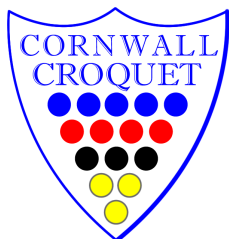
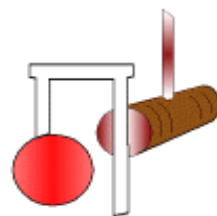


# CORNWALL CROQUET CLUB



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## Newsletter No. 87, July 2019

Four months into the 2019 season and I am wondering where the time has gone.

No doubt you will remember that we launched into competitive play fairly soon in April with the new competition on our programme - the National Charity One-Ball Competition. But before that even, a team of four players travelled up to Nailsea (Bristol) for the annual South West Federation Short Croquet competition. For the uninitiated this is an Association Croquet competition played on half lawns with a much shortened time limit and it's a very 'busy' day. Our team of four was Des Honey, Dorianne Forsdick, Bob Cash and me. Overall, we had a good day ending up second in Division 1.

Back to home turf and the National Charity One-Ball. It was a very cold, windy and wet day, but we were kept busy playing chase with our one ball around the lawns. As some will probably have predicted, the two finalists were both GC players. They were Fiona Russell and Kathryn Smith. They had a good game despite the continuing cold and wind with Kathryn ending up the winner.

Thank you to all who joined in this event which I hope will become a permanent fixture in our calendar. Through donations and added Gift Aid our contribution to this year's charity - the Alzheimers Society - amounted to £81.25. Nationally, we were one of 44 clubs which took part and the final donation from all of these, including Gift Aid, amounted to £6870.

Moving into May our South West Federation League matches started. As previously noted, this year we only have three league



*The two finalists putting on a brave face in the cold, wet conditions. Well done to both of them.*

teams: AC Intermediate, GC Handicap and GC High Handicap. All of these have had mixed fortunes, but it must be remembered that in GC this is the first year we have split the two teams by handicap, where previously players chose their allegiance to one or other regardless of handicap.

Thinking of handicaps, often we hear players commenting on the correctness, or otherwise, of opponents' handicaps and I am reminded of a comment made by Stephen Custance-Baker at his coaching session here at the beginning of June, advising us to be aware that a player may be very good in one

aspect of the game, but not in others and focussing on just one skill when commenting on handicaps could give a false impression. Handicaps reflect players' all round ability and it is the responsibility of each club's handicapper(s) to ensure that they are monitored throughout the season. We are fortunate to have very experienced players as club handicappers. Kathryn Smith for GC with Bob Burnett and Des Honey for AC. All have attended the SWF Handicapping Workshops and have comprehensive guidelines from those on how to judge handicaps by observation in addition to looking at the running index points. I am sure you all appreciate the time they put in to help the club in this way. Also in May we held our Open Day. The weather was kind and we had a few visitors. Unfortunately only one has since joined having followed up her visit with a return during a Rotarians day the following week, but, who knows, we may have sown a seed to encourage more of those visitors to return for another try later on and join. Back to another Charity One-Ball competition. This was a repeat of the event we hold each year for local charities. There was a reasonable turnout with £55 being raised for Children's Hospice South West. This time the winner was Graham Varcoe.

***Well done Graham!***



## **For Sale**

Surprisingly, there has not been any interest in the following. They are suitable for men or women and really are in good condition and any reasonable offer is welcome. The 'cost at new' prices are intended as a guide and not the price we are expecting.

A former member has kindly donated her wet weather gear for sale with the proceeds to go to club. If interested please contact me with an offer. The gear comprises:

Emsmorn waterproof jacket. Size - L. Cost at new £55

Emsmorn waterproof hat, Size - 55cm. Cost at new £13

Emsmorn waterproof overtrousers. Size L. Cost at new £22

These can all be bought individually or as a set. They are in very good condition, clean, with no signs of wear. Please let me know if you are interested.

## **A bit of fun -**



***whose legs are these?***



### A message from Peter Cutting

I recently received an email from Peter about the forthcoming Croquet Association Council Elections. Attached was a note regarding a candidate from our area. Here are the main points:

### "CA Council Elections

The CA has reformed its governance arrangements and its Council (the Governing Body) is being reduced from 33 to 12. Voting for these new Council Members will take place in August with a closing date of 3<sup>rd</sup> September. This will be the first opportunity for all individual CA members to vote in Council elections since club members were newly enfranchised last year.

The South West Constituency will have three seats on Council and since there is likely to be more than three nominations (which close on 30<sup>th</sup> July) there will be a ballot. Voting will be by Single Transferrable Vote, so one or more candidates can be voted for in order of preference. **Most of the candidates will be from clubs in the north of the region, but Peter Nelson, Chairman of Sidmouth CC, will be standing.** He is likely to be the only candidate from Somerset, Devon and Cornwall and you may wish to give him your first preference.

This election is an important opportunity to shape the future of the CA, in the interests of its members as a whole. You are encouraged to (a) ensure you have taken up CA membership and (b) exercised your vote. Voting can be online or by post and full details will be published on the CA website and in the next edition of The Croquet Gazette. "

Page 6 of the most recent Croquet Gazette (issue no. 380) gives details of the posts.

It would certainly be good to get a representative on the CA Council from the southern area of the south west who understands some of the difficulties we experience, particularly with travel and isolation, so please do exercise your vote

### Thinking of Peter.....

Recently Peter attended the Sidmouth Summer Tournament in which he was very successful, coming home with the Fortfield Cup, awarded for the class singles.

He doesn't stop there, however, as he has also attended the National Veterans Championship at Budleigh Salterton where he was runner-up in his block.

*Congratulations Peter*



*Peter with the Fortfield Cup*

### Help Needed

I know - you will be thinking 'not again!!' Well no, not exactly. You may remember that a few weeks ago I asked for a work party to undertake various tasks from laying decking to cleaning up the weeds around the perimeter of the site. I was delighted that 16 individual members turned up, some once and others for two days, and completed many of the tasks. A very heartfelt 'Thank You' to them. They were: Keith, Phil, Joyce, Tanis, Graham V., Cathy, Pat, Jenny, Russell, Kathleen, Liz, Bob C, Janet, Tony M, John and Trevor. With so many helpers we managed to get a great deal done, but there is still a little more to do before all is finished and, of course there are the on-going tasks like weed control alongside the fencing.

I will be sending a note round when we are in a position to complete the decking and perhaps some more members will be able to come and help. I do hope so as it was by working together that we were able to achieve so much last time.

Quite unrelated to this working party, thank you to Phil for building a bench in the lawn 1 shelter. A casual comment from me that it would be good to have one to save carrying chairs down was all that was needed and very soon afterwards the bench was in situ. Thank you Phil.

### Club Competitions

Our involvement in league matches has almost finished and we are now turning our attention to club competitions. Fast approaching are last entry dates for: GC Golf Singles and AC Wilson Salvors - 1st

August; GC Golf Doubles - 12th August; AC Jennings Short Lawn - 24th August; GC and AC President's Cups - 1st September. If you have not done so already please do think about joining in one or more of these competitions. If the last entry date has passed it is always worth checking to see if you can be included.

And I'll mention it now as there won't be another Newsletter before then - Finals Weekend! This should be the highlight of our year, when trophies for various competitions already decided are presented and the finals of major competitions in both GC and AC are played, including the President's Cups. To top that, we finish it all off with a club tea on the Sunday when we can mull over the events of the day and reminisce about the events of the year. If the weather is kind to us it is a really enjoyable day so do please try to support your fellow members and the day. Mark it in your diaries and calendars now so you don't miss it.

Still on the subject of club competitions, some members attended Faith, Hoop and Hilarity last Sunday and had a really enjoyable day. You may still be pondering over the 'legs' pictured on page 2, so here is a clue:



*Contenders for the 'Best Outfit' competition.  
Winner: Peter Dexter*

### **Some Reminders**

There have been some occasions when chairs taken outside on club days have been left there for the last one or two members to carry back in at the end of the

afternoon. In addition dirty mugs have sometimes been left in the sink. Ours is a communal facility so please remember to do your bit by checking that all is in order when you leave, even if there may still be one or two playing. This includes picking up lawns (you know what I mean!!) not being used.

Our equipment hut is very old but still serves us well. Please close the door at all times to ensure that, if there is a rain shower the floor does not get soaked.

And finally..... some of our chairs have broken recently, fortunately without serious injury to the people sitting on them. Stress is put on the on the chairs when they are incorrectly stacked and when people sit on stacks. Please help to avoid damage to chairs by: a) only stacking the same designs together, and b) using them singly and not sitting on stacks of two or more chairs.



*Tanis and Bob - worthy winners of the doubles competition.*

### **New GC Rules**

Hopefully you are now getting to grips with the new GC rules.

If you don't already have a copy, there are still some available for sale at £5 in the clubhouse. I am reminded of a comment made by Richard Griffiths, at an AGM years ago, that having a copy of the rules in your pocket - in full view - sends an appropriate message to your opponent in a match!

***Rhona***