

## BURY CROQUET CLUB KEEPING CONNECTED issue 7

### Message from President

Please find attached a photograph which I took whilst Sue and I were out for our daily walk. On this occasion we went through 'Blue Bell Wood' which is not far from our home in Heywood. It's a beautiful place to be at this time of the year.



It was a joy to see the various items of news in Issue No 4 and in particular appreciate that David L has set us all a golf croquet question as well as sending that fantastic view of the manicured lawns at Coronation Park.

**MANY THANKS** to the work teams of David & Richard L and Margaret & Ken A. who are keeping Coronation Park looking so good.

I also understand that Margaret A and Carol are continuing to work at both our venues as usual and although our roving reporter only managed to catch up with Carol at WP, it's a BIG THANK YOU to each of them for looking after the gardens during this difficult time.

### RE: David L Question --Hoop 9 Golf Croquet – Possible ways for yellow to stop black scoring the hoop.

In my view the answers **ALL COME FROM SEQUENCING OF THE SHOTS / ORDER OF PLAY** :- ( Check the Peg Colours if in doubt ) Blue / Red/ Black/Yellow. PLUS the Law that you must NOT commit a 'foul shot ' such as a 'double tap ( Hitting the ball twice whilst making your stroke) and perhaps even that a shot may now be 'Deemed' to have been played. Yellow to hit Red to the back of the hoop so that it becomes necessary for Blue to Hit Red away from its new position to stop it from Clearing Black through the 'back' of the hoop.

Simply hit the Yellow a bit closer to Hoop in a more central position. This will then tempt Blue into clearing Yellow ( especially if they think you can do jump shots.) The result being that Red can then ' Stop Shot' Black away HARD! If possible making your Red Ball STOP on the Shooting line between where the Black will finish up and your Yellow , thus making it difficult for Black to then attack your Yellow which is perfectly placed in front of the hoop.

Do a Jump Shot --Jump Shot yellow over Black.

Yellow to hit Blue Hard sending it away without touching Black .Try to Ensure its a Long way away, possibly even wiring it behind the centre Peg or behind hoop 11.

Yellow to hit Blue very, very gently leaving the Blue so that it cannot hit the Red because the hoop is in the way ( as well as the Yellow itself). Red then clears Black after Blue has had its shot. -- **NB>** This achieves the initial clearance you wanted but does not give you an immediate shooting chance. Or very similar but not quite the same positions--

If you just feel like making life very difficult for your oppo', simply hit the Yellow very, very gently just to the left side of their Blue Ball so that all 4 balls are in a straight Line almost touching each other--- Sort that out if you can !!! Red probably gets 1st chance to clear Black.

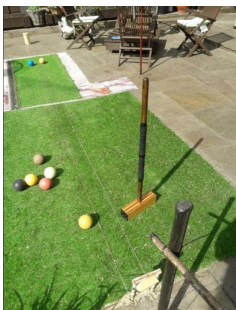
I hope David L's question will encourage us all to 'think and play croquet either in our minds, or on our own improvised garden lawns or perhaps even use the virtual reality systems available on the Oxford Croquet Web Site ' .  
David B.

### Richard H's Joke

Two American hunters are out shooting in the woods when one of them suddenly collapses. He doesn't seem to be breathing and his eyes are glazed. The other guy whips out his phone and calls the emergency services. He gasps, "My friend is dead! What shall I do?" The operator says, "Calm down. I can help. First, let's make sure he's dead." There is a silence; then a gunshot is heard. Back on the phone, the guy says, "OK, now what?"

### Ingenious Croquet Lawn created by one of our New Members

Croquet lawn created by one of our new members on their patio. The grass is weatherproof needing no maintenance.



#### The science

The synthetic grass is laid on my patio area of indian stone. Part of the lay out also has a thick wollen carpet under the grass. This partly simulates the spring in a natural lawn.

It is 14 ft long and 8 ft wide running down to 3 ft.

I have one hoop set in the joint of the indian stone.

I have a bag of compost behind the hoop to absorb the ball on impact, thus keeping the balls in good condition .

The grass is weather proof and needs no maintenance.

### The Alvey Lockdown Diary

Chris has been working from home from practically the start of lockdown (his boss is very organised and provided phones, computers etc). He's currently very busy trying to set up the referral systems for urgent dental care centres.

I'm still working (as a pharmacist there was never any doubt about it! ), the surgery is still open but we're only seeing a few patients face to face, everything else is being done by phone calls or video consultation. We're short on face masks (who isn't?) and it looks like we'll all be wearing scrubs to work soon.

We're both enjoying our daily walk and I'm doing lots of yoga - as well as Netflix binging! Chris' motorbike has been polished to within an inch of its life and looks very shiny, and he's just waiting for the day when he can take it out for a ride again.



At the weekends we're catching up with family with a weekly quiz on zoom.

So in summary we're both well, and looking forward to setting up a croquet lawn and hitting some balls soon.

**Eat your hearts out boys!!**

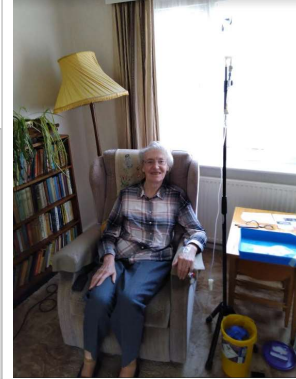
**WP Under Seige** Carol said she might bring some big plants but this is ridiculous 😂

No really:  
Duncan Ross working 1/2nd May. one doing vertidrain and the other seeding. Finally they applied fertilizer by hand.



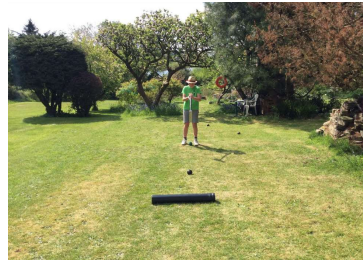
**News from the Chairman Barbara**

Here is a picture of me having my latest treatment at home today. Not only did I not have to trek down to the Christie but I had a lovely face to face chat with a friendly visitor for over an hour. That's something I miss living on my own. Let's hope we can be allowed to go back to playing croquet soon. I'm sure we could keep 2m apart particularly if we play AC. Best wishes to everyone  
Barbara



**From Graham Good**

Photo from back garden of Jack practicing 'bouncing bombs'. PS. Technical note for David B. You will see they are an 'interesting' set of balls - 2 blacks, 2 browns and a green. They were old balls that someone gave me ages ago. Have now discovered that there is at least 1 Jacques, can't really tell with the rest as the name has worn but I suspect they are the same as Jacques printed their name differently to everyone else. Interestingly they were the 1st ever balls hit @ WP, they were in the back of the car, no balls had been moved from CP and we were trying to assess the speed. (I will try and find the photo from that).



Snazzy hat Jack!! 😊

**From Francois**

Think everyone will like this, and thought you could label this "exercise instead of croquet"

Link to Francois' video on News page

<http://burycroquet.com/news.html>

Enjoy.

**Keeping WP Green** the team are taking turns to water and mow the lawns. They are coming on but are still a work in progress!! The scarecrow bird is trying to protect the seeding.



Bury CC Lockdown Blues 2020 May  
From Malcolm Daines

With the change of season comes a change of clothes on and off the courts. Out come the whites, stripes and all manner of paraphernalia - ready to go. . . but stopped and confined to this side of the hills.

**SO HERE IS THE LATEST STAGE SHOW:**

brought to you by:

(across the) Pennines Productions

All dressed up and nowhere to go -

the Smart, the Sharp, the Smooth, the Shabby & the Snazzy

in

**Dancing Shirts of Kirkheaton**



CONT....

starring	<b>Bury CC, Virgin, Syngenta CC, M&amp;S</b>
with	14 strong chorus line of Gringo, Natural Flow & Black Yak
interval of:	Ice cream , Ben Shaws pop, Butterkist, Percy Dalton peanuts, candy floss ..,
absent:	Blue Dragon, Easter Island & Man At C&A are self isolating.

All shirts are **blowing in the wind** - ready for me to do the ironing.

No animals hurt in the making of this . . .

Find the mallet.

Swwissssss - looks like I will not have an excuse to wear the summer gear.

Keep Well Malcolm Daines

Stop Press - a Black Yak has gone missing - to be a face mask.

#### Bury Croquet Club and the North West Federation:

About this time of season the (croquet) practice is keen (sharp not Barry) as Bury promotes healthy internal TEAM competition in the North West Federation Leagues. The league matches between our teams would have happened by now but we are thwarted from doing battle with a smile -.

So for a bit of fun - yes fun because that is what Bury CC does, guess the scores for when the matches ARE actually played.

Forecast the score of both teams in the match. (Your answers are confidential.)

North v South	the match is 16 games of Golf handicap
Sovereigns v Monarchs	the match is 18 games of Golf level play
Vikings v Crusaders	the match is 16 games of Association short handicap
Peelers v Caesars	the match is 7 games of Association handicap

**3** points for naming the match winning team AND an additional **5** points for the exact score.

**The Winner(s) will be announced when the results are known - this or next season.**

#### **The INCREDIBLE 1st prize is your choice of:**

A bottle of Mr Fitzpatrick soothing non-alcoholic cordial from local Haslingden . .	A bottle of wine - red / white / rose	6 pack of lemonade / cream soda / coca cola / etc	2 Mars Bars
	a bottle of blue nun	A Mars bar	3 assorted beers

Send your answers and choice of prize by email to m\*\*\*\*\*.c\*\*\*\*\*@v\*\*\*\*\*.n\*\*

Good Luck and good weather - Malcolm Daines