

BAKEWELL CROQUET CLUB

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2018

What a summer, all that lovely weather gave everyone the opportunity to play almost unlimited croquet. I hope everyone enjoyed the season and played as much croquet as they wanted. Unfortunately the season is now drawing to an end. You will receive an email when the lawns are no longer fit for play and the playing season is over.



A summer of sun and croquet: friendly match with Hathersage Bowling Club

However the Croquet Club has had another good season with lots of activity, both on and off the lawns.

On the lawns

Matches

East Midlands League

The A and B teams each played six East Midlands league matches against other Clubs and both teams finished around the middle of their league (the B team a little below the middle!!). Thanks to Alan Reeves and Dorothy Evans for all their hard work in organizing the teams and matches and to Annette Dwyer and her helpers, for organizing the refreshments for each home match. Some of you may not be aware that playing in the B team is open to all members, irrespective of standard. So if you would like to have a go next season, please let Dorothy know.

Friendlies

The Club has played a number of friendly matches against St Elphins, Darley Dale Croquet Club, and Hathersage Bowling Club. Thanks to Steve Marsh and Carol Furniss for organizing these matches. A very successful day, organized by Bill Robinson, was spent with Bakewell Bowling Club members,

bowling in the morning, and, following lunch, croquet in the afternoon.

Members of Golding House were welcomed again this year to a morning of croquet. Thanks to Alan Reeves for organizing this and to the members who came to help.



Croquet on a bowling green, at Hathersage

Tournaments

The two Club tournaments for the Founder's Cup and the Chairman's Cup were once again very successful, with plenty of players. Congratulations to Tim Spray, who not only won both cups this year, but repeated his success of last year. Thanks to Jill Schmidt for organizing these events.

Visit to Ripon

The annual two visits to Ripon were well supported by 26 people in the Spring and 18 in the Autumn. The format for each visit is similar with lots of croquet on lovely flat lawns with short grass plus a very social evening meal at a local Italian restaurant. Just to show that we are not croquet fanatics and we can do something other than play croquet, we visited Ripon Workhouse, in October. An ex colleague of George Wolfe's (and also of Ruth Barnes) gave us an interesting and very informative guided tour of the buildings and gardens.



Social Croquet

We have had the usual social croquet events this year, Brodsworth, the Oaksedge Barbecue, and Tim and Ann's croquet and tea, all of which were in glorious weather and very enjoyable.



Brodsworth 2018

Off the Lawns

Club Founder's 80th Birthday

In April members were delighted to celebrate Alan Reeves 80th birthday with lunch at the Crispin. Without Alan's decision to set up the croquet club and his persistence against considerable objections, it is very unlikely that we would now be playing croquet and enjoying the friendships that the club brings.

Other issues

Lawns and Mowing

Some of you may be aware that the Club purchased a mower part way through this year, which has made mowing easier and safer. If you think you could help with the mowing at any time, please tell Tim Spray, who organises the mowing rota.

Given the cost of the mower, Derbyshire Dales District Council (DDDC) was contacted, and the outcome has been improved security for our lock up cupboard at the back of the Pavilion and better CCTV cameras. Our thanks to Allen Flatman for dealing with all of this.

We also now have a similar agreement to the football clubs with DDDC. In some instances we can take the decision as to the fitness of our lawns for play.

Parking

Please be aware that we currently have two car parking spaces only available for use, during our playing sessions. These are for loading/offloading equipment and for anyone with difficulties accessing the grounds on foot.

Croquet Committee

The croquet committee will be looking for new members at the AGM On the 6th March. Three members are standing down, after serving for several years on the committee. The committee meets four times a year and its predominant roles are to manage the finances, ensure the lawns are playable and have an overview of the Club activities and functions. Please do consider serving on the committee.

Don't forget

Walks

The Club's winter walk will take place on Saturday 5th January. Alan Reeves will email final details to members nearer the time.

Winter Croquet

As in past years we will be holding soup and croquet sessions at FITTISM, Bakewell over the winter. The sessions will start in January and Peter Blackburn will email final details nearer the time.

Croquet Dinner

The Croquet Dinner is on the 13th March at Bakewell Golf Club. Details will follow, closer to the time.



Croquet is not all playing, at Oaksedge!