

**Vienna 2008.**



Nine Bears travelled to Wolkesdorf, a small town near Vienna, where there is a most ambitious young club. The club has only been in existence for about seven years but has already hosted four internationals and attracted some of the top names in croquet. We played well and had a most exciting competition. At the end of Saturday, the Bears were 5-2 up but on Sunday, the Austrians fought back strongly and almost at the end of play, the score was 9-9 with just Richard Danby's game to finish and decide the winning club. As time was called on this last game, the score was almost level and Richard was poised to win but his ball just failed to get right through the hoop allowing his opponent to overtake and give Wolkesdorf the pleasure of winning the tournament. We have always enjoyed superb hospitality on our visits and this was no exception.



*Robert presents 'Roddy' to our host.*

Heinz Hackl organised the visit and was the most brilliant host arranging not only a good tournament but a day's sightseeing in Vienna, lunches and evening meals in really terrific locations where the food, wine (and puddings) were of outstanding quality. Portions were so generous, even Robert was unable to finish the meals.



*The combined teams.*

**South West Federation League matches.**

The club is having a good year with the Beginners' taking 4 of their 6 games, the Federation team won 3 of their 6 games and the Parkstone Qualifier team won 2 of their 4 games. You can find full results on the website. However, it is the Intermediate team who have done us really proud. Having won 4 of their 5 games, they got through to the semi-finals which were played at Cheltenham against Bristol CC in appalling weather conditions.



The Bears saw off Bristol 5-2 and so now play in the final – date and venue to be confirmed.

**Congratulations to Don** on his spectacular success in the Seniors' Championship at Southwick where he won all of his ten games to win the A Class trophy. A few weeks earlier, he was also runner up in the Veterans' Championship at Budleigh Salterton.



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**Club Matches**

By some miracle, (or was it Don's threats?) all doubles matches have now been played with Richard Way and Robert beating Don and Kate in the final and all singles matches except the final have now been played. Matthew meets Robert in this final and the date will be sent to you by email when it has been fixed.

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**2009 - Silver Jubilee Year.**

This is set to be an exceptional year and plans are well afoot to ensure it is successful, exciting and memorable. Please keep Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April free for the Grand Silver Jubilee Dinner to which we hope all current members and many past members and friends will attend. (Because of this dinner, there will not be a dinner in January). There will be other

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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

events and full details will be announced at the AGM.

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**Club Golf Croquet Tournament.**  
**Sunday 14th September 11.00a.m.**

This year's tournament will kick off at 11.00a.m. and will run along similar lines to previous years. In order to be in with a chance of winning the cup, you will need to play a minimum of four games on the day but can play as many as you like because it will be run with an Egyptian format. This mean you are welcome to stay all day but, if you have other commitments, you can just play for about two hours PROVIDED DON KNOWS IN ADVANCE that you will be turning up. Whites need not be worn and refreshments are not provided but the ambience and conviviality are second to none! The competition is expected to finish at about 4.00p.m. followed by the presentation of the cup. For those who have not played in this tournament before, this is a good fun day and very relaxed. It would be wonderful to get a full turn-out and we very much hope you will be able to be there.

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**For more information:**

Our Club Website-  
<http://www.faydon.com/Bear/Bear.html>  
 Please keep a regular watch on this site as Don will be keeping it up to date.

Croquet Association (of which the club is a member) -[www.croquet.org.uk](http://www.croquet.org.uk)

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