

PHYLLIS COURT CROQUET

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Egyptian International
Sherif Nafee

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The
Committee member
i/c this web site is:
Chris Roberts
079 7378 7710
info@kickphoto.co.uk

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Wednesday 27th July 2011: Top Egyptian Star Sharif Nafee visits PCC

Egyptian International Sherif Nafee wowed the Phyllis Court regulars with an impromptu display of "Croquet, but not as we know it" on Tuesday afternoon. Fresh from the last week's World Golf Croquet Championships, Sherif's hard and super accurate croquet stokes were in marked contrast to the gentle style of the PCC 'All Comers' regulars, who halted their games to see the master at work.

The onlookers were open mouthed on occasions as the balls were cracked with pace from one end of the lawn to the other, as is the Egyptian style, and the 20 minute display drew gasps and applause aplenty. Sherif was visiting our Club as a guest of our own World Championship player Helena Fensome, who provided the opposition for the display game.

As reported last week, Helena was representing her native Finland last week and had a fabulous time rubbing shoulders with the world's croquet elite (see stories below).



Sunday 24th July 2011: World Championships - Day 7- The Final

History was made today when Irishman Mark McInerney became the first player in the 15 years of the event, ever to wrestle the World Golf Croquet Championship from the dominant Egyptians. In a perfect display of controlled croquet he took the World Crown from over 50's Champion Hisham Abosbaa in front of a packed gallery at the Hurlingham Club.

Phyllis Court's Helena Fensome was still on a high after the wonderful experience of involvement in this, the top event of them all.

For the record she won two games and in all played against 12 different players from 5 different countries.

Tomorrow - Helena returns to PCC to partner Vivian Thomson against her husband Mike and John Stanner in our Open Doubles Competition.

Also Tomorrow - Hurlingham get another visit from PCC when they host us for a friendly fixture against some of their club players.



Saturday 23rd July 2011: Helena at the World Championships - Day 6 (Helena's last)

Helena's last day of competition was another tough one and saw more losses against Nick Cheyne and block winner Ian Lines.



Friday 22st July 2011: Helena at the World Championships - Day 5

Helena was competing in the Plate Tournament at Surbiton CC today and is in a block of six players.

She started the day impressively with a game win over Sweden's Simon Carlsson to double her victory tally for the week, only to see Carlsson win the second of their two games.

Helena then lost twice to experienced Dennis Bulloch of New Zealand and, in her own words, had 'nowhere to hide' against Egyptian Helmi Abdelgayed.

Tomorrow sees another tough test against two very good Englishmen Ian Lines and Nick Cheyne (ranked nos. 8 & 33 in the UK respectively).



Thursday 21st July 2011: Helena at the World Championships - Day 4

Success at last on Day 4 for Helena who won her first game of the Championships against New Zealander Steve Piercy.

That was the second game in a best of three match that eventually went the Kiwi's way 7- 6, 5-7, 7-2 and was Helena's only game of the day. With the block play programme now complete, the entire field will now be cut in half with the first four in each block contesting the Championship at Hurlingham and the bottom half (including Helena) playing for the consolation Plate at Surbiton CC. Several PCC members attended to support Helena today and there is still time for you to catch this top class action at either venue before the event ends on Sunday. Chris Roberts has all the details on 079 7378 7710.



Wednesday 20th July 2011: Helena at the World Championships - Day 3

Day 3 saw Helena switched to the Hurlingham Club but the opponents were just as tough. First up today was Howard Cheyne

(the UK no. 11) and Helena held him to a brace of 4 - 7 scorelines. After that Australian Champion John van der Touw showed his class all too well. Tomorrow Helena plays her last block game against Steve Piercy of New Zealand and a good number of Phyllis Court members are coming along to support our clubmate in the wake of PCC Croquet Chairman Pam Mead who attended today.

Also Today - News on the home front, that Ian Norris has been 'at it' again - beating a higher handicapped opponent that is - and Anne Atfield was his latest victim as he was the first to progress to the 7+ Singles semis where Alex Earnshaw or Paul Kerry await.

Club handicapper Vivian Thomson has rewarded Ian with a handicap reduction for the second time this season - Ian is now a '7' - really well done!

Also Today - The Phyllis Court 'Level Leauge' team travelled to Ryde, on the Isle of White, but lost 4 - 8. Ryde fielded thier strongest line-up with handicaps of 1,1,2 & 2 against our Chris Roberts (2), Frances Colman (3), Raymond Wood (5) and Mary Gaynor (6). We held our own by squaring the doubles games but came unstuck in most of the singles with only Chris winning his two matches. A friendly fixture was played alongside the league game and our team of Don Rutherford, Anne Atfield and Pauline Wood (plus one loanee) reversed the league result to win handsomly.



Tuesday 19th July 2011: Helena at the World Championships - Day 2

Helena Fensome ended Day 2 with her best result so far, taking Swede Jonatan Andersson to the 13th hoop before losing out 6 - 7.

This was a good come back by Helena who had succumbed 3 - 7 in the first of the 'Scandanavian Derby' games. In the morning Helan had found UK no.4 Will Gee too strong and ended up losing out 3 - 7, 1 - 7. So no victories yet but with the top four seeds now played there is still something to be played for in these block games.



Monday 18th July 2011: Helena at the World Championships - Day 1

Proudly representing Finland, Helena Fensome found it tough going against two Egyptian players on Day 1 at Surbiton CC.

Blown away in her first match 3 - 7, 2 - 7 against Yasser Esmat, Helena rallied to take her block top seed Amr Baher to 5 - 7 before losing again 7 - 1.

But with two of her toughest opponents now out of the way, Helena was still all smiles and looking forward to the rest of the week.

Results + Selections

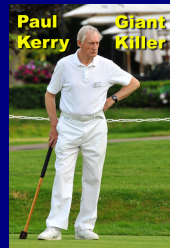
Saturday 16th July 2011: League win for PCC White

On Friday, Raymond Wood's PCC White team scored their first victory of the handicap league season.

Wingrave were outgunned by our team who won convincingly 8 - 4. First pair Raymond with Mary Gaynor scored most of the points by winning both games in their Doubles rubber and then turning the same trick in both their singles. Rosie Richardson and Nailine Wood won one of their Doubles and the former won one of her singles games too. [Click here for the league table.](#)



Helena ready to take on the World!



Paul Kerry Giant Killer



Michael Wiles qualifies for National Final

Our 'Center Stage' Competitors

Summer Party

Thursday 11th

August

click here:

Social

Tuesday 12th July 2011:

Helena all set for WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

There is less than a week to go until Helena Fensome proudly takes her place in the most prestigious Golf Croquet Tournament of them all.

Helena will be representing her country of birth Finland and will compete alongside World Number One Reg Bamford from South Africa, UK Open Champion Stephen Mulliner and 10 or more of the fearsome hard hitting Egyptian players who collectively dominate top of the world rankings.

We are all really proud that Helena is not only flying the flag for her country but is also giving Phyllis Court a representation at Croquet's top table and several of our members will be attending the Championships to support Helena at the Surbiton and Hurlingham Clubs.

Frances Colman, Chris Roberts & Mike Fensome will be there nearly every day, acting as official scorers, so if you would like to see the best croquet in the world first hand, please contact Chris on 079 7378 7710 and he will tell you all you need to know.

Watch this space for daily updates on Helena's progress.



Paul Kerry & Pam Mead - 'Giant Killers':

There was another surprise in our our singles competitions on Monday when Paul Kerry took the notable 'scalp' of top seed Helena Fensome in the 5+.

In three really long games the pair contested nearly every hoop before Helena peeled Paul through the deciding 12th.

24 hours later Paul was in another three hour match to defeat a spirited Heather Masheter in the 7+.

'Getting her own back' Pam Mead, avenged an earlier competition defeat by Anne Attfield with a win the 5+ and Pam is complimented still further for her fantastic victory in a block match during the Wiltshire Open, when she defeated young Ryan Cabble, the UK's no.6, and eventual winner of the tournament..

Michael Wiles books place in National Finals:

Michael Wiles ran-out a very narrow victor in Friday's National 'Center Stage' qualifier Tournament.

Both he and Nina Cox won two games during the 'round robin' series of games, but Micheal had won the head to head match between the pair so got the qualification nod.

Anne Attfield ran some particularly long hoops but only won one game out of three, a feat matched by Don Rutherford, but again Anne had won the head to head match and so took third place.

League 'Blews':

Our SCF Handicap League teams found Blewbury tough opposition in this last week.

PCC White drew 6 - 6 and PCC Blue lost 5 - 7 leaving Blewbury top of the league.

Thursday 7th July 2011: National Inter Club Championship win for PCC

Phyllis Court beat Dulwich 4 - 3 in The Golf Croquet Inter Club Championship Quarter Finals on Thursday 7th July.

Results + Selections

Without the aid of the coast guard as seemed likely at one point, Phyllis Court scored a narrow victory over Dulwich to progress to the Golf Croquet Inter Club Championship semis.

Despite being under standing water only 40 minutes before play, the remarkably well draining Dulwich lawns allowed a full programme of play that most other Clubs would have found impossible to provide.

Prior to what turned out to only be a slightly delayed start, the visitors were treated to a splendid lunch with main course by 'Chef du Masion' Pierre Beuadry.

Phyllis Court got off to a good start with Charlie von Schneider (1) and TJ Johansen (2) taking their doubles rubber 2 - 0 against Pierre (0) and Simon Carter (0).

Chris Roberts (2) turned the same trick against Mark Ormerod (3) and Frances Colman (4) nearly joined the visitors party but went down 1 - 2 in three close games against Ed Dymock (2).

Buoyed (no watery pun intended) by their 2 - 1 half time lead Phyllis Court could see the looming possibility of another Cup upset and sweet victory in revenge for their exit in last years competition at Dulwich's hands.

As the sun came out, Charlie & Chris duly wrapped up straight game wins over Pierre and Ed respectively and it was smiles aplenty for Phyllis Court, as although the other two rubbers went to Dulwich, the visitors had done enough.

Gracious in defeat, the hosts still wheeled out the chocolate cake for tea and the late appearance of Sue Lightbody to renew friendships with Chris & Frances was equally delightful.

Phyllis Court await the winners of the Surbiton v Hunstanton match, to contest for a place in the Inter Club Championship final.

Tuesday 5th July 2011: PCC pair contest Six Lawns AC Final and bring home more silverware

Chris Roberts took the Six lawns AC trophy beating Frances Colman the title of a very enjoyable three day tournament played at three different clubs.

Tomorrow: PCC lawns re-open and PCC White play away at Blewbury. Thursday: PCC 'Inter Club Championship' play away Dulwich.

Wednesday 29st June 2011: PCC Level Lose at Winchester

Fielding players with handicaps 1, 1, 2 & 4, Winchester were just too good for our traveling Level League team today.

Second pair Helen Fensome (HC 3) & Frances Colman (4) got off to a good start winning both their doubles games and our first pair TJ Johansen (2) and Chris Roberts (2) won one of theirs, giving Phyllis Court a 1 - 3 half time lead. But it all fell apart in the singles with all but one of the night games going the way of the hosts. Frances needed a late victory to save our blues as Winstocote was the match 9 - 4.

Monday 27th June 2011: Weekend report:

PCC White lose in HC League

High Wycombe surprised PCC White to inflict a first league defeat (4 - 8) on Raymond Wood's team on Friday.

Nina Cox was the host's star in winning both her singles matches and Mary Garynor too contributed two points (one win in a doubles match partnering Raymond and one win in a singles).

Captain Raymond found his Association opponent's eye for the long clearance too much and he like Dilys Earnshaw went down to 0-2 singles scorlines which matched that of the second doubles match. Still awaiting news of our Assoc. Team's match with High Wycombe on Saturday.

PCC Quartet take a massive 207 index points from Class Oponents at the GC National Open

Chris Roberts lead World No.1 Reg Bamford 4-1 in the highlight of a good showing by PCC players at the National Golf Croquet Open this past long weekend at Southwick, near Brighton.

Bamford duly won the maych of course but Chris did beat several lower handicapped players during the tournament.

Helena Fensome, Frances Colman & Pam Mead also scored notable victories and collectively Phyllis Court 'fleeced' the field of 207 index points.

UK no.3 Stephen Mulliner won the tournament.

Norris 'Dancing'

The Norris' march goes on, and this time it's in the Doubles! Not content with causing a stir in the Singles competitions, Ian Norris teamed up with wife Delia to 'scalp' Ralph Chambers and Michael Wiles who were second seeds in the 7+ Doubles.

The Norrises must now be considered amongst the favorites in this their first season of competition play - *Jolly well done you two!*

More 'Bunny Trouble!'

Our Chocolate Easter Bunnies story found its way into the National Croquet Gazete this month with full write up and large picture. Here is a reminder >>>>



Monday 20th June 2011: Phyllis Court do the Federation 'Double'

In a super weekend for our Club, Phyllis Court took Southern Federation Golf Croquet Solstice Cup and the Association version, the Armarda Trophy.

Charlie von Schmieder and TJ Johanesn (far left) retained 'The Solstice' for a third successive year at Hamptworth CC (near Southampton) beating a strong contingent from the Isle of White Club Ryde.

The day before, Frances Colman and Chris Roberts (left) dodged the torrential rain to record 'a first' for Phyllis Court when they won (the rather appropriately named) 'Armarda'.

Also this weekend: Raymond Wood's win over Don Rutherford saw him achieve a handicap cut down to a 5.

And: Pam Mead again reached the quarter-finals of a Womens' Tournament, this time at Ramsgate, while Helena Fensome reduced her handicap to 3 and won the Consolation Plate.

Thursday 16th June 2011: Giant Killer Ann marches on

Anne Attfield (handicap 7) pulled off the biggest surprise result of this seasons Competitions yesterday when she beat Chairman Pam Mead (4) in the Open Singles.

Buoyed by an unexpected 7 -6 win in the first game, she played her steady blocking and 'nesteling in the hoop' game and despite Pam's partial recovery to take the second game 4 - 7, Ann rallied again to wrap up the decider 7 -4.

Pam will get the chance for revenge as the two combattents will lock horns again in the 5+ Singles and Anne has another tricky customer in the 7+ as she now has to face twice winning competition debutant Ian Norris.

Today: The 5+ Doubles Tournament (The Cow Wolves) was washed out. A new date will be sought and advertised. Watch this space!

Tuesday 14th June 2011: National 'Murphy Shield' win for Golf Team

Phyllis Court scored a great win over the Sussex County Club today at Southwick, near Brighton, in the first round of The National Golf Croquet Inter-Club Shield (Murphy Shield).

We were slow starters but recovered well to sneak a very narrow victory with all but two of the 19 games played ending 7-5 or 7-6.

Helena Fensome playing at 3 for the Phyllis Court team, was the star of the show in winning both her matches. We now face the winners of Watford and Dulwich in the Quarter-finals.



Monday 13th June 2011: Weekly Report -Golf Level League team start with a win

The tricky Harwell lawns tested our Level League team on Friday but a comfortable 8-4 victory was recorded despite early scares.

Also this week : Our GC Friendly team beat Dogmersfield 6-3 and our AC Friendly team drew with Watford 3-3. [Click here to see the latest GC League tables:](#)

Another win sees Dill becomes a 6

This week Dilys Earnshaw (left) became the latest player to work her way down to a lower handicap ranking. [Well done Dill!!](#) [Click here to see the latest GC handicap rankings:](#)

Golf - Handicaps

Results + Selections

Monday 6th June 2011: Weekly Report - Last week in the Competitions - [SEE THE KNOCK-OUT GRIDS ON THE 'GOLF CROQUET' PAGE](#)

Dianne Brown and Ian Norris can take a bow this week for two great results against higher ranked opponents.

Diane (handicap 9) scored a fine win over Rosemary Noel-Clarke (8) in the 7+ Competition on the back of her earlier Doubles win partnering Bob de Board.

Ian Norris had already caught the eye this season, to the extent that Club handicapper Vivain Thomson had moved him down from the 9 to 8 rank, and he replayed that trust in 'the match of the round' against John Stanner (6) in the 'Open'.

John took the first game 7-4 but Ian bounced back to take the second 5-7 before the pair went all the way to the 13th 'Golden Hoop' in the last game where John triumphed 7-6 - and it doesn't get any closer than that!

In the Open Doubles there was AC experience aplenty when Anne Attfield & Sonia Cox (comb. HC 14) upset the rankings to defeat

Sunday 29th May 2011: Frances & Chris win Roehampton AC Handicap Doubles Cups >>>>

Friday 27th May 2011: Honours even in First League Match - PCC Blue v PCC White

20th - 22nd May 2011: Girls win Barnses Cups

The three day Association Barnses Cups Doubles Tournament was won by Elizabeth O'Dair and Frances Colman this weekend. Also - Paul Kerry (HC 7) has not only been the busiest for our competitions players, he's holding a 100% victorious record.

Thursday 19th May 2011: Kathy & Don bag the Champs!

Kathy Toumey and Don Rutherford won the Spring Drawn Partners Tournament today, beating Rosie Richardson & Dorothy Elliott in the final, on one of the most glorious days of the year so far.

- For full results click on this button:

[Spring Drawn Partners](#) [Entry Form for the 2011 Cave Wolfe Tournament now in Pavilion](#)



*Drawn Partner's Finalists -
Rosie, Don, Kathy & Dorothy*

Monday 16th May 2011: Weekend report -10th Women's Open Golf Croquet Championship

Pam Mead (left) reached the quarter finals in top Ladies Tournament Ripon this week and eventually finished 6th - a really good achievement.

Tuesday 10th May 2011: Dilys & John on song as Frances wins The Champagne Singles

The Inaugural PCC Champagne Open Singles was won by Frances Colman yesterday who recovered well from an early reverse to claim the first prize of the season. But there were upsets a plenty with John Stanner (starting handicap 7) beating Chris Roberts (2) and Frances (4) on his way to winning his block undefeated. Another over achiever was Dilys Earnshaw (7) who took the notable scalps of Raymond Wood (6) and Helena Fensome (4) and progressed into the Final.

Players handicap index points altered quite significantly during the day and John Stanner is to be roundly congratulated for seeing his Handicap ranking move down from 7 to 6.

See the latest GC Handicap ranking list here:

[Golf - Handicaps](#)

Full results NOW ON-LINE on the 'Golf Croquet' page under the 'Open Singles T' button - short cut here:

[Open Singles T](#)



Saturday 7th May: Phyllis Court trio in the PINK (again)

PCC heat winner Rosie Richardson and wild card entries Frances Colman & Chris Roberts all had a great time at The National Charity One Ball Finals at Winchester today. Frances performed the best of the PCC bunch in winning 5 of her 9 games including an epic last match against Marcus Evans (ranked at -10 for the event).



*Finalists:
Dilys & Frances*



The PCC Trio

Wednesday 4th May: General News Up-Date

All 12 Golf and Association 'Season Long' Competitions playing schedules published & 18 newcomers pass their initial training and a welcome to experienced AC player Harry Midgley.

Wednesday 27st April 2011: ROSIE WINS CHARITY 'PINK' ONE BALL

Rosie Richardson won the PhyllisCourt heat of this year's Charity One-Ball Championship and goes through to the final, at Winchester on 7th May.

Thursday 21st April 2011 (06.30am!) BUNNY TROUBLE!

Club members Frances Colman and Chris Roberts had arrived earlier still that morning and set up eight Chocolate Easter Bunnies for Jason and his assistant Tom to find. The Easter Bunnies were a thank you to the gardeners their sterling efforts in presenting the lawns in such wonderful condition - so Happy Easter chaps!

Monday 18th April 2011: Helena and Pam reduce handicaps at The Ripon Rowles

PCC Croquet maintained their presence in wider competitions this past weekend with both Helena Fensome and Pam Mead achieving handicap reductions due to their efforts at the Ripon Rowles Tournament where the Official CA report describes them as *'the two surprise packages of the Tournament'*.

Saturday 16th April 2011: One Ball Introduction bodes well for 'Pink' Challenge

Fourteen players made it for today's 'One Ball' introduction / training session and all reported having enjoyed the experience of this 'new' game.

Monday 11th April 2011: 'Champagne' Singles Tournament entry list opens today

Sunday 10th April 2011: PCC pair do well at Sidmouth

Frances Colman & Chris Roberts performed well at their first Ascot Cup qualifying tournament this weekend, winning 50% of their games

Friday 25th March 2011: Competition Entries top 35 different players!

Sunday 13th March 2011: Frances Colman wins in South Africa!

Tuesday 8th February 2011: Smokey becomes President

Tuesday 25th January 2011: Pre-season meeting

