

Croquet Communique – 14th August 2025



Summer is in full swing and the croquet world is busy!



Photograph courtesy of Andrew Wilson

Ranelagh Gold Cup 19th – 20th July

Managed for the first time, by Joel Taylor. The flexible Swiss Super-Advanced competition achieved a good field with a mix of previous winners, and some welcome newcomers. However, the weekend didn't start well with heavy overnight rain, which continued into the morning flooding the lawns. Fortunately, it stopped and with a great team effort with squeegees and the sponge roller, saw play begin in the afternoon. The winner was Debbie Lines (Peterborough).

Inter Club Bowl 16th July

Our first year in this new competition is going well with the Roehampton Club team of Mark Green, Carmel Brancen, Howard Railton and Kevin O'Connor beating Compton (Eastbourne) at home 4-2 with the doubles unfinished as this result not required.



Roehampton Club Team of Kevin O'Connor, Howard Railton, Carmel Brancen and Mark Green.



Roehampton Club vs Hurlingham Club Croquet and Bridge Tournament 25th July

Ron Wood organised our annual golf croquet and bridge friendly against Hurlingham on 25th July. It was a very amicable match with Hurlingham winning the croquet and Roehampton Club the bridge, so an honourable draw overall.

One of the Hurlingham players, Nick Boote, brought with him the wooden mallet that his grandmother had used 99 years ago when becoming the first woman to win the All England AC Handicap Championship, played on our lawns, where she beat Roehampton Club's Lt Col Rollo by +20 in the final, much to his disgust!



Roehampton Club and Hurlingham ready for the croquet part of the tournament

Croquet England Golf Croquet National Doubles Championship 26th – 27th July

Budleigh Salterton hosted the 2025 GC English National Doubles Championship 26th – 27th July, welcoming 16 pairs from across the country. After two days of high-quality play, Tim Russell and Dom Aarvold emerged as champions, defeating defending titleholders James Death and Sam Cuthbert in an excellent three-game final.



Dom Aarvold and Tim Russell

Diana Wilson and Louise Smith claimed the Plate title, while the Shield went to Tim Jolliff and Raouf Allim.



Diana Wilson and Louise Smith

Budleigh Salterton Golf Croquet Open

26th / 29th June

Three Roehampton Club Members entered with mixed fortunes. Lynn Percy had a tough tournament but persevered and finished with some good results in the Plate.

Diana Wilson with four wins out of seven, and Tim Russell with five out of seven went through to the main Knockout. Diana lost her first-round match and went into the Shield Competition which she won beating Steve Leonard, (East Dorset) 7-3, 3-7, 7-5.

Tim had an excellent tournament and won the final beating Stuart Smith 7-1, 7-4.



Tim Russell, Diana Wilson and Lynn Percy

Guildford and Godalming Croquet Club 'B' Level Series 2nd August

Three Roehampton Club Members took part – Howard Railton, Mark Green and Robert Scallon. After winning all three of his block matches, Howard was runner up in the main competition to Richard Perkins of the home club in a close battle, taking the game to hoop 12 after being 5-2 down at hoop 7.

Mark was winner of the Plate, winning the plate final 7-6.

Robert got through to the main knock out, finishing 6th overall.

Other News

- Tim Russell in the GC Seniors Title at Budleigh Salterton, was unable to repeat his victory of the previous year.
- Harry Fisher played in the England Team which defeated the USA 11-10 in the AC Solomon Cup.
- Joel Taylor reached the semi final of the Hurlingham Cup.
- In the AC Championship of Surrey played at Surbiton, Joel Taylor lost to Harry Fisher who went on to the semi final where he lost to the eventual winner Jamie Burch, (Reigate).
- Robert Scallon completed in Don's Day Singles GC played at Surbiton, winning three of his five matches.

Enjoy your croquet!

Mike Pattison, Croquet Captain