

# C.C.C. UPDATE - FEBRUARY 2020

## Pasty & Pud'

Well, Katherine did it again! What a very enjoyable time we all had on 14<sup>th</sup> February. The clubhouse was a picture with heart decorations on every wall and a table laden with a mouth-watering variety of 'puds'. And how lovely it was to meet up again after such a long break. Thank you all for coming, with a special mention to Ian, Ron and Pam who made very long journeys to be with us, Phil who was Kathryn's helper for the whole day and, of course, Kathryn.



'Yummy' puds



and great waitress service!

## Lawns

It can't have escaped anyone's notice that we have experienced a very wet five months since October last year. If you are interested in statistics try visiting this website to see just what has been happening with the weather over this period of time: <https://www.worldweatheronline.com/st-austell-weather-averages/cornwall/gb.aspx>. Just two statistics to note are for average rainfall and rainy days - 83 days of rain from October to December 2019 with over 156mm of rain. That compares with 69 days and almost 113mm of rain in the same period in 2018.

It goes without saying that we have been able to do very little work on the lawns to prepare for season opening so far, but we will be working very hard as soon as it dries up a little with the aim of opening the lawns and starting the season on April 1<sup>st</sup>. In the next few weeks I hope that we will be able to call for a working party day when we can do some of the work needed not just on the lawns but also on the perimeter – pruning, strimming etc. Please do come along if you are free. You don't need to be super fit as regular cups of tea and coffee are always welcome as well!

Are you changing carpets? Funny question – why? Because we would like to put some down in the mower shed to avoid damage to the tyres by the sharp stones on the floor in there. Please let me know if you have any old carpet you don't want or need.

## Spring Clean

It is tradition for March to be the 'spring clean' month at club. This means the cabin and clubhouse need cleaning, including emptying all cupboards etc. The equipment shed will need emptying and all equipment sorting and cleaning as well, so lots to do and, again, volunteers for working parties will be very welcome. A check list will be put in the clubhouse soon so that you know what has been done and what still needs to be done.

## Membership

Those who attended the AGM will know that we had a very good discussion about membership and recruitment. We need more members to keep the club lively and financially viable so are hoping that you will all help in encouraging people to come up and try croquet. If you brought anyone up to club last year please try to encourage them to come up again. They can have four weeks of free club sessions before they decide to join and, as requested at the AGM, we have reduced subscription rates for their first year of membership to add more encouragement.

## Competitions

April sees the season start off with two competitions. The first is the annual Short Croquet tournament at Nailsea, Bristol and the second is the first GC High Handicap League match against Plymouth at home on Friday 24<sup>th</sup>. Lists for the various club leagues will be posted on the noticeboard and we hope that you will all consider joining in one or some of these matches. In mid-May we have the Croquet Association Charity One-Ball competition in aid of Macmillan Nurses. Please do try to join in this. It's neither Association nor Golf Croquet - just a fun competition where you try to run all hoops in order before your opponent with just one ball. One final event of note will be our Open Day on 17th May, but more of this later.

## **URGENT - HELP NEEDED - A VACANCY**

I regret to say that Felicity's three-year term as Secretary for the club comes to a close at the end of March and she has told us that she is not looking to continue as secretary after then.

So, we are urgently seeking someone who can take this on, either as a temporary measure until the AGM when elections take place or with a view to continuing after the AGM. If you think you could help your club in this way please let me know as soon as possible.

***Rhona***