

when only the best will do  
— the choice is again

# Equipment

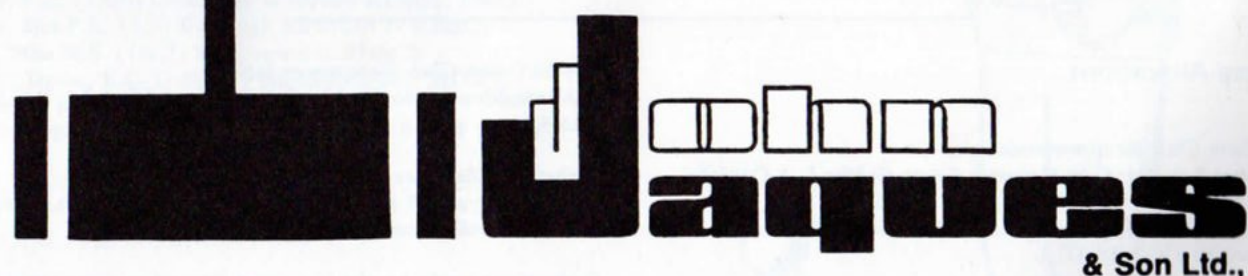
Known and used all over the world

## Mallets

made to your own  
specification  
by Jaques craftsmen

## The renowned Eclipse Championship Ball

Complete sets or single items,  
accessories, from all good sports  
shops and stores.



**Jaques**  
& Son Ltd.,

361 Whitehorse Road,  
Thornton Heath, Surrey, CR4 8XP. Tel: 01-684-4242

# THE CROQUET GAZETTE

Number 135

April 1975

The Official Organ of the Croquet Association

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen

### A Croquetical Finale

#### Welcome Home

#### Preface

*My toast's — The Visitors, and it may puzzle  
This company why they have set no muzzle  
Upon these aged lips, but then our Presidents  
(This is implicit in Rule No. 5)  
Remain in virtually lasting residence  
So long as they believe themselves alive;  
And this has put our Council in a fix,  
For I've held on 'till now I'm eighty-six.*

#### One

*I hope you won't regard it as a curse  
That I should be addressing you in verse.  
Experts on playing Croquet say its rhythm  
That's really most essential — and I'm with 'em.  
So I can't see why when we're talking Croquet  
That rhythm won't be similarly O.K.  
(A horrid phrase, imported from the States,  
That everyone of taste sincerely hates.)  
We are assembled, as you surely know,  
To toast what nine and forty years ago  
Was first contested here —  
A splendid shield,  
Product of an idea, which much appealed  
To old MacRobertson, who thought it rational  
That Croquet should be sometimes international.  
And so it should be, anyhow for some;  
Now all of us may feel our Jubilee has come.*

#### Two

*I might say 'May the best men win' — but ah . . .  
I'm far from sure just which the best men are.  
One must admit one can't associate failure  
With any game adopted by Australia.  
I hear that later — or more likely sooner —  
We'll have a stiff job with your Mr Spooner.  
While of John Magor we are much afraid,  
The toughest egg that ever Ade - laide.  
Nor is it easier to assume a loss  
For Croquet nurtured by great Arthur Ross.  
You have a Prince among you, whom we know,  
Who, at his best, puts on a splendid show.  
Although I must welcome in my song,  
Like Old Man River still goes Rowling along.  
As for New Zealand's champion, Mr Murfitt,  
As children say, to watch him will be 'wurf it'.*

*As to our team, it's best I should be modest,  
Though they have talent, sometimes of the oddest;  
I'll mention only our great captain, Solomon,  
A player whom I've written many a column on.  
Opponents' nerves at times he sadly cripples  
When he goes round and out on three-ball triples —  
But visitors, take heart — for he can stoop  
To 'blobbing' — just occasionally — a simple hoop.*

#### Three

*Let all who twirl a mallet, and like twirling 'em,  
Turn up for the great week of play at Hurlingham.  
There's history here; John Bolton once was seen  
To win the President's Cup at seventeen.  
Later Keith Wylie, leaving foes no loophole,  
Won the Championship with a delayed sextuple.  
(You didn't think I could rhyme that one, did you?  
Then scorn the effort, for I can't forbid you.)*

*Enough of this; before you fall asleep,  
I'd like to say two things to give a peep  
Into the mind of one who's loved our game  
Since boyhood, and still does so. Let us claim  
More for it than we do, defend its skill,  
As I must hope you all most surely will.  
But more than this — stress that it's amateur,  
Which means it's played for love, as I'd aver  
Most games should be, but few outdoor ones are  
By top rank players — well, all right so far.  
The final point with which this rhymster ends:—  
How good it is our countries are such friends;  
It binds the game together everywhere,  
Providing something everyone can share.  
I am not one who feels we should be grieving  
Over the independence you're achieving;  
True Mother Countries want their children free;  
But every now and then they love to see  
Them coming back to the ancestral home  
To have a look at it, by air or foam.  
So welcome to you all who play or watch;  
We'll drink your health in wine, or double scotch,  
Including that great Founder in our toast;  
Of all who served our game, perhaps he has done the most.*

M.B.R.

(The above is the full text of the speech Maurice Reckitt made at the Welcoming Dinner for the Test Team and the visitors from Australia and New Zealand on Monday 1st July 1974 at the Hurlingham Club. Maurice had difficulty in seeing his full script, but what he did say was spoken so well and was so well received that all who were privileged to be present on that occasion regarded his words as a highlight of the evening. This is the full text, which loses nothing from being reproduced in print but the sound of Maurice speaking it in his inimitable way. — Ed.)

## Editorial Notes

### The Gazette Cover

In view of the fact that gazette costs have risen very rapidly in the last year or so, the Editorial Board will shortly be meeting to consider what economies can reasonably be made with the gazette. There were cover designs available for this year, but it was not possible to reach agreement about which we should have. Furthermore, it is a saving to have thinner paper for the cover and to be able to use most of it as space available for straightforward printed material. We shall not therefore be having a cover design until further notice. While we have to consider further economies for the gazette, we shall bear in mind the priorities most people feel the gazette should have, and we shall make use of the views expressed in the Referendum we had about the gazette some four years ago.

Mrs Prichard tells me that up to 1923 the cover was the same kind of paper as the rest of the magazine and the front cover was used as page 1. From 1923 to 1954 the front cover was an advertisement, but that was for financial reasons, since the magazine appeared much more frequently during the summer at that time. From 1954 until 1970 a photograph appeared on the cover. Basil Brackenbury hoped to create a magazine of general interest which might even sell on book-stalls. But costs began to rise, and also the Fixtures Book, with its useful details of forthcoming tournaments, took a lot of pressure off the gazette about the time Bryan Lloyd-Pratt edited the gazette in 1970. When in 1973 Keith Wylie and myself made enquiries about a new form for the gazette, it became clear that photographs on the cover would mean additional expense. We aimed to have a different line-drawing for the cover each year. The drawing of the Hurlingham Club, used in 1971 and 1972, was generally liked, but I felt a change was necessary. The designs for 1973 and 1974 were not liked to the same extent. It is a pity that it is now necessary to abandon cover designs, but we do gain additional space, and it is still possible to have photos in the centre of the issue from time to time, as we have in this issue. The extra expense involved in producing four pages of photographs is worth it for a collection at the centre of the issue, but not for the cover where only one of the four available pages is properly utilised for photographic purposes.

Any comments on the situation and on gazette economies that you would care to write to me would be very welcome.

### The Scottish Croquet Association Bulletin

As you will know, the Scottish Croquet Association has been in existence for nearly a year now. They entertained the New Zealand visitors in June, and seem to have had a busy and successful year. They are bringing out a bulletin from time to time that consists of typescript photocopied and stapled. The November Bulletin contains reports and full results of the Edinburgh Tournament, Weekend Tournaments and their All England Area Final. The brief report on the front page mentions the Glasgow Club holding a golf croquet tournament last August. "The three courts were each divided into two smaller ones to speed up play, and teams consisted of three players. Altogether eight teams took part. . . . The Glasgow Club are to be congratulated on the way they have run this and other events which are popularising the game in the city and bringing new members to the club and recruits to the game."

### Photographs

Most of the photographs in the centre of this issue commemorate Test Match Year 1974 in some way. In the gazette for April 1974 a competition for such photographs, with a £5 prize, was announced. In a few weeks time one of the lucky photographers will be receiving the £5 prize. The winner's name will be announced in the July Gazette.

### Precedence

In the Journal of Ecology No. 43 there appears an article called 'Aggregation of Predators and Insect Parasites and its effect on stability' by M.P. Hassell and R.M. May. The article itself would probably not interest very many of our readers, with the possible exception of groundsmen, but the footnote on the authorship is interesting; it reads as follows: "The order of authorship was determined from a twenty-five-game croquet series held at Imperial College Field Station during summer 1973". It is good to have our vision of the width of possible uses of croquet thus enlarged. Our thanks go to Bernard Neal for drawing my attention to this 'incident'.

### The Reporting of Weekend Tournaments

In the first place, may I emphasise that the results of Weekend Tournaments, like those of other tournaments, should always be sent to me within 10 days of the conclusion of the tournament in question. (Handicap changes should be sent direct to the C.A. Secretary, as before.)

Although space is not available to include accounts of Weekend Tournaments (other than in exceptional circumstances), I feel that it would be fair to those who play in Weekend Tournaments at least to publish their names and handicaps. Weekend Tournaments are not poor relations of full week tournaments, and this must be seen to be the case. Besides this, there seems to be a great diversity of methods of recording the results of American Tournaments, and an attempt at standardisation ought to be made. The following blueprint for the publication of results of Weekend Tournaments applies only to American Tournaments. Swiss and other tournaments would have to be recorded differently.

Would Club Secretaries please in future send in the results of Weekend Tournaments in the following form (names and handicaps as here given are fictitious):

#### Peelhaven II: May 10-12

BLOCK A. Winner: H.Smith (3) who beat R.Skyes (7½) + 14, Cdr D. de B. Jones (14) +9 and Miss Yarborough (10) + 26, and lost to P. Clippe (4½) -3.

BLOCK B. . . .

PLAY-OFF

Semi-Final

.....

The results of games should still be recorded in full for the benefit of the Handicaps Co-ordination Committee, but the results should also be recorded in the above form for the benefit of the gazette. This form does not tell the reader directly whether H.Smith had a narrow points win over his nearest rival who won the same number of games as he, but it does show all the people who took part in the Weekend Tournament, and I commend it for that reason.

Any comments on this recommendation would be welcome.

P.D.H.

### Deadline

Material for the July gazette must reach the Editor not later than Friday 13 June. If there is any alteration in this requirement, those likely to be most affected will be informed as soon as possible. Since some plans are subject to adjustment, it is not possible at this stage to give the deadlines for the other 1975 gazettes.

## Correspondence

### 'Deceived by the Carrot'

from R.O. Calder

Sir,

I write with regard to the note "Deceived by the Carrot" in the September gazette. In Regulations for Tournaments 3 (b) it is clearly stated that the powers of the Referee of a tournament include . . . 'to check the accuracy of the setting and tournament equipment'. The question arises as to whether any adjustments should be made if an inaccuracy is discovered during a game.

In the section of Col. Prichard's "Commentary on the Laws of Croquet" regarding Law 53, the possibility of a hoop which has become too narrow is referred to, and among the decisions suggested is . . . "altering the hoop". The situation now under discussion appears very similar.

If it is considered that a hoop setting should not normally be altered during a game, what can be said of the many players who habitually tap the crown of a hoop with their mallets before running it to ensure that it is firmly set?

Perhaps the Chairman of the Laws Committee would care to comment.

12 Palmerston Road,  
Edinburgh.

Yours sincerely,  
Robert O. Calder

### A Comment from Lt-Col D.M.C. Prichard

Mr Calder is quite right in his exposition of the Law, but the Rover Note on the player and the carrot perhaps gives the wrong impression. The point at issue was: where does the carrot end — or rather begin? At the point where the carrot cone comes to its maximum diameter there is a sharp ridge and thereafter it decreases smoothly in a gentle curve into the wire. Now this diminution from as much as 1½ inches to 5/8 inch is achieved at a point which varies from ½ inch to 1½ inches above the cone ridge. The first Referee was quite satisfied that no part of the ridge of the carrot was sticking up above the ground — indeed every hoop was most carefully erected and checked every day. But when the right-hand edge of Rowling's mallet was placed against the centre of the ball, the left-hand bottom corner of the mallet (which was wider than Neal's) was in contact with the wire where it was thicker than 5/8 inch. Called in as Referee of the Tournament, I gave a ruling that this was part of the wire and not of the carrot and I awarded a lift.

Since the event I have measured a number of hoops and from the sharp ridge of the cone to the top of the hoop they vary from 11¼ inches to 12¼ inches, so that in no case would it be possible to counter sink the carrot so far that only 5/8 inch wire was above the ground and to maintain the regulation 12 inch height. Ideally, no doubt, the wire should rise at right angles to the cone, but this is not practicable and would weaken the hoop. It takes a Test Match to bring to light such minutiae.

(The above is in the main a comment on the Rover Note 'Deceived by the Carrot' and on the legal points arising from the situation there described. Professor Neal's comment, which follows, is a comment on the more general points raised by Mr Calder's letter, especially on his third paragraph. — Ed.)

### A Comment from the Chairman of the Laws Committee

Hoops often become loosened during a game, especially in hard ground, whereas Law 2 states that they shall be 'firmly fixed'. A player can request a referee to reset a hoop firmly (Regs. 4 (h) and 5), but as joint referees (Law 45 (a)) the players can agree to carry out the adjustment themselves. Strictly speaking, a player should not tap the crown of a loose hoop to ensure that it is firmly fixed without consulting his opponent.

Should there be a ball very close to or resting against the wire, a referee should be called in to make the adjustment, as the position of the ball, which might be crucial, could be affected.

### 'The Croquet Speed Record'

from G.F. Hallett

Sir,

If you ever feel disposed to record a possible record, I wish to inform you that recently in a serious friendly game of levels and lifts my opponent never made contact, and I completed the whole game in a flat 20 minutes, partly at the gallop. It shows you how crazy croquet can sometimes make you when you get keen to get on with the game.

15 Roddam Close,  
Colchester, Essex.

Yours sincerely,  
Gerald Hallett

### 'Cannons'

from David O'Connor

Sir,

Further to Mr Riggall's article on Cannons in the September issue, I would like to add the following points.

In his section on "kiss-cannons", when a difficult position is expected at the Rover, i.e. trying to cannon one's partner ball out of the line of interference of Rover to peg, the pilot ball after 4-back should not be sent on, south of Rover, as Mr Riggall says, and the other opponent ball, being the middle ball, sent to a spot level with Rover (to roquet after running Rover gently). Much better to position these balls using all the opportunities one is allowed, as is written in John Solomon's book.

The "swing cannon" can naturally also be employed to knock your partly peeled partner ball through a hoop with an enemy ball, but this is only secure if the position is to the side of a hoop.

An interesting type of cannon was devised and written about in the gazette by Nigel Aspinall in, I believe, August 1967, where a peel on a partner ball was attempted from a virtually impossible position. The partner ball was lined up so as just to miss the inside edge of the near wire and lodge in the jaws of the hoop (which was the optimum that could be attempted) and one's own ball would follow up on a gentle split roll and knock the partner ball through on a second impact. This can be useful when there is a getaway ball nearby and when actually peeling the hoop rather than sticking the peeler in it is important — as in a sextuple — for example, when one is behind schedule on one's peels. This admittedly is not a cannon but, I feel, worth mentioning in this context.

I enjoy mentioning to those who have not heard the term "worm" that this is the imaginative and delightful word used by Keith Wylie for the "pseudo-cannon", as Mr Riggall calls it.

The most important comment I have to make about Mr Riggall's article is when he says that the Cannon going to, say, hoop 3 from Corner One is impossible. This is not the case. The situation I will describe is admittedly not a true cannon, but nevertheless a terrific weapon to have up one's sleeve. Barry Chambers of Australia did a perfect "cannon" of this type in the Australian Men's Championship last year — approaching hoop 2 from Corner 4! The idea is to line up the other two balls one is using at such an angle that the ball "in the middle" goes to hoop 3 and the ball "in front" goes to hoop 2. This requires practising the angle carefully. One's own ball does not roquet the front ball in the "cannon" stroke (this is impossible, as Mr Riggall rightly pointed out), but merely follows after the ball at hoop 2 by means of a big roll; one's own ball therefore follows up after the "pilot ball", in the roll stroke, and roquets it and the break is laid. This system can be used for other "impossible" cannons.

On a personal note, there are quite a few genuine croquet "Fundis" in Zambia, notably Ron Kirby, another architect, and Bob Thornton, head of Lonrho Motor Division in Lusaka. They play the full game, but Mr Riggall's article on Cannons was a bit baffling for them. We hope to stage the Zambia Opens in the not too distant future.

Lusaka, Zambia, Yours sincerely,  
David O'Connor

#### 'First Appearances in the Ladies' Field Cup' from His Honour Judge Karmel Q.C.

Sir,

In the report of the Ladies Field Cup contained in gazette no. 133 there would appear to be a factual error.

It is stated therein (in regard to Mrs Wood) that no player has done so well at her first appearance since 1935; if the Croquet Association Handbook can be relied upon, this is not so.

In 1969 it appears that Mrs Sundius-Smith, at her first appearance, won 10 games out of 14 and tied with Miss Warwick. She had also won the first game of the play-off, and in fact had then won the Cup, the Council having decided that the play-off should consist of a single game. Owing to an error, the conditions in the Fixture Book stated that a play-off should be the best of 3 games, and Miss Warwick duly won the next 2 and won the Cup.

I write this letter not in any way seeking to detract from the excellence of Mrs Wood's performance, which by any standards is worthy of the highest praise, but merely in the interests of accuracy.

171 Rivermead Court, Ranelagh Gardens, London SW6 3SF. Yours sincerely,  
Alex Karmel.

#### Full Cycle

*The hoops down at Harrow  
At first seemed too narrow,  
With no room between,  
When we were sixteen*

*Deep strategy? — Hide?  
(Or when to join wide)  
I win quite a few  
To get down to two.*

*Into tactics I delve  
And get down to twelve,  
Then learn to hit straight,  
Which takes me to eight.*

*I master my nerve  
And play with great verve  
To win "needle" match  
Which takes me to scratch.*

*I study the laws,  
The whys and wherefores,  
And learn a few tricks  
To get me to six.*

*If I could get minus,  
Perhaps they would sign us  
Up for the Test Team  
And boost my esteem,*

*By now with great pride  
I find hoops so wide  
I run them galore  
And get down to four.*

*But old age at length  
Affects eye and strength,  
So back to plus one,  
(My efforts undone).*

*Now bisques upwards soar;  
We slip to plus four,  
Then sadly to seven,  
But trying . . . was Heaven.*

K.S.S.

#### Veterans Tournament

The entrance fee for Event 1 (Veterans' Championship) is £1.25. The figure shown on page 10 of the C.A. Fixtures Book 1975 is somewhat blurred and looks more like £1.05. Will intending entrants please note the correct figure?

#### Rover Notes

##### Peeling Off

Caskets Week 1974 was the last week of summer. The gentle touch of a spider was needed on Cheltenham's sun-baked lawns, and this Rover saw two good turns end with the croqueted ball going off after it had been peeled through 1-back. In both cases the striker's ball ended within a foot of the enemy ball in the middle of the court; in the first, a Mixed Doubles, the outcome was not affected, but in the second it was the first peel of a well-laid sextuple and cost the peeler the game — and all because 1-back was too wide.

The rights and wrongs of the case have been argued many times before, but perhaps this was before the 1-back peel became a weapon of attack rather than of defence. Law 19 (c) is one of the laws which add to the fascination of croquet because it favours players of finesse and touch. However, the striker's ball does have an escape clause (if it makes a roquet or scores a hoop), but the croqueted ball has none — and many think that if it has been peeled it should have. When questioned, many of the peeling experts say that they would like to see more severe tests of touch introduced and are not in favour of giving any licence to the croqueted ball. Yet when one witnesses a peeled ball going off and the disaster that so often follows for the peeler (e.g. Solomon v. Murfitt in this year's President's Cup), one hears on all sides that it is a hard and unfair law. It does seem to be an instance of theoretical and practical views differing. Is the accurate peeler hard done by, or does this hazard add uncertainty and spice to the game?

##### Advantage Striker

Arthur Lillie was the great protagonist of the rubber-ended mallet. He claimed that "By some mystery of mechanics . . . the india-rubber mallet effects . . . the roll-up of two balls together for twenty or thirty yards without the player requiring the muscles of Mr J.H.Hale or Mr Bruce." But there were many who objected to the silence of the india-rubber face and who believed that the big roll-ups were no mystery but merely silent double taps. This latter faction triumphed, despite Mr Lillie's pleading that Ayres alone had sold 3000 india-rubber ended mallets in 1898 and again in 1899 and that 50,000 players, of whom 40,000 were probably ladies, used them. On March 8th 1900 the use of india-rubber was banned and it was decreed that mallet heads must be made of wood.

By 1972 man-made substances had so far progressed in hardness and in durability, and the cost of new mallets had become so great that the C.A. acceded to a plea from Australia that the facing or even the whole head could be made of such substances "provided that the player shall gain no advantage over wood". This is the criterion. Rubber now appears in new guises and it is sometimes difficult to distinguish it from man-made materials. It is doubtful if rubber, in any form, could pass the test of Law 32 (a) (v) "that the ball must be struck audibly or distinctly", but there are also man-made substances which would not pass such a test either. Do-it-yourself enthusiasts should be forewarned that all rubber and many substances resembling rubber are still illegal.

##### The Reason Why

The four players seemed to be dancing a slow minuet around the peg. Knowing that it was a Handicap Doubles and that it was nearing its end, a Referee hurried over. He pulled his little red book from his hip pocket and opened it in the middle; there under his right thumb was Part 3 which deals with the special laws for Handicaps and Doubles. He was quite right: Mr B. had pegged out Mr A.

"But he cannot peg me out because his partner is not a rover," complained Mr A. "The law says so . . . doesn't it?"

"The relevant law is 39 and that says: 'Unless an adversary's ball has already been pegged out, a player may not peg his own ball out before his partner ball has become a rover'. This does not preclude a rover from pegging out an adversary in the normal way under Law 15."

So Mr A.'s ball was removed and the game was soon over. The Referee then enlarged a little on what he had said before. "Remember that Law 39 is only an adaptation of the existing laws for level play; if it does not say that in Handicap play you may not peg out an opponent, then you carry on as you would in normal level play."

"What is the point of having different laws for handicaps? It is so much simpler to have the same for all types of play," said Mr A.

"The reason in this case is that at one time the A class player used to go round with his first ball and then peg it out. The bisque receiver found that his bisques were devalued because a 3-ball break was too hazardous and if he were to play only with his own two balls the A class opponent would have endless opportunities of hitting in. So Law 39 was introduced as a protection for the high bisquer."

"Could I have pegged myself out as well, after I had pegged out Mr A.?" asked Mr B.

"Yes. Remember that if you had failed to peg out Mr A. and had then rolled on to the peg you would not have been out because your partner was not a rover. But once an adversary's ball is pegged out, even if you hit the peg accidentally, you too would have been out."

#### The Car and Croquet

When Croquet Clubs started in the 1860s and then revived in the 1890s, people used to travel to the grounds by train or by horse, or even, as at Shrewsbury, by ferry. Wimbledon was beside the railway line, with private access and a half-hourly service to Waterloo. Other Clubs, such as Southwick and Parkstone, are in the lee of railway embankments. In 1894 the London and South Western ran through Ottery St Mary, and the people of Budleigh Salterton formed a private company to bring the line 6 miles, 4 furlongs, 7.20 chains to within, among other things, 100 yards of the Croquet Club. The station was built in a field belonging to the Ross family, the forbears of Colonel Cave.

Today we again need to show initiative and forethought. The cost of transport has become a major item in the budget of club members and tournament visitors alike. Many of them have retired and have no 'threshold agreements' to cushion them against inflation. There may well be points at which Clubs could help by investigating more bed and breakfast accommodation; by giving the use of the Club premises for visitors to make their own evening snacks; by trying to find accommodation within walking distance of the Club; by recommending hotels near to each other so that transport could be combined, or hotels on a bus route; by having a list of members who might be willing to take visitors for bed and breakfast only (and of course visitors of their own choice) on a paying basis, and a list of those who might be willing to give lifts — also on a paying basis. Some Clubs have started thinking on these lines, and their ideas will be of great interest to all croquet players. Croquet has weathered greater trials than this, but never without changes: some standards of comfort may have to be lowered, but they can be tolerated. What really is vital is that Clubs shall not founder, nor tournaments, which keep up the standard of the game, fade away.

#### Corrigendum

In the December gazette page 12 column 2 it is stated in the results of the semi-final of the Sussex Union Cup that C.G.Pountney won over G.E.P.Jackson because his opponent retired. In fact Mr Pountney defeated Mr Jackson, as stated in the account of the tournament (page 9 of the December gazette).

#### The MacRobertson Trophy Croquet Dinner

"An Haberdasher and a Carpenter,  
A Webbe, a Dyer and a Tapiser  
Clothed in oo liverie  
Of a solemn and great fraternitee."

So wrote Chaucer in 1390, and so we felt as we arrived at the Dyers' Hall in Dowgate Hill on August 13th 1974. We were surprised by the deserted streets of the evening City, awed by the imposing entrance and delighted by the warm gust of hospitality in its grandest trappings; yet tradition was spiced with informality. The British team, the New Zealand team and the three members of the Australian team still in the country were feted and treated like heroes, to make an evening which neither they nor their wives, nor the few lucky officials present will ever forget. The fare was perfect, cooked in the Dyers' own kitchens, and the wine a delight. The ceremony of the Loving Cup, accompanied by appropriate and complimentary tunes on the piano, was a happy climax and put us all in a receptive mood for the speeches from the Prime Warden, Jack Read (for Australia), Mrs Hight (for New Zealand) and John Solomon (for Great Britain). The Croquet Association is deeply indebted to the Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery of Dyers of the City of London and to Richard Rothwell, a former Prime Warden and by good fortune our present Chairman, who set the affair on foot.

#### Menu

Scotch Smoked Salmon  
\*\*\*  
Saddle of English Lamb  
\*\*\*  
Lemon Sorbet  
\*\*\*  
Quiche Lorraine  
\*\*\*  
Dessert  
\*\*\*  
Coffee

#### Wines

Chassagne Montrachet 1970  
Chateau Ducru-Beaucaillou 1962  
Warre 1960  
Grande Champagne Cognac  
Liqueurs

E.A.M.P.

#### Obituaries

*F.L.Fletcher*

The Sidmouth Club has suffered a sad and severe loss in the sudden death of Len Fletcher, their Captain and Coach to the Club. In the past two seasons he had organised Beginners' Courses, based on the C.A. Course, and so introduced the game to over 30 new players. At the time of his passing he was actively engaged on the preparation of a two day Refresher Course to be held early in the coming season. His work for the Club had restricted his visits to outside tournaments other than to Budleigh Salterton, where his play well merited his official handicap of 7. His dedication, enthusiasm and happy approach to our game was ever an inspiration to all our members.

P.A.T.

The deaths are also announced of Major R. St. G.Atchley, Mrs J.H.Dibley, Mrs I.M.Earnshaw, Mrs E.Heathcote and Mrs Vandeleur Robinson.

### Books on Croquet up to 1904

(First editions only listed; publishers by name are London publishers unless otherwise stated.)

- 1852 Spratt, *Spratt's New Game of Croquet*, London.
- ca.1857 John Jaques, *Croquet; the Laws and Regulations of the Game*, Jaques.
- 1859 —, "*Croquet, I.S.M.*," answered, London.
- 1862 G.V.H., *Rules for the Game of Croquet*, Bosworth and Harrison.
- 1863 Lewis Carrol (i.e. C.L.Dodgson), *Croquet Castles, for Five Players*, Oxford.
- 1863 G., *Croquet, a Macaulay Flower (Which can't be beet)*, London.
- 1863 Captain Mayne Reid, *Croquet*, Skeet.
- 1863 (Leonard Thompson, et al.), *The Rules of the Game of Croquet, as played at Sheriff Hutton Park*, Cordeaux and Ernest, York.
- ca.1863 —, *Croquet, a New Game of Skill*.
- 1863 —, *Croquet and Archery*, Blake (Family Herald Handy Book).
- 1864 Walter Miller, *Laws of Croquet*, London.
- 1864 Rab Mag (Ed.), *The Laws of Croquet as played by the Medes and Persians*, Hatchard.
- 1864 (Captain Mayne Reid), *The Rules of Croquet, revised and corrected by an Old Hand*, Miss Emily Faithfull for the Earl of Essex.
- 1864 Edmund Routledge, *Routledge's Handbook of Croquet*, Routledge (Sixpenny Handbook).
- 1865 R.Fellow (i.e. H.E.Scudder), *The Game of Croquet: its Appointment and Laws*, New York.
- 1865 (One of the Members), *Croquet as played by the Newport Croquet Club*, Sheldon, New York.
- ca.1865 —, (*Eglinton Castle Croquet*) — *The Game of Croquet: its Laws and Regulations*, (T.Turner, Watford)
- 1865 —, *How to play Croquet*, Adams, Boston, U.S.A.
- 1866 Captain Crawley (i.e. G.F.Pardon), *Croquet, to which is added Troco, or Lawn Billiards, etc.*, Chambers (Useful Hand Book).
- 1866 (T.C.Patteson), *Croquet, the Toronto Laws*.
- 1866 A.Rover, *Croquet; its Principles and Rules*, Bowles, Springfield, U.S.A.
- 1866 The Rev. J.G.Wood, *Croquet*, Warne (Bijou Book).
- 1866 —, *Croquet, its Implements and Laws. Drawn up by a Committee of Players appointed by the Editor of "The Field"*, Cox.
- 1866 —, *The Game of Croquet*, Cassell (Sixpenny Handbook).
- 1868 Cavendish (i.e. Henry Jones), *On the Laws of Croquet*, London.
- 1868 Walter Jones Whitmore, *Croquet Tactics*, Cox.
- 1869 Cavendish, *The Pocket Guide to Croquet*, De la Rue.
- 1869 West-Essex Croquet Club, *Croquet: the Laws and Regulations of the Game*, Bretell.
- 1870 All England Croquet Club, *Bye-laws and Regulations for the Management of Prize Meetings*, Cox.
- ca.1870 —, *Croquet and Billiards*, Neal or J.Turner.
- 1870 —, *Croquet: as played by the Melrose Croquet Club*, Kimball, Stoneham, U.S.A.
- 1870 —, *The Laws of Croquet adopted at the General Conference of Croquet Clubs, on January 19, 1870*, De la Rue.
- 1871 W.R.Gordon, *Croquet, or, Social Prayer Illustrated*, Board of Publication of Reformed Church in America, New York (Seed corn series).
- 1871 —, *Croquet. Terms, Suggestions and Rules made uniform and condensed under direction of the American Croquet Company of Genesco, N.Y.*, Genesco, N.Y. Republican Steam Power Press.
- 1872 Grand National Croquet Club, *Bye-laws and Regulations of Play*.
- 1872 Arthur Lillie, *The Book of Croquet: its Tactics, Laws and Mode of Play*, Jaques.
- 1872 R.C.A.Prior, *Notes on Croquet and some Ancient Bat and Ball Games related to it*, Williams and Norgate.
- 1873 —, *Croquet as played by the Philadelphia Croquet Club*, Claxton, U.S.A.
- 1874 James D.Heath, *The Complete Croquet Player*, Routledge.
- 1875 —, *Croquet*, Borland, New York.
- ca.1875 C.Black, (Title unknown).
- 1876 —, *Rules for playing the Game of Croquet, etc.*, London.
- 1877 —, *Croquet. Rules of the Brooklyn Croquet Association*, Horsman, New York.
- 1879 Captain Crawley, *Lawn Tennis, Badminton, Croquet, Troco, Racquets, Fives, Nurr and Spell, Bowling, Hurling, etc.*, Ward, Lock (Captain Crawley's Handbooks of Outdoor Games).
- 1880 National Croquet Convention, *Spalding's Official Croquet Manual*, Spalding, U.S.A.
- 1880 —, *Rules for the Standard Game of Croquet, as adopted by the National Croquet League, etc.*, Lippincott, Philadelphia.
- 1885 Mrs. A.F.Devereux, *How to play Progressive Croquet*, Clarke, U.S.A.
- ca.1890 W.H.Cremer, *Ye Game of Croquet*, Cowell, Ipswich.
- 1893 B.C.Eveleigh (Ed.), *The Laws of Croquet (and Regulations for the Management of Prize Meetings)*, Ayres.
- 1893 —, *The Laws of Croquet, 1893, etc.*, Wright.
- 1895 W.H.Peel, (Ed.), *The Association Laws of Croquet, etc.*, Jaques.
- 1896 —, *The New Game of Croquet-Golf. A Game for Garden Parties*, Ayres.
- 1897 Arthur Lillie, *Croquet, its History, Rules and Secrets*, Longmans.
- 1897 Arthur Lillie, "*Kingball*" a Game for Garden Parties, Ayres.
- 1897 United All-England Croquet Association, *The Laws of Croquet*, Cox.
- ca.1897 —, *Croquet Guide and Official Rules Governing the Game*, American Sports Publishing Company, New York (Spalding's Athletic Library).
- 1898 W.H.Peel, *How to play Croquet, etc.*, Jaques.
- 1899 G.H.Powell, *A Pocket Guide to Croquet, etc.*, "Lawn Tennis and Croquet."
- 1899 Straw Hat (i.e. J.Jeffery), *Croquet*, Dean (Champion Handbook).
- 1899 Leonard B.Williams, *Croquet*, Innes (Isthmian Library, vol. 12).
- 1900 Arthur Lillie (Ed.), *Croquet up to Date, etc.*, Longmans.
- 1900 Hon. Henry C.Needham, *Croquet*, Bell (All England Series).
- 1901 Diana (Ed.), *The Croquet Annual, 1901-2*, Newnes (Ladies' Field Handbook).
- 1904 W.W.Bruce, *How to play Croquet*, Beeton.

R.W.Bray

(This list replaces that in Croquet Gazette no. 129 for December 1973. The list there contains a number of errors in authorship. These errors are here corrected, and there have been some additions. For a short comment on Croquet Literature of this period, see Roger Bray's letter on p. 4 of the gazette referred to above. — Ed.)

### Guide Lines for Handicappers

In the April gazette last year Mr Howard Wright asked for some positive guidance from the Handicap Co-ordination Committee on handicap change procedures, particularly with reference to the raising of all handicaps by 2.

In the first place, any guidelines that can be given are not basically affected by an over-all raising of handicaps, since it is the difference between contestants' handicaps which is important rather than the individual handicaps. This point was brought out by Mr Riggall in the gazette for July 1974.

Mr Wright refers, however, to the effect of the raising of handicaps on a rule of thumb method of assessing handicaps based on the number of bisques a player takes to do an all-round break. Thus before 1974 a 10 bisquer under this method would be reckoned to use 5 bisques to take a ball round. A formula of this type must be regarded as an extremely crude measurement. There are players who are quite capable of taking a ball round without using any bisques other than perhaps one or two to start a break going tidily, but whose handicaps remain firmly around the middle range because of their weakness in other departments of the game. This was illustrated in a London tournament last year where a middle bisquer beat three minus players by 26 in quick succession by setting up a break at the outset with the use of 1½ bisques and then proceeding with care to the peg, often with the help of no more bisques. When, however, in a later round he met an opponent on level terms, his limited experience and ability in other aspects lost him the game.

It is not an easy matter to give precise guidelines on handicapping, and the subject does not lend itself to an exact approach.

Mr Wright puts his finger on the crucial factor which makes for difficulty in handicapping which is that the standard of play of the opponent so often affects the result of a game more than the quality of one's own play. How often you have looked back on a tournament and had to admit that you only got as far as you did because the opponents made more mistakes than usual and that your successes were not due to above-average play on your part. It is not inconceivable that a player might win one or two handicap events successively and suffer reductions in handicap, even though his play had only been consistent with his former handicap, but that he was lucky in meeting a series of opponents who played below their true form.

Having said this, one can only reiterate that there is no ready formula for determining handicap levels other than one related to the results week in and week out of games played under competitive conditions. In a club with a large membership, many of whom play in Calendar Fixture Tournaments, there will be enough experience of play and a sufficient spread of handicaps for a reliable assessment to be made of each individual's handicap. It is doubtful whether the Club Handicappers' Committee need any further guidelines.

In a small club, however, there may be perhaps only one player with an 'established' Association handicap based on his play in Calendar Fixture Tournaments. The handicaps of all the other members must then largely be assessed in relation to this one handicap, which must necessarily be a somewhat rough and ready measurement. Guidance can, however, be obtained if the club can enlist the help of an Official Handicapper who can be invited to spend a day or more watching play at the club and then giving his recommendations on members' handicaps.

One can understand a small club enquiring whether there are not certain standards by which they can determine handicaps. Could there not, for example, be a series of "benchmarks" of improvement into which players' handicaps could be slotted? Thus, to list a few benchmarks:—

- (1) Ability to make a break of up to 3 or 4 hoops.
- (2) Ability to make a break of up to 6 hoops or so.
- (3) Ability to make an all-round break with the balls set up at the outset (e.g., through opponent failing at first hoop).

- (4) Ability to set up an all-round break with the use of one or two bisques.

And so on, leading eventually to ability to do a double peel, triple peel, etc.

The difficulty is that the "benchmarks" are not always clear cut. A fascination of croquet is the variety of strokes and tactics needed for success. A player may excel in one department of the game and fail abysmally in another. Further, many players vary in standard so much from game to game that it is difficult to fit them to a particular benchmark. To attempt to classify players in handicap groups in this way according to particular degrees of ability is a task that might conceivably be attempted with the aid of a computer, but is one which the Handicap Co-ordination Committee are not disposed to tackle with any confidence.

On the subject of reductions it cannot be too strongly emphasised that these should result from definite improvement in play, relative to the player's existing handicap, and should not be made automatically because a player has reached the final stages of an event. The quality and quantity of the entry, together with the general standard of play throughout the tournament, are important factors in arriving at decisions. The other side of the coin is the case of players who have little time to compete in C.A. Fixtures or even in their Club competitions, but who continue to show regular improvement when they appear on the lawns. These should certainly be the subject of close review not only at the end of each season but periodically during the season. Cases come to mind of players who have rightly lost up to 2 or 3 bisques in a season without winning an event.

S.S.Townsend,  
Chairman, Handicap Co-ordination Committee.

### From the Australian Croquet Gazette

The twenty-fifth A.C.C. Carnival was held in Brighton, Victoria, for three weeks from 11 November 1974. The results were as follows:

#### Interstate Cup

South Australia	5 matches	24 games	694 points
Victoria	4 matches	18 games	650 points
New South Wales	2 matches	14 games	521 points
West Australia	2 matches	9 games	495 points
Tasmania	1 match	13 games	597 points
Queensland	1 match	12 games	549 points

English Silver Medal: Mr B.Chambers (South Australia)

English Bronze Medal: Mr B.Russell (Victoria)

Singles Championship (The Wall Cup): Mrs V.Crane (Victoria)

Ladies Singles (The English Cup): Mrs V.Crane (Victoria)

Men's Singles (The A.C.C. Tray): Mr T.Howat (Victoria)

Doubles Championship: Mrs L.Bray & Mr W.Wilson (Queensland)

A.B.Morrison Memorial Trophy: Mrs H.Kelly (South Australia)

#### Approved A.C.C. Attire:

- Ladies:** White sports frock, length sufficient to cover the knee (with collar and sleeves).  
White sports blouse and skirt, optional.  
White hat.  
Neutral stockings; no ankle socks.
- Men:** White shirt, long trousers and hat.  
White tailored shorts, with long white socks, optional wear.

### From the New Zealand Croquet Gazette

The competition for the English Silver and Bronze Medals took place in Otago last November. The Silver Medal was won by D.Bulloch of Otago, and the Bronze Medal by J.W.McNab of Canterbury.

## West Midlands Federation

### The 1974 season

The New Zealanders' visit to the West Midlands was a delight. Geoff Strutt, with a lot of help from his friends, co-ordinated it all. The weather was perfect for the Cotswolds tour and Stratford visit on the Thursday. Friday morning was spent splashing some more lime round the 6 courts at Himley Hall, which had been so laboriously measured and marked out by the Townsends and Lenfestey's two weeks previously for our new Himley Doubles competition. The reception by the Lord Mayor was a little late starting because his guests were playing croquet on the crown green (1) at Pebble Mill. When Alan Anderson began to jump TV cameras instead of pegs, the party decided it was time to go to the reception. That evening ended with a buffet supper in the heart of the Black Country.

Individual clubs entertained the visitors on the gloriously sunny Saturday — or rather they entertained us. Walsall's Dave Arthur pitted his skills against John Prince, and at one time was saying "I won't take all my bisques, to give you a chance", but later admitted that Walsall hadn't seen a bisqueless all round break, let alone a triple.

The grand day, Sunday, was reported in the Test Match gazette. That no mallets were broken said something only for the strength of their shafts — the mourning comment was "the marquee was a brilliant idea". Although the lawns at Himley are not yet tournament standard, we are hosting two courses this coming season (see December gazette) and in a year's time maybe we will attract outsiders to the West Midlands Tournament. The work put into setting up croquet at Himley helped Wolverhampton to win the Apps-Heley award for 1974.

Possibly the largest croquet cup in the country was won by Stourbridge at the Black Country Olympics. The Club also lent the Potters to a Girl Guide camp in Matlock for a week, where they gave twenty 1½ hour lessons — one of which was in sign language because the Guides only spoke French. Stourbridge's third lawn has been started, and their gain of Dave Jarratt to the Parks Department should help in getting it finished. Stourbridge's gain is Walsall's loss, because Dave was instrumental in getting the club there started.

Edgbaston's pavilion was looking a little smarter when Geoff Strutt managed the third Tilly Bowl competition. Edgbaston received a grant of £100 from the Sports Advisory Council in Birmingham. Susan Willetts was the deserving winner of the Tilly Bowl. It was good to see entrants from the Coventry Club and to hear that they are very much alive, if a little out on a limb.

Perhaps the most encouraging thing to emerge from the year is the formation of the West Midlands League, which has been set up and organised by Peter Barnes of Walsall. By Autumn a nearly full list of fixtures has already been arranged. I conclude with Dave Arthur's comment from Walsall: "1974 will perhaps be remembered as the year in which the depth, intricacies and possibilities of croquet struck home to the members, and, with three new players just joined to commence next season, we are looking forward to the '75 season, when we are hopeful of making some substantial handicap reductions, with the aim of becoming a side to be reckoned with in a few years."

Keith Ross,  
Chairman, West Midlands Federation.

### Weekend Tournament

The West Midlands Federation will hold a Handicap Doubles Tournament on the X/Y system at Himley Hall, near Dudley, during the weekend July 12-13 1975. There will be six lawns available. Entries from clubs outside the Federation will also be welcomed, up to the capacity of the lawns and time-scale. Earlier rounds may be time-limited if necessary.

Applications should be made in writing as soon as possible, and sent, together with entry fees of £1.50 per pair, to the Manager:—

Mrs N.Lenfestey, 65 Codsall Road, Wolverhampton WV6 9QG (Tel. Wolverhampton 753762 — STD Code 0902). Lunches and teas will be on sale if ordered in advance.

### Laws

The following question has been put by Mrs Millar, Chairman of the A.C.C. Laws Committee:

"Is it permissible for players to trundle the ball along the court when entitled to a lift under Law 36 or Law 13, or does this contravene Law 36 (a) (ii) and Law 13 (b)?"

The reference is to lifting a ball, which immediately becomes "in hand". There are several other situations when a ball becomes in hand (see Law 5), the commonest instance being when a roquet is made. The words "lift" and "in hand" are technical terms defined in Laws 5, 13 and 36 in relation to the situations described therein, and there is no need for a ball actually to be picked up if it has to be given a fresh position. It can be moved by the mallet or foot if the player so wishes, and such movement cannot be interpreted as a stroke as defined in Law 31 (b). However, Law 51 (d) "No ball, whether in hand or not, shall be used as a trial ball. This includes any experiment to test the pace or imperfections of the court or the width of the hoops", must not be contravened.

B.G.Neal  
Chairman, Laws Committee.

### Attendances at Council and Committee meetings 1974-5

R.F.Rothwell, Chairman\*, C 5, T 1, F & GP 2, P & D 1, L 1, S 1, Ed 1, Total 12/12.  
D.C.Caporn, Vice-Chairman\*, C 4, T 1, F & GP 1, P & D 1, L 1, Ed 1, Total 9/11.  
A.J.Oldham, Hon. Treasurer\*, C 5, F & GP 2, P & D 1, Ed 1, Total 9/11.  
G.N.Aspinall, C 5, T 1, Ed 1, Total 7/7.  
I.C.Baillieu, C 2, S 1, Total 3/7.  
Cdr G.Borrett, C 3, Ed 1, Total 4/7.  
Dr R.W.Bray, C 3, Total 3/6.  
Mrs H.B.H.Carlisle, C 4, Total 4/6.  
Major J.H.Dibley, C 2, F & GP 1, Total 3/7.  
Revd W.E.Gladstone, C 4, T 1, S 1, Total 6/7.  
Mrs W.Longman, C 4, Total 4/6.  
Mrs J.B.Meachem, C 4, F & GP 2, Total 6/8.  
D.H.Moorcraft, C 2, T 1, Total 3/6.  
Prof. B.G.Neal, C 4, P & D 1, L 1, Hcp 3, Total 9/10.  
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard, C 5, T 1, L 1, S 1, Total 8/8.  
C.B.Sanford, C 4, F & GP 1, Total 5/7.  
J.W.Solomon, C 2, S 1, Total 3/7.  
E.Strickland, C 5, T 1, F & GP 2, Total 8/8.  
Mrs B.L.Sundius-Smith, C 5, T 1, Hcp 3, Ed 1, Total 10/10.  
S.S.Townsend, C 5, F & GP 2, Hcp 3, Ed 1, Total 10/10.  
Prof. B.G.F.Weitz, C 1, Total 1/7.  
R.O.B.Whittington, C 4, T 1, L 1, Total 6/7.  
Dr W.R.D.Wiggins, C 4, L 1, Total 5/6.  
N.Williams, C 3, Total 3/6.

Key: C denotes Council, T Tournaments, F & GP Finance and General Purposes, P & D Publicity and Development, L Laws, Hcp Handicap Co-ordination, Ed Editorial Board. The total shows the total attendances against the total possible attendances. \* denotes Ex-officio all meetings except Handicap Co-ordination and Selection Committees.

### Club Conference 1974

Mr Reckitt, opening the Club Conference on Saturday 7 December, wondered whether people whispering to their neighbours were saying, "Good Heavens, the old man is still about." He was certainly wrong; they were more likely to have been saying, "Good heavens, Maurice never misses any croquet event, whether it is Devonshire Park, a Test at Budleigh, a Council Meeting or a Club Conference!" He noted the increasing general interest (there were more than 60 people there), and stressed the very healthy attitude of the Federations who worked for croquet as a whole, not solely for their own club or their own personal enjoyment of the game, and urged that in a similar way players should and could support the Association.

Mr Christopher Jaques was unfortunately unable to come and talk on croquet equipment, but a D.I.Y. light was thrown on mallets by Mr Martin, who explained how he makes mallets with astonishingly few and simple tools, a square headed mallet being the easiest to make. Two secrets which he revealed were how to get the face perfectly square, and how to drill an accurate "square" hole in dense hard wood. Yes, even round shafts go in "square" holes and give a perfect fit! This many headed man has now worked out his methods to perfection, and he will be delighted to give tips, help and advice to anyone else who wants to join the Hydra set. He knows the woods to choose, lignum vitae or ebony for heads, rahmin or sycamore for shafts. Oak is too brittle. He knows how to make a V cut so that the wedge fits tightly along its full length. A suggestion to cheer those who might nonetheless be daunted by the idea of ever making a perfect head came from Andrew Hope. Pattern-makers will cut with their sophisticated machines a perfect squared block to any length you require, and will even drill the hole for a very modest sum, about £1. He had also found a laminated wood, known as aqualignum, which is harder than lignum.

After real mallet making we heard about small mallets, snooker balls and hoops to scale that can be used for indoor play on a carpet. Bernard Neal described how, given a large enough area, the tactics and shots are similar to the real game, although hitting in was so much easier. Snooker balls provide the right colours, even for double banking. For small areas a game can be played with only three balls, one of which is common to both sides. This of course makes laying up impossible. For even smaller carpets a gymkhana type competition can be devised. He pointed out its value in introducing the game to new players, and as a purely social evening it keeps club members together during the winter. The hoops, President's Cup style with 1/16" clearance, need to have a flange through which a pin is driven into a wooden floor below. Owners of carpets, horrified at such rough treatment of their Wiltons and Axminsters, were assured that a picture nail would be sufficient, and wouldn't hurt the carpet. More sensitive, perhaps, were the owners of fine ballroom floors who might not relish holes "no worse than beetles make" in their floors. Geoffrey Taylor had been given an indoor set, made in Shanghai, with five balls, all the same colour. The interesting thing about this set was that a piece of wood was hung from the top of each hoop, and this reproduced hoop running more realistically.

Table croquet, played long ago by Jane Neville Rolfe, was responsible for her addiction to Association Croquet today. Small mallets, hoops and marbles scaled to the particular table, table tennis tables being the best, and covered with baize or blanket, made a surprisingly good game.

Ian Howard Wright came all the way from Scotland to tell us how things were run there. No club has more than one good lawn, and one or two bad ones, so double banking is the norm, and it works well. No more than 10 or 15 minutes are needed for extra time to compensate for waiting for someone to play away from where you want to go, and they only wait for the 4th corner to be clear before beginning the next game, all starting on the 1st hoop in the normal way. Another way they are trying to overcome the shortage of lawns in Scotland is to try to get into Parks and Technical Colleges, and even hotels.

Gleneagles Hotel, in particular, has been extremely helpful and friendly. They ask no lawn fee, only that the players will have their tea at the hotel. The Scots have plenty of ideas about how to interest people in the game. One club is going to devote three or four evenings in March to demonstrating the game with indoor equipment and showing the film strips. Others run one day tournaments and find a much better response from printed individual invitations, rather than a notice or invitation to a club. They reduce the size of the lawn, making two courts out of one, and play for one hour at a time. They have Open Days, with similarly reduced lawns and get 10+ bisquers to be the demonstrators, which makes it less awe-inspiring for would-be players. They run American blocks of five throughout the summer, keeping about five players in reserve, and these make up blocks with newcomers so that no one is excluded from the competition. For really quick croquet three people play 15 minutes at a time, the 4th ball being common to all. Puzzled spectators have been known to ask, "Is that the game Prince Philip plays, but without the horse?"

The questions that emerged during the day were various. The old, old one to which there is no one answer, "What can we do to get new members?" Should Levy be paid in full for two weekend tournaments when no whole week tournament is run? Is a mallet head mended and filled with araldite legal? Could All England Area Final dates be published earlier? In handicap play shouldn't players be made to make some hoops off enemy balls? This was shouted down by a strong band of Aunt Emma devotees.

In an attempt to lash the Floor into heated debate, Roger Bray and Neil Robinson were quizzed by Derek Caporn about their outrageous ideas on the future of croquet. Confused as to whether the tongue was in the cheek or not, the good-natured delegates stolidly kept their heads, and decided there were two separate but parallel problems: getting more courts and getting more people. For those who couldn't spend too much annual holiday playing croquet, evening tournaments could become popular, or two weekends might be used instead of a whole week. Balls and fertilisers were thought to be the most expensive items clubs faced these days, and shortened games should be accepted as respectable, but on no account should the lawn size be much reduced. Above all, we must all try to influence and educate the new local authorities about croquet's needs and lead them firmly away from thinking we could play on rolly hillsides, old hockey pitches and disused car parks.

The President presented the Apps Bowl to Stephen Wright, the Steel Bowl to Mrs Handley, and the Apps-Heley Award to the Wolverhampton Club.

E.A.N.

### Home Counties Leagues

During last summer five clubs took part in the Home Counties Croquet League (North), and six clubs in the Home Counties Croquet League (South). In the Northern Section the results were as follows:

1. Parson's Green (11 points);
2. Silver Wing Club B.E.A. (9 points);
3. Imperial College (8 points);
4. Harrow Oak (7 points);
5. Unilever Research Laboratory, Isleworth (5 points).

In the Southern Section the results were as follows:

1. I.C.I., Jealotts Hill (7 points);
2. equal Ferranti, Bracknell, and A.E.R.E. Harwell (6 points each);
4. Woking (5 points);
5. Maidenhead (4 points);
6. R.A.E. Farnborough (2 points).

The winners of the two Sections played off for the Cup, which was won by Parsons Green.

### 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. for 1975 is £4.

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

## Chairman's Report

Undoubtedly the highlight of the past season was the successful and welcome visit to our shores of the Australian and New Zealand Test teams and their supporters, a visit in which many new friendships were created and many old ones renewed. This was the first time that a triangular contest for the MacRobertson Trophy had taken place in the United Kingdom, and we look forward with eager anticipation to another such contest in 1986. John Solomon and his team are to be congratulated on their successful defence of the Trophy. Whilst perhaps on paper their victory was conclusive, every match was fought in the true spirit of the game.

When I assumed office in May, the bulk of two years of planning had been completed, and the fact that the Tour went off so smoothly was largely due to the painstaking and thorough work of my predecessor Professor Neal. Thanks are also due to Derek Caporn for successfully organising the Test Fund, so successfully that some £350 remains to be put towards the next Tour, and to the Clubs who staged the Test Matches, the West Midlands Federation, the Scottish Croquet Association and the Carrickmines Club for their especial efforts.

The Annual General Meeting on 31st May will see the end of a unique career of service and dedication to the Game of Croquet in the retirement of our President, Maurice Reckitt. He first came onto the Council in 1929, served as its Chairman from 1937 to 1939, became Vice-President in 1962 and President in 1967. He has probably put more into the Game than any other person, living or dead, in the long history of the game. The Council has taken the unprecedented action of inviting him to sit on the Council after his retiring from the Presidency, so valued are his utterances and respected his counsel. Another regretted retirement on account of old age will be that of Major Jack Dibley, who came onto the Council in 1947, and who was made an Honorary Associate a few years ago in recognition of his services to the Game.

The Council is hopeful that the Sports Council grant will be renewed for the coming year, but even so has thought fit to recommend to Associates at the Annual General Meeting an increase in subscription rates to take effect on 1st January 1976, rates that have remained unaltered since 1970. No Associate needs telling how much inflation has affected prices in recent years. For too long the rental of our offices at Hurlingham has been absurdly low, and has now been put onto a more realistic footing. The cost of clerical assistance, stationery, postage and telephones continues to rise, as does the cost of producing and despatching the Gazette. The Gazette is one of the chief drains on the funds of the Association, but is considered by the Council as being one of the essential services to Associates that must be continued. We are indeed fortunate in having Peter Hallett as our Editor who faithfully keeps to his budget and yet still produces as good a magazine as we have had for a long time. The time may be coming when the number of issues of increased size may have to be reduced to four per year. It should be noted that the production of the Gazette does not qualify for the Sports Council grant, which is another reason for recommending an increase in subscriptions.

In line with other national sporting associations of similar size to croquet, the Council has thought fit to introduce the part payment of travelling expenses to Councillors attending Council and Committee meetings (travelling expenses over the first £1.50 per meeting), it being felt that every effort should be made to encourage Associates living far from London to serve on the Council. It is not thought that all Councillors will make claims, and it is thus hoped that this innovation will not be a heavy drain on the Association's funds.

R.F. Rothwell

## The 1975 Season

After the disruption to the customary pattern of tournaments in 1974 made necessary through the Test Tour, we revert to normal for 1975.

Some changes in venue have been made for Association events; the policy is to move them around the clubs from time to time. The Veterans go to Budleigh, and the Challenge and Gilbey to Southwick. The Ladies Field returns to Hurlingham after a long absence, the Chairman's Salver goes to Nottingham again, and the Spencer Ell Cup to Compton. All other C.A. Tournaments remain at their existing venues.

Please note that the Draw for the Opens will now take place on Wednesday 25 June at 11 a.m. at the C.A. offices, and not on 8 July, as advertised in the Fixtures Book. The entrance fee for Event 1 of the Veterans Championship is £1.25, and not £1.05. The Council has recently agreed that double-banking may be permitted in the Longman and Inter-Club competitions, provided both teams agree.

The Golf Croquet Cups will be competed for at Hurlingham during the Open Championships week. Both Singles and Doubles will be Open, but competitors do not have to be entered for the championship events.

It will be noted that the popularity of weekend tournaments continues to grow, probably due to the ever increased costs of hotels and accommodation. No fewer than 19 weekend tournaments are listed in the 1975 Fixtures List, as against 25 full-week tournaments.

After what has probably been the mildest winter ever experienced, when more than average out-of-season croquet has probably been played, let us hope for good weather this coming summer to allow full enjoyment of our "summer" game.

W.E. Gladstone,  
Chairman, Tournament Committee.

## Croquet world-wide

In the December gazette I asked for information about Overseas Clubs, in the hope of being able to write an article about the geographical spread of croquet. I have received communications about Clubs in various parts of the world, but I should like a lot more. It is evidently going to take some time before we can get a fair picture of the full range of places where croquet is played around the world.

The Madrid Croquet Club has recently registered with the C.A. The Club Secretary, Javier Ayesta, writes that a permanent lawn has been established on private ground near Madrid, though the maintenance of a permanent lawn is difficult "in the arid Spanish plain, where it seldom rains, contrary to the popular topic". Señor Ayesta knows of a superb golf club near Gibraltar, where there is another croquet lawn. He adds "My rush stroke is better than my English!"

Monsieur A.M. Blanc visited Vandeleur Robinson in June 1974 and informed him of the existence of a croquet club at *St Malo* (malouine). Croquet is played on the sands, but an attempt is being made to persuade the mayor to allot land for proper courts. An official document of 24 May 1974 mentions "Association malouine de croquet Union-Libre. Objet: favoriser et exercer la pratique du croquet et susciter des liens d'amitié entre ses membres. Siège social: hotel de l'Univers, place Chateaubriand, Saint-Malo".

We have also had some enquiries from the *Jeløy* Croquet Club, near Oslo in Norway. Tore Gulbrandsen writes that the members are mostly young. They have been running a weekly competition called 'Statistikken' once a week during the season (April/May to August). "All games were written down, and each week we got the winner of the week." The Club has been playing with two pegs and "in order of colour". Croquet was introduced into Norway at the end of the last century, and the older rules have been in use until very recently. We have sent a copy of the Laws, and they hope to start Association Croquet soon. In the meantime the club members have been seeking to

work out better rules in order to produce a good game of skill. The equipment, which includes "wooden balls and galvanised metal arches", has until recently been imported from Sweden. Herr Gulbrandsen writes: "Our aim is not only to gather croquet players, arrange tournaments (from next year), but our premier task is to promote the sport of croquet. In Norway as in other Scandinavian countries croquet is mainly looked upon as a good game, not as a competition-sport".

Copies of the 1972 Laws have been sent to Madrid, Jeløy and Stockholm. Clearly there is some croquet in Sweden. I have myself seen garden croquet played in Iceland and Denmark. Scandinavia is definitely on the croquet map. We hope that the sending of the new Laws will facilitate the introduction of Association Croquet.

David O'Connor tells us that there is some croquet in Lusaka, Zambia. Vandeleur Robinson has received communications from a golf croquet club in Saarlouis, and knows of some Overseas Associates at Bremen.

Comparatively speaking, we know quite a lot about croquet in Australia and New Zealand, and numerically speaking we know that there are far more croquet players there than there are here. We know a certain amount about croquet in South Africa, though a comprehensive article would be very welcome. R.H. James wrote to me as follows about the *Somerset West* Club in Cape Province:

"The Somerset West Croquet Club was founded in 1970 by George James, who had previously been a member of the Rondebosch Croquet Club in Cape Town. A form of garden croquet had been played for some years at one of the historic Cape Dutch homes in the district, but this bore little resemblance to the real game.

"Since no public land could be made available to the Club, reliance had to be placed on private owners who responded well; three courts were constructed and were in use by 1972. To encourage the progress and development of the game, the Club was offered the use of the excellent three courts by the Rondebosch Club, and a weekly pilgrimage of 30 miles was made there. The success of the Club has been largely due to this gesture.

"In 1973 the Club had 28 regular playing members and came to prominence when Tom Barlow — self-taught — won the South African National Championship and, with George James, the Open Doubles. These wins were repeated in 1974.

"Since most of the members are people of leisure, many games are played during the week, but the general standard of play still leaves something to be desired. The Country Club, which includes golf and bowls, is soon to be enlarging its facilities, and it is hoped to include two croquet courts in its expansion programme. This should attract more young members."

Major Roy Hudson has written about croquet in *Chiang Mai, Thailand*. He says that croquet was played at the Chiang Mai Gymkhana Club from 1906 probably through to 1941, but it was not taken up again when the Club re-opened in 1947. But croquet is still played at the British Consulate in Chiang Mai, and has been played there since the late 1920s. "The site is on the banks of a river, providing a beautiful setting for the game. Play usually starts in the late afternoon, and can be continued after dark by floodlight if necessary." Croquet was played at the British Embassy in Vientiane, Laos, during 1970-1, and was observed in the British Embassy Grounds in Katmandu, Nepal, in 1957. Major Hudson thinks croquet may well still be available in Katmandu. I wish it were possible to quote from his letter at greater length, since he writes well, and gives much of the feel of a British Community living abroad.

A comprehensive article about croquet in the U.S.A. with particular reference to rules and tactics appears elsewhere in this issue. Neil Robinson has written about the *Birnam Wood Club*, near *Los Angeles*. His article appears below in its entirety.

"I recently spent three years in Los Angeles, California. During this time I played on many occasions on the lawns of the Croquet Association of Birnam Wood, part of the Birnam

Wood Golf Club in Santa Barbara, a city about 90 miles north of Los Angeles. They have two courts, one full-size and one somewhat subsize. Both have a surface which for flatness and quality of grass is the equal of any I've played on, including Hurlingham. The game is played in accordance with the rules of the Croquet Association, and the equipment, supplied by Jaques, is the same as that used here. In 1972 the Club was affiliated to the Croquet Association.

"Were it not for the climate and the boundary lines, one might be playing in England. The weather is ideal for croquet: winters are like British summers, only less wet, and almost every summer day is like the finest day of an English summer. The boundary lines are not painted on, but are made by laying Italian marble just below the level of the grass. This is not as impractical as it sounds. The lines are always straight and well defined, require no maintenance and look attractive into the bargain! The clubhouse is an old lemon packing factory built of sandstone in 1892. It stands between lemon groves and the green sweep of the golf course (kept green by much irrigation). Beyond the lemon groves the purple Santa Ynez mountains rise up. Calling the clubhouse a former factory may give the impression of some ugly block. Nothing could be further from the truth. It is now transformed into an elegant mansion complete with a chef who prepares superlative food. The name Birnam Wood was given to the Club by its president, Robert McLean, a keen croquet player of Scots descent.

"The beauty of the Club and the quality of the lawns were only surpassed by the warmth of the welcome extended to me as a fellow croquet player. Everyone there was most hospitable, but I should particularly mention the generosity of the Chairman of the Croquet Association of Birnam Wood, Captain Forrest Tucker, and of Mrs Tucker. A number of Club members have played in Britain and last year, when Capt. and Mrs Tucker were over here, the Captain played in a Wrest Park Tournament. Unfortunately, the novelty of the situation and the chill weather prevented him from playing to form but, hopefully, in coming seasons, members from Birnam Wood and other American clubs will show us their true mettle."

A photograph of the Birnam Wood lawns appears in the centre of this issue.

Although it is not possible at this stage to be comprehensive, this article has at least been able to show evidence of croquet being played in five continents, and in some parts where one had not expected to find it. Further contributions to our investigation will be most welcome.

P.D.H.

## Croquet in America

Having spent three enjoyable visits to the United States over the past three years, I now feel qualified to describe the scene, explain their rules, and give elementary tactical advice to those imaginative enough to try it themselves. I do not know of any clubs there which exist solely for croquet and own their own grounds, but nevertheless the setting in New York is impressive. The players managed to prise a bowling green away from the bowlers in Central Park, so one is surrounded by greenery, skyscrapers, the distant screech of car tyres and a metal fence, all about five minutes walk from the Tavern-on-the-Green on the west side, roughly level with 71st street. The Palm Beachers enjoy a beautiful setting next to the gigantic Breakers Hotel, about two minutes from the sea and next to a lush, green, but rather dull and flat golf course, where the only unpeaceful sound comes from a communication system between limousine drivers and hotel lobby consisting of honks on the horn.

The rules appear to be out of date by decades until you appreciate the one about frequency of taking croquet. They still play blue, red, black, yellow in that order. You start 3 feet in front of the first hoop, and can take croquet only after running it, and then only on balls which have also run it. You may croquet another ball only once between hoops, irrespective of

turn, then you are called "dead" on that ball. Running your next hoop in order makes you "alive" again on the other balls. Our yard-line becomes nine inches, the length of a mallet head. The criterion of out-of-bounds is whether more than half the ball is over the inside edge of the line. Except the ball in hand after a roquet, no ball may cross the boundary — penalty, end of turn. A similar penalty ensues after hitting a ball on which you are dead, which is replaced. The rover hoop is the same as the 5th, outside inwards, and a rover ball can be pegged out by a ball which is not a rover. There is no wiring rule and, horrifically, no crushing rule. You may place your foot on your own ball during the croquet stroke. A bisque is simply a replay of the previous shot. If you run your hoop and hit another ball in one stroke, you must hit that ball again to count as a roquet, but, failing this, you are not dead on that ball. A rover ball may run any hoop to become alive, but must have been dead on at least two balls before doing this, and remains temporarily dead on the ball last hit before running the hoop until hitting a different ball. Also, once through the rover, you may hit the other balls only once per turn.

This, then, is a very brief summary of the differences in the two sets of rules. To play you need a good memory or a deadness board, which is usually a white piece of wood with twelve nails in four columns of three, one column per ball. A coloured disc corresponding to a croqueted ball is hung in the striker's column to show deadness. The worst individual situation to be in is three-ball dead. You have croqueted the other three balls and have little chance of making another hoop at all unless you take position, the opposition being kind or stupid enough to leave you there, or shoot at it from the boundary, where you may be left alone. The next worst thing for a side is for the partners to be dead on each other. If the enemy keep out of the way, it's almost like being three-ball dead. So you should avoid hitting your partner ball unless you have a good chance of making your hoop or setting up for him. Also, obviously, at the end of your turn keep away from the next ball to play, unless it happens to be dead on you. Assuming all is going well, the basic strategy is to set up a three-ball break for your partner. Use the spent ball (the one just played) and keep the next ball to play well out of the way. You should place partner before making the last hoop which you intend to make, and finish the turn with no deadness, if possible. If you must wind up dead, it should be on the spent ball (best), the next ball (so-so), partner (worst). However, if the next ball is dead on you, you can use this to great effect by setting up partner with the spent ball as usual, making your last hoop off the next ball, which you rush to partner's next-hoop-but-one, then stymie the next ball by placing yourself an inch away so that he can do nothing. It is very important, if nursing round a weaker partner, to make not more than one, or possibly two hoops in your turn, because you need every opportunity to set him up with a break, and every hoop unnecessarily made is a wasted chance of being newly alive to do this. If you get too far ahead, you risk being pegged out, and remember your partner then gets only one turn for every two of the opponents and has a virtually certain lost game.

Many American games of croquet are fraught with tactical problems, the likes of which no Association player would dream of. Here is one from a recent tournament:

Red and Yellow are both for 3-back, both alive only on Blue. Red is very near 4th corner, Yellow on north boundary at 2nd hoop. Black, a rover with no deadness, is playing policeman on the south boundary at 4th hoop. Blue, three-ball dead for 1-back, is in corner 2. There is only 20 minutes' time left. It is Red to play. What should Red and Yellow do to avoid losing on time? Can Black continue to frustrate them?

In fact, a minute later, Blue ventured out between hoops 1 and 2, and then tried for position, back and forth, with Red and Yellow taking pot shots all the while. Eventually Red hit but failed to make his hoop. But these were not good tactics.

G.N.A.

## Croquet Etiquette

When I was playing in the Parkstone June Tournament last year, I was told by one of the other players that he found that in his first two years or so of tournament play he was generally expected to know the unwritten code of courtesy that one might call 'croquet etiquette', but he was unable to find anything useful in writing on this subject — could the gazette help fill the gap? This request seemed to me very reasonable, and I therefore asked a number of prominent players to write something on this subject, with particular reference to the middle-bisquer in his first few tournaments. In the following article an attempt is made to fill the gap. The article is not by any means exhaustive, but I hope it points out most of the important principles involved. If readers disagree with any of the points raised here, or if they would like to make other contributions on the subject, they are very welcome to do so.

Mr Rothwell and Mr Townsend drew my attention to a page entitled 'Etiquette' that appeared in the 1957, and in the 1949 edition of the Laws. I did not know of this, as I first played competitive croquet a few years after the 1957 edition was published. I gather that it was decided not to include this in the recent edition of the Laws, because it is not, strictly speaking, legal material. Still, here it is, printed exactly as in the 1957 edition.

### Etiquette

#### ANNOUNCING FOULS

A player should at once announce any foul or breach of law which he believes he or his partner has committed.

#### QUESTIONABLE STROKE

A player about to play a stroke, of which either the fairness or the effect (e.g., a possible foul or when aiming at a ball near a hoop or the peg) may be doubtful, should himself suggest to his adversary that a referee be called to watch the stroke.

#### REPLACING BALLS

In replacing a ball on the yard-line a player should do so with his back to the court.

#### PRESENCE ON COURT

A player should not remain on the court while his adversary is playing or move on to it until it is clear that he has finished.

#### EXPEDITION IN PLAY

A player should play his strokes as quickly as possible, and in doubles should avoid wasting time in prolonged discussion with his partner.

#### SPECTATORS

Spectators should abstain from audible comments on the game; from offering advice to players during a game; and from calling attention to any error committed or about to be committed by any player. A spectator may reply to a question by a player on a point of fact with the consent of the adversary (Law 29 (c)). A player should not take advantage of any error or omission unnoticed by himself or his partner to which his attention has been drawn during the game by the comments or attitude of spectators.

#### ADVICE

No member of a team should receive advice from anyone (other than his own partner in doubles) during the progress of a game.

#### WIRING (LAW 21)

No ball should be used by a player to enable him to form a judgement as to whether balls are wired or not.

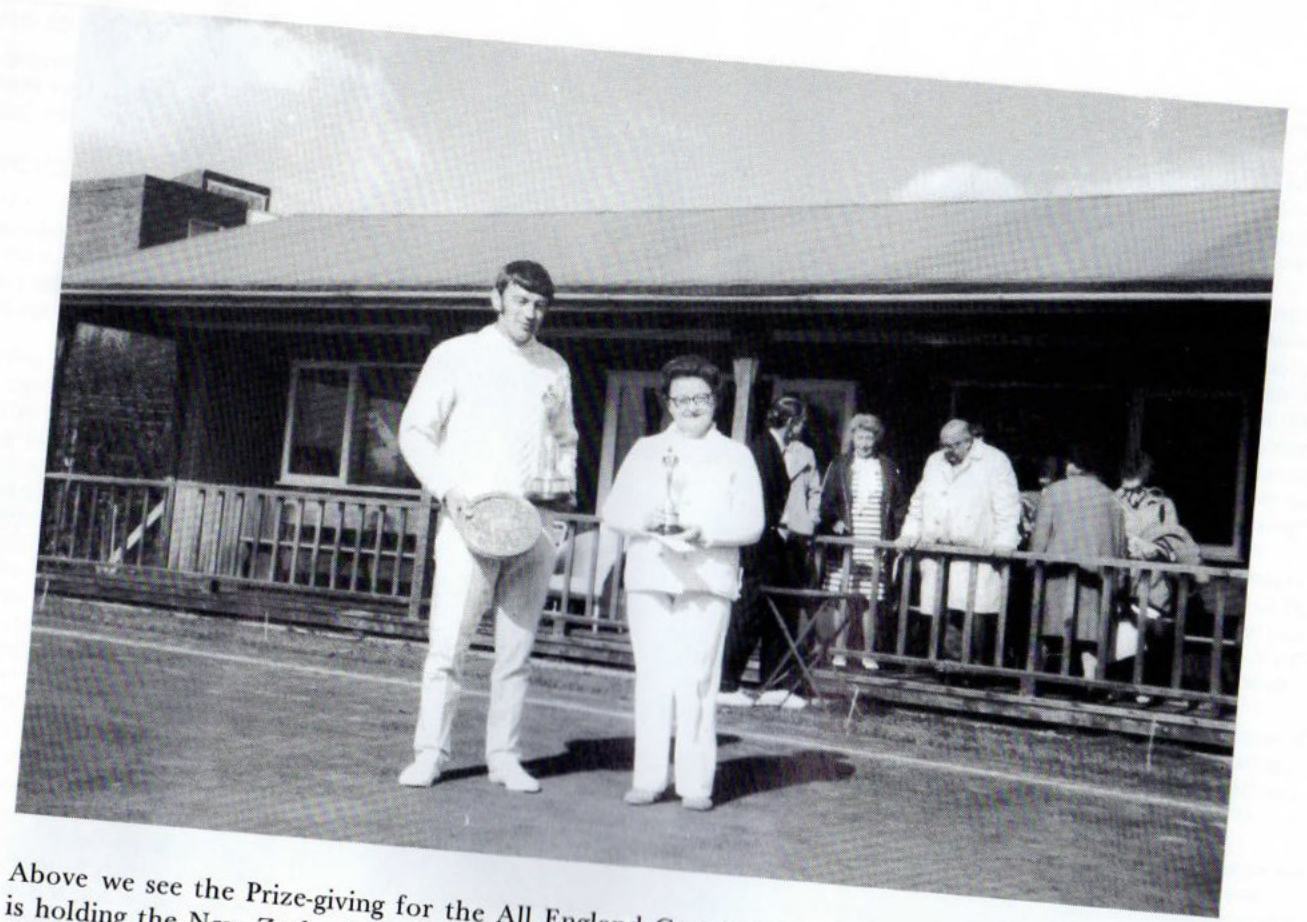


Above we see the New Zealand team at an informal moment at Budleigh Salterton. From left to right: Alan Anderson, Richard Murfitt, John Prince, Cliff Anderson, Roger Jackson and Gordon Rowling. This photo was taken by Mrs A.J.Cooper. Below we see John Magor of Australia in action, and spectators paying varying degrees of attention. This photo was taken by Miss S.G.Hampson.





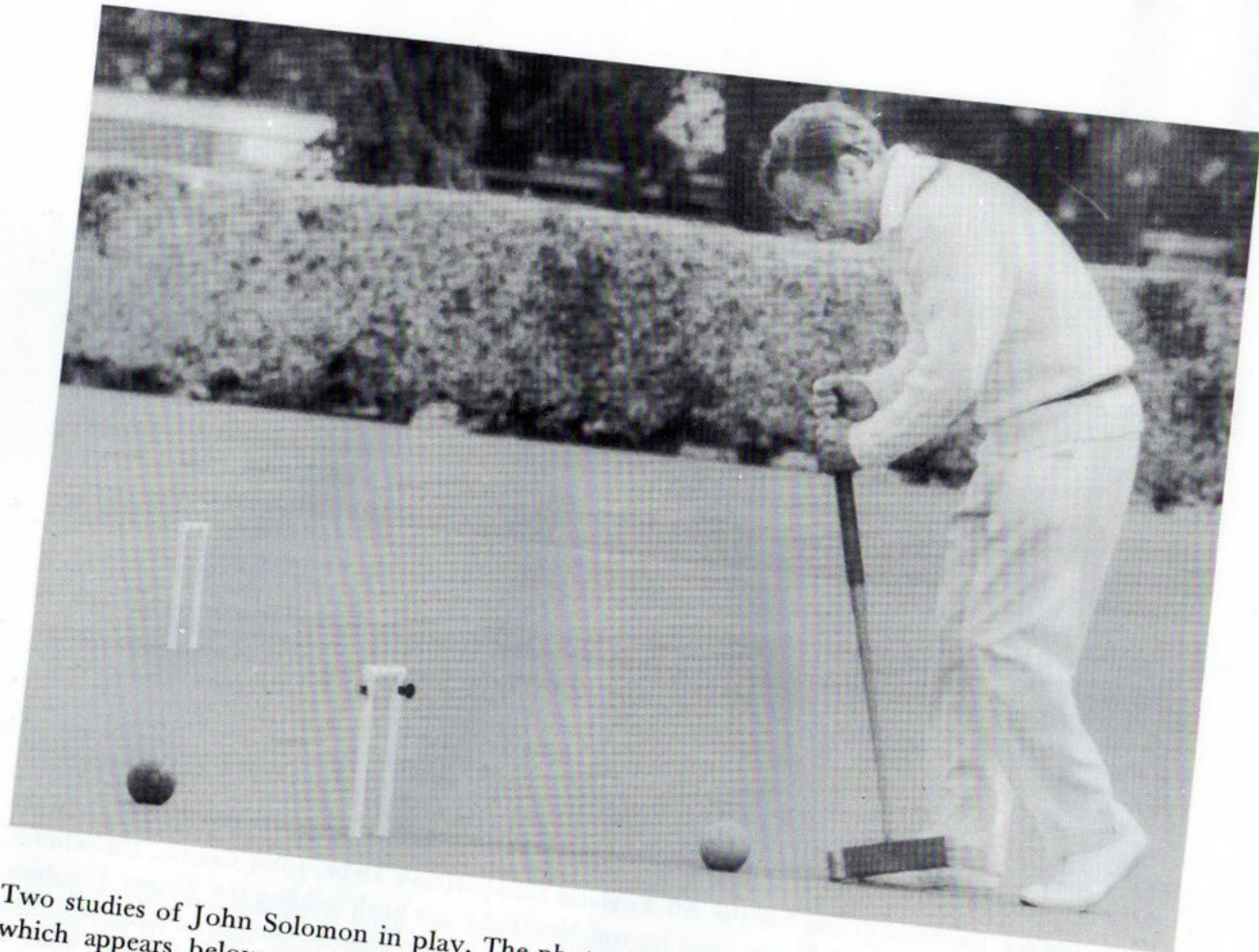
Above we see two essays in style, on the left Nigel Aspinall and on the right John Solomon. The photos are by Roger Bray. Below we see Nigel with some worried Australian opponents. Has Nigel got through the hoop? This photo was also taken by Miss S.G.Hampson.



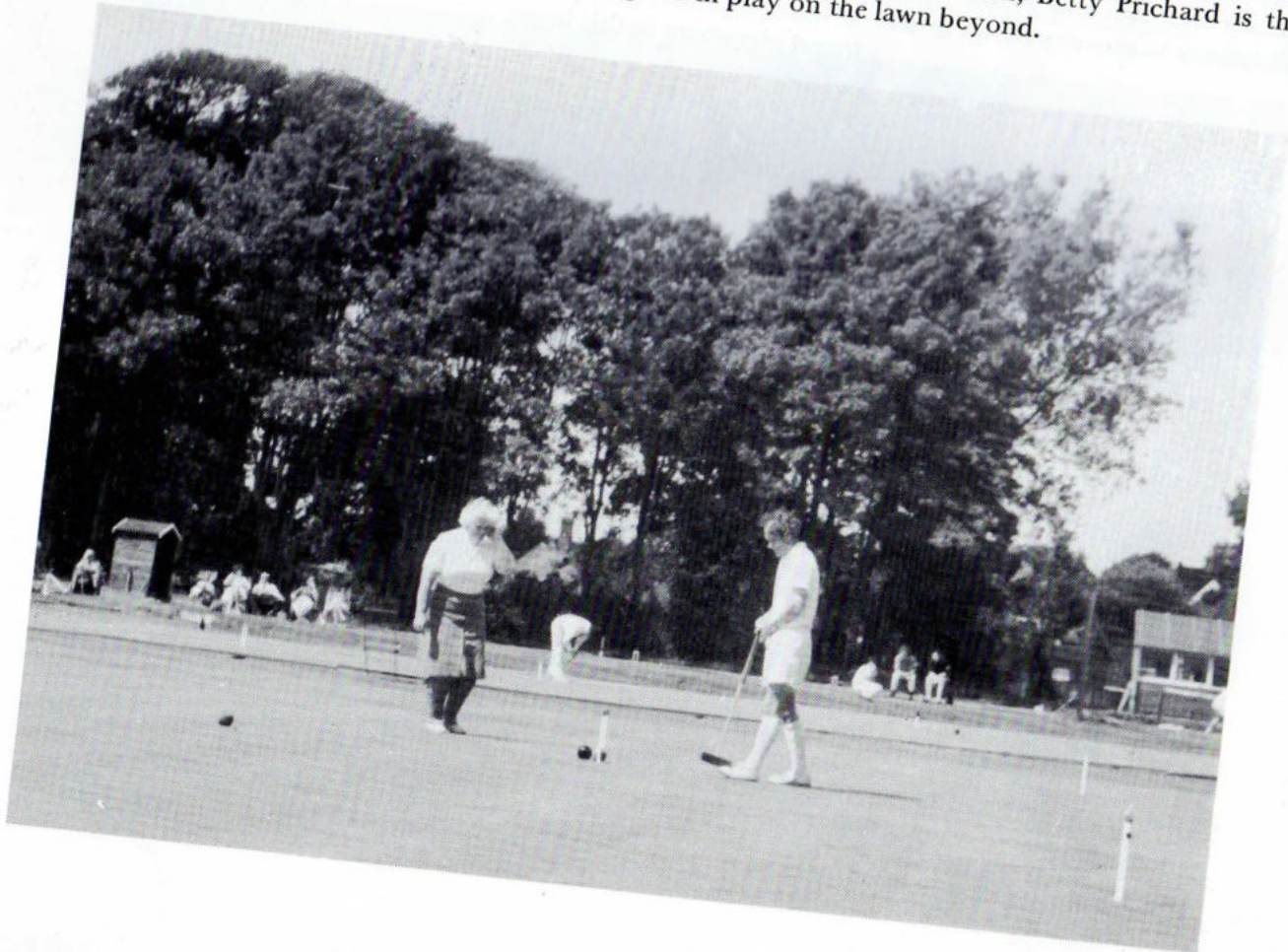
Above we see the Prize-giving for the All England Competition 1974. John Coutts, the winner, is holding the New Zealand Plaque, and he and Mrs Digby are both holding the Tingey Trophies. The setting is the Roehampton Croquet Pavilion, and the photo comes from Mr L.V.Latham. The photo seen below is of the Birnam Wood Croquet Club near Los Angeles. It was sent in by Neil Robinson to accompany his article on the Club that forms part of the article 'Croquet World-wide' found elsewhere in this issue.







Two studies of John Solomon in play. The photo above was taken by Miss S.G.Hampson. That which appears below was taken by I.G.Vincent's father at Southwick; Betty Prichard is the Referee and John Magor is in play on the lawn beyond.



AIDS TO CORNER CANNONS

A player should not refer during a game to any book or note which contains the placings of corner cannons; but he may use coins, etc., to assist him in the alignment of the balls.

CONCLUSION OF GAME

At the conclusion of a tournament game, the winner should immediately return all the balls to baulk-line A and replace the four clips on the first hoop. He should then, without delay, report the result of the game and the score to the Manager of the Tournament.

John Solomon draws attention to the last paragraph and to that on replacing balls as being of great importance. He adds that the loser of a game should also report to the Manager and not go off in a huff, as he might have to play again. In clarification of the paragraph 'Presence on Court' he says that one should not walk around in one's opponent's line of aim. He also says that in a best of 3 match it is *not* unsporting to change the balls. As regards *tossing*, he says that though it is a myth that the lower bisquer should toss, in doubles it is more polite to let the senior partner call.

On the subject of bisques in handicap games he writes: "It is a myth that the lower bisquer should bring the bisques. Whoever does, it is common sense that the opponent should check that they are the correct number . . . it is sensible for the giver of odds to cancel the bisque as soon as it is taken, even if he happens to be the other end of the court. It avoids argument later on. It is also customary for him to remind his opponent that he has only one left, if, say, more than two bisques have been given, but care must be taken not to do so with any hint of glee in the voice! Care must also be taken not to announce it just as the opponent is playing his stroke. If in any doubt as to whether a bisque or half-bisque is being taken, ask."

Mrs Prichard sent in a list of Do's for beginners on first coming to a tournament. Her remarks concern (a) entering and arriving (b) etiquette in play and (c) how a tournament is run. The subject of croquet etiquette is of course concerned with all three. Her article in full is as follows: "Read conditions in Fixture List (not forgetting page 4). Enter on Official Entry Form. Ascertain your correct handicap. If you are a paid-up member of a registered Club, the secretary will give you a certificate. In the absence of a club handicap, the tournament handicapper can only give you a handicap of 9\* or less.

Enter for the Handicap Doubles. High bisquers are in great demand, but do not ask a low bisquer yourself. The Tournament Secretary will fix you up, unless a low bisquer snaps you up first.

Book accommodation early. Make sure the telephone number is on your entry form; the Manager may need you unexpectedly during the week. Budget for coffee, lunch and tea at the Club (not more than £1 daily) and for the Groundsman's collection (about 25p). Be prepared to play in really wet weather.

Make yourself known to the Manager. Read all Notices. Check your handicap on Event Boards. The Order of Play shows the time and event that you will be playing (the court is usually allocated in the morning). Everyone is given a game on Monday, if possible.

The 10 a.m. players take out the balls and clips. The lower bisquer is responsible for taking the bisques out. The winner clears the court and gets it ready for the next match, though help is appreciated, and without delay reports the result to the Manager. The lower bisquer usually tosses. Have a chair, either your own or a Club one; a player's chair should be sacrosanct and no one else should use it.

When in play, beginners are allowed extra latitude in time for thought, but make up for it by following your long shots briskly, not waiting for the ball to come to rest. Handicap

games are often timed, and if you are in receipt of a great number of bisques and spend an excessive time in deciding whether to take one or not, your opponent will be deprived of adequate time in which to score his hoops. Always give clear indication when you are going to take a bisque and a quick indication when you are not; your opponent cannot get on with his turn until you do so.

When out of play, stand still, or preferably sit. Conversations should be quiet and never about your current game. The same applies when you are a spectator. Asking a question may constitute advice to a player. It is a safe maxim to start with, that a player should not be spoken to during his match. Get into the habit of noticing what players are about to do on a court which you are about to walk past. Stop, if you will be going across or down the line of play. If you have got half-way before you notice, it is usually better to go on quickly; "hovering" can be distracting.

Occasionally you will need 'leave'; if so, ask the Manager early. Do not hope for the best and wait for the Order of Play List to go up. A few hours or even half a day's leave can nearly always be arranged, provided adequate notice is given. A whole day's leave is almost impossible to grant unless you scratch from an Event.

Recurrent winners may expect to play 3 games in a day. Play often goes on until 7.30 (occasionally later). Even if you are not winning everything yourself, your opponent may be and you may have to play a match urgently in the interests of the tournament.

Do not scratch from American events, just because you are not doing well. If you do not complete the event, all your matches are voided. In Doubles the lower bisquer decides the tactics. You may not understand or agree with them, but you will make a more successful team if you comply. Ask why after the game. Stop your partner if he is about to play the wrong ball or run the wrong course (Doubles are nearly always started at the 3rd hoop).

Never warn your opponent that he is about to play the wrong ball or run the wrong course. There are good reasons for this Law which you will appreciate when you have more experience.

Do ask someone if there is something you do not understand. All Club members, and especially the Tournament Secretary etc., are only too anxious to help you. You can help them by signing the lunch list. If your name is not on the late afternoon Order of Play, do not leave the ground without checking with the Manager that you are not required. If your match is imminent, be ready - and visible.

You may hear the Manager castigating more experienced players for asking him things they ought to know - or read, but this does not apply to beginners. The Manager will help you as much as he can. It is to your advantage to have a copy of the Laws (which includes the Regulations for Tournaments) and to read them."

P.D.H.

Extracts from Proceedings at Council Meetings  
FEBRUARY 8th 1975

1. The Chairman reported that under Rule V of the Association a President has to be elected at a General Meeting, and under Rule VII (b) any notice of proposal for election at an Annual General Meeting has to be notified to the Secretary by 1st March preceding the date of the meeting.

Having received Mr Reckitt's intimation of his retiring from the Presidency, the Chairman had followed the customary procedure by calling together a Committee consisting of all Past Chairmen of Council to consider recommendations as to his successor. This Committee had firstly considered and agreed unanimously that they should seek someone from within our ranks, provided someone could be found who would fulfil the necessary requirements, rather than seek some prominent person

ality from outside the Association. The Committee felt that either of our two senior Vice-Presidents, Gerald Williams and Edward Duffield would be completely suitable. Both were sounded by the Chairman; Gerald Williams did not wish to be considered, and Edward Duffield agreed to be nominated.

The Chairman then put to Council that he wished to nominate at the next Annual General Meeting on 31st May that Edward Duffield be the Association's next President. This was agreed by the whole Council with acclamation.

2. On the Motion by Mr Townsend it was agreed that the Handicap Co-ordination Committee, in addition to its end-of-season powers to review and modify reductions made by Tournament Handicappers during the season, be also empowered, during the course of such review, to reduce the handicap of any player.
3. Amendment to Regulation 10 (b) proposed at the November Council meeting and subsequently published in the December gazette was confirmed and now becomes law.
4. On the Motion of Professor Neal, moved in his absence by the Chairman, it was agreed that candidates for election as Associates would not require a proposer and seconder and that the Rules of the Association be amended accordingly.
5. It was agreed that in future the Directory should have two lists of Clubs, those of Registered Clubs approved by the Council, and those that had not been approved.
6. Mr Caporn agreed to ask Messrs Jaques again to rename their "Tournament" hoops. Dr Bray reported that negotiations were still being made to produce a low-price mallet using a substitute lignum which is very dense and hard wearing, with aluminium and wood shafts.
7. It was reported that Professor Neal had undertaken the task of producing Simplified Laws for beginners.
8. The Chairman sought approval of his having appointed Professor Neal to make all arrangements and team selection for the proposed match with Scotland, provisionally fixed to take place at Gleneagles on 10-11 May. It was agreed to confirm the Chairman's action.
9. The Chairman reported that it had been agreed with the South African Croquet Association that Mr John Solomon would go to South Africa for a three-week coaching tour in March.
10. The resignation of Commander Borrett from the Council was received with regret, as was the impending resignation of Professor Weitz.
11. It was agreed that the Association's present representative on the Council of the National Playing Fields Association, Mr Rothwell, due for election for a three-year term in May, be nominated again. Mr Rothwell said that his duties were not very onerous, but he was willing to push any application for a grant submitted by any Croquet Club on being given particulars.
12. A letter from Mrs Graham, grand-daughter of the late Mrs Preston, was read, offering to the Association a silver mallet won by Mrs Preston as a trophy for use by the Association. This offer was gratefully accepted.
13. Mr Townsend drew attention to a misprint in the Fixture Book. The entry fee for the Veterans' Open Singles (to be held at Budleigh Salterton in June) should read £1.25 and not £1.05.

#### MARCH 8TH 1975

1. Draft alterations to Rules XVII and XXII to be voted upon at the Annual General Meeting to cover revised procedure for candidates seeking election as Associates, as passed at the February Council meeting, were tabled and approved.

2. It was agreed to appoint a Committee to consider any desired revision of the Rules of the Association and other contents of the Association Handbook that would require reprinting for 1976. It was last published in 1970.
3. It was agreed unanimously that when Mr Reckitt ceased to be President of the Association on 31st May he be co-opted onto the Council. Mr Reckitt expressed his gratitude at being so honoured.
4. It was reported that no other nominations than that of Mr Duffield for the Presidency of the Association had been received by the date required under Rule VII (b).
5. The audited accounts for the year ending 31st December 1974, presented by the Treasurer, Mr Oldham, were approved. Mr Gerald Williams proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr Oldham for all his hard work on behalf of the Association throughout the year.
6. Mr Caporn expressed pleasure that about £350 of the 1974 Test Tour Fund remained to be carried forward to the Fund for the next Tour in 1978.
7. Proposed rises in Subscription rates to take effect in 1976, made necessary because of general inflation, particularly in the production costs of the gazette, were approved by Council for presentation to the Annual General Meeting on 31st May.
8. Club Registration Fee is to be raised to £3 and standard Levy at Tournaments to 40p, both effective in 1976.
9. The estimated cost of about £80 for the hire of a marquee for the Devonshire Park fortnight was considered too high for the Association to consider. It was agreed that a consensus of opinion should be sought of the players at the 1975 tournament as to whether they would be prepared to pay for a marquee through increased entry fees for 1976.
10. It was reported that eight Counties had entered the 1975 Inter-Counties Championship (the six Counties entered in 1974 plus Devon and Eastern Counties). It was left to the Manager (Mr Rothwell) and the Chairman of the Tournaments Committee (Mr Gladstone) to decide how many matches each County would play when the availability of lawns at Hurlingham and Roehampton is known.
11. It was decided that the Draw for the Open Championship should now take place at the C.A. Offices at 11 a.m. on Wednesday 25th June, and not as advertised in the Fixture Book (8th July), to suit the Manager, Dr Bray.
12. It was agreed that double banking would be permitted in both the Inter-Club Championship and Longman Club Team Cup competition, provided both Clubs concerned so agree.
13. It was agreed, following a proposal by Colonel Cave, that a Tournament Handicapper could raise a player's handicap by not more than one bisque, provided the player requested the rise and the player's handicap had not been reduced in the previous 12 months. Such alterations to be effective immediately and to remain in effect unless and until varied by the Handicap Co-ordination Committee. This to be experimental for one year.
14. It was reported that the Development Scheme requires more sets of balls; these need not be in very good condition. Clubs having sets for sale were asked to get in touch with Mrs Neal. Second-hand mallets are similarly required.
15. Mr Caporn reported that 12 matches between C.A. teams and Club teams were being arranged for 1975.

#### South African Croquet Championships

News has reached us that the Singles Championship has been won by John Solomon, and the Doubles Championship by Bryan Lloyd-Pratt and R.A.Carte.

### Annual General Meeting to be held at The Hurlingham Club on Saturday May 31st 1975 at 11.30 a.m.

#### Agenda

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS A.G.M.  
These Minutes were published on page 14 of issue number 131 (July 1974) of The Croquet Gazette.
2. THE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS
3. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT  
The only candidate nominated is Mr E.P.Duffield, a Vice-President, who is proposed by the retiring President, Mr M.B.Reckitt, and seconded by the Chairman of the Council, Mr R.F.Rothwell.  
(The newly elected President will then take the Chair.)
4. TREASURER'S REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR 1974  
These are published elsewhere in this issue.
5. ELECTION OF TREASURER UNDER RULE VIII  
The retiring Treasurer, Mr A.J.Oldham, offers himself for re-election.
6. ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL UNDER RULE VI  
The following members of the Council retire by rotation under Rule II (a), and offer themselves for re-election:  
G.N.Aspinal, Mrs W.Longman, Professor B.G.Neal, C.B.Sanford, J.W.Solomon and S.S.Townsend.  
Major J.H.Dibley retires under Rule II (a) and does not offer himself for re-election.  
Commander G.Borrett, R.N., has resigned from the Council (he would in any case have retired under Rule II(a)).  
Professor B.G.F.Weitz has resigned from the Council (his term would not have expired until May 1977).  
There are thus nine vacancies and (as above) six candidates under Rule VI (a) (i).  
Nominations of candidates for election to the Council under Rule VI (a) (ii) must reach the Secretary not later than close of business on Friday 10th May 1975.
7. ELECTION OF AUDITORS  
Messrs Nicholass, Ames & Co. offer themselves for re-election.
8. MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION RATES UNDER RULE XXIII (i)  
The Council, having considered a report from its Finance and General Purposes Committee, recommends to the Annual General Meeting that the rates of subscription be increased, beginning 1976, as follows:  
(a) Standard Rate: from £4 to £5. Life Membership for Associates 50 years old or more: from £60 to £100.  
(b) Junior Rate: from £1.50 to £2.50.  
(c) Overseas Rate: from £1.50 to £3 (this to apply to Associates residing outside the United Kingdom and the Irish Republic).  
(d) Reduced (non-tournament) Rate: from £1.50 to £2.50.  
The Council has decided to raise, beginning 1976, the fee for registration of a Club in the United Kingdom and the Irish Republic, and the affiliation of an Overseas Club, Association or Council, to £3, and to raise the standard rate of Levy at Tournaments from 30p to 40p.
9. AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION  
(A) ELECTION AND PRIVILEGES OF ASSOCIATES. RULES XVII AND XXII  
The resolution passed by the Council at its February meeting, abolishing the requirement for candidates for associateship to be proposed and seconded by existing

Associates, necessitates some amendments to the Rules of the Association. The Council has approved that such amendments be presented to the Annual General Meeting on 31st May.

In the Rules as they now stand, election of members is governed by two separate Rules, XVII and XXII, and advantage should, it is suggested, be taken of the necessary alteration to tidy up the Rules by assembling provisions for election of Associates all in the former, and re-arranging the privileges of Associates in (a) and (b) of Rule XXII. Reference to the Candidates' Book has also been deleted, as the keeping of such a Book has long since been discontinued.

#### PROPOSED DRAFT

##### RULE XVII

##### ELECTION OF ASSOCIATES

- (a) The Election of Associates shall be vested in the Council.
- (b) The names and addresses of candidates for election as Associates shall be given to the Secretary. Pending the Council's decision as to election, a candidate may, on depositing the amount of his or her subscription with the Secretary, be allowed to play in Calendar Fixtures as an Associate.
- (c) The Council may elect as Honorary Associates persons who have rendered special services to the Association.

##### RULE XXII

##### PRIVILEGES OF ASSOCIATES

- (a) Associates shall receive "Croquet".
- (b) An Associate, on production of his or her card of membership for the current year, shall be entitled to admission to the ground:—
  - (i) at all Tournaments subsidised by the Association;
  - (ii) at Devonshire Park at the time of the Tournament;
  - (iii) at any Club (subject to the payment of such fee as the Club may impose) when an Association Event is being played there.

##### (B) RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION. RULE XXIII (i)

Action by the A.G.M. on Agenda Item 8 necessitates amendment of this Rule. If the action follows Council's recommendation, the new text will be as follows:

- (i) (a) The annual subscription payable by an Associate shall be £5 which may be compounded by one payment carrying associateship for life of £100 for Associates of age 50 and upwards, and in the case of Associates under age 50 at a rate to be individually determined by Council (subject to Rule XX).
- (b) An Associate under the age of 24 years on 1st January in any year shall pay a subscription of £2.50.
- (c) An Associate residing out of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland from 1st January to 31st December in any year on giving previous notice to the Secretary shall pay a subscription of £3 for that year.
- (d) An Associate who does not intend to play in any Calendar Fixture except Golf Croquet Tournaments, the All England Handicap, the Longman Cup, the Inter Counties Championship and such other fixtures as the Council of

the Croquet Association may decide from time to time to add to the above, shall pay £2.50.

(C) REGISTRATION OF CLUBS. RULE XVIII (a)

This Rule is defective, in that it makes no provision for a fee. Council recommends that the following words be added to paragraph (a) of the Rule:

"on payment of an annual fee as decided from time to time by the Council".

(This follows the wording of Rule XIX, Overseas Councils, Associations and Clubs.)

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

Secretary's Notes

1. NEW ASSOCIATES

- Dr Peter Abbott, The Coach House, Nutcombe Lane, Hindhead, Surrey.
- E. Asa-Thomas, Whitethorn House, Crawley, Winchester, Hampshire. (Tel. Sparsholt (096-272) 283)
- E.P. Avery, 11 Fleetwood Avenue, Felixstowe, Suffolk.
- E. Bell, 46 Linney Road, Bramhall, Stockport, Lancashire. (Tel. 061-439 4247)
- Mr & Mrs Jeffrey H. Bijur, 450 West End Avenue, N.Y. 10024, U.S.A.
- Mrs Lawrence E. Brinn, 781 Fifth Avenue, N.Y. 10022, U.S.A.
- C. Chamberlain, 23 Repton Road, West Bridgford, Nottinghamshire NG2 7EP.
- Mr Bayfield Clark, Seaview, Somerset, Bermuda.
- Edward Cline, 3302 East Roma Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona, 85018, U.S.A.
- Mrs H. Cocker, 11 Chalfont Drive, Worsley, Manchester.
- P.K. Devitt, Flat 1, Westfield Lodge, Westfield Close, Budleigh Salterton, Devon.
- Mrs M.J. Goode, Seaforth, 29 Victoria Place, Budleigh Salterton, Devon.
- Mrs G. Gratrix, 11 Broadway, Worsley, Manchester.
- Mrs Patricia M. Graves, 575 West End Avenue, N.Y. 10024, U.S.A.
- Mrs W. Hague, Brookside, Brereton Drive, Worsley, Manchester.
- Mrs G.F. Hallett, 15 Roddam Close, Colchester, Essex.
- Mrs S.R. Hemsted, 16 Hansler Road, East Dulwich, London S.E.22.
- William Hermann, 508 West Parkway Boulevard, Tempe, Arizona, 85281, U.S.A.
- Mrs Patricia Hooper, 4 Essenwood Mews, Essenwood Road, Durban, Natal, 4001, South Africa.
- Kevin Joyce, The Rectory, Clifden, County Galway, Irish Republic.
- Garth Kimber, 32 Bear Street, Nayland, Colchester, Essex.
- Mrs D. de Q. Lenfestey, Windybank, 65 Codsall Road, Wolverhampton, WV6 9QG.
- Mr Kevin McCarthy, 635 Park Avenue, N.Y. 10021, U.S.A.
- Mr & Mrs James R. McConnell, 811 South Commerce, Little Rock, Arkansas, 72202, U.S.A.
- Mr & Mrs Mack McCormick, 9023 Autaura, Houston, Texas, 77055, U.S.A.
- John McLaren, Crossways, 85 Headlands, Kettering NN15 6AA.
- Mrs P. Meredith, 2 Broom Close, Stoney Hill, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire.
- S.N. Mulliner, Emmanuel College, Cambridge CB2 3AP.
- W. Nicholson, 50 Glenleigh Park, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex.
- Stanley Patmore, 4735 North 32nd Place, Phoenix, Arizona, 85018, U.S.A.
- L. Robinson, 35 Aspley Park Drive, Nottingham NG8 3EA.
- Mr & Mrs Edgar Stern, 815 Park Avenue, N.Y. 10021, U.S.A.
- Mr & Mrs Horace R. Toy, 242 East 72nd Street, N.Y. 10021, U.S.A.
- Captain Forrest Tucker, U.S.N. (ret.), 627 Stone Meadow Lane, Santa Barbara, California, 93108, U.S.A.
- Miss Susan Wagner, 505 East 82nd Street, N.Y. 10028, U.S.A.

- J.L. Wankling, 162 Reading Road, Wokingham, Surrey.
  - Mr & Mrs R.F. Wheeler, The Pines, 903 Uppingham Road, Bushby, Leicester. (Tel. 05374 6412)
  - Douglas T. Whitneybell, 1529 East Winter Drive, Phoenix, Arizona, 85020, U.S.A.
  - Mrs E.H. Zadzinger, 135 El Vedado, Palm Beach, Florida, 33488, U.S.A.
2. CHANGES OF ADDRESS ETC.
- Kurt Andon, c/o Ted Prentis, 11 East 87th Street, N.Y. 10028, U.S.A.
  - Mrs Asa-Thomas — alter initial to E (P).
  - C.D. Batt, Sunrise, Jubilee Lane, Milton-under-Wychwood, Oxfordshire.
  - Mr & Mrs H.G.T. Bolton, 4 West Terrace, Budleigh Salterton, Devon.
  - R.A. Carte — Post Code 4016 (before Natal).
  - Mrs A.E. Coetzee — Post Code 4230 (before Natal).
  - P.V. Cozens — Correspondence to 6 Norcliffe Road, Park South, Swindon, Wiltshire.
  - M.J. Duck, Arabis, York Road, West Hagbourne, Didcot, Oxfordshire. (Tel. Blewbury (0235) 850 002)
  - R.J. Ede — Post Code RH5 5HE.
  - Mrs H.J. Gray — Post Code ME15 8RL.
  - J.R. Hawkins — Add Tel: Lydford (082-282) 398.
  - Mr & Mrs A.R. Heath, Oneck Lane, Westhampton Beach, N.Y. 11978, U.S.A.
  - Mrs F. Henshaw — Post Code EX9 6HB.
  - J.A. Hollweg, 9 Kennington Mansions, Trebovir Road, London S.W.5. (Tel. 01-370 2902)
  - Miss Grace Hopkins, Conna, Abingdon Park, Shankill, Co. Dublin, Irish Republic.
  - Dr E.L. Knowles, Rosemount, 28 Fir Tree Close, Hilton, Yarm, Cleveland (Tel. 0642 591591)
  - C.G. Le Bas, The Thatched Cottage, Beechlands, Wadhurst, East Sussex.
  - Mrs E.M. Lightfoot — London SW7 5NS.
  - Mr & Mrs E.A. Locke — Post Code CO6 5NZ.
  - Mrs S. McDonald — P.O. Box 33.
  - G. Maslen, 3/30 Axford Street, Como, 6152, Western Australia.
  - C.G. Mayo, 19 Victoria Road, Southwick, Sussex.
  - Mrs D. Mitchell, 10 Westerleigh, 35 Westcliffe Road, Bournemouth BH2 5HA.
  - Mr & Mrs Jack Osborn, 161 East 70th Street, N.Y. 10021, U.S.A.
  - A.A. Reed, Flat 6B, Sea and Sky Court, 92 Stanley Main Street, Stanley, Hong Kong.
  - John Rose, c/o Clarke, Chapman Ltd., EDP Dept., Victoria Works, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear.
  - T.E. Schollar — Birmingham B27 6QP.
  - G.T. Slater, 2A Oxford and Cambridge Mansions, Old Marylebone Road, London N.W.1. (Tel. 01-262 9954)
  - Dr C.B. Snowdon, 8 Skottowe Crescent, Great Ayton, Middlesborough, Cleveland TS9 6DS.
  - L.E.W. Stokes-Roberts \* Life Member.
  - Michael Stride, 247 Selly Oak Road, Kings Norton, Birmingham B30 1HR.
  - Mr & Mrs S. Joseph Tankoos, 770 Park Avenue, N.Y. 10021, U.S.A. (Tel. 212-628-6464)
  - R.F. Thorp, c/o Binnie & Partners, P.O. Box 2800, Jakarta, Indonesia.
  - Neil Williams, 4 Hill Garth, Underbarrow, Nr. Kendal, Cumbria LA8 8H1. (Tel. Crosthwaite 539)
  - Mrs D.H.C. Whiteman — Correct Post Code (last letter) from D to G.
  - R. Wood, 29 Plemont Gardens, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex TN39 4HH. (Tel. Bexhill (0424) 210632)
3. CHANGES IN THE CLUBS
- A.W.R.E. (New Club). Atomic Weapons Research Establishment, Aldermaston, Berkshire. Hon. Secretary G.D. Coley, 32 Culver Road, Newbury RG14 7AR.

- Bowdon.* Hon. Secretary Mrs Jessie M. Fowler, Old Field, St. Mary's Road, Bowdon, Cheshire WA14 2PJ. (Tel. (061-928) 2984)
- Cambridge University C.C.* Captain: James Macey, Jesus College. Secretary: William Tobin, Emmanuel College, Cambridge CB2 3AP.
- Corpus Christi.* For M.J. Barrett, substitute C.C.C.C. Croquet Club, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.
- The Federation of North-West Croquet Clubs.* Chairman: Mrs J.S. Tyldesley. Hon. Secretary B. Slater, 7 Churchfields, Croft, Warrington WA3 7JR.
- Oxford University C.C.* Correspondence to J.A.N. Railton, University Sports Centre, Oxford.
- Roehampton.* Chairman: Mrs E.E. Bressey. Captain and Tournaments Secretary: D.J.V. Hamilton-Miller, Shrewsbury House, Ditton Hill, Surbiton, Surrey. (Tel. 01-399 8780)
- Sidmouth.* Hon. Secretary Dr M.D. Rawkins, Maples, Woolbrook, Sidmouth, Devon.
- South African Croquet Association.* Hon. Secretary Mrs Dilys Hobbs, 46 St Joseph Road. (Correction)
- Woking.* Hon. Secretary D.C. Caporn, 1 Pinelands, 12 Beechwood Avenue, Weybridge, Surrey. (Tel. Weybridge (97) 45884)

4. NEW TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS

Mrs J.B. Meachem has been appointed an *Examining Referee*. E. Bell has been appointed a *Referee*. K.A. Ross and E. Bell have been appointed *Handicappers*.

5. CLUB REGISTRATION

Will Clubs which have not paid their registration fees for 1975 and/or 1974, please do so? In each of these years the fee has been £2; in 1976 it will be £3.

The Secretary is endeavouring to bring up to date his list of Clubs which are sufficiently interested to take the gazette and pay a registration fee.

Incidentally, for the purposes of the C.A. Directory, we should like to have the address of each Club's lawns, as well as addresses of its principal officers.

6. MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

For 1975 the rates of subscription are still £4 (Standard Rate) and £1.50 (Junior, Reduced and Overseas Rates). Associates are reminded that subscriptions become due on 1st January.

The Annual General Meeting is being asked to raise the rates, beginning 1976. This is the *last issue of the gazette to be sent* to the following Associates who, according to my records, have not yet paid their subscriptions for 1974 or 1975, unless they rectify the omission by 1st June 1975. (See Rule XXIII (iii))

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| S.W. Alderfer       | Miss A.E. Mills    |
| R. Allen            | A.E. Nicholson     |
| Mrs M. Appleton     | F.B.B. Oxley       |
| I.G. Balding        | Mr & Mrs E. Rees   |
| R.N. Bateson        | R.F. Rigiani       |
| C.G. Bennett        | C. Risebrow        |
| P.J.R. Crawford     | Steven R. Saunders |
| Mr & Mrs P.J. Cross | J.W. Simon         |
| J.P. Danon          | Mrs A.E. Turner    |
| Mrs Douglas Figgis  | T. Winkfield       |
| S.C. Meigher        |                    |

7. HANDICAPS — PROCEDURE FOR INCREASE

The Council has approved an amendment to the handicapping procedure, experimentally for 1975. As hitherto, handicap increases will be considered *only on application from the individual concerned*, which should be submitted through a Tournament Handicapper or the Handicapper of his or her Club to the Secretary of the Croquet Association, for consideration by the Handicap Co-ordination Committee. At present, such increases cannot take effect until approved by the Handicap Co-ordination Committee, but for 1975 a relaxation has been approved as set out in the following paragraph:

A Handicap increase requested by the player and recommended by a *Tournament Handicapper* will, provided that the increase is not more than one bisque and that the player's handicap has not been reduced during the previous twelve months, take effect immediately, and remain so *unless and until varied by the Handicap Co-ordination Committee*.

Handicappers are reminded that the Handicap Co-ordination Committee *requires full evidence* in support of recommendations, particularly results of games extending over recent months.

Vandeleur Robinson,  
Secretary,  
March 1975.

Draw for the Inter-Club Championship 1975

Cheltenham	}	.....	}	.....
Roehampton				
Colworth	}	.....	}	.....
Phyllis Court				
Compton	}	.....	}	.....
The Heley Club				
Wrest Park	}	.....	}	.....
Colchester				
Hurlingham	}	.....	}	.....
Harrow Oak				
Southwick	}	.....	}	.....

The conditions may be found on p. 9 of the Fixtures Book 1975. To these should be added that provided both teams agree, double-banking will be permitted.

Last dates for completion of rounds: First Round 15th June; Second Round 20th July; Semi-Final 31st August; Final 12th October.

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1974**

Year to 31.12.73 £	INCOME	£
1,984	Subscriptions	2,097.35
326	Affiliation Fees and Overseas Members	318.50
439	Levy	422.05
53	Tribute	22.00
551	Sale of Books, Laws, etc	730.94
385	Income from Investments (Net)	680.52
<u>3,738</u>		<u>4,271.36</u>
65	Less: Deficit on Tournaments (Net)	101.68
(Surplus)		<u>4,169.68</u>
3,803	Less: Expenditure	1,793.96
882	Magazine, less Income from Advertisements	2,375.72
2,921	General Overheads	4,552.69
275	Office Rent, Lighting, Heating and Cleaning	428.58
1,063	Staff Salaries	1,749.45
262	Postages and Telephone	357.17
507	Printing and Stationery	1,422.04
96	Insurance	104.58
248	Sundry Expenses	188.06
105	Audit and Accountancy Charges	125.00
11	Maintenance of Office Furniture and Equipment	177.81
33	Depreciation	—
<u>2,600</u>		<u>4,552.69</u>
1,514	Expenditure on Development Scheme — Publicity and Coaching	1,607.22
4,114		6,159.91
1,884	Development Grant	3,300.00
152	Income from Courses, Hire of Equipment, etc.	224.92
<u>2,036</u>		<u>3,524.92</u>
2,078		2,634.99
£843	Excess of Expenditure over Income	<u>£259.27</u>
(Surplus)		<u>£259.27</u>

**INVESTMENTS HELD AT 31st DECEMBER 1974**

Nominal Value £	QUOTED INVESTMENTS	Cost £	Market Value £
1,260.00	Grand Metropolitan Hotels Limited 8½% Unsecured Loan Stock 1978/80	1,272.92	708
112.00	Midland Bank Limited £1 Ordinary Shares	201.63	143
1,439.06	3% Savings Bonds 1965/75	1,147.65	1,369
218.15	3½% War Stock	115.50	46
400.00	The New Throgmorton Trust Limited Income Shares of 25p each	478.75	136
275.00	Telephone & General Trust Ordinary Shares of 25p each	1,811.74	682
141.75	Drayton Premier Investment Trust Ordinary Shares of 25p each	186.64	498
		<u>5,214.83</u>	<u>£3,582</u>
	UNQUOTED INVESTMENTS		
	Rochampton Country Club £1 Shares	10.00	
	Guardian Building Society	1,205.00	
	Leck & Westbourne Building Society	2,793.50	
		<u>£9,223.33</u>	

**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS AS AT 31st DECEMBER 1974**

As at 31.12.73 £	FIXED ASSETS	£
200	Office Furniture and Equipment at written down value	200.00
2,000	Trophies, estimated to realise	5,000.00
10,489	Investments, as per attached Schedule	9,223.33
<u>12,689</u>		<u>14,423.33</u>
	CURRENT ASSETS	
648	Sundry Debtors and Prepayments	985.51
342	Cash in Hand and at Bank	1,811.94
<u>990</u>		<u>2,797.45</u>
13,679		17,220.78
	LESS: CURRENT LIABILITIES	
45	Subscriptions received in Advance	212.87
400	Accrued Expenses	1,428.68
401	Taxation	3.00
<u>846</u>		<u>1,644.55</u>
£12,833		Net Assets <u>£15,576.23</u>
	REPRESENTED BY	
5,467	Accumulated General Fund as at 1st January 1974	7,304.30
843	Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year	—
994	Surplus on Sale of Investments, less Capital Gains Tax	—
	Increase in realisable value of Trophies	3,000.00
	Capital Gains Tax, overprovided last year	100.88
<u>£7,304</u>		<u>10,405.18</u>
	Less: Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year	259.27
7,304		10,145.91
1,705	Life Membership Fund	1,795.00
216	Apps Heley Memorial Fund	215.50
1,575	Dominion Tour Fund	419.29
2,033	Benefactors Fund	3,000.53
<u>£12,833</u>		<u>£15,576.23</u>
	R.F.Rothwell, Chairman of the Council	
	A.J.Oldham, Hon. Treasurer	

We have examined the books, vouchers and other records maintained by The Croquet Association for the year and obtained such further information as considered necessary. To the best of our knowledge and belief the above Statement of Accounts and the annexed Income and Expenditure Account give a true and fair view of the state of affairs as at 31st December, 1974 and of the Surplus of Expenditure over Income earned in the year to that date.

Love's Cottage,  
New Pound,  
Wisborough Green,  
Sussex

10th February, 1975

NICHOLASS, AMES & CO.,  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

**Treasurer's Report on the 1974 Accounts**

Expenditure has exceeded income by £259, but a number of items which do not occur regularly have had to be paid for during this year; the office has been redecorated and a part of the cost of the Test Tour arrangements has been met out of the Association's funds. Without these there would have been a small surplus of income for the year. It is nevertheless a matter of some concern to observe the rapidly rising trend in the unavoidable outgo on the magazine, rent, salaries and printing. Although the existence of the Government grant means, fortunately, that we do not have to consider immediately any reduction in our development activities, we cannot expect to meet the rise in other expenditure without an increase in subscription rates, and I shall be putting a proposal to this effect before the Annual General Meeting at the end of May.

During the year the Association has received further sums from the estates of the late Mr and Mrs Spencer Ell and the Benefactors Fund now stands at £3,000. The stocks and shares owned by the Association fell in value during the year but at the time of writing, as a result of the general rise in Stock Exchange prices since the 31st December, the fall in the aggregate market value of these investments has been fully recovered.

A.J.Oldham,  
Hon. Treasurer  
6th March 1975

## Prize List 1974

This list covers all events reported in the Croquet Gazette other than team events. It is not authoritative. Only Associates' results are included.

The figures in brackets indicate the handicap of a player at the beginning and end of the season in that order. Where a handicap did not change only one figure is given.

OS — Open Singles; RLS — Restricted Level Singles (B, C or D); OD — Open Doubles; MOD — Mixed Open Doubles; HS — Handicap Singles; HSX, HSY, HSZ — Handicap Singles (event X, Y, Z); RHS — Restricted Handicap Singles (B, C or D); HD — Handicap Doubles; MHD — Men's Handicap Doubles; WHD — Women's Handicap Doubles; GCS — Golf Croquet Singles; GCD — Golf Croquet Doubles; X — extra event; W/E — Week-end tournament; BW — Block Winner.

## A

Adams, L.D. (4) Roehampton HD1  
Adlam, A.F. (12) Ryde RHSC2, HSY2  
Adlam, Mrs A.F. (10,9) Ryde HD1  
Alford, R.S. (6) Colchester RLSB2, Colchester W/E II HD1  
Anderson, A.M. (—) Open Championship 2  
Arkell, Miss E.H. (4,3) Peels HD2, Cheltenham RLSB2  
Asa-Thomas, Mrs P. (8,7) Cheltenham W/E II BW  
Aspinall, G.N. (—3) Open Championship 1, President's Cup 1  
Aubrey, Mrs D.B. (4) Hurlingham II XI, Nottingham RLSB1  
Ayliffe, L.G. (6,5) Cheltenham W/E I BW, Cheltenham W/E V BW

## B

Bagnall, Mrs C. (6,5½) Peels WHS1  
Ballard, T.D. (7,6) Cheltenham W/E II BW  
Benn, Mrs J.M. (7) Devonshire Park I RLSC1  
Betts, G.H. (2½) Veterans HD1, Roehampton HD1  
Betts, F/O N.G. (3½,3) Cheltenham W/E I BW  
Birch, G. (1) Ryde OS1, Ryde W/E BW  
Bishop, Mrs L.M. (10,9) Parkstone II RHSC2  
Bishop, P. (8,5) Colchester HSX1  
Blenkin, A. (13,12) Cheltenham W/E V BW  
Blumer, G.F. (11,8) Peels HSY1  
Bolton, H.G.T. (3½,1½) Challenge & Gilbey HD2, Hurlingham II HS1, Cheltenham W/E III BW  
Bolton, Mrs H.G.T. (15D13) Challenge & Gilbey HD2  
Borrett, Cdr G. (—1) Veterans OS2, HSZ1, Devonshire Park II OD2  
Boucher, Dr C.A. (2) Ryde W/E BW  
Bressey, Mrs E.E. (5) Ryde HD2, Hurlingham I RLSC1  
Brown, Lt-Col D.F.T. (12,11) Devonshire Park I RHSD1  
Buck, S.A. (—) Association Plate 1, President's Cup 4  
Bucknall, Dr W.R. (1½) Parkstone I HSZ2  
Bull, D.M. (10,7) Southwick I HD1  
Bushnell, M.J. (½) Nottingham HS1, OS2  
Butler, L.S. (4,3) Parkstone I HSY1, HD1, Parkstone II HSX2

## C

Calder, R.O. (5½,5) Edinburgh RHSB2, HD1, HSX2  
Camroux, A.V. (—½) Spencer Ell Cup 1  
Carder, R.H.C. (7½,6) Parkstone I HSZ1, Budleigh Salterton II RHSC1, Parkstone II RLSB2, HSY1, HD2  
Carlisle, Mrs H.B.H. (5) Hurlingham I WHD1, Hurlingham II HD2  
Carlisle, W.H. (11D10,8) Hunstanton I RHSC1, HD2, Hunstanton II HD2  
Carte, R.A. (3½,2½) Cheltenham RLSB1  
Cave, Lt-Col G.E. (½) Devonshire Park I HSY2  
Cave, Mrs G.E. (4½,5) Devonshire Park I HSY1

Chamberlain, Mrs C. (9,8) Nottingham RHSC2  
Chapman, J.D. (2) Colchester HD1, Cheltenham OS2  
Clemons, H.S. (0) Southwick May HDY1, Budleigh Salterton II HSY2  
Cockayne, J.H.M. (5) Colchester W/E II HS2  
Coleman, A.F. (11,6) Budleigh Salterton I BW, HD1  
Coombs, Mrs L.A. (6½,6) Nottingham HSY2  
Cooper, A.J. (—½) Budleigh Salterton I HD2  
Cousins, C.H.J. (5½,5) Roehampton RLSB1, HS=1  
Coutts, J. (9,7) All England HS1  
Cox, N.W.T. (—½,—1) Southwick May HS1, HDX1, Compton OS2, Southwick I HD2  
Cozens, P.V. (8) Nottingham HD1  
Crawford, P.J.R. (4½) Edinburgh RHSB1  
Cross, H.A. (16D14,13) Colchester W/E I HD2

## D

Daldry, Sir Leonard (0) Budleigh Salterton W/E HS1  
Davies, A.C.W. (5½,5) Wrest Park W/E II BW  
Davren, N.J. (4) Nottingham HSX1  
Day, Miss M.E. (11) Delves Broughton GCD2  
Devitt, H.J. (6½) Devonshire Park II HD2  
Devitt, Mrs H.J. (7½,8) Devonshire Park II HD2  
Dickinson, Mrs W. (—) Ladies Field Cup =7  
Digby, G.S. (6½,5½) Cheltenham HSY2  
Digby, Mrs G.S. (3½,3) Compton RLSB1, Ladies Field Cup =7, All England HS2  
Drake, H.G. (7,3) Parkstone I RLSB1, HSX1, Budleigh Salterton II HSX1, HD2  
Duthie, Miss B. (3,2) Ladies Field Cup =5  
Duveen, Mrs L.L. (11) Parkstone I RHSC2, HD1, Challenge & Gilbey RHSD1

## E

Eades, R.S. (7,4) Wrest Park W/E I BW  
Edwards, C. (4,3) Challenge & Gilbey RLSB2, Budleigh Salterton II RLSB2  
Evans, M.J. (1½,1) Cheltenham W/E I BW, Cheltenham W/E IV BW  
Everest, R.L. (6½,3) Compton RLSB2, Southwick II RLSB2, Devonshire Park II RHSB2, HS1

## F

Faulkner, R. (2) Nottingham OS2  
Ferryhough, Brig. H.E. (9,9D8) Budleigh Salterton I HD2  
Fidler, P.J.M. (—2) Chairman's Salver 4  
Figgis, Mrs D. (6) Carrickmines I HD2  
Forth, R. (11,10) Wrest Park W/E I BW  
Fotiadi, Mrs A. (2) Veterans HSY2

## G

Gladstone, Revd W.E. (0,—½) Compton OS1, Spencer Ell Cup =4  
Godby, R.A. (0) Hurlingham I OD2, Budleigh Salterton II OS2, Chairman's Salver 8  
Gooch, N.J.C. (10,7½) Colchester W/E I HD1, Colchester RHSC1  
Green, H.A. (2½,2) Southwick May HDY2, Southwick II HSX=1  
Green, H.C. (3) Hunstanton I RLSB1, Wrest Park W/E II BW  
Griffiths, J.H.T. (9,8) Parkstone I RHSC1, HSY2

## H

Haigh, J. (4½,2½) Southwick I HD1, Devonshire Park I RLSB2  
Hallett, G.F. (1½,1) Colchester HSX2, HD2  
Hallett, Mrs G.F. (16D14) Colchester HD2

Hamilton-Miller, D.J.V. (—½) Compton HD2, Hurlingham I MHD2, Devonshire Park I OS2, Devonshire Park II OS2  
Hampson, Miss S.G. (4) Hunstanton W/E HS2, Nottingham RLSB2, HSY1, Hunstanton I HS=1, HD2  
Handley, Mrs H.G. (9,5) Peels HD1, Cheltenham RHSC1  
Hands, P.W. (—2½,—3) Cheltenham W/E I BW, Mixed Doubles Championship 1, President's Cup 5  
Haworth, C.W. (7½,6) Hurlingham I MHD2, Nottingham HD2  
Haworth, Mrs C.W. (15D14, 14D13) Compton HD2  
Heap, M.E.W. (—½,—1½) Colchester W/E I HS1, Colchester OS1, Open Championship 3, President's Cup =7  
Hemsted, S.R. (0,—1) Chairman's Salver 1  
Hicks, H.O. (—3) Parkstone I OS1, Southwick I OS2  
Hodgens, Miss E.X. (12,9) Southwick I RHSD1, Southwick II HD2  
Hope, A.B. (0,—1) Men's Championship 2, Cheltenham HD2, Doubles Championship 2  
Hopewell, C.G. (½) Spencer Ell Cup =6  
Hopkins, Miss G. (5½) Carrickmines II RHSB2, HD2  
Horridge, Major G.B. (6,5½) Budleigh Salterton I BW, Challenge & Gilbey HD1

## J

Jackson, G.E.P. (—1,—1½) Peels HSX1, Cheltenham W/E III BW, Chairman's Salver 3, Roehampton OS1, HS=1, Cheltenham W/E V BW  
Joly, Miss F.I. (1,½) Carrickmines I OS1, Carrickmines II OS2, HS1

## K

Kent, S.G. (6,5) Hunstanton I RLSB2  
Knight, C.E. (14,7½) Compton W/E HS1, Budleigh Salterton I BW, Ryde RHSC1, Challenge & Gilbey RLSC2

## L

Lee, R.H. (6½,4) Cheltenham W/E I BW, Peels MHS2, HSX2, Cheltenham W/E II BW, Budleigh Salterton W/E HS2  
Leonard, R.J. (1½) Carrickmines I OS2, Carrickmines II HS2  
Lewty, Mrs R.A. (7,5½) Cheltenham W/E II BW, Cheltenham W/E III BW  
Lightfoot, Mrs E.M. (1½) Budleigh Salterton II HD2, Carrickmines II HD1, Roehampton OS2  
Locke, E.A. (9,8) Hunstanton II HS1  
Lodge, M.J. (11,9) Cheltenham W/E III BW

## M

Maclean, R.N. (3½) Gleneagles W/E HS2  
McMordie, Miss M.D. (5,3½) Parkstone I RLSB2, HSX2, Parkstone II HSY2  
Malin, Dr S.R.C. (9) Compton HD1  
Mallinson, Lt-Col E.H.P. (10) Southwick I RHSD2  
Mallinson, Mrs E.H.P. (10,7) Southwick May HS2, Southwick I RHSC2  
Marshall, Dr C.W. (16D14,13D12) Parkstone II RHSC1  
Martin, G.B. (5,2½) Challenge & Gilbey HSX2, Cheltenham HSY1, Roehampton HS=1  
Maslen, G. (—) Chairman's Salver =6  
Meachem, Mrs J.B. (1½) Hurlingham I OD1, Ladies Field Cup =5  
Mew, Mrs F.J.T. (10,8) Southwick May HDY1  
Meyer, H.N.D. (9,7) Devonshire Park I RLSC2  
Mitchell, Mrs D. (16D14) Challenge & Gilbey RHSD2  
Moorcraft, D.H. (½) Cheltenham HSX2, HD1  
Moorcraft, Mrs D.H. (13D12,10) Hurlingham I WHD2, Cheltenham HD1, Cheltenham W/E IV BW, Cheltenham W/E V BW  
Moore, W.E. (—1) Veterans OS1, HSX1, Southwick II OS1, HSX=1

Morgan, Miss D. (3) Veterans HSZ2  
Murfitt, R.J. (—) President's Cup 6  
Murray, Dr M. (—1,—2) Men's Championship 1, Doubles Championship 2, Cheltenham W/E III BW

## N

Neal, Prof. B.G. (—2½,—3) Wrest Park W/E I BW, Cheltenham W/E IV BW  
Neal, Mrs B.G. (6½,6) Colchester W/E II HS1, Roehampton HD2  
Newton, P. (—½) Budleigh Salterton II OS1, HD1  
Newton, Mrs P. (6½,6) Budleigh Salterton II HD1, Parkstone II HD2  
Nichols, Dr D.I. (1½) Gleneagles W/E HS1  
Noble, G.W. (8,6½) Nottingham W/E HS1  
Norman, N.A.J. (5½,3) Cheltenham W/E I BW

## O

Ormerod, Dr W.P. (—3) Parkstone II OS1  
Owen, T.F. (8,5½) Hurlingham I RHSD1

## P

Parker, Dr C.A. (4,2) Parkstone I HD2, Parkstone II HSX1, HD2, Devonshire Park I HSX1  
Paterson, K.H. (4½,4) Colchester W/E I HD1, Colchester W/E II HD2  
Paynter, W.B.C. (6) Veterans RHSB2  
Pearson, F.E. (3½,3) Cheltenham W/E I BW, Cheltenham W/E V BW  
Pearson, M.G. (7,6) Hurlingham II HD2, X2  
Perry, B.G. (—2) Budleigh Salterton I BW, Challenge & Gilbey OS1  
Pim, Dr H.A. (7½,6½) Parkstone II RLSB1  
Pim, Mrs H.A. (9,7) Hurlingham I RHSD2  
Pountney, C.G. (2½,½) Ryde OS2, HSX1, Compton HS1, Hurlingham I OS1, MHD1, Cheltenham OS2, Devonshire Park II HS2  
Prichard, Lt-Col D.M.C. (—1) Peels MHS1, Mixed Doubles Championship 2, Du Pre Cup =2, Chairman's Salver =6, Devonshire Park II OD1  
Prichard, Mrs D.M.C. (1,0) Mixed Doubles Championship 2, Du Pre Cup =2, Ladies Field Cup 4, Spencer Ell Cup =4, Devonshire Park I HSX2, HD2, Devonshire Park II OS1, OD2  
Prichard, C.H.L.I. (1,—1) Hurlingham I OS1, Chairman's Salver 2  
Prichard, R.D.C. (2½) Southwick I RLSB2, Devonshire Park I RLSB1, HD2  
Prichard, W. de B. (—3) Association Plate 2, President's Cup 3, Devonshire Park I OS1, Devonshire Park II OS1, OD1  
Prince, J.G. (—) Open Championship 3, Doubles Championship 1  
Puxon, F.E.M. (7½) Ryde HSY1  
Puxon, Mrs F.E.M. (5) Ryde RLSB2, Colchester W/E II HD2

## R

Ratcliffe, C.S. (4) Colchester W/E I HD2, Colchester HSY2  
Read, Mrs H.M. (2½,3½) Carrickmines I HD1  
Read, T.O. (—1½) Cheltenham OS1, Carrickmines II OS1  
Redford, B. (9,4) Devonshire Park II RHSB1, HD1  
Rees, D.V.H. (½,0) Chairman's Salver 5  
Rees, E.E. (12,5) Southwick I RHSC1, Southwick II HD1  
Reeves, Capt. D.E. (5½,4) Colchester RLSB1  
Regan, F. (6) Carrickmines I RHSB2  
Roe, Miss I.M. (4) Peels HSY2, Hurlingham I WHD2  
Rogers, Miss D.E. (16D14,14) Southwick May HDX1  
Rolfé, Mrs J.Neville (2,1½) Hunstanton W/E HS1, Budleigh Salterton I HD1, Hunstanton I OS1, HS=1, HD1, Hunstanton II HD2

Rooke, Revd W.W.L. (10,6) Carrickmines I RHSB1, HD2, Carrickmines II RHSB1  
 Rose, J. (1½,½) Cheltenham W/E IV BW  
 Ross, K.A. (-1½) Colchester W/E I HS2, Southwick I OS1  
 Rowe, Cdr J.E. (9,8) Edinburgh RHSCX2, Gleneagles W/E BW  
 Rowe, Mrs J.E. (8,7) Edinburgh RHSCX1  
 Rowling, G. (-) Doubles Championship 1  
 Russell, D.C. (0,-½) Challenge & Gilbey OS2, Hurlingham II HD1  
 Russell, Mrs D.C. (3½,3) Challenge & Gilbey HSY2, Budleigh Salterton II HSY1, Hurlingham II HS2, HD1, Edinburgh HD2

S

Saalfeld, Lt-Col A.E. (1,4) Veterans HSY1, Edinburgh HSY1  
 Schmieder, C.M.von (10,6) Carrickmines I HD1  
 Sebestyen, Mrs C. (10,9) Carrickmines I HS2  
 Sessions, Miss K.M.O. (-1) Peels WHS2, HD1, Women's Championship 1, Mixed Doubles Championship 1, Ladies Field Cup =1, Spencer Ell Cup 3, Devonshire Park I HD1, Devonshire Park II OS2  
 Shine, Miss P. (16D14,14) Southwick I HD2  
 Simpson, R.A. (1½) Hunstanton II HD1  
 Simpson, Mrs R.A. (2) Hunstanton II HS2  
 Sinclair, Miss C.M. (15D14) Delves Broughton GCD1  
 Skempton, Mrs A.W. (4½) Hurlingham I WHD1  
 Sloane, C.R. (1½,½) Compton HS2, Hurlingham I RLSB1, MHD1, Challenge & Gilbey HD1, Colchester HSY1, Spencer Ell Cup =6  
 Snowdon, C.B. (7,6) Gleneagles W/E BW  
 Solomon, J.R.G. (1½,2) Spencer Ell Cup 8  
 Solomon, J.W. (-3) President's Cup 2  
 Soutter, J.H.J. (-1) Parkstone OS2  
 Speer, Mrs M. (4) Southwick May HDY2  
 Stevens, M.J. (12,11) Roehampton RHSC1  
 Stevens, R.S. (2½,1½) Budleigh Salterton I BW, Challenge & Gilbey RLSB1, HSX1  
 Stoker, P. (7\*,5) Cheltenham W/E IV BW  
 Strutt, G.G. (3½) Nottingham W/E HS2  
 Sturdy, W.J. (4½,3) Peels HD2, Veterans RHSB1, HSX2, HD1, Cheltenham W/E IV BW, Cheltenham W/E V BW  
 Sundius-Smith, Mrs B.L. (-½) Hurlingham I OS2, Women's Championship 2, Ladies Field Cup =1

T

Tapp, S. (7,2) Southwick I RLSB1, Southwick II RLSB1, HD1  
 Taylor, Dr G.K. (1½) Cheltenham W/E II BW, Cheltenham HD2  
 Tucker, E.J. (1½,1) Veterans HD2, Southwick II OS2, Ryde W/E BW  
 Tucker, Mrs E.J. (13,10) Compton RHSC2  
 Tucker, Mrs R.E. (5½,5) Southwick May HDX2, Devonshire Park II HD1  
 Tunmer, P.A. (7,6½) Challenge & Gilbey RLSC1, HSY1  
 Tunmer, Mrs P.A. (8,7) Budleigh Salterton II RHSC2  
 Tyrrell, Miss M.S. (7½,7) Southwick II RHSC2  
 Tyrwhitt Drake, E.C. (-½,-1) Southwick May HDX2, Veterans HD2, Southwick II OS2, HD2  
 Tyrwhitt Drake, Mrs E.C. (11,9) Devonshire Park I RHSD2

V

Vincent, I.G. (3,2) Southwick I HS2

W

Weitz, Prof. B.G.F. (3,2) Ryde HD1, Hurlingham I RLSB2  
 Weitz, Mrs B.G.F. (6,4) Ryde RLSB1, HSX2, Hurlingham I RLS2, OD2, Roehampton RLSB2  
 Wheeler, Col. G.T. (3) Devonshire Park I HD1

Wheeler, J.A. (½) Spencer Ell Cup 2  
 Wheeler, Mrs R.F. (16D14,12D11) Nottingham RHSC1  
 Whittington, R.O.B. (0) Parkstone I OS2, HD1  
 Willetts, D.C. (6½) Edinburgh HSZ1  
 Williams, N. (2½,2) Cheltenham HSX1, Nottingham HSX2  
 Wood, Miss E.I. (12) Hunstanton II HD1  
 Wood, Mrs G.H. (3,1½) Budleigh Salterton II RLSB1, Ladies Field Cup 3, Parkstone II HD1  
 Wood, R. (1) Compton HD1  
 Wright, I.H. (1½,1) Edinburgh OS1, HD1  
 Wright, S.J.H. (4,0) Scottish Championship OS1, HS1, Colchester OS2, HD1, Nottingham HS2, OS1, Edinburgh OS2, Gleneagles W/E BW  
 Wylie, K.F. (-3) President's Cup =7

Z

Zinn, Miss H.A. (10) Colchester RHSC2, Cheltenham RHSC2



Draw for the Longman Cup 1975

AREA A

Tunbridge Wells	Southwick	}	.....
Compton	.....		
	Ryde	}	.....
	Herstmonceux		

AREA B

B.E.A. Silver Wing	Roehampton	}	.....
Harrow Oak	.....		
	Phyllis Court	}	.....
	Parsons Green		

AREA C

	Wrest Park	}	.....
	Colchester		
	Hurlingham	}	.....
	Colworth		

AREA D

	Stourbridge	}	.....
	.....		
Wolverhampton	Southport & Birkdale	}	.....
Bretby	Edgbaston		

CONDITIONS as in 1975 Fixtures Book p. 8 with the following amendment:

Condition 5, as amended by the Council on 8th March, now to read as follows: "The match will consist of 3 Singles and 2 Doubles. If neither club has three available lawns, the match will be 2 Singles and 2 Doubles, in which case, if there is a tie of 2 games each, the match will be decided on points. However, provided both teams agree, double-banking will be permitted, in which case the number of lawns required would be reduced to two and the match would consist of 3 Singles and 2 Doubles."

DATES FOR COMPLETION OF ROUNDS

The latest dates for completion of rounds will be as follows, but it is hoped that clubs will complete their matches before the dates given, to allow more time for later rounds:

First Round 1st June; Second Round 29th June; Third Round 27th July; Semi-Final 31 August; Final 5th October.

It is open to clubs to invite a third club to allow their match to be played on the third club's lawns. If they do so and if the third club makes a charge for use of lawns, this charge will not be the responsibility of the C.A., but must be paid by the clubs availing themselves of the third club's lawns. An exception to the foregoing is the Final, which should be played on a neutral ground. In this case the C.A. will pay the lawn charges if these are made.

Handicap Alterations

Nottingham Club Recommendations

G.Henshaw 5 to 4½; C.W.Haworth 6½ to 6; Mrs L.A.Coombs 6½ to 6; G.Noble 7 to 6½; Mrs C.Chamberlain 9 to 8; R.H.Fletcher 9 to 8; Mrs A.J.Bucknell 10 to 9 D8; Mrs C.W.Haworth 15 to 14 D13.

Compton Club Recommendations

H.N.D.Meyer 8 to 7; Dr M.D.Nosworthy 8 to 7; E.Strickland 12 to 10; R.E.Wallis 9 to 8.

Southport Club Recommendation

Miss E.K.Hawkins 10 to 9.

Phyllis Court Club Recommendations

C.Aberhalden 12 to 11; Mrs R.F.A.Crane 16 to 14; R.S.Eades 5 to 4.

Parkstone Club Recommendations

Miss A.M.Ryan 14 to 14 D13; Mrs P.Newton 6½ to 6; Miss M.D.McMordie 4 to 3½.

Reductions made by the Handicap Co-ordination Committee

G.N.Aspinall -3 to -4; Prof. B.G.Neal -3 to -3½; W. de B.Prichard -3 to -3½; J.W.Solomon -3 to -3½.

Various Alterations

Mrs B.G.Neal 7 to 6; E.Bell 5; C.W.I.Gillespie 3½ to 2½ (South Africa); Col. G.T.Wheeler 3 to 5; Miss I.M.Roe 4 to 5.