



# BLEWBURY CROQUET CLUB

## Chairman's Newsletter No 39

26 July 2004

### **AGM**

This is formal notice of the Annual General Meeting of the Club to be held at 8 p.m. on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2004 at 2 Westbrook Green (Bernardine's house). It is the custom on these occasions to serve desserts after the meeting to those attending and if you are able to come please let Bernadine know beforehand so that she can cater accordingly. I do hope that as many members as possible can attend as we will discuss future projects (of which more later) and your views will be welcomed.

### **Results**

The club has a 100% record in friendly matches to date with wins recorded over Swindon, Harwell, Cheltenham and Hurlingham. The highlight was our first international match with the visit of Croquet Club Bayeusain over the Spring Bank Holiday with Blewbury the victors by 8 matches to 4. In the Southern Croquet Federation Leagues we have not been so successful. In the association croquet league we have had 1 win 1 draw and 2 losses to date. In the golf croquet league only 2 matches have been played, both resulting in losses by a margin of 3 to 1.

The "Low Bisquers" level play tournament in early May resulted in a win for Gerald Mitchell. The "High Bisquers" tournament, held in conjunction with the visit of Bayeaux, was won by Christopher Balshaw for the third successive year.

Your Chairman won the plate event at the High Bisquers Tournament held at Hurlingham in May with Nick Butler runner up. Jolyon Kay won the Over 50's Tournament at Cheltenham in June with a 100% record.

The Roger Cambray Memorial Shield, held at Hall Barn on the day when the Blewbury Gardens were open to the public, was run using a different handicap system this year. Despite this, the lower handicap players prevailed with Nick Butler, Deirdre Cochrane, Gerald Mitchell and John Spiers reaching the semi finals. John defeated Gerald in the final thus retaining the trophy.

In the Southern Croquet Federation Solstice Golf Croquet Cup competition, held at Blewbury in July, Ian and Barbara Anderson reached the semi finals where they were defeated by Gerald Mitchell and your Chairman (representing Harwell on this occasion) who went on to beat Thames Valley B in the final by two matches to one.

The Hagbourne team who had a 100% record won the Inter Village Competition held at Hall Barn, Skirmers and Tickers Folly recently. Thanks are due to John Harrison and Malcolm and Deirdre Cochrane for allowing us the use of their courts.

### **Prebendal and Icknield Cups**

The finals of these competitions will be held on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August at Tickers Folly. The respective managers Jim Bartlett and Mike Collins would appreciate it if those players with matches still outstanding could arrange to play them as soon as possible.

### **Croquet Association Membership**

In the last Newsletter those members who are already C.A. members were asked to advise Jim Bartlett. Those who are not yet members are encouraged to join. The club has received great support from the C.A. and we may well be turning to it again for assistance in the near future (and this is when it helps if we know how many of us are C.A. members).

### **Courts and Equipment Store**

As you will know the area of the courts in the vicinity of the shelter has become bare and the overseeding carried out last autumn was not successful. It is proposed to extend the paved area and install boundary boards for which a working party will be required. In the meantime I would like to thank all those who have helped with the mowing and watering and especially Godfrey Nehring for his hard work, which is appreciated by all who use the courts. Many favourable comments on the courts have been made by many of our visitors.

We desperately need a more efficient irrigation system and more storage space for our equipment. The committee's plans to overcome these problems will be put to the members at the AGM.

### **Progressive Supper**

The Blewbury Tennis Club is holding a Progressive Supper on 18<sup>th</sup> September. The tennis club was very supportive when we held similar suppers as fund raising events prior to the opening of our new courts and we would like to offer similar support to them now. For more details, please contact Lindy Farrell on 01235 850275.

John Munro  
Chairman