

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 4TH, 1993, AT "MANOR GARTH".

Present: J. Hatherley, I. Dwerryhouse, E. Owen, H. Rubery, A. Dustan-Smith, K. Peers, G. Sims.

Apologies: Nil.

Minutes of the last meeting were read approved and signed.

Matters arising: Since no other members were interested in going to the SW AGM, the Chairman and Secretary will attend. A question will be asked concerning the Regional Golf Croquet Tournament held at Budleigh last season, when players who were not habitually golf croquet players took part and handicaps were not applicable. The club tournament cups are with our local jeweller, Mr. Ormandy, for engraving. Enquiries are to be made of the main club concerning insurance of the cups. The CHAIRMAN welcomed the new committee members.

Allocation of Duties: These were announced by the Chairman as follows:

Chairman, J. Hatherley.	Secretary, G. Sims.
T. Dustan Smith	Ground Committee member, Main Committee representative and Vice Chairman.
Hazel Rubery	Golf Croquet, Library.
Iris Dwerryhouse	Open Tournament, Federation, Intermediate and "B" League match organiser. Publicity.
Esme Owen	Internal Tournaments, Cash and Booking Sheets.
Kay Peers	Social

The Secretary was requested to write to the Catering Manageress to ask if we might have tea served to the Croquet teams at the end of the match. On cricket days this would mean that we supply people to set out the food and wash up, probably at around 5 - 5.30 p.m. Confirmation of the acceptability of this intention is to be requested.

Short Croquet This SW Tournament will take place on May 19th and 20th, and a club short croquet day on the 21st. A notice will appear in the "SWAN".

Reports T. Dustan-Smith was happy to announce that it will now be the general practice to keep balls for golf croquet in the small pavilion between lawns 2 and 5. There are now steps up to the notice board on our eastern boundary, so that the public can read the cricket fixtures and any other notices posted.

A much higher fence between the cricket field, lawns 2,5, and 4 and the grass tennis court is now being considered. It will require much larger posts and the cost might be in the region of £5,550 but the danger to the croquet players and tennis players would be much reduced. The working party have been assisting the Groundsman in spreading the top soil on lawn 1. Forest bark has been used in the shallow ditches in order to avoid damage to the mowers. T. Dustan-Smith also requested that should 9.30 a.m. starts be necessary for tournament days, the Groundsman should be warned in good time.

E. Owen reported that no profit was made on teas during the September week-end Open Tournament.

THE CHAIRMAN also stressed that the Whist and Table Tennis events, whilst open to the whole club, are open to full social members only.

Date of next meeting Tues. 7th December at 'Manor Garth'

The Chairman closed the meeting at 11 a.m.



MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT "MANOR GARTH" ON THE 4TH DEC. 1994.

Present: J. Hatherley, I. Dwerryhouse, E. Owen, K. Peers, H. Rubery, A. Dustan-Smith and G. Sims.

Apologies; Nil

Matters arising: The Catering Manageress assured the Croquet Committee that tea at 5.0 p.m. for match players would not be a problem.

Reports: Iris Dwerryhouse reported that the C.A. had written to her, as an experienced Tournament Manager, to ask if she considered it would be desirable for Tournament Managers to be officially appointed and also suggested that a meeting of managers might be of help. There are many differences in the ways in which the clubs organise tournaments. This meeting would possibly consider how the tournaments might ultimately have a uniform pattern of organisation and rules. The committee were in favour of such a meeting and I. Dwerryhouse agreed to attend when, and where, it takes place.

K. Peers reported that the annual luncheon will be on March 13th at the Belmont Hotel at a cost of £10.50 each. A few of the ladies on the committee will look at the menus offered and select the one considered most suitable.

E. Owen said that the Table Tennis and Coffee mornings were doing well and Whist afternoons were better attended.

T. Dustan-Smith has offered to put a list of current members of the Croquet Section on his computer, and this was readily accepted. We are a little concerned over the question of the Data Protection Act and T. Dustan-Smith said he would look into this.

Any Other Business:

The Chairman brought back the club cups and reported that five cups were valued at £4,100! The engraving had been completed on these and the Chairman and Secretary will distribute the cups.

The Committee were sad to note the death of Alan Rose, who had been a Croquet member of many years standing.

The meeting closed at 10.00 a.m.

The date of the next meeting will be January 4th 1994, at "Manor Garth".

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "John Hatherley". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the page.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT "MANOR GARTH" ON THE 4TH JANUARY, 1994.

Present: J. Hatherley, I. Dwerryhouse, E. Owen, K. Peers, H. Ruberry, A. Dustan-Smith and G. Sims.

Apologies: Nil.

Matters arising: The question of the Data Protection Act is now being investigated by the Main Committee.

Correspondence: A request from Mr. J. Carver to become a country member of the croquet section was approved, provided that Mr. Carver confirmed that he was already a member of a recognised croquet club and had a handicap.

The summer programme from Loughborough has arrived and two of our members have already made enquiries. It was stressed in the details of the croquet course that everyone taking the course must be a member of the Croquet Association and the secretary was requested to inform those members who had shown interest.

The Inaugural Meeting of Potential Members will take place on March 12th at 10 a.m. T. Dustan Smith said he was looking into the possibility of placing a sign to say "New Members Welcome" and to give information about our training course, somewhere where it could be easily seen by the general public.

Reports: H. Ruberry was asked to order twenty copies of the croquet beginners' manual and four rule books, and to request a small supply of publicity leaflets.

Iris Dwerryhouse reported that the date for the S.W. Fed. Golf Croquet Tournament was to be the 1st July; entry fee £1.50 or £2.00 for two. There are five League matches that will be at home this year, one Federation against Plymouth, Intermediate against Budleigh and Exeter and in the "B" League against Plymouth and Wellington.

Esme Owen reported that she had given £50 to the Main Club Treasurer, being the proceeds from the table tennis mornings and Whist afternoons. There was £22:29 still in hand.

T. Dustan-Smith is still trying to buy small yew shrubs with which to start our hedge, but had been unsuccessful so far. The nursery was a very busy one. They are Woodham Mortimer Nurseries Ltd.

Any Other Business:

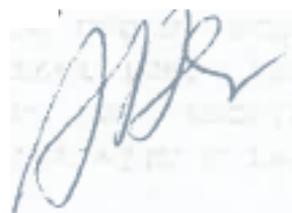
It was decided that a team of four to enter the Longman Cup should be approached this year. The entry date is March 1st.

It would appear that our request for four sets of new balls was, unfortunately, not put to the main committee, but it was generally felt that we could manage, if necessary, with the existing balls.

The matter of the fence between the cricket field and lawns 3 and 4 is still receiving consideration. It is hoped that it will be possible to raise this by several feet to give more protection to croquet players.

The date of the next meeting will be Thursday 3rd February at 'Manor Garth'

THE CHAIRMAN closed the meeting at 10.55 a.m.



SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, CROQUET & HOCKEY CLUB

CROQUET SECTION

SPRING PROGRAMME 1994

Wednesday	12th January	2 p.m.	WHIST DRIVE
Saturday	29th January	10 p.m.	LAWS COURSE
Wednesday	9th February	2 p.m.	WHIST DRIVE
Saturday	26th February	10 a.m.	LAWS COURSE
Wednesday	9th March	2 p.m.	WHIST DRIVE
Saturday	12th March	10 a.m.	INAUGURAL MEETING FOR POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS
Friday	18th March	12.30 for 1 p.m.	ANNUAL LUNCH AT THE BELMONT HOTEL
Saturday	2nd April	LAWS OPEN	(Grounds and weather permitting)

Your Subscription is NOW due (Club subscription £36.00 plus Croquet subscription £49.00,- totalling £85.00). Please make cheque payable to Sidmouth Cricket, Tennis, Croquet & Hockey Club and send to the Club Treasurer, Rex Sims.

If you do not intend to continue as a member, please notify the Hon. Sec. Gwen Sims, as soon as possible. Will those full members of the Croquet Association who do not wish to continue this membership also kindly inform Gwen Sims.

As the Club operates entirely with volunteer help it would be much appreciated if you would offer your services during the season for such jobs as office duty, collection of deck chair money or tea duty.

In addition to the above, Tony Dustan-Smith is organising a party of volunteers who can offer a little help to the croquet section. If you feel able to wield a paint brush or take on a simple d.i.y. task, please contact Tony, Tel. No. 029780-457.

Tickets for the Annual Lunch (Cost £10.50) will be available from Mrs. K. Peers, 1 Craig Court, Salcombe Hill, Sidmouth. Tel. No. 514891. Cheques should be made payable to the Club and an s.a.e. sent with ticket order please,

An Intermediate Training Course is to be run by Eric Kitchener. Enrolment lists will be in place at the beginning of the season.

There are, at present, quite a number of mallets in the mallet room that have been left over the winter. It would be appreciated if members would make sure that these are marked with the owner's name. Any unmarked mallet will be taken as "abandoned"!

As mentioned by the Chairman, at the A.G.M., the Croquet Section are planning to run a cake stall and a plant stall at the May Coffee Morning, and would be glad to receive as many plants as members care to grow. The stall will be run by Eric and Linda Kitchener and Esme and Ted Owen.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT "MANOR GARTH" ON THE 3RD FEB. 1994.

Present: I. Dwerryhouse, E. Owen, A. Dustan-Smith and G. Sims.

Apologies: J. Hatherley, K. Peers, H. Rubery.

Matters arising: Mr. and Mrs. John Carver were accepted as country members. Bill Arliss' offer to arrange for the replacement of the Rawkins Cup, which was stolen from his house last summer, was accepted gratefully. A silversmith will make the replacement, in sterling silver, as near a replica of the original cup as he is able. The personal insurance cover owned by Bill Arliss will pay.

A request from Len Sage, that there might be a raffle at the Croquet Lunch on March 18th was refused. Members felt that this was simply a lunch and not a fund-raising event in any way.

The yew shrubs ordered by A. Dustan-Smith arrived unexpectedly and Esme, Mac and Tony planted them.

Correspondence: A letter from the C.A., asking if we intended to have a National Croquet Day, this year, will be discussed at the next committee meeting. The date suggested by the C.A., Sat. 14th May, is quite unsuitable for this club and it will mean choosing a new date for ourselves.

Reports: E. Owen reported that, having paid out £13.86 to our social committee member for expenses in running the lunch and table tennis, whist, etc: she handed a cheque for £60 to the Main Club Treasurer and had £20 in hand.

E. Owen suggested two week-ends for the Doubles Tournament this year - 25/26th June and 16/17th July, in order to allow the working members of the section to take part. These dates appear to be acceptable, but will be discussed at the next meeting.

I. Dwerryhouse reported that she had received a letter from Don Waterhouse in response to our request that a handicap system should apply during the S.W. Golf Tournament. Although it was too late to alter the format of this year's tournament, it is suggested that Sidmouth make a formal proposal to appear in the agenda for the S.W. A.G.M. this coming autumn.

We are also asked to host the final of the "B" League on the 4th Sept., and this was approved by the committee.

Iris reported that the June and September Tournament lists are almost full, though she felt that there were more to come and that members of other clubs should be encouraged to apply. We had rather too many Sidmouth applicants at the moment. Iris had already given the Treasurer £224 in Entry Fees. Eric Kitchener is now helping Iris to manage the June Tournament and the lists for entry for both tournaments will remain open for another week.

A. Dustan-Smith reported that he had not needed as many yew shrubs as at first thought. Although he had budgeted for £150, they had cost only £50. The monies saved, therefore, would purchase the extra sets of balls we had hoped to have this year.

With regard to the further improvements to the Pavilion, Tony reported from the Main Committee, that each section was requested to say what alterations to the existing lay-out they would wish to see. Tony immediately suggested that the machinery and equipment shed should be fully incorporated into the main pavilion, thus making an extension of the ladies' cloakroom, Kitchen and Mallet room a possibility. He had also requested that the existing frosted glass on the east side of the pavilion be replaced by clear glass; thus enabling croquet players to watch play on Lawn 1 in comfort.

A. Dustan-Smith is unable to attend the meeting of the Main Club Committee on the 10th Feb. and Iris Dwerryhouse will attend. Forest bark has replaced the stone chips in the gulleys around the lawns. This is to protect mowing equipment. The Main Committee need a

volunteer to collect subscriptions for the 200 club and a request for a willing croquet member will appear in the Summer Programme.

The posts are now out of the ground on Lawn 1. It is hoped that the lawn will show no adverse effect of the rebuilding of the bar of the Sidmouth Club. Tony asked that an item "Points from the Main Committee", be added to the agenda for the croquet committee meetings. The Secretary has noted this request.

Any Other Business

The meeting to-day was a sad occasion. Mac Dawson, one of the well-loved and hardworking members of the croquet section died last week. The committee sent flowers to Mrs. Joan Dawson, with deepest sympathy, as we share the loss of a good friend.

Date of the Next Meeting will be 3rd March at "Manor Garth"

A. Dustan-Smith closed the meeting at 11 a.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Harker", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT "MANOR GARTH" ON THE 3RD MARCH, 1994.

Present: J. Hatherley, K. Peers, H. Rubery, I. Dwerryhouse, E. Owen, A. Dustan-Smith and G. Sims.

Apologies: Nil

Matters arising: The Doubles Tournament will take place on the week-ends of the 25th and 26th June and the 16th 17th July. A. Dustan-Smith did attend the Main Committee Meeting on the Feb. 10th. There will be no National Croquet Day in Sidmouth. The Secretary was asked to reply to the C.A.'s letter and explain that we already have approximately 98 members and run our own recruitment courses each year, beginning in early March.

Reports: Iris Dwerryhouse reported that she had now given a cheque for £444 to our Treasurer, being the tournament fees to date. The June list was now closed. At the moment, 14 Sidmouth players and 13 visitors were taking place - with two reserves. Iris will manage the September Tournament and intends to ask Elaine Woodward to help. The Committee felt that it was wise to encourage members to experience managing tournaments. The Final Day of the S.W. Golf Croquet Tournament will be in Plymouth on 18th September. The committee discussed the possibility of arranging a S.W. Tournament instead of the September Tournament for 1995, and circulating a poster of our own to all clubs likely to be interested. Such an arrangement would thus save the 30% of the tournament fees paid to the C.A. at present. THE CHAIRMAN particularly admired the Southwick poster advertising their High Bisque Tournament for this year, open to all clubs, and a copy of this poster is now in our current file. Iris Dwerryhouse also reported that she had washed down the paintwork in the mallet room and the committee was very appreciative.

Kay Peers reported that 47 tickets had been sold for the Croquet Lunch on the 18th March.

Hazel Rubery reported that all but one of the Croquet Laws Books had been sold. Esme Owen gave the dates for the club tournaments to be included in the Summer Programme and suggested that there should be an opportunity for members to choose if they wish to be included in the club Ladder scheme of play this year. This was agreed. Esme also reported that she had approximately £60 in hand, which were the proceeds from table tennis and coffee.

A. Dustan-Smith reported that the first row of frosted window panes on the east side of the bar, overlooking lawn 1, were to be replaced with plain glass to give a clear view of play. Eric Horne has done sterling work on the seat which was situated in the north east corner of lawn 1. He now needs assistance, to replace damaged bronze brackets. Tony will approach Roland Henderson, who has kindly made boxes for the balls to be used for Golf Croquet.

Points from Main Committee: The question of raising the wire fence by two meters between the cricket squares and lawns 3 & 4 does not seem to be receiving enough attention and Tony will, again, stress the need for this work to be done. He also requested that more croquet members should bring pressure to bear on the Main Committee.

Any Other Business:

A working party of volunteers will meet on the 14th March to spring clean the huts on lawns 3 and 4. Mac Dawson's mallets will be labelled and put into general club use. The Secretary was requested to ring John Toye to ask if he is playing in the Inter Counties Tournament at Southwick this year and would be able to bring back the Rawkins Cup to Sidmouth. The cup was stolen earlier this year and the replacement will be ready shortly.

Date of the next meeting; will be Thurs. 7th April, at "Manor Garth"

THE CHAIRMAN closed the meeting at 11.45 a.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Hatherley", is written over a diagonal line. The signature is slanted and somewhat cursive.

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, CROQUET & HOCKEY CLUB CROQUET SECTION

April 2nd	Lawns open, subject to conditions.
April 23rd	Croquet "Chit-chat" in the bar - bring your own lunch - from 12 p.m.
May 2nd	Club Coffee Morning 10 a.m. (Croquet Section Plant & Cake Stalls)
May 8th	Closing date for entries in Club Tournaments.
May 19th & 20th	Short Croquet Open Tournament - Closing date 12th May. Applications to Iris Derryhouse - entry fee £5
May 21st	Club members Short Croquet Tournament (no entry fee).
June 13th to 17th	June Open Tournament
June 21st	Egyptian Tournament
July 16th & 17th	Club members Doubles Tournament (first week-end).
June 25th & 26th	Club members Doubles Tournament (second week-end).
July 1st	Federation Open Golf Croquet Tournament
July 8th	Friends Garden Party
July 25th & 26th	Two Ball Tournament
Aug. 15th	Shot Game Tournament
Aug. 27th	Club Finals
Aug. 31st A Sept. 1st	Club Tournament Golf Croquet (Ass-Handicap 14 & over).
Sept. 3rd	Club Tournament Finals
Sept. 10th and 11th	Open Tournament

ASSOCIATION CROQUET

Most Monday afternoons from April 25th will be Club afternoons from 1 p.m. unless shown otherwise on the Booking sheet.

Please note that May 9th and June 27th will be 2 Ball practice on all lawns
June 13th and July 4th will be Shot Game Practice on Lawns 3 & 4.

The Doubles Tournament this year is spread over two week-ends in June and July. Lots of entries please, from lower as well as higher bisquers.

GOLF CROQUET

Organised Sessions will be held on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. and Fridays from 4 p.m., starting from May 4th. Prior to this date personal lawn bookings only, for a maximum of 4 members per lawn per session, so as to avoid excessive wear and tear on the area around the hoops, early in the season.

REMINDER

Members' personal equipment, such as mallets, items of clothing, etc., left in the Mallet Room, are at Owner's Risk. It has been suggested members should make certain such items are covered under their own insurance policies.

The Main Club Treasurer is looking for a kind member from each section who would be willing to be responsible for the promotion of the 200 Club and for the collection of monies from the members of their section. Please contact Rex Sims "Manor Garth", Seafeld Lane, Manor Rd., if interested.

Your Committee hopes that all members will enjoy a happy and successful season.

G. SIMS

Hon. Sec. Croquet Section.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT "MANOR GARTH" ON THE 7TH APRIL, 1994.

Present: J. Hatherley, K. Peers, H. Rubery, I. Dwerryhouse, E. Owen, A. Dustan-Smith and G. Sims.

Matters arising: Nil

Reports: Iris Dwerryhouse reported that the Longman Cup game will take place in Bristol - either on the 21st or 22nd May. She has also received more applications for the June Tournament from members of other clubs, which is to be encouraged. Our own members will take reserve places if necessary. A total of £59 in Tournament fees was paid to the Club Treasurer.

Hazel Rubery reported that she will be unable to run the first Golf Croquet morning and will arrange for a stand-in. The missing training videos have been found. A. Dustan-Smith told the committee that there were six sets of balls available to the Golf Croquet Players, all in boxes, beautifully made by Roland Henderson. The Secretary was requested to write an official letter of thanks to Roland.

Kay Peers reported that 51 members attended the lunch at the Belmont Hotel. Three members could not come at the last minute, due to ill health, and their monies will be returned to them. The Committee are aware that the cost might be a little high and it might be wise to try a slightly cheaper hotel next year. With this in mind, Kay will make enquiries of the hotels in the area, and it is intended that a tear-off slip should be included with the agenda for the next A.G.M., so that the members may vote for the hotel of their choice.

Esme Owen reported that she had £40.30 in hand, but was immediately handed bills for £40:37 by THE CHAIRMAN, for materials used in the maintenance of the hut on Lawn 3.

A. Dustan-Smith has acquired a box large enough to take all the boxes of balls for Golf Croquet. This will be placed in the small pavilion on Lawn 3. Tony has worked on the hard-board panels in the roof of this hut and has battened the edges. The Committee expressed their appreciation, to Tony and to those who treated the woodwork with preservative.

Tony was a little concerned about the shabby appearance of the window boxes outside the mallet room, but the pavement from the Fortfield to the south end of Lawn 1 is to be renewed by the Local Council, and it is therefore not necessary to make any changes at present. Tony has also had one or two enquiries about a bar-be-cue, and will possibly be prepared to run a more simplified version at the of the croquet season this year. The Committee were also told of the wonderful effort by Eric Horn to renovate our seat. It is beginning to look very good and the Committee are considering just how our appreciation should be shown. The Secretary was asked to enquire of Beth Horns just how this could be done.

Points to and from Main Committee: The sponsorship arrangements made by the Cricketers with a local businessman was the chief concern of the last Main Committee and this had been approved when all reference to advertising on the grounds had been deleted from the agreement. The possibility of any such advertisement was unanimously rejected. Roger Packe will, once again, bring up the question of raising the fence between lawns 3 & 4 and the cricket pitch at the next meeting. Eric Home requested that all bar requirements for the coining season should be forwarded to him as soon as possible, and Iris Dwerryhouse offered to do this on behalf of the Croquet Section.

Any Other Business: It was with deep regret that the Committee requested that the death of Keith Dawes be noted in the minutes. It was also decided that his subscription, and that of Mac Dawson, should be returned to the family. Our thoughts were with Barbara. Dawes since Keith's funeral was to take place today. The Secretary will take flowers to Barbara at a later date, from the Croquet Committee.

Date of the next Meeting: Thurs. 5th May, at "Manor Garth"

THE CHAIRMAN closed the meeting at 11.05



MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 'MANOR GARTH" ON THE 5TH MAY, 1994.

Present: J. Hatherley, Iris Dwerryhouse, Esme Owen, A. Dustan-Smith and G. Sims

Apologies: K. Peers and H. Rubery.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Correspondence. C.A. Manual for display and C.A. Event dates until 1998.

Matters arising: The date of the Longman Cup match is Sunday 22nd May and will take place in Bristol. Mrs. Beth Horne suggested that a small plaque be placed on the bench to commemorate her husband's restoration work. The clear glass now in place in the bar area, overlooking Lawn 1 is considered a great improvement.

Reports: Iris Dwerryhouse pointed out that there will be no committee member available to organise the 2 Ball Club Afternoon on 9th May, as many of our members will be at the May Budleigh Tournament. The Secretary was asked to find an organiser, and Eric Golding will undertake this duty. Iris also reported that the Short Croquet entries were disappointing - only 2 entries from other clubs and eleven entries in all. It was decided to round up the number to around sixteen, to ease organisation, and to consider if this tournament is worth running in 1995. The late distribution of "The Swan" might have contributed to the lack of response from other clubs.

Esme Owen reported that monies coming in just about covered expenses. Thirty Six people have returned club tournament forms. Seven have entered for the Humphry Hicks, nineteen for the Belmont Cup, eleven for the Fermor Rose Bowl and eleven for the Devonian Cup.

A. Dustan-Smith requested that two practice hoops might be placed on the spare ground between Lawn 2 and the fence to the road. The question of the raising of the fence between Lawns 3 and 4, the tennis court and the Cricket field were discussed at Main Committee. THE CHAIRMAN attended this meeting on A. Dustan-Smith's behalf.

Points to and from Main Committee: The whole fence, from the gate on the northern corner of the grass tennis court to the southern boundary of Lawn 4 is to be replaced and raised by two metres, as requested. The condition of the Lawn 1 eastern boundary is causing concern and the line of the lawn has been brought in by 1 yard until the grass has grown again.

Any Other Business: Budleigh Golf Croquet Committee Member has requested a friendly match between Sidmouth and Budleigh, to take place on Wed. 6th July at Budleigh, with a return match to take place in Sidmouth on 15th Sept. at Sidmouth. In the absence of Hazel Rubery the committee accepted these dates and informed Mrs. Ferguson. The Secretary will pass on this information to Hazel in order that they might finalise the arrangements in writing.

The Committee felt that the May Coffee morning was very successful

The Plant Stall raised £50, the Bric-a-brac £75 and the cake stall approximately £35. The Club, as a whole, raised approximately £375.00.

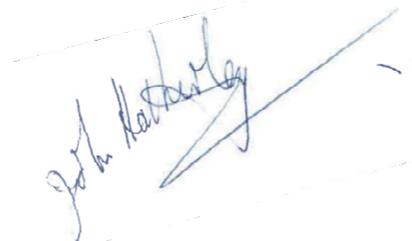
A rota was drawn up of Committee Members to run the Monday Club afternoons.

Sidmouth Club members have suggested a Croquet Tournament, to consist of three games of doubles to take place on a Sunday morning. A. Dustan-Smith and THE CHAIRMAN will arrange the date. A committee of E. Owen, I. Dwerryhouse and J. Hatherley to select players.

We approve the application of all new members who have undergone and completed the training course. Membership forms are to be approved.

Date of the next meeting: 9th June, at "Manor Garth"

THE CHAIRMAN closed the meeting at 11.30 a.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to be 'John Hatherley', is written over a diagonal line. The signature is slanted and somewhat cursive.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE HELD AT "MANOR GARTH" ON THE 9TH JUNE 1994.

Present: J. Hatherley, Iris Dwerryhouse, Esme Owen, A. Dustan-Smith, K. Peers, H. Rubery and G. Sims.

Apologies: Nil

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed. Correspondence: Nil.

Matters arising: The plaque to commemorate the restoration of the seat on Lawn 1 has been ordered by THE CHAIRMAN, and this will be revealed on the morning of the Garden Party, July 8th. At present, there are no practice hoops between Lawns 2 and 3, as requested by T. Dustan Smith, and the groundsman is to be reminded.

Reports: I. Dwerryhouse reported that Sidmouth are out of the Longman Cup - after a hard fought battle at Bristol. "B" league players won 5 - 0 at Budleigh, and have now won 1 match and lost 1. The Federation players lost their first match but the results were close. The Intermediate Match with Budleigh is now to take place on the 24th June instead of the 28th. The Cranford match is postponed.

The Short Croquet Tournament was won by Brian Smith. There were 16 entrants. Iris was concerned that there might not be enough bisques in the mallet room and hut for the coming June Open Tournament. T. Dustan Smith will check these and supply extra dowling bisques if necessary.

H. Rubery reported that there has been a good attendance at the golf croquet sessions. There are few entries for the Federation Open Golf Croquet Tournament on the 1st July, to be held in Sidmouth. A friendly match has been arranged to take place in Budleigh with a return visit to Sidmouth, possibly on the 22nd Sept.

K. Peers was a little concerned that the profit from the teas seemed rather large. However, the prices charged at Croquet Tournaments are to be adjusted as the Croquet committee sees fit. The large profit made on the Short Croquet Tournament teas will not be repeated, and K. Peers, as social member of the committee, is at liberty to adjust prices where considered necessary.

E. Owen reported that she has received £106.50 in tournament fees, less expenses, and £19.98 in visitors' fees. There are 21 people entering the Egyptian Tournament. The bar will be open from 12.30 until 2 p.m. There will be 13 couples entering the Doubles Tournament. Concern was expressed about the size of the blocks for the Club Tournaments, but after a long and full discussion, no conclusions were reached, and the blocks stand as they are.

T. Dustan Smith is investigating the possibility of installing an irrigation system for all the croquet lawns, the grass tennis court and the cricket field. The system would come into action at night, watering only if needed. It is expensive, however, and would necessitate a holding tank, to be located somewhere on the grounds. Half the yew hedging plants have died and Tony will try to obtain replacements from the firm who supplied the originals. Tony also pointed out that there are many small jobs that could be done by a retired, bored man who needed something to do. The committee will bear this in mind, and enquire of the members.

Any Other Business: The committee are concerned that we are not seeing enough of our 14 new members. With this in mind, an evening will be arranged, on 28th June, especially for the new members to get to know each other and to play doubles matches, each new member with an experienced player. All the committee members to attend, if available, ready for play, at 4 p.m. The Secretary will write to each new member to invite them to the "New Members' Club Evening".

Iris Dwerryhouse suggested that the Committee take an additional member, whose work will be to liaise between the new members to see that they are made welcome on all club occasions and activities, have a chance to get to know each other, and other members of

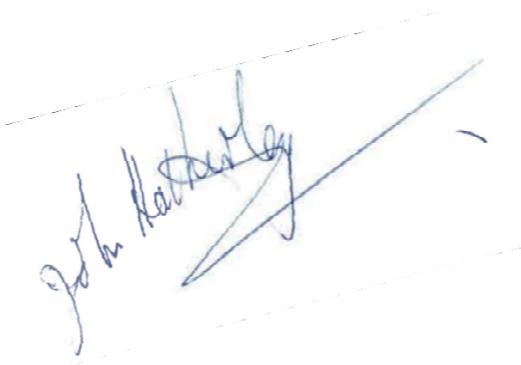
the golf croquet and association players. The Committee approved this idea, and it will be discussed at the next Annual General Meeting in October.

THE CHAIRMAN reminded the Committee that the Garden Party was fast approaching and the croquet activities needed to be organised. Committee members volunteered to run activities and to ask for helpers.

THE CHAIRMAN reported that all unclaimed mallets will be placed in the first locker in the Mallet room.

Date of the next meeting: 7th July, at "Manor Garth"

THE CHAIRMAN closed the meeting at 11.20 a.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Hatcher", is written on a white rectangular background. The signature is slanted and includes a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT "MANOR GARTH" ON THE 7TH JULY 1994

Present: J. Hatherley, Iris Dwerryhouse, Esme Owen, A. Dustan-Smith, K. Peers, H. Rubery and G. Sims.

Apologies: Nil.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed. Correspondence: Nil.

Matters arising: The plaque for Eric Home will be presented on the 8th July at 1.45 p.m. before the start of the Garden Party. The practice hoops are now in place but T. Dustan-Smith would prefer that they be alongside Lawn 3. The Groundsman will make the adjustment. Elaine Woodward has said that she would be quite willing to help with the liason work between the new members each year and, with this in mind, it is proposed to increase the committee membership by one. This suggestion will be included in the notice of the 1994 A.G.M. to be placed in the Mallet Room in the autumn.

The unclaimed mallets will be sold at the Garden Party by T. Dustan Smith.

Reports: H. Rubery was pleased to say that the Golf Croquet is very popular - 40 people turned up one Wednesday. The friendly match at Budleigh was good fun, Budleigh won, 10 6. The return match will be on the 22nd Sept. here.

I. Dwerryhouse reported that the Federation Golf Croquet Tournament on July 1st went well. In the doubles Brian Smith and Jane Clark won, and in the singles Brian Smith, with Barbara Dawes as runner up. It is hoped that one or two players will go to the finals in Plymouth. There were 16 players, which amounted to £32 in entry fees, prizes were £13, so the profit was £19 from which the C.A. levy of £3.80 had to be paid.

The June Tournament was well attended and was a great success. The weather was good, and the profit made was approximately £687. The local newspaper gave a very full report and Colin Thursfield wrote a personal report which is on our notice board and will go to the C.A. In the league matches, our teams seem to lose one and win one. The evening for the year's new members was quite successful - 12 turned up and should now be encouraged to come to club afternoons and golf croquet sessions, as well as playing with other members whenever possible. It is noted that there seem to be free lawns on most days. The Chairman expressed appreciation of all Iris's hard work.

E. Owen said that the Egyptian Tournament went well, Ted Owen won with H. Read as runner up. £86.22 of the profit on the June Tournament was in teas and there is £43.38 cash in hand at the moment.

T. Dustan-Smith said that the Groundsman has now reseeded the bald patches on Lawn 1 and Lawn 4. He is also using the Super-Surtees mower, at last. The rubble outside the mallet room has been cleared. At the Ground Sub Committee on the 20th June, Tony requested that the corners that have shown signs of subsidence - i.e. Lawn 4, might be built up. This is quite involved and Tony is looking for a firm who can cope with this kind of work. The irrigation plans are in hand, but are very expensive to put into operation. The matter is still being investigated. Tony also put in a request for chairs. Planning permission for the replacement fencing between Lawns 3 and 4 and the grass tennis court has been granted. THE CHAIRMAN also asked that the posts and attachments on the whole fence be checked.

The 5 ply board to be replaced in Hut Lawn 3, is now in hand, and the new 5 ply will shortly be up.

Points to and from Main Committee: T. Dustan-Smith has been asked to request detailed plans of the proposed expenditure on improvements to the Main Club House. 'While it is agreed that the shower and toilet facilities for both gentlemen and ladies of the club must be improved, we are anxious that major decisions are not made without reference to all the sections.

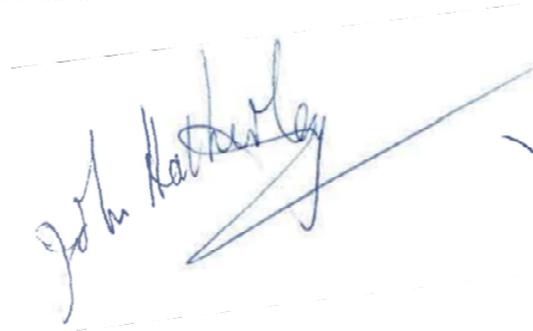
Any Other Business:

It was generally agreed that new members should not be approached to join the 200 club or the Friends of Fortfield immediately they have paid their first year's subscriptions

THE CHAIRMAN requested that we consider what is needed for inclusion in our next year's Budget Sheet, e.g. chairs and flora], tributes.

Date of next Meeting: Thursday, 4th August at "Manor Garth".

THE CHAIRMAN closed the meeting at 11.05 a.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "John Rawkins", is written over a diagonal line. The signature is somewhat cursive and is positioned in the upper right quadrant of the page.

JUNE TOURNAMENT

A full report of the tournament appeared in the local paper and is included in our Croquet Scrap Book.

Owing to very fast lawns, few games finished before time.

The David Rawkins Cup was very good replacement. It was won by John Beech from Pendle. The Fortfield Cup was won by Rowland Henderson, and the Dwerryhouse Challenge cup was won by Brian Smith. The runners up were Sean Carter, Alison Thursfield and Esme Owen.

Income -

Entry fees		£324.00
Donation		<u>12.00</u>
		£336.00
Prizes	£30:00	
Groundsman	£27:00	<u>£57.00</u>
		£279.00
Catering		290.00
Bar Takings		<u>140.00</u>
		£709.00

A levy of 30% was paid to the C.A. on entries after expenses.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 4TH AUGUST 1994, AT "MANOR GARTH"

Present: J. Hatherley, Esme Owen, Kay Peers and Gwen Sims.

Apologies: I. Dwerryhouse, H. Rubery, T. Dustan-Smith.

Matters arising: Nil.

Correspondence: The Secretary had received a letter from the C.A. with details of the 1994 recruitment scheme and also posters advertising the forthcoming World Croquet Championship on the 17th August. These are on display in the mallet room.

Reports: K. Peers had little to report but the price of 25p. and 35p. for tea/coffee and biscuits was generally agreed.

E. Owen had received monies from visitors' fees, sale of mallets, loan of video, etc: to the value of £45.40. This sum had been passed to the Treasurer and the sum in hand at the moment was £17.14. The Club Doubles Tournament had been won by R. Henderson and S. Adams with I. Dwerryhouse and P. Webber as runners up. The 2 Ball Tournament had been won by R. Henderson with J. Hatherley as runner up and by H. Read with B. Smith as runner up.

The Shot Game Tournament will take place on the 15th August and Esme will need help to set out and man the various stations. The tournament will start at 2 p.m. Esme also suggested a "Fun Tournament", with bisques, to take place after the Club Finals. The suggested date is 24th Sept. The number of players to be no more than 16. THE CHAIRMAN expressed appreciation on behalf of the committee for all Esme's hard work during the season.

I. Dwerryhouse sent a letter containing her report. Barbara Dawes and Kay Peers were runners up in the Golf Croquet S.W. Doubles Tournament and will hopefully represent us at Plymouth. The "B" League semi-finals will be held on Sunday Sept. 4th at Sidmouth. At the moment the League results are:

Federation Won 1 Lost 2.

Intermediate Won 2 Lost 2.

"B" League Won 2 Lost 1, 1 to play.

Iris also wrote a letter expressing the view that the presentation of floral tributes to Tournament Managers, or to relatives in the event of the death of a member, should be discontinued. The Committee were in full agreement.

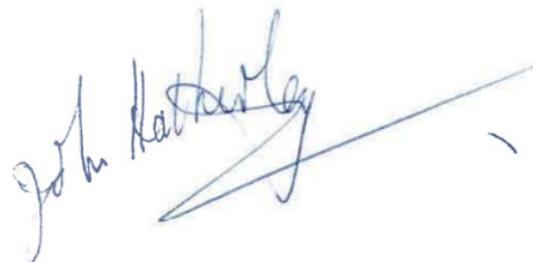
Points to and from the Main Committee: Nil

Any Other Business: It was decided that the discussion on the future of the Short Croquet Tournament should be postponed until the next meeting. The Military Whist Dates for next winter will be 3rd Nov. and 1st Dec.

The committee heard, with sadness, of the severe illness of Mrs. Pauline Bartle.

Date of the next meeting: Tuesday 6th September at "Manor Garth"

THE CHAIRMAN closed the meeting at 11.00 a.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "John Hatherley". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned at the bottom right of the page.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 6TH SEPT. 1994 AT "MANOR GARTH"

Present: J. Hatherley, Esme Owen, Kay Peers, Iris Dwerryhouse, A. Dustan-Smit and Gwen Sims.

Apologies: H. Rubery

Matters arising: I. Dwerryhouse pointed out that the names of Jane and David Clark must be added to the list of people going to Plymouth to represent Sidmouth in the Golf Croquet S.W. Tournament. It was agreed that the Short Croquet Tournament should continue to take place, with an advertisement in SWAN and personalised poster to be distributed to local clubs.

Correspondence: A letter from the C.A. requested the dates for the 1995 events. The dates for the June Open Tournament will be 12th to 16th June, the Sept. Open Tournament will be the week-end of the 9th/10th Sept. The format to be as in 1994, but the entry fee for June will be £13 and for the September tournament £10.50.

An application for membership has been received from Mr. George Sisum and his son, Mr. Charles Sisum. Mr. G. Sisum is a past member of Cheltenham Croquet Club and requests country membership. Mr. C. Sisum has a holiday home in Sidmouth and would like to be a full member. He is willing to take the training course in April 1995, but has played croquet with his father for some years. The committee have suggested that they be accepted and may pay their respective subscriptions to enable them to join in winter activities, but will not be due again until January, 1996. These subscriptions may have to be slightly adjusted, depending on the outcome of the Main Club A.G.M. in December.

Reports: I. Dwerryhouse reported that the Semi Finals of the S.W. Federation "B" League match went well, with Kingston Maurward Club winning against Plymouth, 4-1. The Secretary will write to Ian Maugham to recover the tea money. The Golf Croquet Tournament gave us a very successful day, with many members participating. Phillip Palmer defeated Ingrid Read to take the Singles title and Hugh and Ingrid Read defeated Gwen Sims and Peter Dart to take the Doubles title.

T. Dustan-Smith reported from the Management Committee that £15,000 only is to be spent on the Ladies Showers, with £3,000 to be held for any emergency. The lawns are to be closed by agreement with the groundsman and according to the weather but the possibility of leaving one lawn open through the winter will also be discussed. The forthcoming bar-b-cue menu has been decided and will be burgers and sausages. An appeal for helpers will be displayed. A price of £3:50 will be charged, not to include wine.

Tony also mentioned that the Main Committee is awaiting Budget statements from each Section and THE CHAIRMAN has this in hand.

Esme Owen reported that sales of mallets, balls, teas and visitors' fees have resulted in £64 in hand. The Finals have been completed and the Fun Day activities for the 24th September are well in hand. These will include Association Play, 2 Ball, Golf Croquet etc. The committee well appreciated the amount of organisation involved in such an event.

Kay Peers has the catering for the Sept. Tournament well in hand and is offering chicken or salmon salad for lunch each day. Club members may be included provided that their names are placed on the list in the mallet room, even if they are not players in this event. Kay asked, and received a sum of £30 towards the catering - though more will be needed.

Any Other Business: I. Dwerryhouse suggested that the resolution to be put forward by Sidmouth, that the South West Golf Croquet Tournament should be a handicap event, should be discussed at the next meeting.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 6TH OCTOBER, 1994 AT "MANOR GARTH".

Present: Esme Owen, Kay Peers, Iris Dwerryhouse, Hazel Rubery, Gwen Sims

Apologies: J. Hatherley, T. Dustan-Smith.

Matters arising: Iris informed the committee that the A.G.M. of the South West Federation will be held on 6th November. No resolution will be required with regard to the S.W. Golf Croquet Tournament, as there are no rules to be altered and the committee of the S.W. Federation have decided to run two separate events, one for high bisquers and the other for low bisque players. We have been obliged to alter the date of our A.G.M. to Tuesday, 25th October, at 10 a.m. and the Secretary will send individual notices of the change to each member of the section. The Rev. Sheila Scarr will present the trophies.

Correspondence: A Mr. Peter Trimmer, of Yeovil, Somerset, has requested details of country membership fees. Since he has a handicap of around 1, and has played croquet at Parkstone for some years, the committee would be pleased to welcome him.

Reports: Iris suggested that the two voting members to attend the South West A.G.M. should be selected at the next, new, committee meeting; though croquet members should be informed of the date and invited to attend at our own A.G.M on the 25th October. A notice giving details of our Short Croquet Tournament in 1995 should be taken to the S.W. Federation A.G.M. and we have £12 in tea monies to be collected.

The September Open Tournament was very successful. Debbie Latham from Taunton won the low bisque block and Roy Tillock the second block.

Hazel reported that people were still arriving on Wednesday mornings and Friday afternoons for Golf Croquet though, officially, the sessions were finished. In some instances the lawns had been already booked. However, the committee decided that four people only should play on each lawn to avoid damaging the turf. A notice will be posted to this effect. Lawns 1 and 2 are now closed. The Budleigh Golf Croquet Match ended in a win for Sidmouth, 10-6.

Kay reported that there was £70 profit from the September Tournament lunches, which were well supported. There were four possible venues for the Spring Croquet Luncheon, The Belmont Hotel, the Bedford, Salcombe Hill House and the Masons Arms at Branscombe. The prices ranged from £9 to £11.50 and members will be asked to vote for their first and second choice by means of ballot papers at the A.G.M. Coffee will be provided at the A.G.M.

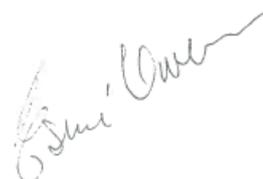
Esme reported that she had £32.64 in hand. The Bar-be-cue made £28.17 profit on food and was a very pleasant occasion. The croquet fun day went well and was followed by a mild, quiet evening. There are £4 in visitors' fees also in hand.

Tony Dustan-Smith, although unable to attend the meeting, sent his report, and two sample menus from "The Masons Arms" for our consideration. At the ground committee meeting Tony requested a winter croquet lawn be set up between the two hockey pitches. This was agreed. Tony also requested that the stripping and levelling of lawns 3 & 4, at a cost of £7/8000.00 should be put on the club's long term plan. This will go to the management committee. As the fence between the grass tennis court and lawn 3 is now being erected Tony asked that the broken and slack wires on the other fencing around our lawns might be replaced. Twenty six yew plants have been ordered to replace those that died. These will be supplied at cost. Volunteers are needed to help plant them. Twenty tons of top soil have been ordered. Five tons of top dressing for each lawn should keep them in good order.

Any Other Business: Table Tennis will start on the 12th Oct-from 10 a.m. till 12 a.m.

The Secretary requested that definite dates be fixed next year for the start and finish of Club afternoons, Golf Croquet, Table Tennis, etc: to avoid confusion.

The meeting closed at 11 a.m.



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CROQUET SECTION HELD ON TUESDAY 25TH OCTOBER 1994 AT 10 a.m. IN THE PAVILION.

The Chairman asked the meeting to stand in remembrance of four members who had died during the year, Mac Dawson, Keith Dawes, Eric Cox and Pauline Bartle.

Apologies were received from Aline and Michael Davis, Joyce Biles, Pat Packe, Les Toye, Clifford Walker, Gordon Bamford, Charlie and David Black, Bob Callingham, Arnold Cox and Mary Ellis.

The Chairman Welcomed the members of the section and the Officers of the Main Club. There were 55 members present, including the Club President and the Chairman.

The Chairman reminded the members that the minutes of the AGM held on the 27th October 1993 had been on the notice board since the beginning of September and asked if they should be taken as read. This was unanimously agreed and the minutes were accordingly approved and signed.

Committee's Report. The Secretary read the Committee's report on the year's activities. Adoption of the Report was proposed by David Clark and seconded by Eric Golding. The Committee's proposal that their number should be increased by one received unanimous approval.

U, who retires this year, thanked the Committee for their support through the year and went on to thank Tony Dustan-Smith for his diligence over the last three year's development of lawns and facilities for the croquet members' benefit; and the work of the groundsman in maintaining the Lawns. Members' attention was drawn to page VI - 1 of 2 of the C.A.'s Club Registration Pack on Etiquette and Customs. It is the observance of these courtesies that undoubtedly results in a happy atmosphere on the lawns. The Chairman went on to say that this had, indeed, been a year of consolidation and that he was sure that the club would go from strength to strength.

The Election of Officers and 6 Committee Members. Only one nomination had been received for Chairman and one for Secretary. Six names had been proposed and seconded for Committee members. The new Committee was therefore:

Chairman Esme Owen Secretary Gwynneth Dart

Members Iris Dwerryhouse, Elaine Woodward, Kay Peers, Hazel Rubery, David Clarke, and Bill Kennedy.

A vote of thanks to the Committee and to the three retiring members was proposed by Phil Dwerryhouse, who said that Sidmouth now had facilities and lawns of which the club could be very proud. The vote was endorsed by the meeting.

Any Other Business Barbara Dawes requested that the game of Alternate Shots should not be too frequently played on Club afternoons and Gwen Hewitt asked if 2 Ball could be made available on one lawn. This matter will be discussed by the new Committee. The venue for the March luncheon was discussed and members voted for one of four hotels suggested. Orders for Club sweaters were invited and notice of the S.W. AGM on Nov. 6th at Parkstone was given.

Presentation of Trophies: The Chairman invited the Rev. Sheila Scarr to present the trophies.

A vote of thanks to the Rev. Sheila Scarr was proposed by Katherine Holroyd and heartily endorsed by all members.

THE CHAIRMAN closed the meeting at 11 a.m. and coffee and biscuits were served.

CLUB TOURNAMENTS 1993

Humphrey Hicks Cup	Advanced Play (Singles)	John Hatherley (runner-up Tony Dustan-Smith)
Belmont Challenge Cup	Handicap Singles	Tony Dustan-Smith (Runner-up Chris Timms)
Fermor Rose Bowl	Ladies Handicap Singles	Gwynneth Dart (Runner-up Peggy Webber)
Devonia Cup	High Handicap Singles	Hugh Read (Runner-up Phil Palmer)
Corbett Spoons	Two Ball - High Bisquers	Hugh Read (Runner-up Brian Smith)
	Low Bisquers	Rowland Henderson (Runner-up J. Hatherley)
Colclough & Sidmouth Cups	Handicap Doubles	Rowland Henderson & Sheila Adams (Runners-up Iris Dwerryhouse & Peggy Webber)
Robert Case Shield	Shot Game Highest score	Peggy Webber
Tankard	Highest score + Handicap	Runner-up Mary Smith
Cunningham Salvors	Golf Croquet Singles	Phil Palmer (Runner-up Ingrid Read)
	Doubles	Ingrid Read and Hugh Read (Runners-up Peter Dart and Gwen Sims)
Longworth Cup	Most Improved Players	Jonathan Fulcher
Sidmouth Croquet Club Cup		Brian Smith

THE COMMITTEE REPORT The 1994 season saw the establishment of Lawn 1 and members now enjoy a beautifully true lawn on which it is a joy to play. This is further enhanced by the reappearance of the antique seat from the wreck of "The Duchess of Devonshire" which is in its place in the north eastern corner of the lawn. The seat was carefully and painstakingly renovated and restored to its full glory by Eric Home. The section are indebted to Eric for his hard work, and also to Peter Montgomery, for his careful maintenance of our lawns.

Our Open Tournaments, in June and September were well attended and we were blessed with fine weather. In fact the lawns were so fast that Les Toye's 12 hoop round, for which he was awarded a silver medal, was a remarkable achievement.

John Beech from Pendle took the David Rawkins Cup, Roland Henderson won all eight games in his block to take the Fortfield Cup and Brian Smith took the Dwerryhouse Cup with seven wins in the third block. The June Tournament produced a total of £709 to be paid into Club Funds.

The September Open Tournament gave us a thrilling finish with Debbie Latham from Taunton, Sean Carter from Plymouth and John Hatherley with an equal number of wins in the block. The three players had to shoot for the peg and Debbie Latham emerged victorious Roy Tillock from Reading won the second block.

Our thanks to Iris for the smooth and efficient organisation. Colin Thursfield was kind enough to write a report on the June Tournament for the C.A. and asked "where else are drinks delivered by prior order to players on the lawn?" This, coupled with the delicious lunches, teas and refreshments provided by Kay Peers and her team added much to the happy atmosphere of the tournaments.

The South West Short Croquet Tournament in May did not attract as many visitors as we would have wished. Sixteen people took part and Brian Smith won the Dorothy Toye Cup.

On Sept. 4th we hosted the Semi-Finals of the S.W. Federation "B" League, between Kingston Maurward and Plymouth.

CLUB TOURNAMENTS

All the Club Tournaments were well supported and we were fortunate to have dry weather for all the finals. The Doubles Tournament, which took place over two week-ends, the Egyptian Tournament, the 2 Ball and the Shot Game Tournament attracted a large number of entrants and it was good to see new faces taking part and doing well. The club events take a great deal of time and patience to organise and Esme's hard work in ensuring the smooth running of these events is much appreciated, by the committee and members alike.

GOLF CROQUET has been, as always, extremely popular this year. Hazel reported that as many as 40 people take part in the activities on Wednesday mornings and Friday afternoons. During the Federation Open Golf Croquet Tournament, held here on July 1st, Brian Smith and Jane Clark won the doubles and Brian won the singles with Barbara Dawes as runner up. Kay Peers and Barbara went on to represent us in the finals in Plymouth. The Club Golf Tournament days are great fun and are probably the busiest days in the Club calendar. This year was no exception.

The traditional friendly matches between Budleigh and Sidmouth resulted in home wins for each club. They are relaxed and pleasant occasions, much enjoyed by both sides. Our thanks to Hazel for running the golf croquet sessions so efficiently throughout the season.

SOUTH WEST FEDERATION Our results in the League matches have been varied. Federation, won 1 lost 2, Intermediate, won 2 lost 2 and the "B" league - won 3 lost 1. All were hard matches played in varying conditions and prompted Brian Smith's comment - "We paddled, splashed, slopped, waded and almost sculled about those Budleigh lawnsWin? We almost drowned in the attempt. Such determination resulted in a 5-0 win.

We entered the Longman Cup but were unfortunate enough to lose in the first round to Bristol. All the games were narrowly lost, and Clifford Walker's rueful report said "We did consider jumping from the Suspension bridge but as the tide was in, we may have survived".

Sidmouth, once again, was well represented at all the Budleigh Open Tournaments this year. Ten or twelve members from this club took part in the May, August and September events. Our congratulations must go to Brian Smith who played in his first Budleigh Tournament in May and won. The Tunmer Cup, congratulations also, to Iris Dwerryhouse and Brian who won their bronze medals for a break of ten hoops, with bisques, in August and September at Budleigh, and to Elaine Woodward who won her block in September.

TRAINING The season opened, as usual, with a meeting of prospective members and coaches in March and fifteen people ultimately took the training course and became new members this year. Our continued thanks go to Eric Kitchener and all our coaches who give so much of their valuable time to help newcomers. This is no easy task, particularly when the spring was as wet as it was this year. Eric's post training courses are also very popular and this year he introduced an evening especially for this year's intake, later in the season, as the committee and coaches were concerned that the initial enthusiasm of new members should not be allowed to wane. There are now 110 members in the croquet section, including one student and six country members.

Social Activities Many social activities take place during the year. Our annual lunch was held at "The Belmont" in March and 51 members attended. A new lunchtime 'chit-chat' meeting, held in the bar, took place at the beginning of the playing season, to enable croquet people and prospective members to get together and arrange to play. During May we ran a Plant Stall and Cake Stall at the Club Coffee morning. Both were highly successful. Table Tennis takes place every Wednesday morning from mid-October to the beginning of the new season. The Military Whist afternoons will begin again in November and it is hoped that these will be well attended, no particular card skills required - valuable prizes! Finally, another new innovation was the Fun Day, held at the end of the playing season, which was an idea of Esme's and organised to involve as many people as possible. This was followed by the Barbecue, masterminded by Tony Dustan-Smith. The whole day was much enjoyed and our thanks go to Esme and to Tony and his helpers.

This year, one winter lawn is to be kept open for those who are keen enough to brave the elements.

Because the season, for us began on a sad note, I feel that the members and committee have all given as much and more of their energy and enthusiasm to make this a successful and happy season. I am sure you will agree with me that we have achieved our goal.