



Hayes, Bromley and Keston Croquet Club

Newsletter – May 2018

Dates for the diary

Monday 21st May	Dulwich Old College	Away	1.30 for 2 pm
Monday 11th June	Caterham	Home	1.30 for 2 pm
Saturday 23 June	Sydenham	Away	1.30 for 2 pm
Friday 29th June	Dulwich	Home	1.30 for 2 pm
Sunday 8th July	Founder's Day	11.30 am to 4-ish	
Monday 16th July	Caterham	Away	1.30 for 2 pm
Monday 23rd July	Merton	Home	1.30 for 2 pm
Thursday 26th July	Purley Bury	Away	1.30 for 2 pm
Monday 6th August	Dulwich Old College	Home	1.30 for 2 pm
Monday 20th August	Dulwich	Away	1.30 for 2 pm
Monday 27th August	Merton	Away	1.30 for 2 pm
Monday 3rd September	Sydenham	Home	1.30 for 2 pm
Saturday 27th October	End of Season		

Internal Club Competitions

Don't forget that if you wish to view the progress in these competitions you can go on to our website at: www.hbkcc.org.uk.

Please remember to enter you results on the score sheets in the loggia. There is one folder for the internal club championships and another for the John Curry Cup.

Please look in the April newsletter to see who you have to play in the various competitions.

The Charity One-Ball Competition Saturday 28th April

Fortunately though the weather was very cold, the rain held off and we were able to hold the competition as planned.

On Friday 20th April we had a 1½ hr coaching session from Tony, David, Les and Margaret on how to rocquet and croquet so most of the 15 members who took part in the competition on Saturday were not utter novices.

The 15 players were divided into 3 pools of 5 and played everyone else in their pool. Val Howard who had not been to the coaching session was a little apprehensive at the start but in her first match against Margaret, who gave her some tuition, she soon romped ahead and won the match.

Steve was the winner of Pool A, Tony the winner of Pool B and Les the winner of Pool C. David won 3 out of his 4 matches, so the semi-finals were between these 4 players. David and Tony played in the final which was won by Tony.

We raised a total of £90 for the Down's Syndrome Association.

A big "Thank you" to all who took part.

Below is an email sent on Tuesday of this week by the event organiser, Kevin Carter, to all participating clubs thanking everyone for taking part.

We had the final on Sunday and I now have in all the monies and everything is totted up. So first, the numbers:

This year we had 37 heats and 497 participants - because of the awful weather we had some cancellations and postponements, and some heats had lower attendance than they might have done without the cold and rain. So, this is excellent and yet another record.

We had 40 participants in the final - again this might have been greater if the CA had not set the date of the National Croquet Day to be the same as our finals date, since a number of qualifiers were busy in their home clubs.

The total amount raised for the Downs Syndrome Association was £4471, which will be supplemented by £903 of Gift Aid - another record, and the first time that our nominated charity will benefit by more than £5000.

So, a big thank you to your all.

Surbiton again kindly agreed to host the Finals Day, which was a great success, with triple-banking across all of the clubs seven lawns. Because of the numbers involved, I had a lunchtime 'cut' - a bit like in a big golf competition. The top twelve, who had lost no more than one game of the swiss during the morning, went into a separate section to

compete for the main trophies, while the remainder continued for a 'Best of the Rest' prize.

Soon after teatime, we had the two finalists: Tom Weston (East Dorset) and Margaret Murray (Bath but who qualified at the Camerton & Peasedown heat). It was a nail-biting finale, watched by over 30 spectators. Tom's shooting was superb and, as Margaret's 4.5 bisques were whittled away, he looked to have it in the bag. However, Margaret displayed great tactical acumen throughout and was the first through the last ('rover') hoop, initially retreating to near the west boundary and then, when Tom set himself up for rover, she moved her ball a little north of the peg. Tom ran rover but not cleanly and he was hampered from both the peg and Margaret's ball. He tried a difficult shot back through the hoop and missed, so Margaret finished, to huge applause.

In the prize giving Margaret collected this year's engraved decanter, and Tom the runner-up's goblet. Chris Roberts (Phyllis Court, and also well known for being the editor of the Gazette) won the 'Best of the Rest' goblet and a bottle of bubbly went to Jonathan Lamb (Punta Del Este, Uruguay) for the best break: ten hoops.

The prizes were presented by Leia, a lovely little five year old, who had prompted her grandfather to nominate the Downs Syndrome Association as this year's charity. Unfortunately, Peter Gunn (Merton) passed away in February and could not be there to see it.

The Surbiton club had the courts in great condition and the kitchen even better - a band of volunteers fed and watered 50 of us and then donated a large part of their food takings to the charity fund. Thank you, George, Chris and the others.

Can you heat organisers please begin to think of your nominations for next year's charity, which should be a national organisation. Also, I feel that next year we need to restrict the maximum number in the final to about 40; we cannot continue to grow it ad infinitum. So, my proposal is to retain the £50 donation as the minimum per heat but instead of allowing an extra qualifier for every additional £50, to make this £75. This will mean fewer qualifiers from the larger heats. How do you all feel about this?

- Kevin

Coaching Day

"On Friday 11th. May we welcomed Clive Grimley from the Croquet Academy to the HBKCC. He was making a return visit having hosted a training session last season.

On the course were:- Sue Gregory, Sue Fielder, Valerie Smith, Mike Nichols, Alistair & Liz Milliken, Mike Handyside, and Astrid Oram.

Those who had attended last year's course jumped at the chance to improve their skills by attending an all day follow-up training course. The weather was perfect to begin with, though it did get a little chilly towards the end of the afternoon. However, it looked like everyone enjoyed the course, and all were eager to show off their newly learned croquet skills! You have been warned!"

Tony



Match report

On Monday the 14th May we had our annual home match against Purley Bury and it was a beautiful day and the lawns were in very good condition.

Tony and Geoff, Doreen and Jim played 2 doubles matches of association croquet and won both even though the opposition had much lower handicaps.

Sue S, Margaret, Alistair and Liz played the golf croquet matches, 3 matches each of 35 minutes, making a total of 6 in all. Unfortunately in the first round we lost both matches, however in the second round we won both so everything hinged on the final round.

Unfortunately there we lost one and drew the other. Though we lost the golf by $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$, we were the overall winners by $4\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$.

Thanks go to Astrid, Michael and Liz Milliken for organising a lavish post-match tea which was enjoyed by everyone.

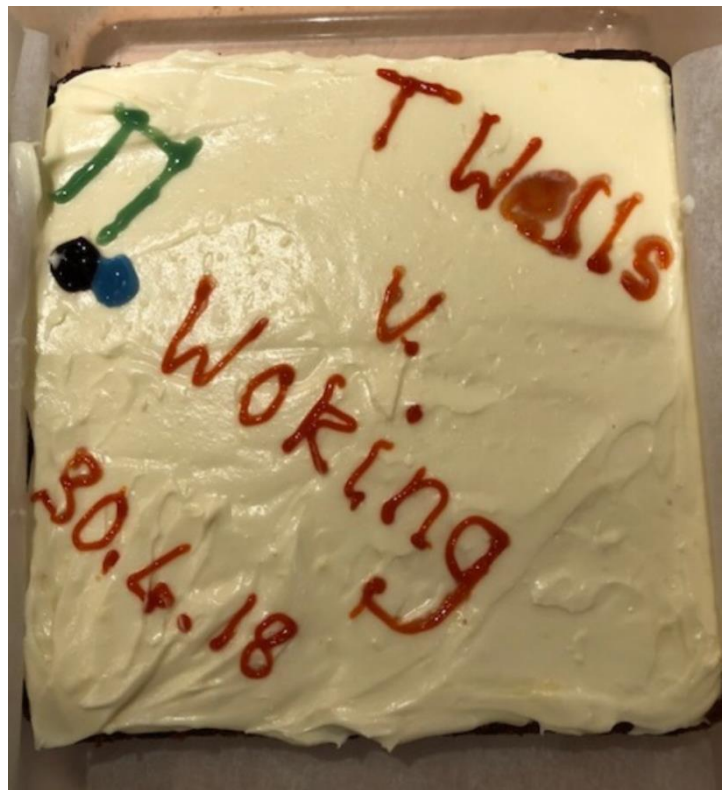
Sue G


“A project for any potential cake makers for our next home game?”

This cake was made by a member of the Tunbridge Wells club to celebrate their match versus Woking.

The match was unfortunately cancelled. Shame.”

Tony





**I need material for next month's newsletter earlier
than usual so**

PLEASE LET ME HAVE IT BY

June 10th