



## **Bakewell Croquet Club Newsletter**

### **May 2014**

The new season is well underway and we now mow our lawns, generally on a Monday morning, in addition to the DDDC mow on a Thursday or Friday. We have also rolled the lawns with the new roller (bought by the Football Club with a large grant from DDDC and a £300 donation from us plus a donation from Junior Football as well) on three occasions now. The condition of the lawns has improved but it is an ongoing process. The lawns can only be rolled after a heavy period of rain in order to soften the ground sufficiently to make any difference. We are pursuing DDDC about the promised application of weed killer and worm control

We have 12 people on the lawn mowing rota and we try to balance the number of times everyone does it. If you feel you want to be added to the list let me know, it is not arduous and takes two people about 1½ hours or so.

We have two new members; Jenny Emby and Margaret Beresford so extend a warm welcome to them. Five 2013 members decided not to rejoin, mainly because of other commitments or injury.

#### AGM

Held on 12<sup>th</sup> March we had a good turn out with the officers and committee all re-elected.

The committee officers; Peter Blackburn - Chairman, Allen Flatman - Treasurer & Membership Secretary, Dorothy Evans - Secretary. The committee; Louis McMeeken, Billie Reeves, Ann Riley & Bill Robinson.

#### DDDC

Once again our turnout to paint the outside of the pavilion this time was magnificent with 9 volunteers plus 1 from Junior Football and 1 from DDDC who organised the paint and equipment. DDDC arranged for all the rotten wood remaining to be replaced and then painted. The pavilion looks really nice now.

Unfortunately the Football Club appeared to run out of time to fit out the kitchen and there appeared to be some communication issues with them and DDDC. This resulted in all the Football Club's cupboard carcasses being removed and DDDC appointing a contractor to come in to fit a kitchen! At least they used the Football Club's hob, oven and white goods so it is all usable.

It also meant that the Football Club's promise of nice furniture will now be postponed until the start of the football season later this year. Meanwhile the cricket club have placed their furniture back in the social area.

We believe that the pavilion is becoming an excellent facility so would encourage its use both during and after sessions for a sociable cuppa, but let's see how this works out.

With Les Warren (our previous DDDC contact) having left at the end of March we believe that it is time to really try to push for an improvement to our lawns and how we are served by DDDC, and also to try to obtain more storage. To progress this matter a letter was sent last week to Peter Foley, Director of Community Services. We will see what transpires.

#### Singles League

Jean Peters has issued the Singles League sheet for completion by 31<sup>st</sup> July. There are 12 people in the three divisions so if you would like to join in please let Jean know. (01629 56409, there are just 5 digits).

### Tournaments

The first one will soon be with us on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May at 12.45 with a 1.00pm prompt start. There are 24 people so far but the few I haven't heard from please let me know either way. Billie is organising cakes and refreshments so if you can provide a cake or help please let her know.

### Coaching

With the start of a new season if you would like some help to improve your game please contact one of the people below:

Peter Blackburn	01433	630200
Bob Furniss	01629	815092
Dorothy Evans	01246	270209
Jean Peters	01629	56409

### The Oaksedge Barbecue

Jean and David are kindly hosting this most enjoyable event again on Sat 12 July. If you have never been before the croquet is a real challenge on the sloping lawns so it's a lot of fun.

### Ripon Spa Hotel

Quite a number of us are going this coming Sunday for 4 days of croquet on flat lawns, a real treat. Unfortunately this will be the only visit this year.

### Friendlies

Bob Furniss has arranged a number of friendlies again this year and the dates are in the Club Diary that Louis has circulated. If you would like to take part please contact Bob direct on 01629 815092.

### Visits to Stately Homes

There are two this year; Peter Knowles has arranged for another visit to Brodsworth, near Doncaster on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> August and has circulated details. It is English Heritage and there is a discount for us. George Wolfe has arranged an afternoon playing croquet at Snitterton Hall, Matlock on 18<sup>th</sup> June with just a £3 donation per person.

### 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Next year 2015 will be the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the croquet club founded by Alan Reeves. We are looking for ideas to celebrate this event so if you have any ideas let me or indeed any committee member know.



Peter Blackburn