



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Hello to you all, here we are, another month on and, I hope, still enjoying lots of croquet despite the restrictions. This month we should have been taking part in our annual Club Day but this year it is not to be.

Thank you to Chris and Neil for all the arrangements for the competitions. The bookings are rolling in, but please can I ask that if, for any reason, you change your booking, or swap with someone, that you let me know, as this is essential for the NHS 'Test and Trace system'.

Ann Redican's funeral has taken place, and Maldon Croquet Club have sent a donation of £25 to Farleigh Hospice, as requested by the family.

I hope you continue to keep well and safe, enjoy your croquet and have success in the competitions which, I am sure for some of you, have been enhanced by the coaching sessions undertaken. Gill.

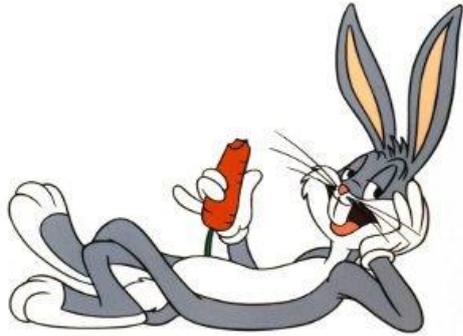
COMMITTEE

We are pleased to announce that Tony White our Webmaster has been co-opted to serve on the current Committee. As Tony is at present our youngest member we feel we need to look to the future of our Club with such an appointment.



Photo of Tony with Mim – possibly not a new recruit albeit scarer of rabbits!!

Photo taken by roving reporter Mary Burd



Geoff Macro is working tirelessly to alleviate the damage caused by the rabbits!!

NEWLY PAINTED CLUB HQ – aka SHED!



Thanks to Pete Howe and Geoff Macro for their hard work.





CLUB CAPTAIN'S NOTES – AUGUST 20

The season continues apace amid the constraints of Covid-19 with the whole Club respecting Government and CA guidance.

Despite the lack of external competitions and our inability to run roll up sessions, this is turning out to be a very busy season and indeed a most enjoyable and rewarding one.

The necessary booking system being managed by Chairman Gill is very busy thanks to the popularity of the internal competitions as well as social play. An example of just how busy during the month of August alone there will be 250 booked one hour slots to enable progress for the competitions and for coaching! (and then there's booking for social play as well)!

To enable this degree of activity and with huge thanks to Philippa and Martyn HK, court availability has been extended by two hours a day, Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday; last bookable session 5.00pm.

Bookable structured coaching led by Jean Healey is very popular – all three sessions a week are booked until the end of August. Bespoke one to one coaching with Al Brown is also in demand. All coaching is running in parallel with the level play and handicap tournaments.

The Georgie Clarke (singles, level play) and Forrester Plate (doubles, level play) tournaments are progressing well. Thank you to everyone for keeping ahead of the deadlines and letting me know the results. Keep it up!

The new Covid-19 Handicap Tournament 2020 was in the planning stage last month and now this month we have 38 members in six groups playing on an "all play all" basis with the "play offs" to be held next month. Please remember to email Neil Clark with results just as soon as you can.

"Finals day" for all three competitions is booked for Saturday 19th September. Arrangements are being made within guidelines and more details will be sent out as soon as we know them!!

Meanwhile enjoy your croquet, follow the guidance and stay safe!!

CJ

I think it is important that, through the newsletter on behalf of the members of the Club, I would like to thank Gill Stone for being our booking clerk in sorting out the lawn rotas; Peter Howe and Geoff Macro for painting the shed and the white lines around the lawns; and Philippa and Martyn Hardy-King for sanitising and putting out the equipment on a daily basis allowing the Club to be able to continue to operate during this Covid-19 period. They are all doing a grand job. Well done and thank you.

Richard Wallis





PRESS RELEASE

Croquet

Maldon Croquet Club continues to meet at Forrester Park Golf Complex at Great Totham. It was founded 11 years ago and has grown to a membership of over 50 players. Normal play has not been possible this year, but fortunately new Government guidelines have permitted play to resume, providing the criteria laid down to avoid Covid-19 contacts is observed and relevant hygiene requirements are carried out. No visitors or guests are permitted, unfortunately and the normal gathering of members before games to take names out of a hat has had to be put on hold. With 2 out of the 4 lawns open for longer periods, members have managed, with pre-booking, to enjoy the fresh air and fun of playing. All members, but particularly those living on their own without a partner, have commented on the difference croquet has made to their physical and mental wellbeing. Apart from social croquet, two of the normal internal competitions are progressing through the season. As an attempt to ensure members mix, within the confines of social distancing, a new knockout competition involving most of the membership has been introduced. The Covid Tournament will be played out until late September. The Black Humour of the name will no doubt remind members of 2020 if it continues in future years, although none of us are likely to forget this year. We hope that as restrictions are relaxed that new members will be able to be accepted once again. For contact details go to maldoncroquetclub.org.uk

Neil Clark – Publicity Officer

WINTER LUNCHES

Normally at this time of the year I am giving you the dates and venues for our forthcoming winter lunches. However due to the current uncertain times with regard to Covid-19 and social distancing it is not practical to book anything for the foreseeable future.

We have as already stated provisionally booked a Christmas Meal for

TUESDAY 15TH DECEMBER

Mary Burd - Catering Officer

