



The Bear of Rodborough Croquet Club

August 2012
Newsletter

Match Round-up

Secretary's Shield semi-final v Surbiton 4 – 3 win

After a 07.30 start we arrived at Surbiton to find saturated lawns. Although play started on time parts of the lawns were unplayable and a heavy shower produced even bigger puddles. It was touch and go whether or not to abandon but vigorous work with the water scooper (about 100 gallons removed) saw play restart.

Matthew and Richard W sloshed around on the wettest lawn to no great effect while Kate and Keith worked around the puddles on their slightly drier lawn. Keith +3 had a narrow win and Kate lost on the golden hoop. Bears 1-2 down at lunch.

Fortified by a sumptuous lunch and a touch of sunshine, Keith +17 stormed round in 1 hour 22 mins followed by Richard +25 in 2 hours for Bears to move into the lead at 3-2.

Matthew was struggling on the wet lawn but Kate was matching her opponent hoop for hoop. With both players having a clip each on 2 back and 4 back, tension was rising amongst the crowd (Keith and Richard). The last phase of the game saw both players get in and break down. Kate brought her back ball to rover in a break and the crowd calmed down. Shortly after, Kool Kate produced a clinical finish to win it for the Bears.

The other semi-final between Nottingham and Middlesbrough is scheduled for 11 Aug.

Richard

We will now play either Nottingham or Middlesbrough in the final on a date to be arranged before October 7th.

Parkstone League v Cheltenham

2 – 5 loss

A disappointing match. Don, Richard D and Mathew did not play up to their normal standard against a Cheltenham Team that, on paper, we should have beaten. Only Peter was playing well and saved the Bear's honour by winning both his games.

Don

Intermediate v Cheltenham

1 – 4 loss

Morning session even - lost doubles, Brian won his singles. Afternoon session bears went to sleep and lost all 3 singles - all low scoring games

Paul

Federation (N) v Cheltenham

4 – 1 win

Keith, Kate and Robert salvaged a little of the Bears' reputation by seeing off Cheltenham 4-1. Cheltenham sent Paul Hands, John Morgan and Michael James but despite two of these being very experienced, seasoned players, the dynamic duo and your chairman won the day.

Rob

B League v Worcester

“2.5 – 2.5 draw”

Sunday the 15th surprised everyone by being dry and sunny and thanks to Nick's efforts the lawn was in great shape despite the amount of rain it has suffered over the last few weeks.

Caroline and John won their opening doubles whilst Ian's singles game resulted in a level score at full time. Much discussion took place as whether we should play for the golden hoop or declare a draw, the later won the day.

The afternoon's game resulted in a win for Caroline but losses for John and Ian so the match ended in draw of two and a half games each.

Ian

Parkstone v Bath 1 – 4 loss

Richard D and Robert just scraped a win in the doubles but the Bath team was too strong for us to make any further headway. But since the Bath handicaps were all lower than ours, in theory, we should have won nothing at all! (Help me here: I am clutching at straws.)

Robert

Federation (N) v Dyffryn

2 – 3 loss

The three intrepid players arrived early for the first glorious day of weather seen in the last few months. Keith and Paul joined forces to overthrow their opposition in the morning, pegging out 10 hoops ahead. Although Kate gave away three bisques she managed to win +5 on time. A good morning! Not so the afternoon, with Kate sitting with both balls on rover we thought it was a done deal, no one told Sarah who hit in, stormed round and that was the end of Kate. If Keith had got on the lawn he may have had a chance but Peter had other ideas. Another Bear bit the dust! No pressure for Paul then... He battled well, raised our hopes but Barry was too god. Bears lost 2-3 ☹️ *Kate*

Federation (S) v Kingston-Maurward 2 – 3 loss

Bear 2 Kingston Maurward 3

The lawn needed substantial repair after Friday and Saturday weddings. Thanks to Nick for joining an early Sunday morning rolling session.

The rolled fast lawn challenged the home team of Alex, Matthew and Richard W. Special thanks to Crawford who stepped in after lunch as Matthew had to leave unexpectedly. Crawford went on to win, joining Richard in creating a respectable score sheet. *Richard*

Intermediate v Broadwas 2 – 3 loss

Morning session even - won doubles (John and Paul). Pat lost her singles - said the lawn was the main reason. Afternoon session - Paul lost his singles on the lawn that Pat had played on in the morning - I agree with her comments. Pat played better but still lost to their top player. Thank God for our bandit, who beat the player who had annihilated Pat in the morning. *Paul*

B League v Swindon 2 – 3 loss

At least it didn't rain. *Carol*

B League v Llandaff – match postponed



The first Bear Photo Competition reminder.

(**not** to be confused with “the first bare photo competition”!)

Get your cameras at the ready. Snap away and collectively, we can have some fun. Serious or humorous, creative or posed - everyone can enter: anyone could win.

The rules...

Any croquet related picture taken by a Bear in 2012;

B+W or colour **prints** admissible;

Photoshop manipulation allowed but this must be declared so the judge can make an informed opinion;

Print size 6"x 4" minimum, 10"x 8" maximum (*the larger the better as they will all be put on display*);

Any number of entries allowed;

Name of photographer to be written on the back of the print (and Photoshop description if used);

Entries submitted to Rosemary by

31st January 2013;

Judging by an independent chappy;

Photos displayed and the winner announced at the Annual Dinner on Friday 22nd March 2013.



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Do you know this man?



What does he know that we don't?

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Someone told Robert to practice his sweep stroke!

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Congratulations to Richard Danby and all his colleagues at RDS Technology following their winning the Stroud Life, Diamond Jubilee Business of the Year award. They now have yet another trophy to add to their groaning awards cabinet.

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Club diary and lawn bookings

- August 1 Club day
2 **Hotel 7.00 – 8.30**
3
4 **Wedding**
5 Parkstone V Cheltheltenham
6 Club day
7
8 Club day
9
10
11 **Parkstone Away to Nailsea**
12 **Hotel**
13 Club day
14
15 Club day
16
17 **Wedding**
18 **Wedding**
19 Federation V Bristol
20 Club day
21
22 Club day
23
24 **Wedding**
25
26 **Bears to Canterbury**
27 Club day
28
29 Club day
30
31 **Wedding**
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Advance notice.

The Annual General Meeting for the South West Federation will be held at the **BATCH COUNTRY HOTEL, LYMPHAM** on **SUNDAY, 25 NOVEMBER, 2012 at 10.30 a.m.** Batch Country Hotel is approx. 4 miles from Junction 22 on the M5.

It is always appreciated if a few members from each club can attend.

Bob Whitaker will be retiring as chairman and they are asking for nominations by the end of September. Are you interested in standing?

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Handicap changes.

Richard Danby is now 0.5
Keith is now 6

Could this happen to you?

A story about GPS

A friend had their car broken into while they were at a football game. Their car was parked on the green which was adjacent to the football stadium and specially allotted to football fans. Things stolen from the car included a garage door remote control, some money and a GPS which had been prominently mounted on the dashboard.

When the victims got home, they found that their house had been ransacked and just about everything worth anything had been stolen.

The thieves had used the GPS to guide them to the house. They then used the garage remote control to open the garage door and gain entry to the house. The thieves knew the owners were at the football game, they knew what time the game was scheduled to finish and so they knew how much time they had to clean out the house. It appeared that they had brought a truck to empty the house of its contents.

Something to consider if you have a GPS - don't put your home address in it. Put a nearby address (like a shop or pub) so you can still find your way home if you need to, but no one

else would know where you live if your GPS were stolen.

Another story about **MOBILE PHONES** -- I would never have thought of this.....

This lady has now changed her habit of how she lists her names on her mobile phone after her handbag was stolen. Her handbag, which contained her mobile phone, credit card, wallet... etc... was stolen.

20 minutes later when she called her hubby, from a pay phone telling him what had happened, hubby says 'I received your text asking about our Pin number and I've replied a little while ago.'

When they rushed down to the bank, the bank staff told them all the money was already withdrawn. The thief had actually used the stolen mobile to text 'hubby' in the contact list and got hold of the pin number. Within 20 minutes he had withdrawn all the money from their bank account.

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Today's profound thought.
"Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines."

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For more information:

Our Club Website- <http://www.faydon.com/Bear/Bear.html>

Archived newsletters and coaching hints - <http://www.faydon.com/Bear/News.html>

Croquet Association (of which the club is a member) - www.croquet.org.uk

South West Federation of Croquet Clubs (to which we are affiliated) – <http://www.swfcroquet.org.uk>

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The Bear of Rodborough Croquet Club.

Chairman and Hotel Liaison:	Robert Moss	01453 872386
Secretary:	Rosemary Danby	01453 872456
Treasurer:	Brian Pittaway	01453 860610
Handicapper and club competitions manager:	Don Gaunt	01453 822507
Lawn Manager:	Nick Hurst	01453 882960
Equipment Manager:	Richard Danby	01453 872456
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