



# The Bear of Rodborough Croquet Club

May 2010 Newsletter

## Congratulations



Richard Way won all of his matches to take the champion's title at the Cheltenham Easter Tournament. In this knockout event, he beat Klim Seabright in a nail-biting final on the prestigious lawn 8 using his bisques intelligently and holding his nerve until the peg-out.

The Bears were well represented with six members playing in this competition. Kate also did herself proud by being the second highest scoring player winning six of her eight games.

## Coaching

Robert attended a Gold coaching course at the Croquet Academy in Southwick and has picked up a number of useful coaching ideas which he is able to share with club members.

Two days of intensive coaching should (but may not) improve his game! The course was so enjoyable that there is no hesitation in recommending other members to attend them (Details in the CA Fixture Book or on line). Courses range from beginners through to advanced strategy.

## League matches

We have enjoyed a good start to the season with wins in two of our first three matches all played on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> April. Don, Peter and Robert beat Bristol 3-2 in the Parkstone Qualifier; Paul, Pat and Ian beat Bath 3-2 in the Intermediate (Central) League; but Matthew, Tim and Robert were out-played by Nailsea in the Federation League losing 2-3.

We wish the next teams good luck for 9<sup>th</sup> May when both Intermediate teams are in action against Nailsea and Broadwas and the Parkstone Qual. League plays Nailsea.

## Handicap changes.

Richard Way reduced to 12.  
Kate Apperley reduced to 12.

## New member.

We welcome Alex Spellman and hope she enjoys a long and happy time with us.

## The Website.

Don is looking to develop the website and is seeking your views. Since the advent of these newsletters, he is wondering whether the Polar Express is still used as much as it was or whether it should be superseded by having a link to a newsletters page where these newsletters can be stored for future reference and for anyone outside the club to access.

Secondly, we are exploring ways of publishing the lawn booking planner on line. We don't think this would allow you to book on line but it would give you the up to date picture of current bookings. The current bookings are shown below.

*Please will you let him know your views.*

**Reminder – club night  
change of date this week is  
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April.**

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**Helpers needed.**

The first hotel function needing our input is **THIS SUNDAY**. 30 guests need two helpers from 2.00 p.m. for about an hour and a half. Please can you help? Phone Robert with your offer.

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**The Pavilion - a plea for help.**

You will have noticed that the pavilion is in a very poor state and both Ricardo and we are keen to improve it. Unfortunately, there is no money forthcoming to do a professional job on it so Ricardo and one of his colleagues are planning to give up some of their rest days to repair and repaint the outside of it (the inside is still sound). They would greatly appreciate some help, and if a working party of Bears was willing to help for a few hours, the job could be done much more quickly.

Three or four helpers to scrape and sand old peeling paint and paint the primer/undercoat and the next day three helpers to paint the gloss would make a huge improvement.

Ricardo will fund the materials and, in his usual enthusiastic style, he is prepared to give up his spare time, roll his sleeves up and get stuck in but it really is too big a job for him to do on his own.

We are keen to tackle this as soon as possible so please let Robert know if you are able to help – a morning, an afternoon or an evening would be wonderful.

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**Hotel news**

You will have noticed that the hotel has been particularly successful this year with holding wedding receptions. The lawn is therefore under greater demand than we

have ever known it. Add to this the fact that we now have more internal matches to arrange than in previous years and it will become apparent that booking lawn time is going to be a challenge. Please, therefore, try to arrange your club matches as quickly as possible – remembering to book the lawn on the year planner in the pavilion.

Rosie has taken over as events coordinator at the hotel and we look forward to working closely with her.

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**Apres-croquet**

Nick writes...

"It was a shame no-one stayed for a drink last night. I left at around 8.15-8.30. On coming out of the bar there was a full grown badger sniffing around in the middle of the lawn looking for worms.

"Not on my lawn" thinks I.

So I walked over to shoo it off. The thing didn't move, just carried on unaware of my presence. I got right up to it, at which point it realised I was there. Even then it just sauntered off and squeezed under the gate.

Another reason for using worm inhibitor perhaps.

It was one of those moments when you wish you carried a camera all the time."



Captions submitted for this picture were:  
'All quiet on the western boundary'. *Faith Gaunt*

"Chairman sent to the 'naughty chair' in the corner" *Michael Poole*

.....

# 2010 Lawn Bookings – updated 27.04.10

Club matches are only shown if I have been told about them in writing!

## May

1 2.00p.m  
Rob/Norman v  
Pat/Matthew  
2 HOTEL from 12.00  
3 Club night  
4  
5 Club night  
6  
7 HOTEL from 1.00  
8  
9 Parkstone v Nailsea  
10 Club night  
11  
12 Club night  
13  
14 HOTEL from 12.00  
15 HOTEL from 12.00  
16 Int v Worcester  
17 Club night  
18  
19 Club night  
20  
21  
22 HOTEL from 12.00  
23 Fed v Cheltenham  
24 Club night  
25  
26 Club night  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31 Club night

## June

1  
2 Club night  
3  
4 HOTEL  
5 HOTEL all day  
6  
7 booking?  
8  
9 Club night  
10  
11 HOTEL from 12.00  
12 CA Golf  
Tournament  
13 CA Golf  
Tournament  
14 booking?  
15  
16 Club night  
17  
18  
19  
20 Int v Swindon  
21 Club night  
22  
23 Club night  
24  
25 HOTEL from 12.00  
26 HOTEL all day  
27  
28 Club night  
29  
30 Club night

## July

1  
2  
3 HOTEL all day  
4 Fed vKingtonLangley  
5 Club night  
6  
7 Club night  
8  
9  
10 HOTEL all day  
11 Pakstone vBudleigh  
12 Club night  
13  
14 Club night  
15  
16  
17 HOTEL all day  
18 Int v Taunton  
19 Club night  
20  
21 Club night  
22  
23  
24 HOTEL all day  
25  
26 Club night  
27  
28 Club night  
29  
30  
31 HOTEL from 12.00

## August

1  
2 Club night  
3  
4 Club night  
5  
6  
7 HOTEL all day  
8  
9 Club night  
10  
11 Club night  
12 HOTEL all day  
13  
14  
15  
16 Club night  
17  
18 Club night  
19  
20  
21 HOTEL all day  
22  
23 Club night  
24  
25 Club night  
26  
27  
28  
29 HOTEL from 12.00  
30 Club night  
31

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### For more information:

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

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### The Bear of Rodborough Croquet Club.

Chairman and Hotel Liaison:	Robert Moss	01453 872386
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