



# newsletter



*A sight to gladden the hearts of the mowing team – our new wheelbarrow has a capacity of 160-230 litres.*

## Annual General Meeting

The 2014 AGM will be on **Wednesday 12th March at 7.30pm** at the Star & Garter in Silsoe.

1. Apologies for absence
  2. Minutes of 2013 AGM and matters arising
  3. Reports: **Chairman**  
**Secretary**  
**Treasurer**  
**CA Tournament Secretary**  
**Club Tournament Secretary**  
**Groundsman**
  4. Election of officers
  5. Dates for 2014
  6. Early season lawn work
  7. Relationship with football and cricket clubs
  8. Pavilion maintenance and other site work
  9. Equipment
  10. Tournament catering
  11. EH, CA and EACF news
  12. Any other business
- If you can't get to the AGM but have a subject you would like us to discuss, please let me know.
  - Please check the details on your membership form, make any corrections and return it with your subscription before 1 April. You will then be sent your membership card which shows the relevant numbers for the locks on the door of the pavilion and the storage cupboard inside it. Membership cards must be carried at all times and shown to EH on request.
  - Please indicate your availability to help with tournament catering by circling dates on the membership form. If you've never done it before and what to know what's involved please call Tim Brewer.

- **Please return your form even if you don't want to renew your membership, or if you joined as a full member last year and therefore don't have to pay.** In the former case it helps us maintain an accurate membership list, in the latter we need to receive the form before you can be sent your membership card.

## Subscriptions for 2014

The subscription rates for 2014 are as follows:

Full membership	£50
CA levy	£7.95
Junior membership (under 16)	£10
16-18 or full time student	£20

- The CA levy is payable by all full members unless they are also members of another CA **member** club and have nominated that club as their main club. Any member who is also a member of a CA **affiliated** club has to pay the levy.
- There is a family membership option. If two adults in a family both take out full membership then any children under 16 from that family get free junior membership.
- If you want to pay your subscription using internet banking please confirm your intention to do so with Eric beforehand, and use sort code 20-05-74, account 80983861 (Wrest Park Croquet Club). Please make sure your name is referenced in the payment.
- The green fee for members' individual guests and any groups for which individual members are responsible remains at £3.60 per person per session. Please record these payments in the Visitor's Book in the pavilion. Members can bring three guests free of charge during the season.
- The green fee for independent visiting groups requiring a member to supervise them is now £5 per person and

the member who is looking after the group can claim £20 expenses.

## Dates for 2014

### April

26-27 Lawns closed (EH event access)

### May

10 Social day from 11am

17-18 CA AC Handicap tournament

21 CA GC B level tournament

25-26 Lawns closed (EH event access)

### June

14 Club GC singles tournament

21 Silsoe School football tournament\*

### July

5-6 CA AC Advanced tournament

19 Club GC doubles tournament

### August

2-3 CA AC Advanced tournament

24-25 Lawns closed (EH event access)

### September

13-14 CA AC Handicap tournament

20 EACF AC Leagues playoff

\* This a big event involving hundreds of players and spectators. Although individual games are possible it is a date best avoided for matches as access to the pavilion will be restricted. You will have to park in the field beyond the pitches.

Anyone organising home matches, group visits or any other events must let me know the proposed dates as soon as possible so they can be included in the calendar in the pavilion and on the website. Please provide approximate start/finish times and the number of lawns required. Although we will always try and keep a lawn free for casual play this cannot be guaranteed, particularly when a CA tournament is scheduled.

## Social on 10 May from 11am

This will be an open day with food and drink provided. If you know anyone who is interested in joining the club, this would be an ideal opportunity to introduce them.

## Golf croquet club tournaments

I have set aside dates for the singles and doubles tournaments as usual.

I will also repeat the request for someone to manage each day. If you are prepared to do this, then please put an M next to the tick indicating your entry. Having a manager appointed in advance is a considerable help in organising the event.

## Arranging friendly games

At the last committee meeting the question was raised as to whether it would be in order for higher handicapped AC players to approach players of lower handicap for friendly games. We would support this wholeheartedly. Friendly games offer a good opportunity to explore tactics and the effective use of bisques, and the experience can stand you in good stead when it comes to playing in tournaments or league matches.

## EACF golf croquet league

Wrest Park will be playing in the Western division of the GC league this season, with matches against

Northampton and Leighton-Linslade (2 teams each), Watford and Stony Stratford. Anyone interested in playing in this competition should contact Keith Palmer.

Note that as the Beds & Herts AC will also be playing home matches this season it will be necessary to coordinate dates.

## EACF high handicap golf croquet tournament 13<sup>th</sup> July

This tournament will be held at Newport CC and is for players with handicaps 8-12. There are some entry forms in the pavilion. Further details can be had from Terrey Sparks ([terrey.sparks1@aol.com](mailto:terrey.sparks1@aol.com)).

## Continuity of supplies

The electricity in the pavilion is pay-as-you-go, and if the supply is not topped up it will run out. If this should happen to you, the procedure is as follows:

1. Check the meter in the boiler room (key in the grey cupboard). The meter is low down in the far left-hand corner, and the display will show any deficit.
2. Find the top-up key, which is red and looks a bit like a memory stick. It has a gold fish attached to it and is kept in the drawer opposite the sink.
3. Take the key to the Coop in Barton (on the right as you go down the main street), or anywhere else with a PayPoint terminal, and buy some electricity.
4. Open the key and insert it into the meter (there is an arrow to show which way up). Make sure it is pushed well in – if you have done it correctly the meter will beep twice and the display will show how much you have added less any deficit.
5. Replace the key in the drawer. Keep the receipt and get a refund from the Treasurer.

It's not just the electricity that can run out. Other things include loo paper, paper towels, soap, cleaning products etc. There are some supplies in the cupboards under and opposite the sink, but if these are exhausted please replenish them and reclaim the expense.

John Bevington

27 February 2014