

Helpers for hotel events.

Requests for help with hotel bookings are coming in thick and fast. Two have already happened (covered by Richard W and Robert) and the following are booked. It would be appreciated if you could volunteer so that we don't have to spend time phoning around at the last minute.

Friday 13th June – Melissa

Monday 23rd June – Richard and Rosemary

Friday 27 June – Stroud News and Journal - 30 / 50 guests – 6.00p.m. start - **3 helpers needed**

Sunday 13th July – **2 helpers needed**

following the conclusion of our Intermediate match

Saturday 19th July – Arrive 3.00 p.m, BBQ

5.00 p.m, croquet after that – 35 – 40 guests. –

3 helpers needed (en route for our own BBQ).

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Additional lawn booking

On **Monday 23rd June**, our club day will finish at 6.00 p.m. because there is a hotel booking for that evening.

For the latest information about lawn availability, remember to check the on-line calendar.

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Hotel equipment

The hotel purchased three sets of second-hand balls from Sidmouth last year when Sidmouth was upgrading its stock. Two sets of these (primary and secondary colours) are kept locked in our cupboard for use when we run events for the hotel. They are kept in a wooden cradle and can be identified by small silver spots painted on the crown so that they do not get confused with ours. The third set is in the hotel's box of equipment.

Please ensure they do not get mixed up with our own balls (£360 per set) and if, when running an event, the guests wish to continue playing after you leave, the balls should be locked away before you leave and the "normal" hotel balls left for them to use.

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The 2014 Inter-Counties.

The Inter-Counties is a huge event where 22 counties compete in two divisions on an all play all basis. Each team consists of 6 players in three pairs playing advanced doubles. Don once again played for Gloucestershire. We were in Division 1 having been promoted from Division 2 last year. We did not expect to do well as the top division is very strong. This seemed to be born out as we lost all three matches on day 1. We perked up however, and won 5 out of the remaining 7 matches to end up 5-5, ensuring that we did not get relegated. The real winner was the weather. Sunday was a super day with lots of sun. However, the other three saw persistent rain, flooded lawns with wet and despondent players. It has been years since there has been a really good counties. Ah well!

Your soggy correspondent -

Don

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Match round up.

PARKSTONE DIVISION 1.

We managed to beat Bristol 3-2 in our first match. It was a close-run thing with Richard W getting the golden hoop in the final game. David Goacher beat Don with a very nice triple peel - only the second one on Bear lawns (The first was David Harrison-Wood a few years ago).

Don

INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE. A successful start to the 2014 season, with a 4 - 1 win over Swindon. John and Paul pegged out in the doubles (26-8) and Brian won convincingly in his singles (21-7). The afternoon session was not quite so easy. Brian and Paul both won (20-16), having to come from behind. Pat, who had replaced John for the singles, lost (11-15) to her opponent. This was put down to jet-lag after her holiday. Thank you to Richard for setting the hoops, after removing teaspoons, and Nick for preparing the lawn.

Paul

(match reports continued on next page)

B LEAGUE v Cheltenham. An excellent start to the season for the B League, beating Cheltenham 4-3 away (and it didn't rain, despite the miserable forecast!).

All matches were hard fought and we won two singles in the morning and two singles in the afternoon. The team was me, John, Ian and Crawford. Well done, chaps. *Carol*

B LEAGUE v Swindon. Our thanks to Nick who rolled the lawn in the morning before the match.

John and Crawford played Mary Bedells and Bill Marner in the morning. After trailing for most of the match Crawford peeled both balls through penult and John peeled both through rover to peg his ball out and leave Crawford by the peg. Bill Marner hit in from the bottom boundary and things looked bad but after a couple of turns Crawford hit in and got to peg for a 14 -11 win. The four of us had lunch and on time Ian and Tony Mayer were level. They had a long hard fought tussle after the clock stopped before Ian made the golden hoop to give us a 2 - 0 lead.

In the afternoon John and Mary started first and although John started well Mary caught up and pulled ahead to peg out for a 3 point win. Ian had a hard fought match against Bill Marner but in his usual fashion he finished well for a 4 point win just before time. Crawford played Tony in a very level match in which Tony with his extra bisques dominated play. On time Tony pulled one hoop ahead and Crawford made a good roquet after time but failed to make the hoop, but by this time the match had been won 3-2.

Crawford

MARY ROSE

Five Bears go mad in Dorset

On Fri 30th May a team from the Bear of Rodborough travelled to East Dorset CC in their first foray into the Mary Rose.

Unfortunately their high hopes were dashed as they were unable to take a game from a much stronger East Dorset team although there were some valiant efforts by the Bears. However, it did not rain; the lawns were good and the East Dorset hospitality excellent with lunch and tea provided.

The team was Don, Richard W, Keith and Kate Apperley.

I was the one who proposed the idea of entering the Mary Rose, so am I upset at the result? No. Disappointed, but not upset. This was a learning experience, dipping our toes into the big pond of advanced play tournaments. I am sure that with the increase in ability of our membership, we can do better next year and I would propose that we continue to enter.

Don

Our thanks to team captains for submitting the above match reports.

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For more information:

Our Club Website- www.faydon.com/Bear/Bear

Archived newsletters and coaching hints -

<http://www.faydon.com/Bear/News>

Croquet Association - www.croquet.org.uk

South West Federation of Croquet Clubs -

www.swfcroquet.org.uk

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