



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone, I hope you are all enjoying croquet despite not having roll-up sessions for the time being; but I know most of you are making good use of the booking system which seems to be working well.

Pete Howe, aided by Geoff Macro and Neil Clark, has done a great job in marking out the lawns – the outer lines are essential without the flags and posts!! Geoff Macro is waging war on the rabbits with his personal remedy!

You will be sorry to hear that Ann Redican passed away and our thoughts are with her family at this sad time. Her final contribution in respect of CIC is an article published on page 23 in the June edition of the Croquet Gazette.

Gill.

NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome two new members this year, look forward to meeting them on the lawns and hope they enjoy their croquet experience!



JOAN CUMMINS and **IVOR CROXON**

Our membership currently stands at 53.

Paul and Paula South start the Club's 2020 season on 1st June.

No corner flags but balls sanitised and ready for the first strike!!

Photo – Roving Reporter Chris Joslin



Lynn Hamber sends a big thank you for all the cards messages etc. received from MCC members. As you know her husband Henry loved croquet and obviously people loved him so all the kindness shown to her and her family since his passing has been much appreciated.



COMMITTEE MEMBERS SOCIALLY DISTANCING AROUND OUR NEW BANNER FOLLOWING THEIR MEETING UNDER THE TREES!



Photo taken by Roving Committee member Mary Burd

At the Committee meeting held on the 25th June it was agreed that no AGM will be held in 2020. The existing Committee will stand until the AGM in 2021.

To this end Philippa Hardy-King's position is formally confirmed as Club Secretary.

CLUB CAPTAIN'S NOTES – JULY 20

The season is now well and truly underway complying with Covid 19 governmental restrictions and following Croquet Association guidance.

Thanks to Chairman Gill, the booking system is working well with availability of hourly slots six days a week. The lawns are closed on Thursdays for maintenance.

Philippa and Martyn Hardy-King are working tirelessly six days a week setting up courts first thing in the morning and taking them down at the end of the day. To maximise social distancing we are alternating court use – courts 1 and 3 one day, courts 2 and 4 the next.

We have had a very pleasing number of entries into the Georgie Clarke and Forrester Plate tournaments and both of these are underway. Please remember to email the results of matches to me.

chrisandjilljoslin@gmail.com

And more good news - we are now setting about organising a new handicap tournament for the whole club. Details are being emailed out separately. **PLEASE ENTER!** This is an excellent opportunity for those new to competitive handicap play and an opportunity for our league players, (existing and aspiring) to continue developing their game for next year's challenges which lie ahead.

Members will have received details of this season's coaching programme designed to complement and run parallel with the club tournaments. Please book in with Jean and/or Al.

Finally, we are planning a "finals day" for all three competitions which is provisionally booked for **Saturday 19th September**. More about that in the next newsletter.

Enjoy your croquet, follow the guidance and stay safe !!



Press Release

Croquet

Members of Maldon Croquet Club have given sighs of relief, at the partial lifting of Government restrictions which permits croquet to be played again with strict rules being followed.

After consultation with the Forrester Park Golf Complex, where the Lawns are situated, and guidance from the National Croquet Association, limited playing has started once again. The format requires members to book one hour 'slots' for up to four members only, on each of two of the lawns available. Members, who are husband and wife living close by, have volunteered to set out the lawns before play, they being the only ones to touch the equipment, which is then sanitized. Similarly the playing balls are manoeuvred into position at the start of play, using the feet. Each member has an exclusive mallet that they use to strike the balls and social distancing is maintained at all times.

Despite this major departure from traditional play and social meet ups, the facilities put in place seem to be working well. No League games against other Clubs can take place, but two internal competitions will be played during the season, the Georgie Clark singles and the Forrester Plate doubles.

Unfortunately it is not possible to open the lawns to 'Green' fee players, such as our regular groups from local U3A's , Care in the Community, Rotary etc.

The members are grateful for the volunteers within the Club that have made it possible to bring something back to near normality for their croquet playing, which is especially valuable giving out door exercise with some social contact with each other.

One member, however, is still in New Zealand having spent 'our' winter with a close relative, and is now facing 'their' winter with summer clothing only! We look forward to seeing her safe return in the near future.

Neil Clark - Publicity Officer

REMINDER: **MCC WEBSITE:** <https://maldoncroquetclub.org.uk>

FINALS DAY – SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2020

