



CORNWALL CROQUET CLUB



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Personal

So far, some of us have had our small triumphs at tournaments in the West Country. Malcolm Hooper and I won the Doubles Cup at Budleigh Salterton for the second year running (I suspect that our tactics were slightly underhand even if perfectly legal) and then Malcolm won the Singles at the Plymouth Bank Holiday weekend Tournament. It will therefore be no surprise that, after the first event, his handicap was arbitrarily reduced from 16 to 12 and by the end of the second, he was nuzzling on 11. A further result of the Singles at Budleigh was an increase in my handicap to 11, having lost seven games on the trot.

Roserrow

Peter Williams (from St Tudy) and I duly had a look at Roserrow about a fortnight ago. The lawn is quite reasonably flat though not perfect, has been seeded but the grass looks coarse and will need time to thicken up. It needs weeks of rolling and feeding. The quality of the lawn would also be improved with top dressing. The lawn still has a timber border which prevents play from being taken to the edge. Also Roserrow have purchased a garden croquet set which is totally unsuited for use by serious

players. They have stated their intention of remedying these defects and are thinking about terms under which the lawn and equipment can be used.

Peter Williams has kindly undertaken to liaise with Roserrow and also to coordinate coaching on their lawn. See his article and questionnaire, the former being on the reverse of this newsletter and the latter enclosed with it.

For the purpose of coaching and for use by learners, it would be better if the lawn could be divided across the centre and set up as two short lawns.

Killiw

The Estate Manager at Killiw, Thane Osborne, has reiterated their intention of constructing two full-size lawns once they have finished work on the Gardening Museum at Trevarno and the clubhouse extension at Killiw. I have no way of forecasting when the first hoop is likely to be run.

Other Possibilities

The Lottery has stated that grants may be made in some circumstances up to the full amount required for the project in question. This throws open the possibility that, if only we could find a suitable site,

preferably owned by a public or generous body which would give a long lease at very small rent, we might be able to go ahead to apply for a full grant. Location ideally in the Truro area. Any ideas?

I have had a suggestion about reclaimed land at St Day where one might even be paid for doing further reclamation oneself. St Day is not the ideal position for most of our members. How about St Austell?

Fowey Group

I hear the sad news that the group who played enthusiastic croquet on a private small lawn at Fowey near the pub whose name escapes me (The Soup and Ladle?) is having to pack up as the owner of the lawn has died. Obviously one of the attractions of such a group which meets regularly one afternoon a week is social. But I would be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to join the circulation of this newsletter in the hope of being able to play elsewhere in due course. Similarly if any of you out there know anyone who would like a copy or who

would be interested once we are established, do please let me know.

Library

I have have some documents from the Croquet Association which are the property of the CCC as well as four of my own which I am happy to lend out:

CA Club Handbook (2000)

Anyone for Croquet? (A guide to the formation of a club)

Coaching Handbook *

Croquet Lawns (Their establishment, improvement and maintenance)

Golf Croquet - latest rules *

Croquet - The Complete Guide by A.E. Gill **

Croquet - The Skills of the Game by Bill Lamb **

Plus One on Time by D.L. Gaunt **

Know the Game - Croquet **

Also copies of the South West Area Newsletter. Anyone interested, let me know and I will send on a copy.

- currently on loan to Peter Williams
- ** mine