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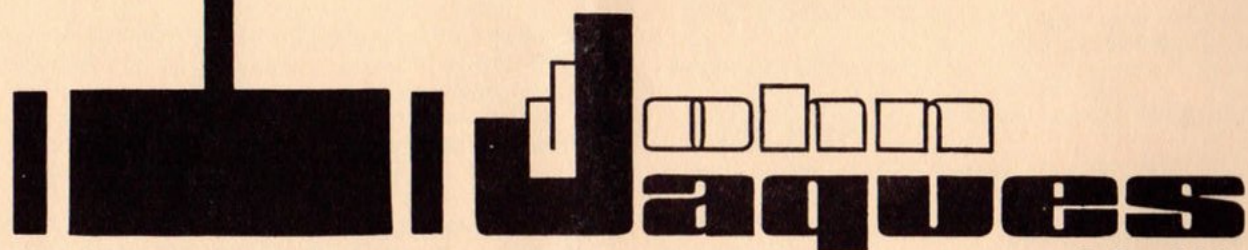
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THE CROQUET GAZETTE

Number 134

December 1974

The Official Organ of the Croquet Association

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen

Calendar 1975

May 5 - 10	Budleigh Salterton
May 12 - 17	The Peels - at Cheltenham
May 19 - 24	Southwick
May 27 - 30	Inter-Counties Championship - at Hurlingham
June 2 - 7	Parkstone
June 2 - 7	Compton
June 9 - 14	Carrickmines: Championship of County Dublin
June 9 - 14	Veterans' Championship - at Budleigh Salterton
June 16 - 21	Men's and Women's Championships - at Cheltenham
June 16 - 21	Ryde
June 23 - 28	The Challenge and Gilbey Cups - at Southwick
June 30 - July 5	Budleigh Salterton
July 7 - 12	Colchester
July 14 - 19	The Open Championships and the Golf Croquet Championships - at Hurlingham
July 21 - 26	Cheltenham
July 31 - August 9	Hurlingham
August 11 - 16	Carrickmines: Irish Open Championships
August 11 - 16	Nottingham
August 18 - 22	The Ladies' Field Cup - at Hurlingham
August 18 - 23	Southwick I
August 25 - 30	Southwick II
August 25 - 30	Edinburgh
August 25 - 30	Hunstanton I
September 1 - 6	Hunstanton II
September 1 - 5	The Chairman's Salver - at Nottingham
September 1 - 5	The Spencer Ell Cup - at Compton
September 2 - 6	The President's Cup - at Hurlingham
September 8 - 13	Parkstone
September 15 - 20	Roehampton
September 22 - 27	Devonshire Park (first week)
September 27 - 28	All-England Handicap Finals - at Roehampton
September 29 - October 4	Devonshire Park (second week)

Weekends

March 29 - 31	Cheltenham I (Easter)
April 18 - 20	Compton
May 16 - 18	Wrest Park I
May 17 - 19	Glencagles I
May 24 - 26	Colchester I (Spring Bank Holiday)
May 24 - 26	Cheltenham II
May 30 - June 1	Nottingham I
June 6 - 8	Hunstanton
June 19 - 22	Woking
August 23 - 25	Colchester II; Bowdon; Cheltenham III (August Bank Holiday)
September 12 - 14	Cheltenham IV; Ryde
September 13 - 14	Glencagles II
September 19 - 21	Wrest Park II
September 26 - 28	Budleigh Salterton
October 3 - 5	Nottingham II
October 10 - 12	Cheltenham V

Editorial Notes

Photographs

Earlier in the season a request was made for photographs to commemorate 1974 as Test Match year. Some photographs have come in, but not as many as I should have liked. I should like to be able to publish four pages of photographs in the April gazette, and would be happy to receive not only more photographs to commemorate 1974 as Test Match year, but also any photographs, colour or black and white, likely to be of interest to gazette readers. Pictures should be reasonably good as photographs as well as of interest for their subject matter.

Croquet world-wide

The Croquet Association has in the last few months received letters from croquet clubs in various parts of Europe; a few letters have also been received from clubs and individuals in Asia and Africa. I should like to be able to write an article on the geographical spread of croquet, and would like to hear of the existence of any club outside Britain, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. In each case it would be interesting to know what sort of lawns, equipment and rules are in use. If you know of clubs abroad, past or present, and can give information that might help me to write an article, I should be very pleased to hear from you. Information about garden croquet abroad might also be of interest. I should think it is found in almost every country one cares to name. I have seen garden croquet played in Iceland and Denmark, and have recently heard from Zambia and Thailand. My address appears below.

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.Hallett, 58 Romsey Road, Lyndhurst, Hampshire SO4 7AR (Tel. Lyndhurst 2074).

Deadline

Material for the April gazette must reach the Editor not later than Wednesday 19 March 1975. Deadlines for the other 1975 issues will be published in the April gazette.

Notes from the Clubs

Bristol

A fairly quiet season at Cedar Park, with the poor weather restricting the number of players seen on the courts.

Unfortunately our Club was without its President, Cecil Rich, owing to illness, but we look forward to his return next season.

A most encouraging feature was the acquisition of 9 new members, including two very promising ones, Bill Scarr and Bernard Casson, who travel from Weston-super-Mare and Clevedon respectively.

In the Club competitions Bill Scarr won the 'C' Class Handicap and was runner-up in the American Handicap, the winner of this event being Lawrence Latham. In the Open Singles Latham held off the challenge from Miss K.Ault to retain the Rose Bowl for the third year.

We had a large entry for the All-England Handicap, and Latham won the Area final at Cheltenham and competed in the finals at Roehampton.

Blanche Setter

Report on the Development Scheme 1974

Between February and March of this year I wrote to 27 individuals, Parks Officials, schools and other organisations that had been in touch during the previous summer. One third failed to reply, but the rest were interested, some more than others. In fact four have become new clubs. A further 40 or so potential clubs have made enquiries during the year. Fourteen of them are almost certain starters for clubs in 1975, others may flourish, some may never emerge, but the increase on last year is a very encouraging trend.

The extra publicity during the Test Matches certainly stirred up interest, and contacts made during the matches were valuable. For instance, a new club at Worksop was "discovered" when its members came to the Nottingham Test. They play Association Croquet with correct equipment — a bonus the Development Scheme knew nothing about! At the Bowls Club at Shepley, the wives had for years been playing golf croquet. A newspaper article two years ago, when croquet was about to be given up, aroused one man's interest. This summer he wrote to the C.A., and I was able to give him names and addresses of enquirers from his area. Together with his own contacts, a group of men who want to play Association Croquet have now joined Shepley, and it is hoped that this will give it a new lease of life.

A branch of the Agricola Club from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, who have gained recognition for croquet from their Civil Service Sports Council, now have their own lawn at Eltham. A member of the Civil Service in Yorkshire asked for advice on what he should include about croquet in an article on sport for a Civil Service magazine, so perhaps croquet has now got a foot in the Civil Service door. Knighton, on the borders of Wales, is a new club with 29 members which has been considerably helped by the West Midlands Federation, mainly from Stourbridge. It hopes to play next year on two newly laid lawns, instead of the one on the cricket outfield they used this summer. Eaton Hall, a College of Further Education near Sheffield, has registered and has been in touch with Nottingham, while the Thomas Rotherham VI Form College at Moorgate has been lent some equipment.

On the debit side the Ealing Club has disbanded. This seemed at first to be a very promising club because a large number of the members, both men and women, were young. However, first their Secretary moved, then the young couple who took over from her, and who would certainly have held it together, got married and moved away too. How much a club depends on the initiative of one or two energetic people! The Bowls section of Crouch Hill Club has had to sell out, taking the Croquet section with it. This leaves Harrow Oak more than ever the stronghold of croquet in north London, and with its three lawns and the untiring efforts of its Chairman it deserves to have more members than in fact it does.

Demonstrations have been held at Sandwell, Knighton and Radbroke Hall, and many clubs give coaching to neighbouring clubs as well as their own. Courses for beginners were again held at Bisham Abbey and Hythe. Phyllis Court for the first time ran a course for middle bisquers, and a Referees' course was held at Wrest Park. The Home Counties Leagues continue to be played, and there are signs that where there are several clubs reasonably close together, other leagues may be started up, run on similar lines.

E.A.Neal

Corrigendum

In the account of the Ladies Field Cup in the October gazette (No. 133) p. 10, last paragraph, line 4, for "first" read "second".

1974 in Retrospect

A season which includes a Series of Test Matches is not easy to compass in retrospect; we cannot see the wood for the trees — or should we say the Game for the Triples. A Test Series comes to our shores but once in a dozen years and when it comes it brings loud cheers — especially for the winning side. Our corresponding article last year issues some rather solemn warnings to all concerned not to take the country's task as a 'cert' for the home team, and our players assuredly did not. They had brought themselves in nearly every case to the top of their form and reached victory (at Budleigh Salterton) when the Series was but half way through. While our 'stars' shone brightly for the most part, it was perhaps even more valuable that we proved to be (as we had always hoped we might be) stronger 'in depth'.

Of course a Home Team has always certain advantages. First, they are on their own courts. Again, a 'bad' summer, such as we had for the most part this year, is more familiar to us than (we understand — and as this writer has experienced) is the case with antipodean players. A third point is that a Home Team has more performers to draw upon than visitors — ten as against six on this occasion — or five in the case of Australia with the withdrawal of their rising 'star', Mr Spooner. We ought to have won — and we did.

What, we wonder, is going to happen in New Zealand in 1978-9? There is young talent developing 'down-under', as players such as A.M.Anderson and Spencer Buck gave plenty of evidence here this year.

For my part I would say that *the* player of the Series was John Prince who, with our Solomon and Aspinall, would, I think, be at the top if a way of Earth challenging Mars were discovered. Perhaps places might be found for Bernard Neal, and for William Prichard, who played with admirable steadiness, confidence and consistency throughout the Series.

One fact was generally agreed upon here — that the Visiting Teams were definitely better long shots than our players were — and of course that is saying a good deal. Perhaps their tactics were, on the whole, less good than those on our side; they could get in at a critical point, but sometimes they did not know the best way out of a situation.

We wish that we could have given our visitors a better summer, but we trust that our hospitality mitigated this disappointment to some extent. Their hospitality to us was generous in the extreme. First, the New Zealand team took us up to the 17th floor of their country's magnificent headquarters in the Haymarket, offering us some splendid glimpses of London from above. Australia at the end of the tour entertained us to a most lavish Dinner at the Roehampton Club, with nearly 200 present and followed by a chain of speeches unexcelled, one felt, by any delivered on the tour.

But at this point we must leave this fascinating subject to record some consideration of the game at humbler levels. Despite the discouraging conditions in which we seem to be now condemned to live, our game — and our Association — seem to be flourishing. New names keep appearing in our tournament reports, and often as winners of events. More and more small clubs are enrolling themselves on our registers. Two developments are to be noted: first, a readiness to experiment with 'Double Banking', a form of game never before seen in this country; and the initiation of regional 'Federations' to forestall any sense of isolation which some provincial clubs may sometimes feel if they are far from large centres. We are creeping steadily northwards, while the other side of the Border, Scotland, has achieved an independent status and shows a rising enthusiasm.

Meanwhile a great enterprise, unknown to most of us, is steadily taking shape. This is the compilation of a definitive History of Croquet upon which Colonel Prichard (aided by Betty) is unflinchingly engaged. This is still (and for our 'senior citizens' likely to remain) beneath the horizon; but it is

evident to any who have been granted a glance at what has so far been achieved that its publication should do much to add to the prestige of and the interest in our unique — and wholly amateur — game.

Finally, it is our sad duty to record the loss of two notable figures of our Association. First, Dr Laurence Ormerod, President of the Bristol Club which he did much to preserve and revive, and from 1954 to 1961 a member of the C.A. Council. Perhaps he will be best remembered for two things: the authorship of 'Croquet' in the 'Know the game' series — a little gem of compression which has helped to launch many a neophyte on a croquet career; secondly as the father of William, who has played with so much success in first class circles for many years. The other name we must sadly lament is that of Brian Gilbert, who was suddenly seized by a malevolent affliction after playing for his county (Surrey) in 1973. He came to croquet after a notable career in lawn tennis, with several successes at Wimbledon, including a victory in the Open Doubles Championship. He soon turned himself into a high class Croquet player and was a regular member of the Surrey team for many years and a pillar of the game at Roehampton.

M.B.R.

Courses in 1975

BISHAM ABBEY NATIONAL SPORTS CENTRE, MARLOW, BUCKS.

There will be two courses for *beginners*. Accommodation may be in dormitories. Cost: £5.00 + V.A.T. for meals and accommodation for two days, and £2.00 for coaching.

Friday evening meal 25 April — Sunday tea 27 April
Friday evening meal 16 May — Sunday tea 18 May

LILLESHELL NATIONAL SPORTS CENTRE, NR. NEWPORT, SHROPSHIRE.

There will be one course for *beginners*. Accommodation may be in dormitories. Cost: £5.00 + V.A.T. for meals and accommodation for two days, and £2.00 for coaching.

Friday evening meal 9 May — Sunday tea 11 May

HIMLEY HALL, NEAR DUDLEY

There will be a *Referees* course at Himley Hall. Accommodation in the hostel. Cost: £11.20 + V.A.T. for meals and accommodation for two days; £2.50 + V.A.T. for meals only per day.

Expenses for 2nd class rail or bus fare will be paid for Referees Course only. The exam to be taken, if wanted, during the summer.

Friday evening meal 11 April — Sunday tea 13 April

There will be a *Players* course at Himley Hall for *handicaps 14 - 8*, including bisque taking, pegged out games and some Laws. Cost: £11.20 + V.A.T. for meals and accommodation for two days; £2.50 + V.A.T. for meals only per day — and £2.00 for coaching.

Friday evening meal 20 June — Sunday tea 22 June

Applications for all courses to Mrs Neal, 33 Marryat Road, Wimbledon, London S.W.19.

Longman Cup Final

This was planned to take place at Wrest Park on 6th October, but the lawns were flooded and it was not possible to play the match on that day. An attempt to re-arrange the match for 20th October failed, as many of the players were unavailable. The two participating clubs, Daten and Parsons Green, sought The Council's permission to postpone the match until early in the 1975 season, and this arrangement was accepted.

PROCESS		
<i>First Round</i>		
Mrs B.G.Weitz	bt. Mrs B.Higgins	+18
J.L.Sanders	bt. Mrs P.D.Showan	+22
Dr H.A.Pim	bt. Mrs H.A.Pim	+ 4 (T)
L.D.Adams	bt. Mrs A.W.Skempton	+15
Mrs B.G.Neal	bt. Mrs F.H.N.Davidson	+13
A.G.B.Cooper	bt. Mrs E.E.Bressey	+ 1

<i>Second Round</i>		
Mrs B.G.Weitz	bt. J.L.Sanders	+12
C.H.J.Cousins	bt. Dr H.A.Pim	+19
L.D.Adams	bt. Mrs B.G.Neal	+13
A.G.B.Cooper	bt. J.C.Ruddock	+11

<i>Semi-Final</i>		
C.H.J.Cousins	bt. Mrs B.G.Weitz	+22
L.D.Adams	bt. A.G.B.Cooper	+ 6

<i>Final</i>		
C.H.J.Cousins	bt. L.D.Adams	+ 9

PLAY-OFF		
C.H.J.Cousins	bt. Mrs B.G.Weitz	+10

Event 3: 'C' Handicap Singles (7 Entries)

DRAW		
<i>First Round</i>		
Mrs B.Mansfield (13)	bt. Miss J.Wraith (16)	+12
Mrs C.Sebestyen (9)	bt. Mrs G.Jones (12)	+ 1 (T)
M.J.Stevens (12)	bt. Mrs A.F.Adlam (9)	+ 7

<i>Semi-Final</i>		
Mrs B.Mansfield (13)	bt. Mrs C.Sebestyen (9)	+ 2
M.J.Stevens (12)	bt. Mrs H.Wills (9)	+12

<i>Final</i>		
Mrs B.Mansfield (13)	bt. M.J.Stevens (12)	+ 2

PROCESS		
<i>First Round</i>		
Miss J.Wraith (16)	bt. Mrs H.Wills (9)	+12
M.J.Stevens (12)	bt. Mrs G.Jones (12)	+ 2
Mrs C.Sebestyen (9)	bt. Mrs A.F.Adlam (10)	+ 7

<i>Semi-Final</i>		
M.J.Stevens (12)	bt. Miss J.Wraith (16)	+14
Mrs C.Sebestyen (9)	bt. Mrs B.Mansfield (13)	+ 2

<i>Final</i>		
M.J.Stevens (12)	bt. Mrs C.Sebestyen (9)	+ 7

PLAY-OFF		
M.J.Stevens (12)	bt. Mrs B.Mansfield (13)	+ 7

Event 4: Swiss Handicap Singles (30 Entries)

After 5 rounds:	Block A	G.E.P.Jackson (-1)	} 4 wins
		G.B.Martin (3½)	
		A.G.B.Cooper (5½)	
		C.H.J. Cousins (5½)	
	Block B	J.C.Ruddock (9)	5 wins
		E.W.Solomon (4½)	4 wins
		Mrs E.E.Bressey (4)	

Event 5: Handicap Doubles (15 Pairs)

<i>First Round</i>		
A.G.B.Cooper & Mrs B.G.Neal (12)	bt. Mrs B.G.Weitz & Mrs A.F.Adlam (13)	+ 8 (T)
C.E.J.Lindsay & Miss B.Duthie (12)	bt. Mrs E.M.Lightfoot & Mrs C.Sebestyen (10½)	+15
Dr H.A.Pim & Miss J.Wraith (23½)	bt. Miss D.A.Lintern & Mrs H.Wills (16)	+ 2 (T)
C.H.J.Cousins & Mrs B.Higgins (13½)	bt. J.L.Sanders & Mrs S.M.Adler (13)	+16
J.C.Ruddock & E.W.Solomon (13½)	bt. M.G.Pearson & Mrs A.W.Skempton (11½)	+19
G.B.Martin & Mrs B.Mansfield (16½)	bt. R.S.Stevens & Mrs H.A.Pim (19)	+13
L.D.Adams & G.H.Betts (6½)	bt. Mrs P.D.Showan & Mrs G.Jones (17)	+14

<i>Second Round</i>		
Cooper & Mrs Neal bt. Lindsay & Miss Duthie		+ 8
Cousins & Mrs Higgins bt. Dr Pim & Miss Wraith		+14
Ruddock & Solomon bt. Martin & Mrs Mansfield		+ 9
Adams & Betts bt. M.B.Reckitt & Mrs E.E.Bressey (14)		+ 9

<i>Semi-Final</i>		
Cooper & Mrs Neal bt. Cousins & Mrs Higgins		+ 3
Adams & Betts bt. Ruddock & Solomon		+12

<i>Final</i>		
Adams & Betts bt. Cooper & Mrs Neal		+15

All-England Handicap 1974

The over-all entry for this important nationwide handicap competition was slightly down on 1973, a total of 298 entries whittled down through 29 Club competitions and then 8 Area finals to eight competitors for the Final held at Roehampton, September 28-29. In spite of nearly 2 inches of rain falling shortly before the Final was due to start, the ground staff managed to get the lawns mown and marked out to enable play to start on time, and the sun shone for most of the duration of the competition.

As last year, the eight players were drawn by lot into two blocks of four, and each block was played as an American to produce two finalists. In Block A Laurence Norton (2½) from the Incorrigibles in Scotland was playing below form, as he had dropped a lathe on his foot two days previously, but he gallantly limped his way through his three games. Gordon Drake (3) from Tunbridge Wells just could not find his form. Lawrence Latham (4) from Bristol played well, but not well enough to overcome John Coutts (9) from Jealotts Hill (near Bracknell in Berkshire) who won all his games with comparative ease, played above his handicap, and made good use of his many bisques.

Block B was much more evenly contested. Keith Ross (-1½) from Nottingham played well, but was just unable to give all those bisques. Tony Cooper (5½) from B.E.A. Silver Wing beat Ross easily, and only lost a cliff-hanger to Mrs Higgins by 3, having already lost to Mrs Digby. Mrs Higgins (8) from Parsons Green lost to Ross by 9, and then narrowly beat Cooper by hitting the peg with her lone ball from near the south boundary in what would probably have been her last shot. Mrs Digby (3½) from Colchester had won her first two games against Cooper and Ross. The result of the block depended on the last game, Mrs Digby v. Mrs Higgins. Mrs Digby had to make at least 12 hoops to win the block. Although Mrs Higgins won the game, Mrs Digby made 14 points to win the block with 2 wins and 11 net points to Mrs Higgins' 2 wins and 6 net points. There was thus a close and exciting climax to Saturday's play.

The final, played on Sunday morning in brilliant sunshine, was between the two block winners, John Coutts and Mrs Digby. On the face of it the odds were against Mrs Digby being able to give 5½ bisques to Coutts, and so it proved. Mrs Digby had several near misses with her long shots, and she was unable to use what chances she had. John Coutts, on the other hand, played well and intelligently. He made a good 3-ball break of six without a bisque, took his bisques well, and deserved victory in his first venture into competition play. He will now have to play with two less bisques than hitherto.

Results

BLOCK A.	J.Coutts beat H.G.Drake + 24, F.V.X.Norton + 23 and L.V.Latham +14. L.V.Latham beat H.G.Drake +20 and F.V.X.Norton +17. H.G.Drake beat F.V.X.Norton +18.	
BLOCK B.	Mrs G.S.Digby beat A.G.B.Cooper +16 and K.Ross +7. Mrs S.W.Higgins beat A.G.B.Cooper +3 and Mrs G.S.Digby +12. A.G.B.Cooper beat K.Ross +22. K.Ross beat Mrs S.W.Higgins +9.	
<i>Final</i>		
J.Coutts	bt. Mrs G.S.Digby	+24

Devonshire Park Tournament: September 23 – October 5

"We're all mad here," said the Cheshire Cat. "I'm mad, you're mad." "How do you know I'm mad?" said Alice. "You must be," said the cat, "or you wouldn't have come here."

Any casual visitor, looking in at Devonshire Park and seeing croquet being played under the weather conditions which we experienced for most of this fortnight, would surely have endorsed this verdict. It is difficult to decide who suffered most, the players physically or the Managers mentally. Still, we battled on and with the Compton Club courts proving a very present help in trouble, Giles Borrett and Ed Strickland are to be congratulated on completing the first week's programme in the face of such heavy odds.

There is always a unique, and abiding atmosphere of nostalgia in this fortnight. New faces, old faces – we meet, we play and we have time to talk unhurriedly. We recall games which we have seen or played here, and exciting or unusual incidents, even though it would be hard to find one of these comparable to a story of bygone days told by Maurice Reckitt. Being called to referee a stroke during a game being played between two elderly ladies, who made up in personal rivalry for what they lacked in skill, he arrived on the court to be greeted as follows: "Oh, no!" exclaimed the first lady, "I'm not going to have you! You're a friend of my opponent and you will give the verdict against me!"

The Prichard family – a veritable "Permutation of Prichards" – were in irresistible form throughout; and even if Colonel Prichard during the first week assumed the role of the Duke of Plaza-Toro and "led his regiment from behind", they finally collected six first and four second prizes. In the South of England Open Championship Dudley Hamilton-Miller, showing a marked revival of form, came through to win the Draw against Peter Elmes, whose chances were ruined at a vital stage by a patch of rough bare ground. Earlier, Tyrwhitt Drake, having upset the form-book by a fine display of accurate croquet to defeat William Prichard, who on this rare occasion made mistakes, had the subsequent mortification of seeing Peter Elmes snatch victory by one point in the semi-final by hitting in with the last shot.

William Prichard, now playing with a beautiful touch, won the Process unchallenged, and finished with a grand slam of triple peels to become the South of England Open Champion by defeating Tyrwhitt Drake in 50 minutes and Hamilton-Miller in the Play-Off in the sixth turn of a game which lasted 38 minutes. More will be heard, and seen, of H.G.T. Bolton from Henley, who recorded two notable successes at the expense of Colonel Prichard and Miss Sessions during the week.

Three promising and well-matched players were concerned in the final stages of the Devonshire Park Salver. After Haigh of Woking had won the Draw, Robert Prichard faced Dr C.A.Parker in the Process, not – one would suppose – with any undue excess of confidence, since Dr Parker had just come off the court, having played quite superbly to win the final of the Sussex Challenge Cup against Betty Prichard by 26, with a bisque and a half in hand! But, as sometimes happens, the Midas touch now failed him and Robert Prichard, quick to take any opportunity, forged ahead to win this game and, afterwards, the Play-Off on Sunday. Haigh, however, deserves special mention for being the only person, apart from William Prichard, to carry out a triple peel during the week, although the triple was not completed by the peg-out.

Mrs Benn looked in from South Africa and had just enough time, plus the appropriate skill, to win the Luard Cup from H.N.D.Meyer before catching her plane home. Colonel Brown achieved his first tournament success by winning the final of the Trevor Williams Cup against Mrs Tyrwhitt Drake. The well-tried partnership of Miss Sessions and Colonel Wheeler had appeared in the Handicap Doubles final on more than one previous occasion, though not on the winning side. This year

they took an early lead against the family combination of Mrs Prichard and Robert, and maintained their advantage to the end. In the Sussex Challenge Cup, Mrs Simpson and Peter Elmes fought their way through to the semi-finals, while a curious coincidence occurred in the 'Y'. Here Colonel Cave and his wife, who had "divided" last year's 'X' final, were once more the finalists, with Marjorie Cave the winner by a small margin.

Edgar Jackson and Gladstone now took over as Player-Managers and made excellent use of the opening two days of sunshine, which were followed by three days of rain. In the Men's Championship a similar pattern emerged to that of the previous week, William Prichard and Dudley Hamilton-Miller meeting in the finals of both Draw and Process. While the latter now managed to reduce the margin of points in each game, the quality of William's play may be illustrated by just one example – a cut rush from the 3rd corner across the court to within a yard of its target, the first hoop! In earlier rounds Jackson and Denno Harris had each achieved one 4-ball break against William Prichard.

The Women's Championship was won by Betty Prichard, whose accuracy and concentration brought a second well-deserved victory over Kitty Sessions in a close finish of the Play-Off, where the latter had looked to be an assured winner but suddenly missed a 5-yard roquet at the Rover to enable her opponent to advance from 1-back to the peg in the next turn. The lift shot having failed, Mrs Prichard went out in fine style from Penult to win. Miss Sessions had previously had a great struggle in the final of the Draw against Frances Joly. Miss Joly, about to finish, attempted an angled peel at the Rover, missed it and found herself unable to make the hoop and stymied from an adjacent opponent ball. Such is croquet!

Another new and hitherto unknown handicap star, B.Redford from Henley, had a most successful and busy week. In addition to winning the Handicap Doubles with Mrs I.B.Tucker (such a good Doubles partner), he carried off the important Felix Cup with a narrow win over R.L.Everest, who was also much in the public eye. Everest, however, squared the account by defeating his rival, again by a narrow margin, in the semi-final of the Sussex Union Challenge Cup; fortified by this victory, he went on to win a hard-fought deciding match against Pountney, last year's winner. Pountney had reached the final by "challenging at the distance" – in Flat Racing parlance – to overtake Jackson, always a formidable opponent. Mr and Mrs H.J.Devitt, runners-up in the Handicap Doubles and winners last year, looked as though they would snatch the victory in a close finish, when Mrs Devitt, left in alone, hit a long shot at the eleventh hour and had only a reasonably straightforward Rover to make. Alas! this oft-fatal barrier (which in recent memory so unexpectedly balked John Solomon from winning the President's Cup) now caused Mrs Devitt to become "struck in the reever", to quote an enchanting misprint in the *Times* of some years ago!

The Victor Vases were duly won by the favourites, Colonel Prichard and William, who defeated Giles Borrett and Mrs Prichard by a comfortable margin. They had, however, survived a most exciting semi-final against Jackson and Gladstone, who, with only Rover to make and in play, left Colonel Prichard's ball by the Rover and laid up. But, after deliberation, it was William who took the shot and it was William who hit! Colonel Prichard played well in this event, assured perhaps by the knowledge that he had merely to reach 4-back and that William would finish the job, which on occasion he did.

With the completion of an Extra Event, where the Block Winners were Mrs B.Meachem, E.J.Tucker, S.Malin, H.J.Devitt, R.Wallis and Mrs I.B.Tucker, Edgar Jackson brought the tournament to a successful conclusion, despite three days of rain. In this connection, a mental picture remains of Cyril Pountney, splendidly robed in royal blue mackintosh and hood, stepping out of the pavilion to start a game in the driving rain and vividly recalling the once-familiar curtain line

of the "ITMA" Radio Series, "Don't forget the Diver, sir! Don't forget the Diver!" Eastbourne must - surely? - be kinder to us next year. At any rate, most of us, I hope, will be optimistic and meet there again - in the sunshine!

P.S. Would those wishing to enter for both weeks next year submit their entries on two separate forms. This would be of great assistance.

Results

First Week

Event 1: The Ionides Challenge Trophy (18 Entries)

DRAW

Table with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes R.A.Simpson vs E.J.Tucker (+3) and Mrs D.M.C.Prichard vs D.A.Harris (+16).

Table for Second Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller vs G.W.Williams (+25) and Mrs R.A.Simpson vs Mrs A.Fotiadi (+7).

Table for Third Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller vs Mrs R.A.Simpson (+14) and Mrs D.M.C.Prichard vs H.G.T.Bolton (+19).

Table for Semi-Final with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller vs Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (opp. scr.) and P.W.Elmes vs Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard (+2).

Table for Final with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller vs P.W.Elmes (+7).

PROCESS

Table for First Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Miss F.Joly vs G.W.Williams (+10) and D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller vs P.W.Elmes (+22).

Table for Second Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes D.A.Harris vs Miss F.Joly (+2) and Miss K.M.O.Sessions vs Cdr G.Borrett (+7).

Table for Third Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes D.A.Harris vs Miss K.M.O.Sessions (+1) and E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake vs Mrs A.Fotiadi (+18).

Table for Semi-Final with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake vs D.A.Harris (+17) and W.de B.Prichard vs D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller (+22).

Table for Final with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes W.de B.Prichard vs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (+26).

PLAY-OFF

Table with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes W.de B.Prichard vs D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller (+26).

Event 2: The Devonshire Park Salver (13 Entries)

DRAW

Table for First Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Mrs H.F.Chittenden vs S.G.Kent (+6) and Mrs N.A.C.McMillan vs Mrs G.E.Cave (+11).

Table with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes J.Haigh vs Col.G.T.Wheeler (+12) and Dr C.A.Parker vs R.D.C.Prichard (+8).

Table for Second Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Mrs H.F.Chittenden vs Lady FitzGerald (+12) and J.Haigh vs Mrs N.A.C.McMillan (+22).

Table for Semi-Final with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes J.Haigh vs Mrs H.F.Chittenden (+16) and G.H.Betts vs Lady Ursula Abbey (+24).

Table for Final with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes J.Haigh vs G.H.Betts (+23).

PROCESS

Table for First Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes R.D.C.Prichard vs Lady FitzGerald (+17) and R.L.Everest vs Mrs G.E.Cave (+3).

Table for Second Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes R.D.C.Prichard vs R.L.Everest (+8) and Col.G.T.Wheeler vs Mrs H.F.Chittenden (+9).

Table for Semi-Final with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes R.D.C.Prichard vs Col.G.T.Wheeler (+3) and Dr C.A.Parker vs w.o.J.Haigh (opp. scr.).

Table for Final with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes R.D.C.Prichard vs Dr C.A.Parker (+20).

PLAY-OFF

Table with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes R.D.C.Prichard vs J.Haigh (+11).

Event 3: The Luard Cup (8 Entries)

Table for First Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes R.F.A.Crane vs C.E.Knight (+6) and H.N.D.Meyer vs Miss H.D.Parker (+20).

Table for Semi-Final with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes H.N.D.Meyer vs R.F.A.Crane (+4) and Mrs J.M.Benn vs Mrs H.J.Devitt (+17).

Table for Final with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Mrs J.M.Benn vs H.N.D.Meyer (+19).

Event 4: The Trevor Williams Cup (11 Entries)

Table for First Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Lt-Col D.F.T.Brown (12) vs Mrs R.F.A.Crane (16) (+13) and F.G.French (13) vs Madame O'Morchoe (10) (+21).

Table for Second Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Mrs A.Millns (13) vs Lady Cust (13) (+10) and Lt-Col D.F.T.Brown (12) vs F.G.French (13) (+3).

Table for Semi-Final with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Lt-Col D.F.T.Brown (12) vs Mrs A.Millns (13) (+18) and Mrs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (10) vs w.o.C.G.Le Bas (10*) (opp. scr.).

Table for Final with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Lt-Col D.F.T.Brown (12) vs Mrs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (10) (+6).

Event 5a: The Sussex Challenge Cup (48 Entries)

Table for First Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Mrs H.J.Devitt (7 1/2) vs Mrs G.E.Cave (5) (+12) and Miss H.D.Parker (5 1/2) vs Mrs P.Harrison (14) (+4).

Table with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes J.Haigh (4) vs w.o.Miss F.Joly (1) (opp. scr.) and Mrs R.A.Simpson (2) vs Mrs J.M.Benn (7) (+4).

Table for Second Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Dr C.A.Parker (3) vs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (-1) (+24) and R.F.A.Crane (6) vs Mrs E.Rotherham (0) (+6).

Table for Third Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Dr C.A.Parker (3) vs R.F.A.Crane (6) (+7) and Col.G.T.Wheeler (5) vs R.L.Everest (4) (+2).

Table for Fourth Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Dr C.A.Parker (3) vs Col.G.T.Wheeler (5) (+5) and Mrs R.A.Simpson (2) vs J.Haigh (4) (+3).

Table for Semi-Final with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Dr C.A.Parker (3) vs Mrs R.A.Simpson (2) (+15) and Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (1/2) vs P.W.Elmes (1) (+6).

Table for Final with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Dr C.A.Parker (3) vs Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (1/2) (+26) and Mrs G.E.Cave (5) vs Lt-Col G.E.Cave (1/2) (+4).

Table for First Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes R.L.Everest & E.J.Tucker (5) vs Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard & R.A.Simpson (1/2) (+5).

Table for Second Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Mrs D.M.C.Prichard & R.D.C.Prichard (3) vs Lady Ursula Abbey & Capt.M.F.Buller (8 1/2) (+15).

Table for Semi-Final with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Mrs D.M.C.Prichard & R.D.C.Prichard (3) vs Mrs R.A.Simpson & Mrs J.M.Benn (9) (w.o. Miss F.Joly & Madame O'Morchoe (8) (opp. scr.).

Table for Final with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Mrs D.M.C.Prichard & R.D.C.Prichard (3) vs Mrs R.A.Simpson & Mrs J.M.Benn (9) (w.o. Miss F.Joly & Madame O'Morchoe (8) (opp. scr.).

Table with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Everest & Tucker vs Mrs Fotiadi & Betts (+12) and Kent & Mrs Tucker vs Hamilton-Miller & Miss Parker (+1).

Third Round

Table with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Mrs Prichard & R.Prichard vs Mrs Simpson & Mrs Benn (+11) and Kent & Mrs Tucker vs Everest & Tucker (+12).

Semi-Final

Table with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Mrs Prichard & R.Prichard vs Kent & Mrs Tucker (+2) and Miss Sessions & Col.Wheeler vs Mr & Mrs Crane (+13).

Final

Table with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Miss Sessions & Col.Wheeler vs Mrs Prichard & R.Prichard (+11).

Second Week

Event 1: Men's Singles Championship of the South of England (13 Entries)

DRAW

Table for First Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Cdr G.Borrett vs G.W.Williams (+19) and D.A.Harris vs Lt-Col G.E.Cave (+4).

Table for Second Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes W.de B.Prichard vs Cdr G.Borrett (+22) and D.A.Harris vs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (+7).

Table for Semi-Final with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes W.de B.Prichard vs D.A.Harris (+16) and D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller vs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (+24).

Table for Final with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes W.de B.Prichard vs D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller (+18) and D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller vs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (+11).

Table for First Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes W.de B.Prichard vs Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard (+18) and D.A.Harris vs Revd W.E.Gladstone (+7).

Table for Second Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Col.G.T.Wheeler vs G.W.Williams (+3) and Cdr G.Borrett vs C.G.Pountney (+23).

Table for Semi-Final with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes W.de B.Prichard vs D.A.Harris (+16) and D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller vs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (+16).

Table for Final with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes W.de B.Prichard vs D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller (+17) and W.de B.Prichard vs D.A.Harris (+22).

Table for First Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes W.de B.Prichard vs D.A.Harris (+16) and D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller vs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (+14).

Table for Second Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes W.de B.Prichard vs D.A.Harris (+22) and G.E.P.Jackson vs Col.G.T.Wheeler (+24).

Table for Semi-Final with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes W.de B.Prichard vs D.A.Harris (+16) and D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller vs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (+16).

Event 2: Women's Singles Championship of the South of England (10 Entries)

Table for First Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Mrs G.H.Wood vs Mrs H.F.Chittenden (+8) and Mrs E.Rotherham vs Mrs N.A.C.McMillan (+18).

Table for Second Round with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Miss K.M.O.Sessions vs Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (+22) and Mrs G.H.Wood vs Mrs E.Rotherham (+9).

Table for Final with 3 columns: Name, Opponent, Score. Includes Miss K.M.O.Sessions vs Mrs G.H.Wood (+9) and Miss F.Joly vs Mrs A.Fotiadi (+20).

postage) was approved. The budget allows for five issues, one of 16 pages, and four of up to 24 pages, and for using the thinner paper as used in the September 1974 issue.

6. It was agreed that the Manager or Managers of the Devonshire Park Tournament be refunded their expenses incurred for lunch, morning coffee and afternoon tea, and in each week a Manager not resident in Eastbourne be allowed to claim £15 towards his other expenses. Regulation 10 to be amended to permit Managers receiving expenses to play in the tournament.
7. A letter from the President of the South African Croquet Association was discussed. It was agreed that it would be unwise to contemplate sending an official Test Team to South Africa or to receive an official South African team in England in 1975 or 1976 in view of the Government's declared policy at the risk of placing our Sports Council grant in jeopardy. It was agreed that there would be no objection to an individual taking a team to South Africa.
8. As a result of a further letter from the S.A.C.A. it was agreed that the C.A. should co-operate in trying to find a suitable player to coach in South Africa in March 1975 as requested.
9. The Scottish C.A. have invited the C.A. to send a team representing England to play against Scotland at Gleneagles in 1975. This invitation was welcomed subject to financial practicability.
10. It was decided that the 27 sets of balls presented by Messrs Jaques for the 1974 Test Series should be retained for use in official C.A. tournaments and the Development Scheme. Sets would be available for loan to Clubs in emergency, such as delays in delivery of new balls ordered from suppliers.
11. A tree (*Robinia frisia*) is being presented to the Hurlingham Club as a living token of the C.A.'s gratitude and friendship, for the great co-operation and help the Club has extended in so many ways over the years. It is intended that the tree will be planted below the embankment by the swimming pool overlooking Croquet Lawn No. 1 and a suitable plaque placed by it to commemorate the gift.
12. The following awards for 1974 have been made by the Council:—
 The *Steel Bowl* to the lady player who has made the most progress in the year, to Mrs H.G.Handley of the Cheltenham Club.
 The *Apps Bowl* to the male player who has made the most progress in the year, to Stephen Wright of The Whins Club, Scotland.
 The *Apps-Heley Award* to the Club which has made the most progress or rendered most service to Croquet, to the Wolverhampton Club.

The Wolverhampton Club

In the two years since the Wolverhampton Club has been formed, its membership has risen to 29, the youngest member being only 11 years of age. During this year the members put on an exhibition in Wolverhampton Civic Hall on a carpeted area; the exhibition was followed later in the week with an Open Day. The members helped to arrange a demonstration at Sandwell Sports Festival, from which a club will be formed next summer which promises to take part in the Black Country Olympics. These are competitions between players of various sports in the area. The Wolverhampton Club took part this year, together with three other croquet teams. The members have also been largely instrumental in arranging the use of the large grass area at Himley Hall, Dudley, on a limited number of occasions. They marked out 6 lawns and managed an X/Y Doubles Tournament before the West Midlands Federation entertained the New Zealanders there. In time, as the lawns improve with use, it is hoped that Himley Hall may be the Devonshire Park of the Midlands.

Proposed Amendment to Regulations for Tournaments

At their meeting on 16 November the Council resolved to amend Regulations for Tournaments as follows:—

Regulation 10 (b) Omit the first paragraph, namely 'A person who receives payment in money, whether by way of a fee or as an allowance for expenses, for his services in connection with the organisation or conduct of a tournament shall not be eligible to compete in any event at that tournament'.

In accordance with Rule XIV (a) this proposed amendment will be reconsidered by Council on the first available occasion after publication in the Croquet Gazette, and if then passed by a majority of 6 to 4 will become law.

Secretary's Notes

1. NEW ASSOCIATES

- A.M.Anderson, 496 Tremaine Avenue, Palmerston North, New Zealand.
 Javier Ayesta, Villanueva 13, 4°, Madrid 1, Spain.
 G.B.Binks, 75 Dunbar Crescent, Southport, Merseyside, PR8 3AA.
 D.J.Bulloch, 21 Kipling Street, Palmerston North, New Zealand.
 W.Bulloch, 21 Kipling Street, Palmerston North, New Zealand.
 Mr & Mrs C.J.Caesar, The Orchard, Frensham, Farnham, Surrey, GU10 3AF.
 P.V.Cozens, Cozens' Superstore, Whitewater Road, New Ollerton, Nottinghamshire.
 J.Coutts, 48 Malone Road, Woodley, Reading, Berkshire.
 Guy Durham, Candlewood Farm, New Braintree, Massachusetts, 01531, U.S.A.
 Mrs M.Flaherty, 53 Southport Road, Ormskirk, Lancashire.
 Willard H.Gilmore, West Shore Farm, Deer Isle, Maine, 04627, U.S.A.
 J.R.Hawkins, The Studio, Lydford, Nr. Okehampton, Devon.
 Dr D.R.Hughes, Harefield, Chelsfield Village, Orpington, Kent.
 Mrs J.L.Ibbett, 6 Keston Road, London N17 6PN.
 H.H.Karlsake, Hargrave House, Thorndon, Eye, Suffolk, IP23 7JL.
 C.G.Le Bas, April Cottage 2, Rogerstown, Holt, Kent, (Tel. Cowden (034-286) 782)
 G.Maslen, 44 Stirling Highway, Nedlands, 6009, Western Australia.
 R.J.Murfitt, 1 Wilson Street, Christchurch 4, New Zealand.
 R.S.L.Pearman, P.O. Box 666, Hamilton, Bermuda.
 Mrs T.D.Salter, Droskyn, High Moss, Ormskirk, Lancashire.
 Mrs E.H.Talbot, Hawthorn Lane, Brighton, 3741, Victoria Australia.
 J.S.G.Waldie, Claybury Hall, Woodford Bridge, Essex, IG8 8BY.

2. CHANGES OF ADDRESS, ETC.

- Major R.St.G.Atchley, M.C., The White House, 49 Granary Lane, Budleigh Salterton, Devon, EX9 9EP. (Tel. Budleigh Salterton (039-54) 2717)
 Mrs H.M.Belford, 5B Cole Place, Dianella, 6062, Western Australia.
 Mrs L.M.Bishop, Cleale Cottage (Correction).
 Miss E.C.Brampton, Davies Road (Correction).
 Mrs G.C.Day, The Beeches, Suffolk Square, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.
 G.E.J.A.Doughty, delete Eton address.
 H.G.Drake, Love's Farm House, Goudhurst Road, Marden, Kent. (Tel. Marden (062-785) 262). This is Mr Drake's home address.

- M.J.Evans, 1 Fairoak, Pontamman, Ammanford, Dyfed.
 George Ingr, Hitchin Lane Cottage, Old Knebworth, Hertfordshire, SG3 6QL.
 S.R.Hemsted, 16 Hansler Road, East Dulwich, London S.E.22.
 C.G.Mayo, 19 Victoria Road, Southwick, Sussex.
 G.W.Noble, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Shardlow Hall, Shardlow, Derby.
 David O'Connor, P.O. Box 684, Lusaka, Zambia.
 A.J.Oldham, office tel. is now 33377.
 Rainer Schulze-Schmidt, Freiligrathstrasse 36. (Tel. 23-42-62)
 J.W.Solomon, Griggs Green Farm, Longmoor Road, Liphook, Hampshire, GU30 7NZ. (Tel. Liphook (0428) 723556)
 Mark Stainer, 20 Tregunter Road, London S.W.10.
 Professor R.E.Steen, Mountsandel, Carrickmines, Co. Dublin, Irish Republic.
 L.A.Taylor, c/o "Elaine", Cranley Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex. (Tel. Southend (0702) 49650)
 I.G.Vincent, 8 Lowther Road, Brighton, BN1 6LF. (Tel. Brighton (0273) 508615)
 Mr & Mrs White, 141 East 55th Street, New York, N.Y., 10022, U.S.A.

3. CHANGES IN THE CLUBS

- Carrickmines*. Provisional Secretary T.O.Read, Termon, 9 Sandycove Avenue West, Dun Laoghaire, Dublin, Irish Republic.
Cassiobury. Temporary Secretary (until June) Mrs Joan Clark, 133 Cassiobury Park Avenue, Watford, Hertfordshire.
Madrid Croquet Club (newly registered) Hon. Sec. Javier Ayesta, Villanueva 13, 4°, Madrid 1, Spain.
Parkstone. Tel. 0202 740219.
Tunbridge Wells. The business address of Mr H.G.Drake, the Secretary, is in the July gazette. His home address and telephone are as in paragraph 2 above.
Victorian Croquet Association. New Secretary Mrs Nancy Rolls, 9 Stud Road, Dandenong, Victoria, Australia. Official correspondence to 38 Warleigh Grove, North Brighton, 3186, Victoria, Australia.

4. NEW MANAGERS

I.G.Vincent; P.A.Tunmer.

5. NEW HANDICAPPERS

Dr W.R.Bucknall; G.E.P.Jackson; I.H.Wright; R.O.Calder.

6. NEW REFEREES

Mrs H.B.H.Carlsle; Colin Cumming; Mrs B.G.Neal; H.R.Stanley; G.G.Strutt; Mrs R.E.Tucker.

7. SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions for 1975 fall due on 1st January. There has been no change this year in the subscription rates, in spite of rising costs.

The Club Registration Fee, which also falls due on 1st January, stands at £2.

Vandeleur Robinson
 Secretary.
 November 1974.

Handicap Alterations

Parkstone: September 9 - 14

Mrs J.M.Benn 7; L.S.Butler 3½ to 3; Dr C.A.Parker 4 to 3; R.H.C.Carder 6½ to 6; Dr H.A.Pim 7½ to 6; Mrs H.A.Pim 8 to 7; Mrs L.M.Bishop 10 to 9; Dr C.W.Marshall 14 to 13; Mrs C.W.Marshall 16 to 14; W.A.Scarr 13 to 12.

Cheltenham Weekend IV: September 13 - 15

P.Stoker 7* to 5; Mrs D.H.Moorcraft 13 D12 to 12; W.J.Sturdy 4 to 3½; M.J.Evans 1½ to 1.

Gleneagles Weekend: September 14 - 15

R.O.Calder 5½ to 5; Cdr J.E.Rowe 9 to 8; C.B.Snowdon 7 to 6.

Roehampton: September 16 - 21

C.H.J.Cousins 5½ to 5; G.B.Martin 3½ to 2½; M.J.Stevens 12 to 11.

Wrest Park Weekend II: September 20 - 22

D.Openshaw 5 to 4; A.C.W.Davies 5½ to 5; J.Rose 1½ to ½.

Devonshire Park (first week): September 23 - 28

C.G.Le Bas 14* to 10* to 10; Mrs J.M.Benn 7 to 6; Dr C.A.Parker 3 to 2; J.Haigh 4 to 3; Lt-Col D.F.T.Brown 12 to 11; H.G.T.Bolton 2 to 1½.

All-England Finals: September 28 - 29

J.Coutts 9 to 7; Mrs G.S.Digby 3½ to 3; Mrs S.W.Higgins 8 to 7.

Devonshire Park (second week): September 30 - October 5

B.Redford 6 to 4; H.J.Devitt 7 to 6½; R.L.Everest 4 to 3; C.G.Pountney 1 to ½; Mrs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake 10 to 9; Mrs D.M.C.Prichard ½ to 0.

Cheltenham Weekend V: October 11 - 13

L.G.Ayliffe 6 to 5; A.Blenkin 13 to 12; A.F.Coleman 7 to 6; Mrs D.H.Moorcraft 12 to 10; F.E.Pearson 3½ to 3; W.J.Sturdy 3½ to 3.

Hurlingham II: August 5 - 10

H.G.T.Bolton 3 to 2; Mrs D.C.Russell 3½ to 3; T.F.Owen 7 to 5½; M.G.Pearson 7 to 6.

Colchester Club Recommendations

H.A.Cross 14 to 13; Mrs H.A.Cross 16 to 15; G.S.Digby 6 to 5½; N.J.C.Gooch 8 to 7½; K.H.Paterson 4½ to 4; D.E.Reeves 5 to 4.

Southwick Club Recommendations

D.M.Bull 8 to 7; Mrs F.S.Fox 11 to 10; Mrs E.C.Golbhard 12 to 11; J.Haigh 3 to 2½; G.F.Paxon 7 to 6; E.E.Rees 7 to 5; Miss P.Shine 16 to 14; Mrs R.E.Tucker 5½ to 5; Miss M.S.Tyrrell 7½ to 7.

Hurlingham Club Recommendations

A.D'Antal 4½ to 4; G.E.J.A.Doughty 9 to 8; Mrs A.D.Karmel 7 to 6; Dr O.A.Kerensky 7 to 6; F.R.Meachem 9 to 8; T.E.Miles 3 to 2½; Vandeleur Robinson 14 to 13; Lady Shaw 15 to 14; J.R.G.Solomon 2½ to 2; E.B.T.Tanner 14 to 12.

Handicap Increase approved by the Handicaps Co-ordination Committee

Mrs G.C.Day 10 to 12.

Sidmouth Club Recommendations

F.L.Fletcher 8 to 7; Mrs P.A.Dwerryhouse 15 to 14.

Chairman's Salver: September 2 - 6

D.V.H.Rees ½ to 0.

Cheltenham Club Recommendation

G.E.P.Jackson -1 to -1½.