

LEIGHTON - LINSLADE

Founded 2000

CROQUET CLUB

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January 2002

Greetings friends! Have you noticed how the days are drawing out? Only 2.5 months or so before we'll be dusting off those mallets.

There follows a brief update following the AGM and party, though most of us were there so will know most of what follows.

Croquet Marathon. We received a thank-you letter from Irene Davis whose croquet marathon in aid of MacMillan Cancer Care raised the magnificent sum of £2,207.40. Many of our members played - some during the wee small hours and in the rain and thunder to swell the total.

Sports Council. Bob Walmsley and myself have attended a number of its meetings to try to ensure that the Clubs' needs are kept well to the fore when plans for the Stanbridge Rd. site are discussed.

2nd. Annual General Meeting - We were joined by a number of guests:-

Judy Anderson. E. Anglian Croquet Federation's Development Co-ordinator and husband Tom.

Marjorie Cliffe. Chair of USA and our auditor.

Elaine and Peter Newman, who were founder members - Elaine having launched this series of Newsletters.

Peter Rogers. Chair of L.L. Sports Council and Mrs. Rogers.

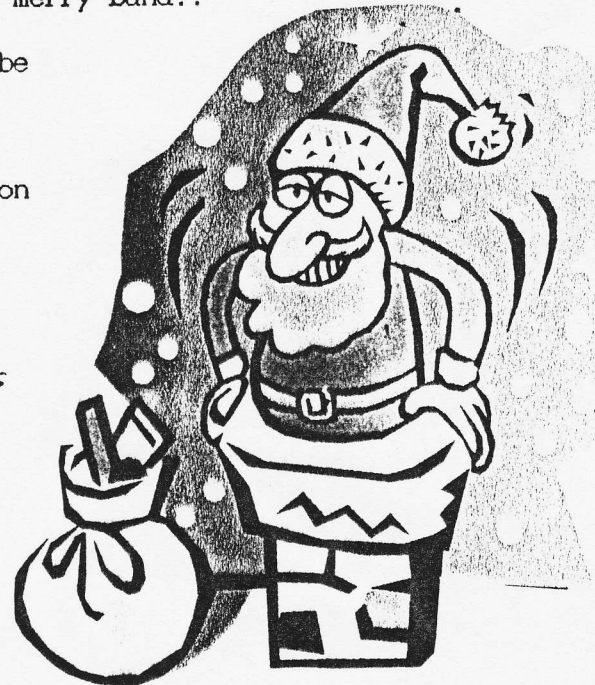
We were also pleased to welcome friends of various members, some of whom are hoping to join us this year.

Elections. Joan Slow. Chair and Margaret Brown, Secretary, were elected for a second year. Len Buckingham is our new Treasurer, Bob having resigned since he and Jean plan to leave the area later this year. We shall miss them very much and are grateful for their huge contribution to the Club.

The general committee members are:- Eve Buckingham, Audrey Bunn, Margaret Dilley, Jean Floyd, Richard Keighley, Margaret and George Lawson. There are co-opted vacancies if anyone else would like to join this merry band!!

NB The first meeting of the new committee will be at 7.30pm on Wed. 13th February at Audrey's home - Tudor Grange, Heath Court. Look for Heath Court opposite the golf club in Plantation Rd. Tudor Gr. is at the far end, on the right.

"Thank goodness this
is the last one."



Finances. The treasurer reported that although we remain solvent, just, this has only been achieved through the various fund-raising efforts throughout the year. To cover basic costs it would be necessary to raise the membership fee by £5 but in order to build up a sensible contingency reserve, he was recommending that the 2002 fee be set at £45. After the defeat of the amendment suggesting it be £40, the proposal Bob and the committee recommended was passed.

Junior Membership. There appears to be general agreement that we should encourage new, young players into the game. Members passed the resolution that young people 12-18 yrs. in full-time education should be admitted to membership for a fee of £15. Younger children to play as visitors and to be accompanied by an adult member. IT WAS NOTED that only recognised members are covered by our insurance!!! The committee will discuss how we can reach and interest youngsters in joining the Club.



The Party. Great food and drink, a raffle with so many prizes that almost everyone won something, games provided by Eve, Len and Joan challenged our brains and Erica got some folk hand-bell ringing - quite recognisable tunes rather to everyone's surprise!! A most enjoyable evening. Our Social sub-group did us proud and Tony Brown's raffle will have paid for the hall.

2002 Season. We hope to offer six sessions a week this year, beginning in April. Final details later.

Meanwhile, it would be helpful if you could renew your membership by sending me the enclosed form with a cheque, payable to the LL Croquet Club, as soon as you like. If there is any difficulty in regard to the fee do please ring our treasurer Len, on 01582 221079, or myself, to discuss it and find a solution.

Here's wishing you a happy, healthy and peaceful 2002.

M.J.B./Editor.