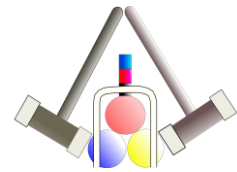


KILLARA CROQUET CLUB NEWSLETTER JULY 2019

KILLARA CROQUET



KCC VOTES CNSW NEW CONSTITUTION

Thank you to everyone who voted on whether our Club should accept or reject the new CNSW Constitution. Our Club's vote, i.e. to ACCEPT, (by a very significant majority of votes) has been submitted.

Now we must wait, until after the close of voting on Friday, 12th July, to know if the new Constitution is accepted by 75% of the Clubs which are eligible to vote. If it is accepted there won't be any immediate, noticeable changes for us. The introduction of a Membership Declaration has been postponed for a year, and we have been assured the revision of it will take into account the feedback CNSW received in response to the draft Declaration. Our Club's Constitution will need to be reviewed, but this process will not be rushed and will maintain the spirit of our current Model Rules and Standing Orders.

KCC CROQUET NEWS

Mary Lambert, Fay Simpson and Margaret Craig will soon head for Port Macquarie – Margaret and Mary to play, and Fay to referee, in Port Macquarie's AC Tournament (22-26th July). Jim Hicks, a member of Port Macquarie CC, will also be involved with the Tournament.

David Rush is playing in several of the Tweed-Gold Coast Tournaments which began on Saturday 6th and finish on Friday 19th July

Liz and Peter Montague played in the GC Open Singles, in which there were twenty participants. In a very strong field they reached the knockout stage of the competition and each was a semi-finalist in the Plate.

They have also been playing in the AC Gold Pennants Competition as members of Chatswood's team (Killara not having entered the event)

**THE AC HANDICAP CLUB DOUBLES WILL BE PLAYED ON
WEDNESDAYS 14th AND 21st AUGUST.
ALL MATCHES IN OTHER CLUB TOURNAMENTS MUST BE
FINISHED BY 1st NOVEMBER.**

DIARY DATES

**FROM THE
TREASURER'S DESK**
**Club and Affiliation Fees are
now due - a total of \$240
(\$198 if you are affiliated
through another Club)**

The next chance for you to enjoy a fun and convivial evening with other members will be the

**SOCIAL NIGHT
FRIDAY 2nd AUGUST**



Pre-prandial BYO drinks and nibbles will begin at 6.00pm (Don't forget your plate of goodies.)

ADVANCE NOTICE

The CNSW AC Selectors' Eight event will be held at Killara on Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th August. Both lawns will be used for the matches.

**A LAWN-WEEDING DAY WILL
PRECEDE THIS. YOU'LL BE ADVISED
BY EMAIL OF THE DATE AND TIME**

Killara Croquet Club Inc.

Regimental Park, cnr Lorne Ave and Pacific Highway, Killara 2071. PO Box 173 Killara 2071

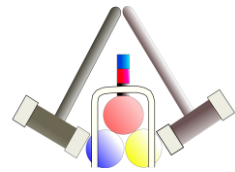
Clubhouse Telephone: 9498 6662

Website: www.killara-croquet.com

ABN 28 543 622 104

KILLARA CROQUET CLUB NEWSLETTER JUNE 2019

KILLARA CROQUET



KCC CELEBRATES - MID WINTER LUNCH

Social events are a feature of our calendar. They're a great way to catch up with people we don't normally meet at the Club and to see dimensions of people we don't usually encounter on the croquet lawn.



Thank you to our Social Committee (Margaret Craig and Carolyn Benisch) for arranging our festive Mid-Winter lunch.

Everyone enjoyed the good food and the company, and two lucky people, Anne and Geoff Hunter, took home one of the two raffle prizes. The other prize was won by Margaret McMahon



CLUBHOUSE SECURITY

It's extremely important that our facilities are kept as secure as possible. Just a quick look at what the vandals have done to the exterior of the Clubhouse and to our shelters shows what could happen to the interior of our Clubhouse

There is a notice on the wall by the door listing the steps we all need to follow when we're the last out of the Clubhouse.

The blinds were left open recently, which could provide an open invitation to anyone with mischievous (or worse) intent. Please ensure they are lowered before you leave.

**PAUL BARNES & JOE PARK
HAVE JOINED OUR CLUB
WE WELCOME YOU BOTH AND
HOPE YOU ENJOY YOUR
MEMBERSHIP OF KILLARA
CROQUET CLUB.**

MAKE SURE YOU TURN TO PAGE 3

Thank you to Fay Simpson for providing the article from The Spectator (29th June, 2019), which is inserted with apologies for the poor quality of the scanning. It's worth closing your eyes to its poor presentation in order to enjoy reminding yourself of all the brilliant features of our game

Killara Croquet Club Inc.

Regimental Park, cnr Lorne Ave and Pacific Highway, Killara 2071. PO Box 173 Killara 2071

Clubhouse Telephone: 9498 6662

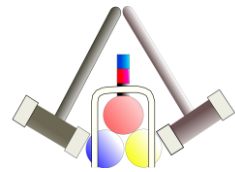
Website: www.killara-croquet.com

ABN 28 543 622 104

KILLARA CROQUET CLUB NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2019

KILLARA CROQUET



NOTES ON...

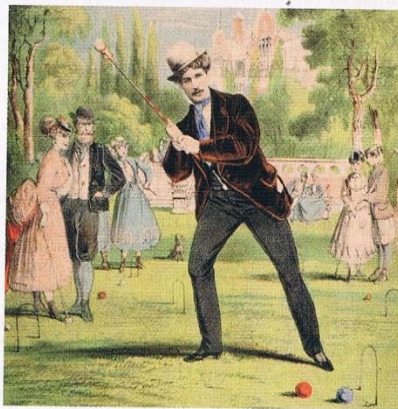
Croquet

By Sam Leith

People say cricket is the quintessential English game. Those people are wrong. Cricket may have a longer pedigree, but it's too boring, too democratic and too honourable to qualify: croquet is the game that truly captures what it is to be English. As any pub quizzer will tell you, Wimbledon started its life in 1868 as the All England Croquet Club, only developing its vulgar sideline in lawn tennis late in the following decade. Its reputation has yet to recover.

Just like cricket, where the game as played on the village green differs from the international game, the echt English croquet is the one played, ideally slightly drunk, in the echt Englishman's garden. Its idiosyncrasies are what makes it special. For me, the only true croquet lawn in the world will always be the threadbare triangle of grass in the middle of Weston's Yard in Eton.

A perfect croquet lawn — should such a thing exist — would make the game a cousin of billiards; a thing of unforgivingly precise geometry, governed by the Newtonian rules of particle mechanics. Touch, feel and low cunning would be all but irrelevant. The special joy of the game as played at home is that the lawn is imperfect. This confers a home advantage (you learn how to correct for the slight dent on the approach to the second hoop; you know where clover makes



the grass slow; you know which slightly bent hoop won't tolerate anything but a perpendicular approach) and leads to a proliferation of house rules; which, set correctly, will also confer a home advantage.

Two no-nos. The golf-shot (mallet perpendicular to feet) makes you look a wally and doesn't do your accuracy any favours. And putting your foot on your own ball when you play a croquet shot is just awful, and probably against the rules.

Played properly, croquet is the greatest game of co-operation and sabotage to be found on earth. There really is no point at all

playing it — as some do — with each player taking a mallet and ball and going it on their own. When you play in teams, the game opens up — it transforms the mallet-and-ball equivalent of snap into a game of contract bridge.

The trick is to leave opponents so far away from you and from each other that any flailing long-distance attempt to roquet your ball is, effectively, a donation of their ball to you for further punishment. The satisfaction of sending your despairing opponent's ball trundling right up to, but not into, a distant flowerbed... that may be the second greatest pleasure on earth. The greatest being that of quietly, helpfully, patronisingly, putting your team-mate through hoop after hoop without his getting a mallet to his own ball. This really is a 'zero-sum game': the less your opponents and even team-mates are enjoying it, the more you will be. Your glory is another's fury.

Croquet was Auberon Waugh's game, which says it all. Friends who visited Combe Florey, his Somerset home, report that he was a fiercely competitive player. That is, he cheated like mad — even after having disadvantaged his guests with strong Bloody Marys before play began. That is quite proper. The day the Englishman can no longer cheat at croquet in his own back garden is the day this ceases to be a land fit for heroes.