



Annual Dinner at The Bear. The elements conspired against us with three inches of snow preventing eight people reaching The Bear. However, the remaining fifteen who were able to Wellington their way in, enjoyed an excellent meal and the warmth of a good log fire. An unexpected power cut ensured the last part of the evening was even more romantic than planned. For those unable to get to the main dinner, Richard and Rosemary hosted a second sitting at their home the following Friday



Bruno and Sue Pacini have now moved to Rivermede, Pockhill Drive, Bourton-on-the-Water, GL54 2DD No 'phone number yet. We wish them every happiness in their new home. Bruno will remain a member with us but has already set his sights on developing a Bourton Croquet Club so that we can visit him.

Pub nights.

The remaining pub nights this winter are on Wednesday 30th January at The Britannia, Nailsworth, Wednesday 20th February at The Woolpack, Stonehouse and the last one is Wednesday 19th March at The British Oak, Bowbridge. If you want to eat, please let Rosemary know and she will book the table. Otherwise, just turn up for a drink.

Coaching.

Robert is running an introduction to Association Croquet for absolute beginners initially for two Mondays starting at 2.30p.m. on April 7th and 14th. There is a limit of four places – bookable in advance. For individual tuition for anyone unable to play in the daytime, please contact Robert.

Don is running a series of coaching sessions to be held at RDS focussing on tactics on Mondays 7,14,21 and 28th April starting at 7.30p.m. Don will send details in due course, Don's sessions will use the latest technological wizardry and will benefit all levels of ability. To have coaching from someone of Don's experience and calibre is not to be missed. New members may like to know that Don was voted Coach of The Year and has written several books on croquet. As a "minus" player, he is world class yet through his interest in helping players improve, he makes even the most timid player feel comfortable.

Michael and Ann Poole's new address is 2 Highlands Glade, Manson, Ramsgate, Kent. CT12 5GS. We are delighted that they will remain far country members.

BEAR OF RODBOROUGH CROQUET CLUB

Club nights will begin on Wednesday 2nd April.

The main club night remains Wednesday but following last year's experiment, we are continuing to have Mondays as practice nights particularly for those who wish to develop their skills and for beginners who want tuition.

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Annual subs are now due. Please send payment to Brian. Cheques should be made payable to The Bear of Rodborough Croquet Club.
Standard Membership - £20
Country Membership (over 15 miles from club) - £10
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Developments at the hotel. Robert and Nick met with the owners and managers at The Bear in November to discuss the building programme and how this may impact on the club. The owners made it clear that they valued the croquet club and that for as long as they were owners, the club had nothing to fear. The builders would be instructed to protect and keep off the lawn at all times.

The first phase of the development is planned to take place through the winter of 2008/9 and involve building a brasserie on the site of the current barbecue area. The building would have come to within one metre of the current lawn so Nick is rotating clockwise the lawn's orientation slightly. This would increase the distance between the building and the lawn and also move the 'East' boundary away from the pavilion

which would improve the playing surface there.

The second phase of building will be to develop the rough area beyond the car park into new hotel accommodation but our fear of increased pedestrian traffic across the lawn is unfounded because hotel guests will be routed another way.

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Avoiding clashes.

A new system is in place this season to prevent clashes and to ensure no-one wastes time travelling to The Bear to find the lawn is already in use.

You will find a year planner in the pavilion. Please enter on this dates and times of all matches you arrange.

Hotel bookings will also be written up on this so no-one should be inconvenienced but, although the hotel tries very hard not to inconvenience us, if they get a lucrative booking at very short notice, they clearly cannot turn it down on our part. We therefore can only expect this new system to be 99% perfect!

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Club Website.

<http://www.faydon.com/Bear/Bear.html>
Please keep a regular watch on this site as Don will be keeping it up to date

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Vienna 2008. This year's international jolly is currently being planned. Watch this space!

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Club Golf Tournament.

Provisionally, Sunday 14th September 10.00a.m – 5.00p.m. You do not have to play all day but Don needs to know who will be playing and when so that he can manage the event efficiently.

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The Bear of Rodborough Croquet Club.

Chairman and Hotel Liaison:	Robert Moss	01453 872386
Secretary:	Rosemary Danby	01453 872456
Treasurer:	Brian Pittaway	01453 860610
Handicapper and club competitions manager:	Don Gaunt	01453 822507
Lawn Manager:	Nick Hurst	01453 882960
Equipment Manager:	Richard Danby	01453 872456

LEAGUE FIXTURES 2008

PARKSTONE

Manager - Matthew Jackson

<i>Saturday</i>	<i>31-May Away</i>	<i>Cheltenham</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>14-Jun Away</i>	<i>Bath</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>29-Jun Home</i>	<i>Cedar Park</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>20-Jul Home</i>	<i>Budleigh Salterton</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>03-Aug Home</i>	<i>Nailsea 2nd</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>30-Aug Away</i>	<i>Sidmouth</i>

FEDERATION

Manager - Matthew Jackson

<i>Saturday</i>	<i>26-Apr Away</i>	<i>Swindon</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>11-May Home</i>	<i>Broadwas</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>18-May Away</i>	<i>Dyffryn</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>22-Jun Away</i>	<i>Cheltenham</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>12-Jul Home</i>	<i>Worcester Norton</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>27-Jul Home</i>	<i>Nailsea (North)</i>

Manager - Paul Mills

INTERMEDIATE

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>18-May Home</i>	<i>Worcester Norton</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>08-Jun Away</i>	<i>Broadwas</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>15-Jun Home</i>	<i>Cheltenham</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>28-Jun Away</i>	<i>Swindon</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>06-Jul Away</i>	<i>Dyffryn</i>

Manager: – Keith Apperley

BEGINNERS

<i>Saturday</i>	<i>31-May Away</i>	<i>Cheltenham</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>08-Jun Home</i>	<i>Worcester Norton</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>22-Jun Home</i>	<i>Broadwas</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>05-Jul Away</i>	<i>Kington Langley</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>13-Jul Home</i>	<i>Dyffryn</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>19-Jul Home</i>	<i>Llandaff</i>

BEAR OF RODBOROUGH CROQUET CLUB MEMBERS - 2007

<i>Name</i>	<i>H'cap</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>email</i>
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