

# Bear of Rodborough Croquet Club



Newsletter – July 2014

## Busy June. Frenetic July.

With a record number of matches and hotel lettings, the last month has been the busiest I can remember and July looks as though it will be equally hectic. Many thanks to all those who have supported the hotel by running the events for them: please can we now cover the next lot of bookings. The updated list is printed below and includes a new booking which has not previously been advertised. Some members have already signed up for their second stint and at the current rate, we should all expect to do two or three each. Many thanks for all your hard work.

Rob

### Roddy's progress.

#### The Rover Peel.

*"I've not done this before. Should I go for the Irish Peel or send them through one at a time? "*



### Fancy a late summer trip?

There's still time to join the Bears going to Budleigh. Nine have currently signed up with a few more "possibles" who may be added at the last minute. All handicap levels and requests for "free time" can be accommodated so if you only want to play for part of the time, you can. Please talk to Don or Robert if you would like to know more.

September 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>.

### CONGRATULATIONS

Some of you will have seen newspaper reports of Richard Danby being honoured with awards following his recent retirement. He was given a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Agricultural Engineers Association and also an award for his "sustained contribution to the land-based industries sector" from the Institute of Agricultural Engineers at Cranfield University.

We all know how dedicated and hard working Richard has always been and it is gratifying to see his superb achievements recognised by such august institutions.

**Congratulations** also to Don who played in the veterans last weekend at Budleigh winning 3 games out of 5. This result was enough to be rated the best performing over 75 player, winning the Pidcock Mallett trophy.

**Congratulations** also to Caroline for winning the Maclements's Cup at Cheltenham last weekend (C Class advanced singles event).

## ***Have you played your club match?***

### **Don't forget**

the club barbecue on **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July** and the new venue – Belmont.

The new time is a 6.30 p.m. start and the list for you to sign is in the pavilion.

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### **Match round-up**

#### **Intermediate League v Dyffryn.**

*I am glad to report that we remain undefeated - no thanks to the captain. We started the match in very heavy rain - puddles were forming on the lawn. John and Brian played Ian Emmitt and Marian Clancy in the Doubles and won 15-10. I played Janet Salter in a very close game, in which the lead kept changing hands. Janet finally won 16-14 after time. The rain had stopped after an hour, but the lawns did not lose the surface water until mid-afternoon. I lost to Marian 10-25 (I have never "blobbed" so many hoops in one match). Fortunately John (the bandit) beat Janet 22-11 and Brian beat Ian 18-13. Nice to win at Dyffryn!!*

*Paul*

#### **Federation League v Cheltenham.**

*Keith, Kate and Robert faced a strong Cheltenham side, made stronger by the number of bisques received, and almost secured a win. The 1-1 lunchtime position was achieved by Keith and Kate taking the doubles game but Robert losing comprehensively in his singles. The afternoon was nip and tuck in all games for most of the time, Kate being victorious in grand style and Keith just losing out to a rapid improver from Cheltenham, meant the pressure was on Robert to win in order to achieve overall supremacy. However, having conceded 7.5 bisques, Robert had an uphill struggle with the scores being level when time was called. With a "Golden Hoop" necessary and the Cheltenham player's ball being lined up for his hoop, it was never going to go Robert's way. It didn't!*

*Robert*

#### **B League v Llandaff 12<sup>th</sup> June**

*We couldn't beat the excitement of our last trip to Llandaff (they were filming the Dr Who Christmas special at Insole Court, complete with Snow Business) so the lads from Llandaff decided to provide a new venue instead. We were at Llandaff Fields on the newly-vacated bowling green – marked out and set up only the day before the match. The Llandaff team hadn't even played on it themselves – jolly sporting, I thought, not to even have home advantage. I now know what the term "flat as a bowling green" means; it was immaculate. Whether they will continue to play there is, unfortunately, a moot point as the reason the bowls club gave up was that the Council were charging them £6,200 a year and the 10 members of the Llandaff Club don't think they can afford that.*

*Anyway, back to the croquet. An exciting 1-1 at lunchtime then 2-1 to us in the afternoon, so an overall 3-2 win for the Bear. Well done, team, that's 3 out of 3 wins so far. Will our unbeaten run continue? Watch this space. The Team: Carol, Crawford and John*

#### **Parkstone v Dyffryn**

*An enjoyable day but with our opposition fielding 3 minus players plus a 2, our chances were not great. So it proved, only Richard Danby saving our whitewash by beating one of the minus players. So there it was 6-1 to Dyffryn*

*The highlight of the day was tea (where were you Rob!) with home made Welsh cakes and sweet strawberries the size of plums. Don*

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### **New Laws Book**

We have bought a copy of the new updated Golf Croquet Laws which you will find in our kit cupboard. (Green cover).

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Thanks to Crawford for this final story.

## The Teddy Bear's Tale

A teddy bear had been out of work for a long time and was desperate to get a job. So when a new housing estate was being built near where he lived, he went over there and spoke to the foreman.

"I want a job" said the bear, "I'll do anything". The foreman looked at him and said hesitantly "Well, I need a big trench dug and, where it's got to go, I can't use the JCB". "I can do that. I'm a strong bear" said the bear. "OK. I'll issue you with the tools and safety gear" said the foreman, "and we'll see how you go."

The bear set to work digging the trench. The foreman came back after a couple of hours and was impressed with the bear's progress. At the end of the week the bear had dug out 50' of the trench. The foreman said "That's great. Here's your wages, see you next week"

The bear turned up on Monday and continued digging out the trench. He went off to lunch and when he returned couldn't find his tools. He became agitated because he wanted to carry on digging out the trench. He rushed over to the foreman. "I can't find my tools. I can't carry on digging the trench!" "Calm down" said the foreman "Don't you know? Today's the day that teddy bears have their picks nicked!"

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# 2014 Helpers for Barbeque and Croquet Events.

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 16 guests Richard W

Wednesday 21 May 2014, 15 adults and 6 children - arriving at 6.00pm. ROBERT

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June – Rolls Royce party – 6.30 p.m. Arrival, BBQ t 8.00 p.m. c.20 guests – MELISSA

Sunday 15 June - play beginning at about 10.30, with a BBQ served at lunch time.

Keith and Kate

Tuesday 17 June - 12guests CAROLINE

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June Stroud Business Club 6.00 p.m. Richard and Rosemary

Friday 27 June – Stroud News and Journal party 30 / 50 guests – Start time @ 6.00 / 6.30. BRIAN, CAROL and DON

Thursday 10 July - 30 people - Locking Hill Surgery – Arrival to the bear @ 6.30pm  
Peter and Pat

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July – 21<sup>st</sup> birthday party – 3pm arrival/ drinks on the terrace – croquet following conclusion of our Intermediate match – **1-2 helper/s needed**

Thursday 17 July – Start time at 6pm - Nailsworth Rotary club for 30 people **1 helper needed + DON**

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July – Arrive 3.00 p.m, BBQ 5.00 p.m, croquet after that – 35 – 40 guests. - **2 more helpers needed with CAROLINE. We will be helping until 6.45 at which point we will have to leave them to their own devices.**

Thursday 21 August - 30 people - 6.30 p.m. Start **2 helpers needed**

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## For more information:

**Our Club Website-** [www.faydon.com/Bear/Bear](http://www.faydon.com/Bear/Bear)

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

**Croquet Association** - [www.croquet.org.uk](http://www.croquet.org.uk)

**South West Federation of Croquet Clubs** – [www.swfcroquet.org.uk](http://www.swfcroquet.org.uk)

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## The Bear of Rodborough Croquet Club.

Chairman / Hotel Liaison: Robert Moss 01453 872386

Secretary: Richard Way 01453 833762

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

Webmaster: Don Gaunt 01453 822507