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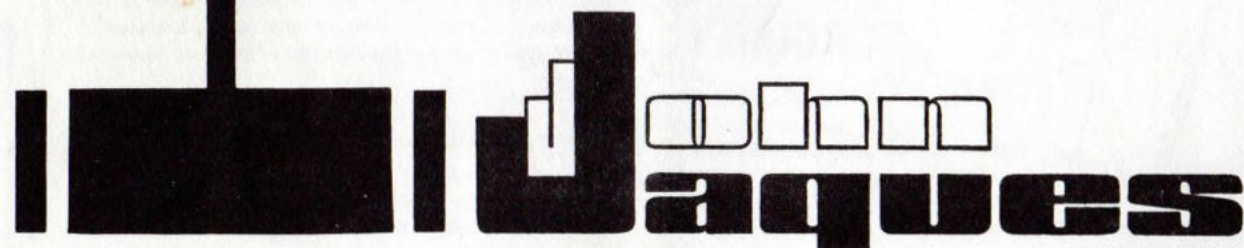
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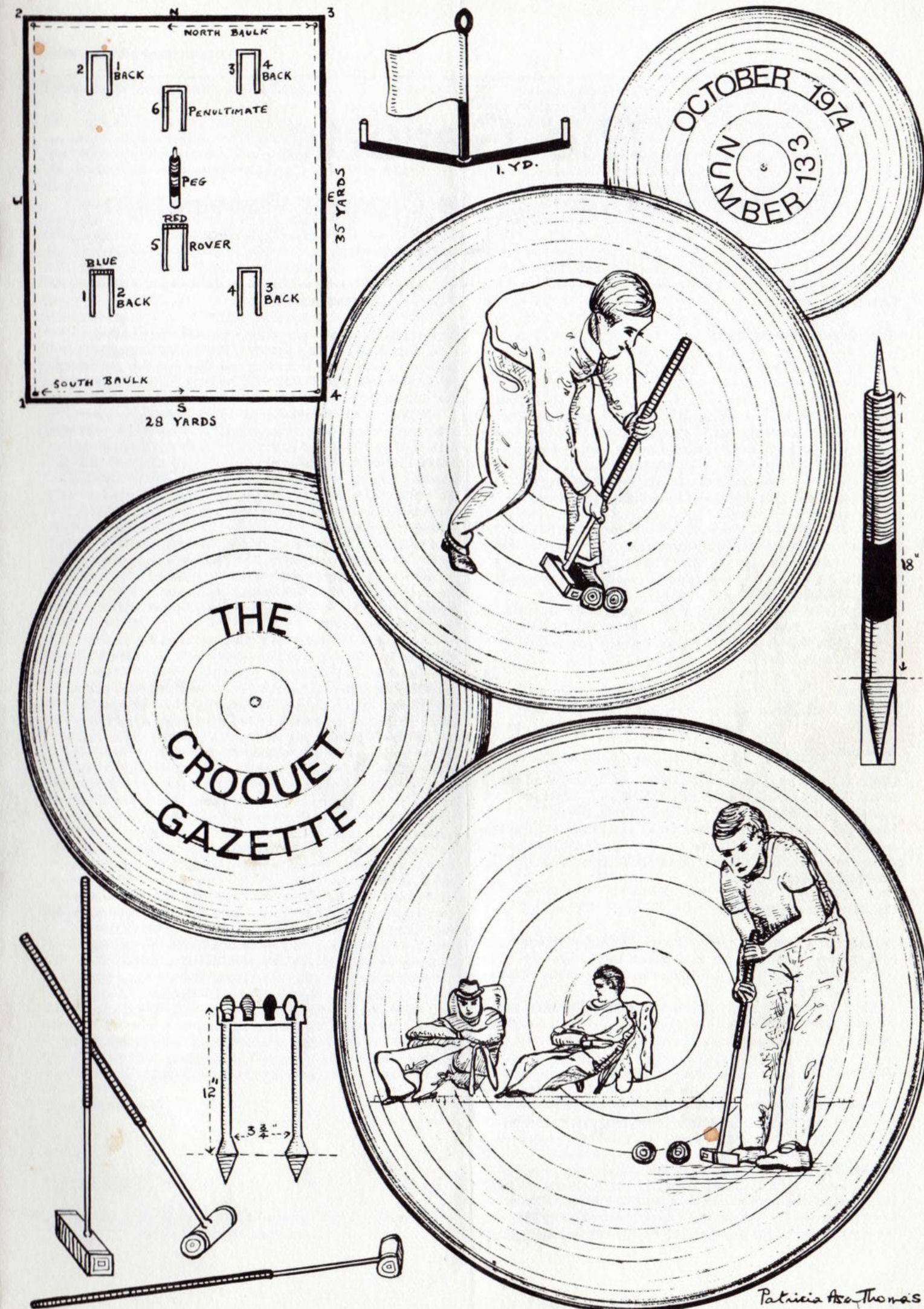
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# The Gazette

## The Official Organ of the Croquet Association

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen

### Correspondence

#### 'Guidelines for Handicappers'

from Lt-Col G.E. Cave

Sir,

With reference to Leslie Riggall's letter in Croquet Gazette No.131 and in particular to the sentence which reads "It is equally important to adjust the handicap of a tournament player who persistently fails in tournaments" . . .

At present, a tournament handicapper is only allowed to lower a handicap, and a long and tedious process is required before a handicap is raised.

May I suggest that a tournament handicapper be allowed to raise a tournament player's handicap by not more than one bisque, provided that (a) the player agrees (b) the player's handicap has not been lowered during the previous 12 months — and, of course, that he shows by his play that he is as worthy of such action as his more successful competitors are of having their handicaps reduced.

The Handicaps Co-ordination Committee would still, of course, have its right of veto.

Moorpark,  
Budleigh Salterton,  
Devon.

Yours sincerely,  
Gerald E. Cave

### Advertisement

Miss D.G. Leach of Glenroy, Saxonwood Road, Battle, Sussex, would like to purchase a set of secondhand croquet hoops and balls. Mr E. Menzies of Stydd Lawn, Goose Green, Lyndhurst, Hampshire would like to purchase some secondhand mallets and a set of balls. Would anyone who would like to sell the items mentioned above please get in touch with Miss Leach or Mr Menzies.

### The Secretary and the Editor

For general reference, the Secretary of the Croquet Association is Mr Vandeleur Robinson, The Hurlingham Club, London S.W.6 (Tel. (01) 736 3148). The standard annual rate of subscription to the C.A. is £4.

The Editor of the Croquet Gazette is Revd P.D. Hallet, 58 Romsey Road, Lyndhurst, Hampshire SO4 7AR (Tel. Lyndhurst 2074).

### Deadline

Material for the December gazette must reach the Editor by Friday November 22. Late contributions cannot normally be accepted.

### Corrigenda

In the letter 'The Croquet Cure' The Reverend Cross should be corrected to The Red Cross, and in the penultimate line the word 'muscles' should be added after stomach.

### "Cyril" — A Personal Tribute

Few croquet players, apart from those who have visited the Colchester Club, will have met Cyril Ratcliffe, though he has paid occasional visits to Hurlingham, Roehampton and Southwick. But I feel sure that all who do know him will agree with me that he is a most remarkable man.

He was already 68 years of age when, in 1951, he was *reluctantly* persuaded to try his hand at croquet. But almost immediately he became an enthusiast, and very soon an addict. When I joined the Club three years later, his handicap had already dropped to 8, at which level he was almost unbeatable. He continued to improve, slowly but consistently, and after 12 years of devotion to the game he had earned a handicap of 4 and played consistently to it. In his 83rd year his competition and tournament successes earned him a reduction to 3, and two years later he went down to 2. Finally in his 90th year the handicappers at one of our weekend tournaments decided that he was the only player who could possibly merit a reduction, but in view of his rather advanced years it was decided to leave him where he was!

Cyril and I have been keen rivals ever since I joined the Club, and I have probably been privileged to have more games with him than any of my fellow-members. Yet of all the hundreds of games we have played over 20 years the best he ever played against me was undoubtedly a club competition game we played last summer. On a scorching August day with a court like a skating rink, he did two perfectly controlled all round breaks, using only two of the 2½ bisques to which he was entitled, to beat me by 26 in an hour and a half. I have never enjoyed a game more!! Now, approaching his 92nd birthday, he still drives to the Club about five days a week, playing one or even two games each day; he is a serious contender in every club tournament and competition.

Even more remarkable than his croquet is his personality. I have never known anyone, without exception, so universally admired, liked and loved. He is the same on and off the court, never known to grumble, criticise or boast, a friend to everyone, rejoicing in everyone's success and progress, an ever ready help to new members and still an untiring coach to the beginner. Above all, he has retained a youthful sense of humour which makes his company a delight. One day I thanked him for a favour and he said "There's one condition, Ewart, you must promise to attend my funeral". "But Cyril," said I (18 years his junior), "I shan't be here." "Oh yes, of course," he replied, "I overlooked that."!!

We are accustomed to write affectionate reminiscences of our friends when they have left us. Knowing Cyril has been such a worthwhile experience that I felt I couldn't wait.

Ewart Whitehead

### North West Federation: 1974 Season

As I write, the season has some way to go. Ahead, we still have our League programme to complete, and our match against the West Midlands Federation to play at Edgbaston. Nevertheless, the general state of croquet in our region in 1974 is clear enough.

It was a pleasure to welcome to the Federation two new clubs, following hard on last year's addition of Daten. The new clubs are *Canute*, a club comprising former Radbroke Hall members still living in the area, and the new *Radbroke Hall* club. Barclay's Bank H.Q. is now sited there and, thanks to the efforts of the Canute members, croquet is once more being played in that attractive setting. A demonstration was staged and coaching provided this year. A friendly match between the new players and Canute/Daten will take place in October. Next season we hope the new club will be ready for League matches.

At Nelson and Colne F.E. College Dr Sandiford took up Liz Neal's initiative and went across to give regular coaching sessions to a large and enthusiastic group of students. Perhaps they too will join us next year.

Even though the League programme is incomplete, the Ellesmere team led by Nell Tyldesley are already assured of victory. A private visit by members of the New Zealand team to Ellesmere showed quite conclusively that the lawns are playable and that it is possible to adjust to them quickly.

Of the other established clubs, the most successful has been Southport. Membership has almost trebled in the last two years, thanks to the efforts of a dedicated committee. A golf croquet party was well attended by members and guests. This kind of introduction to croquet seems, in our experience, more successful than a full-scale demonstration, at which the potential new player can easily be daunted by the intricacies of the game. Southport also kept alive the tender growth of tournament play in the North by holding an August Bank Holiday weekend tournament which proved to be most enjoyable. (It was sad that Bowdon felt unable to repeat last year's tournament.) The Southport tournament was dogged by bad weather, and the final had to be abandoned, but Southport are to be congratulated on a successful first tournament and on a season of positive achievement in every respect.

Bowdon is having a difficult time, largely because of a decline in the number of active members. Membership is now looking up, and we all hope that Bowdon will soon be able to join in our activities again. This season only a limited domestic programme has been possible for them.

Lytham continues to be denied anywhere to play. The club has consequently had only a nominal existence this year, though there is at least one possibility of a home for 1975.

Daten deserve congratulation on reaching the semi-final of the Longman Cup in only their second year of existence.

The general note is one of cautious optimism. (Would a Northerner ever go further?) We may not be enjoying the kind of croquet explosion that is overtaking the West Midlands, but we do seem to be moving forward. Continued thanks go to the C.A., especially in the person of Liz Neal, for their support and encouragement, and to the silent minority in our clubs who have put in so much work to make progress possible.

A little kite-flying in conclusion; is it too much to hope that the Federation might bring about the establishment — or should it be the re-establishment — of the North of England Championships?

Neal Williams,  
Chairman, North West Federation.

### Obituary

Arthur Joseph

The sudden death of Mr Arthur Joseph on August 5 came as a great shock to all the Edgbaston members.

Arthur Joseph joined the Edgbaston Club in 1971 and quickly became a very useful 6 bisquer. He was an extremely active club member and was held in high esteem by us all. We shall sadly miss him, not only for his kindly, cheerful and pleasant companionship, but also as an ever-present and reliable source of advice and practical help.

He was director and investment manager of the Wesleyan and General Assurance Society in Birmingham until his partial retirement in 1970.

C.T.

The death is also announced of Mrs A.G.F. (Lena) Ross, the wife of the famous New Zealand Test player. Our sincere sympathies go to her husband in his sad loss.

### Ballade of Temporal Fame

*My sister Doris is a hearty lass*

*And loves to try her hand at sport,  
Especially when played with balls on grass;  
Hear her at Cricket cry "Howzat?" and "Caught";  
At Tennis "Bad luck, partner"; or her snort  
of "Sticks" in hockey's Amazon affray.  
But I've debarred her from the croquet court —  
You have to be intelligent to play.*

*Chess is, I'm told, considered to surpass*

*All other games of skill, and so it ought  
Indoors; but who with leisure's such an ass  
To spend his summers when the nights are short  
Indoors? To proud chess players, I retort  
That if they want to find their metier  
Let them forthwith to Hurlingham resort —  
You have to be intelligent to play.*

*For Croquet there is no need to amass*

*Vast wealth; why, it will cost you next to nought  
To buy yourself a mallet (leave the brass*

*For rich snobs who play polo) which once bought  
And clad in flannels, now you can report  
For action, but don't throw your brains away;  
Planning your peels demands a heap of thought —  
You have to be intelligent to play.*

*Prince — president, a lifespan you have wrought  
Your hoopy wiles, o'er which your rule holds sway.  
Grey matter matters where this game is fought —  
You have to be intelligent to play*

(Comus (on reading The Times) 13.7.74)

### Notice from South Africa

The Western Province Croquet Championships will be held 17-22 March 1975 at the Rondebosch Croquet Club, Cape Town. Since this tournament will be part of the Cape Town City Festival '75', accommodation for visitors from all over the world will be guaranteed if they compete. Bookings for Hotel accommodation must be made as soon as possible. *Open Singles:* Holder E.P.C. Cotter. *Open Doubles:* Holders B.Lloyd-Pratt & R.A. Carte. *Handicap Event:* Holder R.H. James. Also a *Junior Event* for handicaps over 10. Come and have a holiday of uninterrupted sunshine. Applications should be made to R.H. James, O.B.E., President, Western Province Croquet Association, c/o Golden Brae, Hill Crest Road, Somerset West, 7130, Cape, South Africa.

## Hurlingham II: August 5-10

This tournament, comprising handicap events only, is normally the first part of the Hurlingham August fortnight, but this year the second part had been transferred to June in order to meet the changes demanded by the Test Tour programme. There were 40 entries, of which no fewer than 13 were from overseas. Of the remaining 27, Hurlingham members accounted for 18, so that only 9 came from other clubs. It seems only a few years ago that competitors from outside London patronised the Hurlingham tournaments in some force, and one can only assume that the increasing burden of London hotel costs, together with travelling expenses, is acting more and more as a curb on the entry.

The Silver Jubilee Cup was won by Bolton, from Phyllis Court, who has improved appreciably in the last year or two. When in receipt of a few bisques, he was very difficult to overcome. The same applied to Owen, who appeared to have studied the art of bisque-taking to good purpose, since he gave very short shrift to the low bisquers he met. Having laid his break with the use of 2 bisques, he usually showed no sign of needing another during the course of a highly accurate break to the peg. He failed only when playing Mrs Russell from Australia who pegged him out and left him with a few problems he had not encountered before. In the final against Bolton, Mrs Russell again pegged out her opponent, but on this occasion Bolton gained the innings and made his final 3 points to win.

Mrs Aubrey this year succeeded her brother, Mr Carte, as holder of the Baillieu Plate. It was unfortunate that Pearson, who had had a number of decisive wins in earlier rounds, had to retire during the final which it was only possible to start after tea on the final day.

The Doubles had to be divided, as Mrs Russell, one of the contestants, had played three Singles on the Saturday, and no time remained for further play.

Basil Tanner, who made his debut as a Manager, was confronted with an unusual number of blocking problems by the end of the week, in spite of diligent forward planning which was sometimes frustrated by unduly protracted games. The thanks of all concerned go to him for standing in at relatively short notice.

## Results

## Event 1. The Silver Jubilee Cup (39 Entries)

## DRAW

First Round		
T.F.Owen (7)	bt. A.D'Antal (4½)	+21
R.A.Carte (2½)	bt. Mrs D.C.Russell (3½)	+12
D.C.Russell (-½)	w.o.	opp. scr.
G.F.Hallett (1½)	bt. Mrs H.J.Read (4)	+13
T.Barlow (0)	bt. Mrs H.M.Read (3½)	+ 5
Mrs B.G.Weitz (4)	bt. Mrs W.Longman (1)	+20
O.A.Kerensky (7)	w.o.	opp. scr.
Second Round		
S.S.Townsend (½)	bt. Mrs H.B.H.Carlisle (5)	+10
T.O.Read (-1½)	bt. Mrs G.W.Solomon (4)	+18
G.Maslen (1)	bt. M.G.Pearson (7)	+ 6
Miss S.G.Hampson (4)	bt. Mrs H.A.Pim (8)	+15
Miss B.Duthie (3)	bt. Mrs D.M.Aubrey (4)	+19
F.E.M.Puxon (7½)	bt. Dr H.A.Pim (7½)	+11
T.F.Owen (7)	bt. R.A.Carte (2½)	+ 5
G.F.Hallett (1½)	bt. D.C.Russell (-½)	+23
Mrs B.G.Weitz (4)	bt. T.Barlow (0)	+20
O.A.Kerensky (7)	bt. I.C.Baillieu (3)	+24
H.J.Read (-½)	bt. Lady Shaw (15)	+18
S.G.Kent (6)	w.o.	opp. scr.
H.G.T.Bolton (3)	bt. Mrs F.E.M.Puxon (5)	+20
Lt-Col A.Saalfeld (4)	bt. Mrs F.H.N.Davidson (7)	+ 8
H.S.Clemons (0)	bt. I.C.Baillieu (3)	+18
Mrs E.E.Bressey (4)	bt. Miss D.A.Lintern (8)	+ 5
Third Round		
T.O.Read (-1½)	bt. S.S.Townsend (½)	+13

G.Maslen (1)	bt. Miss S.G.Hampson (4)	+10
Miss B.Duthie (3)	bt. F.E.M.Puxon (7½)	+12
T.F.Owen (7)	bt. G.F.Hallett (1½)	+22
Mrs B.G.Weitz (4)	bt. O.A.Kerensky (7)	+ 6
H.J.Read (-½)	bt. S.G.Kent (6)	+16
H.G.T.Bolton (3)	bt. Lt-Col A.Saalfeld (4)	+14
Mrs E.E.Bressey (4)	bt. H.S.Clemons (0)	+18

## Fourth Round

G.Maslen (1)	bt. T.O.Read (-1½)	+22
T.F.Owen (7)	bt. Miss B.Duthie (3)	+25
H.J.Read (-½)	bt. Mrs B.G.Weitz (4)	+16
H.G.T.Bolton (3)	bt. Mrs E.E.Bressey (4)	+21

## PROCESS

## First Round

H.G.T.Bolton (3)	bt. Mrs H.B.H.Carlisle (5)	+12
G.Maslen (1)	bt. H.S.Clemons (0)	+23
Mrs G.W.Solomon (4)	bt. Mrs F.H.N.Davidson (7)	+12
Mrs E.E.Bressey (4)	bt. Miss S.G.Hampson (4)	+ 3
S.S.Townsend (½)	bt. Lt-Col A.Saalfeld (4)	+ 3
M.G.Pearson (7)	bt. Miss D.A.Lintern (8)	+ 8
T.O.Read (-1½)	bt. Miss D.Morgan (3)	+ 7

## Second Round

H.G.T.Bolton (3)	bt. D.C.Russell (-½)	+25
Miss B.Duthie (3)	bt. G.W.Williams (1)	+18
G.Maslen (1)	bt. Mrs H.M.Read (3½)	+10
H.J.Read (-½)	bt. A.D'Antal (4½)	+ 1
Mrs G.W.Solomon (4)	bt. Mrs H.J.Read (4)	+13
Dr H.A.Pim (7½)	bt. I.C.Baillieu (3)	+ 2
Mrs E.E.Bressey (4)	bt. Mrs W.Longman (1)	+ 3
Mrs D.C.Russell (3½)	w.o.	opp. scr.
S.S.Townsend (½)	w.o.	opp. scr.
Mrs D.M.Aubrey (4)	bt. O.A.Kerensky (7)	+16
T.Barlow (0)	bt. M.G.Pearson (7)	+ 5
T.F.Owen (7)	bt. S.G.Kent (6)	+20
T.O.Read (-1½)	bt. G.F.Hallett (1½)	+21
F.E.M.Puxon (7½)	bt. Lady Shaw (15)	+ 9
Mrs B.G.Weitz (4)	bt. Mrs H.A.Pim (8)	+ 5
R.A.Carte (2½)	bt. Mrs F.E.M.Puxon (5)	+11

## Third Round

H.G.T.Bolton (3)	bt. Miss B.Duthie (3)	+23
G.Maslen (1)	bt. H.J.Read (-½)	+11
Mrs G.W.Solomon (4)	bt. Dr H.A.Pim (7½)	+14
Mrs D.C.Russell (3½)	bt. Mrs E.E.Bressey (4)	+ 2
S.S.Townsend (½)	bt. Mrs D.M.Aubrey (4)	+17
T.F.Owen (7)	bt. T.Barlow (0)	+26
T.O.Read (-1½)	bt. F.E.M.Puxon (7½)	+17
Mrs B.G.Weitz (4)	w.o. R.A.Carte (2½)	opp. ret'd.

## Fourth Round

H.G.T.Bolton (3)	bt. G.Maslen (1)	+23
Mrs D.C.Russell (3½)	bt. Mrs G.W.Solomon (4)	+20
T.F.Owen (7)	bt. S.S.Townsend (½)	+26
T.O.Read (-1½)	bt. Mrs B.G.Weitz (4)	+18

## SEMI-FINALISTS RE-DRAWN FOR FINAL STAGES

## First Round

Mrs D.C.Russell (3½)	bt. H.J.Read (-½)	+25
T.O.Read (-1½)	w.o. G.Maslen (1)	opp. scr.

## Semi-Final

Mrs D.C.Russell (3½)	bt. R.F.Owen (7)	+ 1
H.G.T.Bolton (3)	bt. T.O.Read (-1½)	+26

## Final

H.G.T.Bolton (3)	bt. Mrs D.C.Russell (3½)	+ 8
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## Event 2: Mixed Handicap Doubles (18 Pairs)

## First Round

G.F.Hallett & S.G.Kent (7½)	bt. Mrs D.M.Aubrey & R.A.Carte (6½)	+ 4
Mrs W.Longman & T.F.Owen (8)	bt. Mr & Mrs F.E.M.Puxon (12½)	+16

## Second Round

Lady Shaw & T.Barlow (15)	bt. Miss S.G.Hampson & E.B.T.Tanner (10)	+19
Mrs H.B.H.Carlisle & M.G.Pearson (12)	bt. Miss D.Morgan & Lt-Col A.Saalfeld (7)	+16
Mrs G.W.Solomon & A.D'Antal (8½)	bt. Mr & Mrs H.J.Read (3½)	+17
Mrs Longman & Owen	bt. Hallett & Kent	+ 7

Mr & Mrs D.C.Russell (3)	bt. Mrs H.M.Read & T.O.Read (2)	+16
Mr & Mrs S.S.Townsend (14½)	bt. Mrs E.E.Bressey & G.Maslen (5)	+ 6
Mrs B.G.Weitz & H.G.T.Bolton (7)	bt. Miss B.Duthie & I.C.Baillieu (6)	+ 4
Dr & Mrs H.A.Pim (15½)	bt. Miss D.A.Lintern & H.S.Clemons (7)	+ 5 (T)

## Third Round

Mrs Carlisle & Pearson	bt. Lady Shaw & Barlow	+17
Mrs Longman & Owen	bt. Mrs Solomon & D'Antal	+17
Mr & Mrs Russell	bt. Mr & Mrs Townsend	+ 7
Dr & Mrs Pim	bt. Mrs Weitz & Bolton	+10 (T)

## Semi-Final

Mrs Carlisle & Pearson	bt. Mrs Longman & Owen	+ 4
Mr & Mrs Russell	bt. Dr & Mrs Pim	+ 9

## Final

Mr & Mrs Russell and Mrs Carlisle & Pearson	divided
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## Event 3: The Baillieu Plate (21 Entries)

## Final

Mrs D.M.Aubrey	w.o. M.G.Pearson	opp. ret'd.
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## The Open Championships: August 12 - 17

No matter how lyrical I were to become, I could not evoke an adequate picture of the Championships this year. I will just record as many of the great happenings as one pair of eyes and ears could absorb. The entire New Zealand Test Team were present; there were two from the Australian Test Team and three other strong Australian players; there were six players from the victorious British Team and, in addition, Tom Barlow, the South African champion, and Terence Read, the best player from Ireland. David Curtis was paying an opportune visit home from New Zealand to make the fifth British Test player from the 60s.

Each day produced its dramas, and there were exciting clashes between the giants even in the early rounds. On Monday Rowling went out to Barlow because the latter in the first of the three games hit the ball waiting at the peg to win by 1. In his third game against Alan Anderson Godby was going round with his second ball when he went off along a suspect north boundary. Mrs Lane of Australia pinned Keith Ross to single figures. Six matches were finished before lunch, the quickest match being William Prichard's victory over Cotter in 1 hour 35 minutes on a wet, woolly lawn. Prichard proceeded to win his second round match, and was still in time for the reception at New Zealand House at 6.30. Twenty matches were finished in the day.

On Tuesday Hope shook Murfitt, first by winning the first game easily and later with a sensational shot when he jumped the peg from Rover to hit a ball near the boundary. Neal beat William Prichard before lunch in the only match with 3 triples, and Aspinall hardly gave Buck a shot, let alone a chance. Murray pegged out one ball, and Miss Duthie flashed up 12 points. Jackson of New Zealand beat Wylie in a game that lasted a generous 9 hours. The Doubles started, but Test Teams and Officials had to leave early to attend the Court Dinner given by the Worshipful Company of Dyers, the most splendid event of the croquet year. Murfitt and Alan Anderson routed Aspinall and Neal with faultless breaks and remorseless hitting in. William Prichard twice triple peeled his brother Colin to win their first match.

Solomon and Cotter, 10 times Open Doubles Champions, split up after 22 years of partnership, and Wednesday saw the eclipse of John Solomon. Despite original tactics designed to help his son, father and son were put out of the Doubles in three games by Hope and Murray. Later, with two triples, Aspinall removed Solomon from the Singles, which gave the latter the consolation of being able to hoard his leave for the President's Cup. Wylie and Buck took over 2½ hours to beat Rees and Wheeler by 26! The Referee of the Tournament

put himself in charge of the second game in order to ensure expedition in thought and play. Later on Wednesday Keith Ross got to Penult and peg against Prince before he collapsed under two triple peels from the latter. Murfitt, playing with all his natural skill, took a game off Aspinall, but failed to make any further impact when the match was resumed two days later.

Thursday gave us Barlow at his best. First, with Cotter in the Doubles he defeated William and Colin Prichard with a single peel after William had failed to triple Cotter out. Barlow is tall and handsome, and has a long easy swing; he is particularly good at long and controlled rushes. Later he played Prince, who won the first game easily but failed on a triple in the second. Once Barlow got started, nothing could stop him and he took the game, the first Prince had dropped. Although Barlow hit the last lift in the third game, he went off in the subsequent long take-off and could not stage another come-back. The biggest sensation of the day was yet to come. After a long and eventful Doubles, which Heap and Ross lost to Hope and Murray, Heap went straight on to win a game +26 from Neal. Heap has a sloppy style which is most effective; he genuflects like a coolie before a mandarin. On Friday morning Neal bowed out without scoring a hoop in either game.

Also on Thursday Murfitt and Alan Anderson met Hicks and Maslen and had lost the first game before they realised that they were up against the most subtle tactician in the game - even Hicks' partner at times appeared mystified. Anderson had several chances of winning the second game and did eventually peg himself out, but he left Murfitt a nervous 2-yard peg out, which was missed. Hicks then showed his mastery and Maslen his skill to cement their victory.

On Friday morning Prince was beaten by Alan Anderson. After being pegged out in the first game, Anderson took position for and ran 4-back while Prince was separated; he then ran Penult from boundary to boundary and got perfect position for Rover from the 4th corner; after Prince failed in a long peg-out, Anderson hit the ball near the peg to win by 2. In the second game Anderson was set to go out in under an hour when he missed a short roquet at Penult; Prince rallied, but two mistakes gave the game to Anderson. Though Prince's defeat was cause for regret, great tribute is due to Anderson. He is quick in thought and action, and he has a groovy hoop stroke which seldom lets him down.

Meanwhile Aspinall was playing Heap in the other semi-final. Aspinall took 14 minutes to get to 4-back, but got his balls cross-wired at hoop 5 in his second break. This enabled Heap to get both balls to Penult, where a mistake cost him the game. In the second game, Aspinall began his first break with a corner cannon, which, like H.O.Hicks, he professes to dislike. Heap hit the lift and kept the innings until he broke down at 2-back in the course of a triple. This one mistake again proved fatal, and Aspinall went out with a triple lasting 16 minutes.

In contrast to these two fine matches, the Doubles semi-finals were one-sided. Cliff Anderson and Jackson, like the hare and the tortoise in double harness, got through 3 rounds, including a long three game victory over Cotter and Barlow, but they soon went under to Prince and Rowling. Hope and Murray's victory over Hicks and Maslen was their easiest and gave the latter little chance to use their tactics.

The Doubles Final was a great game. Prince and Rowling have the power of harmony: their thoughts, their pace, even their silences are in accord. Thrown up against this rock were two young men who have only recently come to the top. Murray is a hard hitter; on the backward swing his shoulders hump up so that he forms a question mark, while he ends the stroke squatting like an ampersand. Hope is a stroker of the ball; he has a modest manner, but the sinew is there. Hope was first round in the first two games, and only an over-huge split lost him the innings in the third. Murray's best break was his first: corner to corner rushes, immense splits, long approaches,

one very long hoop, with two peels and a couple of intricate cannons thrown in. Rowling did not make a mistake in all three games and did all that was asked of him. His first break was a fine exhibition of skill; his second followed a favourite format, from hoop 1 to the peg with only 4-back peeled. Prince failed to score in the first game; in the second he went inexorably to 4-back, and in the third he went out with the most majestic of triples. These two Olympians are indeed difficult foes to oppose.

The Singles Final was also between Britain and New Zealand and made a fitting end to an historic year. After a poor start Anderson settled down first and completed the first two peels of a triple before he broke down at 2-back.

Aspinall, like a greyhound from the slips, was off to do the Rover peel and peg Anderson out. The contact only brought Anderson one hoop before Aspinall went out from the 3rd hoop. Anderson made three hoops in the fourth turn of the second game, but he was never in again, for Aspinall went out in two turns of 13 and 21 minutes, including a delayed triple. This must be the greatest win of Aspinall's career. If only John Magor, the Australian captain, had been able to play, all the best players in the world would have been in the field.

Latterly the Association Plate had come to be treated like an extra event, but this year it was given its proper status. All those who had not won more than two matches were allowed in, and the semi-finalists were all Test players. In the first round Sloane of Australia beat Cliff Anderson, a victory which doubtless gained him a place in the Spencer-Ell Cup; he felt like a "toad with a side-pocket".

Wylie has not shown his best form this year, perhaps because he finds the means more fascinating than the end. He is a pioneer who has his personal brands of cannon and ingenious leaves, and many young players have reason to be grateful to him because he gladly shares his "discoveries". In the semi-final of the Plate he may well have regretted not having used one of his 1-back leaves, as William Prichard hit the first lift and Wylie did not get in again. William was in form: he had put out Mrs Lane with a triple in 32 minutes and had also put out Murfitt. After three wins which included two triples, Buck had a lucky win over Jackson in the semi-final, when Jackson broke down at 4-back on his way out. Jackson had completed the only other triple in the Plate against young John Solomon earlier in the day. By beating William Prichard in an excellent final, Buck certainly earned a place in the President's Cup. He takes an inordinately long time over his breaks, but he seldom breaks down.

Twenty-seven triples were recorded during the week: 7 by William Prichard (with one straight and one on the opponent); 6 by Prince; 5 by Aspinall; 2 by Murray (one with a combination peg-out); 2 each by Neal and Buck, and 1 each by Alan Anderson, Jackson and Heap. With 45 entries, this was the largest field for 50 years, but Roger Bray, the Manager, earned the supreme accolade — he made it look easy.

## Results

### Event 1: The Croquet Championship (45 Entries)

First Round		
E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	bt. C.G.Hopewell	+10 + 4
Revd W.E.Gladstone	w.o. Mrs W.Longman	opp. scr.
T.Barlow	bt. G.Rowling	+ 1 -23 +24
Dr W.R.D.Wiggins	bt. Mrs H.J.Read	+15+26
J.G.Prince	bt. C.R.Sloane	+23 +22
J.R.G.Solomon	bt. S.S.Townsend	+ 8 + 9
K.A.Ross	bt. Mrs H.Lane	+ 4 + 7
S.Hemsted	bt. D.V.H.Rees	-20 +18 + 3
M.E.W.Heap	bt. T.O.Read	- 3 +15 +26
C.Anderson	bt. D.W.Curtis	+23 + 7
R.V.Jackson	bt. K.F.Wylie	+10 - 2 +13
H.J.Read	bt. F.Reynold	+25 +25
W. de B.Prichard	bt. E.P.C.Cotter	+21 + 9

Second Round		
H.O.Hicks	bt. Cdr G.Borrett	+ 9 + 5

A.M.Anderson	bt. R.A.Godby	+16 -17 +12
Miss B.Duthie	bt. Mrs H.M.Read	+14 +14
M.Murray	bt. D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller	+ 4 +26
G.Maslen	bt. E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	+19 +17
T.Barlow	bt. Revd W.E.Gladstone	+21 + 5
J.G.Prince	bt. Dr W.R.D.Wiggins	+24 +25
K.A.Ross	bt. J.R.G.Solomon	+ 7 +18
M.E.W.Heap	bt. S. Hemsted	+ 6 +22
R.V.Jackson	bt. C.Anderson	+17 +11
W. de B.Prichard	bt. H.J.Read	+17 +24
Prof. B.G.Neal	bt. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	+21 +15
R.J.Murfitt	bt. A.V.Camroux	+14 +19
A.B.Hope	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	+24 +18
J.W.Solomon	bt. J.A.Wheeler	+16 +15
G.N.Asipinall	bt. S.A.Buck	+26 +18

Third Round		
A.M.Anderson	bt. H.O.Hicks	+18 +16
M.Murray	bt. Miss B.Duthie	+26 + 9
T.Barlow	bt. G.Maslen	+19 +16
J.G.Prince	bt. K.A.Ross	+ 3 +26
M.E.W.Heap	bt. R.V.Jackson	+ 9 +16
Prof. B.G.Neal	bt. W. de B.Prichard	-25 +16 +26
R.J.Murfitt	bt. A.B.Hope	-17 +16 +25
G.N.Asipinall	bt. J.W.Solomon	+26 +15

Fourth Round		
A.M.Anderson	bt. M.Murray	+12 +15
J.G.Prince	bt. T.Barlow	+23 - 5 +26
M.E.W.Heap	bt. Prof. B.G.Neal	+26 +26
G.N.Asipinall	bt. R.J.Murfitt	- 3 +23 +23

Semi-Final		
A.M.Anderson	bt. J.G.Prince	+2 +15
G.N.Asipinall	bt. M.E.W.Heap	+ 6 + 8

Final		
G.N.Asipinall	bt. A.M.Anderson	+ 5 +23

### Event 2: The Doubles Championship (22 Pairs)

First Round		
D.W.Curtis & Cdr G.Borrett	bt. Mr & Mrs H.J.Read	+14 + 8
C.Anderson & R.V.Jackson	bt. C.R.Sloane & R.A.Godby	+20 +25
W. de B. & C.H.L.Prichard	bt. Mrs H.M.Read & Miss B.Duthie	+20 +25
T.Barlow & E.P.C.Cotter	bt. D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller & Dr W.R.D.Wiggins	+19 - 5 + 5
M.E.W.Heap & K.A.Ross	bt. Lt-Col & Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	+14 + 2
A.B.Hope & M.Murray	bt. J.W. & J.R.G.Solomon	+25 -14 +24

Second Round		
J.G.Prince & G.D.Rowling	bt. Revd W.E.Gladstone & E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	+22 +26
S.A.Buck & K.F.Wylie	bt. D.V.H.Rees & J.A.Wheeler	+26 +15
C.Anderson & Jackson	bt. Curtis & Borrett	+20 +18
Barlow & Cotter	bt. W. & C.Prichard	+18 + 4
Hope & Murray	bt. Heap & Ross	-10 + 3 + 8
S.Hemsted & C.G.Hopewell	bt. T.O.Read & Mrs B.L.Sundius-Smith	+21 - 2 + 3
G.Maslen & H.O.Hicks	bt. A.V.Camroux & Mrs H.Lane	+ 9 +16
R.J.Murfitt & A.M.Anderson	bt. G.N.Asipinall & Prof. B.G.Neal	+26 +14

Third Round		
Prince & Rowling	bt. Buck & Wylie	+ 4 +25
C.Anderson & Jackson	bt. Barlow & Cotter	- 7 + 2 +26
Hope & Murray	bt. Hemsted & Hopewell	+23 +14
Maslen & Hicks	bt. Murfitt & A.Anderson	+23 + 1

Semi-Final		
Prince & Rowling	bt. C.Anderson & Jackson	+26 +23
Hope & Murray	bt. Maslen & Hicks	+24 +13

Final		
Prince & Rowling	bt. Hope & Murray	-17 +12 +16

### Event 3: The Association Plate (27 Entries)

First Round		
A.V.Camroux	bt. S.S.Townsend	+26
K.F.Wylie	bt. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	+12
S.Hemsted	bt. D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller	+17
R.J.Murfitt	bt. Miss B.Duthie	+16
W. de B.Prichard	bt. Mrs H.Lane	+26

Revd W.E.Gladstone	w.o. M.Murray	opp. scr.
C.R.Sloane	bt. C.Anderson	+13
D.V.H.Rees	bt. Mrs H.M.Read	+10
S.A.Buck	bt. D.W.Curtis	+11
J.A.Wheeler	w.o. A.B.Hope	opp. scr.
R.V.Jackson	bt. Cdr G.Borrett	+23
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. C.G.Hopewell	+22

Second Round		
K.F.Wylie	bt. A.V.Camroux	+19
S.Hemsted	w.o.	opp. scr.
W. de B.Prichard	bt. R.J.Murfitt	+ 7
G.D.Rowling	bt. Revd W.E.Gladstone	+26
D.V.H.Rees	bt. C.R.Sloane	+ 8
S.A.Buck	bt. J.A.Wheeler	+26
R.V.Jackson	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	+18
J.R.G.Solomon	w.o.	opp. scr.

Third Round		
K.F.Wylie	bt. S.Hemsted	+15
W. de B.Prichard	w.o. G.D.Rowling	opp. scr.
S.A.Buck	bt. D.V.H.Rees	+20
R.V.Jackson	bt. J.R.G.Solomon	+26

Semi-Final		
W. de B.Prichard	bt. K.F.Wylie	+17
S.A.Buck	bt. R.V.Jackson	+ 5

Final		
S.A.Buck	bt. W. de B.Prichard	+15

## Nottingham: August 12 - 17

The perfect host hopes his visitors will enjoy their stay; he entertains them, certainly, but doesn't feel obliged to let them win in games of skill and chance. During their August Tournament the Nottingham Club out-did the perfect host, for every winner there was a visitor or a new member of the Club.

The tournament was full, with over half the entry from other clubs. From Scotland came Stephen Wright, and, to play in England for the first time, Dr Norton, who arrived on the Tuesday, unfortunately forgetting to leave his Scottish weather at home. While everyone else provided the spectators extra amusement identifying figures disguised in colourful cocoons and squelching through hoops, he flitted round cheerfully in his whites and didn't even seem to get wet. Other visitors came from as far as Guildford, Southport and even South Africa.

In conformity with true tournament form, lifts were forgotten, balls pegged out by mistake, and other balls refused to hit the peg. Rover was blobbed four times in one game, short roquets missed and miraculous long shots hit. However, there was good play too, especially from Stephen Wright, who completed two triples, his first in competition play, to win both Draw and Process in the Opens, beating Faulkner in the Draw, and Bushnell in a thrilling game in the Process. He met Bushnell again in the final of the Robin Hood, but this time lost to him by 6.

Christopher Haworth had presented a new trophy for the 'B' level event, and for some time it looked as though he might win it himself, but it turned out to be Miss Hampson and Mrs Aubrey who eventually met in the final, which was won by the latter. The Doubles, with few exceptions, faithfully went to time, the winners being Dr Norton and Phil Cozens, a new Nottingham member, who beat Christopher Haworth and Len Robinson by 14. The final of the 'X' was between Norman Davren and Neil Williams, Davren being the winner, and in the 'Y' Miss Hampson beat Mrs Coombs. Everyone was delighted that one of Nottingham's new members, Mrs Wheeler, with 16 bisques to support her, did so very well. She played steadily and sensibly, and thoroughly deserved to win the 'C' Handicap. Although her handicap has been suitably reduced, she may well manage to keep a step ahead of the handicappers for some time. She must have had a hectic week, for not only was she busy winning, but she was also dashing around, like all the other club members, dealing with lunches, teas and the bar.

The refreshments were much appreciated by all. Mr Duffield managed with his usual cheerful efficiency, helped not only by the Trent Clock, whose chimes announced the end of the morning's play, no matter when the game started, but also by his wife who was Time Keeper in Chief for the afternoon games.

## Results

### Event 1: "Robin Hood" Open Handicap Singles (23 Entries)

First Round		
N.Williams (2)	bt. Miss E.C.Brumpton (5)	+ 6
Mrs L.A.Coombs (6½)	bt. Mrs A.J.Bucknell (10)	+24
S.J.H.Wright (1)	bt. E.Whitehead (1½)	+17
R.Fletcher (9)	bt. N.Davren (4)	+18
M.J.Bushnell (½)	bt. C.W.Haworth (6½)	+ 4
Mrs B.G.Neal (7)	bt. A.J.Bucknell (5½)	+ 6 (T)
Miss S.G.Hampson (4)	bt. Mrs D.M.Aubrey (4)	+10

Second Round		
P.Cozens (8)	bt. R.Faulkner (2)	+14
G.Henshaw (5)	bt. E.Halliwell (11)	+17
N.Williams (2)	bt. Mrs L.A.Coombs (6½)	+ 2
S.J.H.Wright (1)	bt. R.Fletcher (9)	+ 7
M.J.Bushnell (½)	bt. Mrs B.G.Neal (7)	+18
Miss S.G.Hampson (4)	w.o. Mrs E.Whitehead (9)	opp. scr.
R.A.Carte (2½)	bt. Mrs C.Chamberlain (9)	+15
Dr B.Sandiford (4½)	w.o. Miss E.M.Brumpton (6)	opp. scr.

Third Round		
P.Cozens (8)	bt. G.Henshaw (5)	+ 2
S.J.H.Wright (1)	bt. N.Williams (2)	+ 3
M.J.Bushnell (½)	bt. Miss S.G.Hampson (4)	+18
R.A.Carte (2½)	bt. Dr B.Sandiford (4½)	+21

Semi-Final		
S.J.H.Wright (1)	bt. P.Cozens (8)	+ 2
M.J.Bushnell (½)	bt. R.A.Carte (2½)	+12

Final		
M.J.Bushnell (½)	bt. S.J.H.Wright (1)	+ 6

### Event 2: Open Singles (8 Entries)

DRAW		
First Round		
R.Faulkner	bt. E.Whitehead	+22
F.V.X.Norton	bt. M.J.Bushnell	+15
N.Williams	bt. E.A.L.Sulley	+ 9
S.J.H.Wright	bt. R.A.Carte	+ 6

Semi-Final		
R.Faulkner	bt. F.N.X.Norton	+ 8
S.J.H.Wright	bt. N.Williams	+ 3

Final		
S.J.H.Wright	bt. R.Faulkner	+14

PROCESS		
First Round		
N.Williams	bt. E.Whitehead	+21
S.J.H.Wright	bt. F.V.X.Norton	+16
R.Faulkner	bt. E.A.L.Sulley	+22
M.J.Bushnell	bt. R.A.Carte	+11

Semi-Final		
S.J.H.Wright	bt. N.Williams	+26
M.J.Bushnell	bt. R.Faulkner	+ 8

Final		
S.J.H.Wright	bt. M.J.Bushnell	+17

### Event 3: 'B' Level Singles (13 Entries)

First Round		
Miss S.G.Hampson	bt. N.J.Davren	+11
Dr B.Sandiford	bt. A.J.Bucknell	+ 3 (T)
C.W.Haworth	bt. E.A.L.Sulley	+14
P.Cozens	bt. Mrs L.A.Coombs	+ 5
Mrs D.M.Aubrey	bt. Mrs B.G.Neal	+ 2

<i>Second Round</i>			
Miss S.G.Hampson	bt. Miss E.C.Brumpston	+ 9	
C.W.Haworth	bt. Dr B.Sandiford	+17	
Mrs D.M.Aubrey	bt. P.Cozens	+ 3	
G.Henshaw	w.o. F.V.X.Norton	opp. scr.	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
Miss S.G.Hampson	bt. C.W.Haworth	+ 9	
Mrs D.M.Aubrey	bt. G.Henshaw	+ 8	

<i>Final</i>			
Mrs D.M.Aubrey	bt. Miss S.G.Hampson	+15	

**Event 4: 'C' Handicap Singles (9 Entries)**

<i>First Round</i>			
R.Fletcher (9)	bt. R.Wheeler (16)	+ 7	

<i>Second Round</i>			
Mrs C.W.Haworth (15)	bt. E.Halliwell (11)	+ 2 (T)	
Mrs C.Chamberlain (9)	bt. R.Fletcher (9)	+ 6	
Mrs E.Whitehead (9)	bt. L.Robinson (11)	+ 2 (T)	
Mrs R.Wheeler (16)	bt. Mrs A.J.Bucknell (10)	+ 6 (T)	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
Mrs C.Chamberlain (9)	bt. Mrs C.W.Haworth (15)	+14	
Mrs R.Wheeler (16)	bt. Mrs E.Whitehead (9)	+ 5 (T)	

<i>Final</i>			
Mrs R.Wheeler (16)	bt. Mrs C.Chamberlain (9)	+15 (T)	

**Event 5a: 'X' Handicap Singles (27 Entries)**

<i>First Round</i>			
E.A.L.Sulley (5)	bt. Miss S.G.Hampson (4)	+ 6	
R.A.Carte (2½)	bt. Dr B.Sandiford (4½)	+16	
C.W.Haworth (6½)	bt. Mrs R.Wheeler (16)	+11 (T)	
N.Davren (4)	bt. Miss E.C.Brumpston (5)	+ 8	
G.Henshaw (5)	bt. R.Fletcher (9)	+19	
Miss E.M.Brumpston (6)	bt. R.Wheeler (16)	+18	
E.Halliwell (11)	bt. Mrs C.Chamberlain (9)	+ 8 (T)	
N.Williams (2)	bt. Mrs E.Whitehead (9)	+23	
E.Whitehead (1½)	bt. A.J.Bucknell (5½)	+ 2	
M.J.Bushnell (½)	bt. P.Cozens (8)	+ 6	
Mrs A.J.Bucknell (10)	bt. Mrs B.G.Neal (7)	+ 3 (T)	

<i>Second Round</i>			
Mrs D.M.Aubrey (4)	bt. S.J.H.Wright (1)	+25	
R.A.Carte (2½)	bt. E.A.L.Sulley (5)	+ 2	
N.Davren (4)	bt. C.W.Haworth (6½)	+19	
G.Henshaw (5)	bt. Miss E.M.Brumpston (6)	+15	
N.Williams (2)	bt. E.Halliwell (11)	+17	
M.J.Bushnell (½)	bt. E.Whitehead (1½)	+11	
Mrs A.J.Bucknell (10)	bt. L.Robinson (11)	+ 5 (T)	
F.V.X.Norton (3½)	bt. Mrs L.A.Coombs (6½)	+13	

<i>Third Round</i>			
R.A.Carte (2½)	bt. Mrs D.M.Aubrey (4)	+ 4	
N.Davren (4)	bt. G.Henshaw (5)	+19	
N.Williams (2)	bt. M.J.Bushnell (½)	+ 8	
F.V.X.Norton (3½)	bt. Mrs A.J.Bucknell (10)	+19	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
N.Davren (4)	bt. R.A.Carte (2½)	+11	
N.Williams (2)	bt. F.V.X.Norton (3½)	+ 5	

<i>Final</i>			
N.Davren (4)	bt. N.Williams (2)	+14	

**Event 5b: 'Y' Handicap Singles (14 Entries)**

<i>Final</i>			
Miss S.G.Hampson (4)	bt. Mrs L.A.Coombs (6½)	+11	

**Event 6: Handicap Doubles (13 Pairs)**

<i>First Round</i>			
C.W.Haworth & L.Robinson (17½)	bt. S.J.H.Wright & Mrs R.Wheeler (15)	+ 5 (T)	
A.J.Bucknell & R.Wheeler (19½)	bt. Mrs L.A.Coombs & R.Fletcher (15½)	+ 1 (T)	
E.A.L.Sulley & Mrs A.J.Bucknell (15)	bt. N.Williams & Miss E.C.Brumpston (7)	+14 (T)	
F.V.X.Norton & P.Cozens (11½)	bt. Dr B.Sandiford & Mrs B.G.Neal (11½)	+ 1 (T)	

G.Henshaw & W.Haynes (14)	w.o. Mr & Mrs E. Whitehead (10½)	opp scr.	
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<i>Second Round</i>			
Haworth & Robinson br. Miss S.G.Hampson & E.Halliwell (15)		+ 1 (T)	
Sulley & Mrs Bucknell bt. Bucknell & Wheeler		+ 1 (T)	
Norton & Cozens bt. Henshaw & Haynes		+19	
M.J.Bushnell & Mrs C.Chamberlain (9½) bt. R.A.Carte & Mrs D.M.Aubrey (6½)		+ 3 (T)	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
Haworth & Robinson bt. Sulley & Mrs Bucknell		+10 (T)	
Norton & Cozens bt. Bushnell & Mrs Chamberlain		+12	

<i>Final</i>			
Norton & Cozens bt. Haworth & Robinson		+14	

**Edinburgh: August 19 - 24**

Edinburgh provided its usual crop of mixed weather for this tournament, but on only one day was there sufficient rain to be troublesome, and the sun was warm when it shone. The Dunfermline College of Physical Education at Cramond provided their usual excellent facilities, and their lunches were enjoyed by all.

With an entry of 21 and 6 lawns available, the Manager decided to run the 'B' level singles as Draw and Process instead of X and Y, and also to have a Z in the Big Handicap. The result was that by Friday morning all but one of the competitors were still in at least one event.

The Doubles produced many close games, and in only one was the final margin greater than 5 points. While playing Doubles, Ian Wright found himself about 6 inches in front of 3-back and slightly to one side, with his partner ball near 4-back; he played a hammer shot with such force that his ball reached 4-back and rebounded into perfect position to run the hoop.

Colonel Saalfeld will be remembered as a tough competitor from whom it was difficult to wrest the innings once he had obtained it; he reaped his reward in winning the 'Y' of the Big Handicap. Both he and Mrs Russell from Tasmania showed that they had no difficulty in adapting to the slower pace of the Cramond courts. Mrs Brown from Stourbridge impressed by her improvement during the week.

After a close first game against J.C.McCulloch, Jack Norton made sure of retaining the Edinburgh Cup for the second year, while in another repeat performance Carol Rowe beat her husband Jimmy in the final of their class event by almost the same margin as last year.

The prizes were presented by Lady MacKenzie, the widow of Sir Compton MacKenzie, a former member of the Club and President of the C.A.

**Results****Event 1: Open Singles (6 Entries)**

DRAW

<i>First Round</i>			
S.J.H.Wright	bt. F.V.X.Norton	+21	
Mrs D.C.Russell	bt. Miss D.Morgan	+15	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
S.J.H.Wright	bt. D.C.Russell	+23	
Mrs D.C.Russell	bt. L.H.Wright	+15	

<i>Final</i>			
S.J.H.Wright	bt. Mrs D.C.Russell	+ 8	

**PROCESS**

<i>First Round</i>			
D.C.Russell	bt. Mrs D.C.Russell	+12	
L.H.Wright	bt. S.J.H.Wright	+16	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
D.C.Russell	bt. F.V.X.Norton	+ 6	
L.H.Wright	bt. Miss D.Morgan	+24	

<i>Final</i>			
L.H.Wright	bt. D.C.Russell	+10	
<i>PLAY-OFF</i>			
L.H.Wright	bt. S.J.H.Wright	+13	

**Event 2: 'B' Handicap Singles (6 Entries)**

DRAW

<i>First Round</i>			
Lt-Col A.Saalfeld (4)	bt. R.O.Calder (6)	+12	
P.J.R.Crawford (4½)	bt. Mrs S. Willetts (9)	+12	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
Lt-Col A.Saalfeld (4)	bt. J.G.White (7)	+12	
P.J.R.Crawford (4½)	bt. D.C.Willetts (6½)	+20	

<i>Final</i>			
P.J.R.Crawford (4½)	bt. Lt-Col A.Saalfeld (4)	+ 5	

**PROCESS**

<i>First Round</i>			
J.G.White (7)	bt. P.J.R.Crawford (4½)	+ 7	
R.O.Calder (6)	bt. D.C.Willetts (6½)	+14	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
J.G.White (7)	bt. Lt-Col A.Saalfeld (4)	+ 2	
R.O.Calder (6)	bt. Mrs S.Willetts (9)	+19	

<i>Final</i>			
R.O.Calder (6)	bt. J.G.White (7)	+ 4	

**PLAY-OFF**

P.J.R.Crawford (4½)	bt. R.O.Calder (6)	+11	
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**Event 3a: 'C' Handicap Singles ('X') (9 Entries)**

<i>First Round</i>			
Miss A.M.Murray (10)	bt. J.C.McCulloch (9)	+ 5	

<i>Second Round</i>			
Cdr J.E.Rowe (9)	bt. Mrs M.V.S.Laing (11)	+14	
C.J.Tait (9)	bt. Miss A.M.Murray (10)	+ 3	
Mrs L.M.Armstrong (12)	bt. Mrs D. Brown (15)	+10	
Mrs C.A.Rowe (8)	bt. Mrs V.M.Macpherson (9)	+13	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
Cdr J.E.Rowe (9)	bt. C.J.Tait (9)	+ 2	
Mrs C.A.Rowe (8)	bt. Mrs L.M.Armstrong (12)	+19	

<i>Final</i>			
Mrs C.A.Rowe (8)	bt. Cdr J.E.Rowe (9)	+ 8	

**Event 3b: 'C' Handicap Singles ('Y') (4 Entries)**

<i>Final</i>			
J.C.McCulloch (9)	bt. Mrs V.M.Macpherson (9)	+ 8	

**Event 4: Handicap Doubles (9 Pairs)**

<i>First Round</i>			
Cdr & Mrs J.E.Rowe (17) bt. Miss D.Morgan & Lt-Col A.Saalfeld (7)		+ 5 (T)	

<i>Second Round</i>			
F.V.X.Norton & Mrs D.C.Russell (6) bt. Mrs V.M.Macpherson & Mrs L.M.Armstrong (21)		+ 5 (T)	
S.J.H.Wright & J.G.White (7) bt. Cdr & Mrs Rowe		+12	
P.J.R.Crawford & C.J.Tait (13½) bt. Mr & Mrs D.C. Willetts (15½)		+ 3	
L.H.Wright & R.O.Calder (7½) bt. D.C.Russell & J.C. McCulloch (8½)		+ 1 (T)	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
Norton & Mrs Russell bt. S.Wright & White		+ 1	
L.Wright & Calder bt. Crawford & Tait		+ 3	

<i>Final</i>			
I.Wright & Calder bt. Norton & Mrs Russell		+ 2	

**Event 5a: 'X' Handicap Singles (19 Entries)**

<i>First Round</i>			
Mrs V.M.Macpherson (9)	bt. Miss D.Morgan (3)	+ 7	
F.V.X.Norton (3)	bt. J.C.McCulloch (9)	+ 1	
D.C.Willetts (6½)	bt. P.J.R.Crawford (4½)	+10	

<i>Second Round</i>			
Cdr J. E. Rowe (9)	bt. Mrs D.Brown (15)	+19	
I.H.Wright (1½)	bt. Miss A.M.Murray (10)	+10	
D.C.Russell (-½)	bt. Mrs C.A.Rowe (8)	+ 2	
F.V.X.Norton (3)	bt. Mrs V.M.Macpherson (9)	+13	
S.J.H.Wright (0)	bt. D.C.Willetts (6½)	+ 1	
R.O.Calder (6)	bt. Mrs D.C.Russell (3)	+ 2	
J.G.White (7)	bt. Lt-Col A.Saalfeld (4)	+ 4	
C.J.Tait (9)	bt. Mrs S.Willetts (9)	+ 8	

<i>Third Round</i>			
Cdr J.E.Rowe (9)	bt. L.H.Wright (1½)	+ 7	
F.V.X.Norton (3)	bt. D.C.Russell (-½)	+ 5	
R.O.Calder (6)	bt. S.J.H.Wright (0)	+ 8	
J.G.White (7)	bt. C.J.Tait (9)	+ 5	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
F.V.X.Norton (3)	bt. Cdr J.E.Rowe (9)	+12	
R.O.Calder (6)	bt. J.G.White (7)	+12	

<i>Final</i>			
F.V.X.Norton (3)	bt. R.O.Calder (6)	+15	

**Event 5b: 'Y' Handicap Singles (9 Entries)**

<i>Final</i>			
Lt-Col A.Saalfeld (4)	bt. Miss A.M.Murray (10)	+10	

**Event 5c: 'Z' Handicap Singles (8 Entries)**

<i>Final</i>			
D.C.Willetts (6½)	bt. Mrs V.M.Macpherson (9)	+ 7	

**The Ladies' Field Cup, played at Roehampton, August 26 - 30**

1974 saw four new faces in the Ladies Eight, and all four acquitted themselves so well that some older hands will have to prove their merit to retain or regain their places.

Mrs Dickinson from New South Wales is the President of the Australian Croquet Council; she plays a fast and forward game, and in spite of lack of practice and a borrowed mallet she proved herself an excellent shot. She achieved 3 wins, and 5 single figure losses, the best of which were -2 to Mrs Wood and -6 to Miss Sessions. She promises to return and will always be welcome.

Mrs Digby at 3½ had the highest handicap and although she was disappointed in her play, her 3 wins were most creditable - she played particularly well to beat Mrs Meachem +7 and to lose to Mrs Wood -5 and to Miss Sessions -4. She fairly flies round the court with her coat tails fluttering; perhaps her butterfly-like coat was the cause of some of her errors in play.

Miss Duthie, available for the first time since 1969, is a seasoned player and a great competitor; her nice sense of humour conceals an iron will. Twice she came from behind to beat Mrs Wood, and she had six of the narrowest losses. In losing to Mrs Sundius-Smith by 1, she pegged out one ball after her forward ball missed the peg; she should have won after Mrs Sundius-Smith failed to hit in, but missed the peg from 7ft. and lost.

Mrs Wood was the star of the week. No player has done so well at her first appearance since 1935, when Mrs Rotherham, Miss Paulley and Miss Lintern won 12, 12 and 11 games respectively (out of 18). Mrs Wood has an unforced swing and hits her ball so well that her cue ball maintains a true course - which may explain her skill at hitting "last" shots. Her first game against Mrs Prichard was of the highest order, and the

second, similarly, was in the balance until the last shot; she won the first +1 and the second +2. With wins over both Mrs Sundius-Smith +5 and Miss Sessions +6, she must be ranked as one of the best women players in the country. If one counts only the matches of the top four in this competition, Mrs Wood would have been the winner.

Of the top four from the 1973 Cup *Miss Sessions* (1st) was not so consistent this year; the lawns were not fast enough for her really big splits; but she is always adventurous and a delight to watch. Her win over Mrs Meachem +3 in the first series was the best game of the week: every long shot was hit. *Mrs Prichard* (2nd) had a disastrous first series but with five wins in the second series she ended up in 4th place this time. *Mrs Sundius-Smith* (3rd) has had a consistent record in this event: in her five previous appearances she has won 10, 8, 10, 10 and 9 games. The secret of her success is her ability to make things easy for herself and difficult for her opponents. *Mrs Meachem* (4th) has played little croquet this year and even she, young and active as she is, was feeling a little muscle-bound by the end of the week. She is an asset in the Eight — for one thing she is an excellent Referee and was one of the few appointed for the Test Matches this year.

Play was not slow, but close matches and other factors meant that there were 5 pegged down games to be finished after tea on Friday. In two of these Mrs Sundius-Smith was involved, and the fate of the Cup depended on them. If she

won both, the Cup was hers; if she lost both, the Cup was Miss Sessions'; if she won only one, it would be a tie with 11 games all. In the first game Mrs Sundius-Smith made the 6 points necessary to finish her game against Miss Duthie; her second game against Mrs Wood was a more difficult task. On Thursday evening Mrs Wood had missed her peg-out and Mrs Sundius-Smith had caught up a long way until she failed in her approach to 4-back and left Mrs Wood a 7 yard shot. On resumption Mrs Wood missed the shot and Mrs Sundius-Smith got one ball to Rover and started her second break from 4-back. But the tension was too great and she stuck in Penult, and this time Mrs Wood succeeded in her peg-out.

The play-off started late and the game was abandoned at 7.30, Miss Sessions and Mrs Sundius-Smith agreeing to divide. This is Miss Sessions' third win, and Mrs Sundius-Smith gets her name on the Cup for the first time. The Cup has been divided once before: between Mrs Oddie and Miss Lintern in 1939. There is a case for doing away with the play-off; the players get very tired; it seems impossible nowadays to extend play to the Saturday, and it would be a relief to the Manager. Miss Lintern says that this must be her last appearance as a Manager, and what could be a more appropriate finale than the Ladies' Field Cup, in which she played 19 times, which she won 8 times, and which was held at her own Club, Roehampton.

The Ladies' Field Cup	Miss K.M.O.Sessions	Mrs B.L.Sundius-Smith	Mrs G.H.Wood	Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	Mrs B.Meachem	Miss B.Duthie	Mrs W.Dickinson	Mrs G.S.Digby	W I N N E R
Miss K.M.O.Sessions		-24	+11	+18	+3	+24	+6	+4	11
		+15	-6	-25	+23	+2	+25	+21	
Mrs B.L.Sundius-Smith	+24		+8	-10	+4	+1	+16	+10	11
			-15	-5	+16	+22	+4	+9	
Mrs G.H.Wood	-11	-8		+1	+2	-7	+5	+5	9
				+6	+5		+2	+14	
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	-18	+10	-1		-20	-9	-14	+12	7
				+25	-16	-2	+9	+23	
Mrs B.Meachem	-3	-4	-2	+20		+5	+18	+19	6
				-23	-22	+4	-9	+2	
Miss B.Duthie	-24	-1	+7	+9	-5		-6	+14	6
				-2	-4	+6	-23	-2	
Mrs W.Dickinson	-6	-16	-5	+14	-18	+6		-9	3
				-25	-9	-2	-19	+4	
Mrs G.S.Digby	-4	-10	-5	-12	-19	-14	+9		3
				-21	-16	-14	-12	+7	

### Southwick August Tournament: August 26 — 31

This pleasant tournament, detached this year from the previous week's tournament at Southwick owing to Test Match requirements, is a pleasant tournament where there is less pressure than in some. There were so many entries that a few had to be refused. There were few 'A' class players from away, and the tournament was dominated both in numbers and in interest by the 'C' class players. Southwick is particularly good at recruiting, training and encouraging new players. The number of 'C' class players who played well in this tournament was very encouraging for the health and long-term future of the game.

Apart from a few brief showers, the weather was excellent throughout the week, but the drought made the courts fast and difficult most of the time. Some of the hoop areas were very glassy. Southwick have a good and hard working groundsman in Mr Finch, but the lawns need watering facilities and other expensive treatments, for which it seems that money is not available; this is a great pity.

Southwick's long tradition of good catering was kept fully up to standard by Mrs Turner and her helpers. The tournament was ably and cheerfully managed by Commander Borrett, whose red trousers were very useful in that he could be readily spotted in all parts of the Club by all except those unfortunate enough to be colour blind. The blocking problems only revealed their full magnitude as Saturday wore on, and it was not the Manager's fault that it was necessary to divide both the 'X' and 'Y' Handicap events.

'Tiny' Tyrwhitt Drake, with his interesting grunts and groans at his own almost excellent play, seemed to be on the lawns nearly all the time. He and Moore dominated the Opens. Until Saturday Moore proved to be much the quicker of the two; he won every Single that he played, though only a missed peg-out prevented Daldry defeating him in the Process. Tyrwhitt Drake made one or two mistakes more than Moore, and it was for this reason that the final of the Draw went to the latter. Tucker played effectively enough to defeat Tyrwhitt Drake in the Process and reach the final, but his play was too defensive to be very entertaining. Moore defeated him in the Process final without too much difficulty, and thus won both halves of the Opens.

When Tyrwhitt Drake was playing Daldry on the Thursday, he had occasion to call for the services of two Referees to watch a single shot. He had stuck in 4-back with one ball, and placed his other ball in 3-back as part of a leave. He shot with the ball in 3-back at the ball in 4-back and one Referee watched for a possible crush, the second for a hit; neither of these possibilities materialised, but Tyrwhitt Drake soon regained the innings, partly as a result of his leave.

In the Doubles, Tyrwhitt Drake & Miss Hodgins, and Rees & Simon Tapp always looked likely to be the finalists, and so it proved, though both semi-final matches were very close. It was unfortunate that the Mallinsons had to retire at an early stage, as Colonel Mallinson contracted shingles. Mrs Mallinson in particular had been doing rather well in all her events, and she and her husband had won two rounds of Doubles. The final went to Rees and Simon Tapp as a direct result of Tiny's blobbing Rover, though Tiny and Miss Hodgins had a distinct superiority in tactics. Simon Tapp had little difficulty in adding victory in the 'B' levels to this success. Simon is 15 and has been playing just over a year. He is obviously going to be a very good player in due course, but at present he plays much too fast and makes several unnecessary mistakes as a result. He lost giving one bisque to Mrs Weitz in the Big Handicap by 16. Now that his handicap has been reduced to 2, we shall see how he fares in the 'A' class next season.

In the 'C' class J.Randle, playing in his first tournament, was the most impressive player. He had little difficulty in winning the 'C' class event, and he managed to defeat Tyrwhitt Drake in the Big Handicap. He only succumbed to Peter Hallett by 1 because he missed a short peg-out when the

opponent balls were together and Peter Hallett managed to keep him away from the peg while he completed his six remaining hoops and the peg-out. Miss Hodgins also played well, very well at times, particularly in Doubles. Mrs Eileen Lewis played well in her second tournament, and Mrs Rankin recorded an encouraging victory over Scott.

The 'X' Handicap was divided between Moore and Green, the 'Y' between Whitehead and Mrs Tyrwhitt Drake.

### Results

#### Event 1: Open Singles (14 Entries)

##### DRAW

First Round		
W.E.Moore	bt. Dr W.R.Bucknall	+26
Prof. B.G.Weitz	bt. I.G.Vincent	+4
N.W.T.Cox	bt. Revd P.D.Hallett	+15
E.Whitehead	bt. W.H.Austin	+10
E.J.Tucker	bt. H.A.Sheppard	+12
E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	bt. F.Reynold	+17

Second Round		
W.E.Moore	bt. Mrs G.F.H.Elvey	+11
N.W.T.Cox	bt. Prof. B.G.Weitz	+4
E.J.Tucker	bt. E.Whitehead	+23
E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	bt. Sir Leonard Daldry	+15

Semi-Final		
W.E.Moore	bt. N.W.T.Cox	+20
E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	bt. E.J.Tucker	+20

Final		
W.E.Moore	bt. E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	+11

##### PROCESS

First Round		
E.Whitehead	bt. Mrs G.F.H.Elvey	+10 (T)
E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	bt. Prof. B.G.Weitz	+20
E.J.Tucker	bt. Dr W.R.Bucknall	+10
I.G.Vincent	bt. F.Reynold	+7
W.E.Moore	bt. H.A.Sheppard	+17
Sir Leonard Daldry	bt. N.W.T.Cox	+2

Second Round		
E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	bt. E.Whitehead	+13
E.J.Tucker	bt. Revd P.D.Hallett	+23
W.H.Austin	bt. I.G.Vincent	+3
W.E.Moore	bt. Sir Leonard Daldry	+2

Semi-Final		
E.J.Tucker	bt. E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	+10
W.E.Moore	bt. W.H.Austin	+12

Final		
W.E.Moore	bt. E.J.Tucker	+16

#### Event 2: 'B' Level Singles (19 Entries)

First Round		
Mrs N.W.T.Cox	bt. Mrs F.F.W.Staddon	+13
J.G.Warwick	bt. Miss H.D.Parker	+2
Miss C. Cox	bt. F.F.W.Staddon	+14

Second Round		
H.F.L.Jenking	bt. Mrs H.F.Chittenden	+16
W.B.C.Paynter	bt. Mrs E.M.Speer	+11
S.Tapp	bt. K.S.Schofield	+17
Mrs N.W.T.Cox	bt. J.G.Warwick	+11
Mrs R.E.Tucker	bt. Miss C.Cox	+5
Lady Ursula Abbey	bt. Mrs B.G.Weitz	+3
H.A.Green	bt. W.J.Baverstock	+9
R.L.Everest	w.o. Prof. A.S.C.Ross	opp. scr.

Third Round		
H.F.L.Jenking	bt. W.B.C.Paynter	+10
S.Tapp	bt. Mrs N.W.T.Cox	+25
Mrs R.E.Tucker	bt. Lady Ursula Abbey	+7
R.L.Everest	bt. H.A.Green	+7

<i>Semi-Final</i>		
S.Tapp	bt. H.F.L.Jenking	+24
R.L.Everest	bt. Mrs R.E.Tucker	+ 6
<i>Final</i>		
S.Tapp	bt. R.L.Everest	+16
<b>Event 3: 'C' Handicap Singles (26 Entries)</b>		
<i>First Round</i>		
Mrs E.Lewis (13)	bt. Mrs I.B.Tucker (12)	+ 7
J.Randle (9)	bt. Mrs E.C.Goldbard (12)	+15
Miss E.X.Hodgens (11)	bt. Lt-Col E.H.P.Mallinson (10)	+18
Mrs H.F.L.Jenking (8)	bt. Mrs E.Thompson (8)	+ 3 (T)
C.E.Knight (8)	bt. Mrs A.Millns (13)	+22
Miss M.Tyrrell (7½)	bt. Mrs L.L.Duveen (11)	+12
Miss A.M.Ryan (14)	bt. Mrs S.J.Turner (6½)	+ 2 (T)
J.H.T.Griffiths (8)	bt. Mrs M.Rankin (15)	+ 2
E.E.Rees (7)	bt. Mrs E.Whitehead (9)	+21
Mrs E.H.P.Mallinson (7)	bt. Mrs D.Osborne (10)	+11
<i>Second Round</i>		
Mrs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (11)	bt. W.G.B.Scott (7½)	+14 (T)
D.M.Bull (8)	bt. Mrs E.Lewis (13)	+ 3
J.Randle (9)	bt. Miss E.X.Hodgens (11)	+17
C.E.Knight (8)	bt. Mrs H.F.L.Jenking (8)	+ 4 (T)
Miss M.Tyrrell (7½)	bt. Miss A.M.Ryan (14)	+ 7 (T)
E.E.Rees (7)	bt. J.H.T.Griffiths (8)	+ 9
Mrs E.H.P.Mallinson (7)	bt. Mrs D.Waterhouse (11)	+17
G.F.Paxon (7)	bt. Mrs W.A.Naylor (7)	+ 3
<i>Third Round</i>		
D.M.Bull (8)	bt. Mrs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (11)	+ 7 (T)
J.Randle (9)	bt. C.E.Knight (8)	+12
Miss M.Tyrrell (7½)	bt. E.E.Rees (7)	+16
Mrs E.H.P.Mallinson (7)	bt. G.F.Paxon (7)	+ 4 (T)
<i>Semi-Final</i>		
J.Randle (9)	bt. D.M.Bull (8)	+12
Miss M.Tyrrell (7½)	w.o. Mrs E.H.P.Mallinson	opp. scr.
<i>Final</i>		
J. Randle (9)	bt. Miss M.Tyrrell (7½)	+20
<b>Event 4a: 'X' Handicap Singles (56 Entries)</b>		
<i>First Round</i>		
Miss M.G.Anderson (5½)	bt. E.Whitehead (1½)	+ 5
E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (-1)	bt. Mrs E.C.Goldbard (12)	+ 6
J.Randle (9)	bt. D.M.Bull (8)	+ 5
Mrs A.Millns (13)	w.o. Lady Ursula Abbey (4½)	opp. scr.
Mrs H.F.L.Jenking (8)	bt. Mrs L.L.Duveen (11)	+10
W.E.Moore (-1)	bt. Mrs D.Osborne (10)	+ 7
Mrs F.F.W.Staddon (6)	bt. H.F.L.Jenking (5)	+ 2
C.E.Knight (8)	bt. W.B.C.Paynter (6)	+ 5
R.L.Everest (4½)	bt. W.J.Baverstock (4½)	+17
H.A.Sheppard (1½)	bt. K.S.Schofield (3½)	+ 4
Mrs N.W.T.Cox (5)	bt. Mrs E.Whitehead (9)	+16
Prof. B.G.Weitz (2)	bt. Mrs M.Rankin (15)	+16
Sir Leonard Daldry (0)	bt. W.G.B.Scott (7½)	+ 7
Mrs G.F.H.Elvey (1½)	bt. Miss H.D.Parker (5½)	+ 9
Mrs R.E.Tucker (5½)	bt. Mrs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (11)	+ 9
E.J.Tucker (1½)	bt. Mrs W.A.Naylor (7)	+13
Mrs E.H.P.Mallinson (7)	bt. G.F.Paxon (7)	+19
J.H.T.Griffiths (8)	bt. F.F.W.Staddon (5)	+ 4
Miss E.X.Hodgens (11)	bt. I.G.Vincent (2)	+16
E.E.Rees (7)	bt. W.H.Austin (2)	+ 5
Mrs S.J.Turner (6½)	bt. J.G.Warwick (4)	+18
Mrs B.G.Weitz (4)	bt. Mrs E.M.Speer (4)	+15
S.Tapp (3)	bt. Miss A.M.Ryan (14)	+16
Mrs E.Thompson (8)	bt. Mrs D.Waterhouse (11)	+ 8
<i>Second Round</i>		
Revd P.D.Hallett (0)	bt. Mrs E.Lewis (13)	+ 6
Dr W.R.Bucknall (1½)	w.o. Prof. A.S.C.Ross (2½)	opp. scr.
E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (-1)	bt. Miss M.G.Anderson (5½)	+ 7
J.Randle (9)	bt. Mrs E.Thompson (8)	+23
Mrs H.F.L.Jenking (8)	bt. Mrs A.Millns (13)	+12
W.E.Moore (-1)	bt. Mrs F.F.W.Staddon (6)	+ 8
C.E.Knight (8)	bt. R.L.Everest (4½)	+ 4 (T)
Mrs N.W.T.Cox (5)	bt. H.A.Sheppard (1½)	+18
Sir Leonard Daldry (0)	bt. Prof. B.G.Weitz (2)	+ 3
Mrs R.E.Tucker (5½)	bt. Mrs G.F.H.Elvey (1½)	+16
Mrs E.H.P.Mallinson (7)	bt. E.J.Tucker (1½)	+ 4
Miss E.X.Hodgens (11)	bt. J.H.T.Griffiths (8)	+17

Mrs S.J.Turner (6½)	bt. E.E.Rees (7)	+ 3
Mrs B.G.Weitz (4)	bt. S.Tapp (3)	+15
H.A.Green (2½)	bt. Mrs I.B.Tucker (12)	+14
Miss M.G.Tyrrell (7½)	bt. Mrs H.F.Chittenden (2½)	+ 3
<i>Third Round</i>		
Revd P.D.Hallett (0)	bt. Dr W.R.Bucknall (1½)	+10
J.Randle (9)	bt. E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (-1)	+ 5
W.E.Moore (-1)	bt. Mrs H.F.L.Jenking (8)	+22
Mrs N.W.T.Cox (5)	w.o. C.E.Knight (8)	opp.scr.
Sir Leonard Daldry (0)	bt. Mrs R.E.Tucker (5½)	+ 5
Miss E.X.Hodgens (11)	bt. Mrs E.H.P.Mallinson (7)	+18
Mrs B.G.Weitz (4)	bt. Mrs S.J.Turner (6½)	+ 4
H.A.Green (2½)	bt. Miss M.Tyrrell (7½)	+18
<i>Fourth Round</i>		
Revd P.D.Hallett (0)	bt. J.Randle (9)	+ 1
W.E.Moore (-1)	bt. Mrs N.W.T.Cox (5)	+ 3
Miss E.X.Hodgens (11)	bt. Sir Leonard Daldry (0)	+20
H.A.Green (2½)	bt. Mrs B.G.Weitz (4)	+17
<i>Semi-Final</i>		
W.E.Moore (-1)	bt. Revd P.D.Hallett (0)	+12
H.A.Green (2½)	bt. Miss E.X.Hodgens (11)	+16
<i>Final</i>		
H.A.Green (2½)	and W.E.Moore (-1)	divided
<b>Event 4b: 'Y' Handicap Singles (29 Entries)</b>		
<i>Final</i>		
E.Whitehead (1½) and Mrs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (11)		divided
<b>Event 5: Handicap Doubles (27 Pairs)</b>		
<i>First Round</i>		
E.J.Tucker & C.E.Knight (9½)	bt. Mrs H.F.Chittenden & Mrs S.J.Turner (9)	+ 5
Sir Leonard Daldry & W.G.B.Scott (7½)	bt. H.A.Sheppard & Mrs E.Lewis (14½)	+ 2
Lt-Col & Mrs E.H.P.Mallinson (17)	bt. G.F.Paxon & Mrs E.Higinbotham (14)	+11
Mrs F.F.W.Staddon & Miss C.Cox (12)	bt. Mrs G.F.H.Elvey & Mrs A.Millns (13½)	+ 3
Prof. & Mrs B.G.Weitz (6)	bt. H.F.L.Jenking & Mrs N.W.T.Cox (10)	+ 5
S.Tapp & E.E.Rees (10)	bt. K.S.Schofield & Mrs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (14½)	+15
E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake & Miss E.X.Hodgens (10)	bt. W.E.Moore & D.M.Bull (7)	+15
J.G.Warwick & F.F.W.Staddon (9)	bt. Revd P.D.Hallett & Miss M.Tyrrell (7½)	+18
W.H.Austin & Mrs I.B.Tucker (14)	bt. Mr & Mrs E.Whitehead (10½)	+ 3 (T)
J.Randle & Mrs D.Osborne (19)	bt. Mrs D.Waterhouse & Mrs M.Rankin (26)	+13
I.G.Vincent & Miss M.Ryan (16)	bt. Miss H.D.Parker & J.H.T.Griffiths (13½)	+ 5
<i>Second Round</i>		
R.L.Everest & Mrs R.E.Tucker (10)	bt. Dr W.R.Bucknall & Mrs W.A.Naylor (8½)	+ 8
Tucker & Knight	bt. Daldry & Scott	+ 5 (T)
Lt-Col & Mrs Mallinson	bt. Mrs Staddon & Miss Cox	+ 8
Tapp & Rees	bt. Professor & Mrs Weitz	+13
Tyrwhitt Drake & Miss Hodgins	bt. Warwick & Staddon	+12
Austin & Mrs I.B.Tucker	bt. Randle & Mrs Osborne	+13
Vincent & Miss Ryan	bt. H.A.Green & Mrs E.M.Speer (6½)	+ 4 (T)
N.W.T.Cox & Mrs L.L.Duveen (10)	bt. W.J.Baverstock & L.Brookes (8½)	+15
<i>Third Round</i>		
Everest & Mrs R.E.Tucker	bt. Tucker & Knight	+ 7
Tapp & Rees	w.o. Lt-Col & Mrs Mallinson	opp. scr.
Tyrwhitt Drake & Miss Hodgins	bt. Austin & Mrs I.B.Tucker	+15
Cox & Mrs Duveen	bt. Vincent & Miss Ryan	+ 4 (T)
<i>Semi-Final</i>		
Tapp & Rees	bt. Everest & Mrs R.E.Tucker	+ 4
Tyrwhitt Drake & Miss Hodgins	bt. Cox & Mrs Duveen	+ 5
<i>Final</i>		
Tapp & Rees	bt. Tyrwhitt Drake & Miss Hodgins	+ 4

### Hunstanton (first week): August 26-31

The 75th Open Tournament attracted fewer entries this year, owing to the fact that it was one of five alternatives on the Calendar. However, this resulted in far more games for the competitors. No time limits were imposed until the Friday. True, one game ran to 5 hours 40 minutes, but then another was completed in three quarters of an hour.

This happy week was marred only by the news that Mrs Perowne is leaving the area, and Mr Proudfoot, our Groundsman, is retiring. All our old friends will remember Proudfoot, and his father before him, with Tommy the horse drawing the mower, long before the days of petrol driven machines. This father/son partnership resulted in 92½ years of service!

Mrs Perowne, a member for 27 years, is moving nearer her family. She was presented with a leaving present by the President at the prize giving. Many club members owe their interest and skill in the game to her tuition. As a player she was always difficult to beat and a masterly tactician.

Jane Neville Rolfe declined her place in the Ladies Eight to manage the tournament; she was ably assisted by Cicely Brumpton. Jane was rewarded by winning the Opens, the Process of the Big Handicap and the Doubles.

Anglia Television spent a whole morning filming activities, and a 4 minute edited programme appeared in the evening news. The Local Press also published articles and photographs during the latter part of the tournament. More publicity than the Test Tour? But then the Hunstanton Tournament is always a very special week.

### Results

#### Event 1: Open American Singles (3 Entries)

Winner: Mrs J.N.Rolfe, who beat Judge A.D.Karmel + 7 + 6 and H.S.Clemons + 2 + 7

#### Event 2: 'B' Level Singles (7 Entries)

### DRAW

<i>First Round</i>		
S.G.Kent	bt. Miss E.C.Brumpton	+ 7
H.C.Green	bt. Miss S.G.Hampson	+18
Miss E.M.Brumpton	bt. I.C.Baillieu	+ 4

<i>Semi-Final</i>		
S.G.Kent	bt. H.C.Green	+ 5
Capt. M.F.Buller	bt. Miss E.M.Brumpton	+ 8

<i>Final</i>		
S.G.Kent	w.o. Capt. M.F.Buller	opp. scr.

### PROCESS

<i>First Round</i>		
I.C.Baillieu	bt. Miss E.C.Brumpton	+ 3
Miss S.G.Hampson	bt. Capt. M.F.Buller	+18
S.G.Kent	bt. Miss E.M.Brumpton	+ 5

<i>Semi-Final</i>		
Miss S.G.Hampson	bt. I.C.Baillieu	+ 3 (T)
H.C.Green	bt. S.G.Kent	+ 3

<i>Final</i>		
H.C.Green	bt. Miss S.G.Hampson	+18

<i>PLAY-OFF</i>		
H.C.Green	bt. S.G.Kent	+ 7

#### Event 3: 'C' Handicap Singles - American (3 Entries)

Winner: W.H.Carlisle (11), who beat Miss M.Mactier (16) + 3 (T) and C.Ryder (10) + 15

### Event 4: Open Handicap Singles (13 Entries)

### DRAW

<i>First Round</i>		
Miss S.G.Hampson (3½)	bt. I.C.Baillieu (3)	+ 9
Judge A.D.Karmel (½)	bt. Miss M.Mactier (16)	+15
H.C.Green (3)	bt. Mrs A.D.Karmel (7)	+18
C. Ryder (10)	bt. S.G.Kent (6)	+ 3
H.S.Clemons (0)	bt. Capt. M.F.Buller (4)	+ 7

<i>Second Round</i>		
Miss S.G.Hampson (3½)	bt. W.H.Carlisle (11)	+ 2
Judge A.D.Karmel (½)	bt. H.C.Green (3)	+16
Mrs J.N.Rolfe (2)	bt. C.Ryder (10)	+ 8
H.S.Clemons (0)	bt. Miss E.C.Brumpton (5)	+ 7

<i>Semi-Final</i>		
Miss S.G.Hampson (3½)	bt. Judge A.D.Karmel (½)	+11
H.S.Clemons (0)	bt. Mrs J.N.Rolfe (2)	+ 1

<i>Final</i>		
Miss S.G.Hampson (3½)	bt. H.S.Clemons (0)	+22

### PROCESS

<i>First Round</i>		
W.H.Carlisle (11)	bt. S.G.Kent (6)	+ 5
Judge A.D.Karmel (½)	bt. Capt. M.F.Buller (4)	+14
Mrs J.N.Rolfe (2)	bt. Miss S.G.Hampson (3½)	+14
Miss E.M.Brumpton (6)	bt. I.C.Baillieu (3)	+ 4
H.C.Green (3)	bt. Miss E.C.Brumpton (5)	+ 2
H.S.Clemons (0)	bt. Miss M.Mactier (16)	+14

<i>Second Round</i>		
W.H.Carlisle (11)	bt. Judge A.D.Karmel (½)	+12
Mrs J.N.Rolfe (2)	bt. Mrs A.D.Karmel (7)	+19
H.C.Green (3)	bt. Miss E.M.Brumpton (6)	+14
C.Ryder (10)	w.o. H.S.Clemons (0)	opp. scr.

<i>Semi-Final</i>		
Mrs J.N.Rolfe (2)	bt. W.H.Carlisle (11)	+ 1
H.C.Green (3)	bt. C.Ryder (10)	+ 9

<i>Final</i>		
Mrs J.N.Rolfe (2)	bt. H.C.Green (3)	+22

#### Event 5: Handicap Doubles (6 Pairs)

<i>First Round</i>		
I.C.Baillieu & S.G.Kent (9)	bt. H.S.Clemons & Capt M.F.Buller (4)	+ 4
Miss E.C. & Miss E.M.Brumpton (11)	bt. Mr & Mrs A.D.Karmel (7½)	+ 8

<i>Semi-Final</i>		
Mrs J.N.Rolfe & C.Ryder (12)	bt. Baillieu & Kent	+ 5
Miss S.G.Hampson & W.H.Carlisle (13½)	w.o. The Misses Brumpton	opp. scr.

<i>Final</i>		
Mrs Rolfe & Ryder	bt. Miss Hampson & Carlisle	+ 2

### The Longman Cup 1974

#### Results in Order

<i>Semi-Final</i>		
Daten	beat	Colworth 4 - 3
Parsons Green	beat	Southwick 4 - 3

### Inter-Club Championship 1974

#### Results in Order

<i>Semi-Final</i>		
Wrest Park	beat	Rochampton 4 - 2
Colchester	beat	Southwick 6 - 3

The President's Cup: September 3-7

There had been a certain apprehension that there might be some deterioration in the quality of this event because players involved in the Test Matches had taken most of their leave already, but the high standard to which we are accustomed was in fact maintained. The "Eight" included five of Britain's best ten, the three other contestants being another British player, Michael Heap, who had shown very good form in the Championship, Richard Murfitt, the New Zealand champion, and Spencer Buck, of Australia, who won the Association Plate in Championship week. Such an octet could hardly fail to provide us with plenty of interest in the competition, though the absence of that great player, John Prince, was much to be regretted, since he is at least the equal now of any player in the world.

Torrential rain at intervals on the first day failed to drive any of the players from the courts. Three of the morning games were finished quickly, but there was a lengthy struggle between the two antipodean players, Murfitt and Buck; good shooting - and missed roquets - had the effect of impairing good play on both sides, but it was Buck who seemed to be just a little ahead all the way, and after three hours and more he duly won.

After lunch the triples began to roll in; both John Solomon, who played at his best all day, and Paul Hands achieved one in winning by 26, and a long time afterwards Spencer Buck did also. Buck's triple was achieved in a victory over Aspinall, but he took an unconscionable time about it. This very promising player will be still more attractive to watch when he has learned to play much faster.

By contrast, Solomon achieved a particularly rapid win in his evening game by means of his triple. This round brought yet another victory for Buck, a win over Hands which enabled him to share first place with Solomon. Heap beat Prichard by 26, and a very close game between those old contestants, Aspinall and Wylie, went to the former. At the end of the first day the position was: Buck and Solomon 3, Aspinall 2, and the rest 1, except Wylie 0.

When your commentator arrived (a little late) just before eleven on Wednesday, he found three of the matches were already over, and the number of triples at the end of the 4th round had risen to 10. The fourth game in this round ran to nearly 3 hours and resulted in a win for Murfitt over Wylie by 1. This cruel defeat followed a defeat by 2; the luckless Keith deserved better things. By the end of the day's play Solomon had taken the lead with 5, Aspinall, Buck and Prichard 4, Hands 3, Heap and Murfitt 2, and Wylie 0. The number of triples had now risen to 12. The day was not wet, but it was horribly cold.

An interesting point of law arose when Solomon, playing Heap, had a comfortable lead after pegging out his opponent's ball and one of his own. Soon after this each player showed reluctance to move his ball from the small area in which it lay. A deadlock seemed to have been reached, but eventually John ended this by agreeing to shoot, and in fact he hit his opponent's ball - leaving the situation to be settled ultimately by the Laws Committee this winter.

This writer has never missed the President's Cup since the Thirties, and he never recalls such hostile conditions as prevailed this year. On Thursday morning the courts resembled the Lake District rather than a Croquet Club. After listening to much speculation as to how, if ever, the competition could be finished, this scribe departed at 3.0 p.m., convinced there would be no play that day. On this point, however, he was soon to be proved wrong. A couple of players arrived to say that Court 6, being slightly higher than the others, was in their view certainly playable; and so it turned out to be, for three games were finished on it, one of which gave Wylie a victory over Solomon at the conclusion of the first series. The situation was then as follows: Aspinall, Prichard and Solomon 5, Buck 4, Hands and Heap 3, Murfitt 2 and Wylie 1.

By this time the Manager was faced with a very difficult situation. It was possible that he could steer the competition to a conclusion if the weather relented, but it seemed "more than rather likely" that it would not. Colonel Cave saw it as his primary duty to find a winner for the event, and in the light of this obligation divided the players into sheep and goats, in much the same manner as prevails in golf championships. The sheep were the players with 4 or 5 games, and they were to have a priority which made it reasonably certain that they would get all the games due to them, whether against each other or otherwise.

Things certainly looked better on Friday morning. An early start was made, and it seemed possible that all the matches might be played before Saturday evening, though not in their true order. Some thundery showers in the afternoon had little effect on the proceedings. At 6.0 p.m. with some two hours of daylight remaining, the courts were fully occupied. Perhaps there might be a complete finish.

Saturday brought enormous gales but very little rain. Most of the games were rapidly finished. By lunch time a new fact was revealed. Each of the three leaders, Aspinall, Prichard and Solomon, had beaten the other two, and in every game there had been triples. The full number of triples achieved was now 22.

Very little space remains to mention particular games, but this writer especially noted three on Saturday. Wylie seemed to be faced with defeat by Prichard; he was only for 1-back and 5 when Prichard seemed very likely to go out in the next turn, but he gained the innings and went out in two turns.

The other two games each involved Murfitt. He had never quite reached his best in this country, but he certainly did so that day. He began with a victory over the formidable Nigel Aspinall, and then went on to face John Solomon, who had only to win this game to finish top. This game lasted rather longer than John's previous games during the week, but when your commentator arrived on the scene it seemed certain that John would win, for he was about to make Rover, when he inexplicably failed. At this point Murfitt was for 4-back and 5. The New Zealander made the most of every opportunity he had, and this brought him victory and at the same time created a tie between Solomon and Aspinall which demanded a best of three match to be played off the next day.

The play-off was won easily by Aspinall +22 +25. Psychology was on his side. The disappointment arising from the failure arising from a single error when the prize seemed to be within his grasp was a heavy blow to bear at the end of a week in which John had seldom played better. This is not to underrate the brilliance of Nigel which has been much in evidence throughout this Test Match Year; only John Prince had seemed to challenge him.

A final tribute remains to be paid to the admirable way in which Gerald Cave handled a situation which was more difficult than any that he had had to face in his previous seven years of managing this event. May there be many more years in which the C.A. has the advantage of being able to call upon his experience of this unique event.

The President's Cup	G.N.Aspinall	J.W.Solomon	W. de B.Prichard	S.A.Buck	P.W.Hands	R.J.Murfitt	M.E.W.Heap	K.F.Wylie	W I N S
G.N.Aspinall		+26*	-17	-15	+ 5	+15	+19*	+ 3	10
		-26	+17	+25	+21*	- 7	+15	+26*	
J.W.Solomon	-26		+26*	+15	+15	+26*	+ 9*	-16	10
	+26*		-26	+23*	+26*	- 2	+24*	+ 5	
W. de B.Prichard	+17*	-26		+24*	+ 9*	+24	-26	+18	9
	-17	+26		+16*	-26	+26	+ 6*	- 2	
S.A.Buck	+15*	-15	-24		+24*	+12	- 6	+19	8
	-25	-23	-16		+ 4	+17	+19	+ 4	
P.W.Hands	- 5	-15	- 9	-24		+26*	+20*	+26*	7
	-21	-26	+26	- 4		+ 8	+22	+25	
R.J.Murfitt	-15	-26	-24	-12	-26		+ 2	+ 1	6
	+ 7	+ 2	-26	-17	- 8		+23	+ 5	
M.E.W.Heap	-19	- 9	+26*	+ 6	-20	- 2		+16	3
	-15	-24	- 6	-19	-22	-23		- 4	
K.F.Wylie	- 3	+16	-18	-19	-26	- 1	-16		3
	-26	- 5	+ 2	- 4	-25	- 5	+ 4*		

\* denotes Triple Peel Play-off: Aspinall beat Solomon +22 +25

Weekend Tournaments

Budleigh Salterton: August 16-18

BLOCK WINNERS

- A. A.J.Cooper (-½) 4 wins and 49 points
- B. Sir Leonard Daldry (0) 4 wins and 48 points
- C. P.K.Devitt (8) 4 wins and 50 points
- D. R.H.Lee (5) 5 wins

PLAY-OFF

- Semi-Final*  
 Sir Leonard Daldry (0) bt. A.J.Cooper (-½) + 5  
 R.H.Lee (5) bt. P.K.Devitt (8) +10
- Final*  
 Sir Leonard Daldry (0) bt. R.H.Lee (5) +16

Colchester II: August 23 - 26

BLOCK WINNERS

- A. Mrs B.G.Neal (7) 4 wins and 41 points
- B. P.Bishop (5) 4 wins
- C. J.Cockayne (5) 4 wins
- D. E.P.Duffield (2½) 3 wins and 35 points

PLAY-OFF

- Semi-Final*  
 Mrs B.G.Neal (7) bt. P.Bishop (5) +11 (T)  
 J.Cockayne (5) bt. E.P.Duffield (2½) +18
- Final*  
 Mrs B.G.Neal (7) bt. J.Cockayne (5) +11
- HANDICAP DOUBLES**
- Semi-Final*  
 R.Alford & G.Kimber bt. Mrs A.F.Adlam & F.E.M. Puxon + 3 (T)  
 K.Paterson & Mrs F.E.M.Puxon bt. Mr & Mrs E.A.Locke + 7 (T)
- Final*  
 Alford & Kimber bt. Paterson & Mrs Puxon + 4

Cheltenham III: August 24 - 26

BLOCK WINNERS

- A. G.E.P.Jackson (-1) 6 wins
- B. Miss M.J.Lodge (9) 6 wins
- C. Mrs R.A.Lewty (6) 5 wins
- D. Dr M.Murray (-2) 5 wins
- E. H.G.T.Bolton (2) 6 wins



The Chairman's Salver	S.R.Hemsted	C.H.L.Prichard	G.E.P.Jackson	P.J.M.Fidler	D.V.H.Rees	G.Maslen	Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	R.A.Godby	W I N S
S.R.Hemsted		+25	+15	+17	+12	+15	+25	+17	12
		-5	+26	+11	+13	-7	+21	+26	
C.H.L.Prichard	-25		+4	+14	+3	+12	-10	+17	9
	+5		-20	-13	+7	+21	+2	-15	
G.E.P.Jackson	-15	-4		-16	+9	+4	+12	+15	8
	-26	+20		+14	-10	+2	-6	+4	
P.J.M.Fidler	-17	-14	+16		-1	+14	+10	+3	7
	-11	+13	-14		-16	+4	-11	+19	
D.V.H.Rees	-12	-3	-9	+1		-10	-20	+14	6
	-13	-7	+10	+16		+6	-5	+19	
G.Maslen	-15	-12	-4	-14	+10		+20	+23	5
	+7	-21	-2	-4	-6		+11	-5	
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	-25	+10	-12	-10	+20	-20		-17	5
	-21	-2	+6	+11	+5	-11		-2	
R.A.Godby	-17	-17	-15	-3	-14	-23	+17		4
	-26	+15	-4	-19	-19	+5	+2		

### The Chairman's Salver, played at Southwick, September 2-6

This year The Chairman's Salver came to Southwick, where the eight selected players got a daily drenching and were blown off balance by the Atlantic hurricane sweeping across our Southern coast.

In spite of the conditions, the first day's programme was completed except for one pegged down game in which Rees was one of the parties. Colin Prichard provided the chief drama of the day. He failed a triple against Rees by the merest millimetre. Had the triple succeeded, it must have gone on record as a sequence of fantastic shots never before seen; the turn included "impossible" peels and 6 yard putts. Subsequently Colin nearly ruined it all when his Yellow lay 3 inches in front of Rover with Black nicely behind and Red conveniently waiting at the peg. Something came over him and he struck the ball as if he loathed it, nearly dislocating one leg of Rover in the process. However, he collected himself and managed to win by 3.

Jackson was languishing in the afternoon, his backward ball on hoop 6. For a big man, his stance is finely balanced, and on two occasions he was blown off his stance by the gale as he swung to his stroke. Suddenly he was off like an express train. Maslen, confidently waiting on Rover, was still waiting as Jackson double-peeled to win by 4.

Rees and Maslen got up very early on the Tuesday morning to resume their pegged down game, which they advanced by a few points before it had to be re-pegged. Maslen later won the game by 10. Rees was later involved in another pegged down game, against Fidler. Fidler failed to peg out his forward ball and Rees made slow progress from 3 and 4-back while Fidler kept shooting at an invisible peg before he won by the odd point in the twilight.

Wednesday saw the end of the First Series, and Hemsted registered 7 wins, all by double figures. He played consistently good croquet all week.

Jackson had ample revenge on Colin Prichard when he defeated him by 20 with a double peel.

Toward the end of the day it occurred to Maslen that he had come 12,000 miles and had not achieved much to warrant such a journey, whereupon he girded his loins, hitched his socks and - murmuring to himself "Sydney or The Bush" (Australian for "Death or Glory") - he performed some expert croquet to put an end to Hemsted's run of victories, and defeated him by 7.

Thursday's weather forecast was so horrific (Force 10 gales, torrential rain, with possible thunder) that one wondered if any of the competitors would bother to turn out. This game of croquet is obviously a character builder: they all turned up on time in imperturbable good humour, prepared to battle against all odds - the weather, or Hemsted's formidable lead.

So far, Godby's reward was ungenerously withheld by the Fates; he deserved better.

Anyone watching Col. Prichard's finish against Rees might well have wondered how it was that he did not register more than 5 wins.

Not only the spectators turned up to watch the day's croquet: worms and crane-fly grubs turned up in their tens of thousands as the balls, followed by a wake of water, sped across the sodden turf.

Friday tried to make some compensation with a little sunshine, though the high wind persisted. Hemsted continued his victorious way and finished with 12 wins, 3 better than Colin Prichard and 4 better than Jackson. His name will appear on the handsome silver salver in due course.

With lesser men, this tournament might have been a flop, but the staunch way in which the eight overcame appalling conditions uncomplainingly, nay cheerfully, gained the admiration of all those watching from the sheltered comfort of the pavilion.

### Hunstanton (second week): September 2-7

#### American Handicap Singles

##### BLOCK WINNERS

A. E.A.Locke (9) 6 wins and 62 points  
B. Mrs R.A.Simpson (2) 6 wins

##### PLAY-OFF

E.A.Locke (9) bt. Mrs R.A.Simpson (2) + 9

##### Handicap Doubles (8 Pairs)

##### DRAW

*Semi-Final*  
Mrs J.N.Rolfe & W.H.Carlisle (10½) bt. Mrs R.A.Simpson & Mrs H.A.Zinn (11) +15  
R.A.Simpson & Miss E.I.Wood (13½) bt. Mrs A.Millie & D.Turner (28) +16

*Final*  
Simpson & Miss Wood bt. Mrs Rolfe & Carlisle + 1

##### PROCESS

*Semi-Final*  
Mr & Mrs E.A.Locke (24) bt. Simpson & Miss Wood + 1 (T)  
Mrs Rolfe & Carlisle bt. Mrs Simpson & Mrs Zinn + 1 (T)

##### *Final*

Abandoned because of bad weather and lack of time.

### Croquet Association Club Conference at the Hurlingham Club on Saturday 7 December 1974

#### PROGRAMME

11.00 Opening  
11.05 Indoor Croquet  
11.20 Jaques and Croquet Equipment  
12.30 Luncheon Interval  
1.55 Presentation of Awards  
2.00 The MacRobertson Shield  
2.15 Ideas for Your Club  
3.00 Croquet in the Nineteen Eighties - a controversial discussion.  
4.15 Roving Thoughts of Chairman Rothwell  
4.30 Pegged Out!

All are welcome. If you can come, please tell your Club Secretary.

### The Spencer Ell Cup, played at Parkstone, September 2-6

It is hard for a mere Croquet reporter to comment effectively on the 1974 Spencer Ell Cup. True justice to the situation could only be done by the Aquatic correspondent of The Times.

What a disaster! The competitors duly arrived on Monday morning to find two of the allotted courts under water. Through the superhuman efforts of John Piggott, the indefatigable groundsman, in bringing four lawns into action by lunchtime, Mrs McMillan was able to get through two rounds by the end of the day, even though the near gale force wind and driving rain made play a form of refined torture. Tuesday was slightly less vindictive, and by Wednesday evening an improvement in the weather during the day made it look as though the full programme might be completed. Then, alas, came Wednesday night with nearly two inches of rain and the end of any hope of a completed Second Series. After much heart-searching and unsuccessful attempts to make contact with the powers that be at Hurlingham, the competitors, in conjunction with the Manager and the Chairman of the C.A. Tournaments Committee, who also a competitor, agreed to assess the winner of the Spencer Ell Cup on the basis of the results of the First Series.

Vincent Camroux, whose physique and controlled swing stood him in good stead, won all of his seven matches in the First Series and proved a worthy winner. John Wheeler, showing his natural independence from the start, attempted a triple peel at a time when others were content simply to stand upright on their feet. Such confidence and fervour brought him into second place. Meanwhile Gordon Hopewell earned his place among the immortals by completing two all-round breaks in one game.

Betty Prichard struggled gallantly against the elements and enhanced her reputation for enthusiasm and good cheer in times of stress and strain. Kitty Sessions was unable to stand up (almost literally) to the near gale force winds and driving rain and started badly, improving in direct proportion to the slight improvement in the weather on Wednesday, when we had glimpses of her best form. Bill Gladstone struggled gamely to win three of his games, but did not seem to be enjoying himself any more than the others. Ron Sloane, less injured, perhaps, than the others to the rigours of an English summer, could not produce his best form, while Johnnie Solomon, with his full swing and slight build, found it very hard to cope. There is no doubt that a strong physique and a short natural swing are great assets in times such as these. Should any think that this account is somewhat light-hearted for such an important event, your scribe would remind them that sometimes it is better to laugh than to cry.

The excellent work of the groundsman has been mentioned; we would also like to offer our thanks to Mrs Allen and her helpers for ensuring that at least the inner man was comforted, come what might to the outer. Betty McMillan, who managed the event, remained cheerful amid adversity and persuaded most of the competitors most of the time that they were really enjoying themselves. Indeed, the cheerfulness of all concerned was one of the main features of the week. At regular intervals the lonely figures of Dick Whittington and Pat Newton could be seen creeping on to the courts swathed in waterproofs and clutching an umbrella to give an opinion on the legality, or otherwise, of the performers' play in these aquatic sports.

Finally, may we make a plea to the authorities that longer notice be given to those fortunate enough to be selected to play in these events, so that they may have rather more chance of finding suitable accommodation at this busy time of the year.

The Spencer-Ell Cup	A.V.Camroux	J.A.Wheeler	Miss K.M.O.Sessions	Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	Revd W.E.Gladstone	C.R.Sloane	C.G.Hopewell	J.R.G.Solomon	W I N S
A.V.Camroux		+10	+15	+18	+13	+ 3	+ 2	+10	7
J.A.Wheeler	-10		+ 8	+ 9	+ 1	+ 7	+22	+18	6
Miss K.M.O.Sessions	-15	- 8		+ 9	+ 7	-23	+ 4	+20	4
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	-18	- 9	- 9		-12	+ 8	+ 6	+22	3
Revd W.E.Gladstone	-13	- 1	- 7	+12		+15	+ 2	-24	3
C.R.Sloane	- 3	- 7	+23	- 8	-15		-5	+ 9	2
C.G.Hopewell	- 2	-22	- 4	- 6	- 2	+ 5		+ 7	2
J.R.G.Solomon	-10	-18	-20	-22	+24	- 9	- 7		1

Note: The number of wins refers only to the First Series.

### Secretary's Notes

#### 1. NEW ASSOCIATES

R.E.Carter, 84 Grange Park Avenue, Winchmore Hill, London N21 2LN.  
Mrs M.E.W.Heap, Fairwinds Lodge, Roman Road, Margaretting, Ingatestone, Essex.

#### 2. CHANGES OF ADDRESS ETC.

Dr R.B.Berry, 20 Farlands Road, Stourbridge, Worcestershire. (Tel. Stourbridge (038-43) 75348)  
P.J.M.Fidler: office tel. 01-636 4055.  
A.J.Oldham, Terriers Green, Terriers, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire. (Tel. High Wycombe 26527)

#### 3. CHANGES IN THE CLUBS

Nelson and Colne College Croquet Club. Delete the figure 4 in the middle of the telephone number.  
Sidmouth Croquet Club. The Secretary, P.A.Tunmer, has moved to 30 Granary Lane, Budleigh Salterton, Devon EX9 6ES.  
Sussex County (Southwick) Croquet Club. Tel. Brighton (0273) 591874.

Vandeleur Robinson,  
Secretary,  
October 1974.

### Handicap Alterations

#### The Open Championships: August 12-17

M.E.W.Heap  $-\frac{1}{2}$  to  $-1\frac{1}{2}$ ; A.B.Hope  $-\frac{1}{2}$  to  $-1$ ; Dr M.Murray  $-1\frac{1}{2}$  to  $-2$ ; Prof. B.G.Neal  $-2\frac{1}{2}$  to  $-3$ ; C.R.Sloane  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

#### Nottingham: August 12-17

M.J.Bushnell  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 0; P.V.Cozens 8 to 6; N.J.Davren 4 to 2; Miss S.G.Hampson 4 to  $3\frac{1}{2}$ ; S.J.H.Wright 1 to 0.

#### Budleigh Salterton Weekend: August 16-18

F.Pilling 12; R.H.Lee 5 to 4; F.L.Fletcher 9 to 8; H.E.Ovens 11 to 10; Mrs H.E.Ovens 13 to 11; P.K.Devitt 8 to 6.

#### Edinburgh: August 19-24

R.O.Calder 6 to  $5\frac{1}{2}$ ; Mrs J.E.Rowe 8 to 7; C.J.Tait 9 to 9 D8; I.H.Wright  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 1.

#### Cheltenham III: August 24-26

Mrs R.A.Lewty 6 to  $5\frac{1}{2}$ .

#### Ladies' Field Cup: August 26-30

Miss B.Duthie 3 to 2; Mrs G.H.Wood  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to  $1\frac{1}{2}$ .

#### Southwick August Tournament: August 26-31

R.L.Everest  $4\frac{1}{2}$  to 4; H.A.Green  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 2; Miss E.X. Hodgens 11 to 9; C.E.Knight 8 to  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ; Mrs E.Lewis 13 to 12; Mrs M.Rankin 15 to 14; S.Tapp 3 to 2; E.J.Tucker  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 1; Mrs E.J.Tucker 12 to 10; Mrs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake 11 to 10.

#### Hunstanton (first week); August 26-31

W.H.Carlisle 11 to 9; S.G.Kent 6 to 5; Mrs J.N.Rolfe 2 to  $1\frac{1}{2}$ .

#### Hunstanton (second week): September 2-7

W.H.Carlisle 9 to 8; H.A.Cross 16 to 14; E.A.Locke 9 to 8; Miss D. Rogers 15 to 14.

#### Chairman's Salver: September 2-6

S.R.Hemsted 0 to  $-1$ ; C.H.L.Prichard  $-\frac{1}{2}$  to  $-1$ .

#### Corrections

Mrs A.F.Adlam 9 and not 4; Mrs B.G.Weitz 4 and not  $3\frac{1}{2}$

#### Budleigh Salterton Club Recommendations

C.Edwards  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to 3; B.Hancock 9 to 7.

#### Reigate Priory Club Recommendation

R.J.Sparkes 13 to 12.

#### Southport Club Recommendations

Miss I.M.Hawkins 11 to 9; E.Halliwell 11 to 10.

#### Daten Club Recommendation

D.G.Richardson 9 to 7.

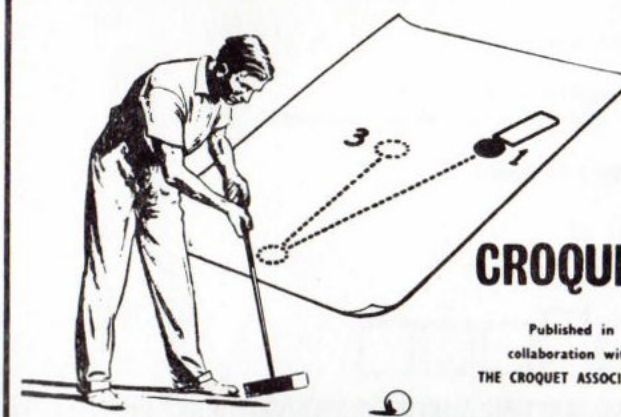
#### Cheltenham Club Recommendations

Lady Bazley 15 D14; G.F.Blumer 9 to 8; Mrs H.G.Handley 7 to 5; Miss M.J.Lodge 11 to 9; N.A.J.Norman 5 to 3.

#### Handicap Increase approved by the Handicaps Co-Ordination Committee

Dr R.B.N.Smartt 3 to 5.

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