

# Running Hoops

The Newsletter of Kenilworth Croquet

May 2017

## CROQUET IS A GREAT GAME - KENILWORTH IS THE PLACE TO PLAY IT

So we are supporting the National Croquet Day on June 4<sup>th</sup> and getting as many people along to experience the pleasure we have playing here. We have already sent posters to all the libraries in Warwickshire and some in the Coventry area. They are also up in various shops and on other notice boards in community halls etc.

But the best way of attracting new members is spreading the word amongst friends, relatives, neighbours and people you know at church or other organisations. They needn't commit to playing just come along, chat, have a cup of tea or coffee and try it. **Sunday June 4<sup>th</sup> between 1pm and 5pm** is the time. You can pick up posters and leaflets in the pavilion. If you can come and help on the day it would be great. Let Ian Robertson know.

We are also showing croquet at the **Kenilworth Show at Stoneleigh on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June**. We don't know where in the showground we will be but you're certain to be able to find us. In any case it's always a great day out.

**National Croquet Day**  
**Sunday 4 June**  
*A Celebration of Croquet*



## New this year—the Winter Charlecote Cup



Invitations went out in February for the club's early season Charlecote Cup competition & eight hardy members decided to risk winter weather to compete. Two groups of four were drawn randomly and pitted Mike Cheeseman, Jim Moorhouse, Peter Kristunas and David Green against each other in one group. In the other group Gordon Henderson, Alan Clark, Lynn Breedon and Ian Robertson fought it out. So three games each on the usual basis of 13 point games, best of three games plus a ban on jump shots. The absence of jump shots didn't seem to stifle any fun or tactics. Peter showed his steady play by not dropping a game in his group. The aim was to have the winner of one group play second place in the other group and vice versa.

Braving the weather the groups' results gave semis of Peter -v- Gordon and Ian -v- Jim

Peter came out top in his semi and Ian in his. Unfortunately Peter has not been well and the grand-final has yet to be played. The group stage when everyone had to wrap up well against a low temperatures and high precipitation seemed to be enjoyed by everyone nevertheless.

News of the grand final will know doubt filter out through the usual national sports broadcasters but beware fake news! Watch for an email for the time and come to show your support for the finalists.

**FRIENDLY AGAINST NORTHAMPTON** Although it recently proved impossible to arrange, we are still keen to play a friendly fixture against Northampton, We hope there will be a GC match for higher handicap players with doubles games, Watch for an email giving a date. It's always an enjoyable day.

# The Little Red Book with Adrian & Alan

Having qualified as a GC Referee and played AC and studied the “Red Book” of the Laws of Association Croquet for over ten years, I thought it was high time that I tried the AC referee’s exam. How hard could it be? MUCH HARDER THAN I THOUGHT!!

If I was going to suffer I thought it would be good to have Alan Richardson as company. To start, Alan and I applied for the Referee’s course due to be held in Nottingham in April. Once accepted, we were sent 40 questions on AC situations to answer. These were far from easy but were aimed at identifying any weaknesses in preparation for the exam. They were also aimed at making us more aware of the detail in the “Red Book” (All the laws of the game and 48 separate pages of commentary!)

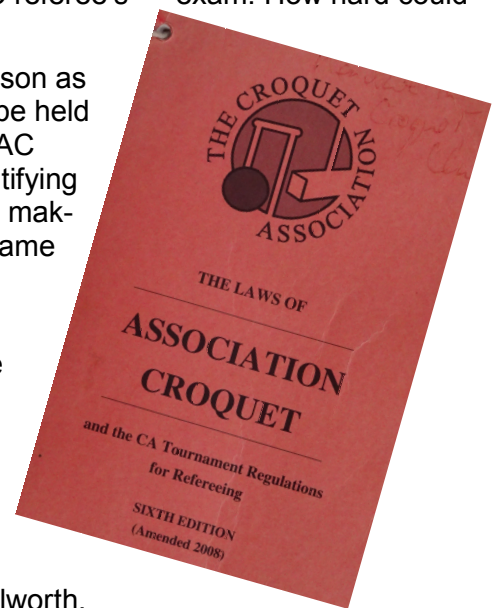
Alan and I threw ourselves at this challenge and after many late nights studying at home and some enjoyable joint sessions at the Anchor, we considered ourselves ready for the course.

Twelve of us joined the two day course at the Nottingham club held by Ian Vincent, the current Chairman of the International AC Laws Committee, ably assisted by Peter Death, an experienced Examining Referee. During these two days we analysed the Red Book in the minutest detail combined with practical experience on the lawn.

Two weeks later came the exam itself when Peter Death came to Kenilworth.

Adrian Morris

But you will have to wait for the next issue of Running Hoops to find how they got on.



## IN CORFU for the GREEK OPEN GOLF CROQUET CHAMPIONSHIP

Pauline and I have recently returned from Corfu where, for the second year, this tournament was organised by Richard Thompson of Edgbaston and Rich Quilter of Corfu. It is much less grand than the name implies, and always played in a very friendly atmosphere. It is “open” to anyone who wants a holiday playing croquet. Corfu is the only place in Greece where croquet is played. To know why and to find out more about the club, visit their excellent website at <http://www.corfucroquet.gr>



12 pairs entered the doubles competition, including Pauline and me. We managed to win our group, just, and progressed to the semi-finals where we beat a local pair in straight games. In the final, we were up against the strongest Corfu pair – Rich and his wife Karen. One more good shot from us and it would have been all down to the “golden hoop”, but alas we lost 5-7, 7-5, 5-7.

The singles competition comprised 4 from Corfu plus 24 from England, with handicaps ranging from 2 to 9. We were split into groups of 7 who played each other in a round-robin; the top two, which fortunately included me, progressed to the quarter-finals. There I beat a good player from Cheltenham, and then recovered from a game and 0-4 down to beat the second-best Corfiot. Once again I was up against Rich in the final, which I lost 7-4, 7-6. Ah well, there’s always

next year! Anyone want to join us?

Mervyn Harvey

**Gordon Henderson is extremely busy on another project at the moment so I am editing this issue but please continue to send Gordon lots of exciting articles, photographs, opinions and comments on any thing remotely related to croquet and our section.**

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**Ray Clipson, temporary Editor**