



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

I hope you are all well and that those of you who are eligible, have had at least one vaccination. A lot of work has gone into organising our AGM this year albeit in a different format and I urge as many of you as possible to cast your votes.

Keep well, keep safe.

Gill.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 16 MARCH 2021

Further to Philippa Hardy-King's email of 22 January please remember to return your nomination forms by **5 February**. Voting papers will be then be circulated on 12 February and these will need to be returned by **26 February**.

THANK YOU

I would like to pass on my thanks, to all croquet club members, for their kind letters, cards, donations and email messages on the loss of Colin. It is wonderful to hear your thoughts, and words, about my dearly beloved and such a comfort to me at this time.

With fond love and thanks again

Sylvia Beckett



Colin ready to play on



Finals Day September 2020



Article by Neil Clarke for the Great Totham magazine

Croquet End of Season in Great Totham

Autumn has faded and the members of Maldon Croquet Club have now retreated from the lawns leaving them to the rabbits, who were the uninvited guests this year, digging up the succulent grass adjacent to the hoops, at early morning and dusk. A time to reflect on the shortened season and the restrictions placed on us all by the Pandemic in our personal lives and croquet playing.

The Club rose to the challenge early on by devising booked sessions only, using only two lawns with a maximum of one team of four people on each, for one hour periods of time. A new competition was introduced called the Covid Handicap; commencing with draws from a pool of over thirty players, culminating after a season long knock out phase, with two players contesting the final in September.

The Forrester Plate, another competition named after an attractive silver tray kindly presented by Tim Forrester-Muir some years ago, was also keenly contested throughout the hot summer. As if this was not enough a series of singles matches competed for the Georgie Clarke Vase, which also ran for the whole season. In tandem with all this, social fun games with only pride as the prize continued on most days.

Normally a grand finals day would be held with presentation of prizes and a lunch in the Dining Room of the Golf Club but could not take place this year and, with Tier 4 restrictions in place, the presentations are still to be made.

The new Covid Trophy was won by Graham Parker, the presentation being ironically disrupted by the very Virus it is named after. Whether local knowledge played a part it is not known, but the Georgie Clarke Vase was won by Tony White, a resident of the village, and another resident, Martyn Hardy-King and his partner Ken Hazell won the other trophy, the Forrester Plate! The AGM in 2021 is scheduled for March, after which hopefully the Club programme will be able to take place as in previous years. Already plans for next season are being laid with fingers crossed that 'normality' may have returned. An exciting date each May is a weekend in Ramsgate, staying in an hotel and playing on the superb lawns of the local Croquet Club in friendly games against their members.

The Club website has all the recent news and, if visitors and guests can be welcomed back in 2021, be sure to contact us and come and have a go!