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BURY CROQUET CLUB NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 5 May 2019

NEW WEBSITE

As you should know we now have our own website which is not reliant on anyone else. Our website used to be free from Awardspace and although it has served us well over the last few years, we have recently had downtimes which were unacceptable. We have now paid a fee for this new website but we think it is worth it. The URL for the website is:

www.burycroquet.com

We are in the process of setting up email addresses for each of the club positions so that emails can stay within the club domain instead of going to individual members. The first of these in operation is enq@burycroquet.com through which we expect the public to contact us. Shortly we will set up a members only page in which we can put things that are not for public viewing i.e. committee minutes etc.

Quiz Night 23rd February



What a great turnout for the annual quiz. We had 50+ members with family and friends. Anne and Chris Alvey did the usual splendid job of not only organising the quiz questions but also the wonderful food. The evening culminated in a raffle and football card. Both of which contributed to the brilliant grand total of:

£452.61. .

QUIZ WINNERS ONCE AGAIN!



Visit of Councillor Roy Walker to Whitehead Park 19th Feb

We were delighted to welcome to Whitehead, Councillor Roy Walker, one of the Bury Councillors who represents Church Ward. Roy was impressed with our facilities remembering the bowls club facilities that were there in the past. He was impressed with the work that has been done with the lawns and the pouring of concrete base ready for the new shed.

Looks quite pretty in its own right don't you think? 😊



Roy who has been a councillor in Bury for 38 years and in Stockport before that, kindly arranged funding for the cost of obtaining planning permission for the shed. As our local councillor we told him that we would keep in touch with him and keep him up to date with our activities and progress.

COUNCILLOR ROY WALKER WITH SOME OF OUR MEMBERS



Annual Dinner 8th March

For the second year running, we held our dinner at Breightmet Golf Club. Everyone commented that it was yet again a fabulous meal and like last year everyone was entertained by our excellent singer John Ritchie. It was lovely to see our friends from Culcheth CC joining us yet again.

The raffle had some great prizes and we also held an auction. Both the raffle and the auction went really well. We even had email auction bids coming in from people who could not attend the dinner and a couple of items were battled over with plenty of 'friendly' bids and counter bids ensuing (it was just like a real auction)!!

Trophies from 2018 were presented to our triumphant winners.

On the night from the raffle, auction and sales of dinner tickets, we raised **£473.52**



Pat Carter's 80th Birthday Celebration @ WP 23rd March

Long standing member, Pat Carter celebrated her 80th birthday by having family and friends at WP. Her family put on a lovely afternoon tea of sandwiches and cakes. Everyone participated in the musical quiz and bingo, trophies and prizes abounded. For once Pat had a cake made for her and following in the path of her cakes, it was fantastic.



Portuguese Paradise

29th April-6 May, 11 members of the club enjoyed a fabulous 7 day visit to Bela Romao Croquet Resort on the Algarve. We played friendly matches against Portuguese and ex-pat members of the club. They were all so friendly and made us really welcome. The weather was fantastic and the accommodation amazing.

Besides croquet we all also enjoyed a river cruise with a traditional Portuguese banquet with music and lashings of wine, wonderful meals both inside and out and the food prepared by Sarah the proprietor was out of this world.

Margaret and Ken Eccles organised it all and they did a wonderful job!



Open Day for Bury Hospice @ CP 27th April

Despite bitterly cold conditions we battled against the elements to put on a great day for Bury Hospice at our annual fundraising open day. We were honoured to have The Mayor of Bury Mrs Jane Black and her husband join us.



Lady Mayor painted by our gifted resident artist Jean Oldfield.

Nicola Ainsworth, from Bury Hospice, also kindly came to support us on the day as she had supported us leading up to the event. Most club members braved the weather to put on a super show. The final amount raised for this great cause was **£600.41p**

National Croquet Day 12th May @ WP

Great turnout for NCD day. We had 40+ visitors many of whom were interested and left their details! The day was as good as it gets weatherwise and the refreshments and Bric-a-Brack made some money too! The money raised on bric-a-brac went to the Bury Hospice fund and we raised the princely sum of £70 on refreshments!!

WELL DONE ALL INVOLVED

COBER HILL 17-20 May

As usual we had our annual trip to Cober Hill. We had 26 members and 3 regular visitors giving us a grand total of 29.

Oops sorry that's 30 with Sophie our club mascot, shown here with her brood!!



As usual the hotel facilities and food were great. Sue B did a fine job keeping us all watered and fed. Jean H worked her wizardry and somehow managed to create a schedule and keep us all in check with David B controlling the proceedings and ensuring the schedule was adhered to. Margaret and Ken Eccles did an excellent quiz on the first night which included mystery tastings (eek). 🤪

As usual the final night's entertainment, the Olympics, arranged by Jean H & David B, turned out to be a laugh with team 'Superstars' (Lynne, Alan, Pat and Bernard) winning and taking home the gongs. Alan, Barbara Y and Ken A also won the accolade of



managing to 'splat the rat' no mean feat!!



Worthy winners of the croquet were: Pam and Richard (two of our guests) for the Golf and Barbara Y and Derek for the Association.

WP our own 'green and pleasant land'



After all the hard work over the last year we can now say we have a lawn to be proud of. This is down to the hard work of John, Derek, Roy and the WP lawns team. Saturday 25th May was a prime example of the improvement in the lawns. We saw a downpour with standing water but it disappeared so quickly and play was able to commence with minimal delay. Well done to the team!

Extra news - the plans have been passed for the new equipment shed which will be sited at the righthand end of the grounds as you look towards the clubhouse from the lawns. There is a beautiful base just waiting for its load to arrive.

Blooming Gardeners!

Carol & Margaret keep making the place look wonderful, its just too distracting!! Well done team, we don't tell you enough but we do see and appreciate the hard work!!



Tick Tock New Clock at WP



Club Matters

Following many meetings we are now in the execution part of the Club Matters process. We elected 4 leaders -

People section - Barbara Young

Marketing section - Roy Spencer

Management section - Paul Kenworthy

Finance section - Richard Harvey

Work is progressing and so far we have seen the development of the suggestion box, member badges, member Induction Booklets, Buddy system (to help new members), Club Brochure & posters, a new member questionnaire (for after training) and we have started defining and documenting volunteer roles.

More info to follow.

Croquet on Radio Lancashire

Hopefully many of you managed to catch Paul Rigge and Liz Wilson on Radio Lancashire TALKING SPORT on Thursday 11th April (a full hour). We did include a link to the program on our website but that was only valid until 20th May 8pm. It was nice to hear croquet being promoted for once.

New Knee for Tom

Tom Slattery has been out of action for the last few weeks. Tom joined us last year but had to put his croquet on hold whilst he had his op. He is on the right side now and will be back soon all guns blazing. He was spotted on NCD day!! Well done Tom it will be good to have you back

Typical!! Talking about OPs!!

Having taken on the roles of club house managers, Helena Nuttall and Roy Spencer are off shirking their duties having operations. However the club house deputies have kindly stepped into the brink to cover until the renegades return.

Vi thought she had escaped!!

VI RICHARDS	07796 510080
GILL FREELY	0161 766 9817
MARGARET ECCLES	07906 730606
BARBARA EVANS	0161 766 9804
SUE HARDMAN	0161 761 7795
JEAN HARGREAVES	07762 162909
JOAN HANCOCK	0161 773 4513
SUE SANDIFORD	07973 543933

Well not many suggestions to date - thank you!!



We have had two so far which will be discussed in the committee meeting: Cream Tea afternoon (inspired by Pat Carter's party) and holding a comp on the web open to public who can guess a mystery figure or work out a brain teaser etc. Entry by email (we capture their details). Winner gets intro lesson + half price membership (for example).

As ever we ask members to think of more ideas to help generate funds for the club. Please don't be shy and put any ideas you have forward. There is an anonymous suggestions

Personalised Badges 50p

We have aquired some plastic badges which can be personalised with your name.

These will be handy for away matches and Southport. Each is 50p. Please contact Helena if you would like one.



WHAT A BARGAIN!



Bury Croquet Club Pens PRICES SLASHED

Due to our new website name, the web address is different to what is on the pens. The pens say www.burycroquetawardspace.com but should be www.burycroquet.com.

Because of this we are selling the pens off for £1



SOUTHPORT NORTH WEST FESTIVAL

Sat 29th-Sun 30th June. Playing against all clubs in the NW. It is a great fun filled tournament, good food and meeting fellow players from around the NW. Most people go Fri - Sun enjoying evening food, drink and merriment. Barbara Young is our co-ordinator. It is actually the 25th anniversary of this event this year.

NATIONAL B LEVEL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Sat 6th July at WP

See David Barrett

NATIONAL C LEVEL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Wed 24th July at WP

See David Barrett



Now how did that happen?

Appendix 1 (see attached document)
Glossary for Understanding Teams and Competitions at Bury CC



Often its very confusing for new members (and some long standing ones) to keep track of teams and competitions (internal/external) that Bury CC enters each year. We have pulled together a

Appendix 2 (see attached document)
CLUB DIARY

NEW MEMBERS

We have had a few new members this year and would like to express a big welcome to you all. We hope you are enjoying our club. Please consider joining a team. You might be daunted but you will soon realise how people want to help you (they have all been there!) and how much your knowledge and expertise will improve.

CLUB OFFICIALS 2019

Executive

Chairman	Barbara Young	0161 766 6048
Vice Chairman	Richard Harvey	07721 312888
Treasurer	David Leach	01706 670553
Secretary	Margaret Eccles	01204 573510

Committee (including above)

Grounds Officer (Whitehead) ...	John Gilmartin	07790 338878
Grounds Officer (Coronation) ...	David Leach	01706 670553
Council Liaison Officer	David Barrett	07957 103417
Club House Manager	Helena Nuttall	07977 540020
	Roy Spencer	07816 644925
Publicity (shared role)	Phil and Helena Nuttall	07926 360161 or 07977 540020
Examiner of Accounts	Derek Deadman	07981 518079
Honorary President	David Barrett	07957 103417
Events Secretary/Recruitment ..	Jean Hargreaves	0161 792 4694
Safeguarding Officer	Janet Wood.....	0161 792 4694

Team Captains (note the 4 new team names)

Association

Advanced	Paul Kenworthy	0161 797 0201
Handicap (W/E) Peelers	Phil Nuttall	07926 360161
Handicap (W/E) Caesars	Chris Alvey	07714 765181
Handicap Midweek	Barbara Young	0161 766 6048
Short Lawn Crusaders	Vi Richards	0161 724 6473
Short Lawn Vikings	Margaret Eccles.....	01204 573510

Golf

Handicap Bury North	David Leach	01706 670553
Handicap Bury South	Margaret Eccles	01204 573510
Midweek Level Play Monarchs ..	Ken Eccles	01204 573510
Midweek Level Play Sovereigns .	David Leach	01706 670553

NWFCC Events

Southport Festival	Barbara Young	0161 766 6048
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CA Events

A/C Longman Cup	Phil Nuttall	07926 360161
Golf Grass Roots	Jean Hargreaves	0161 792 4694

Club Matters

People.....	Barbara Young.....	0161 766 6048
Marketing.....	Roy Spencer.....	07816 644925
Management.....	Paul Kenworthy.....	0161 797 0201
Finance.....	Richard Harvey.....	07721 312888

[A very big thank you to all who have volunteered in the past but as always we need more.](#)

If anyone would like to be a volunteer and help in any of the above posts then please contact the appropriate person who would be more than happy (nay ecstatic) to have you on board.