

FYLDE CROQUET CLUB

South Shore Tennis Club
Midgeland Road
Blackpool
FY4 5HZ
www.fyldecroquet.co.uk

Press Release – 23 August 2010

Fylde Follows in the Steps of GB Champions

Following in the footsteps of Team GB, Fylde's Golf Croquet team has come up trumps beating Bowdon 9-13 on their hallowed turf outside Manchester. GB beat the USA 12-9 in the first 5-day test of The MacRobertson Shield World Championship in early August. This week, Fylde took four of the six doubles in the morning session. Bowdon's top player Alan Mayne was unbeatable on the day, but Betty Bates won all three of her other matches, well supported by Theakstone, Hallett and Harper who took two games each.

In the meantime, GB won the second test against New Zealand 11-10 in a gripping finish having lost five of the six matches on the final day. Owing to close scores in the first two tests and New Zealand ahead on number of matches won, GB needed to beat the Aussies to guarantee the Championship and they did with a resounding 14-7, awarding them The MacRobertson Shield for the seventh successive year.

The MacRobertson Shield – Final Position

Position	Country	Tests	Matches
1	Great Britain	3	37
2	New Zealand	2	39
3	United States of America	1	28
4	Australia	0	22

*Picture: GB's David Maugham in action against USA at Bowdon. Courtesy Catherine Bass
(David Maugham GB.jpg)*

NOTES TO EDITORS (last updated 4 August 2010):

Press Contact: Catherine Bass 01253 765411 cbass@talk21.com

Fylde Croquet Club, which competes in all five of the North West Federation leagues and in tournaments in the UK and overseas, was founded in 1986. Its home ground was at Hope Street Recreational Ground, St Annes until 2005 when it relocated to its current ground at South Shore Tennis Club, Midgeland Road, Blackpool.

The Club, one of the smallest in the country, has 22 members, 16 of whom are active playing members. Club practice night is Wednesday throughout the season from April to September. New Members are welcome. Equipment and coaching are provided. Membership is £85. Under 18's must be accompanied by an adult.

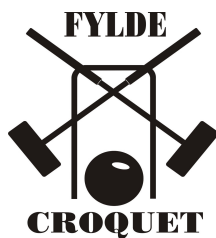
Further information is available on www.fyldecroquet.co.uk

Notable Club Success and Records:

World Association Croquet Ranking (top 765 players): Lee Hartley (160), Liz Wilson (444) Peter Wilson (361)

UK and Ireland Association Croquet Ranking (top 380 players): Lee Hartley (78), Liz Wilson (217) and Peter Wilson (219)

CONTINUES



FYLDE CROQUET CLUB

South Shore Tennis Club
Midgeland Road
Blackpool
FY4 5HZ
www.fyldecroquet.co.uk

All England Handicap (The Trevor Williams Cup and the New Zealand Tray): Winner 2009: Betty Bates

Longman Cup Inter Club England and Wales: **Winners** 2007 and 2008 - Fylde

North West Federation of Croquet Clubs (NW FCC) (www.croquetnw.co.uk)

NW FCC is a federation of 15 croquet clubs in the North West of England, North Wales and the Isle of Man aiming to promote and develop the game of Croquet at all levels.

The Federation provides a structure of competitions, coaching, league matches and provides the essential link between the region and the national governing body of the game - The Croquet Association.

The Croquet Association (www.croquet.org.uk)

The Croquet Association is the governing body and responsible for co-ordinating and promoting the game of Croquet. It is a non-profit making organisation funded through individual subscriptions and club levies.

There are about 140 affiliated clubs in Great Britain providing croquet facilities for about 8,000 people. There are many non-affiliated clubs and judging by the enormous number of croquet sets sold each year, it is likely that about 50,000 people play the game.

World Croquet Federation (www.wcfcroquet.org)

There are 27 member countries. Top four team rankings: **Association Croquet** - (1) England (2) Australia (3) New Zealand (4) USA; **Golf Croquet** - (1) Egypt (2) England (3) New Zealand (4) Australia. World Rankings are based on the **The MacRobertson Shield** team composition which is recognised as the World Team Championship for Association Croquet. Tournaments take place through the year.

The MacRobertson Shield is the top tier of the World Team Championship for Association Croquet (equivalent to football's World Cup, competed for every 3-4 years, since 1925, by teams of six players representing Australia, New Zealand, Great Britain and the United States of America (top four in the World rankings). There are three 5-day tests, each comprising 12 singles and 9 doubles matches. Each match is scored on best of three between the same competitors. Great Britain is the current holder.

The Croquet Association of Great Britain, in collaboration with five of its member clubs including those in the North West, is hosting the 2010 series.

ENDS