constant joint pain Peter, until recently, continued to help with lawn watering but this season has decided to all but hang up his mallet and, although insisting on paying a full member's fee, his very welcome visits to our lawns are infrequent.



**Nick Evans**  
**Northampton Croquet Club**

Over the last thirty years, Nick has served on our management Committee in various roles including a long stint as secretary. He was also our Club chairman for several years. He has managed to contribute to our Club whilst continuing to run his thriving model shop business in Northampton. Perhaps because of his practical skills, Nick, as equipment manager, is the person who the Club has been able to turn to for all jobs that regularly need doing such as mallet repairs, bisque stick making, building notice boards, and repairing our storage sheds after break-ins. Now that Northampton is without a permanent home, he, and his wife Jane, packed up and itemised all the equipment for storage.



**Paul Rigge**  
**Northwest Federation**

Paul started his croquet some 24 years ago at Bury Croquet Club. In 2002 he was involved in setting up the facility at Heaton Park in Manchester and in 2010 was on the team that organised the MacRobertson Shield there, being instrumental in getting television coverage of the event. In fact, he has been a television and radio presence representing the Northwest Croquet Scene on several occasions. He is larger than life and has had a very positive effect on croquet in the Northwest in the last 10 years. He is active on the Tournament scene representing the Northwest countrywide. He works hard for the sport both on and off the lawns.



**Rob Edlin-White**  
**Nottingham Croquet Club**

Rob Edlin-White has been a member of Nottingham Croquet Club for 27 years. He is a great communicator and many people around the croquet world will know him as an active member of the Nottingham List community. Maybe what is less well known is how much time and effort he puts into the club. Social media was recognised as an important communication tool several years ago and Rob has developed and maintained the club's Facebook page. He also spent hours and hours during lockdown giving the club website a complete overhaul, including adding lots of pictures, many of which he has taken himself. Rob is a 'doer', always willing to give his time for the benefit of the club, its members and the sport.



**Nick Harris**  
**Norwich Croquet Club**

Nick Harris joined the Norwich Croquet Club in 1983. He has spent the next 38 years rendering innumerable and invaluable services to the Club. As a teacher by profession and a "minus" player, he moved seamlessly into coaching following his qualification in 1988, inculcating all-comers in the basics and the more advanced skills of the sport. In his spare time, Nick has always carefully scrutinised the Laws of the sport and has sometimes succeeded in convincing those in power to make amendments, the necessity of which they had failed to notice. In 2020 he was finally persuaded actually to play Golf Croquet. He does so with considerable skill (off a handicap of 0) and now represents the Club in the EACF Leagues in both forms of the sport.



**David Brydon**  
**Nottingham Croquet Club**

David Brydon joined Nottingham Croquet Club in 1993 and very quickly his legal expertise was being sought with the endless negotiations with the City Council regarding long overdue rent reviews. He steered the process through for getting the club's first longer lease which opened the door for Sport England funding and the installation of an irrigation system. Every club needs members to form the backbone and David, as a trustee, coach, master of ceremonies, legal advisor and marketer, has long been such a person. We have never succeeded in getting him on the catering roster though!

## ADDENDUM AND AMENDMENT

May I take the opportunity to write with an addendum and amendment to the EACF's 2021 tournament review (November 21, Page 13).

The winners of the EACF GC Handicap and B Level Leagues were Enfield and the winners of the Open League were Watford, not Newport Oaks and Chelmsford as stated in the article.

We would like to thank Geoff Johnson and the team at Watford CC for hosting and arranging the finals. They were fine days!

**Nicola Hyde**  
**Chair, Enfield Croquet Club**

# *A letter to Santa*

Stuck for a gift this Christmas for a croquet playing friend or relative? Why not let the Croquet Association shop take the strain for you with their wide range of perfect gifts for croquet players.

Why not start off with something unique from the exclusive Simon Carter jewellery range where there is something exquisite and unique for that special person in your life? In the designer Simon Carter's own words "As a regular player on the croquet circuit, I was delighted to design this range of cufflinks and jewellery for the CA. The jewellery is in polished Sterling Silver highlighted with semi-precious stones, the cufflinks and pins are in a polished Rhodium plate with hand painted enamel. I've used all the key components of our beloved game, and worked them into pieces that are fun, but highly wearable. Perfect for yourself, or ideal for the croquet addicts in your life!"

A great alternative to that old standard 'pair of socks', why not get a mallet bag? Or for that extra special person in your life, splash out on the 'padded' mallet bag version. This is the ideal accompaniment to every mallet 'good quality material and carrying strap comfortable on the shoulder' in the words of one happy customer. Though unlike socks it is not a present for every year as another happy customer points out 'hope this one lasts as long as my old one which I got 21 years ago when I first started playing.'

Of course one way to keep on giving mallet bags is to splash out on a new mallet for someone and the George Wood range is a great place to start for a first mallet. 'Beautifully made, very handy mallet. I like the thin handle, the polygonal grip and the feel of the mallet as I swing it. More than adequate for my level of skill' a sentiment echoed in many positive reviews. If you know someone looking for a first mallet as they are tired of fighting over the few decent club mallets this is the affordable dependable option to take.

What better to do sitting by a cosy winter fire than read up on croquet, whether it is a beginner's book bundle or Beyond Expert Croquet Tactics there is something there for players of all levels. Or why not buy the latest laws, read up and then splash out on a referees course in the New Year.

And finally it's back to socks, well croquet clothing socks are currently not available. But shorts, shirts, jumpers, trousers and caps are all there. Or for the more hardened player how about investing in a set of quality waterproofs.

The CA shop has something for everyone who loves croquet and those who need a nudge in the right direction.

## ROTHER VALLEY CROQUET CLUB

# 2021 NEW

**R**other Valley Croquet Club is located in a small village just south of Petworth in West Sussex.

The club was formed in 2000 and prospered until a few years ago when membership began to fall. Most members by then were in their 70's & 80's. The attrition rate inevitably began to grow and the traditional "soft" approach to recruitment was making little impact. We had 64 full members in 2018, reducing to 57 in 2019 and again to 46 in 2020. Financial reserves were dwindling as the losses grew.

In November 2020, a sub-committee of four was established to promote the club and significantly boost membership. We set ourselves a target to recruit 20 new members.

First of all we defined our "catchment area" having plotted a map of where each of our members lived. We discovered that half our members lived more than 10 miles away. Other clubs were located just beyond our radius, so there would be little point in trying to fish in the same pond. Conversely hardly any of our members lived in Petworth, our closest town, only three miles away. In short, the club was not allied to any central hub.

We consulted two friends, both of whom were retired marketing professionals. One had worked for the Hockey Federation and was therefore knowledgeable about marketing a "minority sport". We spoke to several other clubs in the South East to learn from their marketing strategies. We also took extensive advice from the SECF's Communications Officer. We then spent a great deal of energy formulating a Marketing Plan to ensure our goals would be met. Establishing "what, where, when and how much" takes time. A month later we submitted our costed plans to Committee for approval. A budget of £1,000 was approved.

We decided that the campaign would primarily focus on local magazine advertisements and poster displays on all (70+) town and village noticeboards in the locality. Flyers were to be distributed through letterboxes and left on display in public places. Having decided the profile and characteristics of our most likely new recruits, we set about creating the right message / image to attract their attention. As none of us were "IT savvy" or "media creative", we looked to see what ideas we could glean from existing material published by the CA and other



# MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

## Try Croquet



**Rother Valley Croquet Club**  
offers everything you need to take part  
in this popular outdoor activity

Join us on one of our taster days

**Free tuition** sessions are run every week  
by our experienced and friendly team

**Contact: Alan on 01798 813563 or**  
**[alanandanne@talk21.com](mailto:alanandanne@talk21.com)**  
**or visit: [www.rothervalleycroquet.co.uk](http://www.rothervalleycroquet.co.uk)**

**The Club is located in Duncton, 3 miles  
south of Petworth, West Sussex GU28 0JY**

club websites. Nothing struck us as being particularly suitable for our circumstances, but we did like parts of a poster created by the CA for National Croquet Week a few years earlier. We set about customising it to meet our specific requirements. After several iterations and with assistance from the CA marketing team, the content of our posters, flyers and magazine advertisements was finalised. The bottom line is we incurred printing and advertising costs of £200 and £500 respectively. We then took the opportunity to revamp our website. It hadn't changed much in recent years and did little to attract new members, so our first priority was to refocus the home page. The core message was that croquet was competitive yet sociable, enjoyable, active and healthy. We added a YouTube link on the homepage and created a "New to

Croquet" tab to inform readers what to expect.

We recognised that our club was in effect "a hidden gem", tucked away up a narrow lane leading to a remote village hall. So we set about to design a sizeable banner (2m x 1m) to be displayed by the (main A285) road side. Including artwork, it cost us £85 to produce. Later we bought a second banner which we displayed in Petworth town centre to promote our Taster days. Unfortunately we underestimated how attractive it was, as it was stolen a few weeks later! We publicised two Taster days in May and two more in June. As demand grew, we organised a fifth day in July. A good number of enthusiastic members hosted each event, so each "newbie" was given a good "one to one" introduction and



an opportunity to play. After tea, "newbies" departed clutching a how to play Golf Croquet Leaflet and a sheet of FAQ's that we produced specifically for those new to the game. Each attendee was followed up by email & phone to gauge their interest and to encourage them to attend our thrice weekly tuition & roll-up sessions. Pleasingly, most of them did.

As interest grew we invited them all to attend a fun tournament in August with various prizes to win. Each "newbie" was partnered with a member. The top prize was a vintage mallet donated to the club by a descendent of a Roehampton Club captain. (The winner has since had it fully refurbished). We took the opportunity over tea to explain our vision for the club and to encourage "newbies" to become trial members at the end of their 8 week free period. In return for a modest sum, they would be entitled to attend roll-ups until the end of October. As a further incentive, full membership in 2022 was offered at a 10% discount to the normal fee. Within a few days, we were delighted to receive commitments from 17 attendees.

During our second Taster day in May, a lady dropped in having seen our road banner. She represented a village society that was looking for leisure activity / venue to entertain their members one afternoon. The club subsequently entertained 30 paying guests, raising £150 and generating a great deal of interest in that village. Two of the guests have since become trial members and more are anticipated. In a similar manner, some paying visitors who came to us via U3A groups and Probus clubs enjoyed the experience so much, they too have joined us.

In terms of profile, all our trial members are retired. Some had played garden croquet, but most were relative novices. Retired golfers made excellent converts. At present everyone is happy getting to grips with GC and the social side of playing croquet has been a big draw. We will encourage the better ones to start playing competitive GC next year, but the prospect of getting any of them to transition to AC are low. We have ended the season with 30 trial members, a tremendous outcome. However the mission will not be complete until the vast majority of them sign up as full members in 2022. And talking of next year, we will begin the process all over again!

**I Douglas Shand**



# LETTERS

## My Fantasy Croquet Court

**While many courts are on enforced 'garden leave' there is not much to do but lay back and select my Fantasy Croquet Court.**

From a sense of loyalty I must select a court from my own club at Cheltenham, but which court?

I inevitably plump for court 8.

It is a sunny day ... the spectators are eight deep and I am about to compete in the final of the World Championships. I need a pavilion to sit in front of when (briefly) not in play, so will I choose the pleasing thatched pavilion from Sidmouth or the gentle Thames location at Phyllis Court? It's obvious, Sidmouth for game 1 and Phyllis Court for game 2 (a choice for game 3 won't, of course, be needed). When I am the out-player ... don't worry golfers I'll be back to do the double next year ... I will need something attractive to look at.

Beyond my north boundary I can see the white palisaded front of Hurlingham, sparkling in the mid-morning sun.

A floral garland around the boundary would add a splendid touch I think but that's difficult, because I am torn between the seaside shrubbery maintained by Sidmouth CC or the splendid neighbourhood effort outside Southport CC. Ah yes ... the surround of the walled court 4 at Roehampton gets my vote - it's just perfect.

My fantasy game 1 turns out to be a long one, so we decide to break for lunch, where Surbiton CC, with its reputation for excellent hospitality, will provide a scrumptious repast.

In the afternoon, I will import the line of Scots pines from Hunstanton to keep me shaded.

My fantasy ends with the peg being struck and I am the World Champion. I receive the trophy from Reg Bamford. Great. . . A sudden shout from indoors brings me back to reality: "We are due at your sister's in half an hour!"  
What does your Fantasy Court look like?

**Klim Seabright  
Cheltenham CC**

## People can change faster than lawns

**Twenty-five years ago (at the start of the 1995 season), I had an interesting experience when choosing between croquet clubs. However, to avoid embarrassing anyone, I decided to wait numerous years before submitting this piece.**

I'd been playing for several years before moving to Yeovil for a job. There were no croquet clubs in the immediate vicinity, but several with full size courts where I'd played (as a visitor) about an hour's drive away: Bath, Bristol, Budleigh Salterton, Exeter and Sidmouth.

My home club, East Dorset (known as Parkstone at that point) was an hour away too, but I felt that it would be good to also join another club. One Saturday at the start of the season, I drove down to Sidmouth and Budleigh, and stopped at the former first because it was the closer, which made it my most likely choice.

### Sidmouth 1995

The lawns were lovely but there were no players on them (it was too early in the season) so I went to the clubhouse where there was a man behind the bar and an old couple having tea together at the far end.

I scanned through the notices on the walls, but could not find a membership price and so, after a couple of minutes, I asked the barman.

He looked disinterested. "It'll say on one of the notices", he shrugged. "Err, well, I've looked at the notices, but I can't find it." I replied.

For a split second, it seemed that he would look around behind the bar, but then changed his mind. "Those two are croquet players. Ask them."

"Okay thanks." I replied, trying to remain positive.

I walked down the clubhouse to the old couple. "Hi!" They turned to look at me, but didn't reply. "I'm interested in joining the croquet club ... I'm wondering if you could tell me how much it would cost to join."

They looked me up and down, with dubious expressions.

I was 21 at the time and wearing jeans

## Why do croquet balls have milling?

*There was a recent thread of much correspondence on the Notts List (a croquet players on-line forum) that was started by World AC Champion Paddy Chapman asking "...does anyone know why croquet balls have milling? ..." There were a good number of suggestions before Dave Maugham provided the following answer which I thought worthy of reproduction here with Dave's permission – Ed.*

It's a relic of producing wooden balls on a lathe. If you start off with a wooden cube, you can turn it into a cylinder and put concentric circles along it on the lathe, then turn the (former) cube by 90 degrees, the original circles are used to get the curve correct to produce a sphere. The maker will then put concentric circles

on that curved surface, and return to the previous alignment on the lathe, use those lines to get the correct curve on that axis. Repeat as needed. The finished product has two sets of concentric circles at 90 degrees to one another all of which should be the same depth. Early wooden balls were advertised as being accurate spheres because of the milling.

I wouldn't be surprised (although I don't know for certain) if the same technique was used for early composite balls to perfect the sphericalness of the outer plastic layer. Later on it was easier to make a relatively accurate mould, so the lathe would not have been necessary.

**Dave Maugham**

(perhaps it wasn't my best look, but I'd been brought up to believe that attitude counted far more than clothes).  
 "Well, it'll say on one of the notices," the man said, dismissively, and turned back to the woman, who I presume was his wife.  
 "Err, well, I looked at the notices, but couldn't find one that said."  
 He looked slightly irritated. "Well, ask the barman."  
 Inside, I laughed, but I also felt uncomfortable with their attitude. "Sorry, I asked him too, and he said to ask you. Are you croquet players?"  
 They exchanged glances again and he sighed. "Eurgh. I guess I'll have to go and find out, then."  
 He rose slowly from his chair, as though he'd just run a marathon and had been asked to do manual labour.  
 He walked very slowly back toward the bar, as though each step were an undue burden.  
 Given their rudeness, I decided that I would not try to make small talk. I was still interested in hearing the membership fee, but my interest was rapidly waning.  
 The woman looked like she just wanted me to leave, but after 20 seconds of silence, she'd obviously started to feel uncomfortable (too).  
 "So, have you ever played?" she asked.  
 "Oh, yes, a bit," I replied.  
 "No. I mean, have you played at a club?" she scorned.  
 "Oh, yes, I have."  
 "Oh!" She looked positively surprised, but then frowned and narrowed her eyes at me, inquisitively. "Where?"  
 "At Parkstone."  
 "OH!" Now she looked really surprised.  
 "So ... do you have a handicap?"  
 "Yes." Her increased interest was amusing, so I thought I'd let her ask.  
 "Well, what is your handicap?" she demanded.  
 "I'm a one."  
 "What do you mean, 'a one'?" she asked. I was puzzled. Then her eyes widened, "A one!?"  
 "Yes," I replied, trying not to smile.  
 Suddenly she jumped up from her chair and shouted along the clubhouse. "John, he's a ONE!"  
 John, whose name I'd now just learned, turned but didn't move or reply.  
 "He's a one handicap!" She repeated,

excitedly.  
 John then literally ran back down the clubhouse, grabbed my hand and started shaking it vigorously, without letting go.  
 "Oh, our lawns are some of the best in the country! Well, I'm sure you know ..."

### **Budleigh 1995**

I left as soon as I could and drove to Budleigh and in the car park, I braced myself for what might be a similar experience.  
 As I entered the clubhouse, there was a small group of people standing in a circle, having a drink.  
 I didn't know any of them.  
 On hearing me enter, they turned and one peeled away to meet me. "It's nice to see a new face," he said, "can I buy you a drink?"  
 Before even having said a word, I decided to join Budleigh.  
 It wasn't the offer of a drink, or the quality of the lawns (though the quality had influenced my decision of where to try that day); it was the attitude of the people.  
 And I really enjoyed my time as a member at Budleigh, for numerous years.  
 They were all very friendly and ready for fun. I can happily recommend the club to anyone.

### **Lessons for 2020**

Obviously, I'm not writing this to disparage members at Sidmouth because I've no doubt that on that fateful day, most of their players would have been far more hospitable than the couple I met. (And even if that weren't the case then, a quarter of a century on, the membership will have changed a great deal!)  
 Also, many clubs have a small minority of somewhat 'unusual' (or even seemingly unfriendly) characters.  
 So my experience should certainly not reflect on Sidmouth now – and I'm sure that it doesn't.  
 Last summer, I returned to Sidmouth for the first time since that trip, and dropped in to see the place, just a few days before they held the President's Cup.  
 The lawns looked great and, more importantly, the people I met were lovely.

I've written this to help remind people of

two things: Wherever you play, you are an ambassador for your club. And no matter how young someone looks, they might be genuinely interested in croquet and a nice person who would add to the enjoyment at your club. Perhaps there will be a gradual up-tick in interest in croquet as the pandemic lifts, and that will be good for us all!  
 So welcome people cheerily and enjoy meeting new prospects.

**Pete Trimmer**

## **Rollup box**

When the easing of COVID restrictions allowed us to restart roll-up sessions, the influx of large numbers of new members since 2019 made it clear that our system required a rethink in order to integrate them and encourage interaction with more established members.  
 Other clubs may be interested to see the result. What started as a simple system of domino sized tiles with the name and handicap of each member necessitated a storage system.  
 Tiles are stored alphabetically and as participants arrive their tiles are arranged in handicap order before being divided into 2 groups, as near as possible 50:50 higher and lower handicaps. Each group is turned over and shuffled before 2 tiles from each group are allocated a lawn.  
 Social distancing during COVID made it difficult for members new and old to meet and this system is encouraging the two groups to mix and is a useful way for less experienced players to benefit from playing with more experienced members.  
 The system would work just as well without the beautifully crafted box made by SCCC member Carl Gray but we are very grateful to him for his craftsmanship. Another fine example of the hard work of so many volunteers on which our clubs rely.

**Francis Ainley  
 Sussex County Croquet Club**



# CA SCHOOLS & JUNIORS CHAMPIONSHIPS

**T**he 2021 CA Schools and Juniors Championships were contested at Watford Croquet Club over 9/10 October in glorious sunshine, a far cry from the cold wet conditions of 12 months previously.

- AC Schools Championship (RBS Bowl and Schools Shield): Winchester College
- AC Junior Championship (Charles Townsend Cup): Sam Cuthbert
- GC Junior Championship (Musk's Cup): Albie Willett

Covid decimated the entry for the team event at less than 24 hours notice, which reduced the AC Schools Championship to a default winner - Winchester College, who have been regular contestants for a few years and are steadily improving. Their 4 competitors were both delighted and slightly bemused to win the two beautiful trophies without a ball being struck.

This left all 7 contestants free to compete in the two singles events: the AC Junior Championship and the GC Junior Championship.

With Saturday ably managed by Alison Maugham (Surbiton), contestants played 14 point games on half lawns in an all-play-all block. After the day's play, there were three players tied on 5 wins, one on 3 and three on 1 win. This led to a semi-final on Sunday morning and final on Sunday afternoon (the latter played as an 18 point game), which was won by Sam Cuthbert.

For the GC Junior Championship, another all-play-all block of single best of 13 hoops games saw some upsets, as the Winchester students quickly warmed to

golf croquet (after some rapidfire coaching by Deborah Albertsen, Cheltenham). Nonetheless after 6 rounds, only two players were in contention Albie Willett (Norwich) and Harvey Smith (Cheltenham and The Bears) and were due to play each other in the final round. Thus they played a best of 3 final directly in round 7, which was won by Albie in straight games, despite stiff competition from Harvey. Albie was delighted to have completed the clean sweep of schools and junior trophies in his final eligible year, having played in this event since 2014.

The CA President Quiller Barrett was on hand to present the trophies and thanked Watford (and Simon Hathrell in particular) for all their hard work in hosting the event, including prepping new hoop holes, organising catering, and preparing winners plaques.

There was considerable appetite for a GC Schools Championship next year, and it would be fantastic to see the CA begin to

offer more competitive GC opportunities for junior players to play with and against each other.

**Eugene Chang**  
Event Organiser



“ JOHN REDDISH, THE NEW SECRETARY OF THE CA, EXPLAINS HOW THE SECRETARIAT WILL FUNCTION AND HOW HIS BACKGROUND HAS PREPARED HIM FOR HIS ROLE ”

**W**hen Ian Vincent announced his intention to retire, it soon became clear that it would be impossible to replace him with a single volunteer. The work assigned to the Secretary was already onerous and it had become even more so, following the governance changes. The Secretariat was born after a short period of gestation. Its members will provide (or, at least, try to provide) “independent leadership in matters relating to administration, encouraging the highest standards of integrity, effectiveness and openness” - as required by the Standing Orders.

I agreed to be the Secretary but to invite both the Council and the Executive Board to appoint one of their members to undertake my duties there. Thus, Patricia Duke-Cox is now the “Secretary to the Council” and Andrew Willis is the “Secretary to the Board”. They will undertake all of the administration, assisted, where necessary, by me and by Peter Nelson, the prospective Secretary to the Council in 2022-3.

I will take on all of the other tasks assigned to the Honorary Secretary. This work only becomes burdensome when major changes are made. As it happens, changes are about to be made, if the members agree. To reflect my involvement, I have been given (or, more accurately, I have given myself) another title - Registrar of the CA. Further, in the absence of a Webmaster, I will exercise as much editorial supervision of the website as I can, with assistance from the CA Manager, Mark Suter.

In preparation for the role of Secretary of the CA, I went to Manchester Grammar School and read Law at Lincoln College, Oxford. I then taught Legal Writing at the Northwestern School of Law in Chicago before being called to the Bar in 1973. I practised for 39 years, from chambers in the Temple. After 10 years of crime and “general common law”, I specialised in family law, including matrimonial finance, child care and international child abduction. Both before and after my retirement from the Bar in 2012, I was a part-time Tribunal Judge, dealing variously with disputes arising from special educational needs, institutional care standards and the operation of the state benefits system.

To prepare myself further, I played football, cricket, tennis, squash; darts and shove-halfpenny at Oxford. Thereafter, I played football for Sporting Camden; cricket for Old Gowers and squash for Dulwich Hamlet and Dulwich. In 2005 I took up croquet when my self-induced, chronic osteoarthritis prevented anything more energetic.

I regularly volunteered as a sports administrator. I was Chairman of Dulwich Hamlet Squash Club for 9 years; a member of the Council of the Dulwich Sports Club for 21 years (as President for 17 years) and Secretary of the SECF for 10 years. I represented the SECF on the CA Council in 2018-19 and joined the Management Committee and the Governance Changes Implementation Group, as an ad hoc legal adviser and draftsman.

I was appointed as Chairman of the Development Committee in 2019 and as Chairman of the Funding Committee in 2021. Most of these were, of course, jobs that nobody else wanted to do.

I have pursued an interest in the history of medieval conflicts and of the 19th century development of croquet – periods that have some distinct similarities. I am looking forward to continued participation in CA affairs and hope that I may find time to play some “B Class” AC and GC, utilising my full set of replacement knees and hips.



**PHOTOGRAPH** John and daughter Helena at the Kia Oval, Kennington on the first day of the Final Test Match between England and Australia, Thursday 12 September 2019.

## THE HOMEMADE MARMALADE AWARDS

**T**he Homemade Marmalade Awards is a competition for amateur marmalade makers, which aims to find the very best homemade marmalade maker in the world. This year we have been inspired by the sport of Croquet to create a new special award for 2022, ‘The Triple Peel Award’. The Homemade Awards have always been the heart of the Dalemian Awards since they first started in 2005. Since then, it has grown from a local competition to a global one. We now receive entries from all over the world, including Australia, Lebanon, Brazil and Canada to name but a few!

The awards can be entered by anyone from expert home-maker to first time cook. There are different categories from Children’s Marmalade to Merry (with alcohol), Camponologists, Any Citrus and many more. This ensures that no matter what kind of marmalade people like or make there is a place for them. The full entry fee goes towards supporting Hospice care, both in the UK and around the world. So far we have raised £270,000 for palliative care around the world.



To find out more or how to enter, please visit our website.

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# AC & GC WELSH CHAMPIONSHIPS



Ian Burridge AC Welsh Championships 2021  
PHOTOGRAPH Garry McElwain

**J**ohn Evans (GC) and Ian Burridge (AC) won the Welsh Championships, which were held for the first time on the new Glamorgan Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club courts at Merthyr Mawr, following three years over the border at Cheltenham.

Eight players contested the GC Championship on the Friday, and the pre-tournament highest ranked player and 2019 Champion Euan Burridge soon found himself out of contention, losing his first three games.

The event was played as an all-play-all block, and four times winner John Evans was his usual steady self, and was clear winner with six wins out of seven; losing only to 2018 Champion Ian Burridge.

Saturday and Sunday saw eight players contest a best of three knockout for the Welsh AC Championship.

As usual Ian Burridge made light work of his early opponents, Dave Evans (son of John) and Rich Waterman, and soon found himself in the final, before the Garry McElwain v Chris Williams quarter-final had finished.

McElwain prevailed in three, -8, +17, +5, and nearly took the first game of his semi against John Evans, only losing by 3 at about 8pm on the Saturday evening. John Evans won the second against McElwain +10 to set up the fifth Burridge v Evans final, with Ian leading their series 3-1.

Evans took the first game fairly

comfortably, and had chances to win – especially in the second – but Burridge prevailed -21, +6, +11 to win his sixth Welsh title in a row, and 17th of all time. It was Evans's ninth time finishing runner-up in eleven finals.

Chairman Rich Waterman presented the trophies, and both he and Ian Burridge praised the new lawns, especially since they were only levelled and seeded last September.

For 2022, the Welsh CA is aiming to revert to holding the GC Championship over two days earlier in the season, and the AC Championship over three days, as they always used to be when they were held at Dyffryn Gardens.

**Chris Williams**

## AC NOTTINGHAM MEMENTO MORI TROPHY

**T**wenty four keen players competed for the Memento Mori trophy at Nottingham on 4-5 September.

The lawns were in excellent condition and playing at a nice pace, the sprinklers having been used sparingly. By mid-morning on Sunday, only

Nottingham duo Omied Hallam and James Death remained unbeaten.

Death was able to take advantage of an uncharacteristic error from Hallam to win +10TP and finished with seven out of seven wins.

Overall, 71 games were played, with 12 triple-peels (from six different players) and

one Sextuple peel by Death.

Thank you to Nottingham for hosting an excellent event and looking after us so well.

**Debbie Lines  
Manager**

## JAMIE BURCH WINS AC SOUTH OF ENGLAND CHAMPS

**T**he sun shone, a gentle breeze blew, a steady rain of beechnuts fell on lawn 2, crows, starlings and seagulls fed on the emerging leatherjackets whenever the lawns were unoccupied, and one cheeky magpie kept raiding the clubhouse in search of cake: autumn in Eastbourne saw one of the strongest fields of recent years assembled for the South of England Championship. Unfortunately, of the 22 original entrants, four had to withdraw before the tournament, including our most devoted attendee (with 23 appearances) and defending champion David Maugham. First to impress, in full flow on Friday, was James Death, and in the space of a little over 90 minutes his two wins against Ian Lines saw one sextuple attempt come to grief at the last – having completed all six peels he was unable to peg out after hitting the peelee while making Rover himself – but he had no such problem in

the second.

Then Gabrielle Higgins, although getting one ball round, suffered a similar fate on Saturday morning, and went down to two sextuples in just two hours! So, the peeling prize was settled by 11:30 on day two!

Mark Avery was also on good form, and earned his place in the final without dropping a game.

Things did not go quite so smoothly for the other finalist Jamie Burch – the only seed to be drawn in the first round – when each of his matches against Debbie Lines, Pete Trimmer and James Death went to three games, netting him more lawn time than any other player.

Undaunted, he secured two wins against Avery in games which followed the same overall pattern, with one or two turns of cat and mouse thrown in: Burch went early to 4-back; Avery triple-peeled Burch's ball and pegged it out, and made a few hoops

with the other ball; Burch hit and finished, winning the championship for the fourth time.

Not to be outdone on the peeling front, Pete Trimmer and Duncan Reeve each demonstrated their skills with a single sextuple win in the Swiss, and at the close of play on Saturday, Ian Lines and Gabrielle Higgins led the field in that event, with Reeve and Sam Murray close behind.

The top eight contested a knockout on Sunday, where Higgins and Murray won through to the final, which the latter won with a triple peel.

The hoops were very firm in the dry ground, which also made the lawns moderately fast – thanks to groundsman John Crisford and his team for their preparation. Thanks too to Hilary Smith for the lunches, and to a succession of ladies for the teas.

**| Roger Wood**



Jamie Burch taking croquet at the Open Championships  
**PHOTOGRAPH** Samir Patel

# HISTORY - A BEDDOW REPLICAS?

**T**he story of the Champion Cup (or Beddow Cup, as the trophy is now generally known) is a familiar one to students of croquet history

and was re-told in the Gazette of June 2007.

Presented by A E Beddow – a good but not renowned player – in 1901, for competition each year between the ten best selected players, it was won outright in 1933 by Miss D D Steel on her fourth victory and replaced by the President's Cup.

It was then rediscovered in the 1970s in a Bedford jewellers, from whom it was purchased by the Wheelers and Andersons of the Wrest Park Croquet Club.

They later presented it to the CA as the trophy for the (AC) Inter-Club Championship.

The recent auction sale of an almost identical cup adds a new twist to the story. It is much smaller – less than a third of the height and a twentieth of the weight – so it was perhaps a replica.

But why it was made and to whom it was presented are, as yet, unknown.

The Champion Cup itself was made by Mappin Bros in 1901.

But the copy is by their successors, Mappin & Webb, and was hallmarked in 1929, so it is not contemporary with it. It is not engraved, but carries a similar embossed illustration of a croquet scene on the front.

Perhaps coincidentally, it was auctioned in Market Harborough, only 30 miles from Bedford, where the Champion Cup was re-discovered.

1929 is unique in Champion Cup history because it finished as a four-way tie.

Perhaps replicas were routinely awarded as consolation prizes to play-off losers, so more were required that year (previous ties had only involved two players); or



The Beddow Cup



The Beddow Cup copy - Photograph of 1929 copy courtesy of Gildings Auctioneers

perhaps the winner, Capt. J B Morgan, commissioned it for himself to keep as a memento.

But the existence of replicas seems not to have been previously reported and, so far, no information about the provenance of this copy has been uncovered.

So we can only speculate about its possible links to the Champion Cup competition and about the possible existence of others like it.

The impression is sometimes given that it was Miss Steel's determination to keep the trophy after her four wins (as she was entitled to do, under the terms of the original competition) which led Trevor Williams to present the President's Cup in its stead.

In fact, it seems that she was pre-empted in her intention to return the trophy for

future competition by the newly-appointed President's eagerness to present a new one.

At the Council meeting immediately following Miss Steel's fourth victory, his proposal – made spontaneously during the meeting, which he attended merely as an observer – is reported as having taken everyone by surprise.

Miss Steel's willingness to return the Champion Cup was reported at the following Council meeting, but by then it was too late.

It is arguable that the CA did not benefit from the exchange, unless grandiosity is to be preferred over Art Nouveau elegance.

**Ian Bond**

## AC NORTH OF ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIP

**D**avid Maugham won the North of England Championship at Bowdon at the end of August, beating Mark Suter +20tp, +14tp, +5tp in the final.

The field of 16 included 15 minus players, seven of whom were -2 handicap or better, the hoops were all set to just under 1/32" in averagely firm ground and the weather

was fine all weekend.

The first round went with seeding, as did the second (except for Maugham beating Mark Avery), but in the semis Suter beat James Death and Maugham beat Alan Giraud - both in three straight games.

In the final Maugham shot well and made very few errors, so despite Suter playing well Maugham was able to win 3-0.

A highlight of the event was Death completing 7 peels of a nontuple against Michael Sandler - with the straight penult peel bouncing out (from about 9 feet slightly angled). This was quite an achievement given the tight hoops. Surely someone will soon be the first to achieve this feat in a ranking game.



# AC SECRETARY'S SHIELD FINAL



Secretary's Shield finalists Sheffield and St Albans

**S**heffield CC completed a tough 4-3 comeback win against a strong St Albans team (the 2019 winners) to win the Secretary's Shield for the third time, following successes in 2017 and 2018.

St Albans got off to a flying start in the brilliant autumnal sunshine, with their singles players dispatching their Sheffield opponents with relative ease.

However, the doubles rubber see-sawed each way, with St Albans captain Heather

Bennett (handicap 1) pegging-out Sheffield's Eugene Chang (-1.5) to leave his partner and captain Maggie Crossland (14), on hoop 10 (4 back) alone.

With time running out, the St Albans pair reached hoop 12 (rover) and peg, only for Crossland to hit in, make her final hoops and finish, so St Albans only led 2-1 at lunch.

The afternoon saw St Albans' Stuart Stafford (12) play two outstanding breaks to beat Crossland quickly, whilst Chang

beat Bennett to pull one back for Sheffield, who now trailed 3-2.

With the heavens about to open, the crowd made a quick cuppa back in the pavilion and watched under shelter as Mark Simmerson (6) levelled the tie for Sheffield, leaving a decider to be the result between his team mate Trevor Billard (2.5) and St Alban's stalwart Stephen Mills (5). Mills established an early lead before excellent play by Billard earned St Albans the advantage, and with the final hour of the match twisting and turning between the pair, time was called with Billard on hoop 12 (rover) and peg, and Mills just behind on hoop 10 (4back) and peg. Billard separated in to corners 1 and 4, leaving Mills' balls together in the middle of north boundary.

The St Albans man approached hoop 10 (4 back) with a long take off, made the hoop and the return roquet, and rolled up to hoop 11 (penult) leaving a long straight hoop attempt.

Sadly for St Albans he failed the hoop to lose by 1 on time, sparking off celebrations in the Sheffield camp, who had been updating their club WhatsApp group with blow-by-blow text commentary.

The Secretary's Shield was presented by outgoing CA Hon Secretary Ian Vincent, who thanked Nottingham for hosting the final and congratulated both teams on excellent performances, both in the final and in winning their respective regional leagues the year before. CA Bronze Awards were achieved by Sheffield's Mark Simmerson and St Albans' Roger Bowman and Stuart Stafford.

## | Eugene Chang

Also of note was Alain Giraud's second ever sextuple peel and it was the only one in the event.

In the plate knockout Ian Lines unexpectedly won +1 from 4 v 4 back, after Sam Murray pegged out two balls, and then Lines beat Death +26tp in the seventh turn in the final.

On the Saturday evening everyone enjoyed fish & chips at the club. On Sunday there was an excellent dinner at the Griffin to celebrate Alison Maugham's birthday.

The trophies were presented by Bowdon Club President Brian Storey, and thanks were given to the Club for hosting the event in these difficult times and to Alan

Mayne for preparing the top quality lawns and for setting the hoops so well. Full results are on Croquet Scores and Rankings.

## | Ian Lines

## AC 'THE ARK'

**T**he Ark at Surbiton is one of few AC Advanced Handicap tournaments in the CA Fixtures Calendar, and is always popular as a result.

This season it reverted to a later date and, although not full, the entry was back up to 24.

Paul Castell was the only negative handicap this time and this was possibly due to a date clash with the Southern Championship.

The start was rather staggered because of local gridlock due to petrol queues, but everyone did turn up eventually, and the last arrival had rung the club to say what was going on.

Saturday started damp but the weather was sufficiently clement for meals to be taken outdoors.

The courts played to a good speed but few games still finished quickly.

Raghu Iyer (Phyllis Court) and Charlie Martin (Ramsgate) were undefeated on 3/3 at the close of play on day one, and two others, Nick Furse (Merton) and Chris Barham (Tunbridge Wells), were on 2/2 and pegged-down with an hour still to go, as a result of a knock-on effect of the earlier traffic delay.

On Sunday morning Iyer played well to beat Martin in about an hour with five bisques remaining, and so when Furse won the pegged-down game, he and Iyer, as the two unbeaten players, played off immediately.

Iyer won by 16 but used all his bisques this time.

Another round was played after lunch but as Iyer had already beaten Guy Hewitt (Hurlingham) and Martin, it was not going to affect the tournament result, and the automatic cut to 11 in Iyer's handicap was deemed sufficient.

The Surbiton catering was back to normal, and thanks to the team, whose hot lunches and teas were gratefully received. One recent change at Surbiton is the availability of a gadget for taking card payments, although we are just as happy with cash!

**Martin Burger**  
Manager

Raghu Iyer winner of The Ark at Surbiton  
with manager Martin Burger - September 2021



# GC NATIONAL B-LEVEL FINAL

**1** 6 players gathered at Compton Croquet Club Eastbourne to contest the National B level final. Players had travelled from around the UK and they were rewarded with great weather, fast lawns and firm hoops.

By lunch on day 1 Tony Elliott had a slender lead after winning all his 4 games, closely followed by Andrew Larpent, Neil Fillery, Tony McCann & Phil Davies all on 3 wins. At the end of day 1 after 8 games Neil Fillery was on top with 7 wins followed by Tony McCann on 6 wins, followed by David Cornes, Charlie Sale, Julie Tremble & Glynis Davies all on 5 wins so plenty to play for on day 2.

The sun was shining and with no breeze it was another beautiful day on the sunshine coast and 16 eager players arrived at Compton Croquet Club for the days play. At lunch on day 2 with 3 games played it was getting tight at the top with 3 players all on 8 wins out of 11 Charlie Sale, Neil

Fillery and Tony McCann.

After lunch, battle commenced. Players were getting weary and the sun was beating down, the play was pretty even with the leaders all winning but just nudging ahead was Tony McCann after a golden hoop win over Simon Draper now with 11 wins after 13 rounds, with 2 games to play the title was Tony's to lose. Round 14 saw Tony play Jill Waters and after a tight tussle Tony came out on top winning on the golden hoop. Round 15 saw Tony win his last game against Tony Elliott although academic to the final result it was a tight game McCann winning 7-5.

With 13 wins from 15 rounds Tony McCann was the overall winner, with Neil Fillery in second place with 10 wins. A convincing win from Tony whose steady play and accurate clearances ensured that he contested every hoop and took the fight to his opponents in every game.

**| Pete Dowd**



# GC ALL ENGLAND HANDICAP FINAL



**R**oger Goldring of Phyllis Court kept the GC All England Handicap title in the hands of a Henley Club member for the second successive year when he won the national final on the meticulously prepared Sidmouth CC courts in mid-September.

Fourteen players from around the UK, with handicaps ranging from Goldring's -1 to 7, had qualified from club rounds and Area Finals and that range of abilities meant that there was very broad spectrum of competition and extra stroke entitlements.

The format was an 'all play all' arrangement, with seven games on the Saturday and six on Sunday, with some single banking available that was managed by rotation to keep the event on track and thankfully no game time limits needed to be imposed.

## CLOSE COMPETITION ON DAY 1

Both Ramsgate players, Charlie Martin (handicap 1) and Todd Ballantine (2) got off to excellent starts, winning their first 5 games, but were subsequently halted in their tracks by



Winner Roger Goldring  
**PHOTOGRAPH** Louise Smith

losing the remaining games on day one. However, others were notching up victories too, and by the end of day 1, Roger Goldring (Phyllis Court, 1); Dom Aarvold (Bristol, 0); Andy Loakes (Camerton & Peasedown, 1); and Sarah Patton (Guildford & Godalming, 6) were also all on 5 wins. The tournament was, therefore, wide open to a large number of potential winners at that point.

#### GOLDRING TAKES A LEAD

Sunday again brought beautiful sunshine, but the Ramsgate pair fell back when they only added two wins each to their overnight tally, while Goldring started the day with 4 straight wins. Quite a few Sidmouth club members came to watch the tournament unfold, and around lunchtime players and spectators alike were serenaded by the town's brass band that could be heard in the distance! Phyllis Court's other representative, Rick

Lilley (3) also built on his 4 wins from Saturday, gaining another 5 on Sunday, to only narrowly miss the third place spot by 1 net hoop difference, with a 9 wins total haul.

#### TOP DOGS FIGHT IT OUT IN LAST TWO ROUNDS

For players in contention for overall victory, a pivotal match arose in round 12 when Loakes was due to play Goldring, with the former needing to win to draw level with the latter, to make things very interesting at the top of the table.

It was a close fought battle, culminating in a golden hoop win for Loakes which meant that Goldring, Aarvold and now Loakes all sat on 9 wins, with Martin just one behind as we went into the final round.

To make matters more interesting still, Martin was to play Goldring and Aarvold was paired with Loakes.

On-form Goldring proved too strong for Martin as he went 5-2 up, and eventually won 7-4, while Loakes got on the good end of the same score against Aarvold.

Loakes' late surge in the last two games meant a very close final result with Goldring as both players had 10 wins, but Goldring's better hoop difference (+20 to +17) gave him the coveted first place.

As the lowest handicapper in the tournament, Roger had needed to work very hard at times, with up to eight extra strokes against him, so this was a well earned and deserved title for the All England Handicap Winner 2021.

**Louise Smith**  
Manager

# GC OPEN DOUBLES CHAMPS **REG BAMFORD AND RICHARD BILTON WIN**

**T**he GC Open Doubles had had the ideal number of 32 entries for a while, before for different reasons some had to withdraw. Some new entries allowed the event to return to that ideal size.

With 32 players, the initial stage consisted of two blocks of eight pairs, played on the first day. The top four pairs from each block progressed to the knockout, while the bottom four played in the plate.

The new partnership of Reg Bamford and Richard Bilton started the event as top seeds after their original partners had to withdraw, and they'd decided to play together. This meant that the next two teams of John-Paul Moberly & Will Gee and Rachel Gee & Ian Burridge, whose average grades were significantly higher than those seeded fourth, were now drawn into the other block.

Sussex County Croquet Club were incredibly welcoming as usual and put lots of effort into the facilities and conditions for the Open Championships.

They had unfortunately, but understandably, taken the decision to not open the bar, but were still able to provide superb catering throughout the week, aided by their new barbeque.

The manager sent out the blocks and order of play to the players in advance, as well as the lawns for the first round, but upon arriving at the club on the first morning, there were already problems – it had rained heavily for most of the previous day and some of the lawns had not drained in time, so the manager and club decided to use some different lawns and some secondary-colour balls for the morning.

## PLAY GETS UNDER WAY

The top two pairs in each block played in the morning, and in block B, that match was tough to call, but Rachel Gee & Ian Burridge took it comfortably 7-3, leaving John-Paul Moberly & Will Gee on just one win out of three before lunch.

The match in block A was rather more straightforward with Bamford & Bilton (R) leading Lionel Tibble & Aston Wade 6-0. Tibble ran an angled hoop 7 to save being whitewashed, but the pair lost the game at the following hoop.

Starting to emerge as one of the stronger pairs was Ryan Cabble and Louise Smith, as they quietly but impressively beat a lot of the other pairs in their block. Round 5 saw not only the first, but two games won 7-0 as Moberly & Rachel Gee beat Richard Brooks & Morgan Case and Tibble & Wade beat Keith Pound & Ian Shore.

The following round saw the number 3's beat the number 1's in both blocks, with Stuart M Smith & Stephen Leonard

beating Bamford and Bilton – the latter's first loss, and Euan Burrige & Callum Johnson taking out Moberly & Will Gee. Rachel Gee & Ian Burridge were undefeated going into the last round of the block, but couldn't finish the day with that feat, having lost to the in-form Cabble & Louise Smith 7-6. Bamford & Bilton finished the block with the unusual result of winning alternate games 7-1, with games 2, 4 and 6 not going past hoop 8. Block A finished with four clear qualifying pairs for the knockout; block B, however, finished with three pairs tied on four wins for two places.

Euan Burrige & Johnson were unfortunate as their net hoop score was five below that of Simon Carter & Peter Haydon.

## THE QUARTER-FINALS

The knockout consisted of three rounds of best-of-three matches.

Bamford & Bilton had a battle against Carter & Haydon, as did Rachel Gee & Ian Burridge against Ben Harwood & Mark Hamilton, although in both cases, the favourites won 2-0.

The other two matches both went to three games – Cabble & Louise Smith came through against Liz Farrow & Jonathan Isaacs.

Stuart M Smith had a 30-minute purple patch in game two in which he hit everything, allowing him and Leonard to take that game, and although finishing second in their block (as opposed to third) lost the match to 'ranking' favourites Moberly & Will Gee.

## THE SEMI-FINALS

It was again hard to call a winner of the semi-final match between Moberly & Will Gee and Rachel Gee & Ian Burridge, even though the latter had won their block match.

Moberly & Will Gee turned the tables and won the first game 7-4, and the next game was even closer, but after their opponents missed a chance to run hoop 13, they were able to win the match 2-0.

The other semi-final appeared on paper to be more straightforward, but it was just as much of a contest and even finished after the others as Cabble and Louise Smith continued with their strong game plan and solid shooting. But still Bamford and Richard Bilton were able to win 7-5, 7-5.

## THE FINAL

**Bamford & Bilton v Moberly & Will Gee**  
Based on both pair's form coming into the final, Bamford & Bilton were probably slight favourites over Moberly & Will Gee, but the match would likely be decided by which side had the momentum the longest and who made the fewest unforced errors.

Both teams' form had fluctuated during the blocks and both had improved during the knockout. There are plenty of lawns at Southwick so every match in the knockout could be played on a different lawn – both pairs had played on the final lawn already, but on the previous day.

Moberly & Gee won the toss and Moberly played Blue into position at hoop 1, Red and Black followed, and then Bamford shot at Blue, clipping it to the side of the hoop. Blue moved Red to the South boundary and from there Bilton ran hoop 1 to six inches West of hoop 2.

Capitalising on an opponent's miss, Bamford ran hoop 2, and later had an angled jump shot for a 3-0 lead, but it was rejected. For a few rotations at hoop 6 and 7, Red and Black had declined to give each other an advantage.

While Blue and Yellow played for hoop 7, Red tried to create an angle to get to hoop 8 off Black, but before that played North of hoop 6, which was declared a fault but not replaced.

From there, both sides contested each hoop quite closely, but with Bamford and Bilton having the edge and taking the first game 7-4. By this time, the 'RBs' were confident in their tactics and of the form difference over their opponents.

They had control of most hoops, forcing Moberly & Will Gee into constant clearing to stay in the hoop. Perhaps the shot of the final was at hoop 7 in game 2 – Blue played into four yard straight position, Red played to 2 straight in front, Black played across from the opposite penalty area, and Bamford played a signature 7-yard 90° block right in front of Blue, leaving Blue only a rush onto Red, which missed. After this, Moberly & Will Gee didn't have enough answers to how Bamford & Bilton were playing. They made the game close, but Bilton was left a four-yard hoop 12, which he ran for a 2-0 victory.

## CONSOLATION EVENTS

After beating Farrow & Isaacs and Harwood & Hamilton respectively, Smith & Leonard beat Carter & Haydon in a close 10-9 match for the Shield.

The Plate followed the same knockout format with playoffs. Michael Bilton & Michelle Leonard found some rhythm in closely beating Euan Burrige-& Johnson 10-9, and Sue Lightbody & Jonathan Claxton 10-4 to reach the plate final. After being second seeds in their block and surprisingly not qualifying for the knockout, Tibble & Wade settled down on day 2 and overcame Neil & Jane Humphreys 10-3 and Brooks & Case 10-5. They then went on to beat Mike Bilton (M) & Michelle Leonard 7-4, 7-3.

**| Richard Bilton**



C-Level National Final at Ryde PHOTOGRAPH Ian Shore

## GC C - LEVEL SERIES NATIONAL FINAL

**W**hen the Isle of Wight Pop Festival promoter decided in March to postpone his event to the third weekend in September, we all knew we were going to be in for a hard time and it wasn't until 9am on day one when all 16 players presented themselves for the manager's briefing that we knew the logistical problems of accommodation and travel had been cracked. Now began the task of completing 15 all-play-all rounds in two days. At this level, and with only four courts, both manager and players accepted that a one-hour time limit for all games gave the fairest and best chance of success.

Nine winners of Series tournaments were joined by seven points qualifiers and the field included ten players whose handicaps had improved to below 7 since their original acceptance earlier in the year. Early rounds on both days took longer as players found their way around "foreign" territory but by the end, just ten of the 120 games were decided on time.

By lunchtime on Saturday the schedule was in good shape with Kevin Connolly (Watford), the favourite and top seed, and Jim Beach (Glamorgan) both undefeated with four wins.

Immediately following the break Connolly lost a 13th hoop game to Nick England (Ryde), whilst Beach took the lead on five wins.

Connolly and England both won their remaining afternoon games as Beach fell back, so that at close of play (eight rounds all completed by 7pm) we had a close race on our hands.

I am greatly indebted to our small but super-efficient catering team and also to the three non-playing referees who managed time limits for me on all games, in addition to refereeing duties as needed. Without their help, management would have been considerably compromised. An evening BBQ in the pleasant autumn sunshine enabled the players to relax on the clubhouse patio after a demanding day.

### ALL TO PLAY FOR ON DAY 2

Overnight, Connolly and England led the field on seven wins, one ahead of Beach and a chasing pack of Frank Sharps and daughter Sandra Cornes (both Crake Valley), Mark Green (Roehampton), Sue England (Ryde) and John Armer (Westmorland) all on five.

Sunday began overcast, with a passing front bringing a spell of light but annoying rain for an hour or so during the morning. Nick England started by beating Beach at hoop 13 whilst Connolly began an impressive run of four victories before lunch in which he conceded just 7 hoops in total and was beginning to look unassailable.

At lunch Connolly was on 11 wins, to Nick England's 10 (due to a loss to wife Sue!), and Beach, Cornes and Green were all on 8.

The sunshine returned to welcome a growing band of spectators as three afternoon rounds remained but most players had paced themselves well, including those in their eighties who gave the "youngsters" plenty to think about. Connolly was undeterred and finished with a flourish, to remain unbeaten on day two, and a most worthy winner of the tournament, having lost just once in his 15 games and with an average game score of better than 7-4.

Nick England, in only his second tournament, finished as runner-up (12 wins) and Sandra Cornes was third (10 wins).

Many players at this level have more to learn in respect of common infringements such as wrong ball and playing jawed balls.

Ball swaps were not well understood and one of my colleagues reported seeing more crushes over the two days than in an orange squash factory!

Events such as these certainly help to educate and prepare players for the more challenging competition to which they aspire.

**Roy Tillcock**  
Manager Ryde CC

# GC INTER-CLUB



**I**n their eleventh GC Inter-Club final, Ashby beat first-time finalists Bowdon to win the Championship for the fifth time.

Bowdon were missing their star player, John-Paul Moberly (who was away on honeymoon!) but battled hard through the whole day.

The bottom half of their team was inexperienced at this level, with Nigel Matthews having never previously played a ranking game and Simon Jenkins only having seven games on the system (from the USA in 2019). Even the top half of Angharrad Walters (351 ranking games) and Jack Good (206) were not able to bring the same degree of experience as

Ashby (Tim King 2273, Rachel Gee 1116, Will Gee 819, David Bell 713).

Ashby used all this experience to underpin their performance and their only hiccup in the morning was Bell losing his second game to Jenkins at hoop 13.

This led to the slightly unusual situation of a singles match being left incomplete (i.e. one game all) until possibly becoming significant at the end of the day, when more typically the doubles match would be the one that takes longer and leads to the deciding game being held back. After an excellent lunch, provided by Edgbaston CC, the four afternoon singles commenced.

Good had appeared slightly below his best in the morning but made relatively quick work of taking his first game against Will Gee, 7-4.

On the same court, Walters was also making better progress in her match against Rachel Gee, winning hoop 11 to go 6-5 up and then getting a ball almost all the way through hoop 12.

In other circumstances, this could have been the start of a significant revival for Bowdon. But firstly, this led to what was undoubtedly shot of the day from Rachel Gee, who played a 'bouncing bomb' to take the game to hoop 13, complete with first ball approach advantage and she duly took the first game.



# CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL



Secondly, the action on the other court was going in the direction of Ashby. Both Bowdon players had their moments on that court with neither Bell nor King being at their absolute best, but both were producing enough long hoops and strong clearances to ensure they both won their first games relatively comfortably. This dominance continued and, as the top-half rubbers began to swing back to the losers of the first games, the emerging uncertainty became whether Bell or King would be the first to win, leaving the other to score the point to win the Championship.

As King's ball sat in the jaws of his winning hoop 12, he watched as Bell ran hoop 11 to win his rubber and, for the first

time in 11 appearances in the final, King was then able to step up and score the point to claim the Championship. The matches on the other court both reached a 1-1 score shortly afterwards and everyone decided that the prospect of tea and cakes was far more attractive than playing out the dead rubbers.

Lionel Tibble attended on behalf of the President of the CA and presented the winning team with the trophy. Both he and the winning non-playing captain of Ashby, Ray Mounfield, thanked Edgbaston for being excellent hosts, providing a sumptuous spread for the buffet lunch and a small but enthusiastic crowd to sit alongside the travelling Ashby support. The final also represented the end of

an era for Ashby, with Ray Mounfield overseeing his last match as captain, a job he has held since the first year of the Championship. He did, however, play in the first round this year and will no doubt remain in contention to play in future years. In just three matches, the Ashby teams for 2021 also included Keith Pound, Arthur Rowe and Paul Durkin, all of whom joined the crowd at the final.

The very first final of the GC Inter-Club included three women but the 2021 final was the first to feature both sides having a woman as their top player (and probably this is the first time this has happened in any match in the GC Inter-Club).

**| Tim King**

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SJP11783 V1 (09/20)

# BEN RHYDDING REACHES OUT TO U3A



**LEFT** Ben Rhydding captain Penny Clark, left, with Cathy O'Brien and new CA mallets

**ABOVE** Ben Rhydding Coach Cathy O'Brien with new recruits Maureen and Tony Rushworth from Ilkley and District U3A

**Y**orkshire's Ben Rhydding CC has been reaching out into the community and teaching members of their local U3A how to play golf croquet.

Having survived flooded lawns and a damaged pavilion, plus Covid-19 lockdown, the club, which is situated beside the River Wharfe, got back in action at the end of May with a four-week course for Ilkley and District U3A.

Headed by club captain and coach Penny Clark, with fellow coach Cathy O'Brien, the course was a great success with 23 students taking part helped by experienced players.

More than half of the participants have signed up to join the club so far! "We couldn't run the course last year because of Covid-19 and we have had a great response this time," said Cathy

O'Brien. "We had two groups a week and several people are very keen and show promise for the future."

The newcomers were able to learn the basics with a new set of Croquet Association mallets, thanks to a generous U3A grant.

"We are delighted to have had the support of the U3A," said Ben Rhydding chair Alan Ebbutt.

"When learning to play it is important to borrow a good mallet before buying your own and U3A support has ensured new players get a good start." Several participants enjoyed the social side of the sport and said they enrolled as they wanted get out and be active after lockdown.

Other people, many of whom had previously played (18 hole) golf, were

competitive and joined the club for the rest of the season.

"The University of the Third Age, U3A, offers a wide range of interests for older people nationwide and we were delighted to help these seniors get fit and active," added Ben Rhydding Membership Secretary Stephanie Ferguson. "As we know croquet is the ideal sport for all ages both physically and mentally."

Ben Rhydding fields teams in Yorkshire Federation matches and also takes part in friendly contests with other clubs across the county.

**I Stephanie Ferguson**



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### The Compaction Mistake

Following the extended period of lock down, I have been able to visit clubs around the country again. This year has been wetter than usual I found quite a lot of Dry Patch even in the North where there has been more rain.

Generally speaking it isn't recognised by groundsmen, contractors and "experts". They see the symptoms (dead patches of grass) and wrongly think it is caused by compaction. This incorrect diagnosis can be a very expensive mistake for the club who call in contractors to carry out deep tining or even hydraulic fracturing thinking that this will cure the problem. Unfortunately for the clubs this expensive work doesn't make any difference.

The problem is hydrophobic (unwetable) soil, not compaction. To any lay person it looks like compaction and logic says it is caused by people standing round hoops. So, individuals are taken in and so are committees who vote away funds to cure the problem. I fell for it years ago at Letchworth, before I understood Dry Patch and organised a working party of twenty members to bring garden forks to prick the surface. It proved to be a waste of time.

Dry Patch is caused by a waxy substance created by micro-organisms in the soil. If you punch holes in a block of wax, it still won't absorb water and the same applies to hydrophobic soil. Testing for Dry Patch is easy and the cure is very simple too. All you need is a watering can or a sprayer and a bottle of curative. The affected area is sprayed twice, leaving 14 days between applications. It is best to treat before rain or water it in afterwards to get the product into the root zone.

Treating 200 sq metres costs £32.50 in my online shop.

**I Duncan Hector**

## Have you considered leaving a gift in your will for your croquet club?

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Croquet is a great game enjoyed in many ways by very different types of players and we all depend on healthy and stable clubs.

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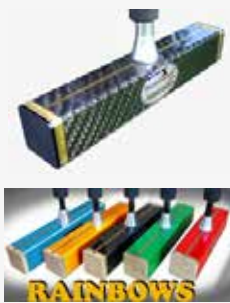
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## CA WEBSITE

[www.croquet.org.uk](http://www.croquet.org.uk) is a fabulous resource for croquet information covering membership, news, laws & rules, coaching, who's who, and tournament details with an online entry system.

**Croquet jargon** The website also has a full glossary of croquet terms, jargon and acronyms that are sometimes used in Gazette reporting.

To find the glossary online, visit:

AC <https://www.croquet.org.uk/?p=games/tech/jargon>  
GC <https://www.croquet.org.uk/?p=games/golf/gcJargon>

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VACANCY  
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## HYPERLINKS

If you are reading the Gazette and would like to make use of the hyperlinks, visit the online gazette on the CA website at: [www.croquet.org.uk/?p=press/gazette](http://www.croquet.org.uk/?p=press/gazette)

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VACANCY

## PUBLICATIONS

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Email contributions, including tournament reports should be sent direct to the Editor, or copied to the Editor if they are being posted to the Nottingham List.

Digital images are preferred, but photographic prints can be acceptable.

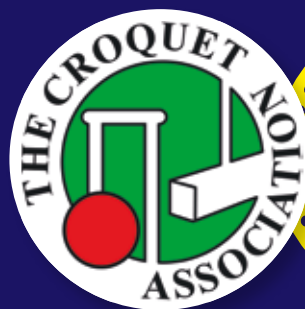
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Queries regarding the delivery of the Gazette to members should be directed to the CA's Operations Manager.

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