

# THE CROQUETEERS



## Playing Croquet in Crowhurst

The Croqueteers started as a motley group of people playing initially on the football field in Sedlescombe and later in Ewhurst. However, playing in Ewhurst became untenable due to increased demand for football so in 2023 we were delighted to be offered the opportunity to play on the recreation ground in Crowhurst.

Play in Crowhurst commenced at the beginning of May 2023. We were very pleased with such attractive surroundings and the cooperative reception we received from the Parish Council.

During the first few months the concentration was on Club sessions while we were settling down in our new location, which included being pleased to accept the offer to take a stand at the Crowhurst Village Fayre.

Being members of Croquet England and C.E.'s affiliated regional branch the South East Croquet Federation, we had in the past played matches with a number of other South East England clubs, primarily Ivychurch on the Romney Marsh, Compton in Eastbourne and the croquet club based in Tunbridge Wells. In 2023, having established ourselves in Crowhurst, towards the end of the season we were in a position to arrange an interclub match with Ivychurch Croquet Club and in exchange hosted a match in Crowhurst.

The benefits of croquet are many. Croquet can, if players are so inclined, be quite competitive but it is also a sociable activity. It's an outdoor sport played on equal terms by men and women and between old and young. Croquet need no longer be seen as a sport reserved for the landed gentry with extensive lawns. As a Club we defy any image of being a stuffy exclusive Club. Croquet is available to all. We have chosen to restrict ourselves to golf croquet which has become popular because it is considered more suitable for club play and beginners can start after learning a few basics.

We are currently a small friendly club but with aspirations to further develop both our standard of play and the social benefits. During the season we hold one or two social events such as our summer B.B.Q. and during the winter we organise two or three Get-Together meetings, usually at some nearby venue.

Having settled in Crowhurst this year we are planning to increase inter-club activities including exchange matches with Ivychurch and a visit to Compton with other possibilities in the pipeline.



We wish to be considered part and parcel of the village facilities available to residents. We do not know of any other villages that offer the opportunity to play club croquet. This year we are once again taking a stall at the Village Fayre on the 8<sup>th</sup> June (please come and say hello) and are hoping to hold an Open Day.

We welcome beginners. There is no need to bring a mallet as all equipment is available. There is no charge or obligation for visiting us for an introductory game or two. We play on Monday and Friday afternoons. On Thursdays we start at 10.30 in the morning and can stay all day – members often bring a picnic lunch.

**Interested? Please do contact us**

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