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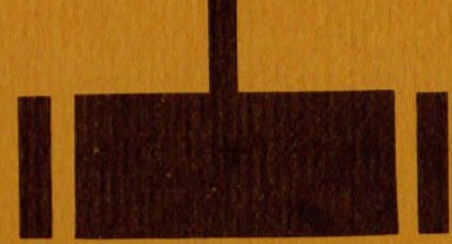
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Calendar 1974

April 29 - May 4
 May 6 - 11
 May 13 - 18
 May 21 - 24
 May 27 - June 1
 June 3 - 8
 June 3 - 8
 June 3 - 8
 June 10 - 15
 June 10 - 15
 June 17 - 22
 June 21 - 23
 June 24 - 29
 June 27 - 29
 June 27 - 29
 July 1 - 6
 July 4 - 6
 July 8 - 10
 July 11 - 13
 July 15 - 20
 July 15 - 17
 July 19 - 22
 July 22 - 27
 July 21, 23 - 28
 July 24 - 26
 July 29 - 31
 August 2 - 4
 August 5 - 10
 August 7 - 9
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 August 12 - 17
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 August 26 - 31
 August 26 - 31
 September 2 - 7
 September 2 - 6
 September 2 - 6
 September 3 - 7
 September 9 - 14
 September 9 - 14
 September 16 - 21
 September 23 - 28
 September 28 - 29
 September 30 - October 5

Budleigh Salterton
 The Peels - at Cheltenham
 Southwick
 Inter-Counties Championship - at Hurlingham
 Ryde
 Carrickmines: Championship of County Dublin
 Compton
 Parkstone
 Veterans' Championship - at Southwick
 Hurlingham I
 Men's and Women's Championships - at Cheltenham
 Golf Croquet Championships - at Ipswich
 The Challenge and Gilbey Cups - at Budleigh Salterton
 Australia v. Ireland - at Carrickmines
 New Zealand v. Scotland - at Gleneagles
 Budleigh Salterton
 Australia v. New Zealand - at Colchester
 Australia v. Great Britain - at Hurlingham
 New Zealand v. Great Britain - at Hurlingham
 Colchester
 Australia v. New Zealand - at Compton
 Australia v. Great Britain - at Southwick
 Cheltenham
 Southwick I
 New Zealand v. Great Britain - at Budleigh Salterton
 Australia v. New Zealand - at Cheltenham
 Australia v. Great Britain - at Roehampton
 Hurlingham II (with Roehampton I)
 New Zealand v. Great Britain - at Nottingham
 The Open Championships - at Hurlingham
 Nottingham
 Edinburgh
 The Ladies' Field Cup - at Roehampton
 Southwick II
 Hunstanton (first week)
 Hunstanton (second week)
 The Chairman's Salver - at Southwick
 The Spencer Ell Cup - at Parkstone
 The President's Cup - at Hurlingham
 Carrickmines: Irish Open Championships
 Parkstone
 Roehampton
 Devonshire Park (first week)
 All-England Handicap Finals - at Roehampton
 Devonshire Park (second week)

Weekends

April 13 - 15
 April 18 - 21
 April 19 - 22
 May 18 - 20
 May 24 - 27
 May 25 - 27
 May 31 - June 2
 June 7 - 9
 June 20 - 23
 August 24 - 26
 September 13 - 15
 September 14 - 15
 September 20 - 22
 September 27 - 29
 October 11 - 13

Cheltenham I (Easter)
 Compton
 Hunstanton
 Gleneagles
 Colchester I (Spring Bank Holiday)
 Cheltenham II
 Nottingham
 Wrest Park I
 Woking
 Colchester II; Cheltenham III (August Bank Holiday)
 Cheltenham IV; Ryde
 Gleneagles
 Wrest Park II
 Budleigh Salterton
 Cheltenham V

Editorial Notice

We get excellent service from our printers, and it seems only right that we should treat them fairly also. Precise dates are laid down at the beginning of the year for the sending of copy, proofs etc. for each of the five gazettes. At the back of every issue of the gazette a date is given which is the latest date by which the Editor may receive copy for the next issue of the gazette. These advertised dates must be respected if we are to keep to our schedule and treat our printers fairly. Our printers have also taken on an increased number of periodicals for next year, and they have written to say that it is very important that we should keep to our schedules. For every issue this year I have had to delay the sending of copy because one or two important items have arrived two or three days late. May I please ask for the co-operation of all contributors to the gazette, so that we may keep to our schedules precisely and our gazettes may arrive in reasonable time.

The quality of tournament reports this year has shown a general improvement, I think, but there have been some instances lately where results sheets have been sent to me with omissions or obvious errors. This creates great difficulties, and I would again ask for your co-operation in making sure that I get a full set of correct results. It is no bad thing if a second person is asked to check the results before they are sent in. Errors are very difficult to rectify later. It is quite in order to send in the results sheets that have actually been used at tournaments, provided these are fully legible, or to send photocopies of these, again provided that these are fully legible.

Thank you for your co-operation. Copy for the April gazette must reach me by March 19, 1974 at the latest.

P.D.H.

The Great Divide

Hitting in is matter of luck and a little care in making the stroke, while conducting a four ball break is practically only a matter of care. The really difficult part of croquet is converting the hit-in into a break, and the main obstacle in a break is the running of the first hoop. Given a nice short rush to the first hoop, which can then be run under control, the building up of a tight four ball break need not be particularly difficult.

The expert player will hit in, send the roqueted ball to his next hoop but one with a neat stop shot, put one ball in the middle of the lawn and finally rush a ball a yard in front of the hoop he wants, and he is away. The not-so-expert player, on the other hand, may well succeed in putting a ball at the next hoop but one, but his final rush leaves him in the middle of the lawn, from which position only a 10 yard pass roll can save him from ending in a worse position than he was before he hit in so splendidly.

How can the not-so-expert player bridge this gap between the hit-in and the break? One way is to use bisques, and this has been discussed in recent articles and correspondence in the Gazette, but when there are no bisques available the best solution is probably for the player to bide his time and lay up for the next turn. The decision to do this must, however, be made soon after hitting in and not left until the situation has begun to deteriorate. If for example, the opponent has broken down in a break at the third hoop, our not-so-expert player, who is for the first hoop, has played his ball at the fourth and hit in, what can he do? His partner ball is somewhere in the middle of the lawn but miles from the first hoop, so he decides at once not to attempt the break in this turn. He may be able to cross-wire his opponent at the 2nd. or 6th., or simply separate them well at the 2nd. and 3rd.; he finally rolls away to the first corner and sets up a dolly rush. Provided of course the opponent does not hit in, the first hoop can then be made under control and a three ball break can be gradually built into the perfect four baller.

H.C.Green

Rover Notes

Some like it young

The croquet lawns of England have hardly seen a teen-age girl since women got the vote. But New Zealand has a new young starlet who has barely reached her teens. Judith Clarke lives in Gisborne and comes from a croquet family. She started her career when she was 10 by winning the North Island Handicap Doubles playing with her brother Richard, who was then 18. In January 1973, when she was 12, she won the North Island Open Doubles Championship - again with Richard - from an entry which included the winner of the President's Invitation Event (Best Eight), the Open Champion and other Test players. I do not know what her handicap was - or is - but this must surely make her the youngest title holder ever. She also won the North Island Level Singles, and at the end of the '73 season held 3 titles, but I do not think she has beaten Major G.F.Stone's 60 year old record of winning a large Opens event and earning his Silver Medal at the age of 13. Richard is almost certain to be on the 1974 Tour, as in 1973 he was the holder of 14 New Zealand titles. He is now 21 and has been a referee since he was 17; he did his first triple peel at the age of 14 in a Silver Badge match. I imagine it would be impossible for Judith to come too, but it is a pleasing prospect that she may be the shape of things to come.

Handicap Alterations

There has been some confusion recently on the question of when a club handicapper's recommendation for reduction in handicap becomes effective. Although the official instructions to handicappers states "Handicap reductions of Associates and Non-Associates recommended by Club Handicappers will take effect immediately and will remain so unless and until varied by the Handicap Co-ordination Committee", such a recommendation cannot be treated as effective until it has been made in writing to the C.A. Secretary.

Recommendations with conditions, such as "to take effect from the beginning of next season" cannot be accepted. It is the duty of club handicappers (or club handicap committees) to forward their recommendations for handicap reductions as soon as they feel they are justified. This is particularly important in the case of players entering their first outside tournament, or their first for some time, or in the Longman Cup or All-England Handicap competitions, where a realistic handicap can only be assessed by the club handicapper. The same considerations also apply, of course, to rapidly improving players.

Corrigenda

- In gazette number 126 (July 1973) page 3 and column 2 it is stated that L.G.Middlemiss has been appointed N.Z. Referee. Mrs L.G.Middlemiss is in fact the N.Z. Referee.
- In gazette number 127 (September 1973) there were two important errors in Mr Riggall's article, *Tactics in Handicap Games (Part II)*. On p.5 col. 1, paragraph 2 and line 6 for north, read south, and in paragraph 6 line 9 the word west should be added and the word fifth deleted. The corrected version of the latter reference should read: "It is best to have this pilot ball west of the fifth hoop . . .".

The Longman Cup 1973

<i>Final (Stourbridge names first)</i>		
W.Loynes & P.Young (10) bt. D.E.Reeves & G.S.Digby (9)		+ 4
J.Potter & D.Willetts (9½) bt. R.Alford & P.Bishop (10)		+ 3
P.Young (5)	lost to D.E.Reeves (4)	- 7
J.Potter (5)	bt. P.Bishop (6)	+21
D.Willetts (4½)	lost to G.S.Digby (5)	- 3
Stourbridge beat Colchester by three games to two.		

Correspondence

'Total Victories'

from W. de B. Prichard

Sir,

In your report on the 1973 Ladies' Field Cup it was stated that, so far as could be ascertained, Miss Sessions was the first person to win this event without losing a single game. In fact Miss Mona Bryan won 14 games out of 14 in 1925, and Mrs E. Rotherham 12 out of 12 in 1963.

Gobion Manor,
Abergavenny.

Yours faithfully,
W. de B. Prichard

'Croquet Literature'

from Roger Bray

Sir,

The following list of books on Croquet, together with that which appeared in *The Croquet Gazette*, Number 121 (July, 1972), covering the period since 1904, completes the first draft of a short Croquet Bibliography. The list is confined to publications which are devoted exclusively or in large part to the game and does not include compendia on sports and the like. Earliest known editions only are listed. Publishers by name are London publishers unless otherwise stated. I would be grateful to receive any corrections or additions to the list.

The period covered by this list includes the early years of Croquet when there was such a rapid and widespread rise in popularity of the game. Jaques' book illustrates the phenomenon: first published in about 1857, twelve thousand copies were sold by early 1864, twenty-eight thousand by early 1865, forty-five thousand by early 1866, and sixty-five thousand by 1867. Other manufacturers, particularly Cordeaux and Ernest of York and Turner and Watford, benefited in a similar way, and all the major book publishers included volumes on Croquet in their lists of manuals of instruction on sports and amusements. Nor was the growth confined to this country: America (the U.S.A. and Canada) appears in the list very early and frequently and American publishers promoted many new editions of the more popular English texts.

The period of the late 1870's and the 1880's, when Croquet lost so much ground, figuratively and actually, to Lawn Tennis, is marked by just one new publication in which Croquet takes third place after Lawn Tennis and Badminton. But the 1890's saw the works of Eveleigh and Peel and, after the space of only a few years, the future of Croquet was ensured with the foundation of the United All England Croquet Association.

The observation has already appeared in your columns that the C.A. has very little material or equipment related to the history of the game and that some effort is presently being made to remedy this situation. It would therefore be of great interest to hear of any books, periodicals, newspapers, prints, or ephemera containing material on Croquet which might be made available to the C.A.

The number of entries in the list is due in large measure to efforts other than mine and it is a pleasure to record my indebtedness in particular to David Prichard for providing so much stimulating information.

Yours truly,
Roger Bray.

14 Hawfinch Road,
Laver de la Haye,
Colchester, Essex.

- 1852 Spratt, *Spratt's New Game of Croquet*, London
ca.1857 John Jaques, *Croquet: The Laws and Regulations of The Game*, Jaques.
1859 John Jaques, *Croquet. I.S.M.*, "Answered", London
1862 G.V.H., *Rules for The Game of Croquet*, Bosworth.
1863 Captain Mayne Reid, *Croquet*, Skeet.
1863 [Leonard Thompson, et al.], *The Rules of The Game of Croquet, as played at Sheriff Hutton Park*, Cordeaux and Ernest, York.
1863 [Leonard Thompson, et al.], *Croquet and Archery*, Blake (Family Herald Handy Book).
1864 Walter Miller, *Laws of Croquet*, London.
1864 Rab Mag (Ed.), *The Laws of Croquet as Played by The Medes and Persians*, Glasgow.
1864 [Captain Mayne Reid], *The Rules of Croquet, Revised and Corrected by An Old Hand*, Miss Emily Faithfull for the Earl of Essex.
1864 Edmund Routledge, *Routledge's Handbook of Croquet Croquet*, Routledge (Sixpenny Handbook).
1865 R. Fellow *The Game of Croquet: Its Appointment and Laws*, New York.
1865 [Edmund Routledge], *Rules of the Eglinton Castle and Cassiobury Croquet*.
ca.1865 A. Rover, *Croquet: Its Principles and Rules*, Bradley, U.S.A.
1865 [One of the Members], *Croquet as Played by the Newport Croquet Club*, Sheldon, U.S.A.
ca.1865 [One of the Members], (*Eglinton Castle Croquet*) – *The Game of Croquet: Its Laws and Regulations*, [T. Turner, Watford].
1866 Captain Crawley [i.e. G.F. Pardon], *Croquet, to which is added Troco, or Lawn Billiards, etc.*, Chambers (Useful Handbook).
1866 [T.C. Patteson], *Croquet, The Toronto Laws*.
1866 The Rev. J.G. Wood, *Croquet*, Warr (Bijou Book).
1866 Walter Jones Whitmore, *Croquet, its Implements and Laws. Drawn up by a Committee of Players Appointed by The Editor of "The Field"*, Cox.
1866 The Rev. J.G. Wood, *The Game of Croquet*, Cassell (Sixpenny Handbook).
1867 The Rev. J.G. Wood, *Croquet: A New Game of Skill*.
1867 The Rev. J.G. Wood, *Croquet: Its Principles and Rules*, Springfield, Mass., U.S.A.
1868 Cavendish [i.e. Henry Jones], *On The Laws of Croquet*, London
1868 Walter Jones Whitmore, *Croquet Tactics*, Cox.
1869 Cavendish, *The Pocket Guide to Croquet*, De La Rue.
1870 All England Croquet Club, *Bye-Laws and Regulations for the Management of Prize Meetings*, Cox.
1870 West-Essex Croquet Club, *Croquet: The Laws and Regulations of The Game*, London.
ca.1870 West-Essex Croquet Club, *Croquet and Billiards*, Neal.
1870 West-Essex Croquet Club, *Croquet: As played by the Melrose Croquet Club*, Stoneham, U.S.A.
1870 West-Essex Croquet Club, *The Laws of Croquet Adopted at the General Conference of Croquet Clubs, on January 19, 1870*, De La Rue.
1872 Grand National Croquet Club, *Bye-Laws and Regulations of Play*.
1872 Arthur Lillie, *The Book of Croquet: Its Tactics, Laws and Mode of Play*, Jaques.
1872 R.C.A. Prior, *Notes on Croquet: And some Ancient Bat and Ball Games Related to it*, Williams and Norgate.
1873 R.C.A. Prior, *Croquet as Played by the Philadelphia Croquet Club*, Caxton, U.S.A.
1873 C. Black, *How To Play Croquet*, Adams, Boston, U.S.A.
1874 James D. Heath, *The Complete Croquet Player*, Routledge.
ca.1875 C. Black, (*Title Unknown*)
ca.1875 C. Black, *Croquet*, Beadle (Dime Handbook), U.S.A.

- 1876 C. Black, *Rules For Playing The Game of Croquet, etc.*, London
1879 Captain Crawley, *Lawn Tennis, Badminton, Croquet, Troco, Racquets, Fives, Nurr and Spell, Bowling, Hurling, etc.*, Ward, Lock. (Capt. Crawley's Handbooks of Outdoor Games).
1880 C. Black, *Rules for the Standard Game of Croquet, as Adopted by the National Croquet League, etc.*, Lippincott, Philadelphia.
1880, National Croquet Convention, *Spalding's Official Croquet Manual*, Spalding, U.S.A.
1885 Mrs A.F. Devereux, *How To Play Progressive Croquet*, Clarke, U.S.A.
ca.1890 W.H. Cremer, *Ye Game of Croquet*, Cowell, Ipswich
1893 B.C. Eveleigh (Ed.), *The Laws of Croquet and Regulations for the Management of Prize Meetings*, Ayres.
1893 B.C. Eveleigh, (Ed.), *The Laws of Croquet, 1893, etc.*, Wright.
1895 W.H. Peel (Ed.), *The Association Laws of Croquet, etc.*, Jaques.
1896 W.H. Peel (Ed.), *The New Game of Croquet-Golf. A Game for Garden Parties*, Ayres.
1897 American Croquet Association, *Croquet Guide*
1897 Arthur Lillie, *Croquet, Its History, Rules and Secrets*, Longmans.
1897 Arthur Lillie, "Kingball". *A Game for Garden Parties*, Ayres.
1897 United All-England Croquet Association, *The Laws of Croquet*, Cox, et al.
1898 W.H. Peel, *How To Play Croquet, etc.*, Jaques.
1899 G.H. Powell, *A Pocket Guide to Croquet, etc.*, "Lawn Tennis and Croquet".
1899 Straw Hat [i.e. J. Jeffery], *Croquet*, Dean (Champion Handbook).
1899 Leonard B. Williams, *Croquet*, Innes (Isthmian Library, Vol. 12).
1900 Arthur Lillie (Ed.), *Croquet Up To Date, etc.*, Longmans
1900 Hon. Henry C. Needham, *Croquet*, Bell (All England Series).
1901 Diana (Ed.), *The Croquet Annual, 1901-2*, Newnes (Ladies Field Handbook).
1904 W.W. Bruce, *How To Play Croquet*, Beeton.

Obituaries

I.W. Cheavin

Winston Cheavin, who died very shortly after returning in June from a visit to his daughter in Canada, was a long standing member of the Hurlingham Club. He took up croquet shortly after the end of World War II and was one of the stalwarts at that time in getting the game back on a sound foundation at Hurlingham after the disruptions of the war. He was Chairman of the croquet sub-committee in the early fifties and was also active in other club spheres. He rarely played in tournaments outside Hurlingham, but was a regular contender in Longman Cup matches, where he captained the Hurlingham team in a number of its successes during the period when the team was often facetiously referred to as "Rivermead Court", since the four regular players (Buckland, Miles, Townsend and Cheavin himself) were all residents there at that time.

Winston had a notable presence on the lawns and his resemblance to Compton Mackenzie, and indeed to Thomas Beecham, often gave onlookers cause to wonder who in fact was occupying the lawn. Our sympathies go to Hilary and to his daughter Caroline.

S.S.T.

The deaths have also been announced of L.W.A. Brown, who was Secretary of Hove Lawns Croquet Club, of Professor Revd S.E. Chavasse and of D.E. Buckland, a former Treasurer of the C.A.; also of T.S. Oliver.

1973 in Retrospect

Perhaps the first fact which is likely to strike most of us when we reflect on the summer of the past year is that we really did have one. If July was more interested in bringing the rain which most of us kept saying we needed, but which croquet players are invariably the first to complain about when they get it, June, August and for the most part September treated us very well. If the forthcoming Test season does as well as 1973 did, our visitors will be as lucky as we most earnestly desire that they shall be.

But the main purpose of a Retrospect is to look backwards, and we cannot do this quite as optimistically as we should have liked to. We have become so used to patting our star players on the back that somehow our reasons for doing so do not seem to be quite so evident as we have been accustomed to. One player in the Open Championship, from which event he had had to be absent for several years, told the writer flatly that this event was the dullest which he had ever attended. And when we recall that the President's Cup of 1972 produced as many as 21 'triples', a figure to which most of the competitors contributed, and that this year there were (we are informed) only 4, all coming from the mallet of one player, and this under much more favourable weather conditions, we cannot enter upon the first Triangular Test season ever to be played here with quite as much optimism as we might have expected to feel in contemplating our prospects.

There are, however, two things that can be said about this. One is that it may be all to the good. It is far healthier for a country's prospects that its representatives should feel that they may have some big tussles before them than to presuppose that previous achievements are going to be more or less automatically repeated. The other is that although our best were encouraged to be at their best this season, major events were in some measure spoilt by totally unpredictable factors: that Nigel Aspinall should have become too unwell to continue playing in the Championship just when it looked as if he might very well win it; that Bernard Neal (who did win it) should be attacked by a back-strain on the very first evening of the President's Cup – these were misfortunes which not only affected the victims themselves but tended to take the heart out of those who found the normal progress of these 'key' competitions impaired.

But it would be wrong to suppose that even a 'Test Season' will necessarily turn upon the expertise of a handful of half a dozen star performers. We have become wont to boast that we have 'strength in depth' and that if we had to rely upon only our established top players we could hardly hope to do so even if we wanted to, since most of these are young men who cannot count upon being available on every occasion. One thing we certainly propose to do in this Series is to distribute our Test Matches over a fairly widespread area of the Country, and it may be hoped that when Britain is involved in these contests opportunities may be found for local heroes and heroines to make an appearance. What is earnestly to be hoped for is that associates will do their level best not only to be present themselves at these contests, even if no British team is involved, but will bring as many of their friends as possible with them and see how croquet is to be played – and actually is in at least three areas of the world.

But Test Matches, absorbing as we may find them, are not all we ought to look either back or forward upon. We have the condition of the game in our islands to look back upon, and while our numbers are not nearly so large as those in the Antipodean countries, they are steadily rising. I would say that perhaps the most encouraging feature of our Association today is the rise of the small clubs. This no doubt is largely due to the energies of Mrs Meachem and Mrs Neal; not only are our numbers increasing in this way, but there is the high standard of play to which so many of these new players so rapidly attain, and the energetic way in which the new clubs combat the limitations and problems by which they find themselves faced. The Eight Ball games (double-banking), never before

seen in this country, are now a recognised feature of the new clubs.

But if new players are finding their way into the game, it is inevitable that others, often admired and loved, should find their way out of it. Our obituary columns, as so far available, seem to be less full of the names of well-known players than usual. But they include two of these, from the same club (Budleigh Salterton), familiar to many of us: Joan Warwick and Desmond Beamish. Miss Warwick was of course a prominent figure in many games before she turned her attention to croquet, where she very soon made a name for herself, being on four occasions in the Sixties our Lady Champion and in 1963 a member of the British team we sent to New Zealand. Her death, from a protracted attack of cancer, was most bravely borne. Desmond Beamish, though not often seen away from his home club, was apt to do very well when he was and earned a place in the President's Cup in 1957, having been a runner-up in the Surrey Cup in the previous season. He retained his good form remarkably well, playing with success at Budleigh in 1972. Others not to be forgotten who died this year were Roger Hicks, who made friends wherever his evangelistic energies allowed him to go, and our former President, Compton Mackenzie, certainly the most distinguished holder of this position known to the outside world. It is a post which, being rather undefined in character, is not altogether easy to fill, as it will require to be once more at no very distant date.

M.B.R.

Some Experience of Double-Banking

Thanks to the increasing popularity of croquet, double-banking is becoming almost a daily topic around the clubs. The experience of a 1-court club may therefore be of interest to others venturing into this field. We have tried three double-banking methods, with the following results:—

- Method A. Both games start at Hoop 1, but the second game starts after an interval.
- Method B. The second game starts at Hoop 3, which becomes the first hoop for the second game.
- Method C. The second game starts at Hoop 3 and consists of 22 points only.

Our experience of these methods is as follows: with method A the first game to start usually takes too long to get clear of hoops 1 and 2, and this makes the players in the second game impatient to get started. However, when players arrive at different times, providing that the first game is clear of the first hoop, the newcomers begin at once with second colour balls and clips.

With Method B, where the second game starts on Hoop 3, difficulty is found with the orientation of the hoops, especially in the case of less experienced players who are just getting used to Hoop 1 being 2-back etc. This method is not recommended for beginners.

Method C was the most successful, for two games can be started simultaneously. The more experienced players start at Hoop 1, and the longer bisquers play the shorter game from Hoop 3. We found that the games ended within 30 minutes or so of each other.

We owe a debt of gratitude to Roger Bray of the Colchester Club for his very full explanation of these methods of double-banking, and also to Miss E.I. Wood of the Ipswich Club for her lucid description of double-banking in golf croquet; the tactics she outlined were most helpful.

I trust the foregoing will be of some assistance to fellow double-bankers.

F.French

Personal Bisques

It is frustrating to watch beginners, playing the full-bisque game, going to the trouble of setting up a break and then, fearing to make more than one hoop lest they use up too many bisques at once, surrendering the lawn to their opponent. It is equally frustrating to a minus player, who may be giving four bisques to a plus two, to find that he has no lifts and that he is unable to lay or join up, because his opponent shoots and takes a bisque if he misses. In Doubles it would be nice if the player being "shepherded round" could take a number of 'personal bisques' to make it worth his while to set up a break and to make the break thereafter.

In all three cases I have found my 'personal bisques system' most useful. These bisques can only be used by the person to whom they are given (important in Doubles) and may only be used *after* that player has made at least one roquet; this last is the most important point about the system.

In the beginners' game suppose a 9 plays a 14. The full bisque system encourages Aunt Emma tactics and can give too great an advantage to the better player. I suggest that we give each player 'personal bisques', equal perhaps to half his handicap. The 9-bisquer can go for his breaks in the knowledge that if he fails he can always take a 'personal bisque', but he cannot destroy a good lay-up on his opponent's part except by a long hit-in. The 14-bisquer can use his ordinary bisques (given in the usual way) to get the innings, and his 'personal bisques' to carry on a break.

Our Singles match is played under the laws of advanced singles play, as it should be. The -2 player can use the tactics he would normally use, in the knowledge that the +2 cannot use his bisques to hit in. Both players will get the normal lift shots, and the +2 has the use of bisques to keep breaks going (or trying the triple) and thus to bring his skill up to the standard of the -2.

In the Doubles match any bisques ordinarily awarded can be used by the weaker side to get the innings, or in any way they wish. The full-bisque system is not really appropriate because the better players may simply use their bisques to play Aunt Emma better. If we give the weaker players 'personal bisques' as in the Singles game, we have a Doubles match of a good standard. There should be no more of this laying-up for one's partner and then "Make the hoop, Dear, and then split them up".

K.A.Ross

Notes from the Clubs

Bristol

The Bristol Club has just finished a vigorous season. The weather was kind to the lawns, being neither too scorching nor too soggy, and many fine games resulted. The winners of the club trophies are as follows: Laurence Latham (West of England Cup); Colin Snowdon (American Handicap Singles); Mrs Scott ('C' Handicap Singles); Mrs Wright (Golf Croquet). The club put in a team entry for the All-England. Colin Snowdon, who with William Prichard proceeded to the West Area Final at Cheltenham, became the losing finalist at Roehampton. We trust he will join the ranks of "national" players who have come from our club in recent years, Nigel Aspinall, John Simon and William Ormerod.

Membership has kept steady, but we could do with more members, especially from among the men.

Dr Laurence Ormerod, our devoted President for many years, has unfortunately had to end his croquet days. The club is very deeply in his debt for all his many services to it, and would wish to record its thanks and affection.

Blanche Setter
Cecil Rich

Sidmouth

Playing membership has now passed the fifty mark. With membership at this level and with visitors from other clubs, the two lawns have been fully occupied for much of the season. The additional half-sized lawn has proved useful for practice. Double banking with the alternative colours will be introduced when required next season.

Fourteen new members attended a successful training course of six morning sessions spread over a fortnight. Club members completed in Open Tournaments away from home and scored several successes.

The usual club tournaments were held, and a new event for high-bisquers was introduced, the high-bisquer being guided round by a senior non-playing partner on a shortened course of 6 hoops and the peg, with a time limit of 1½ hours. This proved highly successful. Fortnightly golf croquet afternoons again proved most enjoyable for all members. An average of 24 players came to each of these afternoons. The annual match against Budleigh ended in a victory for Sidmouth by 5 games to 3. The members of each team were handicapped at 5 and over in this match.

It is good to record a real all-round improvement in the standard of croquet now being played at the club.

P.A.Tunmer

Federation of West Midlands Croquet Clubs

"The Test Players will have greens here as good as Hurlingham's — all we must do is to persuade the bowlers to lend them to us." We didn't, and so the activity which nearly allowed a Test Match to be played in Birmingham came to naught. The 1973 season then settled down to its own activity. Stourbridge club is now full, and they now have a new pavilion (in which those on the waiting list to join can watch the play). Edgbaston has gained some very useful new blood, though members were saddened by the loss of Stefanyja Ross. Wolverhampton has had the first season on their second lawn. Walsall is now established, and the new club at Ward End now looks secure. The Open Days, The Tilly Bowl and inter-club matches provided many occasions for Federation members to meet. The season ended with a most enjoyable match against the North West Federation. We lost narrowly, but wait till we meet them on our home grounds! As the year began, so it now ends, with new hopes of a visit by a Test Team — this time on a friendly match basis. "Can we really ask a Test Player to perform on this one-time bowling green?" we now ask ourselves as we survey the lawn of the newest club in the Federation.

K.A.Ross

Report on the Development Scheme 1973

The C.A. was given a grant for the Development Scheme at the end of 1970 for a 3-year pilot scheme, which has now ended. During this period the work of the Development Scheme has changed considerably.

In 1971 it was a problem to know where a bid should be made to start a new club. Now the initiative comes from outside. As well as individuals wanting information on various matters, there have been over a dozen enquiries this year from people wanting to start new clubs, half of which have been schools and colleges. Another pointer to the increased interest in the game is the general upward trend in numbers of C.A. members.

For all this there are still big problems. Some established clubs with good lawns find their numbers dwindling and ask what they can do. There is no single answer, as the conditions in clubs are never the same, but it does seem increasingly obvious that the clubs that follow up, and keep on following, every single enquiry, whether it is a golf croquet player or a

bright young man whose handicap will rapidly change, are the ones that succeed. To make the first contact gymkhanas, cheese and wine parties and demonstrations have all been tried. Using the local Press and posters, the Development Scheme will give free demonstrations by top players to focus public attention, but this is only putting the ball into play. It must be energetically pursued. People are generally very shy about coming to a club as a complete beginner, and invitations must be made again and again. Coaching is another way of staying in touch, and can be arranged through the Development Scheme for clubs who are not able to do it themselves.

As a result of the Coaches' courses, the last of which was held early this year, over half the clubs now have a coach among their members. This is another instance of the change in the Development Scheme's work; this year it arranged only 3 courses at clubs, whereas last year 10 clubs had outside coaching. However, there have been two weekend courses at Bisham Abbey, and for the first time there was a weekend course at the Hotel Imperial, Hythe. These courses were very sought after — over 60 people wanted to go on them. Two Referees' courses were held at Wrest Park, and all tournament players will be grateful for the increased number of Referees. There have been demonstrations at Lytham St Annes, Ward End, Wexham Springs, Chalfont St Giles, and contact was made with Hereward College for the disabled. Folkestone, through help from the S.E. Regional Sports Council, has been promised a new lawn for 1974. Two leagues were started in and around London, with a play-off between the two winners. Of the 11 clubs involved only 4 had tournament-playing members, so whilst a useful contact between clubs was made, handicaps were difficult to assess. Clubs in the North West and West Midlands which singly might have had little influence have welded themselves into two strongholds by forming two Federations of Croquet Clubs.

A Croquet Ode to Autumn

(With apologies to Keats)

*Season of mists and murky chilliness;
No friend to managers at Devonshire Park
Who wonder why they had the silliness
To take the job on — certainly no lark.
Conspiring daily how to load — and curse —
The lives of players he would rather please
With pegged-down games, and 'limits' which are worse,
Until they feel each day will never cease.*

*Where are the hopes of spring — and of the Peels?
Think not of them, we have our meetings still.
If Council membership to you appeals
You can move motions — and you doubtless will.
Revise the Laws again, despite the cost;
Raise handicaps to ever growing height.
Though Chairmen murmur loud as time is lost,
The babbling members chatter till it's night.*

Ember

A pause for foresight

*Aged players ought
To avoid dying on the court.
One should step over the wire
When expecting to expire.*

Ember

Automatic Handicapping

C.D.Locock was the paid Official Handicapper to the C.A. from 1907 to 1929. He kept meticulous records and, in order to guide him, he evolved a points system for his own private use, which he called "Automatic Handicapping", the results of which he periodically published in the gazette for interest, with the results of all scratch and minus players during the past season. (In fact he kept results of all players.) He took into account the results of all games played both in 'A' Opens and Handicaps (both singles and doubles). The system was as follows:—

'A' Opens	Difference in handicap	Normal Result	Abnormal Result
	0	1.0	1.0
	½	.7	1.3
	1	.5	1.5
	1½	.4	1.6
	2 or 2½	.3	1.7
	3 or 3½	.2	1.8
	4 or more	.1	1.9

Example:—

'A' OPENS.

"A" (—½) beats "B" (+1). The difference in handicap is 1½, and the result is normal (i.e. to be expected). "A" scores .4 and "B" loses .4. If the result had been reversed (i.e. abnormal) "A" would have lost 1.6 and "B" scored 1.6.

In Open Doubles the difference in the combined handicaps is calculated, the above formula applied, and the resultant points are halved.

HANDICAPS.

The theoretical object of handicaps is to equalise the chances of the two sides i.e. the result should be an even money bet. Consequently the winner scores 1 point and the loser loses 1 point. In handicap doubles the points are halved, the winners scoring .5 each and the losers losing .5 each.

Each individual game in a best of three match counts.

Locock did suggest late in his career that, since the odds in a handicap appear to be slightly in favour of the better players, especially in handicap doubles, it was possible that an improvement would be for the winner and loser of a handicap game to win and lose 0.8 each when the lower bisquer won (instead of 1.0) and 1.2 each when the higher bisquer won. This, however, would only apply to a scratch or minus player playing someone with a handicap of (say) +3 or more, since it is only in such cases that this advantage occurs. I have not, however, applied this refinement to my calculations.

The system has certain obvious imperfections and Locock never claimed it to be infallible, but at any rate during the 22 years during which he carried out single-handed the duties of Official Handicapper to the satisfaction of the C.A. he found it a useful guide, particularly for high-lighting players who were much too good or much too bad for their handicaps. On the other hand, there was nothing much wrong with the handicaps of players who showed only a small plus or minus result over the whole season.

The following table shows the results of all players who ended up as scratch or minus players during the 1973 season (other players can work out the results for themselves). Only results published in full in the gazette are reckoned. This excludes 'Y' handicaps, weekend and American tournaments (except Eights week and the All England Handicap finals). Admittedly the inclusion of these events might make some difference, but the results are not available to me, and, so far as scratch and minus players are concerned, they are of lesser importance.

Points are calculated at the handicaps at the time of play. Players whose handicaps have been reduced during the season are shown separately at each handicap, differentiated by a (1) or (2) or (3).

Only players who have played 20 or more games are included.

Played up to or above their theoretical form

AT HCP	NAME	PLUS POINTS	GAMES
-1	Mrs D.M.G.Prichard	17.3	114
* -1½	S.R.Hemsted (2)	15.3	29
* -1	A.B.Hope (2)	14.4	14
* -2	K.A.Ross	14	20
-1	R.Wood	13.2	30
-½	E.J.Tucker	11.1	58
+½	C.H.L.Prichard (1)	10.8	12
-5	G.N.Aspinall	10.55	43
* -2	N.W.T.Cox	10.3	32
-½	W.R.Bucknall	9.6	40
-2	M.E.W.Heap	9.0	27
-1	D.V.H.Rees (1)	8.6	20
0	Mrs J.B.Meachem (1)	7.85	17
-4½	B.G.Neal	6.6	30
-3	G.E.P.Jackson	6.45	75
+1	A.B.Hope (1)	6.3	8
-1	S.R.Hemsted (1)	6.2	13
-1½	J.A.Wheeler	6.15	36
-½	Mrs J.B.Meachem (2)	5.9	29
-2	Mrs B.L.Sundius-Smith (1)	5.35	26
-1½	D.V.H.Rees (2)	5.0	14
-1	G.E.Cave (2)	4.0	8
-2½	J.H.Soutter (1)	4.0	23
-5	W.P.Ormerod	3.9	29
0	W.H.Austin	3.5	32
0	G.E.Cave (1)	3.5	14
-2½	D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller	3.3	70
-1	E.H.Shelton	3.3	22
0	Mrs J.N.Rolfe	3.2	31
-4½	P.W.Hands	3.2	34
-1½	C.G.Hopewell	3.2	32
0	H.A.Sheppard (1)	2.7	10
-2½	P.Newton	2.45	47
-3	J.H.Soutter (2)	2.2	30
* -2½	M.Murray	2.2	30
0	I.H.Wright (1)	2.1	17
-2½	A.J.Cooper	1.85	34
-2	Mrs N.Dodd	1.6	53
0	Mrs A.Fotiadi	1.45	43
-2	Sir L.Daldry (2)	1.1	17
-5	W.de B.Prichard	0.96	63
-1	C.H.L.Prichard (2)	0.4	14
-½	H.A.Sheppard (2)	0.1	21
-½	I.H.Wright (2)	0	4

Played below their theoretical form

AT HCP	NAME	MINUS POINTS	GAMES
-1½	G.E.Cave (3)	0.4	7
-2½	Mrs B.L.Sundius-Smith (2)	0.4	54
-2	R.O.B.Whittington	0.7	30
-2	W.E.Gladstone	1.0	56
-4	B.G.Perry	1.8	26
-1½	Sir L.Daldry (1)	3.0	11
0	Mrs E.M.Lightfoot (1)	3.45	34
-½	Mrs E.M.Lightfoot (2)	4.5	22
-3½	T.O.Read	4.5	24
0	J.G.Warwick	6.2	25
-1½	D.A.Harris	6.75	25
-3	G.Borrett	7.1	28
-½	Mrs G.F.Elvey	7.25	51
-2½	E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	8.45	99
-3	D.M.C.Prichard	8.8	98
-5	J.W.Solomon	9.4	29
-2	Mrs E.Rotherham	9.5	38
-1	Miss F.Joly	10.4	49
-5	H.O.Hicks	10.55	30
-3	Miss K.M.O.Scissions	12.45	73
-1	Mrs W.Longman	21.55	62

* Handicaps subsequently reduced, but have not since played in a tournament.

D.M.C.Prichard

Tournament Systems

Those of us who have enjoyed many games in our day know that each game has its own peculiar laws and often its own special scoring system. Some games, croquet included, have special forms of tournament to meet the peculiarities of the game. I refer to the Draw and Process which it may be interesting to review.

The strength of the Draw and Process is that it gives a player a second chance against a particular opponent and, when the play-off is included, possibly a third chance. This seems to be peculiar to croquet, and presumably the reason is that failure to hit a 25 yard shot can cost you the game. It ensures a minimum of two games for every player (assuming that the Process is not cancelled) but it may entail, if there are more than 16 entries, 11 games (including the play-off), a figure which must worry many a Manager and may perhaps cause a player to secede from one or more other events. The system protects a "good" player from double defeat by a "super" player until the semi-final of the second stage competition.

The main factors to be considered in tournaments are the number of courts available and the potential number of games to be played, but there is a strong case for considering the number of games per person. At one end of the scale a player keeps winning and cannot fulfil all his obligations; at the other end a player loses in the Draw and is just finding his touch (too late, alas) in the Process, so that from about Wednesday he is out and dissipated.

The fundamental principle of giving an unlucky loser a second chance is covered also by the Swiss system, but expressed in a different way. This is a simple system which gives all entrants an equal number of games and keeps them all in the competition until the end of the week, or for as many rounds as the Manager sees fit. Competitors are paired in the first round by lot or by formula, and subsequently paired with someone having an equal progressive score. It therefore gives second and further chances to a player who has lost, but not against the same opponent. It should be noted that an 'X and Y' also gives a second chance, but in reduced company.

The following chart gives, for different numbers of entrants, the total number of games entailed by each class of tournament. The numbers in brackets denote the minimum number of games per person.

Entries	All play All	Knock out	Draw & Process
10	45 (9)	9 (1)	19 (2)
25	300 (24)	24 (1)	49 (2)
50	— (49)	49 (1)	99 (2)

X and Y	Swiss	
	5 rounds	6 rounds
13 (2)	25 (5)	30 (6)
37 (2)	60 (5)	72 (6)
73 (2)	125 (5)	150 (6)

Notes: (a) if sections of 6, number of games is 25 per cent more.
(b) as entries exceed 32, a play-off of selected games for round 6 would be required.

The Swiss can produce a climax (which the Draw and Process does not always achieve where one player wins both sections), and has as its main advantage that each player plays the same number of games. The Swiss is more suited to a week's tournament than to a weekend, and is more suitable where the number of entries is relatively low or the number of courts is high. It is equally suitable for all grades of competitors and can mix 'A', 'B' and 'C' class players in one big pool, with perhaps

pairings within each class for the first two rounds. There will emerge an over-all winner, class winners (who can be awarded prizes) and a whole array of lesser placings which are a fairer representation of a player's total performance (Handicappers please note).

No doubt the established Draw and Process will endure and continue to be enjoyed, but there is much in favour of the Swiss.

K.S.Schofield

Law 32 — A Jingle by E.A.M.P.

*I am Law 32 — I embody the Law
As to what is a fault, which is worse than a flaw.
All faults are here listed, there is not one other;
It's only in striking you get all the bother.*

- Do not kick or hit your mallet, nor touch the head with hand.* (i)
- Or rest the hand, or arm, or shaft upon the ground or land.* (ii)
- Nor rest the hand, nor arm, nor shaft against the foot or leg.* (iii)
- From kicking, smacking, lying prone, restrain yourself I beg.*
- The mallet head at each end has a face — it must be used,* (iv)
- But, if unhampered, a mishit will not get you accused.*
- Strike audibly with clarity, all sweet and clean and tart.* (v)
- In croquet or in follow-on, if balls in contact start,* (vi)
- You must not push, you must not pull, when once they are apart.*
- Do not accelerate or check your mallet in a shot,* (vii)
- A single ball is liable to push or pull, I wot.*
- A ling'ring touch or double tap 'twixt mallet and the ball* (viii)
- Is not allowed — but roquets don't attract this fault at all.*
- A ball is up against a hoop, it's lying in a groove,*
- Your mallet must not strike that hoop and cause that ball to move.* (ix)
- The mallet held against the ball while ball is touching wire,* (x)
- Is called 'a crush' and ends your turn — a fate you don't desire.*
- The striker's ball is nestling against a wire or peg,* (xi)
- You must hit it away from same (exemption you can't beg*
- Unless your ball's a rover and out you want to peg).*
- If your ball retouches mallet or ricochets 'gainst thee* (xii)
- Or the mallet, foot, or clothing touch one of other three,*
- If in your stance you're standing, a fault is plain to see.*
- And lastly Number Thirteen, the unluckiest fault of all —* (xiii)
- You do a perfect take-off but don't shake the croqueted ball.*

*These sorry, sad offences your turn bring to an end:
No point is scored; the balls go back (but if a ball you send
Just off the court, in croquet stroke, your advers'ry may say
He'll waive the fault: your turn still ends, but balls rest as they lay).*
*And if the fault committed is neither claimed nor owned
Before two strokes are stricken, such fault is then condoned.*

Laws Alterations

At their meeting on 17 November 1973 the Council passed a resolution, which is published in accordance with C.A. Rule XIV, that the Laws and Regulations be altered as follows:—
1. Law 18 (a). Line 1. After "ball" insert "on the ground".
2. Law 22. At end of last sentence, delete full stop and add:—
"; or if its position has been agreed or adjudicated upon."
3. Regulation 20A. Delete lines 2 and 3 and substitute:—
"of determining the block winner in American events shall be as follows:—"

Official Notice

The Council have raised the annual registration fee for clubs from £1.50 to £2 per annum, with effect from 1974.

Parkstone: September 10 - 15

The Parkstone September tournament had five glorious days, but the record was rather spoilt on finals day by a heavy thunderstorm and rain in the afternoon; despite this, a full programme was piloted to a successful conclusion by Managers Newton and Whittington. The Doubles provided much interest and excitement; one game was won by a single point after the sides were equal when time was called. The visitors, who came from as far afield as South Africa, were made very welcome and much enjoyed the excellence of the catering and admired the lawns, which were in good condition after a dry season.

Results

Event 1: Open Singles (10 Entries)

DRAW

First Round
 Capt. M.F.Buller w.o. E.H.S.Shelton opp. scr.
 R.O.B.Whittington bt. Dr W.R.Bucknall +11

Second Round
 Mrs G.H.Wood bt. R.A.Carte + 5 (T)
 Capt. M.F.Buller bt. Mrs N.A.C.McMillan + 5
 R.O.B.Whittington bt. Mrs D.M.Aubrey +19
 P.Newton bt. Revd L.Hall + 5

Semi-Final
 P.Newton bt. R.O.B.Whittington + 1
 Mrs G.H.Wood bt. Capt. M.F.Buller +10

Final
 P.Newton w.o. Mrs G.H.Wood opp. retd.

PROCESS

First Round
 P.Newton bt. Mrs G.H.Wood +12
 R.A.Carte bt. Revd L.Hall + 3 (T)

Second Round
 P.Newton w.o. E.H.S.Shelton opp. scr.
 R.O.B.Whittington bt. Mrs N.A.C.McMillan +23
 Dr W.R.Bucknall bt. R.A.Carte + 5
 Mrs D.M.Aubrey bt. Capt. M.F.Buller + 3

Semi-Final
 P.Newton bt. R.O.B.Whittington +11
 Dr W.R.Bucknall bt. Mrs D.M.Aubrey +17

Final
 Dr W.R.Bucknall bt. P.Newton + 6

PLAY-OFF
 P.Newton bt. Dr W.R.Bucknall +10

Event 2: 'B' Level Singles (13 Entries)

First Round
 Dr C.A.Parker bt. Dr H.A.Pim +16
 Mrs P.Newton bt. F.F.W.Staddon + 2
 J.W.Haynes bt. Mrs M.Hawkins +24
 Miss M.D.McMordie bt. Lady Ursula Abbey +17
 P.J.Cross bt. Mrs C.E.Devitt + 3

Second Round
 Dr C.A.Parker bt. R.H.C.Carder +20
 J.W.Haynes bt. Mrs P.Newton +14
 Miss M.D.McMordie bt. P.J.Cross + 9
 L.S.Butler bt. Mrs F.F.W.Staddon +18

Semi-Final
 J.W.Haynes bt. Dr C.A.Parker + 1 (T)
 L.S.Butler bt. Miss M.D.McMordie + 3

Final
 J.W.Haynes bt. L.S.Butler +18

Event 3: 'C' Handicap Singles (13 Entries)

First Round
 Dr C.W.Marshall (14) bt. Miss M.M.Fickling (13) + 4
 Mrs H.A.Pim (9) bt. Mrs L.L.Duveen (10) +18
 Mrs C.W.Marshall (16) bt. Lady M.V.L.Cust (11) + 1 (T)
 Miss L.M.Cooke (8) bt. Major F.Hill-Bernhard (7) + 5
 J.H.T.Griffiths (8) bt. Mrs G.L.Ormerod (7½) +18

Second Round
 Dr C.W.Marshall (14) bt. Mrs D.Mitchell (16) +12
 Mrs H.A.Pim (9) bt. Mrs C.W.Marshall (16) +19
 J.H.T.Griffiths (8) bt. Miss L.M.Cooke (8) + 8
 Mrs D.H.C.Whiteman (14*) bt. Mrs L.A.Davies (12) +14

Semi-Final
 Mrs H.A.Pim (9) bt. Dr C.W.Marshall (14) +18
 J.H.T.Griffiths (8) bt. Mrs D.H.C.Whiteman (14*) + 4 (T)

Final
 J.H.T.Griffiths (8) bt. Mrs H.A.Pim (9) +11

Event 4: 'X' Handicap Singles (31 Entries)

First Round
 Revd L.Hall (2) bt. Mrs D.Mitchell (16) +17
 Mrs D.M.Aubrey (2) bt. Mrs L.A.Davies (12) +11
 Mrs G.H.Wood (1½) bt. Capt. M.F.Buller (2) + 3
 Dr C.A.Parker (3) bt. Mrs G.L.Ormerod (7½) + 4 (T)
 Mrs N.A.C.McMillan (½) bt. Dr H.A.Pim (5½) + 6
 P.J.Cross (5) bt. Mrs L.L.Duveen (10) + 7
 J.W.Haynes (2½) w.o. E.H.S.Shelton (-1) opp. scr.
 R.H.C.Carder (5½) bt. Mrs F.F.W.Staddon (4) +14
 L.S.Butler (3) bt. Mrs H.A.Pim (9) +15
 J.H.T.Griffiths (8) bt. Lady Ursula Abbey (2½) +13
 R.A.Carte (1½) bt. Lady M.V.L.Cust (11) +17
 Miss L.M.Cooke (8) bt. Miss M.M.Fickling (13) +10
 Mrs P.Newton (5) bt. Mrs M.Hawkins (4) +12
 Dr W.R.Bucknall (-½) bt. Miss M.D.McMordie (3) +13
 F.F.W.Staddon (3) bt. Mrs C.E.Devitt (6) + 7

Second Round
 Mrs D.M.Aubrey (2) bt. Revd L.Hall (2) + 2
 Dr C.A.Parker (3) bt. Mrs G.H.Wood (1½) + 8
 Mrs N.A.C.McMillan (½) bt. P.J.Cross (5) +12
 J.W.Haynes (2½) bt. R.H.C.Carder (5½) +11
 L.S.Butler (3) bt. J.H.T.Griffiths (8) +20
 R.A.Carte (1½) bt. Miss L.M.Cooke (8) +11
 Mrs P.Newton (5) bt. Dr W.R.Bucknall (-½) + 1 (T)
 F.F.W.Staddon (3) bt. Major F.Hill-Bernhard (7) +10

Third Round
 Dr C.A.Parker (3) bt. Mrs D.M.Aubrey (2) +18
 J.W.Haynes (2½) w.o. Mrs N.A.C.McMillan (½) opp. retd.
 L.S.Butler (3) bt. R.A.Carte (1½) +13
 Mrs P.Newton (5) bt. F.F.W.Staddon (3) +17

Semi-Final
 J.W.Haynes (2½) bt. Dr C.A.Parker (3) + 4
 L.S.Butler (3) bt. Mrs P.Newton (5) +17

Final
 J.W.Haynes (2½) bt. L.S.Butler (3) +13

Event 5: Handicap Doubles (16 Pairs)

First Round
 R.A.Carte & Revd L.Hall (3½) bt. Mrs G.H.Wood & F.F.W.Staddon (4½) +11
 R.O.B.Whittington & Mrs L.L.Duveen (8) bt. Mrs M.Hawkins & J.H.T.Griffiths (12) +12
 J.W.Haynes & R.H.C.Carder (8) bt. Capt. M.F.Buller & Lady Ursula Abbey (4½) +18
 Dr W.R.Bucknall & Miss M.D.McMordie (2½) bt. Mrs F.F.W.Staddon & Mrs L.A.Davies (16) +10
 Dr & Mrs H.A.Pim (14½) bt. L.S.Butler & Miss M.M.Fickling (15) + 4 (T)
 Mr & Mrs P.Newton (2½) bt. Mrs D.M.Aubrey & Dr C.W.Marshall (16) +10
 Mrs N.A.C.McMillan & Dr C.A.Parker (3½) bt. P.J.Cross & Mrs C.W.Marshall (19) + 5
 Miss L.M.Cooke & Mrs D.H.C.Whiteman (22) bt. Mrs G.L.Ormerod & Mrs D.Mitchell (21½) +15

Second Round

Whittington & Mrs Duveen bt. Carte & Revd L.Hall +12
 Dr Bucknall & Miss McMordie bt. Haynes & Carder + 1 (T)
 Dr & Mrs Pim bt. Mr & Mrs Newton + 5
 Mrs McMillan & Dr Parker bt. Miss Cooke & Mrs Whiteman + 8

Semi-Final

Whittington & Mrs Duveen bt. Dr Bucknall & Miss McMordie + 8
 Dr & Mrs Pim bt. Mrs McMillan & Dr Parker +16

Final

Whittington & Mrs Duveen bt. Dr & Mrs Pim +11

Roehampton: September 17 - 22

In spite of thunderstorms, floods, traffic jams, noise and the toil of driving 20 miles or more to Roehampton, the players arrived on time to enjoy the peaceful surroundings, beautiful green lawns and pleasant company. The tournament was managed once again by Daisy Lintern, ably assisted by Nigel Aspinall who introduced Swiss Handicap Singles and kept three lawns, kindly lent for the week by Hurlingham, in full use. J.B.Gilbert's absence owing to ill-health was very much regretted by many players.

The Ranelagh Gold Cup for the Open Singles was won yet again by G.E.P.Jackson, who carried off both Draw and Process in great style. The other events were dominated by members of the Harrow Oak Club, G.B.Martin (the promoter), E.W.Solomon, and three promising newcomers, J.Ruddick and the Prouts. Solomon went calmly through the 'B' Levels, winning both Draw and Process. Ruddick did the same in the 'C' Handicap, although he found Owen a tough opponent in both finals.

The stars of the Handicap Doubles were the very experienced players, Maurice Reckitt, the C.A. President, and Dudley Hamilton-Miller; the latter steered the great veteran through three rounds. The finals, however, failed to sparkle; Solomon and Ruddick took over early in the game, and with some lucky and daring shots they achieved an easy win. The Swiss Handicap Singles gave everyone plenty of play all through the week, even on the final afternoon. Betty Weitz and Ruddick emerged the winners.

Results

Event 1: Open Singles (11 Entries)

DRAW

First Round
 Miss B.Duthic bt. G.H.Betts +14
 T.G.S.Colls bt. A.A.Reed +12
 D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller bt. Capt. H.F.Nalder +23

Second Round
 G.E.P.Jackson bt. I.C.Baillieu +15
 T.G.S.Colls bt. Miss B.Duthic +12
 D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller bt. Mrs E.M.Lightfoot +10
 Prof. A.S.C.Ross bt. S.S.Townsend + 6

Semi-Final
 G.E.P.Jackson bt. T.G.S.Colls +19
 D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller bt. Prof. A.S.C.Ross + 2

Final
 G.E.P.Jackson bt. D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller +11

PROCESS

First Round
 Mrs E.M.Lightfoot w.o. I.C.Baillieu opp. scr.
 G.E.P.Jackson bt. T.G.S.Colls +16
 G.H.Betts bt. Capt. H.F.Nalder + 9

Second Round
 Mrs E.M.Lightfoot bt. A.A.Reed +12
 S.S.Townsend w.o. D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller opp. scr.
 G.E.P.Jackson bt. Miss B.Duthic +16
 G.H.Betts bt. Prof. A.S.C.Ross + 9

Semi-Final

Mrs E.M.Lightfoot bt. S.S.Townsend +12
 G.E.P.Jackson bt. G.H.Betts +15

Final

G.E.P.Jackson bt. Mrs E.M.Lightfoot +13

Event 2: 'B' Level Singles (14 Entries)

DRAW

First Round

Mrs S.M.Adler bt. E.B.T.Tanner +10
 E.W.Solomon w.o. D.Openshaw opp. scr.
 Mrs H.F.Nalder bt. J.L.Sanders +10
 M.G.Pearson bt. Mrs D.M.Aubrey + 4
 R.A.Carte bt. Mrs B.G.Neal +24
 L.D.Adams bt. Mrs B.G.Weitz + 3

Second Round

Mrs S.M.Adler bt. Miss D.G.Leach +13
 E.W.Solomon bt. Mrs H.F.Nalder +18
 M.G.Pearson bt. R.A.Carte + 3
 L.D.Adams bt. G.B.Martin + 2

Semi-Final

E.W.Solomon w.o. Mrs S.M.Adler opp. retd.
 L.D.Adams bt. M.G.Pearson +26

Final

E.W.Solomon bt. L.D.Adams + 7

PROCESS

First Round

Miss D.G.Leach bt. Mrs D.M.Aubrey +11
 E.W.Solomon bt. L.D.Adams + 3
 R.A.Carte bt. Mrs S.M.Adler +17
 E.B.T.Tanner bt. Mrs B.G.Neal + 1 (T)
 G.B.Martin bt. J.L.Sanders +21
 Mrs B.G.Weitz w.o. D.Openshaw opp. scr.

Second Round

E.W.Solomon bt. Miss D.G.Leach +23
 R.A.Carte bt. Mrs H.F.Nalder + 9
 G.B.Martin bt. E.B.T.Tanner + 1
 M.G.Pearson bt. Mrs B.G.Weitz + 9

Semi-Final

E.W.Solomon bt. R.A.Carte +20
 G.B.Martin bt. M.G.Pearson + 9

Final

E.W.Solomon bt. G.B.Martin + 1

Event 3: 'C' Handicap Singles (6 Entries)

DRAW

First Round

Mrs C.Sebestylen (10) bt. C.A.Grout (14) +13
 Mrs C.A.Grout (12) w.o. M.B.Reckitt (8) opp. retd.

Semi-Final

J.Ruddick (7) bt. Mrs C.Sebestylen (10) +20
 T.Owen (7) bt. Mrs C.A.Grout (12) +22

Final

J.Ruddick (7) bt. T.Owen (7) + 1

PROCESS

First Round

J.Ruddick (7) bt. M.B.Reckitt (8) + 8
 T.Owen (7) bt. C.A.Grout (14) +13

Semi-Final

J.Ruddick (7) bt. Mrs C.Sebestylen (10) + 2
 T.Owen (7) bt. Mrs C.A.Grout (12) +18

Final

J.Ruddick (7) bt. T.Owen (7) + 7

Event 4: Swiss Handicap Singles (28 Entries)

Block A:	Winner: J.Ruddick (7) Runner-Up: M.G.Pearson (5)
Block B:	Winner: Mrs B.G.Weitz (4) Runners-Up: T.Owen (7), R.A.Carte (1½), I.C.Baillieu (1)

Event 5: Handicap Doubles (15 Pairs)

<i>First Round</i>	
Prof. A.S.C.Ross & M.G.Pearson (5½) bt. R.A.Carte & Mrs D.M. Aubrey (3½)	+ 5
E.W.Solomon & J.Ruddick (10½) bt. Mr & Mrs S.S.Townsend (14½)	+ 4 (T)
Mrs E.M.Lightfoot & Mrs C.Sebestyen (9½) bt. G.B.Martin & Miss B.Duthie (4½)	+20
A.A.Reed & C.A.Grout (12½) bt. J.L.Sanders & Mrs S.M.Adler (9)	+14

T.G.S.Colls & Lady Shaw (17) bt. E.B.T.Tanner & T.Owen (11½)	+ 1
D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller & M.B.Reckitt (5½) bt. Mrs B.G.Weitz & Mrs B.G.Neal (9)	+ 3
I.C.Baillieu & Miss D.G.Leach (6½) bt. G.H.Betts & L.D. Adams (2½)	+ 9
<i>Second Round</i>	
Solomon & Ruddick bt. Prof. Ross & Pearson	+ 5
Mrs Lightfoot & Mrs Sebestyen bt. Reed & Grout	+13
Hamilton-Miller & Reckitt bt. Colls & Lady Shaw	+ 7
G.E.P.Jackson & Mrs C.A.Grout (9) bt. Baillieu & Miss Leach	+ 9

<i>Semi-Final</i>	
Solomon & Ruddick bt. Mrs Lightfoot & Mrs Sebestyen	+13
Hamilton-Miller & Reckitt bt. Jackson & Mrs Grout	+ 8
<i>Final</i>	
Solomon & Ruddick bt. Hamilton-Miller & Reckitt	+10

Devonshire Park Tournament:

September 24 – October 6

The magnetism of this tournament was the theme of Maurice Reckitt's "Farewell to Devonshire Park" at the prize-giving at the end of the first week. His first visit took place only ten years after the inauguration of the tournament (1898), and in the staggering span of 66 years this was his 50th visit, so his welcome presence underlined his point. Many have enjoyed the nostalgic flavour of the reports he wrote for some 20 years, which recorded many ups and downs in the popularity of Devonshire Park. Bad weather, bad lawns and bad management can, and sometimes do mar a tournament, but it is only the programme itself which can make it a success. This is no "garden party", as I heard it described – perhaps by someone who saw the 1902 photograph reproduced in Croquet (December 1970). Surrounded by buildings both ancient and modern, three hotels back from the sea, lies a hectare of flat but tennis-pocked grass which the Council groundsmen strive to convert into 10 lawns fit for first class croquet for a fortnight in the year. It is remarkable that they are as good as they are, but they are, of course, well below the standard of the 6 fast lawns offered by Compton to help accommodate the large entry. The Championship of the South of England carries high prestige and is usually won by a President's Cup player. There were seven representatives from this year's Eights, and John Soutter won it for the second year running. Ten out of the best dozen or so women players contested the Women's Championship and Kitty Sessions added this to her Casket and Ladies' Field Cup.

Yet it is the secondary events which have become so attractive. Since it became a Two Life event, the Salver has risen from its nadir of 8 three years ago to 20. Some of these lesser 'A' players (+½ and upwards) did too much prowling and squatting on haunches.

"So the little minutes, humble though they be"

Make a game of croquet an eternity.

It may be that the Two Life Variation will have to be made permissible (but not obligatory) to avoid the hated time-limit on impeditive games. The winners were, significantly, dashers not dawdlers, but even so Vincent, in his 4th game of the day, only pegged out against Dr Parker as the last vestige of light faded. (He also shared the 'Y' with Lady FitzGerald.) Thanks to the increased flexibility conceded to Managers in the 1972 Laws and Regulations, the Luard Cup was also played as Draw and Process. This is one of the few events played under the Laws of Level play without Lifts, and some first class matches resulted. Mrs R.E.Tucker and R.L.Everest in the Draw Final were faultless, like David Broome and Anne Moore against the clock. But Mrs G.E.Cave was the Player of the Week, winning not only this event with her consistent hitting-in and break-making, but also sharing the Big Handicap with her husband.

The re-emergence of Col. Cave as a force to be reckoned with in both Opens and Handicaps is evidenced by his successes; his rushes are superb.

The Compton players are improving so fast that many are already in the better classes, and they produced another player of considerable promise, C.G.Knight, to win the Trevor Williams Cup. Like many novices, he was amazed at the rigours we undergo. Some other visitors were F.G.French, who has started a club at Hastings; Madame Omorchoe, Miss Joly's sister, from Ireland; Miss Creed Meredith and Dr Parker from Parkstone; Carte and Mrs Aubrey from Durban; Betts from Caversham and Ian Baillieu. I wonder how many became 'hooked'? The regulars are surely addicts – devotion is too soft a word.

The Felix Cup is unique. It is restricted to players of 1½ and over, and it is a Two Life Handicap. It is unwieldy and productive of blocking players whom Managers are obliged to scratch in order to finish the event. In spite of this it continues to pull them in for this October week. With a record 25 entries it was pushed ahead on Tuesday and Wednesday (the Doubles being relegated to Thursday), and the Two Life Variation (Ian Baillieu's brain-child) certainly helped. It is noteworthy that neither of the players in both semi-finals, Lady FitzGerald and Mrs I.B.Tucker, who were given a bye in the re-draw, won another match. The finalists were Mrs Povey (beware her despondent mien – it conceals unwavering determination) and L.Middleton of Aberdeen (beware his merry mien – ditto ditto).

Most players stay for both weeks, but the finalists in the Sussex Union Handicap came from the few who arrived for the second week. The game between Pountney and Wing-Commander Smith was unworthy of these two marauding players; they are excellent shots, adventurous break-makers, and both had their share of swashbuckling victories over more staid opponents. John Cooper is too little seen away from Budleigh Salterton; with his thick white thatch, cherubic face and faintly spherical body, he fairly bounces round the court with his 'kum-bak' swing. He won both Draw and Process of the Men's Championship, but only after two narrow wins over Col. Prichard. These two, along with Edgar Jackson, sweeping on his rhythmic orbit, play so quickly that they finish their games almost too soon. Jackson was eliminated first by Prichard and then by Cave; in the latter game he was taking off to peg out Cave's rover ball, but his own ball hit the peg *en route*, and he did not get in again. Cooper and Jackson together literally ran away with the Victor Vases. In the Women's Championship Miss Sessions was the outright winner after wins by 1, in two identical games, first against Mrs Prichard and then against Mrs Wood (who delighted a large audience with her beautiful play; her swing is reminiscent of Joan Warwick's). When well ahead, both of these players pegged out one ball; in each case this detonated Miss Sessions, with fatal results. She was less successful in the first week when she pegged out John Soutter in the play-off of the

Championship. In this the end game was more miss than hit, but it provided a gripping climax to an exciting game.

The two handicap doubles finals were family affairs. Tucker, playing with Everest against his wife (Mrs I.B.Tucker) and Tyrwhitt Drake, won one, while the Devitts beat Mrs Tyrwhitt Drake and Carte in the other. All but Carte were Compton members. The Swiss Draw Consolation Event was a Caucus race. "What is a Caucus race?" said Alice. All the party were placed here and there. . . There was no "one, two, three and away" but they began when they liked and left off when they liked. . . the Dodo suddenly called out "it is over" . . . "But who has won?" This the Dodo could not answer without a good deal of thought. . . The whole party crowded round shouting "Prizes! Prizes!"

Duties which do not normally fall to them make the Managers' task a taxing one. Mrs Prichard (first week) and Edgar Jackson (second week) were press-ganged at short notice, and as neither wanted to sacrifice playing, they could not have got things through without help. Here the efficiency of Ed Strickland, an experienced athletics organiser, and the understanding and croquet knowledge of Nora Elvey were indispensable. Mrs Kirk-Greene coped with the complications of the entries – sadly for the last time. This tournament changes a little every year and yet in atmosphere it remains the same. I have tried to record and assess innovations and to capture the tournament's essence, but this is my seventh account, so I too am handing over to a fresher mind and more fluent pen.

Results

First Week

Event 1: The Ionides Challenge Trophy (17 entries)

DRAW

<i>First Round</i>			
Mrs G.F.H.Elvey	bt. D.A.Harris	+ 8	
<i>Second Round</i>			
Miss F.Joly	w.o. H.A.Sheppard	opp. scr.	
Mrs W.Longman	bt. G.W.Williams	+22	
Miss K.M.O.Sessions	bt. E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	+ 7	
A.J.Cooper	bt. Mrs G.F.H.Elvey	+26	
J.H.J.Soutter	bt. J.G.Warwick	+26	
E.J.Tucker	bt. Mrs A.Fotiadi	+17	
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Mrs E.Rotherham	+ 9	
D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller	w.o. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	opp. scr.	

<i>Third Round</i>			
Mrs W.Longman	bt. Miss F.Joly	+ 5	
Miss K.M.O.Sessions	bt. A.J.Cooper	+ 9	
J.H.J.Soutter	bt. E.J.Tucker	+26	
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller	+15	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
Miss K.M.O.Sessions	bt. Mrs W.Longman	+16	
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. J.H.J.Soutter	+ 9	

<i>Final</i>			
Miss K.M.O.Sessions	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	+24	

PROCESS

<i>First Round</i>			
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	bt. H.A.Sheppard	+20	

<i>Second Round</i>			
Mrs G.F.H.Elvey	bt. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	+ 4	
E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	bt. Mrs A.Fotiadi	+20	
J.H.J.Soutter	bt. G.W.Williams	+22	
A.J.Cooper	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	+15	
Miss F.Joly	bt. J.G.Warwick	+ 6	
Mrs E.Rotherham	bt. Miss K.M.O.Sessions	+ 3	
E.J.Tucker	bt. Mrs W.Longman	+ 8	
D.A.Harris	bt. D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller	+ 2	

<i>Third Round</i>			
E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	bt. Mrs G.F.H.Elvey	+24	
J.H.J.Soutter	bt. A.J.Cooper	+16	
Mrs E.Rotherham	bt. Miss F.Joly	+22	
E.J.Tucker	bt. D.A.Harris	+ 3	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
J.H.J.Soutter	bt. E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	+ 3	
Mrs E.Rotherham	bt. E.J.Tucker	+ 9	

<i>Final</i>			
J.H.J.Soutter	bt. Mrs E.Rotherham	+19	

PLAY-OFF			
J.H.J.Soutter	bt. Miss K.M.O.Sessions	+ 2	

Event 2: The Devonshire Park Salver (20 Entries)

DRAW

<i>First Round</i>			
I.G.Vincent	bt. L.Middleton	+10	
Dr C.A.Parker	bt. Miss H.D.Parker	+20	
R.A.Carte	bt. Major-Gen.D.J.Wilson-Haffenden	+10	
I.C.Baillieu	bt. F.F.W.Staddon	+23	

<i>Second Round</i>			
Mrs E.M.Speer	bt. Col. G.T.Wheeler	+ 6	
Mrs H.F.Chittenden	bt. Dr B.R.Sandiford	+ 5	
Mrs J.Povey	bt. Mrs E.M.Temple	+17	
I.G.Vincent	bt. Dr C.A.Parker	+17	
R.A.Carte	bt. I.C.Baillieu	+ 4	
G.H.Betts	bt. Mrs D.M.Aubrey	+14	
Mrs N.A.C.McMillan	bt. Capt. M.F.Buller	+ 8	
Lady FitzGerald	bt. Lady Ursula Abbey	+12	

<i>Third Round</i>			
Mrs H.F.Chittenden	w.o. Mrs E.M.Speer	opp. ret'd.	
I.G.Vincent	bt. Mrs J.Povey	+11	
G.H.Betts	bt. R.A.Carte	+ 4 (T)	
Lady FitzGerald	bt. Mrs N.A.C.McMillan	+ 9	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
I.G.Vincent	w.o. Mrs H.F.Chittenden	opp. scr.	
G.H.Betts	w.o. Lady FitzGerald	opp. ret'd.	

<i>Final</i>			
I.G.Vincent	bt. G.H.Betts	+10	

PROCESS

<i>First Round</i>			
Col. G.T.Wheeler	bt. Mrs N.A.C.McMillan	+12	
Lady FitzGerald	bt. Dr B.R.Sandiford	+ 6	
Capt. M.F.Buller	bt. Mrs E.M.Speer	+ 9	
Lady Ursula Abbey	bt. Mrs H.F.Chittenden	+ 2	

<i>Second Round</i>			
Dr C.A.Parker	bt. Col. G.T.Wheeler	+13	
I.C.Baillieu	bt. Mrs E.M.Temple	+12	
R.A.Carte	bt. Lady FitzGerald	+17	
L.Middleton	bt. Mrs D.M.Aubrey	+ 3	
Capt. M.F.Buller	bt. Miss H.D.Parker	+17	
Mrs J.Povey	bt. F.F.W.Staddon	+ 6	
Major-Gen. D.J. Wilson-Haffenden	bt. Ursula Abbey	+ 8	
G.H.Betts	bt. I.G.Vincent	+14	

<i>Third Round</i>			
Dr C.A.Parker	bt. I.C.Baillieu	+ 8	
R.A.Carte	bt. L.Middleton	+20	
Mrs J.Povey	w.o. Capt. M.F.Buller	opp. ret'd.	
G.H.Betts	bt. Major-Gen. D.J. Wilson-Haffenden	+11	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
Dr C.A.Parker	bt. R.A.Carte	+ 4	
Mrs J.Povey	bt. G.H.Betts	+ 2	

<i>Final</i>			
Dr C.A.Parker	bt. Mrs J.Povey	+10	

PLAY-OFF			
I.G.Vincent	bt. Dr C.A.Parker	+13	

Event 3: The Luard Cup (8 Entries)

DRAW

First Round

R.L.Everest	bt. Mrs G.E.Cave	+18
H.J.Devitt	bt. Mrs F.F.W.Staddon	+ 6
Miss W.Creed-Meredith	bt. Miss M.Bryan	+18
Mrs R.E.Tucker	bt. Mrs H.J.Devitt	+15

Semi-Final

R.L.Everest	bt. H.J.Devitt	+13
Mrs R.E.Tucker	bt. Miss W.Creed-Meredith	+10

Final

Mrs R.E.Tucker	bt. R.L.Everest	+ 3
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PROCESS

First Round

Mrs G.E.Cave	bt. Miss W.Creed-Meredith	+ 1
Mrs H.J.Devitt	bt. Mrs F.F.W.Staddon	+ 3
R.L.Everest	bt. Miss M.Bryan	+20
Mrs R.E.Tucker	bt. H.J.Devitt	+ 6

Semi-Final

Mrs G.E.Cave	bt. Mrs H.J.Devitt	+23
R.L.Everest	bt. Mrs R.E.Tucker	+ 4

Final

Mrs G.E.Cave	bt. R.L.Everest	+16
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PLAY-OFF

Mrs G.E.Cave	bt. Mrs R.E.Tucker	+13
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Event 4: The Trevor Williams Cup (8 Entries)

First Round

Mrs A.E.Millns (12)	w.o. M.B.Reckitt (8)	opp. ret'd.
C.E.Knight (14)	bt. Mrs H.M.G.Cane (9)	+16
Miss L.M.Cooke (8)	bt. Madame Omorchoe (7)	+ 5
Mrs I.B.Tucker (11)	bt. F.G.French (9*)	+17

Semi-Final

C.E.Knight (14)	bt. Mrs A.E.Millns (12)	+ 8
Miss L.M.Cooke (8)	bt. Mrs I.B.Tucker (11)	+10

Final

C.E.Knight (14)	bt. Miss L.M.Cooke (8)	+ 3
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Event 5a: The Sussex Challenge Cup (53 Entries)

First Round

F.F.W.Staddon (3)	bt. Lady Ursula Abbey (2½)	+12
Miss H.D.Parker (3½)	w.o. Dr B.R.Sandiford (2½)	opp. scr.
Mrs H.M.G.Cane (9)	bt. Mrs N.A.C.McMillan (½)	+ 2
D.A.Harris (-1½)	bt. Col. G.T.Wheeler (1)	+ 5
Mrs E.M.Speer (2)	bt. Mrs H.J.Devitt (6)	+ 7
E.J.Tucker (-½)	bt. Mrs A.Fotiadi (0)	+13
Mrs G.F.H.Elvey (-½)	bt. R.A.Carte (1½)	+ 7
G.H.Betts (½)	bt. Mrs E.M.Temple (2½)	+13
J.G.Warwick (0)	bt. Dr C.A.Parker (2)	+ 2
Mrs E.Rotherham (-2)	bt. Lt-Col. D.M.C.Prichard (-3)	+16

Miss L.M.Cooke (8) bt. Lady FitzGerald (3) + 7

Mrs G.E.Cave (4) bt. Miss M.Bryan (6) +17

J.H.J.Soutter (-3) bt. Mrs F.F.W.Staddon (4) +17

Mrs J.Povey (3) bt. Mrs D.M.Aubrey (2) + 8

L.Middleton (4½) bt. Miss F.Joly (-1) + 3

E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (-2½) bt. I.G.Vincent (1½) +18

I.C.Baillieu (1) bt. R.L.Everest (5½) + 7

Mrs R.E.Tucker (3½) bt. Major-Gen. D.J. Wilson-Haffenden (2) +14

A.J.Cooper (-2½) bt. H.J.Devitt (5) +10

Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (-1) bt. Mrs A.E.Millns (12) +17

Mrs I.B.Tucker (11) bt. G.W.Williams (-1) +26

Second Round

Mrs W.Longman (-1)	bt. M.B.Reckitt (8)	+15
Lt-Col. G.E.Cave (-1)	bt. Miss W.Creed-Meredith (6)	+16
Miss K.M.O.Sessions (-3)	bt. F.F.W.Staddon (3)	+ 5
Mrs H.M.G.Cane (9)	bt. Miss H.D.Parker (3½)	+ 4
D.A.Harris (-1½)	bt. Mrs E.M.Speer (2)	+ 7
E.J.Tucker (-½)	bt. Mrs G.F.H.Elvey (-½)	+20
G.H.Betts (½)	bt. J.G.Warwick (0)	+12

Miss L.M.Cooke (8) bt. Mrs E.Rotherham (-2) + 5

Mrs G.E.Cave (4) bt. J.H.J.Soutter (-3) +15

L.Middleton (4½) bt. Mrs J.Povey (3) +13

E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (-2½) bt. I.C.Baillieu (1) +18

Mrs R.E.Tucker (3½) bt. A.J.Cooper (-2½) +16

Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (-1) bt. Mrs I.B.Tucker (11) + 1

Capt. M.F.Buller (2) bt. C.E.Knight (14) +10

D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller (-2½) bt. H.A.Sheppard (½) + 2

Mrs H.F.Chittenden (½) bt. Madame Omorchoe (7) + 9

Third Round

Lt-Col G.E.Cave (-1)	bt. Mrs W.Longman (-1)	+18
Miss K.M.O.Sessions (-3)	bt. Mrs H.M.G.Cane (9)	+15
D.A.Harris (-1½)	bt. E.J.Tucker (-½)	+11
G.H.Betts (½)	bt. Miss L.M.Cooke (8)	+ 9
Mrs G.E.Cave (4)	bt. L.Middleton (4½)	+10
Mrs R.E.Tucker (3½)	bt. E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (-2½)	+ 9
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (-1)	w.o. Capt. M.F.Buller (2)	opp. scr.
D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller (-2½)	bt. Mrs H.F.Chittenden (½)	+23

Fourth Round

Lt-Col G.E.Cave (-1)	bt. Miss K.M.O.Sessions (-3)	+ 5
D.A.Harris (-1½)	bt. G.H.Betts (½)	+ 5
Mrs G.E.Cave (4)	bt. Mrs R.E.Tucker (3½)	+ 9
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (-1)	bt. D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller (-2½)	+24

Semi-Final

Lt-Col G.E.Cave (-1)	bt. D.A.Harris (-1½)	+22
Mrs G.E.Cave (4)	bt. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (-1)	+18

Final

Lt-Col and Mrs G.E.Cave divided.

Event 5b: 'Y' Handicap Singles (28 Entries)

Final

I.G.Vincent and Lady FitzGerald divided.

Event 6: Handicap Doubles (26 Pairs)

First Round

Miss L.M.Cooke & N.E.Keeble (18)	bt. Lady FitzGerald & I.G.Vincent (4½)	+ 6
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard & E.Strickland (11)	bt. F.F.W.Staddon & H.A.Sheppard (2½)	+19
D.A.Harris & H.N.D.Meyer (4½)	bt. Major-Gen. D.J.Wilson-Haffenden & Miss H.D.Parker (5½)	+12
Mr & Mrs H.J.Devitt (11)	bt. R.A.Carte & Mrs D.M.Aubrey (3½)	+21
Mrs A.Fotiadi & Mrs J.Povey (3)	bt. Mrs W.Longman & Mrs R.E.Tucker (2½)	+13
Mrs E.Rotherham & Mrs N.A.C.McMillan (-1½)	bt. Capt. M.F.Buller & Mrs H.M.G.Cane (11)	+ 1 (T)
Mrs E.M.Speer & Mrs F.F.W.Staddon (6)	bt. Miss F.Joly & Madame Omorchoe (6)	+ 4 (T)
Lt-Col G.E.Cave & L.Middleton (3½)	bt. I.C.Baillieu & Mrs A.E.Millns (13)	+ 4
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard & Mrs G.E.Cave (1)	bt. Mrs H.F.Chittenden & C.E.Knight (14½)	+11
D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller & M.B.Reckitt (4½)	bt. Col. G.T.Wheeler & Miss K.M.O.Sessions (-2)	+ 9

Second Round

E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake & Mrs I.B.Tucker (8½)	bt. Dr C.A.Parker & Miss P.E.Parker (16)	+ 1
Mrs Prichard & Strickland	bt. Miss Cooke & Keeble	+ 6 (T)
Harris & Meyer	bt. Mr & Mrs Devitt	+ 5
Mrs Fotiadi & Mrs Povey	bt. Mrs Rotherham & Mrs McMillan	+20
Mrs Speer & Mrs Staddon	bt. Lt-Col Cave & Middleton	+ 6
Hamilton-Miller & Reckitt	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard & Mrs Cave	+10
E.J.Tucker & R.L.Everest (5)	bt. Miss M.Bryan & Miss W.Creed-Meredith (12)	+18
Mrs G.F.H.Elvey & Lady Ursula Abbey (2)	bt. A.J.Cooper & J.G.Warwick (-2½)	+15

Third Round

Tyrwhitt Drake & Mrs I.B.Tucker	bt. Mrs Prichard & Strickland	+ 3 (T)
Mrs Fotiadi & Mrs Povey	bt. Harris & Meyer	+ 7
Mrs Speer & Mrs Staddon	bt. Hamilton-Miller & Reckitt	+ 7
Tucker & Everest	bt. Mrs Elvey & Lady Ursula Abbey	+18

Semi-Final

Tyrwhitt Drake & Mrs I.B.Tucker	bt. Mrs Fotiadi & Mrs Povey	+ 7
Tucker & Everest	bt. Mrs Speer & Mrs Staddon	+13

Final

Tucker & Everest	bt. Tyrwhitt Drake & Mrs I.B.Tucker	+ 6
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Second Week

Event 1: Men's Singles Championship of the South of England (12 Entries)

DRAW

First Round

D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller	bt. E.J.Tucker	+ 4
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. D.A.Harris	+21
E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	bt. C.G.Pountney	+23
Lt-Col G.E.Cave	bt. J.G.Warwick	+19

Second Round

A.J.Cooper	bt. Wing-Cdr E.M.Smith	+12
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller	+21
Lt-Col G.E.Cave	bt. E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	+14
G.E.P.Jackson	bt. G.W.Williams	+25

Semi-Final

A.J.Cooper	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	+ 3
Lt-Col G.E.Cave	bt. G.E.P.Jackson	+ 2

Final

A.J.Cooper	bt. Lt-Col G.E.Cave	+25
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PROCESS

First Round

Wing-Cdr E.M.Smith	bt. Lt-Col G.E.Cave	+11
G.E.P.Jackson	bt. D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller	+14
A.J.Cooper	bt. J.G.Warwick	+15
E.J.Tucker	bt. G.W.Williams	+14

Second Round

Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Wing-Cdr E.M.Smith	+23
G.E.P.Jackson	bt. C.G.Pountney	+25
A.J.Cooper	bt. D.A.Harris	+10
E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	bt. E.J.Tucker	+24

Semi-Final

Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. G.E.P.Jackson	+19
A.J.Cooper	bt. E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	+22

Final

A.J.Cooper	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	+ 4
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Event 2: Women's Singles Championship of the South of England (10 Entries)

DRAW

First Round

Miss F.Joly	bt. Mrs H.F.Chittenden	+12
Miss K.M.O.Sessions	bt. Mrs E.Rotherham	+17

Second Round

Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Mrs W.Longman	+11
Miss F.Joly	bt. Mrs G.H.Wood	+14
Miss K.M.O.Sessions	bt. Mrs N.A.C.McMillan	+13
Mrs A.Fotiadi	bt. Mrs G.F.H.Elvey	+16

Semi-Final

Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Miss F.Joly	+11
Miss K.M.O.Sessions	bt. Mrs A.Fotiadi	+ 4 (T)

Final

Miss K.M.O.Sessions	bt. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	+20
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PROCESS

First Round

Mrs W.Longman	bt. Mrs A.Fotiadi	+14
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Mrs G.F.H.Elvey	+16

Second Round

Mrs W.Longman	bt. Mrs H.F.Chittenden	+20
Mrs G.H.Wood	bt. Mrs E.Rotherham	+13

Event 3: The Felix Cup (25 Entries)

DRAW

First Round

H.J.Devitt (5)	bt. Dr B.R.Sandiford (2½)	+14
Mrs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (9)	bt. Mrs G.E.Cave (4)	+ 4
R.L.Everest (4½)	bt. Mrs B.G.Neal (5)	+ 8 (T)
M.F.Buller (2)	bt. Miss M.Bryan (6)	+ 5 (T)
Mrs J.Povey (2½)	bt. Mrs H.J.Devitt (6)	+ 4
R.A.Carte (1½)	bt. Mrs E.M.Temple (2½)	+ 6
L.Middleton (4½)	bt. Mrs P.Harrison (12)	+ 6
Mrs A.E.Millns (12)	bt. Mrs D.M.Aubrey (2)	+ 7
Mrs E.M.Speer (2)	bt. Madame Omorchoe (7)	+ 6

Second Round

Miss H.D.Parker (3½)	bt. Miss L.M.Cooke (8)	+ 4
Mrs I.B.Tucker (11)	bt. H.J.Devitt (5)	+12
R.L.Everest (4½)	bt. Mrs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (9)	+ 8
Mrs J.Povey (2½)	bt. Capt. M.F.Buller (2)	+18
L.Middleton (4½)	bt. R.A.Carte (1½)	+ 7
Mrs E.M.Speer (2)	bt. Mrs A.E.Millns (12)	+14
Lady FitzGerald (3)	bt. Mrs R.E.Tucker (3½)	+14
Lady Ursula Abbey (2½)	bt. C.E.Knight (12)	+ 5

Third Round

Mrs I.B.Tucker (11)	bt. Miss H.D.Parker (3½)	+13
R.L.Everest (4½)	bt. Mrs J.Povey (2½)	+21
L.Middleton (4½)	bt. Mrs E.M.Speer (2)	+11
Lady FitzGerald (3)	bt. Lady Ursula Abbey (2½)	+ 9

PROCESS

First Round

Mrs H.J.Devitt (6)	bt. Mrs E.M.Speer (2)	+ 8
R.L.Everest (4½)	bt. Lady Ursula Abbey (2½)	+11

Second Round

L.Middleton (4½)	bt. Mrs B.G.Neal (5)	+14
Mrs J.Povey (2½)	bt. Madame Omorchoe (7)	+ 5
Mrs I.B.Tucker (11)	bt. Capt. M.F.Buller (2)	+ 6 (T)
R.A.Carte (1½)	bt. Mrs R.E.Tucker (3½)	+14
Miss M.Bryan (6)	bt. Miss H.D.Parker (3½)	+ 6 (T)
Lady FitzGerald (3)	bt. Mrs E.M.Temple (2½)	+ 9
H.J.Devitt (5)	bt. Mrs H.J.Devitt (6)	+ 8
Mrs P.Harrison (12)	bt. R.L.Everest (4½)	+ 1 (T)

Third Round

Mrs J.Povey (2½)	bt. L.Middleton (4½)	+10
Mrs I.B.Tucker (11)	w.o. R.A.Carte (1½)	opp. scr.
Lady FitzGerald (3)	bt. Miss M.Bryan (6)	+17
H.J.Devitt (5)	bt. Miss P.Harrison (12)	+15

SEMI-FINALISTS RE-DRAWN FOR FINAL STAGES

First Round

Mrs J.Povey (2½)	bt. H.J.Devitt (5)	+25
L.Middleton (4½)	bt. R.L.Everest (4½)	+ 4

Semi-Final

L.Middleton (4½)	bt. Lady FitzGerald (3)	+ 1
Mrs J.Povey (2½)	bt. Mrs I.B.Tucker (11)	+ 7

Final

L.Middleton (4½)	bt. Mrs J.Povey (2½)	+10
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Event 4: The Sussex Union Cup (48 entries)

First Round

E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (-2½)	bt. G.W.Williams (-1)	+22
C.G.Pountney (1)	bt. Mrs G.H.Wood (1½)	+ 2

Mrs W. Longman (-1)	bt. Mrs N.A.C. McMillan (½)	+16
Miss L.M. Cooke (8)	bt. Miss M. Bryan (6)	+16
Mrs D.M.C. Prichard (-1)	bt. Lt-Col G.E. Cave (-1)	+11
Dr B.R. Sandiford (2½)	bt. Miss K.M.O. Sessions (-3)	+18
Lady Cust (11)	bt. Mrs E.M. Temple (2½)	+14
Mrs D.M. Aubrey (2)	bt. A.J. Cooper (-2½)	+21
Lady Ursula Abbey (2½)	bt. Mrs I.B. Tucker (11)	+16
L. Middleton (4½)	bt. Mrs H.F. Chittenden (½)	+ 5
Mrs J. Povey (2½)	bt. H.J. Devitt (5)	+ 6
Mrs G.E. Cave (4)	bt. Mrs A.E. Millns (12)	+ 6
G.E.P. Jackson (-3)	bt. Mrs A. Fotiadi (0)	+15
Mrs H.J. Devitt (6)	bt. Lady FitzGerald (3)	+ 6
Capt. M.F. Buller (2)	bt. Mrs R.E. Tucker (3½)	+ 4
J.G. Warwick (0)	bt. Mrs E.C. Tyrwhitt Drake (9)	+ 5

Second Round

E.J. Tucker (-½)	bt. Mrs E. Rotherham (-2)	+ 7
R.A. Carte (1½)	bt. D.A. Harris (-1½)	+21
Lt-Col D.M.C. Prichard (-3)	bt. Mrs G.F.H. Elvey (-½)	+17
R.L. Everest (4½)	bt. Madame Omorchoe (7)	+16
C.G. Pountney (1)	bt. E.C. Tyrwhitt Drake (-2½)	+11
Mrs W. Longman (-1)	bt. Miss L.M. Cooke (8)	+ 8
Mrs D.M.C. Prichard (-1)	bt. Dr B.R. Sandiford (2½)	+17
Mrs D.M. Aubrey (2)	bt. Lady Cust (11)	+17
L. Middleton (4½)	bt. Lady Ursula Abbey (2½)	+17
Mrs J. Povey (2½)	bt. Mrs G.E. Cave (4)	+17
G.E.P. Jackson (-3)	bt. Mrs H.J. Devitt (6)	+11
J.G. Warwick (0)	bt. Capt. M.F. Buller (2)	+16
D.J.V. Hamilton-Miller (-2½)	bt. Mrs P. Harrison (12)	+15
Miss F. Joly (-1)	bt. Mrs B.G. Neal (5)	+ 8
C.E. Knight (12)	bt. Mrs E.M. Speer (2)	+21
Wing-Cdr E.M. Smith (-1)	bt. Miss H.D. Parker (3½)	+ 2

Third Round

R.A. Carte (1½)	w.o. E.J. Tucker (-½)	opp. ret'd.
R.L. Everest (4½)	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C. Prichard (-3)	+25
C.G. Pountney (1)	bt. Mrs W. Longman (-1)	+21
Mrs D.M.C. Prichard (-1)	bt. Mrs D.M. Aubrey (2)	+16
Mrs J. Povey (2½)	bt. L. Middleton (4½)	+11
G.E.P. Jackson (-3)	bt. J.G. Warwick (0)	+24
Miss F. Joly (-1)	bt. D.J.V. Hamilton-Miller (-2½)	+ 9
Wing-Cdr E.M. Smith (-1)	bt. C.E. Knight (12)	+13

Fourth Round

R.A. Carte (1½)	w.o. R.L. Everest (4½)	opp. scr.
C.G. Pountney (1)	bt. Mrs D.M.C. Prichard (-1)	+ 2
Mrs J. Povey (2½)	w.o. G.E.P. Jackson (-3)	opp. scr.
Wing-Cdr E.M. Smith (-1)	bt. Miss F. Joly (-1)	+ 1

Semi-Final

C.G. Pountney (1)	bt. R.A. Carte (1½)	+25
Wing-Cdr E.M. Smith (-1)	bt. Mrs J. Povey (2½)	+ 5

Final

C.G. Pountney (1)	bt. Wing-Cdr E.M. Smith (-1)	+11
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Event 5: The Victor Vases (10 Pairs)

First Round

C.G. Pountney & Mrs N.A.C. McMillan	bt. Mrs A. Fotiadi & Lt-Col G.E. Cave	+ 4
G.E.P. Jackson & A.J. Cooper	bt. Mrs G.F.H. Elvey & Wing-Cdr E.M. Smith	+23

Second Round

Mrs E. Rotherham & D.J.V. Hamilton-Miller	bt. Miss K.M.O. Sessions & Mrs H.F. Chittenden	+17
Jackson & Cooper	bt. Pountney & Mrs McMillan	+ 8
Lt-Col & Mrs D.M.C. Prichard	bt. Mrs W. Longman & Mrs G.H. Wood	+11
E.C. Tyrwhitt Drake & J.G. Warwick	bt. E.J. Tucker & D.A. Harris	+ 6

Semi-Final

Jackson & Cooper	bt. Mrs Rotherham & Hamilton-Miller	+26
Lt-Col & Mrs Prichard	bt. Tyrwhitt Drake & Warwick	+ 9

Final

Jackson & Cooper	bt. Lt-Col & Mrs Prichard	+12
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Event 6: Handicap Doubles (15 Pairs)

First Round

R.L. Everest & E. Strickland (16½)	bt. Dr B.R. Sandiford & Mrs
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J. Povey (5)	+19	
Mrs A.E. Millns & C.E. Knight (24)	bt. Mrs E.M. Temple & Mrs P. Harrison (14½)	+10
Lady Cust & Capt. M.F. Buller (13)	bt. Miss M. Bryan & Lt-Col Lawrence (20)	+10
R.A. Carte & Mrs E.C. Tyrwhitt Drake (10½)	bt. Mrs B.G. Neal & Mrs G.E. Cave (8)	+12
Mrs I.B. Tucker & H.N.D. Meyer (17)	bt. Mrs R.E. Tucker & Mrs E.M. Speer (5½)	+11
Miss L.M. Cooke & N.E. Keeble (18)	bt. Mrs D.M. Aubrey & L. Middleton (6½)	+11
Lady Ursula Abbey & Miss H.D. Parker (6)	bt. Lady FitzGerald & Madame Omorchoe (8)	+11

Second Round

Everest & Strickland	bt. Mrs Millns & Knight	+13
Carte & Mrs Tyrwhitt Drake	bt. Lady Cust & Buller	+ 6
Mrs I.B. Tucker & Meyer	bt. Miss Cooke & Keeble	+ 5 (T)
Mr & Mrs H.J. Devitt (11)	bt. Lady Ursula Abbey & Miss Parker	+ 7

Semi-Final

Carte & Mrs Tyrwhitt Drake	bt. Everest & Strickland	+ 4 (T)
Mr & Mrs Devitt	bt. Mrs I.B. Tucker & Meyer	+ 5

Final

Mr & Mrs Devitt	bt. Carte & Mrs Tyrwhitt Drake	+ 3 (T)
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Extract from Proceedings of Council Meeting held on 17 November 1973

- Mr E. Strickland was elected to fill the vacancy on the Council created by the resignation of Mr B. Lloyd-Pratt, whose past services to croquet were acknowledged with acclamation.
- It was reported that cash in the Test Tour Fund now stood at £1307.
- A Committee consisting of the Chairman of the Council, the Chairman of the Test Reception Committee and the Treasurer, with powers to co-opt, was set up to disburse the Test Tour Fund.
- The Roehampton Test Match between Australia and Great Britain will finish on Sunday 4 August 1974. This will avoid a clash with the Hurlingham Tournament, which commences on 5 August.
- The Council noted with gratitude the gift by John Jaques & Son Ltd., of 27 sets of croquet balls for use in the 1974 Test Matches, together with the loan of six sets of court equipment.
- Professor B.G. Neal and Mr S.S. Townsend were appointed Trustees in place of Sir Godfrey Style and the late Mr Victor Evans.
- Mrs E.A. Neal was appointed as the C.A. representative on the C.C.P.R. in place of Mrs J.B. Meachem.
- The date of the Annual General Meeting was agreed as Monday 20 May 1974 at 2.30 p.m.

Awards

The following awards have been made by the Council:

- The Apps Bowl* for the male player who has made most progress in the year, to A.B. Hope.
- The Steel Bowl* for the lady player who has made most progress in the year, to Miss D.G. Leach.
- The Apps-Heley Award* for the club which has done most for croquet, or has made most progress during the year, to Sidmouth.
- The prize of £10 offered by Mrs D.M.C. Prichard (See the gazette for April 1972) for the club producing the largest number of new referees in 1972/73 is shared by Hurlingham and Wrest Park.

Sidmouth

One of the first coaching courses ever held under the Development Scheme was at Budleigh, a club with so many experienced top-class players that a course there was really superfluous. But they were interested and willing to give the new filmstrips a trial, and so it was that in 1972 Mr Tunmer and Mr Fletcher, amongst other Sidmouth members, went on the course at Budleigh.

This was before there were enough filmstrips to go round on hire to clubs, but Sidmouth wasn't prepared to wait. They made a recording of the commentary on tape, took illustrations from "Know the Game", and, editing to their requirements, made their own stills. They ran a coaching course that year for 18 new members. 45 minutes of each 2-hour session was occupied with the filmstrips, and the remaining time was taken on the lawn. Six sessions were spread over two weeks, which made a fairly concentrated course, yet with time between sessions for practice. This was followed by morning tuition once a week throughout the season.

The enthusiasm with which Sidmouth grasped this opportunity is surely the clue to its enormous success, for in 1969 they had between 10 and 15 members, and now the membership is up to 51. The club is very much in the public eye, with a path running alongside the lawns. Every passer-by who stops to watch has the game explained to him, and is invited to have a go, and then allowed to play once or twice for the payment of a small green fee. The contact once made, Sidmouth members don't easily let their new-found friends escape. Now there are problems with only two full-size and one half-size lawn and so many members, so they have tried double-banking, and are hoping for a third full-size lawn next year. Plenty of golf croquet tournaments and a novices' six-hoop event keep interest up. Their prizes include one for the best beginner, and one for the best service to the club, and with such success as they are having, Sidmouth are to be congratulated for winning this year's club prize, the Apps-Heley Award.

Weekend Tournaments

Cheltenham IV: September 14-16

BLOCK WINNERS:

A. R.E. Adlard (2½)	5 wins
B. A. Blenkin (12)	3 wins and 56 points
C. Revd W.E. Gladstone (-2)	4 wins and 37 points
D. G.F. Blumer (11)	5 wins
E. Mrs C. Bagnall (4½)	5 wins
F. Wing-Cdr E.M. Smith (-½)	4 wins

Ryde: September 21-23

BLOCK WINNERS:

A. G. Birch
B. E.J. Tucker
C. R.J. Sparkes

Wrest Park II: September 21-23

BLOCK WINNERS:

A. N.J. Davren
B. R.F.A. Crane
C. G. Drake

Cheltenham V: October 12-14

BLOCK WINNERS:

A. J. Rose (-½)	5 wins
B. H.C. Green (1)	4 wins and 47 points
C. Mrs R.A. Lewty (5)	5 wins
D. Miss R.M. Allen (1½)	5 wins
E. Miss M.J. Lodge (9)	5 wins
F. E. Whitehead (-½)	5 wins

Test Tour Fund - Report

Up to the middle of November the Fund had reached the following figure:

Donations from clubs and individuals	£907
Prize Money donated	£91
Raffle - less prizes and expenses	£308
	£1306

In addition to this 6 Test Match Clubs are meeting their own expenses of staging the Tests and entertaining the visitors, and the proprietors of the Roehampton Club have offered all the club's facilities and expenses of entertaining the teams free of charge. I would like publicly to express the thanks of my Committee to all these clubs for their generosity.

If we add these amounts to our figure of £1306, we could justly claim that we had reached our target of £2000. I would particularly like to thank the following for their exceptional efforts on behalf of the Fund:-

The members of the Hurlingham Club for the wonderful donations totalling £525 to date; those of Parkstone for nearly £60, Hunstanton over £40, and the Woking club members who, with a party in a member's house and a gymkhana, raised £56; also the Phyllis Court Club who will be entertaining the New Zealand Team after their return from Scotland.

My grateful thanks also to all those people who bought raffle tickets, donated sums large and small, and offered hospitality in various ways; likewise to the Scottish and Irish clubs for financing in whole or part the tours to their countries. The Fund is still open, and we can use every penny we can get for entertaining our visitors from Overseas, for I don't have to tell you that inflation is still with us!

If therefore any club or individual would like to organise a fund-raising effort during the winter or make a donation, we shall be delighted to hear from you.

Thank you for your help.

Derek Caporn

Test Tour Fund - Draw

The winners are as follows:-

£50 - H.G.T. Bolton, Royal Oak, Northend Common, Henley-on-Thames. (8143)
 £20 - Capt. D.E. Reeves, Aldham Post Office, Colchester. (10708)
 £10 - J. Gerrard, 16 Woodstock Road, Worsley, Manchester. (5810)
 £1 each - Mrs L.L. Duveen, 15 Ravenshall, West Cliff Road, Bournemouth. (11587)
 E.J. Lewis, 47 Augusta Gardens (Grove ?), Folkestone, Kent. (6222)
 F.G. Hurran, 12 Turret House, Limmer Lane, Bognor Regis PO22 7EN. (6813)
 S.R. Malin, The Cottage, Hank Ram (?), Pevensey, Sussex. (2301)
 Mrs Marson, 150 Lake Road, Hamworthy, Poole. (11930)
 Mrs A. Ormerod, 8 Widdicombe Avenue, Parkstone, Poole, Dorset BH14 9QW. (11353)
 Gallop, 19 Thackeray Avenue, Ealing. (12996)
 Miss S.E. Black, 57 Regent Road, Atringham, Cheshire. (13837)
 Ian Usley, Pandon Ltd., Braywick House, Maidenhead, Berkshire. (7265)
 Harcourt-Webster, 34 Kingswood Road, Walkford, Hants. (11361)
 R. Leyman, 15 Stephen Road, Kesgrave, Ipswich. (11976)
 Mrs M. Horner, 30 Ashfield Crescent, Netherton, Dudley. (8910).
 P. Newton, Birchwood, Park Homer Road, Wimborne, Dorset. (11345)

Hannaford, 7 Boulton Road, Thorpe, Norwich. (9389)
Mrs Mann, The Old Rectory, Upton Nervet, Reading. (5360)
S.M.Cox, c/o College of A.T.C., Hurn, Bournemouth Airport.
(4851)
C.R.Setter, 5 Stoke Hill, Bristol 9. (2461)
C.Edwards, 8 Long Copp, Budleigh Salterton. (10002)
Mrs Naylor, 60 Southwick Street, Southwick. (13319)
J.Greenfield, "Ropsley", Sleaford Road, Boston, Lincolnshire.
(2145)

Secretary's Notes

1. HANDICAPS

By decision of the Council earlier this year, *two bisques* are to be added to everyone's handicap, with effect from 1 January 1974. The maximum handicap is retained at 16. Since half bisques are not given to players with handicaps of over 8, those whose handicaps are now 6½ or 7½ will be raised to 8 and 9 respectively.

2. C.A. DIRECTORY

A new edition of the Directory is with the printers, and it is expected that copies will be available in March. One copy will be sent free to each registered club, and further copies will be obtainable from the C.A. Office at 50p (post-free in the United Kingdom and Ireland). The handicaps printed in the new edition will be those of January 1974 (i.e. 2 bisques higher than members' present handicaps).

3. DIRECTORY AMENDMENT SERVICE

Since changes in membership, in Associates' addresses, in handicaps, in secretaryship of clubs, and other matters occur with great frequency, the Secretary has to make numerous amendments to his copies of the Directory during the currency of each edition. To enable Associates and Clubs to keep their copies up-to-date, copies are inter-leaved with blank pages, and the Secretary from time to time issues duplicated *Amendment Sheets*. There have been seven such Amendment Sheets in the currency of the 1972-1974 edition, and their quality has been greatly improved by the purchase of a new and efficient duplicator.

Orders placed in 1972 and 1973 for the series of Amendment Sheets to the *present* edition end with the seventh and last Amendment Sheet, which will probably have appeared by the time this issue of the gazette is published.

Orders for the new series, containing Amendments to the forthcoming new edition (1974-1976) should now be placed. *The cost is 50p* for a two-year service, covering all Amendment Sheets to this particular edition. Each Amendment Sheet will be sent by post (post-free in the United Kingdom and Ireland) to all those who have ordered it, as and when it appears.

4. NEW ASSOCIATES

No less than 109 new Associates were elected by the Council on 17 November. Most of these would have been elected in October if the Council had met, and were listed in the October issue of the gazette. Those not so listed are three members of the New York Croquet Club (Mrs D.McMartin, Mrs Jack Osborn, Mrs S.J.Tankoos) and the following:—

Edward Allberry, Hurst Cottage, Wainsford Road, Pennington, Lympington, Hampshire.

Miss Amaryllis Bigley, 15 Hampton Road, Solihull, Warwickshire, B91 2QJ.

D.M.Bull, 75 Boundary Road, Worthing, Sussex.

Robert Carrington, 7 Abbots Court, Thackeray Street, London W.8.

Paul Kropp, 154 Hughson Street South, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

S. Christopher Meigher III, 301 East 47th Street, New York City, U.S.A.

Mr & Mrs E.Rees, 29 Icknield Close, Ickleford, Hitchin, Hertfordshire SG5 3TD.

Mr & Mrs C.R.Sloane, 144a The Esplanade, Brighton, Victoria, 3186, Australia.

Collingwood Southern and N.Southern, Rickstones, Cedar Road, Woking, Surrey.

R.J.Sparkes, Flat 4, 72 The Avenue, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 2ES.

5. CHANGES OF ADDRESS

C.H.O'D.Alexander, Old Bath Lodge, Thirlestaine Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

Dr C.A.Boucher, Ruperts Bell, 4 Northfield End, Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

A.R.Dickins, Sparrow Hall, Lower Beeding, Horsham, Sussex, RH13 6NL.

C.W.I.Gillespie, The Good Erf, 8 Dreyer Close, Constantia, Cape Province, South Africa.

Mrs R.Hill, 22 Salterns Way, Lilliput, Poole, Dorset.

B.A.Keen, Associated Nuclear Services, Dorland House, 14-16 Regent Street, London SW1Y 4PH.

Dr Robert Milne (for 1974), The Surgery, Ahern Street, Berri, South Australia.

J.Neil Robinson, Department of Metallurgy, Imperial College, Prince Consort Road, London SW7 2BP.

K.A.Ross, 46 Bakewell Street, Coalville, Leicestershire.

Mrs E.M.Speer, 31a Hova Villas, Hove, Sussex.

D.F.Strachan and Mark Strachan, Hewletts Mill, Galhampton, Castle Carey, Somerset.

6. RE-REGISTRATION OF A DE-REGISTERED CLUB

The club at Harwell Atomic Energy Research Establishment, which ceased to be a registered club in 1970, has now been revived and re-registered. The Hon. Secretary is M.J.Duck, 35 Grahame Close, Blewbury, Berkshire.

7. NEW REFEREES: P.Bishop, R.A.Godby, Paul Hands,

S.R.Hemsted, G.B.Martin, G.K.Taylor, I.G.Vincent, Mrs G.H.Wood.

Vandeleur Robinson,
Secretary,
December 1973.

Two Courses

Hotel Imperial, Hythe, Kent

Friday evening meal 26th April to Sunday tea 28th April 1974.

Cost: £17 per head including V.A.T. and gratuities. Accommodation only at the 4-star hotel.

A course for players with 1973 handicaps between 14 and 8 inclusive. Please state handicap on application to Mrs Neal, 33 Marryat Road, Wimbledon, London S.W.19.

Bisham Abbey, Marlow, Bucks.

Friday evening meal 24th May to Sunday tea 26th May 1974.

Cost: £6.20. Accommodation may be in dormitories. Some people may like to find their own accommodation locally.

A course for beginners and/or those with 1973 handicap no better than 13. Please state handicap on application to Mrs Neal, 33 Marryat Road, Wimbledon, London S.W.19.

Handicap Alterations

Parkstone: September 10 – 15

L.S.Butler 4 to 3 and 3 to 2; Mrs H.A.Pim 9 to 7; Mrs D.H.C. Whiteman 14* to 13; J.H.T.Griffiths 8 to 7½; J.W.Haynes 2½ to 2; Dr C.A.Parker 3 to 2; Mrs P.Newton 5 to 4½.

Cheltenham Weekend IV: September 14 – 16

Mrs C.Bagnall 4½ to 4; R.E.Adlard 2½ to 2; G.F.Blumer 11 to 9; Miss M.J.Lodge 10 to 9; A.Blenkin 12 to 11.

Roehampton: September 17 – 22

E.W.Solomon 3½ to 2½; G.B.Martin 3½ to 3; T.F.Owen 7 to 6.

All-England Area Finals

A.V.Camroux –2 to –2½; J.Haigh 3 to 2½.

Ryde Weekend: September 21 – 23

P.H.Mann 5½ to 5; Miss D.E.Rogers 15 to 14; Mrs E.J.Tucker 12 to 11; R.J.Sparkes 13 to 11.

Wrest Park Weekend II: September 21 – 23

N.J.Davren 3 to 2; G.Drake 6 to 5; R.F.A.Crane 7 to 6; Mrs R.F.A.Crane 16 to 15.

All-England Finals: September 29 – 30

M.E.W.Heap –2 to –2½; C.B.Snowdon 6 to 5; Mrs S.W.Higgins 8 to 7.

Devonshire Park (first week): September 24 – 29

Lt-Col G.E.Cave –1 to –1½; I.G.Vincent 1½ to 1; Mrs J.Povey 3 to 2½; Mrs G.E.Cave 4 to 3; R.L.Everest 5½ to 4½; C.E.Knight 14 to 12; F.G.French 9* to 11.

Devonshire Park (second week): October 1 – 6

C.G.Pountney 1 to ½; Mrs G.H.Wood 1½ to 1; Mrs J.Povey 2½ to 2; L.Middleton 4½ to 3½; Mrs C.E.Devitt 6 to 5½.

Bowdon Club Recommendation

Mrs J.S.Tyldesley 5 to 4.

Budleigh Salterton Club Recommendations

Mrs F.A.Sheil 7 to 6; B.Hancock 8 to 7; Mrs C.W.Marshall 16 D14 to 13 D12; Brigadier H.E.Fernyhough 8 to 7; P.K.Devitt 12 D10 to 10 D8.

Sidmouth Club Recommendations

F.L.Fletcher 8 to 7; Mrs F.L.Fletcher 11 to 10; H.Ovens 10 to 9.

All-England Handicap 1973

The finals of the All-England Handicap were played at Roehampton over the last weekend of September in perfect weather on lawns in first class condition. The finals were ably managed once again by Miss Lintern.

The finalists, the winners of the eight Area Finals from an original entry of over 330 were divided into two blocks of four, as happened last year. In Block A the following were playing: T.Wilkins (5½) of Colworth, C.B.Snowdon (6) of Bristol, G.N.Aspinall (–5) of Caversham, and I.Howard Wright (–½) of Edinburgh. In this block both Snowdon and Howard Wright won 2 of their 3 games, the former winning the block comfortably on net points. In Block B the following were playing: C.G.Pountney (1) of Ryde, Mrs S.W.Higgins (8) of Parsons Green, M.E.W.Heap (–2) of Colchester, and A.V.Camroux (–2½) of Roehampton. This proved a much more closely fought affair. Pountney, Mrs Higgins and Heap each won 2 games, and Heap won narrowly on net points.

In the play-off between the block winners Snowdon made a brilliant start, but suddenly his bisques just disappeared. Heap hit what might have been his last shot, and confidently executed an all-round break which soon gave him victory.

Inter-Club Championship 1973

It was disappointing that only 10 clubs entered for the 1973 competition. Caversham received a bye in the first round, and then beat Hurlingham and Wrest Park to reach the final. The other team in the final was Roehampton, who beat Herstmonceux, Heley and Compton in the previous rounds. The final was played at Roehampton on Sunday 7 October. Caversham (G.N.Aspinall, J.H.J.Soutter, R.F.Rothwell and G.H.Betts) beat Roehampton (P.J.M.Fidler, D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller, A.V.Camroux and P.Crawford) by six games to one.

For 1974 entries will close in mid-February to allow the draw to be made before the beginning of the season, so that more time can be allowed for each round. It will be a straight draw, not manipulated as previously according to areas. As the minimum number of players per team is only four, it is hoped that more clubs will enter and so make this competition more representative. Maybe the fact that one of the smaller clubs was successful this year will encourage more clubs to enter in 1974.

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by Dr. G. L. Ormerod

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