

Croquet Communique – 9th June 2022

The Croquet Lawns have been very busy since the last *Communique*. The traditional *Roehampton Club Summer Week* of three AC two-day tournaments took place between 21st and 28th May – reports follow.

Sunday 29th May was quite a day with three Roehampton Club teams in action: the Interclub Association team, the Mary Rose AC team, and a Golf Croquet team in the SECF Team day at Southwick.

The Creyke Cups: *report by Elaine Phillimore, who managed the event.*

What a beautiful sunny weekend to start the Roehampton Club Croquet Summer Tournament week 21-28 May 2022.

The Association Croquet Doubles event Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd May commenced with a full field of 16 players from around the country.

On Saturday three matches were played. Father Stephen Parish and son Nick Parish (Surbiton Croquet Club) won all their three matches and by start on Sunday three pairs on two wins were keen contenders for the trophy.

Martin Gilmartin (Carrickmines Croquet Club, Dublin) flew in from Ireland to play in all events of the week and was teamed up for the Doubles event with Andrew Wilson (Cheam Croquet Club).

Neither player had met before and were a fantastic partnership. Martin and Andrew won four out of their five matches to be the runners up. The outright and very worthy winners for the Creyke Cups were Stephen and Nick Parish with five out of five wins. Congratulations Stephen and Nick.

Image: Elaine Phillimore and the winners

The Creyke Cups were presented to Roehampton Club in 1935, where the event has always been played apart from one year in 1953 when it was played at Hurlingham Club. It was not played from 1939 until 1946 during the War.



The Trevellyan Bowl: the second event of the week, The Trevellyan Bowl was held on 24th and 25th May

After an enjoyable day of competition, managed by Peter Siddall, the winner was Barry Holland from Surbiton, with runner up Nick Yates, Roehampton Club.

Barry is a regular and welcome visitor to Roehampton Club and retained the trophy he won in 2019.

Nick Yates, who was playing in his first competitive tournament, won four of five games, but lost to Barry Holland.



Peter Siddall with Nick Yates (Roehampton Club)



Peter Siddall with Barry Holland (Surbiton)



Brooke Cup: report by *John Pearson*, who managed the event

The B Level AC Singles was played on 27 and 28 May as the final event of the Roehampton Club Summer Tournament.

The weather was much kinder than earlier in the week, with no rain, plus fast lawns. The field had been depleted by late withdrawals but was nevertheless very competitive.

At the end of the first day, three or four players remained in contention. On day two the unbeaten Charlie Martin of Ramsgate continued his fine form by winning both his remaining matches, including victory over the valiant reigning champion (from 2019!), David Houston from Edinburgh, thus becoming the clear winner.

Guy Hewitt of Hurlingham also had two good wins on the final day to claim second place outright. Both Charlie's and Guy's handicaps went down. Congratulations to both of them.

Image: John Pearson and Charlie Martin

National Interclub Association Croquet Association: In the Quarter-final of this year's tournament, Roehampton Club played against Woking Croquet Club at home, on Sunday 29th May.

I am delighted to report that fielding a strong team of Harry Fisher, Mark Van Loon, Joel Taylor and team captain, Tim Russell, Roehampton played excellent croquet to record a 6-1 victory. For the spectators there was much to admire and as seen in the photos some careful and precision preparation of shots!

Well done to the Roehampton Club team!

We now face Hurlingham in the Semi-final, a date will be announced in due course.



Joel Taylor



Joel Taylor



Tim Russell



Mark Van Loon



Harry Fisher



Mark Van Loon and Harry Fisher (double banked)

The Roehampton Club Team of Mark Van Loon, Joel Taylor, Tim Russell, and Harry Fisher.



SECF Golf Croquet Teams Day: on 29th May, Southwick was the venue for the South-Eastern Croquet Federation GC Teams Day, (known to some as Bill's Big Bash after founder, Bill Arliss).

Having unwittingly entered this competition, we managed to assemble a good team at short notice to compete in this entertaining day.

With four doubles in the morning and six singles in the afternoon, it was a long day with an early start to be at Southwick, near Brighton, for 09.00, and not leaving until 19.00.

The Roehampton Club team of Diana Wilson, (Captain for the day), Andrew Wilson, Trevor Campbell and Robert Scallon performed well, and finished fourth out of fifteen teams. Thank you to all the team for enabling us to fulfil the entry and play so well.



The Roehampton Club Team of Robert Scallon, Diana Wilson, Andrew Wilson and Trevor Campbell

Roehampton Club versus Oxford University Association Croquet Club: on Monday, 30th May, we welcomed Oxford University for a friendly Association Croquet match. We have tried to reorganise this fixture for many years and are pleased to have it back in our calendar.

Due to exams, the Oxford team was slightly depleted, and we ended with a 'handicap matched' game of four a side. For Oxford it was a chance to play an 'away' game, as a warm-up for the Varsity Match.

An enjoyable day's play, ended in an agreeable, three-all draw and we look forward to entertaining them again next year.

Oxford team – Mark Baker, Tom Mewes, Osian Williams, and Dan Heathcote.

Roehampton Club team – Diana Wilson, Nick Yates, Lynn Percy and Ron Wood.



THIS EVENING – Thursday 9th June: WATCH THIS EVENT AT 18.00!

On Thursday, 9th June, we play Dulwich in the National Interclub Golf Croquet Tournament.

Roehampton Club is fielding its strongest side of Harry Fisher, Mark Van Loon, Joel Taylor and Tim Russell.

They face a strong Dulwich side, and your support will be welcome, and there will be some good golf croquet to watch.

Croquet Association C Level Series Golf Croquet: This is taking place at Roehampton Club from 10.00 to 17.00 also on Thursday, 09 June.

Good luck to those competing on 9th June.

Enjoy your croquet!

Mike Pattison
Croquet Captain