GC Handicap Tournament

The forecast was so good that we held another PopUp Advantage GC tournament on October 17th.

There were 15 applicants for the 12 places, contestants, with handicaps from 6 to 20, and we played a Swiss movement of 4 rounds. (Altogether 16 members have played in the two tournaments.)

One player had wins in all of the first three rounds, but could have been overhauled in the Swiss points if she had lost in the last round. However, Sue Speller (8) prevailed against Judith Hutton (7) and took the bottle of wine.

The weather was decidedly chilly, but bright and sunny.

Belated congratulations to Anthony Myers

On September 11th, Anthony won the Budleigh Salterton Thorverton Cup for AC Handicaps 10 to 18.

GC Handicap Tournament

On October 10th, we had a very successful Advantage GC tournament for all standards, organised by Sue and Stephen Custance-Baker.

12 contestants, with handicaps from 5 to 20, played a Swiss movement of 4 rounds.

Two players had wins in all of the first three rounds. The eventual winner was Gordon Butler (5), who beat Angela Horseman (20) in the last round to secure the bottle of wine.

The day was bright, but chilly, and it is planned to have another later in the month.

Short Croquet Teams at Budleigh

October 2nd to 4th

We had a team competing on each day of the 3-day Autumn Short Croquet tournament.

Taunton Termites (Div 6) and Taunton Terriers (Div 2) came third and fourth in their divisions and therefore remain there for next year.

Taunton Tiggers, however, achieved an excellent result with 12 wins from 16 games and won Division 3. This means that they will be promoted to Division 2 next year, joining the Terriers.

Well done, Lorne Loxterkamp, Tim Jolliff, Lloyd Kimber and Dave Lusk.

This brings our total of award plaques for 2026 up to 3, by far the best tally for many years.

Competition Finals

Our internal competitions have now all been completed. The results in the finals were:

Josiah Lewis trophy for AC Handicap Singles

Anthony Myers beat Scott Berry 16-8

GC Handicap Doubles

Stephen Custance-Baker & Eileen Clout beat Mark and Norma Atlay 6/11-4/6*, 6/11*-3/6, 6/11*-2/6

GC Level Play Singles Salver

Tim Jolliff beat Stephen Custance-Baker 7-5,3-7,7-4

GC Open Handicap Singles

Sue Speller beat Phil Wight 7/7*-5/8, 6/7-8/8*, 7/7-4/8

GC High Handicap Singles

Mark Atlay beat Margaret Adams 8/8*-2/6, 8/8*-1/6

Sue and Stephen Custance-Baker have won the Cooper Salver GC Doubles competition at Budleigh.

This is a 19-point Level Play competition with a best-of-3 13-point final.

Sue and Stephen won the final 7-3, 4-7, 7-3 against Bridget Andrews and John Duplock

Play-off Matches

We have had our most successful league season for many years. Five of our ten teams won their blocks and progressed to the play-offs.

The GC Level Play 10+ team triumphed in their final on September 12th, beating Bude 11-8 to win our first league trophy since 2018.

Christine Jones (npc) receiving the trophy from the SWF representative, with Norma Atlay, Christine Smith, Andy Bennett, David Haldenby, Eileen Clout and Mark Atlay.

The AC Intermediate team (Judith Hutton, Anthony Myers, Dave Lusk) also won their final at Nailsea against Kington Langley. It was thought that they had lost 2-3, but then it was admitted that one K L player played with too high a handicap. Taunton are therefore the winners 4-1.

Dave Lusk reduced his AC handicap.

The SC Open South team, the GC Handicap team and the GC High Handicap team were eliminated in their play-offs, but all in close matches.

GC High Handicap Tournament

On September 13th, there was a very successful Level Play GC tournament for High Handicappers (10+)

The day was organised by Sue Custance-Baker and 8 high handicappers played a Swiss movement of 4 rounds. The winner was Christine Smith and an extra prize was awarded to Norma Atlay who came 2nd with a handicap of 18.

Four players competed in a parallel event for handicaps 7 to 9, which was won by Mark Atlay.

GC Eights weekend, August 29th-31st

We had some success in the GC Eights this year. Tim Jolliff won the 2nd Eight, beating Josh Wise in the final.

Stephen Custance-Baker came third in the 3rd Eight.

Success in the GC Inter-counties tournament

The Somerset County team achieved a very creditable 3rd place in the 1st Division of the GC Inter-counties tournament on August 22nd/23rd.

This required 7 wins from 11 matches.

The team was led by Neil Fillery and included Colin Britt and Andy Loakes from Camerton & Peasedown, Dom Aarvold and David Goacher from Bristol and Kriss Chambers from Nailsea.

Colin, Andy, Dom, Neil and Kriss

with the Red Dragon of Somerset

2026 August Matches

On August 28th the AC Intermediate team (Lorne Loxterkamp, Judith Hutton, Dave Lusk) won 4-1 at home against East Dorset.

On August 26th the GC High Handicap team (Beverley Tapper, Eileen Clout, John Warren, Margaret Adams, David Haldenby, Angela Horseman) 14.5-1.5 at home against Winterborne Valley.

On August 25th the GC Level Play South team (Gordon Butler, Lorne Loxterkamp, Lloyd Kimber, Phil Wight, Judith Hutton, Patience Kimber) lost 9-11 away at Exeter.

On August 24th the AC Advanced team (Tim Jolliff, Neil Fillery, Lorne Loxterkamp) lost 2-3 at home to Cheltenham B.

2026 August Matches

In their quarter-final on August 16th, the GC Handicap team (Judith Hutton, Gordon Butler, Phil Wight, Sue Custance-Baker, Sue Speller, Paul Ridge) played Camerton & Peasedown B away, but lost 9-11.

On August 21st the GC Level Play 10+ team (Christine Jones, Mark Atlay, Eileen Clout, John Warren, David Haldenby, Norma Atlay) won 16-4 at home against Dowlish Wake.

On August 21st the AC Intermediate team (Lorne Loxterkamp, Judith Hutton, Dave Lusk, Anthony Myers) lost 2-5 away at Camerton & Peasedown.

On August 13th the GC High Handicap team (Beverley Tapper, Eileen Clout, John Warren, Margaret Adams, Kaye Inglis, David Haldenby) lost 5-11 away at Winterborne Valley.

In their semi-final on August 12th, the SC Open (South) team (Martin Wicks, Tim Jolliff, Stephen Custance-Baker, Sue Custance-Baker) played Glamorgan away, but lost 7-9.

On August 5th the AC Intermediate team (Lorne Loxterkamp, Judith Hutton, Dave Lusk, Sue Baker) won 4-3 at home against Weston-super-Mare.

On August 3rd the SC Open (South) team (Martin Wicks, Tim Jolliff, Stephen Custance-Baker, Sue Custance-Baker) won 12-4 at home against Budleigh Salterton C.

2026 July Matches

On July 30th the AC Federation team (Dave Pennack, Martin Wicks, Lloyd Kimber, Anthony Myers) won 5-2 away at Sidmouth.

On July 30th the GC Level Play (Premier) team (Stephen Custance-Baker, Tim Jolliff, Neil Fillery, Steve Beer) lost 7-9 away at Bristol.

On July 29th the GC Level Play (South) team (Gordon Butler, Martin Wicks, Lloyd Kimber, Phil Wight, Judith Hutton) won 12½-7½ at home against Sidmouth.

On July 23rd the GC Handicap team (Judith Hutton, Gordon Butler, Sue Custance-Baker, Sue Speller, Paul Ridge) won 13-7 away at Swanage.

On July 22nd the Short Croquet Open (Central West) team (Lorne Loxterkamp, Neil Fillery, Gordon Butler, Judith Hutton) lost 6-10 at home against Glamorgan.

On July 21st the AC Advanced team (Tim Jolliff, Neil Fillery, Martin Wicks) lost 2-3 away at Sidmouth.

On July 20th the GC High Handicap team (Beverley Tapper, Miriam Bolger, John Warren, Margaret Adams, Kaye Inglis, Angela Horseman) won 14-2 at home against Tisbury.

2026 July Matches

On July 19th the GC Level Play (Premier) team (Stephen Custance-Baker, Tim Jolliff, Neil Fillery, Steve Beer) won 12-8 away at Nailsea.

On July 18th the AC Federation team (Martin Wicks, Neil Fillery, Lloyd Kimber) won 3-2 at home against East Dorset.

On July 17th the GC Handicap team (Judith Hutton, Gordon Butler, Phil Wight, Sue Speller, Paul Ridge, Beverley Tapper) won 11-9 at home against Budleigh Salterton.

On July 15th the GC Level Play 10+ team (Christine Jones (npc), Mark Atlay, Christine Smith, Andy Bennett, Eileen Clout, John Warren) won 12-8 at home against Bath.

On July 13th the GC Level Play (Premier) team (Stephen Custance-Baker, Tim Jolliff, Neil Fillery, Steve Beer) won 13-3 at home against Glamorgan.

On July 6th the GC Level Play (South) team (Gordon Butler, Martin Wicks, Lloyd Kimber, Patience Kimber, Judith Hutton) lost 8-12 away to East Dorset.

On July 3rd the SC Central West team (Lorne Loxterkamp, Neil Fillery, Dave Pennack, Judith Hutton) drew 8-8 at home to Bristol C.

On July 1st the AC Federation team (Dave Pennack, Neil Fillery, Stephen Custance-Baker, Judith Hutton) lost 3-4 at home to Budleigh Salterton.

2026 June Matches

The extreme weather conditions meant that several June matches have been postponed.

On June 19th the GC Level Play (South) team (Gordon Butler, David Jones, Lloyd Kimber, Lorne Loxterkamp, Dave Lusk, Beverley Tapper) won 11-9 at home to Dowlish Wake. Gordon reduced his GC handicap.

On June 17th the GC Level Play (Premier) team (Stephen Custance-Baker, Tim Jolliff, David Jones, Lloyd Kimber, Lorne Loxterkamp) lost 9-11 at home to Budleigh Salterton A.

On June 15th the GC Level Play (South) team (Gordon Butler, David Jones, Martin Wicks, Lloyd Kimber, Lorne Loxterkamp, Judith Hutton) won 13-7 at home to Winterborne Valley.

2026 June Matches

On June 11th the Short Croquet (South) team (Martin Wicks, Tim Jolliff, Stephen Custance-Baker, Sue Custance-Baker) won 9-7 at home to Cornwall. Sue's handicap has reduced.

On June 8th the GC Handicap team (Judith Hutton, Lorne Loxterkamp, Gordon Butler, Phil Wight, Sue Speller, Paul Ridge) won 12-8 at home to Dowlish Wake. Gordon reduced his handicap.

On June 5th the GC High Handicap team (Beverley Tapper, Eileen Clout, John Warren, Margaret Adams, Kaye Inglis, Kathy Pugh) won 13-7 at home to Dowlish Wake. Beverley reduced her handicap.

On June 3rd the Short Croquet (Central West) team (Lorne Loxterkamp, Dave Pennack, Anthony Myers, Gordon Butler) won 13-3 away at Camerton & Peasedown. Dave and Gordon both reduced their handicaps.

On June 3rd the Short Croquet (South) team (Martin Wicks, Tim Jolliff, Stephen Custance-Baker, Sue Custance-Baker) won 12-4 at home to Cornwall.

On June 2nd the Advanced team (Tim Jolliff, Neil Fillery, Stephen Custance-Baker, Martin Wicks) lost 2-5 at Bristol.

2026 May Matches

On May 27th the AC Advanced (2nd Division) team (Tim Jolliff, Neil Fillery, Stephen Custance-Baker, Martin Wicks) won 4-3 at home v Budleigh.

On May 26th the GC Handicap team (Judith Hutton, Dave Lusk, Phil Wight, Gordon Butler, Sue Speller, Sue Custance-Baker) won 11-9 away at Budleigh.

On May 21st the GC High Handicap team (Beverley Tapper, Miriam Bolger, Kaye Inglis, Angela Horseman, Kathy Pugh) won 11-1 away at Tisbury.

On May 20th the GC Level Play 10+ team (Christine Jones, Natasha Smith, Eileen Clout, Mark Atlay, Norma Atlay) lost 9-11 away at Dowlish Wake.

On May 19th the SC Open Central West team (Neil Fillery, Dave Lusk, Gordon Butler, Judith Hutton) lost 7-9 away at Nailsea.

2026 May Matches

On May 13th the GC Level Play Premier team (Stephen Custance-Baker, Neil Fillery, Steve Beer, Martin Wicks) beat Budleigh B 16-4 for our first win of the season. Stephen reduced his handicap to 0.

On May 6th the GC Handicap team (Judith Hutton, Phil Wight, Gordon Butler, Sue Speller, Tony Stone, Sue Custance-Baker) lost 8-12 away at Dowlish Wake.

On May 14th the AC Intermediate team (Anthony Myers, Judith Hutton, Patience Kimber, Dave Lusk) won 4-3 away at Budleigh.

On May 14th the GC 10+ team (Christine Jones, Natasha Smith, Sue Custance-Baker, Andy Bennett, Eileen Clout, Mark Atlay, Christine Smith, Norma Atlay) lost 9-11 away at Bath

2026 April Matches

Our 2026 match season has not started well. The AC Advanced (2nd Division) team (Stephen Custance-Baker, Neil Fillery, Martin Wicks) lost 0-5 away at Nailsea.

The GC High Handicap team (Beverley Tapper, Sue Custance-Baker, Miriam Bolger, Margaret Adams, Angela Horseman, Kathy Pugh) lost 8-12 away at Dowlish Wake.