Camerton & Peasedown Croquet Club

www.camertonpeasedowncroquet.co.uk

Newsletter

August 2025

16 August: WORK PARTY THIS SATURDAY MORNING

Starting from 9am: Great variety of jobs needing to be done.. something to suit everyone. Please bring any kit that you might need for your prefered task.
More information if required from Des: desmond.back@talktalk21.com

20 August: HELP is still needed for the Rotary Taster Evening.

Please get in touch with Trish if you are available to help with catering or with the croquet games. Patricia.naish@hotmail.com

South West Federation League Competitions

These are now drawing to a close with results coming in every day!
An overall round-up in September's Newsletter. However already……
Marion's GC Handicap team have finished top in the League and will play at Cheltenham in the national quarter finals. No date fixed yet.
We had two teams in this tournament. The other team, led by Des, came second.
John Rowley's AC Intermediate team have also won through to the next round which will be held at CPCC on a date in September to be agreed with their competitors. Please come and support the team..

WELL DONE and GOOD LUCK BOTH

Chris's GC High Handicap team came second in the League to Llandaff.

13 and 14 September: GC All England Handicap Finals are at CCPC.
Spectators are very welcome. Watch and learn….
Jill Shaw is managing the day and will appreciate help on either or both days.
She has had a request for offers of accommodation.
Please contact her for more information. jill@shawfam.co.uk

25 September: Next Lunch at **Newton Park Farm Café** marion.button@yahoo.co.uk

4 October: CPCC Summer Tournaments FINALS DAY
Qualifying matches are underway. Information on the finalists in Sept's Newsletter

13 October: Soup'n'Hoop Lunches start again in the Club House…
Every month second Monday throughout the winter.

15 November: Quiz Night at Claverton Village Hall

The Club's WhatsApp Group keeps you up to date day-by-day **If you are not already on the WhatsApp group please contact Andy and he will add you.**
Andyloakes@hotmail.co.uk

100 Club August's lucky number: 2 **Robin Oldland.**
Please contact Nigel to join or buy more numbers nigelwulcko@yahoo.co.uk

Unfortunately there is little coverage of the sport of Croquet in the National Press. However this article appeared in The Times on 7 August.

THE TIMES | Thursday August 7 2025

Crowds go cock-a-hoop for croquet

The game has taken a mallet to its aristocratic image to make a global impact, **Emma Yeomans** and **Anuj Mishra** write

Latvia was among 12 countries which took part in the World Team Championships in Southwick, West Sussex, where players ranged in age from 17 to their mid-70s

"Please don't mention balls in the shrubbery", said John Low, as he watched croquet players from 12 countries go head-to-head on the tidy lawns of the Sussex County Croquet Club. "It's a lot more than just hitting balls into the shrubbery."

The World Team Championships has brought players from around the world to the club, in Southwick, West Sussex, as the sport throws off its reputation as a game played only in aristocratic gardens.

In recent years new clubs have emerged in Hong Kong, Mexico and Estonia, and so fast has demand risen that some top manufacturers now have a waiting list for new mallets.

"The image of croquet is a sort of aristocratic pastime," Thomas Halliday, who plays for Scotland, said. "It's aristocratic if you have your own lawn in a garden, but that's not what we do."

"We play down the park on lawns that are far scrappier than these ones", he added, gesturing to the Southwick croquet club's 11 well-manicured lawns.

About 50 players, ranging in age from 17 to their mid-70s, are competing in the division two and three championships in Sussex this week. The world's top teams, including England, the USA, Australia and Egypt, have already competed in Tasmania for the annual title.

"We're the newly born baby of croquet associations," said Tom Ingram, chairman of the Hong Kong Croquet Association, which was officially recognised in 2023. "The Hong Kong Cricket Club was set up in 1851 and its constitution was to promote the sports of cricket, tennis and croquet. At some point croquet disappeared. The chairman of our cricket club wanted to restart croquet at the club again. He took the reins, and I was very keen to drink a couple of bottles of rosé on a Sunday and play with them on the cricket outfield."

Ingram joined the club as a cricketer, but had a knee injury. "While I was off for about 18 months my focus shifted towards croquet, which I fell in love with," he said.

Halliday added: "That's quite a common theme. If people are playing other sports and have that competitive instinct, but then have an injury, croquet is good for rehabilitation."

"In the Czech Republic we only have four lawns," said Vojtech Dusek, 17, the tournament's youngest competitor. He was taught to play by Otakar Stankus, the Czech captain and a school teacher — three of the team, including Dusek, are Stankus' former students.

Dusek has been playing for five years now, but only when he has time to travel from Prague to Telc, the small town near the Austrian border that is home to Croquet Club Dynamo Telc and the country's only lawns. He previously competed at the world under-21s in Florida and Latvia.

Behind the clubhouse, the barbecue has been fired up for lunch. The pace of the tournament is gentle — a game between Norway and Switzerland is delayed so team Norway can enjoy their lunch of barbecue chicken wraps and Stella Artois.

Latvia hosted its first ever croquet tournament in 2010 and has gained a reputation for developing young players. Roberts Stafeckis, the team captain, established the country's first croquet lawn outside his home near Riga. "Every weekend we had friends in our garden to barbecue, and we wanted something more serious so we started to play," he said. "We got the official recognition from the government that this is a serious sport, and not just some drinking guys.

"It is definitely growing. We built a new club five years ago with three full-size lawns ... It's this cheerful environment, where people are very friendly. It's not just about winning every game."

Meanwhile CPCC's media coverage… thanks to Jill Parker….. appears regularly…..

Croquet tournament raises nearly £9,000

CROQUET

EVERY spring the croquet community in Great Britain organise a Nationwide Charity event called the 'One-Ball'. It is a competitive tournament but with many fun elements and a good curtain raiser for the season to come. This year's chosen charity was the Alzheimer's Society and in the charities honour all the competitors wore something blue.

In One-Ball Croquet each player has just one ball and is challenged to score hoops against one other player using a variety of different strokes. It is similar to Association Croquet but because it is played with only one ball, instead of the usual two, it has similarities with Golf Croquet; individual handicaps are adjusted for the One-Ball format.

Camerton and Peasedown Croquet Club held their club fund-raising event back in April and the winners from that day went forward to the National Finals which were held at the Surbiton Croquet Club.

Ann and Simon Munton represented CPCC at the final. They have skill and experience in both Association Croquet and Golf Croquet; knowledge of the two disciplines being useful in the One-Ball format.

Ann Munton said "Surbiton's seven lawns were fast and flat and the sun shone all day. Perfect for croquet! Simon Munton put in the better performance on the day. However he was knocked out in the second round of the main competition finishing the day with 4 wins from 5 matches. The catering team at Surbiton provided a lovely meal at lunch time and plenty of cake for tea."

The national organiser of this tournament, Debbie James, has now written to all the participating clubs to say: "The total amount raised for the Alzheimer's Society was £8,759.35. This is a record-breaking sum for the Charity One-Ball and it will make a huge difference to people living with dementia. Huge thanks all, and well done!"

The Midsomer Norton, Radstock and District Journal — Wednesday, 30th July 2025

Club enjoy strong opening

CROQUET

CAMERTON and Peasedown Croquet Clubs have managed to record success in the first half of the South West Federation Leagues season for both Golf Croquet and Association Croquet.

The Club's Association Croquet team recorded three good wins in the AC Intermediate League by beating Bristol South by 4 games -1, at home in May, by beating Nailsea by 4 games – 3, away in June, and by beating Weston S Mare by 4 games – 1, at home in July.

The Camerton and Peasedown Golf Croquet (Level Play) team scored an excellent win against Weston-Super-Mare at home in June and achieved valuable draws in their matches against Cheltenham and Bristol 'B'.

In May the CPCC 'A' Golf Croquet (handicap) team recorded two wins, at home and away, against their own Club rivals, the CPCC 'B' team.

In June they drew their away match against Bradford-on-Avon, 10 points each, but did better in the return match in July scoring a win at home, by 12.5 points to 7.5. However they lost at home and away to Bath CC succumbing to the heat wave temperatures of mid-July.

The Camerton and Peasedown lawns have also hosted three All England national tournament events. In June it was the preliminary round of the All England GC Handicap tournament with winners, Jill Parker and Patrick Knight, going forward to the area final on Sunday 10 August in Bath. Later in June a round of the All England GC C Level (7+) was held at CPCC.

The winner was Peter Martell (Cheltenham CC) the three other semi-finalists were all CPCC members, Simon Munton, Jill Shaw and Phil Hendy.

In July a round of the All England GC D Level (10+) round was held at CPCC where the winner was Julia Green (Phyllis Court CC) and where CPCC member Sue Wagstaff was a semi-finalist.

Camerton and Peasedown 'B' played Bradford-on-Avon away on July 4.

High Handicap Team and the Bath team after their last League match which ended 10:10

Please send any information you would like to be included in the next Newsletter to Acrofts857@aol.com

Angela Crofts CPCC Secretary
August 2025