



RUNNING HOOPS

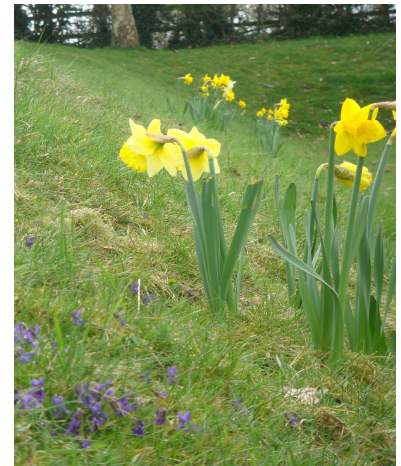
The Newsletter of Kenilworth Croquet Club

March 2010

NEARLY ANOTHER SEASON — if it stops snowing



When is the good weather going to arrive? We seem to get a day of Spring and then go back to overnight frost and cold wins during the day. All of which is stopping the grass growing and delaying the start of our croquet season. It didn't stop the rabbits as you can see from the photo. They still came out and tried to eat our grass!



We have put on fertiliser and mosskiller and we will be scarifying in the next week or so, but it looks very unlikely that we will be able to open the lawns at Easter as we hoped.

We are keeping fingers crossed for a week or two later, but perhaps if you're itching to get started, why not come on Sunday 21st March and play at Charlecote (see details below). Ray Clipson

Ball marking.

As this season progresses, Running Hoops will try and give tips on the etiquette of the game. John Leader starts the series

When playing double-banked games it sometimes becomes necessary to mark a ball belonging to the other game. It is **INCORRECT** to pick up the ball and plonk a marker in its place as the moment the ball has been lifted there is no **evidence** as to its previous location. The correct procedure is inform the double banked player/s that you wish to mark their ball. Choose as a target" the nearest fixed object on the lawn, such as the peg, a hoop or corner flag, place a marker (**not a coin**) next to the ball so that the marker, ball and target are in a direct line, check alignment and remove the ball. Play your stroke(s), replace the ball, check its position, remove the marker and inform the "owner" that the ball has been replaced.

CHARLECOTE CUP — March 21st

An extra date for the calendar because our lawns aren't open. Come and play in this new trophy. Golf Croquet Doubles with different partner each game. Overall winner is person who has been in most winning partnerships. Free entry to Charlecote for National Trust members, non-members £4.50

Dates for Your Diary

- March 16th – Main Club AGM
- March 18th – Croquet Social & AGM
- March 21st – Golf Croquet at Charlecote
- April 10th – **Start of Season - Lawns Open** (subject to weather)
- April 13th – Social Golf Croquet evening (with Fish & Chip supper)
- April 20th – First of Tuesday evening club-nights
- April 22nd – Friendly vs Northampton at Northampton
- April 25th – Spring Trophy Fun Day
- May 5th – Association vs Ashby
- May 9th – Girl Guides Croquet Festival to celebrate their 100 years
- May 12th - Kenilworth Festival Trophy match
- May 16th - Kenilworth Festival Croquet - display by the club in Abbey Fields
- May 23rd - Open Day
- May 25th Golf Croquet Coaching starts (3 Tuesday evenings)
- June 8th – Doubles Golf Croquet evening (with meal)
- June 16/17th Association Croquet Open Tournament

AND keep up to date with any changes by looking at the diary on the club website

Helping to get more from the game – this affects you!

Since the autumn, we have canvassed opinion among some of those who have been members for two or three years, with regard to mentoring – not only new members, but for those wishing to improve. **This has been very positively received.** Although we expect the most interest to come from Golf players, there is no reason why Association players could not also be involved.

If you would like to help a new member get started – and get to know the other members, would you be willing to act as a mentor? The input would be as much or as little as you agree, and would be arranged by you both to suit you.

Many of us with a couple of years' experience felt that we could also benefit from such a scheme, **paired with someone of our own level** – it is much easier to spot someone else's mistakes than one's own! Again, this would be friendly games arranged to suit yourselves, but with an emphasis on discussing how to improve one's shots, use tactics to suit the situation, etc, etc, etc... (we've learnt a lot from other people – mainly in passing remarks rather than formally)

Another benefit, for both new and existing members, would be getting to know another member really well. For single members that can be quite important – for some people, coming to a social event alone does not feel very 'social', but maybe you and your 'buddy' could come together.

We already have some people interested – both as mentors & mentees. We have volunteered to coordinate this, so if you are interested, please contact either Stella Gill (stella.gill@btinternet.com) or Jean Wilson (jean.wilson66@btinternet.com), or either on 01926-429948. The information we would require in order to match you with someone suitable would be:

- Golf or Association (or both)?
- How long have you been playing?
- If you are prepared to be a mentor, would that be to a member with less experience than you, or someone at the same level (or both)?
- Similarly, if you want a mentor, would it be someone with more experience than you, or at the same level (or both)?
- Which days & times suit you best, so that we can match you with someone who has similar times available?

Don't worry, if you don't 'hit it off' with your pair, I'm sure we can change you around.

We would like to have existing members paired up by the time the lawns open, so that you can really get a good start to the new season. For those willing to mentor new members, this will start later (after the open day, probably), so you can get into the swing of things again first.

Hoping to hear from you!

Stella & Jean

HISTORICAL PHOTOS for the WEB SITE

Over the years I have taken numerous photographs of Club activities starting with the "big leap forward" in 1995 when the New Lawn was constructed. As is often the case they were lying dormant in a drawer waiting to be lost and forgotten.

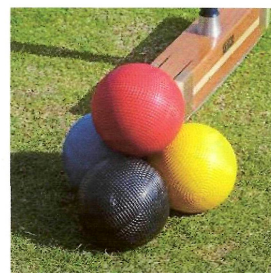
During the 2009 off season I had the idea that with the Web skills of Keith Roberts the photographs could play an important role in recording the Club's history

Several discussions took place with Keith followed by the next few months scanning the old prints (pre digital era) and adding captions including much "head scratching" to ensure

the facts **Welcome to Kenilworth Croquet Club**

were Kenilworth Croquet Club is a friendly club with a good atmosphere and excellent facilities. It is a section of the Kenilworth Tennis, Squash and Croquet Club, and benefits from the excellent facilities and car parking

correct.
The Picture Gallery from 2006 to 2009 has been added to and now includes photographs of the



construction of Lawn No 1 and the building of the Pavilion known as "the 'Ut'"; followed by the World Golf Championships at Leamington and Southwick and year by year the sundry Club events pre 2005

The Club WEB site has provided the perfect opportunity to record these photographs for posterity and a big thanks goes to Keith for his work in setting up the Picture Gallery and processing 130 plus photographs

Both Keith and I will be at AGM complete with screen should anyone be interested in discussing any aspect of the WEB site

Peter Dennis

SWEATSHIRTS, POLO SHIRTS & CAPS

We have some sizes in stock. Talk to Peter Dennis NOW