

PHYLLIS COURT CROQUET

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[15 December 2017 - The SCF AGM - a brief report](#)

The minutes of this meeting have been circulated to all clubs and have been seen you our committee.
If anyone else would like to see them, please give Chris a call or e-mail.

Highlights:

- Frances stood down as the GC Leagues Manager after serving for six and half years - she is replaced by our friend Roy Tillcock of Ryde.
- Richard Peperell (representing High Wycombe) was elected to the SCF committee.
- Rule change for GC Solstice and AC Armada; players no longer need to be both from the same club.

[14 December 2017 - The SCF AGM is tomorrow](#) (see the news item below)

A report of the meeting will appear here in due course.



[7 December 2017 - Sad News - Derek Toms](#)

It is with sadness that I have to inform you that our long standing member Derek Toms has passed away. Derek always enjoyed his croquet and will be remembre for always playing with a smile on his face. He played but AC and GC, and over the yeras, whilst predominantly playing socially, he did enjoy some successes in our GC competative events.

Derek won the Over 80's Singles tournament in 2015 and at least two 'Drawn Partners' tournaments along the way. He also accompanied other PCC members to Corfu to play in the Greek AC Handicap Chapionship a few years ago.

Derek's funeral has been arranged on Thursday 21 December at 1215 at Reading Crematorium and afterwards at the Phyllis Court.

[1 December 2017 - The SCF AGM Is coming up -at Winchester on 15 December](#)

As you all know Phyllis Court Croquet Club is a member of the Southern Croquet Federation (SCF), which is the governing body of croquet in our region. The SCF are holding their AGM at Winchester Rackets and Fitness (and Croquet Club) at 1030 on Friday 15 December.

The meeting is open to all members of an SCF member club and, should you wish to attend, you will be most welcome.

Our Club will be well represented by at least:

Chris Roberts (SCF Chairman & GC Handicap Officer), Frances Colman (SCF GC Leagues Manager, AC Handicap Officer & Representative to the CA) and Raymond Wood, who is not on the SCF committee but is the Independent Examiner of the SCF's accounts.

[23 November 2017 - Chris talks Croquet live on Radio Sheffield!](#)

Chris Roberts was invited to talk about the Croquet Gazette and croquet more generally on BBC Radio Sheffield this afternoon. An unexpected call this morning set up the live interview by presenter Roney Richardson who talked to a number of people associated with magazines that were out of the main stream. In the short telephone interview, Chris got over many of the things he'd hoped to say about our sport but the jovial nature of the interviewer made it hard to stay on topic. Nevertheless, Chris was happy with the media's interest and his five minutes in the (Sheffield) spotlight. You can hear a recording here:

Chris on BBC Radio

[20 November 2017 - First committee meeting decides 2017-2018 portfolios](#)

Your 2017-18 committee held their first meeting today and welcomed new members Madeleine Probert (*right*) and Paddy Bunch (*far right*). In deciding who would fill which jobs for the coming season, the members who remained on the committee from 2016-17 all retained their portfolios. Madeleine Probert will share the Membership Secretary role with Pauline Wood, reflecting the extra work that that task will entail as a result of new data protection laws that will come into force in the spring. Paddy Bunch returns to the committee and will be the 'Non-Competitive Players' Representative' with particular interest in the large GC mix-in group. The committee also decided to co-opt Raghu Iyer back onto the committee so as to provide some continuity I/C Association Croquet - Raghu having done such a sterling job for the past five years, we are delighted that he is prepared to continue the task, all be it in a co-opted position.

So your committee now looks like this:

Chris Roberts (Chairman, GC, Publicity & Website)
Roger Goldring (Secretary)
Colin Morgan (Treasurer)
Raghu Iyer (AC)
Pauline Wood (Co-Membership & Social Events)
Madeleine Probert (Co-Membership)
Don Rutherford (Courts & Equipment)
Paddy Bunch (Non-Competitive Players' Representative)

Contact details for all committee members are displayed on the 'About our Club' page (Which is accessible via the button in the left hand panel home page).

[9 November 2017 - Rosie wins in Florida](#)

Ann Norman has relayed news from Florida, where Rosie Richardson has been in action at the (US) National Croquet Centre, and won a tournament recently. Rosie won six games out of seven games and only lost the other by a single point! Well done Rosie!

[4 November 2017 - AGM elects your 2017-18 Committee](#)



Our AGM was held at the Club on Friday 3 November and the minutes will be circulated shortly. - update: click on this button >
In elections to the committee for 2017-2018, the previous committee members were all re-elected (except Raghu Iyer who was ineligible to stand due to having completed his maximum five years for which we thank him most sincerely). Also elected, were new committee member Madeleine Probert and returning committee member Paddy Bunch, whom we also thank. Our constitution dictates that the new committee should elect the 'club officers' immediately post the AGM, and this they did. Other portfolios will be decided at the first committee meeting proper on Monday 20 November.

Your new committee: Chris Roberts (Chairman), Roger Goldring (Secretary), Colin Morgan (Treasurer), Paddy Bunch, Madeleine Probert, Don Rutherford, Pauline Wood.

2017 AGM minutes



21 Oct 2017

Frances Colman is honoured by the Croquet Association for 'Services to Croquet'

What a day for Frances Colman at the top of UK croquet today!

At the AGM of the Croquet Association this morning, she was awarded the CA's Diploma for Services to Croquet. This was due recognition for her sterling croquet work over many years and principally with golf croquet at Phyllis Court. Her citation reads that under her stewardship, the Club has evolved from a mainly only social croquet playing venue to now offering croquet at all every competitive level as well.

Read Frances' full citation here:

Obit. - Helen Walker

. . . and is then asked to join the CA's top Management Committee!

The award was known about in advance, as is the way of such things, but Frances did not have an inkling of what was to come at the CA's Council Meeting in the afternoon.

Immediate past Chairman of the CA Tim King proposed her to sit on the six person Management Committee that effectively runs UK croquet.

Do congratulate Frances everyone - this is huge for her and by reflection our Club too; we should all be very proud.

17 Oct 2017 - Richard Peperell wins our AC handicap block competition

The last of the AC internal competition matches are being played this week and Richard Peperell's earlier victories won him a title without him hitting a ball today! Raghu Iyer beat Chris Roberts and Frances Colman today to tie with Peperell on two wins, but the latter got AC Handicap title on the who beat whom rule.

17 Oct 2017 - Phyllis Court players find sun and action abroad

There was no hint of winter play yet for Peter Haydon (right), who is just back from competing in the Algarve at the Portugese GC Open Championship, where he recorded a creditable fourth placed finish last week. And similarly taking in the sun, Frances Colman and Raghu & Joanne Iyer saw action in the annual Greek AC Handicap Championship on Corfu in the last month.

- 'I unlucky devils' the lot of them!



16 Oct 2017 - Helana Fensome wins at Hamptworth

Helena Fensome was on good form at the Hamptworth Club, near Salisbury, this past weekend where, after a poor start she recovered well to win the Saturday tournament and finish fourth in Sunday event.

There was a minus player to contend with in each day for Helena and husband Mike, both took part in the senior half of this two-classed tournament.

11 Oct 2017 - Obituary for Helen Walker

Today we received a touching obituary for Helen Walker, written by her long term croquet friends Margaret Cotterell and Brian Bucknall (former and current PCC Croquet members respectively).

Click on this link:

[Obit. - Helen Walker](#)

8 Oct 2017 - Iyer and Earnshaw win the closest of all 7+ Doubles titles

Just one from a total of 39 separated the winners from the runners-up in this season's 7+ Doubles final which could not have been closer.

All three games finished 7 - 6 but crucially Raghu Iyer & Dilys Earnshaw scored the very last point to win the contest by two games to one against Delia Norris & Dianne Browne.

One has to feel for Norris & Browne because a best of three match could not mathematically be closer than this but - ***Congratulations Raghu & Dilys***

4 Oct 2017 - Coates & Searle win our season-long 7+ Doubles

Robin Coates and Charistine Searle did it the hard way by having to come from behind to win our season-long 7+ Doubles competition today.

Hardy opponents Michael Christmas and Jim Walter took the first game 5 - 7 and nearly wrapped up the contest save for a last hoop reverse in the second 7 - 6. After that Coates and Searle evidently found another gear and ran away with the deciding game 7 - 2. ***Congratulations Robin & Christine.***

3 October 2017 - Sad News - Dennis Stoker

It is with sadness that I have to inform you that our long standing member Dennis Stoker passed away recently at a nursing home where he had resided for the last 18 months or so.

Dennis was a gentle man with a quiet nature and was a good supporter of croquet where he was a regular at 'all comers' for many years alongside Sheila. He also participated in many a Drawn Partners tournament over the years and several other Doubles events. Dennis was also a member of three other 'sections' of the Phyllis Court Club, where his passing will be equally mourned.

To Sheila, we send our heartfelt condolences.

Dennis' funeral has been arranged on Wednesday 11 October at 1345 at Reading Crematorium, and afterwards at the Phyllis Court Thames Room.