

# Nottingham Croquet Club

Croquet For All



[www.nottinghamcroquet.org.uk](http://www.nottinghamcroquet.org.uk)

**Have you ever thought  
croquet could be for you?**

# Our vision

## **An inclusive, friendly and caring centre of croquet excellence at the heart of our community**

Nottingham Croquet Club launched its 'Croquet for All' campaign in 2018 to encourage a greater cross-section of our local community to discover that croquet is fun, sociable, competitive and available to everyone.

Whilst we already have a national and international reputation within the worldwide croquet community, we want to be at the heart of our local community, building relationships with local groups and businesses and attracting new people to the sport regardless of age, gender, background, ethnicity or ability.

We have big plans at Nottingham Croquet Club to improve and enhance our facilities, including adaptations to our grade II listed pavilion to make access easier, and we would like to share these with everyone.

This presentation is a taster of what we do and the wide range of participants who have already been welcomed at our club - and this is just the start!





# An Inclusive Club – Widening participation

Open Days attract large numbers of people keen to have a go

## Croquet

**Nottingham Croquet Club**

**Venue for the U21 Golf Croquet  
World Championships 2019**

**We welcome anyone interested  
in taking up the game.**

**Coaching and equipment provided.**

**Highfields Leisure Park**

**University Boulevard, Nottingham NG7 2PS**

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## Croquet

Six hoops, four balls, a peg and two mallets, and a patch of grass. Sounds simple enough?

Croquet is a game of skill and strategy, angles, tactics, guile. A bit like snooker on grass. Will your balls get through the hoops and peg out before the opponent's?

Nottingham Croquet Club has eight superb lawns, over 100 members from beginners to World Champions, and a bar. We'd like you to be part of that.

If you have **flat shoes**, **warm clothing**, and a **have-a-go** attitude, we'll supply the coaching, the kit, and the fun.



**Annual Open Days and  
Learn to Play courses**  
*see website for details*

[enquiries@nottinghamcroquet.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@nottinghamcroquet.org.uk)  
[www.nottinghamcroquet.org.uk](http://www.nottinghamcroquet.org.uk)





# An Inclusive Club – school's programme and junior club



Visiting 5 local schools and teaching over 350 children a fun game of croquet, our 2019 outreach programme was a huge success, leading to the establishment of our junior club.





# A caring club

Helping good causes is part of 'doing our bit' for the community. From raising money for Cancer Research UK in memory of a fellow player, to helping out at the Splendour Music Festival, showcasing local talent, or planting bulbs in the Park, Nottingham Croquet Club is willing to lend a hand. We also hold an annual early season charity event which supported the Alzheimer's Society in 2019 and was due to help Macmillan Cancer Support in 2020.

A food bank donation box was regularly filled throughout lockdown, with parcels being distributed by a club member to those in need.



Nature in Mind supports people with mental health issues, and promotes well-being and recovery, through engagement with nature and heritage-related activities in Nottinghamshire and beyond. The service supports people to overcome barriers that have a negative impact on their lives including confidence, social isolation or health problems.

Evidence shows that having fun with friends can:

- Help overcome isolation and social exclusion
- Help reduce the need for medication
- Reduce stress and anxiety
- Reduce levels of depression
- Improve physical health
- Improve mood and self esteem





# A Friendly Club

Top level competitions may be serious but there is always time for some fun and a cup of tea. Families are welcome and, even when winter weather stops play, there are games evenings, walks and social events.





# Community groups at our club

## In 2019 the following were regular visitors to the club:

Beeston U3A  
Wollaton U3A  
Chilwell Badminton Group  
Soar Valley U3A  
After schools' club

## ..and these groups were occasional visitors:

Ruddington Guides  
Nottingham Univ Medical School  
Branston U3A  
Framework Nature in Mind  
Angie Baker keep fit group  
Beeston Bell Ringers  
DCE Ltd., Leicester  
International Agronomists  
Inner Wheel Wollaton Park  
Woodhouse Eaves Walkers  
Nottingham University School of Physics  
Olivia Hilliard party  
John Walker stag party



## Bookings and expressions of interest for 2020 received before lockdown:

Gutersloh Twinning Association  
Nottingham University Humanities team  
Nottingham University School of Physics  
DCE Ltd., Leicester  
Stapleford Guides  
Woodhouse Eaves Walkers  
Hucknall and district U3A  
Gardner birthday party  
Ruddington Guides  
Beeston U3A  
Wollaton U3A  
Chilwell Badminton Group  
Branston U3A  
After schools' club  
Nottingham University Medical School  
Framework Nature in Mind  
Angie Baker keep fit group  
Beeston Bell Ringers  
Nottingham University School of Physics  
Inner Wheel Wollaton Park  
BioCity  
Experian  
Capital One  
Games Workshop  
HM Revenue and Customs  
Paul Smith  
Nu Vision Biotherapies  
Nottingham City Council  
Nottingham University and its Innovation Partners  
Nottingham Trent University



# A centre of excellence



Our members include international, national and county players and many champions. The club hosted World Championships in 2015 & 2019 as well as numerous national and local tournaments. Winning your first trophy though is always special.

## Nottingham's World Champions



Play them here



[www.nottinghamcroquet.org.uk](http://www.nottinghamcroquet.org.uk)



# Engaging with local business

Hosting the 2019 U21 Croquet World Championship was an opportunity for local businesses to give support, to attend an opening ceremony with local dignitaries and to watch some top class croquet. Many came throughout the five day tournament and expressed their enjoyment and intentions to bring colleagues and friends in the future. The event attracted national television and radio, worldwide internet coverage and local media.





# Post-lockdown initiatives

## HOOPS HEALTH



Tired of lockdown? Need to get out? Want to meet people?

Gentle exercise for mind and body  
Fresh air and sunshine (hopefully!)  
**Available NOW!**

Sessions: Every Thursday 4pm to 5.30pm. £5 per person.  
Nottingham Croquet Club, Highfields Park, University Boulevard, NG7 2PS

Contact: Ian Draper to book 0xxx xxxxx

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## SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

Researching ways to use croquet in a GP setting  
to improve well-being

Partnership with



## football in the community

**Looking to include croquet in:**  
**Health and well-being programmes**

Right Mind  
CARE

**Social inclusion programme**  
Integration for refugees

## Mallet sport summer school

Ages 9-12

**Learn a different game every day!**

Mon - Fri, July 27<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>, 2pm-4pm

Nottingham Croquet Club, Highfields Park, University Boulevard, NG7 2PS

**Just £10 for the week**



**Booking essential:** contact Ian Draper 07962 448848 or email [ian\\_draper@hotmail.com](mailto:ian_draper@hotmail.com)

All social distancing and hygiene guidance observed  
DBS checked instructors

Taster sessions for accompanying parent/guardian included

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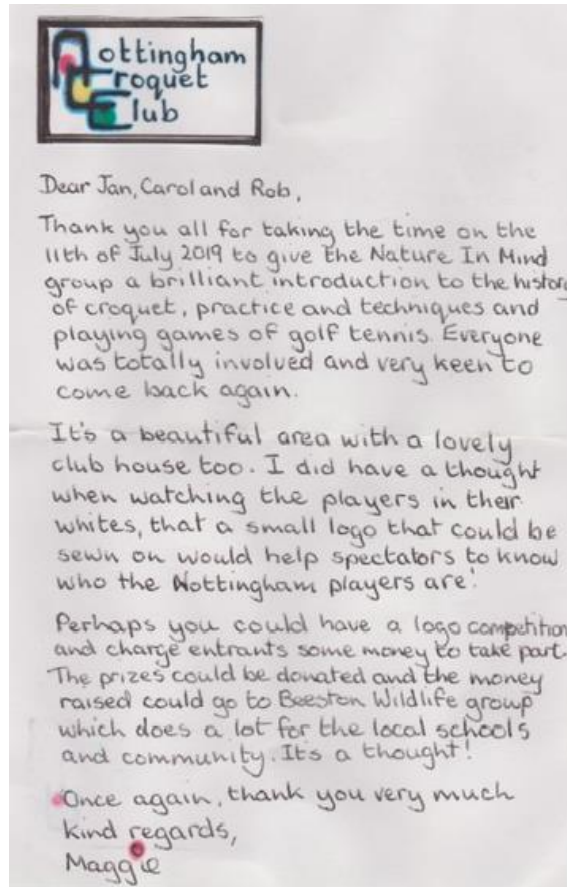
## ...and finally some testimonials

*"You made us feel very welcome and we felt very looked after. It is always good to do a new and different activity with the group and people said they would like to do it again. So we hope to see you again at some point in the future."*

**Jon Berry**  
Project Worker  
Nature in Mind



*"The Beeston Parish Church Bellringers have been visiting the club for a family croquet session for about five years, usually once or twice a year, when our contact has time to organise it! Normally we come on a Sunday afternoon, between lunch and evening ringing, with a mixed age group ranging from 8 to 80. A few of us have an advantage, having played long ago as students, but, as with ringing itself, competitive instincts are moderated into friendly rivalry. Thanks to the club for making us so welcome."*  
**Bridget Eickhoff, Tower Captain**



*"Last Friday we had a very enjoyable session of croquet at your club. Please pass on my thanks, we appreciated the tuition and the patience! I would be grateful if you could let me know when the beginners course is next year."*  
**Stella Taylor**  
Wollaton Park Inner Wheel



From one of the after-school club.

*"I just wanted to express my thanks for you and your team when they joined us at Round Hill Primary, in Beeston. The sessions held were active, fun and challenging for all levels. The children thoroughly enjoyed their time and the response back from the pupils and staff was that they really enjoyed the time to get to know the game of croquet."*

*Your experienced team was courteous, fun and extremely knowledgeable and worked tirelessly across the sessions to build relationships quickly with a broad spectrum of ability levels. Some of our SEND pupils really focused on their work and you made them work really hard for success - which they did."*

**Andy Heaps**  
Upper Key stage 2 phase leader  
Round Hill Primary School

*"We find it's a great way of entertaining friends: we always choose a Sunday morning when the Park is less busy".*

**The Woodhouse Eaves Walkers**