

Croquet Communique 1st June

It's been a busy Croquet fortnight for Roehampton Club players ...

The Creyke, Trevelyan and Brooke Cups – all open AC events – were played in what used to be known as our 'Summer Week' and Roehampton Club players were busy competing around the country.

AC Home International played at Pendle and Craven Croquet Club, (Lancashire), 20th – 21st May

This annual Home International AC tournament is played between The Republic of Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and England.



Mark van Loon (Roehampton Club) playing for England had an impressive weekend. England retained the Home Internationals, their 9th consecutive win, ending the weekend on 2.5 test wins from 3.

Special mentions go to captain (and team chef) David Maugham and Mark van Loon who were the only players to win all their matches.

However, there was drama aplenty, with a strong challenge from Wales and Scotland in particular, and despite England's impressive tally of match and game wins, the final result was in jeopardy until the very end.



Creyke Cup AC Handicap Doubles Tournament 20 and 21 May

Featuring three Roehampton Club partnerships – Tim and Sam Russell, Diana and Andrew Wilson, and Charlotte Oades with Howard Railton.

Elaine Phillimore, who managed the event, also played as someone dropped out and she kindly made up the numbers.

The weather was kind and the lawns looked magnificent with all competitors in whites.

Being a handicap event the 'playing field' can be levelled with careful and sensible use of bisques.



Charlotte Oades and Howard Railton played well throughout the event to win in their first 'Open' event. Diana and Andrew Wilson finished second – having lost their match to Charlotte and Howard by one.

The cup was presented by David Openshaw.

Trevelyan Bowl 24th and 25th May

Able managed by Peter Siddall, who ran an enjoyable event featuring four Roehampton entrants – Charlotte Oades, Howard Railton, Nigel Wachman – all debutantes, and Elaine Phillimore. Over two days there was some entertaining croquet with the winner being Howard Railton, (Roehampton Club) runner up Barry Holland, (Surbiton), a welcome regular at Roehampton Club events.



The Brooke Cup 27th and 28th May

Report by John Pearson ...

AC B Level Tournament

Lovely weather, great competition, and a revelation!

The Club's sole remaining AC B Level event (dating originally from 1935, and for players with an AC handicap of 1 or more, played as a Swiss) took place over the weekend with a full

complement of 16 entrants from far and wide, but including two Roehampton members – old stager Peter Siddall and Nick Yates, who was playing his first event at this level.

Four previous winners were in the field, including last year's - and the year before's champion, and another who won as long ago as 1990!

Despite starting with a heavy cold, Nick Yates was the revelation. He played immaculately throughout, winning all 5 of his matches by increasing margins, with another past winner, Don Beck from Surbiton, winning 4 of his to finish as runner-up.

Many congratulations to both.



Elsewhere ...

East Dorset GC 'B' level 20th and 21st May

Played at East Dorset Croquet Club in Poole, Roehampton Club interest centred on Robert Scallon. He won through the block stages to lose 10-9 in the knockout and then sadly again 6-7, 6-7 in the Shield, a frustrating but enjoyable tournament.



Phyllis Court / High Wycombe GC A Level (0+) on 20th and 21st May

Lynn Percy (Roehampton Club) competed in a strong field in this event played across two clubs. Winning through a very competitive block before going on to win the Plate.



Cheltenham GC Championship Series 27th and 28th May

Another highly competitive event in this series saw Tim Russell (Roehampton Club), win 6 of 7 block games and having lost sadly in the knockout event, he went on to win the Bowl.



Hamptworth GC A series (0+) 27th and 28th May

Played at Hamptworth Croquet Club, (Salisbury), who have survived several attempts to close the lawns. Diana Wilson (Roehampton Club), who admits to a shaky start, managed to win through the block and came into form on the Sunday, winning the event outright.



Corfu

In early May, Sue and Mike Tumath made a return to Corfu where they play in a GC Croquet Tournament. The weather was far from good, but play went ahead, and Mike won the Bowl in the main event.

General

Players are reminded that play starts at 10am on all lawns.

Divots

Would players please use divot repair tools to repair damage to the lawns, (there are plenty of these tools in the pavilion). Scraping a foot across and tapping with a mallet is not a suitable 'repair', if in doubt, there are video clips on YouTube.

Enjoy your Croquet!

Mike Pattison, Croquet Captain

