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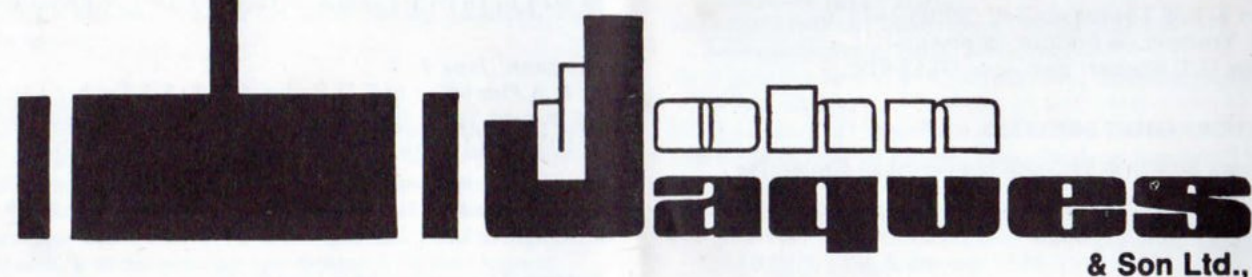
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THE CROQUET GAZETTE

Number 136

August 1975

The Official Organ of the Croquet Association

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen

Correspondence

'The Car and Croquet'

from Dr W.R. Bucknall

Sir,

I refer to the Article in the April gazette on page 5 regarding transport to croquet tournaments, and in particular to the convenience of the erstwhile railway station as a means of getting to the tournaments at Budleigh Salterton. Whilst there is nothing inaccurate in the Article, it is possible to draw erroneous deductions from it, some of which I have heard at first hand.

Firstly, there is the implication that the railway was planned to enable croquet tournament competitors to get easily to Budleigh Salterton. In fact, although the railway scheme received its Act of Parliament in 1894, there was no croquet tournament at Budleigh until 1896, and for a long time after that there was only one week's tournament each year.

Secondly, whilst it is true that the Sidmouth Railway, which was privately owned but operated by the London & South-Western Railway, passed through Ottery St Mary, the junction of the Budleigh Salterton Railway with it was at Tipton St John's [sic], about 3 miles south of Ottery. The Sidmouth Railway had been opened in 1874, and the Budleigh Salterton Railway was opened in 1897, also operated by the L & SWR. It terminated at Budleigh Salterton, and was not extended to Exmouth until 1903.

Thirdly, regarding the proximity of the Budleigh Salterton Croquet Club to the railway station, it must be realised that when the railway was opened in 1897, the Club land consisted only of the two southern strips, now occupied by

1. The Bowling Green and Nos. 3 & 4 croquet lawns, and
2. Nos. 1, 2, 5 & 6 croquet lawns.

The only Club House was the present Croquet Pavilion (a bit smaller than it is now), and the only entrance to the grounds was from Cricket Field Lane by the small iron gate.

A history of the Budleigh Salterton Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club has recently been compiled, covering the "First Hundred Years" (from 1870 to 1970), and this shows that the first extension of the site took place in 1913, and there was a second extension, to its ultimate full area, in 1920. The first section of the present Club House was built in 1922, and this was extended, by building the main Bridge Room, in 1930. The small Bridge Room was added in 1937, and the Verandah Bridge Room was not built until 1965. The Dressing Rooms were built in 1906 and extended in 1923. So far as can be discovered, Croquet was first played at Budleigh in 1872, and Budleigh Salterton can claim to be the oldest Club in the country where Croquet has been played on the same site for over 100 years.

21 Vision Hill Road,
Budleigh Salterton, Devon.

Yours sincerely,
W.R. Bucknall

from Commander G. Borrett

Sir,

The suggestion in paragraph 2 of the Rover Note 'The Car and Croquet' in the April gazette seems to me excellent, but will not, I fear, be sufficient to keep the existing Tournament Schedule in being. I think that we shall for a time have to accept a reduced number of full week tournaments — but would not more weekend tournaments help? Putting up some one for a weekend is not such a daunting prospect as for a full week, and the cost of Bed and Breakfast for a weekend would also be less. This would probably require a different sort of programme — different from existing Weekends and different from normal full weeks, but anything would be better than to suffer the Tournament Season to die.

73 Saffrons Court,
Compton Palace Road,
Eastbourne.

Yours anxiously,
Giles Borrett

'The Croquet Speed Record'

from R.F. Rothwell

Sir,

Further to Gerald Hallett's letter published in the April gazette, I can lay claim to having completed a singles game in well under his 20 minutes.

It was in 1937 at the Budleigh Salterton July tournament in the unrestricted handicap singles on what was until recently Lawn 7. My "victim" was Mrs Colman, wife of Charles Colman, a local player who won the Open Championship in that year. My opponent was playing off about scratch and I was somewhat over-endowed with 10 bisques. I won the toss, put her in and went round to the peg on the fourth ball. She cornered defensively and I went out on the sixth ball with several bisques to spare. The game took 16½ minutes, and the result was recorded in the gazette erroneously as +25. I went on to win the event and my handicap was duly reduced to 6.

You, Sir, will doubtless recall what must be one of the shortest handicap doubles finals of all time as you were on the victorious side with Roger Bray. It took place again at Budleigh in the middle 1960s. Jack Dibley, the Manager, had instructed me to get the game started on the Bowling Green at 2 p.m. whilst he was having a late lunch. He came back at 2.30 and started to reprimand me for not having got the game under way — he was worried lest the game would not be finished in time for his planned 5.30 Prize Giving. In fact the game was started promptly at 2 p.m. and finished at 2.29, just a minute before Jack returned from his lunch.

During that week in 1937 Charles Colman was kind enough to give me several lessons. He reckoned that one of the best forms of practice was to see how many hoops could be made using just two balls. To give me some incentive, he offered me £1 for every hoop I made after the first six on a two-ball break. At my first attempt I made the first six and then completed the circuit, and after making Rover went to the first

hoop again. I finally failed at 3-back on the second circuit. I was paid my £14 but the offer was called off. I may add that I have never been able to repeat such a performance. I do not claim this as a record, as I know Nigel Aspinall for one has exceeded this number by a very large margin.

74c Grosvenor Road,
Caversham, Reading.

Yours sincerely,
Richard Rothwell

(Mrs Prichard writes that William Prichard once completed a friendly game in 12 minutes by running and some help from his opponent, but adds, very fairly, that one shouldn't really count friendlies. — Ed.)

'Croquet world-wide' from Dr B.R. Sandiford

Sir,
As a further contribution to your Article "Croquet world-wide" in the April issue, may I offer a few notes about croquet at the Gezira Sporting Club, Cairo, which was affiliated to the C.A. but does not appear in the current Directory.

There were four excellent lawns of what we called "Uganda grass" progeny of a few turves brought back by a member of the Club from Uganda. Constant sun, regular irrigation and cheap labour provided ideal conditions for their upkeep. In the early 1940s, along with other admiring neophytes, I watched Tingey, Clarke, Saalfeld and Desmond Beamish doing triple peels which, in those pre-sex-days, were the apotheosis of croquet. Under their tuition Abdu, the croquet syce, became sufficiently skilled to give lessons and thus became the only croquet professional in the world.

On a brief visit to the Club in 1967 I saw golf croquet in progress and was told that only that form was being played.

10 Stanley Road,
Lytham, Lancs.

Yours sincerely,
Brian R. Sandiford

'The mallet marriage bureau' from Dr B.R. Sandiford

Sir,
Many clubs have a number of derelict old mallets knocking about, sometimes sacrilegiously used for knocking in hoops! Some have good heads but broken shafts, and others *vice versa*. If a central scheme could be devised to cement marriages between suitable partners, the unions could be a help to the furnishing of players newly wedded to the game.

10 Stanley Road,
Lytham, Lancs.

Yours sincerely,
Brian R. Sandiford

'Cannons' from L. Riggall

Sir,
With regard to the Rover peel and peg-out, I am curious to know why David O'Connor says that one ball should not be sent south of Rover. I can think of three advantages over the placings advocated by John Solomon (the opponent balls on each side of the hoop about a yard behind).

In trying to peel black well through the hoop, say two yards south of it, blue frequently over-runs a little to one side, leaving a difficult shot which may only just creep through. If it is legally through but still partly in the hoop, then a shot at a ball approximately south may be the only possible stroke apart from hitting black, which we wish to avoid. Secondly, if blue is clear but still close to the hoop, the most likely

position, it can easily roquet a ball at the side of the hoop (ideally 3 inches south of it), whereas a diagonal shot at balls at the side and one yard south would be impossible. Thirdly, having roqueted the ball at the side, and gone south of black during the kiss-cannon, blue is not now far from the rush-line of black, whereas with the other placings blue is likely to be north of black, which is the wrong side. Of course the rush to the peg can still be obtained, but it is like approaching the hoop from the non-playing side and is tactically unsound.

Another advantage of having a ball south of Rover is the fact that it may be necessary for blue to jump over black. John Solomon makes this point in his book.

The Australian pseudo-cannon described by Mr O'Connor is intriguing. It is difficult to roll only two balls from the 4th corner to hoop 2, and to overcome the inertia of a third ball and send it to hoop 3 at the same time would be near miraculous on good turf. Maybe the Australian sun had burned away the grass, or maybe Barry Chambers has even greater strength than is implied by his massive build. I feel sure that only one player in a thousand would be capable of such a feat on average turf, and bearing in mind the risk of failure through overstraining, or damage to the mallet, the use of the ordinary pseudo-cannon, which is so easy and safe, seems advisable.

May I conclude by congratulating Mr O'Connor on getting real croquet and a tournament going in such an unlikely place as Zambia.

Forjaes, Esposende,
Portugal.

Yours sincerely,
Leslie Riggall

'Literary Allusions to Croquet' from B.H. Bliss

Sir,
I came across this passage recently when reading the 10th volume of Anthony Powell's sequence of novels (*The Music of Time*) "Books do furnish a room" (Heinemann 1971) at p. 12:—"We first met when I was staying in the country one week-end with a person of some import. I won't mention names, but say no more than that the visit was one of work rather than play. Widmerpool came down on Sunday about an official matter, bringing some highly secret papers with him. We played a game of croquet in the afternoon as a short relaxation. I always remember how Widmerpool kept his briefcase under his arm — he was in uniform, of course — throughout the game. He nearly won it, in spite of that. Our host joked with him about his high regard for security, but Widmerpool would not risk losing his papers, even when he had made his stroke."

It struck me this might form an item for the gazette, possibly as a start of a feature on literary allusions to croquet, or alternatively as a suggestion for novel methods of handicapping — briefcase under the arm = ?5 bisques.

7 Redcliffe Road,
London SW10 9NR.

Yours sincerely,
Brian H. Bliss.

(There must be hundreds of literary allusions to croquet. If you spot an interesting or amusing one, do send it in and I will endeavour to include it when space can be found. — Ed.)

Inter-Club Championship 1975

Results in Order

First Round			
Phyllis Court	beat	Colworth	7-0
Compton	beat	The Heley Club	5-2
Wrest Park	beat	Colchester	4-3
Second Round			
Cheltenham	beat	Roehampton	6-0
Hurlingham	beat	Wrest Park	(one unfinished) 4-3

Editorial Notes

Photographic Competition 1974

In the April gazette for 1974 a prize of £5 was offered for the best photograph to commemorate the 1974 Croquet Season. The best entries in the competition were published in the April 1975 gazette, and the prize of £5 has been awarded to Miss S.G. Hampson for her photograph of Nigel Aspinall in the Roehampton Test. The judges' comment on the photograph was "It has atmosphere and tension, and Nigel won the Open Championship and President's Cup in 1974. Further, it has Magor, the Australian Captain, and Buck, the youngest player in the Tests. And it is action rather than pose." Congratulations to Miss Hampson for taking a fine photograph.

The South African Croquet Gazette

The South African Croquet Association have begun to produce their own Croquet Gazette in a new form. It includes Correspondence, Articles, Club News, and tournament results and reports; it is therefore produced on the lines of our own gazette, and is attractively presented. Those who would like to subscribe to this publication, which costs 1 Rand per year, plus postage, for 4 issues, should write to the Secretary of the South African Croquet Association, Mrs D.C. Hobbs, 45 St Joseph Road, Plumstead 7800, Cape Town, South Africa.

A notice about forthcoming tournaments in South Africa appears elsewhere in this issue, and it is hoped to have a comprehensive article on croquet in South Africa in our next gazette.

Four Issues a Year as from now

The Editorial Board has recommended, and the Council accepted the suggestion that we should from now on have four issues a year instead of five. Each issue will now contain 24 pages, so we shall not lose space over the year or change the general character of the gazette in any way, but we will save postal costs and printers' costs, and the saving will be of the order of £2-300 p.a., which is considerable. For the present we shall not be having cover designs, but will use the front cover for text. The four issues will appear (in a full year) in April, August, October and December.

Cambridge University Croquet

Although the Varsity Match has not taken place for a few years now, croquet continues to flourish in Cambridge. Matches have been played this year against Hunstanton and Colchester. Any news of croquet in Oxford would be most welcome.

Tournament Reports

It is not normally possible to publish the results of Club Matches in the gazette. Those who are asked to write accounts/reports of Calendar Tournaments should send what they have written to the Editor within 10 days of the conclusion of the tournament in question. It would be helpful if clubs would indicate when sending in results sheets who will be writing the tournament report.

Deadline

The deadline for the receipt of copy for the October gazette is Thursday September 11.

The Secretary and The Editor

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

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

Corrigenda

- On page 14 of the April gazette it was stated that John Solomon won the South African Croquet Championship this year. In fact he did not play in this event, but won the Western Province Championship in South Africa.
- In the list of names under the New Zealand team photograph in the April gazette the correct version should read Roger Murfitt and Bob Jackson.
- In the list of New Associates in the April gazette the name of the person last mentioned should read Mrs E.H. Zantzing.

Croquet Etiquette

The article under this heading which appeared in the April 1975 gazette, page 12, included an extract from the 1957 edition of the Laws which dealt with 'Etiquette'. It was stated in the article that this material was not included in the recent (1972) edition. This, however, is not correct.

The 1972 edition of the Laws, which is currently in force, includes Part 4 'Customs of the Game', comprising Laws 44-53 inclusive. This should be referred to as defining the present position as regards those matters classified as Etiquette in the 1957 edition. It is worth noting that whereas the 1957 Laws permitted the use of coins to assist in the placing of balls for a corner cannon, this is now prohibited by Law 51 (b).

B.G. Neal
Chairman, Laws Committee.

Apps Bowl and Steel Bowl Awards

In order to assist the Handicap Co-ordination Committee in selecting the most improved man player and the most improved woman player for this year (leading to the award of the Apps Bowl and the Steel Bowl) clubs are asked to consider whether they have any players whom they consider to be worthy of consideration for either of these awards. If they have any players who have made outstanding improvement this year, will they please be so kind as to submit detailed particulars of their play not later than October 14th to the C.A. Office, so that the Committee can include the players in their deliberations.

The conditions of the award require that a candidate should be an Associate, and that, in determining the award, account is taken both of Club play and play in tournaments.

Tournaments at Nottingham

- In the Annual Tournament play will commence each day at 9.30 a.m., and not at 10.00 a.m. as originally advertised.
- The Autumn American Weekend Tournament will now be played in 4 blocks of 5 players with semi-final and final matches. This means that the majority of players will get only 4 matches during the three days. There will be an additional event organised for those not playing in the finals. As the original advertisement was for a minimum of 5 games for each player, would any player who now wishes to withdraw please contact the Tournament Secretary.

South African Croquet Tournaments

National Championships

Durban, November 8-15 1975. Further particulars from Hon. Sec., South African Croquet Association, 45 St. Joseph Road, Plumstead 7800, Cape Town, South Africa.

Western Province Championships

Rondebosch Croquet Club, Cape Town, March 15-20 1976. For further particulars, details and hotel bookings, write to R.H. James, Golden Brae, Hill Crest Road, Somerset West, 7130, South Africa.

The Laws

Croquet players are often heard to ask "Why are the laws so complicated?" Perhaps the best answer to the question is in two seemingly contradictory quotations "The law is a ass" and "The Law is the true embodiment of everything that's excellent". (No prizes for knowing the authors.)

To the beginner, it may seem that all that is necessary is the introduction to the game which is given in Law 4, but he soon realises that more is required. Most players think that they know what the law is regarding hoop points, but are you absolutely sure what should happen in the following cases? Your ball clearly runs through the hoop by an inch or so and then rolls back into the jaws; or, on the other hand, your ball stops without running the hoop and you leave the court; your opponent, on going to view the situation, says "Your ball is through the hoop now". The law must deal with situations such as these, and it is because it does so that it seems at times to be slightly complicated.

It is when we come to consider faults that the law may seem to become really complicated. Think of the "push stroke" and the "double tap". The essence of the law is that the ball must be cleanly struck, but to express it in these words would leave the question of what is a clean stroke open to doubt and argument. The law on this point is complicated, but if you try to re-write it you will find it very difficult to be lucid, unambiguous and simple. The question of what is a push stroke is, indeed, one of the few points where a difference of opinion may genuinely arise between two experienced players, both of whom have seen and heard the stroke.

Assuming, however, that it is agreed or adjudicated that a push has been made in a croquet stroke, the law is perfectly clear; the balls are replaced and the turn ends. The consequences of this can be very different depending on whether you were taking croquet from your partner ball or from one of your opponent's balls. In the first case, if your opponent's balls are reasonably far away and separated you are offering him, at the worst, a long range double target, whereas in the second case you have given him the innings. The different consequences may perhaps suggest that "the law is a ass", but consider how much more complicated the laws would be if there were to be a different penalty for every fault depending on the circumstances in which it occurred.

Croquet is one of the few games (golf is perhaps the only other) in which, even at the highest competitive level, an independent referee is not expected to watch every stroke closely. For this reason it is important that players in any competition should have a fair knowledge of what the law says and should have a copy of the law book to refer to when an official referee is not available. It is equally important that if you are about to play a stroke in which there may be the least doubt as to its fairness or effect, you should have it watched by a referee or (if no referee is available) by an independent (and reasonably knowledgeable) person or, in the last resort, by your opponent.

It is the unusual events which occur from time to time which do make the laws seem complicated at a first reading. Do you know what should be done in the following instances? You suddenly realise that you are playing with a different ball from that with which you started your turn. You see your opponent about to take croquet from blue after he has made a roquet on yellow. You play your stroke and then step back and kick another ball. Your opponent, having run hoop 4, misses out hoop 5, proceeds to hoop 6 and continues with his turn. Half way through your opponent's turn you realise that one of your clips is in your pocket. Having started your turn, you notice that one of your opponent's balls is only six inches away from the boundary.

It is the need to deal with incidents of this sort which makes the law seem complicated. There may be occasions when you feel that the law is "an ass" because the answer it gives seems slightly unfair, but the important thing to

remember is that the laws do give an answer to all these questions and to many other *contretemps* which can occur. It is because of this and because it treats you and your opponent equally that we must regard the law as embodying "everything that's excellent".

R.O.Calder

(This article was originally printed in 'The Scottish Croquet Association Bulletin' No. 3 (March 1975). It is here reproduced by permission of the author and of the Scottish Croquet Association.)

Obituaries

Jack and Grace Dibley

The croquet world has lost both Jack and Grace Dibley in the past six months. Grace died in February and Jack in May. Both will be missed by a great number of Associates, and sympathy is extended to their son David and his sister.

Jack came onto the Council in 1947 and served on it until his death, although at the age of 82 he had decided not to seek re-election this May. He seldom missed the long and arduous journey from Lee-on-Solent to Council Meetings, and to the Tournament and Finance and General Purposes Committees, on which he served for many years.

He was perhaps better known as a Manager than as a player, although he was no mean performer with the mallet. He managed for many years at Devonshire Park, Budleigh, Compton, Southwick and his own club Ryde, and Grace usually accompanied him, assisting him with quiet efficiency but little fuss. The Croquet Association paid him the rare honour of creating him an Honorary Life Associate in 1971 in recognition of his services to the game.

One of Jack's perhaps unexpected hobbies was having a fine collection of dolls which he took around and lectured upon to many societies. The croquet world is grateful to Jack for what he put into the game. There is little doubt that he enjoyed his labours which made pleasure possible for so many.

R.F.R.

W.G.B.Scott

It would be difficult to exaggerate the shock and grief felt by Southwick members at the news of Gerald Scott's death on Saturday 5th April after a comparatively short illness.

To think of the Club is to think of Gerald who was its prop and stay for many years. He was Honorary General Secretary from 1964 to the time of his death, and also Chairman of the Croquet Section from 1965 until January 1971. Though he retired as Chairman, he was always actively associated with all croquet activities. In his own recent words, he was "passionately interested in the welfare and future of the Club", and never spared himself in his efforts on its behalf.

A man of shining integrity and moral courage, exercised with a natural charm and unflinching courtesy, he will be greatly missed and long remembered. No doubt visitors from other clubs who have felt the warmth of his welcome will join in sympathy with his widow Isobel who supported him so ably in his work for the Club.

M.T.

Cecil G.Rich

It is with much regret that we report the death of Mr Cecil G.Rich after a long illness. Mr Rich succeeded the late Dr G.L.Ormerod as President of the Bristol Club. He was Headmaster of Bristol Cathedral School for Boys, retiring in 1970. He was a very keen croquet player and will be much missed by the Club.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife and family.

B.E.S.

Mrs Alice Millie

It is with great regret that we have to report the death of Mrs Alice Millie - 'Pete' to all her friends. Pete has contributed most valuable assistance to the Ipswich Croquet Club since she and her husband joined in 1965 when the Club started to revive. Mr J.Millie became Chairman and Pete was influential in introducing quite a number of new members whom she was always most willing to help.

Through a long and distressing illness Pete showed wonderful courage and cheerfulness which were an inspiration to us all. The Club will remember her with affection and gratitude for the valuable service to us all as a committee member for several years while her health allowed.

E.I.W.

The deaths are also announced of Mr A.W.Joseph and of Mrs V.C.Gazzard.

Longman Cup 1974 Final

Daten v. Parsons Green, played at Wrest Park on 27 April 1975.

The final of the 1974 competition, postponed owing to water-logged grounds last October, was played at Wrest Park on 27 April between Daten and Parsons Green. Daten were represented by four comparatively young men and Parsons Green by four ladies whose average age, I trust they will forgive the writer of this report for suggesting, was probably in excess of that of their opponents - certainly they did not hit the ball so hard.

The lawns at Wrest Park had been under water for much of the winter, and little work was possible on them until about a fortnight before the match took place. The lawns contained much moss, which in wet conditions made them very slow. The match started shortly after 10 a.m. By 11 a.m. a drizzle started, and this soon developed into steady rain which continued until 4 p.m. The lawns got slower and slower, and eventually the softer hitting ladies could hardly get a ball from one end of the courts to the other. Not surprisingly, the men won all the games. Despite the conditions and the one-sided nature of the contest, the ladies fought hard and cheerfully until the end. Thanks are due to the Wrest Park members for staging the match and for providing coffee, tea and cakes to help sustain the competitors in such trying conditions. It is unfortunate that Daten have found it impossible to enter the 1975 competition to defend the cup they won at Wrest Park this Spring, but this writer is confident that the ladies from Parsons Green will put up a good fight again.

The Longman Cup 1975

Results in Order

First Round			
Tunbridge Wells	beat	Compton	3 - 2
Harrow Oak	beat	B.E.A. Silver Wing	4 - 1
Wolverhampton	w.o.	Bretby	opp. scr.
Second Round			
Southwick	beat	Tunbridge Wells	5 - 0
Herstmonceux	beat	Ryde	5 - 0
Harrow Oak	beat	Roehampton	3 - 2
Parsons Green	beat	Phyllis Court	2 - 2
(by 4 net points)			
Wrest Park	beat	Colchester	4 - 1
Colworth	beat	Hurlingham	4 - 1
Stourbridge	beat	Wolverhampton	4 - 1
Edgbaston	beat	Southport & Birkdale	3 - 2

New Zealand Dominion Tournament

The 59th Annual Tournament was held on the Wanganui and Gonville Lawns from January 21. The lawns were in good condition and at Gonville they were very fast and tricky. The Test players drew a good gallery at most times and triple peels were evidenced on most lawns. As was expected the men dominated the scene and the last five pairs in the doubles were the men.

Results

New Zealand Open Championship: R.V.Jackson, Auckland.
Runner-up: P.J.Skinley, Dannevirke.

N.Z.Plats: R.Murfitt, Christchurch.
Runner-up: C.E.Anderson, Gisborne.

Women's Championship: Miss S.Grigg, Christchurch.
Runner-up: Mrs J.D.Marshall, Tauranga.

Men's Championship: A.M.Anderson, Palmerston North.
Runner-up: J.G.Prince, Hastings.

Doubles Championship: J.G.Prince (Hastings) & R.J.Clarke (Gisborne).
Runners-up: R.Murfitt (Christchurch) & D.J.Bulloch (Dunedin).

Level Singles: G.Roberts, Dunedin.
Runner-up: C.Jones, Palmerston North.

English Rose Bowl (Handicap Singles I): C.J.Read, Wellington.
Runner-up: L.L.Ford, Auckland.

Hurlingham Cup (Handicap Singles II): J.W.McNab, Christchurch.
Runner-up: P.J.Skinley, Dannevirke.

West Midlands Croquet League

This has been initiated this season with only 4 clubs participating, but it is hoped that more will join next season. The league is played on a home and away basis, each match consisting of 2 Singles and 1 Double.

Results to date

	Played	Won	Lost	Pts. for	Pts. against	Pts.
Walsall	2	2	0	5	1	4
Stourbridge	2	1	1	3	3	2
Edgbaston	2	1	1	2	4	2
Wolverhampton	2	0	2	2	4	0

West Midlands Federation v. North-West Federation

In a match played on Sunday May 11 at Edgbaston the North-West Federation beat the West Midlands Federation by 6 games to 3.

Results (West Midlands names on left side)

A.Ross & D.Lenfestey lost to R.Faulkner & N.Tyldesley -2;
P.Young & M.Tompkinson lost to B.Sandiford & E.Bell -2;
D.Willetts & P.Barnes beat P.Stoker & G.Richardson +18;
A.Ross bt. B.Sandiford +11; P.Young lost to R.Faulkner -4;
D.Willetts lost to P.Stoker -21; M.Tompkinson beat E.Bell +13; D.Lenfestey lost to N.Tyldesley -8; P.Barnes lost to G.Richardson -5.

Budleigh Salterton May Tournament: May 5-10

In a dazzling display of colour, and "well braced" to meet emergencies, William Bulloch (the younger of the New Zealand pair) started his England tour with a highly popular win. Having won the 'B' Block, he beat John Cooper, winner of the 'A' Block, by only a few hoops in an exciting finish. He is a good shot, with a rather cheerful disdain of crushes and push shots, but is a happy character whom home players will enjoy playing against.

Dennis Bulloch, the elder brother is a "class" player. He swept his long handicap partner to an easy victory in the Doubles against Betty Prichard and Guy Warwick. He will undoubtedly be an asset to this season's croquet tournament circuit, and he and his brother will be quite formidable as a pair.

The best Block Winner was Mrs L.A.Davies, who won all her games, but was beaten in the Long Handicap Play-Off by H.E.Ovens of Sidmouth.

For the first three days the players shivered in a hurricane of icy-cold wind, and covered against the intermittent misty drizzle during the remaining three days. In Block 'A' Betty Prichard and Dennis Bulloch ran John Cooper very close. In the top event Play-Off John Cooper, who was well behind, managed to get his first ball round and pegged out William Bulloch's forward ball; then began an exciting finish, with Bulloch only having Rover to make with his second ball, while John Cooper was well behind. John managed to make several hoops, but failed to wire himself carefully enough and left Bulloch a shot which was duly hit, and that was that.

Now a couple of short stories: of the lady who smiled sweetly at the Manager and said "I've brought you in a blue disc I found on the lawn - I thought you might want it"; and the lady who said "Oh, that can't be a crush - I brought my mallet back ever so quickly". Another unexpected incident: the Brigadier set his corner balls pointing towards where his opponent was lurking. The latter marched up and replaced the outer ball the other side of the corner ball, so as to leave a double, and promptly hit it. The Brigadier protested. "Oh well," his opponent said, "have it your way." The balls were replaced, and she took the shot again, at the single ball, and hit it! You can't win them all!

Thanks to the usual band of kind helpers and to "Tubby's" groundsmanship, this was a happy and successful tournament, well managed by Pat Tunmer making his debut as a Manager.

Results

American Handicap Singles

BLOCK A. Winner: A.J.Cooper (-½) who beat B.G.Perry (-2) +4, Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard (-1) +15, Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (0) +2, Mrs E.Rotherham (0) +20, Sir Leonard Daldry (0) +8, and lost to D.J. Bulloch (-2½) -15.
BLOCK B. Winner: W.R.Bulloch (2) who beat Lt-Col G.E.Cave (½) +22, R.S.Stevens (1½) +22, Dr W.R.Bucknall (1½) +2, H.G.T.Bolton (1½) +18, Mrs N.A.C.McMillan (2½) +18, and lost to Col. W.R.Healing (1½) -13.
BLOCK C. Winner: R.H.Lee (4) who beat C.Edwards (3) +12, J.G. Warwick (4) +9, Dr R.B.N.Smartt (5) +6 (T), P.H.Mann (7) +9, and lost to B.Redford (4) -19.
BLOCK D. Winner: Mrs A.F.Adlam (9) who beat Mrs P.A.Tunmer (7) +7 (T), Mrs F.J.T.Mew (8) +8, Mrs L.M.Bishop (9) +2 (T), Brig. H.E. Fernyhough (9) +4, and lost to Mrs S.S.Cruden (9) -5.
BLOCK E. Winner: H.E.Ovens (10) who beat Dr C.W.Evans (9) +7 (T), R.Forth (10) +1 (T), Mrs H.E.Ovens (11) +7 (T), A.F.Adlam (12) +14 (T), and lost to Mrs P.H.Mann (10) -1 (T).
BLOCK F. Winner: Mrs L.A.Davies (13) who beat Mrs M.J.Goodie (12) +4 (T), Dr C.W.Marshall (13) +8 (T), Miss D.E.Rogers (14) +16, Mrs C.W.Marshall (14) +10 (T) and Mrs P.A.Dwerryhouse (14) +15 (T).

PLAY-OFF FOR THE GODFREY TURNER CHALLENGE CUP

W.R.Bulloch (B) bt. A.J.Cooper (A) + 5

PLAY-OFF FOR THE J.K.BROWN MEMORIAL CUP

R.H.Lee (C) bt. Mrs A.F.Adlam (D) +15

PLAY-OFF FOR THE L.G.WALTERS LONG HANDICAP CHALLENGE TROPHY

H.E.Ovens (E) bt. Mrs L.A.Davies (F) +11 (T)

Handicap Doubles (19 Pairs)

Semi-Final
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard & J.G.Warwick (4) bt. A.J.Cooper & Dr R.B.N.Smartt (4½) + 2 (T)
D.J.Bulloch & Mrs C.W.Marshall (11½) bt. Lt-Col D.M.C. Prichard & Mrs F.J.T.Mew (7) + 8

Final
Bulloch & Mrs Marshall bt. Mrs Prichard & Warwick +20

The Peel Memorials: May 12-17

The weather for the Peels was just about as miserable as it could be, with an east wind, and an absence of sunshine which usually lights up the Cheltenham lilac and laburnum. However, an eminent tournament player pronounced the lawns excellent, and the hoops charitable, and Edgar Jackson's management of nine events, with 30 players involved, was superb. Men's Draw and Process, Women's Draw and Process, Doubles Draw and Process, and Handicap X, Y and Z requires a deal of juggling. For the Women's event two tigresses came through to the play-off, but in the Men's it was two middle-bisquers who ably battled their way to the same position, Coleman, who, having had some success in the 'X', lost a bisque for the Process and the Doubles, and McLaren, a newcomer to tournament croquet, who won through to be Process winner. The latter's progress included a notable +26 victory over Jackson, with a bisque or two in hand. Jackson also had an unusual experience against Strutt, who used his bisques to double-peel and peg out his opponent, and went on to win. Jackson, the holder of the 'X' title, again did well in this event to reach the Final, but was not in top form when playing Dennis Bulloch, who played very consistently throughout the tournament and did some brilliant senior partner work in the Doubles with Miss Lodge. In the Doubles Final, however, they had to bow to William Bulloch and his partner Cozens, whom they had beaten in the other half in a game well worth recording. William went to Penult, and Dennis went round, double-peeled and pegged him out. Cozens hit in so consistently that he was ahead of Miss Lodge for much of the game, but, before he could peg out, Miss Lodge achieved the last two hoops, pegged out and left her partner by the peg; Cozens missed the last shot to lose by 1.

There was a very good game in the Men's Process between Gladstone and Pearson; the former got to the peg with both balls in 3 turns, but missed the peg-out with one ball, which ended a yard from the peg. Pearson had reached the peg and Rover in 4 turns, and was separated by the length of the lawn when he hit in, made Rover from 3½ yards and went out to win by 1. There was another good game in this event between Latham and Cozens. Latham was for 2-back and Rover when Cozens took his last bisque and went from 3 to the peg, peeling Latham and pegging him out. However, Latham hit in at his second attempt and went out on a 3-ball break.

Although Jackson and Dennis Bulloch were the finalists in the 'X', the middle-bisquers had done so well in the earlier rounds of this event that the semi-finalists in the 'Y' were Mrs Wheeler (née Sessions), Gladstone, Strutt and Mrs Neville Rolfe; and Colonel Prichard in the 'Z' had to beat Vulliamy in the semi-final and Sturdy in the final - no mean opponents with their bisques.

So even though the weather was unpleasant, everybody had a good deal of croquet, and some had a great deal. William Bulloch played so consistently that the Handicapper, who had

seen him win the previous week at Budleigh, reduced his handicap from 1½ to ½ - and McLaren's from 8 to 7. The latter, with more tournament experience, should improve rapidly.

Results

Event 1: Peel Memorial Silver Challenge Bowl (Men) (18 Entries)

DRAW

First Round
W.J.Sturdy (3) bt. N.J.Gooch (7½) + 1
G.G.Strutt (3) bt. G.F.Blumer (8) +13

Second Round
A.F.Coleman (6) bt. L.G.Ayliffe (5) +12
Revd W.E.Gladstone (-½) bt. L.V.Latham (4) +10
G.E.P.Jackson (-1½) bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard (-1) +15
G.G.Strutt (3) bt. W.J.Sturdy (3) +15
F.E.Pearson (3) bt. D.J.Bulloch (-2½) +26
W.R.Bulloch (1½) bt. J. McLaren (8) + 2
Col. G.T.Wheeler (5) bt. P.V.Cozens (6) +17
Captain P.H.S.Reid (13) bt. Col. E.L.L.Vulliamy (3½) +12

Third Round
A.F.Coleman (6) bt. Revd W.E.Gladstone (-½) +11
G.G.Strutt (3) bt. G.E.P. Jackson (-1½) +13
W.R.Bulloch (1½) bt. F.E.Pearson (3) + 4
Col. G.T.Wheeler (5) bt. Captain P.H.S.Reid (13) +13

Semi-Final
A.F.Coleman (6) bt. G.G.Strutt (3) +14
Col. G.T.Wheeler (5) bt. W.R.Bulloch (1½) +20

Final
A.F.Coleman (6) bt. Col. G.T.Wheeler (5) +14

PROCESS

First Round
Col. E.L.L.Vulliamy (3½) bt. A.F.Coleman (5) + 1
Captain P.H.S.Reid (13) bt. L.G.Ayliffe (5) + 7

Second Round
Col. E.L.L.Vulliamy (3½) bt. G.G.Strutt (3) + 3
W.R.Bulloch (1½) bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard (-1) +26
L.V.Latham (4) bt. D.J. Bulloch (-2½) +15
P.V.Cozens (6) bt. N.J.Gooch (7½) + 6
Captain P.H.S.Reid (13) bt. G.F.Blumer (8) +14
J. McLaren (8) bt. G.E.P.Jackson (-1½) +26
F.E.Pearson (3) bt. Revd W.E.Gladstone (-½) + 1
Col. G.T.Wheeler (5) bt. W.J.Sturdy (3) +24

Third Round
W.R.Bulloch (1½) bt. Col. E.L.L.Vulliamy (3½) +20
L.V.Latham (4) bt. P.V.Cozens (6) +11
J. McLaren (8) bt. Captain P.H.S.Reid (13) +17
Col. G.T.Wheeler (5) bt. F.E.Pearson (3) + 4

Semi-Final
W.R.Bulloch (1½) bt. L.V.Latham (4) +14
J. McLaren (8) bt. Col. G.T.Wheeler (5) +11

Final
J. McLaren (8) bt. W.R.Bulloch (1½) + 8

PLAY-OFF

A.F.Coleman (6) bt. J. McLaren (8) + 7

Event 2: Peel Memorial Silver Challenge Cup (Women) (11 Entries)

DRAW

First Round
Mrs J.N.Rolfe (1½) bt. Mrs G.C.Day (12) + 3
Mrs C.Bagnall (5½) bt. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (0) + 9
Mrs K.M.O.Wheeler (-1) bt. Mrs W.J.Sturdy (15) + 7

Second Round
Miss E.H.Arkell (3) bt. Miss W.K.Allardyce (9) +12
Mrs C.Bagnall (5½) bt. Mrs J.N.Rolfe (1½) + 9
Mrs K.M.O.Wheeler (-1) w.o. Mrs A.M.Daniels (1½) opp. scr.
Mrs H.G.Handley (5) bt. Miss I.M.Roe (5) +16

Semi-Final
Miss E.H.Arkell (3) bt. Mrs C.Bagnall (5½) +12
Mrs K.M.O.Wheeler (-1) bt. Mrs H.G.Handley (5) +10

Final
Mrs K.M.O.Wheeler (-1) bt. Miss E.H.Arkell (3) + 8

PROCESS

First Round
Miss W.K.Allardyce (9) w.o. Mrs A.M.Daniels (1½) opp. scr.
Miss I.M.Roe (5) bt. Mrs G.C.Day (12) + 7
Mrs H.G.Handley (5) bt. Miss E.H.Arkell (3) + 7

Second Round
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (0) bt. Miss W.K.Allardyce (9) +15
Mrs K.M.O.Wheeler (-1) bt. Miss I.M.Roe (5) +10
Mrs H.G.Handley (5) bt. Mrs C.Bagnall (5½) +12
Mrs J.N.Rolfe (1½) bt. Mrs W.J.Sturdy (15) +10

Semi-Final
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (0) bt. Mrs K.M.O.Wheeler (-1) +16
Mrs H.G.Handley (5) bt. Mrs J.N.Rolfe (1½) + 2

Final
Mrs D.M.C. Prichard (0) bt. Mrs H.G.Handley (5) + 3

PLAY-OFF

Mrs K.M.O.Wheeler (-1) bt. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (0) +14

Event 3: The Lady Murray Memorial Silver Challenge Cups (14 Pairs)

DRAW

First Round
W.R.Bulloch & P.V.Cozens (7½) bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard & N.J.Gooch (6½) +19
Col. G.T.Wheeler & Mrs H.G.Handley (10) bt. Mr & Mrs F.E.Pearson (15) + 8
Revd W.E.Gladstone & J. McLaren (7½) bt. G.G.Strutt & Miss E.H.Arkell (6) +19
Mr & Mrs W.J.Sturdy (16) bt. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard & Mrs G.C.Day (12) + 3 (T)
G.F.Blumer & Miss I.M.Roe (13) bt. G.E.P.Jackson & Miss W.K.Allardyce (7½) + 2 (T)
A.F.Coleman & Mrs J.N.Rolfe (6½) bt. L.G.Ayliffe & Mrs C.Bagnall (10½) +16

Second Round
W.Bulloch & Cozens bt. Wheeler & Mrs Handley + 2
Revd W.E.Gladstone & McLaren bt. Mr & Mrs Sturdy + 3
Coleman & Mrs Rolfe bt. Blumer & Miss Roe +10
D.J.Bulloch & Miss M.J.Lodge (6½) bt. Mrs K.M.O.Wheeler & Captain P.H.S.Reid (11) +16

PROCESS

First Round
W.Bulloch & Cozens bt. Blumer & Miss Roe +18
D.Bulloch & Miss Lodge bt. Revd W.E.Gladstone & McLaren + 5
Coleman & Mrs Rolfe bt. Wheeler & Mrs Handley + 7
Jackson & Miss Allardyce bt. Prichard & Gooch +17
Mrs Wheeler & Reid bt. Strutt & Miss Arkell +22
Ayliffe & Mrs Bagnall bt. Mr & Mrs Pearson + 9

Second Round
D.Bulloch & Miss Lodge bt. W.Bulloch & Cozens + 1
Coleman & Mrs Rolfe bt. Mrs Prichard & Mrs Day +13
Mrs Wheeler & Reid bt. Jackson & Miss Allardyce +11
Ayliffe & Mrs Bagnall bt. Mr & Mrs Sturdy + 1 (T)

SEMI-FINALISTS RE-DRAWN FOR FINAL STAGES

First Round
W.Bulloch & Cozens bt. Mrs Wheeler & Reid + 9
Revd W.E.Gladstone & McLaren bt. Ayliffe & Mrs Bagnall +13

Semi-Final
W.Bulloch & Cozens bt. Coleman & Mrs Rolfe +12
D.Bulloch & Miss Lodge bt. Revd W.E.Gladstone & McLaren + 6

Final
W.Bulloch & Cozens bt. D.Bulloch & Miss Lodge + 8

Event 4a: 'X' Open Handicap Singles (26 Entries)

<i>First Round</i>		
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (0)	bt. Mrs K.M.O.Wheeler (-1)	+12
W.R.Bulloch (1½)	bt. Miss I.M.Roe (5)	+13
J.McLaren (8)	bt. Mrs W.J.Sturdy (15)	+10
A.F.Coleman (6)	bt. Revd. W.E.Gladstone (-½)	+16
Miss E.H.Arkell (3)	bt. P.V.Cozens (6)	+12
D.J.Bulloch (-2½)	bt. Mrs G.C.Day (12)	+13
L.G.Ayliffe (5)	bt. G.G.Strutt (3)	+3
G.F.Blumer (8)	bt. Col. E.L.L.Vulliamy (3½)	+3
N.J.Gooch (7½)	bt. F.E.Pearson (3)	+25
Col. G.T.Wheeler (5)	bt. Mrs H.G.Handley (5)	+12
<i>Second Round</i>		
Mrs C.Bagnall (5½)	w.o. Mrs A.M.Daniels (1½)	opp. scr.
W.R.Bulloch (1½)	bt. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (0)	+3
A.F.Coleman (6)	bt. J.McLaren (8)	+7
D.J.Bulloch (-2½)	bt. Miss E.H.Arkell (3)	+4
G.F.Blumer (8)	bt. L.G.Ayliffe (5)	+14
N.J.Gooch (7½)	bt. Col. G.T.Wheeler (5)	+4
G.E.P.Jackson (-1½)	bt. Mrs J.N.Rolfe (1½)	+16
W.J.Sturdy (3)	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard (-1)	+20
<i>Third Round</i>		
W.R.Bulloch (1½)	bt. Mrs C.Bagnall (5½)	+7
D.J.Bulloch (-2½)	bt. A.F.Coleman (6)	+17
G.F.Blumer (8)	bt. N.J.Gooch (7½)	+3
G.E.P.Jackson (-1½)	bt. W.J.Sturdy (3)	+8
<i>Semi-Final</i>		
D.J.Bulloch (-2½)	bt. W.R.Bulloch (1½)	+6
G.E.P.Jackson (-1½)	bt. G.F.Blumer (8)	+8
<i>Final</i>		
D.J.Bulloch (-2½)	bt. G.E.P.Jackson (-1½)	+25

Event 4b: 'Y' Open Handicap Singles (12 Entries)

<i>Final</i>		
Revd W.E.Gladstone (-½)	bt. Mrs J.N.Rolfe (1½)	+18

Scotland v. An English Team, at Gleneagles, May 10-11

There was a nasty smirr frae a gey drumly sky when the Sassenachs cam North wi' their mells. A biased Scottish report of a victory over the "auld enemy" should continue in this vein, but there may be a few English readers who would like to read the details of their team's defeat.

On Saturday the sky was overcast and the steady drizzle gave way occasionally to heavy rain. Scotland looked forward to some early successes in the hope that the unfamiliar lawns and the weather would be too much for the visitors. Hopes were dashed when England won the first game in each of the doubles. The Scottish pairs found their form after lunch, the last match finishing at half past eight with Scotland leading 3-0.

England's morale may have collapsed in all three matches after rover hoop incidents. In one game Keith Ross got in an unfortunate tangle peeling his partner through Rover and narrowly missed a long peg-out. In another Bob Maclean tried to get to Rover with a long cut rush on Jim Townsend's ball which was also for Rover. Jim's ball came to rest in the jaws, whence he was easily peeled and pegged out. In the third match Ian Wright, for Rover with his partner's ball on the peg, shot from near the centre of the north boundary at a double target between the peg and Rover. Bernard Neal's usually inscrutable countenance showed signs of delight when he saw that the shot had missed, then changed to dismay and anguish when he realised that the ball had run Rover and had been checked sufficiently to leave an easy return croquet.

On Sunday Gleneagles was at its best with glorious spring sunshine. As only three lawns were available, all the singles were double banked, and all were over after two games, England winning four and Scotland two.

The English team had been picked with the intention of providing a close match against Scotland's best players. Victory went to Scotland by the narrowest of margins. Both countries' croquet was scrappy at times and showed "start-of-season jitters" with occasional flashes of brilliance.

Because of the very small number of low handicap players in Scotland, our croquet may suffer from the absence of new opposition at an appropriate level. The match was a welcome opportunity of competition against English croquet personalities who had previously been little more than names in the gazette. We were delighted to hear Richard Rothwell suggesting the possibility of arranging an annual event. Perhaps in some future year England may have to pick its strongest team and the fixture will be regarded as a full international.

Results (Scottish names on left hand side)

DOUBLES

- M.E.W.Heap & S.J.H.Wright beat K.A.Ross & S.R.Hemsted -11 +15 + 2
- I.H.Wright & D.I.Nichols beat B.G.Neal & N.Williams -13 +18 +11
- R.N.Maclean & F.V.X.Norton beat S.S.Townsend & R.F.Rothwell -10 + 3 + 8

SINGLES

- M.E.W.Heap beat B.G.Neal +19 + 7
- S.J.H.Wright lost to K.A.Ross -18 -17
- D.I.Nichols lost to S.R.Hemsted -5 -19
- I.H.Wright lost to S.S.Townsend -1 -7
- R.N.Maclean lost to R.F.Rothwell -6 -12
- F.V.X.Norton beat N.Williams +8 +12

Scotland beat An English Team 5 - 4

Southwick May Tournament: May 19-24

The Tournament commenced in glorious weather and continued in this vein all week under the very able management of Mrs D.M.C. Prichard. Wet weather prior to the tournament left the lawns in a heavy condition, but this made no difference to the croquet, which was of a high standard. Southwick once more enhanced its reputation for providing top quality meals, and our thanks go to Mrs Hilda Wells for this service. Our thanks must also go to the Manager and Handicapper for her efficient and friendly handling of the events.

Mr T.F.Owen, with wins by margins of more than 20 in practically every game he played, proved too much for all opposition and was justly dropped from 5½ bisques to 3. As with Mr J.H.J.Soutter, who carried all before him here 3 or 4 years ago, his approach to the game reveals his legal training, every shot being put to the test of *pro* and *con* and executed with studied logic and accuracy. He is already a player, and will be a great one when he can achieve the same in half the time.

The Bulloch brothers from New Zealand not only brought a splash of colour to our scene, but showed us how croquet should be played - sound, adventurous stuff that amazed and delighted us. We are going to have the pleasure of seeing them again at all our forthcoming tournaments this season.

Mr Finch fussed and muttered about his lawns, which had been threatened with every evil that weather can do to turf. By shortening his nights' sleep he, with his part-time mate, pulled them out of peril. The lawns looked lovely and played remarkably well, considering the conditions which prevailed during the preceding weeks.

Nice weather (though too cold for May); good croquet; good meals; excellent and charming management; and a delightful company of players - what more could a tournament ask?

Results

AMERICAN HANDICAP SINGLES

- BLOCK A. Winner: Mrs E.R.Cox (5) who beat Mrs N.A.C.McMillan (2½) +23, Mrs P.Harrison (14) +11, Miss H.D.Parker (5½) +18, Mrs M.D.Tanner (12) +14, E.J.Tucker (1) +24, and lost to W.H.Austin (2) -21.
- BLOCK B. Winner: D.J.Bulloch (-2½) who beat Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (0) +15, H.A.Sheppard (1½) +18, Mrs R.E.Tucker (5) +14, Mrs M.Rankin (14) +20, F.F.W.Staddon (5) +14 and Mrs L.B.Tucker (10) +4.
- BLOCK C. Winner: E.B.T.Tanner (6½) who beat Mrs S.J.Turner (6½) +2, Lady Ursula Abbey (4½) +19, Mrs H.F.Chittenden (2½) +24, Mrs F.S.Fox (10) +22, W.R.Bulloch (½) +13, and lost to Mrs E.H.P.Mallinson (7) -10.
- BLOCK D. Winner: T.F.Owen (5½) who beat R.L.Everest (3) +26, L.M. Bromfield (14*) +24, Mrs W.Naylor (7) +23, Mrs E.M.Speer (4) +19, N.W.T.Cox (-1) +26 and Mrs H.F.Nalder (7) +20.
- BLOCK E. Winner: Captain H.F.Nalder (3½) who beat Mrs G.F.H.Elvey (1½) +5, Mrs E.Lewis (12) +11, C.G.Mayo (6) +16, Mrs E.Jackson (15) +15, Mrs F.F.W.Staddon (6) +12, and lost to W.B.C.Paynter (6) -7.

PLAY-OFF

T.F.Owen (5½) bt. D.J.Bulloch (-2½) +26

Semi-Final

Mrs E.R.Cox (5) bt. E.B.T.Tanner (6½) +5
T.F.Owen (5½) bt. Captain H.F.Nalder (3½) +24

Final

T.F.Owen (5½) bt. Mrs E.R.Cox (5) +13

'X' Handicap Doubles (16 Pairs)

Semi-Final

D.J.Bulloch & Lt-Col E.H.P.Mallinson (7½) bt. T.F.Owen & Mrs W.Naylor (12½) +6
W.R.Bulloch & Mrs S.J.Turner (7) bt. H.A.Sheppard & Mrs H.F.Nalder (8½) +7

Final

D.J.Bulloch & Mallinson bt. W.R.Bulloch & Mrs Turner +2

'Y' Handicap Doubles (8 Pairs)

Semi-Final

Mrs E.R.Cox & Mrs E.Higinbotham (12) bt. Mrs H.F.Chittenden & Miss H.D.Parker (8) +22
C.G.Mayo & Mrs I.B.Tucker (16) bt. Mr & Mrs F.F.W.Staddon (11) +10

Final

Mrs Cox & Mrs Higinbotham bt. Mayo & Mrs I.B.Tucker +8

Weekend Tournaments

Cheltenham I: March 29-31

- BLOCK A. Winner: Mrs C.Bagnall (5½) who beat Mrs K.M.O.Wheeler (-1) +6, Dr G.K.Taylor (1½) +17, G.G.Strutt (3) +9, T.W.Anderson (10) +13, and lost to Professor B.G.Neal (-3½) -8.
- BLOCK B. Winner: P.W.Elmes (1) who beat W. de B. Prichard (-3½) +26, Revd W.E.Gladstone (-½) +25, Miss E.H.Arkell (3) +11, E.Bell (5) +21, and lost to B.G.Bucknall (10) -14.
- BLOCK C. Winner: K.A.Ross (-1½) who beat Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (0) +25, Professor B.G.Weitz (2) +18, W.J.Sturdy (3) +7, P.Stoker (5) +8 and Mrs G.C.Day (12) +26.
- BLOCK D. Winner: G.E.P.Jackson (-1½) who beat J.N.Robinson (1) +16, R.D.C.Prichard (2½) +23, Mrs B.G.Weitz (4) +16, G.F.Blumer (8) +18 and A.Blenkin (12) +14.
- BLOCK E. Winner: Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard (-1) who beat J.Haigh (2½) +8, G.Henshaw (4½) +15, Mrs B.G.Neal (6) +1, Sir Leonard Stone (15) +9, and lost to J.A.Wheeler (½) -6.
- BLOCK F. Winner: M.J.Evans (1) who beat J.H.J.Soutter (-1) +24, R.O.Havery (2) +14, Col. G.T.Wheeler (5) +9, Miss G.Douglas-Jones (9) +11 and Mrs W.J.Sturdy (16) +9.
- BLOCK G. Winner: C.Hudson (9) who beat C.H.L.Prichard (-1) +13, C.Southern (2½) +4, L.G.Ayliffe (5) +11, Mrs M.L.Shackleton (16) +17, and lost to R.F.Rothwell (1) -12.

Compton: April 17-20

- BLOCK A. Winner: E.J.Tucker (1) who beat Cdr G.Borrett (-1) +11, H.G.Drake (3) +20, J.Haigh (2½) +21, and lost to D.A.Harris (½) -16.
- BLOCK B. Winner: Mrs H.J.Devitt (7½) who beat W.Nicholson (11) +10 (T), R.L.Everest (3) +3, D.Openshaw (4) +26 and Mrs E.M.Temple (4½) +20.
- BLOCK C. Winner: T.Wood (8) who beat D.A.Parker (9) +14, D.G.Richardson (7) +11, R.E.Wallis (8) +15, and lost to C.E.Knight (7½) -5 (T).
- BLOCK D. Winner: Dr S.R.C.Malin (9) who beat C.G.Le Bas (10) +14, Mrs I.B.Tucker (10) +16, Lt-Col D.F.T.Brown (11) +16 and Mrs G.C.Day (12) +15.

PLAY-OFF

Semi-Final

E.J.Tucker (1) bt. Mrs H.J.Devitt (7½) +8
Dr S.R.C.Malin (9) bt. T.Wood (8) +13

Final

Dr S.R.C.Malin (9) bt. E.J.Tucker (1) +13

Wrest Park I: May 16-18

All the participants in this tournament had two games, but the tournament had eventually to be abandoned owing to flooded lawns.

Gleneagles I: May 17-19

Winner: I.H.Wright (1) who beat R.O.Calder (5) +5, Mrs V.M.Macpherson (8) +9, C.J.Tait (9) +12, R.Williams (4) +4, S.J.H.Wright (0) +17, and lost to F.V.X.Norton (2½) -8.

Colchester I: May 24-26

SWISS HANDICAP SINGLES

Six Wins: M.E.W.Heap (-1½).
Five Wins: G.S.Digby (5½).
Four Wins: E.A.Locke (8), N.J.C.Gooch (7½), K.H.Paterson (4), Mrs G.S.Digby (3), R.S.Alford (6).
Three and a half Wins: Miss S.G.Hampson (3½), Mrs H.A.Zinn (9).
Three Wins: J.N.Robinson (1), J.Haigh (2½), A.F.Adlam (12), G.Kimber (12), G.Henshaw (4½), G.F.Hallett (1), P.Bishop (5).
Two Wins: F.E.M.Puxon (7½), Professor B.G.Neal (-3½), Mrs B.G.Neal (6), C.R.Palmer (11).
One and a half Wins: Mrs A.F.Aldham (9), Mrs F.E.M.Puxon (5), Mrs M.E.W.Heap (15).
Half a Win: Mrs K.H.Paterson (15).

HANDICAP DOUBLES (7 Pairs)

Semi-Final

Mr & Mrs G.S.Digby (8½) bt. Mr & Mrs E.A.Locke (22) +10
Mrs H.A.Zinn & C.R.Palmer (20) bt. Mrs F.E.M.Puxon & A.F.Adlam (17) +14 (T)

Final

Mr & Mrs Digby bt. Mrs Zinn & Palmer +1 (T)

Cheltenham II: May 24-26

- BLOCK A. Winner: J.G.Warwick (4) who beat Mrs K.M.O.Wheeler (-1) +1, I.H.Wright (1) +17, Miss R.M.Allen (3½) +9, G.F.Blumer (8) +12, Mrs M.L.Shackleton (16) +11, and lost to W.F.Morton (12) -6.
- BLOCK B. Winner: Dr G.K.Taylor (1½) who beat J.H.J.Soutter (-1) +24, Mrs B.G.Weitz (4) +10, R.B.W.Gladstone (8) +2, A.Blenkin (10) +5, Mrs R.F.A.Crane (14) +12, and lost to Miss E.H.Arkell (3) -7.
- BLOCK C. Winner: F.E.Pearson (3) who beat Revd W.E.Gladstone (-½) +22, Mrs E.M.Lightfoot (1½) +20, Col. G.T.Wheeler (5) +11, Mrs H.A.Pim (7) +9, Mrs D.H.Moorcraft (10) +7 and E.Asa-Thomas (12) +6.
- BLOCK D. Winner: Miss M.J.Lodge (9) who beat D.H.Moorcraft (½) +5, Wing-Cdr E.M.Smith (1½) +7, B.A.Keen (3½) +16, Dr H.A.Pim (6½) +21, Miss G.Douglas-Jones (9) +13 and Mrs G.C.Day (12) +11.
- BLOCK E. Winner: P.W.Elmes (1) who beat Professor B.G.Weitz (2) +12, Miss I.M.Roe (5) +19, L.G.Ayliffe (5) +12, R.F.A.Crane (6) +16, Mrs M.Warren (15) +12, and lost to Mrs E.Asa-Thomas (7) -11.

Nottingham I: May 30 — June 1

BLOCK A. Winner: Dr M.Haslam (8) who beat P.Elmes (1) +26, B.Slater (4½) +3 (T), Mrs H.M.Coombs (6) +20, Mrs C.Chamberlain (8) +17, Mrs G.Gratrix (14) +21, and lost to G.Noble (6½) -6.

BLOCK B. Winner: G.Henshaw (4½) who beat Mrs N.Tyldesley (6) +15, C.Chamberlain (7) +14, Mrs M.Jackson (8) +15, R.Wheeler (13) +11, Mrs C.W.Haworth (14) +7, and lost to G.Birch (1) -10.

BLOCK C. Winner: G.Strutt (3) who beat E.Bell (4½) +1, A.J.Bucknell (5½) +9, Mrs E.Cocker (7½) +17, R.Fletcher (8) +16, Mrs Hadcroft (11) +14 and Mrs R.Wheeler (12) +11.

Hunstanton: June 6—8

BLOCK A. Winner: Miss S.G.Hampson (3½) who beat D.Turner (15) +12, Mrs K.M.O.Wheeler (-1) +3, R.Forth (10) +13, C.R.Palmer (11) +10, Mrs H.A.Zinn (9) +11, and lost to Mrs J.N.Rolfe (1½) -8.

BLOCK B. Winner: W.H.Carlsle (8) who beat Mrs C.W.Haworth (14) +20, H.Green (3) +15, Col G.T.Wheeler (5) +21, Miss E.I.Wood (12) +18, Miss E.C.Brumpton (5) +20 and Miss P.Hampson (16) +22.

Inter-County Championship: May 27—30

The withdrawal of Eastern Counties after the draw had been made, leaving seven Counties, made desirable a redraw to allow the competition to finish on the Friday morning. The opportunity was taken to switch the lawns to be used, since after the original draw was made it came to light that Roehampton Club had generously offered their three lawns free of charge, whereas Hurlingham Club announced that their lawn hire charge was to be increased from £1.50 to £4 per lawn per day. Full use was therefore made of the Roehampton lawns, and the Hurlingham cricket field lawns were not required. With seven rounds each County in turn did not have a match, and every County was able to play each of the other six.

The weather was fine throughout, although bitterly cold on the Thursday and Friday. All the lawns were in excellent condition but fast. Your reporter saw typical "Counties" play, some excellent and some indifferent. Most games were long ones and many close. Two were won by a single point, five were won by 1 on time and one by 2 on time.

After the first day's play (Tuesday) the holders, Berkshire & Oxfordshire, led with 2 wins, followed by Devon, Sussex and Surrey, with 1 win each. Middlesex and Surrey were the counties playing only one match that day.

By Wednesday evening, after 4 rounds, Berkshire & Oxfordshire emerged unbeaten with 4 wins, two more than their nearest rivals, Devon, Sussex and Surrey. Middlesex and Bedfordshire each had 1 win. The two counties having only one match that day were Bedfordshire and Midlands.

By Thursday evening, after 6 rounds, the competition had become much more open. Berkshire & Oxfordshire did not play in the morning and lost to Middlesex in the afternoon; they still led with 4 wins, but close on their heels came Surrey, Middlesex, Sussex and Bedfordshire with 3 wins apiece. Devon had completed their programme and recorded 2 wins. Midlands had yet to open their account.

And so to the last round on Friday morning, with five counties in the running. Bedfordshire beat Middlesex, and Sussex beat Midlands. Surrey and Berkshire & Oxfordshire were one game all, and all thus depended on the last game to finish, the second pair. Berkshire & Oxfordshire emerged the winners of this game by the slender margin of 4 points, which gave them their fifth victory of the week and enabled them to retain the trophy.

Although Midlands failed to win a match, they fought hard all the way and gave several counties anxious moments — for instance, in their match against Berkshire & Oxfordshire they won the third pair game by 9 and only lost the first pair game by a single point, and that on the first morning.

ANALYSIS OF PLAY

Berkshire & Oxfordshire won 5 matches and 12 games: they beat Midlands 2-1, Bedfordshire 3-0, Devon 2-1, Sussex 2-1, Surrey 2-1, and lost to Middlesex 1-2.

Sussex won 4 matches and 11 games: they beat Bedfordshire 3-0, Middlesex 2-1, Devon 2-1, Midlands 2-1, and lost to Berkshire & Oxfordshire 1-2 and Surrey 1-2.

Bedfordshire won 5 matches and 9 games: they beat Surrey 2-1, Devon 2-1, Middlesex 3-0, Midlands 2-1, and lost to Berkshire & Oxfordshire 0-3 and Sussex 0-3.

Surrey won 3 matches and 11 games: they beat Midlands 3-0, Middlesex 3-0, Sussex 2-1, and lost to Berkshire & Oxfordshire 1-2, Bedfordshire 1-2 and Devon 1-2.

Middlesex won 3 matches and 7 games: they beat Berkshire & Oxfordshire 2-1, Devon 2-1, Midlands 2-1, and lost to Sussex 1-2, Bedfordshire 0-3 and Surrey 0-3.

Devon won 2 matches and 7 games: they beat Surrey 2-1, Midlands 2-1, and lost to Berkshire & Oxfordshire 1-2, Sussex 1-2, Bedfordshire 1-2 and Middlesex 1-2.

Midlands won 0 wins and 5 games: they lost to Berkshire & Oxfordshire 1-2, Sussex 1-2, Bedfordshire 1-2, Surrey 0-3, Middlesex 1-2 and Devon 1-2.

Parkstone: June 2—7

Those readers of the gazette who are stimulated by the stirring deeds of their betters on the field of battle should turn on Parkstone in June with its protracted hard-fought contests was more reminiscent of France in 1916 than in 1940. The slogan of the overseas visitor advertising around his portly figure "Come alive — play croquet" was universally accepted, but the spirit being willing, the play was weak.

This account, therefore, is of friends, croquet players all, who spent the week renewing old friendships and making many new. Where better to do this than at Parkstone with fine, if occasionally cold weather, pleasant surroundings, lawns in fine shape, magnificent lunches and teas, and a bar. The number whose names will be inscribed on trophies is known at the start. The number who will leave happy and contented with happy recollections of their visit is determined by much hard work and preparation by the home members. In obtaining yet another 100% possible they lived up to their reputation of the past.

The tempo of events was admirably maintained by Pat Newton who, from his outpost viewing box, stimulated the tardy, restrained the impatient, and absorbed through the windows some of the pearls of wisdom let drop from the site of combat. The short missed roquet described as cruelty to animals, the gentleman who pointed out that he had not come 12,000 miles to sit in a corner, and the naval terms when an American visitor found a long roquet was not responding to rudder.

For the record, Draw and Process were won by William Ormerod, who drew on all his experience to beat Dennis (The Slim) Bulloch in both finals. What a delightful player to watch is this young New Zealander. The B was won by J.H.Greswell playing his first tournament. Now through his basic training, here is a potential high flier. His use of modern navigational aids, including the natural curvature of the earth, was well shown in the X where he hit an invisible peg to win by +1. The C was won by Mrs Bishop following a protracted Anglo-American battle, a two-way benevolent Lend Lease system applying. In the X Robinson with metallic mallet pinging to perfection won a sharply contested match with Dennis Bulloch. The Y Final was deferred so those two home stalwarts McMordie and Wood could indulge in private contest. The Doubles resulted in victory for Dr Bucknall and Mrs Asa-Thomas, who survived an earlier round +1 on time when miscounting of hoops by opponents led to their unexpected defeat.

Our thanks to all those who contributed to a wonderfully friendly week, and our commiserations to those croquet players who were not present.

Results

Event 1: Open Singles (14 Entries)

DRAW

First Round

Mrs G.H.Wood	bt. J.N.Robinson	+13
Revd P.D.Hallett	bt. R.O.B.Whittington	+18
Mrs E.Rotherham	bt. Mrs N.A.C.McMillan	+5
Dr W.R.Bucknall	bt. Dr C.A.Parker	+1 (T)
D.J.Bulloch	bt. Miss M.D.McMordie	+15
W.R.Bulloch	bt. P.Newton	+11

Second Round

Dr W.P.Ormerod	bt. Mrs G.H.Wood	+26
Revd P.D.Hallett	bt. Mrs E.Rotherham	+14
D.J.Bulloch	bt. Dr W.R.Bucknall	+7
W.R.Bulloch	bt. L.S.Butler	+10

Semi-Final

Dr W.P.Ormerod	bt. Revd P.D.Hallett	+19
D.J.Bulloch	bt. W.R.Bulloch	+11

Final

Dr W.P.Ormerod	bt. D.J.Bulloch	+17
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PROCESS

First Round

Dr W.P.Ormerod	bt. Dr C.A.Parker	+23
W.R.Bulloch	bt. R.O.B.Whittington	+5
Miss M.D.McMordie	bt. Mrs G.H.Wood	+23
D.J.Bulloch	bt. J.N.Robinson	+2
L.S.Butler	bt. Mrs E.Rotherham	+10
Revd P.D.Hallett	bt. P.Newton	+13

Second Round

Dr W.P.Ormerod	bt. W.R.Bulloch	+2
Miss M.D.McMordie	bt. Mrs N.A.C.McMillan	+17
D.J.Bulloch	bt. L.S.Butler	+24
Revd P.D.Hallett	bt. Dr W.R.Bucknall	+13

Semi-Final

Dr W.P.Ormerod	bt. Miss M.D.McMordie	+21
D.J.Bulloch	bt. Revd P.D.Hallett	+13

Final

Dr W.P.Ormerod	bt. D.J.Bulloch	+8
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Event 2: 'B' Level Singles (8 Entries)

First Round

R.H.C.Carder	bt. Mrs E.As-Thomas	+3
D. de Q.Lenfestey	bt. Mrs C.E.Devitt	+9
J.H.Greswell	bt. Dr E.L.Knowles	+4
Miss W.E.Creed-Meredith	bt. J.H.T.Griffiths	+15

Semi-Final

D. de Q.Lenfestey	bt. R.H.C.Carder	+14
J.H.Greswell	bt. Miss W.E.Creed-Meredith	+7

Final

J.H.Greswell	bt. D. de Q.Lenfestey	+6
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Event 3: 'C' Handicap Singles (7 Entries)

First Round

Mrs L.L.Duveen (11)	bt. Mrs D. de Q.Lenfestey (12)	+6
Mrs L.M.Bishop (9)	bt. Mrs D.Mitchell (16)	+22
Mrs L.A.Davies (12)	bt. Mrs G.L.Ormerod (9)	+2 (T)

Semi-Final

Mrs L.M.Bishop (9)	bt. Mrs L.L.Duveen (11)	+8 (T)
Captain F.Tucker (9*)	bt. Mrs L.A.Davies (12)	+7 (T)

Final

Mrs L.M.Bishop (9)	bt. Captain F.Tucker (9*)	+14
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Event 4a: 'X' Handicap Singles (26 Entries)

First Round

D.J.Bulloch (-2½)	bt. Mrs N.A.C.McMillan (2½)	+18
Mrs G.L.Ormerod (9)	bt. Mrs D.Mitchell (16)	+5 (T)
J.H.Greswell (5)	bt. Miss W.E.Creed-Meredith (8)	+18

Dr W.R.Bucknall (1½)	bt. R.H.C.Carder (6)	+7
L.S.Butler (3)	bt. Dr E.L.Knowles (6)	+14
W.R.Bulloch (½)	bt. Miss M.D.McMordie (3½)	+14
Mrs D. de Q.Lenfestey (12)	bt. Mrs C.E.Devitt (8)	+1 (T)
J.N.Robinson (1)	bt. Mrs L.L.Duveen (11)	+14
Mrs L.A.Davies (12)	bt. Mrs E.Rotherham (0)	+22
R.O.B.Whittington (0)	bt. D. de Q.Lenfestey (7)	+6

Second Round

Mrs E.As-Thomas (7)	bt. J.H.T.Griffiths (8)	+20
D.J.Bulloch (-2½)	bt. Mrs G.H.Wood (1½)	+12
J.H.Greswell (5)	bt. Mrs G.L.Ormerod (9)	+17
L.S.Butler (3)	bt. Dr W.R.Bucknall (1½)	+15
W.R.Bulloch (½)	bt. Mrs D. de Q.Lenfestey (12)	+12
J.N.Robinson (1)	bt. Mrs L.A.Davies (12)	+23
R.O.B.Whittington (0)	bt. Captain F.Tucker (9*)	+13
Dr C.A.Parker (2)	bt. Mrs L.M.Bishop (9)	+10

Third Round

D.J.Bulloch (-2½)	bt. Mrs E.As-Thomas (7)	+8
J.H.Greswell (5)	bt. L.S.Butler (3)	+1
J.N.Robinson (1)	bt. W.R.Bulloch (½)	+14
R.O.B.Whittington (0)	bt. Dr C.A.Parker (2)	+17

Semi-Final

D.J.Bulloch (-2½)	bt. J.H.Greswell (5)	+9
J.N.Robinson (1)	bt. R.O.B.Whittington (0)	+5

Final

J.N.Robinson (1)	bt. D.J.Bulloch (-2½)	+20
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Event 4b: 'Y' Handicap Singles (14 Entries)

Final

Miss M.D.McMordie (3½)	bt. Mrs G.H.Wood (1½)	+23
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Event 5: Handicap Doubles (12 Pairs)

First Round

R.O.B.Whittington & Mrs L.L.Duveen (11)	bt. Mrs N.A.C.McMillan & J.H.Greswell (7½)	+2
Mr & Mrs D. de Q.Lenfestey (19)	bt. R.H.C.Carder & J.H.T.Griffiths (14)	+10
J.N.Robinson & Captain F.Tucker (10)	bt. Mrs G.H.Wood & Mrs L.M.Bishop (10½)	+3
Miss M.D.McMordie & Mrs C.E.Devitt (11½)	bt. Mrs E.Rotherham & Mrs L.A.Davies (12)	+4

Second Round

Dr W.R.Bucknall & Mrs E.As-Thomas (8½)	bt. D.J.Bulloch & Mrs G.L.Ormerod (6½)	+1 (T)
Mr & Mrs Lenfestey	bt. Whittington & Mrs Duveen	+11
Miss McMordie & Mrs Devitt	bt. Robinson & Tucker	+1
L.S.Butler & Mrs D.Mitchell (17)	bt. W.R.Bulloch & Miss W.E.Creed-Meredith (8½)	+6

Semi-Final

Bucknall & Mrs Asa-Thomas	bt. Mr & Mrs Lenfestey	+5 (T)
Butler & Mrs Mitchell	bt. Miss McMordie & Mrs Devitt	+20

Final

Bucknall & Mrs Asa-Thomas	bt. Butler & Mrs Mitchell	+12
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Compton: June 2—7

We started off on Monday with a perishingly cold wind followed by fairly heavy rain, conditions not entirely foreign to Eastbourne! The weather steadily improved and the last two days were quite perfect.

Most of the more advanced players started off rather badly, as usual, but, like the weather, improved as time went on. The "Observer Corps" (Herstmonceux) turned out in force, as usual under-handicapped. Malin and Wood were beaten in the doubles final by Knight and Rushworth, and Yallop lost the final of the Big Handicap to Tucker. Bill Gladstone sailed happily through the Draw and eventually beat Cyril Pountney who won the Process in his inimitable way. Gwynneth Mann (10) peeled black through hoop 3, followed with blue, and from 2 yards beyond hoop 3 rolled both balls to hoop 4, peeling black and following through with blue with a perfect rush to hoop 5 — all with the aid of her steel shaft! Wagnell (10) played with quite unusual skill, peeling through a number of hoops and beating Mrs Devitt (7½) in the final of the Extra.

Giles Borrett in his scarlet trousers managed the whole thing with his usual efficiency and the use of a pair of thick velvet gloves! He was in constant demand as a referee, dashing from court to court, an activity which no doubt accounts for his lithe and slim figure. He played a needle match against Gladstone, in which one of his balls had been pegged out and Gladstone was for the peg; he hit in on a very long roquet and won the game. This was in the nature of poetic justice, as in an earlier game Gladstone, who was playing "Tiny" Tyrwhitt Drake, inadvertently pegged out his own ball, and later hit in from beyond the peg to the fourth corner and so won the game.

Kay Longman demolished Dr Wiggins after taking a number of suicidal shots, all of which came off. Mrs Elvey, the only other referee, was told by Wagnell "not to run"; he suggested she should be supplied with a moped. Lady Ursula Abbey fell heavily down the bank from Court 6, and bravely carried on with her turn in the best tradition of the Landed Gentry.

The visitors' thanks go to all the members of Compton who made them so welcome, particularly to the ladies who provided us with most excellent meals.

Results

Event 1: Open Singles (13 Entries)

DRAW

First Round

Dr W.R.D.Wiggins	bt. Cdr G.Borrett	+12
R.Wood	bt. Mrs R.A.Simpson	+11
E.J.Tucker	bt. Mrs W.Longman	+16
R.A.Simpson	bt. C.G.Pountney	+ 6
Revd W.E.Gladstone	bt. E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	+ 3

Second Round

Dr W.R.D.Wiggins	bt. J.Haigh	+ 3
E.J.Tucker	bt. R.Wood	+ 2
Revd W.E.Gladstone	bt. R.A.Simpson	+ 5
D.A.Harris	bt. Mrs G.F.H.Elvey	+26

Semi-Final

E.J.Tucker	bt. Dr. W.R.D.Wiggins	+19
Revd W.E.Gladstone	bt. D.A.Harris	+26

Final

Revd W.E.Gladstone	bt. E.J.Tucker	+10
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PROCESS

First Round

R.A.Simpson	bt. J.Haigh	+ 6
D.A.Harris	bt. Mrs R.A.Simpson	+ 3
Cdr G. Borrett	bt. Revd W.E.Gladstone	+ 4
Dr W.R.D.Wiggins	bt. E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake	+ 6
Mrs G.F.H.Elvey	w.o. R.Wood	opp. scr.

Second Round

R.A.Simpson	bt. D.A.Harris	+ 6
E.J.Tucker	bt. Cdr G. Borrett	+11
Mrs W.Longman	bt. Dr. W.R.D.Wiggins	+11
C.G.Pountney	bt. Mrs G.F.H.Elvey	+15

Semi-Final

E.J.Tucker	bt. R.A.Simpson	+10
C.G.Pountney	bt. Mrs W.Longman	+12

Final

C.G.Pountney	bt. E.J.Tucker	+ 3
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PLAY-OFF

Revd W.E.Gladstone	bt. C.G.Pountney	+14
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Event 2: 'B' Level Singles (7 Entries)

First Round

Mrs E.M.Temple	bt. Captain M.F.Buller	+ 4
Lady Ursula Abbey	bt. Mrs H.F.Chittenden	+15
R.L.Everest	bt. Miss H.D.Parker	+11

Semi-Final

Mrs E.M.Temple	w.o. Lady Ursula Abbey	opp. ret'd.
H.J.Devitt	bt. R.L.Everest	+10

Final

H.J.Devitt	bt. Mrs E.M.Temple	+21
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Event 3: 'C' Handicap Singles (17 Entries)

First Round

H.G.B.Wagnell (10)	bt. Mrs H.J.Devitt (7½)	+ 5
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Second Round

B.D.Yallop (8)	bt. Lt-Col D.F.T.Brown (11)	+14
Dr S.R.C.Malin (8)	bt. Mrs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (9)	+12

W.Nicholson (11)	bt. Mrs I.B.Tucker (10)	+ 4
Dr H.A.Pim (6½)	bt. H.G.B.Wagnell (10)	+10
Mrs H.A.Pim (7)	bt. Mrs D.Waterhouse (11)	+13
C.E.Knight (7½)	bt. Mrs G.C.Day (12)	+16
R.E.Wallis (8)	bt. Mrs P.H.Mann (10)	+15
H.N.D.Meyer (7)	bt. P.H.Mann (7)	+ 5

Third Round

B.D.Yallop (8)	bt. Dr S.R.C.Malin (8)	+19
Dr H.A.Pim (6½)	bt. W.Nicholson (11)	+ 6
C.E.Knight (7½)	bt. Mrs H.A.Pim (7)	+17
H.N.D.Meyer (7)	bt. R.E.Wallis (8)	+ 2 (T)

Semi-Final

B.D.Yallop (8)	bt. Dr H.A.Pim (6½)	+18
C.E.Knight (7½)	bt. H.N.D.Meyer (7)	+19

Final

C.E.Knight (7½)	bt. B.D.Yallop (8)	+ 4
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Event 4: Open Handicap Singles (33 Entries)

First Round

R.L.Everest (3)	bt. Mrs D.Waterhouse (11)	+15
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Second Round

Dr H.A.Pim (6½)	bt. Mrs G.F.H.Elvey (1½)	+ 2
Mrs I.B.Tucker (10)	bt. Revd W.E.Gladstone (-½)	+ 7
Lt-Col D.F.T.Brown (11)	bt. R.Wood (1)	+14
H.J.Devitt (6½)	bt. R.A.Simpson (1½)	+17
E.J.Tucker (1)	bt. Mrs G.C.Day (12)	+13
Mrs H.F.Chittenden (2½)	bt. H.G.B.Wagnell (10)	+15
Mrs H.A.Pim (7)	bt. Mrs E.M.Temple (4½)	+ 8
R.L.Everest (3)	bt. D.A.Harris (½)	+12
Miss H.D.Parker (5½)	bt. W.Nicholson (11)	+ 5
R.E.Wallis (8)	bt. Captain M.F.Buller (4)	+ 7
Mrs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (9)	bt. Lady Ursula Abbey (4½)	+15
B.D.Yallop (8)	bt. E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (-1)	+18
Mrs P.H.Mann (10)	bt. Mrs W.Longman (1)	+ 7
J.Haigh (2½)	bt. Mrs R.A.Simpson (2)	+ 6
Dr S.R.C.Malin (8)	bt. C.G.Pountney (½)	+23
P.H.Mann (7)	bt. Mrs H.J.Devitt (7½)	+19

Third Round

Dr H.A.Pim (6½)	bt. Mrs I.B.Tucker (10)	+14
H.J.Devitt (6½)	bt. Lt-Col D.F.T.Brown (11)	+ 5
E.J.Tucker (1)	bt. Mrs H.F.Chittenden (2½)	+23
Mrs H.A.Pim (7)	bt. R.L.Everest (3)	+20
R.E.Wallis (8)	bt. Miss H.D.Parker (5½)	+ 6
B.D.Yallop (8)	bt. Mrs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (9)	+11
Mrs P.H.Mann (10)	bt. J.Haigh (2½)	+14
Dr S.R.C.Malin (8)	bt. P.H.Mann (7)	+ 1

Fourth Round

Dr H.A.Pim (6½)	bt. H.J.Devitt (6½)	+ 5
E.J.Tucker (1)	bt. Mrs H.A.Pim (7)	+15
B.D.Yallop (8)	bt. R.E.Wallis (8)	+ 7
Dr S.R.C.Malin (8)	bt. Mrs P.H.Mann (10)	+ 4

Semi-Final

E.J.Tucker (1)	bt. Dr H.A.Pim (6½)	+ 5
B.D.Yallop (8)	bt. Dr S.R.C.Malin (8)	+15

Final

E.J.Tucker (1)	bt. B.D.Yallop (8)	+12
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Event 5: Handicap Doubles (18 Pairs)

First Round

C.G.Pountney & Mrs I.B.Tucker (10½)	bt. Revd W.E.Gladstone & W.Nicholson (10½)	+ 4 (T)
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Mr & Mrs P.H.Mann (17)	bt. Mr & Mrs E.C.Tyrwhitt Drake (8)	+23
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Second Round

Mr & Mrs H.J.Devitt (14)	bt. H.G.B.Wagnell & Mrs G.F.H.Elvey (11½)	+16
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R.A.Simpson & Mrs G.C.Day (13½)	bt. Cdr G.Borrett & Mrs D.Waterhouse (10)	+ 3 (T)
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R.Wood & Dr S.R.C.Malin (9)	bt. Mrs W.Longman & Miss H.D.Parker (6½)	+12
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Pountney & Mrs Tucker	bt. D.A.Harris & H.N.D.Meyer (7½)	+11
J.Haigh & Mrs H.F.Chittenden (5)	bt. Mr & Mrs Mann	+ 1 (T)
C.E.Knight & L.Rushworth (17½)	bt. E.J.Tucker & Mrs R.A.Simpson (3)	+ 1
R.E.Wallis & B.D.Yallop (16)	bt. Dr & Mrs H.A.Pim (13½)	+ 1 (T)
R.L.Everest & Lt-Col D.F.T.Brown (14)	bt. Captain M.F.Buller & Lady Ursula Abbey (8½)	+17

Wood & Malin	bt. Simpson & Mrs Day	+ 9
Wood & Malin	bt. Pountney & Mrs Tucker	+12
Knight & Rushworth	bt. Haigh & Mrs Chittenden	+23
Wallis & Yallop	bt. Everest & Brown	+21

Third Round

Simpson & Mrs Day	bt. Mr & Mrs Devitt	+ 9
Wood & Malin	bt. Pountney & Mrs Tucker	+12
Knight & Rushworth	bt. Haigh & Mrs Chittenden	+23
Wallis & Yallop	bt. Everest & Brown	+21

Semi-Final

Wood & Malin	bt. Simpson & Mrs Day	+ 9
Knight & Rushworth	bt. Wallis & Yallop	+ 8 (T)

Final

Knight & Rushworth	bt. Wood & Malin	+12
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Carrickmines: June 9-14

Results

Event 1: Championship of County Dublin (9 Entries)

DRAW

First Round

Mrs H.M.Read	bt. C.A.Gamble	+ 7
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Second Round

C.M. von Schmieder	bt. R.E.Steen	+15
R.J.Leonard	bt. Mrs H.M.Read	+ 7
Lady FitzGerald	bt. A.D.Craig	+ 5
T.O.Read	bt. Miss F.Joly	+12

Semi-Final

C.M. von Schmieder	bt. R.J.Leonard	+17
T.O.Read	bt. Lady FitzGerald	+ 1

Final

T.O.Read	bt. C.M. von Schmieder	+ 4
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PROCESS

First Round

Miss F.Joly	bt. R.E.Steen	+22
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Second Round

Miss F.Joly	bt. Mrs H.M.Read	+12
R.J.Leonard	bt. A.D.Craig	+10
C.M. von Schmieder	bt. Lady FitzGerald	+ 7
T.O.Read	w.o. C.A.Gamble	opp. scr.

Semi-Final

R.J.Leonard	bt. Miss F.Joly	+ 5
T.O.Read	bt. C.M. von Schmieder	+19

Final

T.O.Read	bt. R.J.Leonard	+ 3
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PLAY-OFF FOR SECOND PLACE

R.J.Leonard	bt. C.M. von Schmieder	+ 8
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Event 2: Duff Matthews Cup (10 Entries)

First Round

Mrs N.Figgis (6)	bt. J.Maguire (16)	+15
Revd W.Rooke (6)	bt. Madame O'Morchoe (10)	+ 5

Second Round

P.Brown (16)	bt. Sir A.Beit (14)	+ 5
Mrs N.Figgis (6)	bt. F.Regan (6)	+ 4
Revd W.Rooke (6)	bt. Miss G.Hopkins (6)	+12
Mrs F.Regan (7)	bt. J.Campbell (16)	+12

Semi-Final

Mrs N.Figgis (6)	bt. P.Brown (16)	+ 7
Mrs F.Regan (7)	bt. Revd W.Rooke (6)	+ 2

Final

Mrs F.Regan (7)	bt. Mrs N.Figgis (6)	+ 7
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Event 3: Boxwell Cup (11 Entries)

First Round

Mrs H.M.Read (3½)	bt. Madame O'Morchoe (10)	+13
C.M. von Schmieder (5)	bt. R.J.Leonard (1½)	+18
A.D.Craig (3½)	bt. R.E.Steen (5)	+ 5

Second Round

R.L.Hannon (6)	bt. Lady FitzGerald (4)	+ 6
C.M. von Schmieder (5)	bt. Mrs H.M.Read (3½)	+ 4
A.D.Craig (3½)	bt. Miss G.Hopkins (6)	+ 5
Miss F.Joly (½)	bt. C.A.Gamble (2½)	+ 8

Semi-Final

C.M. von Schmieder	w.o. R.L.Hannon (6)	opp. scr.
Miss F.Joly (½)	bt. A.D.Craig (3½)	+15

Final

C.M. von Schmieder (5)	bt. Miss F.Joly (½)	+22
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Event 4: Coronation Cups (7 Pairs)

First Round

Lady FitzGerald & J.Campbell (20)	bt. R.J.Leonard & Sir A.Beit (16)	+ 7
Mrs N.Figgis & Revd W.Rooke (12)	bt. C.M. von Schmieder & Mrs H.M.Read (9)	+12
Madame O'Morchoe & Miss F.Joly (8)	bt. Mr & Mrs F.Regan (13)	+ 9

Semi-Final

Mrs Figgis & Revd W.Rooke	bt. Lady FitzGerald & Campbell	+ 5
A.D.Craig & C.A.Gamble (6)	bt. Madame O'Morchoe & Miss Joly	+ 8

Final

Craig & Gamble	bt. Mrs Figgis & Revd W.Rooke	+19
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The Veterans' Championship, played at Budleigh Salterton, June 9-14

The very disappointing entry, which included only 7 visitors and 18 local competitors, had its compensations in that the tournament could be carried through in a leisurely manner, which fitted in with the excessive heat throughout the whole week. This was the first time that this event had been played at Budleigh Salterton, and all who took part enjoyed it immensely, including Captain Forrest Tucker from the Birnam Wood Club in Santa Barbara, California, who was able to tell us of the enthusiasm for our game in those distant climes.

The fast lawns and rigid hoops, which many declared must have been of President's Cup dimensions, caused many a *sotto-voce* comment to escape from the frequent sufferers from a failed short hoop-run or yard-long roquet. A feature of the week was the large number of very close finishes, no fewer than seven games being won by only one point.

Bill Perry convincingly won both Draw and Process of the Veterans' Championship, and his final in the Process against Sir Leonard Daldry was an especially fine performance. After taking his Yellow to 4-back quickly, there followed a period of delicate sparring between the two players until Perry took his Red from Hoop 2 to Rover, peeling the Yellow through 4-back and Penult in the process. Sir Leonard narrowly missed the lift shot, leaving Perry to finish the game with a spectacular peg-out after running his last hoop.

The play-off for second place between Sir Leonard Daldry and Col W.R.Healing provided splendid entertainment on the last afternoon. In the course of this Bill Healing broke his mallet shaft, but played magnificently with a borrowed mallet until he accidentally pegged out one of his balls. In a nail-biting finish Daldry crept round, although he gave Healing far too many shooting chances for comfort.

George Digby was an outstanding performer, winning all his ten singles games and two cups. Having been facetiously advised to book a late supper for Friday evening, with three games to play that day, he proceeded to finish and win all three before tea-time!

Mrs E.Rotherham, Vice-President of the Association, presented the awards, and gave thanks in her ever-charming manner to all who had made the tournament such a happy and enjoyable event at this delightful centre of West Country croquet.

Results

Event 1: The Veterans' Championship (8 Entries)

DRAW

<i>First Round</i>			
Sir Leonard Daldry	bt. C.Edwards	+19	
Col. W.R.Healing	bt. Lt-Col G.E.Cave	+22	
B.G.Perry	bt. P.Newton	+23	
Dr W.R.Bucknall	w.o. Mrs E.Rotherham	opp. ret'd.	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
Col. W.R.Healing	bt. Sir Leonard Daldry	+13	
B.G.Perry	bt. Dr W.R.Bucknall	+14	

<i>Final</i>			
B.G.Perry	bt. Col. W.R.Healing	+14	

PROCESS

<i>First Round</i>			
B.G.Perry	bt. C.Edwards	+15	
Dr W.R.Bucknall	w.o. Lt-Col G.E.Cave	opp. scr.	
Sir Leonard Daldry	bt. P.Newton	+14	
Mrs E.Rotherham	w.o. Col. W.R.Healing	opp. scr.	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
B.G.Perry	bt. Dr W.R.Bucknall	+17	
Sir Leonard Daldry	bt. Mrs E.Rotherham	+20	

<i>Final</i>			
B.G.Perry	bt. Sir Leonard Daldry	+23	

PLAY-OFF FOR SECOND PLACE

Sir Leonard Daldry	bt. Col. W.R.Healing	+2	
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Event 2: Restricted Handicap Singles (15 Entries)

DRAW

<i>First Round</i>			
Col. E.L.L.Vulliamy (3½)	bt Mrs C.W.Marshall (13)	+13	
Mrs P.Newton (6)	bt. Dr R.B.N.Smartt (5)	+ 5 (T)	
Dr C.W.Evans (9)	bt. Captain F.Tucker (9)	+ 1 (T)	
Major G.B.Horridge (5½)	bt. J.G.Warwick (4)	+ 8 (T)	
G.S.Digby (5)	bt. Dr C.W.Marshall (13)	+ 1 (T)	
Brig. H.E.Fernyhough (9)	bt. Mrs S.S.Cruden (8)	+ 7 (T)	
Dr B.R.Sandiford (5½)	bt. Miss D.Locks Latham (9)	+ 2 (T)	

<i>Second Round</i>			
Col. E.L.L.Vulliamy (3½)	bt. Mrs P.Newton (6)	+20	
Major G.B.Horridge (5½)	bt. Dr C.W.Evans (9)	+16	
G.S.Digby (5)	bt. Brig H.E.Fernyhough (9)	+ 4 (T)	
K.S.Schofield (3½)	bt. Dr B.R.Sandiford (5½)	+22	

PROCESS

<i>First Round</i>			
G.S.Digby (5)	bt. Col. E.L.L.Vulliamy (3½)	+15	
Captain F.Tucker (9)	bt. Dr B.R.Sandiford (5½)	+23	
Mrs S.S.Cruden (8)	bt. Mrs P.Newton (6)	+19	
Dr. C.W.Marshall (13)	bt. Mrs C.W.Marshall (13)	+ 4 (T)	
Dr C.W.Evans (9)	bt. Miss D.Locks Latham (9)	+ 8 (T)	

Dr R.B.N.Smartt (5)	bt. Brig H.E.Fernyhough (9)	+ 1 (T)	
K.S.Schofield (3½)	bt. J.G.Warwick (4)	+ 3 (T)	

Second Round

G.S.Digby (5)	bt. Captain F.Tucker (9)	+10	
Major G.B.Horridge (5½)	bt. Mrs S.S.Cruden (8)	+14	
Dr C.W.Marshall (13)	w.o. Dr C.W.Evans (9)	opp. scr.	
K.S.Schofield (3½)	bt. Dr R.B.N.Smartt (5)	+14 (T)	

SEMI-FINALISTS RE-DRAWN FOR FINAL STAGES

<i>First Round</i>			
Dr C.W.Marshall (13)	bt. Col. E.L.L.Vulliamy (3½)	+ 2 (T)	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
G.S.Digby (5)	bt. K.S.Schofield (3½)	+20	
Major G.B.Horridge (5½)	bt. Dr C.W.Marshall (13)	+ 2 (T)	

<i>Final</i>			
G.S.Digby (5)	bt. Major G.B.Horridge (5½)	+23	

Event 3a: 'X' Handicap Singles (17 Entries)

<i>First Round</i>			
G.S.Digby (5)	bt. Mrs E.Rotherham (0)	+22	

<i>Second Round</i>			
Mrs S.S.Cruden (8)	bt. Dr B.R.Sandiford (5½)	+16	
J.G.Warwick (4)	bt. P.Newton (-½)	+ 6	
Major G.B.Horridge (5½)	bt. Dr C.W.Marshall (13)	+12	
G.S.Digby (5)	bt. Sir Leonard Daldry (0)	+12	
Col. E.L.L.Vulliamy (3½)	bt. Miss D.Locks Latham (9)	+ 4	
C.Edwards (3)	bt. Mrs C.W.Marshall (13)	+16	
K.S.Schofield (3½)	bt. Mrs P.Newton (6)	+21	
Dr W.R.Bucknall (1½)	bt. Captain F.Tucker (9)	+14	

<i>Third Round</i>			
Mrs S.S.Cruden (8)	bt. J.G.Warwick (4)	+ 3	
G.S.Digby (5)	bt. Major G.B.Horridge (5½)	+10	
Col. E.L.L.Vulliamy (3½)	bt. C.Edwards (3)	+ 1	
Dr W.R.Bucknall (1½)	bt. K.S.Schofield (3½)	+ 4	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
G.S.Digby (5)	bt. Mrs S.S.Cruden (8)	+17	
Col. E.L.L.Vulliamy (3½)	bt. Dr W.R.Bucknall (1½)	+15	

<i>Final</i>			
G.S.Digby (5)	bt. Col. E.L.L.Vulliamy (3½)	+15	

Event 3b: 'Y' Handicap Singles (9 Entries)

<i>Final</i>			
Dr B.R.Sandiford (5½)	bt. Miss D.Locks Latham (9)	+ 5	

Event 3c: 'Z' Handicap Singles (3 Entries)

<i>Final</i>			
K.S.Schofield (3½)	bt. Mrs P.Newton (6)	+ 6	

Event 4: Handicap Doubles (10 Pairs)

<i>First Round</i>			
Major G.B.Horridge & G.S.Digby (10½)	bt. J.G.Warwick & Captain F.Tucker (13)	+14	
Lt-Col G.E.Cave & P.A.Tunmer (7)	bt. Sir Leonard Daldry & Dr W.R.Bucknall (1½)	+ 1 (T)	

<i>Second Round</i>			
Mr & Mrs P.Newton (5½)	bt. K.S.Schofield & Mrs S.S.Cruden (10½)	+ 1 (T)	
Dr B.R.Sandiford & Dr C.W.Marshall (17½)	bt. Horridge & Digby	+ 4 (T)	
Dr C.W.Evans & B.Hancock (16)	bt. Cave & Tunmer	+ 5 (T)	
Col. W.R.Healing & C.Edwards (4)	bt. Mrs E.Rotherham & Mrs C.W.Marshall (12)	+22	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
Mr & Mrs Newton	bt. Dr Sandiford & Dr Marshall	+16	
Healing & Edwards	bt. Dr Evans & Hancock	+18	

<i>Final</i>			
Healing & Edwards	bt. Mr & Mrs Newton	+ 8	

The Men's and Women's Championships: June 16-21

With only 23 entries, this was the smallest field since the Caskets left Roehampton, but good management and perfect weather ensured the maximum amount of play and enjoyment for everyone. Anyone who wants guaranteed play, good food (and cheap) and fast lawns should opt for this tournament.

There were several new managerial ploys. The Final of the Women's Championship was played, as at Wimbledon, on the Friday. This left Saturday free for the two Doubles finals and play-off and for the Men's Championship. Friday was also devoted to the Process of the Du Pre Cup and, as Colin Prichard was still in both sides of the Doubles, the Play-Off between him and William Bulloch was played that night ending at 9.15 - for both of them it was the 4th match of the day. William galloped away at the start of the game playing with ease and confidence, but after Colin hit the second lift he too went round and, as the dew fell, William could not adapt to the change of pace, and Colin became the first person ever to win the Du Pre three times running. In fact only Mrs Rotherham had previously won this event three times.

In the Women's Mrs K.M.O.Wheeler received many good wishes on her recent marriage; she promises to dominate women's croquet as much under her new name as she did under that of Sessions. Mrs Neville Rolfe, playing quite beautifully, did take one game off her; and in the Final Mrs Meachem fought back, when Mrs Wheeler faltered in the closing stages of both games, and kept her to single-figure victories. Mrs Wheeler is the first person to win this Championship three times running since the war, but she still has some way to go to equal the seven wins of the legendary Mrs Rotherham, who was much missed.

'The fewer the higher' did not apply to the standard of play in the Men's event. Perhaps there was a reaction after the stresses of the 1975 Tests; neither of the Internationals reached the final, and D.J.Bulloch, the New Zealand reserve who had knocked them both out, could not adapt his game to a temporary loss of shooting accuracy. So the Final was between Edgar Jackson the consistent veteran, and Andrew Hope the young man who was in the great Open Doubles Final last year. Hope was perhaps the only player not suited by the sunny week - 'farmers hope for a wet summer' - as he was able to enter only for the Singles, and between matches he was hay-making. Jackson, owing to a bye and walk-over only had to beat the Manager Gladstone (which he duly did) to reach the Final. But Jackson filled his time by organising a Swiss Extra which gave everyone four matches and was much enjoyed and which also produced a minor record: the winner of the Men's Championship also won the Extra Event! In the Final one mistake at 1-back from Hope was enough for Jackson, at his most fluent, to go out in the second game doing three peels, but failing to peg out. Not one triple was completed during the week, and very few were even contemplated. The most exciting match was between Murray and Dennis Bulloch, the latter winning the third game by 1 point. Murray hit in three times after he was pegged out, but each time failed to get control and only made a hoop at a time. The three games lasted 6 hours, of which Bulloch was in play for 2 hours and 22 mins, and Murray for 3 hours and 39 mins (timed on a chess clock).

During the 60s the Open Mixed Doubles seemed to be won more often by outsiders than by the fancied pairs, culminating in 1969 when Mrs Prichard and her 16-year-old son William came through to win. The next year the Doubles were made Draw and Process, and this has given Managers many sleepless nights. Gladstone abandoned the practice of starting every day with Doubles matches, but he pushed on with them after Best of Three singles matches were finished. This proved popular with the players, but as usual the Women's matches were more protracted than the Men's. Two of them were decided on time (9 hours) and in the first of these the 8-hour limit was invoked

for the second game: Miss Duthie won the first after 5 hours, Mrs Lightfoot the second by only 1 on time and she then skated round making 17 points in the 1 hour left for the third game. However, Mrs Lightfoot, a former Champion, was not so lucky in the next match and lost, by only 2 on time, in the third game, to Mrs Meachem.

This year Mrs Prichard and her second son Colin won both sides of the Doubles and so obviated a play-off and allowed the prize-giving to take place just after tea. Their closest match was in the Final of the Draw when the holders, Hands and Mrs Wheeler, pegged out Colin and were laid up for the Rover when Mrs Prichard nicked the last shot and scored her last three points to win the game. Hands, 'sighing like a furnace', was not at his best this week, and Col Prichard and Mrs Lightfoot put out the favourites in a tactical game in the Process semi-final.

Several people were heard to say that this was their favourite tournament in the Calendar - I agree.

Results

Event 1: The Men's Championship (12 Entries)

<i>First Round</i>			
Rev'd W.E.Gladstone	bt. Cdr G.Borrett	+16 +16	
R.O.B.Whittington	bt. W.R.Bulloch	- 7 + 8 +13	
Dr M.Murray	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	+14 +16	
D.J.Bulloch	bt. P.W.Hands	+10 + 9	

<i>Second Round</i>			
G.E.P.Jackson	w.o. J.H.J.Soutter	opp. scr.	
Rev'd W.E.Gladstone	bt. R.O.B.Whittington	+24 +18	
D.J.Bulloch	bt. Dr M.Murray	-11 + 5 + 1	
A.B.Hope	bt. C.H.L.Prichard	+15 +14	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
G.E.P.Jackson	bt. Rev'd W.E.Gladstone	+19 +17	
A.B.Hope	bt. D.J.Bulloch	+ 4 +24	

<i>Final</i>			
G.E.P.Jackson	bt. A.B.Hope	+15 +10	

Event 2: The Women's Championship (11 Entries)

<i>First Round</i>			
Mrs J.N.Rolfe	bt. Mrs N.A.C.McMillan	+12 + 5	
Miss E.H.Arkell	bt. Miss I.M.Roe	+21 +24	
Miss B.Duthie	bt. Mrs G.H.Wood	+19 -16 +12	

<i>Second Round</i>			
Mrs K.M.O.Wheeler	bt. Mrs G.F.H.Elvey	+23 +17	
Mrs J.N.Rolfe	bt. Miss E.H.Arkell	+ 2 +11	
Mrs E.M.Lightfoot	bt. Miss B.Duthie	-6 +1 (T) +13 (T)	
Mrs J.B.Meachem	bt. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	-13 +15 +16	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
Mrs K.M.O.Wheeler	bt. Mrs J.N.Rolfe	+19 -19 +11	
Mrs J.B.Meachem	bt. Mrs E.M.Lightfoot	+ 3 -17 + 2 (T)	

<i>Final</i>			
Mrs K.M.O.Wheeler	bt. Mrs J.B.Meachem	+ 7 + 9	

Event 3: The Mixed Doubles Championship (9 Pairs)

DRAW

<i>First Round</i>			
Rev'd W.E.Gladstone & Mrs J.B.Meachem	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C. Prichard & Mrs E.M.Lightfoot	+24	

<i>Second Round</i>			
P.W.Hands & Mrs K.M.O.Wheeler	bt. D.J.Bulloch & Mrs N.A.C. McMillan	+ 5	
R.O.B.Whittington & Miss E.H.Arkell	bt. Rev'd W.E. Gladstone & Mrs Meachem	+ 9	
G.E.P.Jackson & Mrs J.N.Rolfe	bt. W.R.Bulloch & Mrs G.F.H.Elvey	+23	
C.H.L.Prichard & Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Cdr G.Borrett & Mrs G.H.Wood	+14	

<i>Semi-Final</i>			
Hands & Mrs Wheeler	bt. Whittington & Miss Arkell	+11	
C.Prichard & Mrs Prichard	bt. Jackson & Mrs Rolfe	+14	

<i>Final</i>		
C.Prichard & Mrs Prichard	bt. Hands & Mrs Wheeler	+ 3
PROCESS		
<i>First Round</i>		
C.Prichard & Mrs Prichard	bt. D.Bullock & Mrs McMillan	+ 6
<i>Second Round</i>		
C.Prichard & Mrs Prichard	bt. Revd W.E.Gladstone & Mrs Meachem	+14
Whittington & Miss Arkell	bt. W.Bullock & Mrs Elvey	+14
Hands & Mrs Wheeler	bt. Jackson & Mrs Rolfe	+ 5
Lt-Col Prichard & Mrs Lightfoot	bt. Borrett & Mrs Wood	+ 7
<i>Semi-Final</i>		
C.Prichard & Mrs Prichard	bt. Whittington & Miss Arkell	+18
Lt-Col Prichard & Mrs Lightfoot	bt. Hands & Mrs Wheeler	+ 3 (T)
<i>Final</i>		
C.Prichard & Mrs Prichard	bt. Lt-Col Prichard & Mrs Lightfoot	+ 5 (T)
Event 4: The Du Pre Cup (11 Entries)		
DRAW		
<i>First Round</i>		
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Mrs G.H.Wood	+14
P.W.Hands	bt. Mrs N.A.C.McMillan	+24
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Miss E.H.Arkell	+10
<i>Second Round</i>		
Cdr G.Borrett	bt. R.O.B.Whittington	+ 4
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	bt. P.W.Hands	+ 5
Miss B.Duthie	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	+13
C.H.L.Prichard	bt. W.R.Bullock	+ 6
<i>Semi-Final</i>		
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Cdr G.Borrett	+ 2
C.H.L.Prichard	bt. Miss B.Duthie	+ 5 (T)
<i>Final</i>		
C.H.L.Prichard	bt. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	+ 6
PROCESS		
<i>First Round</i>		
Miss B.Duthie	bt. R.O.B.Whittington	+ 6
C.H.L.Prichard	w.o. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	opp. scr.
W.R.Bullock	bt. Cdr G.Borrett	+18
<i>Second Round</i>		
P.W.Hands	bt. Miss B.Duthie	+ 1
C.H.L.Prichard	bt. Miss E.H.Arkell	+18
W.R.Bullock	bt. Mrs N.A.C.McMillan	+22
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Mrs G.H.Wood	+ 2
<i>Semi-Final</i>		
P.W.Hands	bt. C.H.L.Prichard	+11
W.R.Bullock	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	+ 3
<i>Final</i>		
W.R.Bullock	bt. P.W.Hands	+16
PLAY-OFF		
C.H.L.Prichard	bt. W.R.Bullock	+ 6

Ryde: June 16-21

The tournament at Ryde was played in delightful, sunny weather, with breezes, sometimes keen it is true, but games were played into the evening in ideal conditions. Four good, fast lawns were provided at the Club, and once more the Governor of Osborne House kindly allowed the Club the use of the croquet lawn in the grounds; it adds interest and pleasure to go over and play a match there in such beautiful and historic surroundings, knowing that critical tongues have been left behind on the home ground!

Of course all former entrants at Ryde missed dear Major Dibley, the Manager for many years, but Gerald Birch cheerfully took over, and from his official corner on the verandah

"admitted" keenly and competently. As he had already entered for all events, he was a very busy man throughout the week.

From the Tauranga Club, Bay of Plenty, New Zealand, came Lt-Col E.D.Tims, who very much enjoyed what he considered to be a high standard of play. He is a qualified Umpire in New Zealand, and proved very useful to the Manager in this regard.

Cyril Pountney played and won many games. He set his hat straight, hitched his pants and hit *everything*. Eleanor Bressey found herself in the A Class playing Gerald Birch; she struggled to make it difficult for her opponent to win easily, and in this was successful for three hours. Gwynneth Mann played well throughout the week, and deserved her win and handicap reduction. Bob Locke, coming to the Ryde Tournament with his wife for the first time, hoped to win a reduction in handicap, and was successful. It was a pleasure to watch Betty Tucker on the lawns, for after two or three years as a struggling beginner she begins to know what should be done, and proved a very useful doubles partner.

As an experiment Ryde provided an event for 13-16 bisquers. Five players entered. When a tournament has a competition for beginners, it is disappointing to have so few players avail themselves of the experience and fun offered. Very high bisquers should watch next season's programme and take courage if the same opportunity occurs again. Mrs Scarr from Bristol, who came as a 16 to her first tournament, well earned her reduction.

Joe Orchard, President of the Ryde Club, was everywhere looking after everything, and the ladies catering committee provided delightful meals. It was part of the Bryan Lloyd-Pratt syndrome that cucumber sandwiches should be served in tournament week; sure enough, there they were one afternoon, and tradition was honoured. Players who cross the water and visit the Ryde Tournament just can't help enjoying themselves.

Results

Event 1: Isle of Wight Championship (5 Entries)

DRAW

<i>First Round</i>			
C.G.Pountney	bt. G.Birch	+ 2	
<i>Semi-Final</i>			
C.G.Pountney	bt. E.J.Tucker	+10	
Lt-Col E.D.Tims	bt. Mrs E.E.Bressey	+ 8	
<i>Final</i>			
C.G.Pountney	bt. Lt-Col E.D.Tims	+17	

PROCESS

<i>First Round</i>			
G.Birch	bt. Mrs E.E.Bressey	+17	
<i>Semi-Final</i>			
G.Birch	w.o. C.G.Pountney	opp. scr.	
E.J.Tucker	bt. Lt-Col E.D.Tims	+ 7	
<i>Final</i>			
E.J.Tucker	bt. G.Birch	+19	
PLAY-OFF			
C.G.Pountney	bt. E.J.Tucker	+16	

Event 2: 'B' Level Singles (6 Entries)

<i>First Round</i>			
E.A.Locke	bt. F.E.M.Puxon	+ 3 (T)	
Mrs F.E.M.Puxon	bt. Miss M.Bryan	+10	
<i>Semi-Final</i>			
E.A.Locke	bt. P.H.Mann	+10	
Mrs F.E.M.Puxon	bt. Mrs F.J.T.Mew	+15	
<i>Final</i>			
Mrs F.E.M.Puxon	bt. E.A.Locke	+13	

Event 3: 'C' Handicap Singles (5 Entries)

<i>First Round</i>		
W.A.Scarr (12)	bt. Mrs K.M.Lowein (12)	+ 3
<i>Semi-Final</i>		
W.A.Scarr (12)	bt. Mrs I.B.Tucker (10)	+ 7
Mrs P.H.Mann (10)	bt. H.G.B.Wagnell (10)	+16
<i>Final</i>		
W.A.Scarr (12)	bt. Mrs P.H.Mann (10)	+14

Event 4: 'D' Handicap Singles (5 Entries)

<i>First Round</i>		
Mrs W.A.Scarr (16)	bt. L.F.Palmer (14)	+ 8
<i>Semi-Final</i>		
Mrs W.A.Scarr (16)	bt. Miss D.E.Rogers (14)	+ 9
R.W.Newnham (15)	bt. Mrs E.A.Locke (15)	+13
<i>Final</i>		
R.W.Newnham (15)	bt. Mrs W.A.Scarr (16)	+ 5

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

<i>First Round</i>		
Mrs W.A.Scarr (16)	bt. P.H.Mann (7)	+ 1 (T)
C.G.Pountney (½)	bt. F.E.M.Puxon (7½)	+14
E.A.Locke (8)	bt. Mrs E.E.Bressey (4)	+13
<i>Second Round</i>		
E.J.Tucker (0)	bt. Mrs P.H.Mann (10)	+18
Mrs F.J.T.Mew (8)	bt. W.A.Scarr (12)	+ 3
R.W.Newnham (15)	bt. Mrs F.E.M.Puxon (5)	+ 3
C.G.Pountney (½)	bt. Mrs W.A.Scarr (16)	+14
E.A.Locke (8)	bt. Miss M.Bryan (8)	+24
H.G.B.Wagnell (10)	bt. Mrs E.A.Locke (15)	+15
Lt-Col E.D.Tims (2)	bt. Miss D.E.Rogers (14)	+12
G.Birch (1)	bt. Mrs I.B.Tucker (10)	+12
<i>Third Round</i>		
E.J.Tucker (0)	bt. Mrs F.J.T.Mew (8)	+19
C.G.Pountney (½)	bt. R.W.Newnham (15)	+12
E.A.Locke (8)	bt. H.G.B.Wagnell (10)	+19
G.Birch (1)	bt. Lt-Col E.D.Tims (2)	+10
<i>Semi-Final</i>		
C.G.Pountney (½)	bt. E.J.Tucker (0)	+12
E.A.Locke (8)	w.o. G.Birch (1)	opp. scr.
<i>Final</i>		
E.A.Locke (8)	bt. C.G.Pountney (½)	+16

Event 5b: 'Y' Handicap Singles (10 Entries)

<i>Final</i>		
Mrs P.H.Mann (10)	bt. Mrs E.E.Bressey (4)	+14

Event 6: Handicap Doubles (10 Pairs)

<i>First Round</i>		
C.G.Pountney & Mrs I.B.Tucker (10½)	bt. E.J.Tucker & Mrs F.J.T.Mew (8)	+12
Mrs P.H.Mann & H.G.B.Wagnell (20)	bt. Mrs E.E.Bressey & Miss D.E.Rogers (18)	+ 8
<i>Second Round</i>		
P.H.Mann & Mrs K.M.Lowein (19)	bt. Lt-Col E.D.Tims & L.F.Palmer (16)	+ 5
Pountney & Mrs Tucker	bt. Miss M.Bryan & R.W.Newnham (23)	+15
Mrs Mann & Wagnell	bt. Mr & Mrs F.E.M.Puxon (12½)	+ 1 (T)
G.Birch & W.A.Scarr (13)	bt. Mr & Mrs E.A.Locke (23)	+18
<i>Semi-Final</i>		
Pountney & Mrs Tucker	bt. Mann & Mrs Lowein	+17
Birch & Scarr	bt. Mrs Mann & Wagnell	+ 3 (T)
<i>Final</i>		
Pountney & Mrs Tucker	bt. Birch & Scarr	+ 8

The Challenge and the Gilbey Cups, played at Southwick, June 23-28

We played host for the Challenge and Gilbey Tournament this year, for the first time, so far as I can remember. If our guests enjoyed themselves as much as we did, the occasion can be written down as an unqualified success. We just hope they did, and it was. Many games sparkled as brilliantly as the June sun, and drew continual "ooh's", "ah's" and "oh's" from spectators. (Doubtless some "damn & blasts" came *sotto voce* from players who could hardly be blamed when a few of their more adventurous shots missed the objective by a hair's breadth.) On the other hand, some games lingered leisurely on. Edith Tucker, managing her first tournament opined (in her friendly way) that they were so enjoying the sunshine that they just didn't want to finish!

Those of us seeking the pleasure of society rather than battling dourly for the Cups (and what gorgeous trophies — all six of them!) heard with pleasure the delicious brogue from the Shamrock Isles, the down-to-earth accents of New Zealand, and, for the first time here, the American English of California. Forrest Tucker, retired captain in the U.S. Navy, recently founded the Birnam Wood Club, now affiliated with our Association. It was therefore particularly pleasant to have him with us — hob-nobbing with everybody — a valuable ambassador from one country to another if ever I met one.

Should the Broadcasting Company show on our sets the result of their four hours activities around the Courts, there might be one or two surprises. I might even be seen running a 4-yard hoop with consummate ease. It's all "done with mirrors" — backwards! Still, I held a mallet beautifully until they said "When". No such sleight of hand could be seen in the contests for the events. This game of ours stands out among all other outdoor sports for chivalry and honesty, untainted by rewards other than getting our names inscribed on a trophy. Not for us the "Off-side" quarrels of football, the "In or out" arguments of tennis, the time-serving of some cricket matches, or whatever crooked things there might be in bowls (I know the "balls" are biased) — we play straight. On two occasions I saw the Challenge and Gilbey players disclaim a shot because of some infringement which nobody could see but themselves.

An exhibition of fratricide between the Bulloch brothers raised no bad feeling, and William was cheerfully resurrected immediately after the kill. It was a particularly friendly tournament with an air of old-time manners about it — or that is how my somewhat romantic mind saw it. Not that there was much "Old time" in some very vigorous and determined Croquet, or in the Ladies' dress which was very much "with it". I have in mind particularly Mrs Crane's eye-catching slacks and Liz Neal's shapely hat! But — to finish on a sartorial note — I wonder what happened to William Bulloch's set of fancy braces?

Results

Event 1: The Roehampton Challenge Cup (12 Entries)

DRAW

<i>First Round</i>		
I.G.Vincent	bt. D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller	+ 3
J.N.Robinson	bt. W.E.Moore	+ 3
Mrs W.Longman	bt. W.H.Austin	+ 8
W.R.Bullock	bt. N.W.T.Cox	+ 3
<i>Second Round</i>		
D.J.Bullock	bt. S.Tapp	+ 5
J.N.Robinson	bt. I.G.Vincent	+11
W.R.Bullock	bt. Mrs W.Longman	+13
H.A.Sheppard	bt. Miss F.Joly	+ 7
<i>Semi-Final</i>		
D.J.Bullock	bt. J.N.Robinson	+ 7
W.R.Bullock	bt. H.A.Sheppard	+ 9

<i>Final</i>	D.J.Bulloch	bt. W.R.Bulloch	+ 7
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PROCESS

<i>First Round</i>	D.J.Bulloch	bt. W.R.Bulloch	+17
	Miss F.Joly	bt. D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller	+ 8
	S.Tapp	bt. N.W.T.Cox	+ 5
	I.G.Vincent	bt. H.A.Sheppard	+15

<i>Second Round</i>	D.J.Bulloch	bt. J.N.Robinson	+19
	Miss F.Joly	bt. Mrs W.Longman	+20
	W.E.Moore	bt. S.Tapp	+ 6
	I.G.Vincent	bt. W.H.Austin	+19

<i>Semi-Final</i>	D.J.Bulloch	bt. Miss F.Joly	+14
	W.E.Moore	bt. I.G.Vincent	+10

<i>Final</i>	D.J.Bulloch	bt. W.E.Moore	+18
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PLAY-OFF FOR SECOND PLACE

W.E.Moore	bt. W.R.Bulloch	+ 8
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Event 2: The Council Challenge Cup (14 Entries)

DRAW

<i>First Round</i>	Mrs F.F.W.Staddon	bt. W.J.Baverstock	+ 8
	Mrs B.G.Neal	w.o. G.F.Paxon	opp. scr.
	F.F.W.Staddon	bt. Mrs H.F.Chittenden	+13
	Mrs R.E.Tucker	bt. Mrs E.M.Speer	+12
	Mrs E.R.Cox	bt. R.F.A.Crane	+22
	Mrs E.Asa-Thomas	bt. Miss H.D.Parker	+14

<i>Second Round</i>	Mrs B.G.Neal	bt. Mrs F.F.W.Staddon	+ 4
	Mrs R.E.Tucker	bt. F.F.W.Staddon	+ 2
	Mrs E.Asa-Thomas	bt. Mrs E.R.Cox	+ 8
	Lady FitzGerald	bt. W.B.C.Paynter	+ 7

<i>Semi-Final</i>	Mrs B.G.Neal	bt. Mrs R.E.Tucker	+ 5
	Mrs E.Asa-Thomas	w.o. Lady FitzGerald	opp. scr.

<i>Final</i>	Mrs B.G.Neal	bt. Mrs E.Asa-Thomas	+10
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PROCESS

<i>First Round</i>	R.F.A.Crane	bt. Mrs F.F.W.Staddon	+ 5
	W.B.C.Paynter	bt. F.F.W.Staddon	+ 5
	Mrs B.G.Neal	bt. Miss H.D.Parker	+18
	Mrs E.R.Cox	bt. W.J.Baverstock	+ 9
	Lady FitzGerald	bt. Mrs H.F.Chittenden	+ 7
	Mrs E.Asa-Thomas	bt. G.F.Paxon	+13

<i>Second Round</i>	R.F.A.Crane	bt. W.B.C.Paynter	+13
	Mrs E.M.Speer	bt. Mrs B.G.Neal	+ 2 (T)
	Mrs E.R.Cox	bt. Lady FitzGerald	+21
	Mrs E.Asa-Thomas	bt. Mrs R.E.Tucker	+ 5

<i>Semi-Final</i>	R.F.A.Crane	bt. Mrs E.M.Speer	+20
	Mrs E.R.Cox	bt. Mrs E.Asa-Thomas	+ 5

<i>Final</i>	Mrs E.R.Cox	bt. R.F.A.Crane	+12
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PLAY-OFF	Mrs E.R.Cox	bt. Mrs B.G.Neal	+15
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Event 3: The Reckitt Challenge Cup (7 Entries)

<i>First Round</i>	Mrs E.Higinbotham	bt. Lt-Col E.H.P.Mallinson	+18
	Captain F.Tucker	bt. Mrs W.Naylor	+18
	C.E.Knight	bt. Mrs E.H.P.Mallinson	+ 9

<i>Semi-Final</i>	Mrs E.Higinbotham	bt. Captain F.Tucker	+ 7
	C.E.Knight	bt. Mrs S.J.Turner	+ 7

<i>Final</i>	C.E.Knight	bt. Mrs E.Higinbotham	+15
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Event 4: The Stevenson Cup (8 Entries)

<i>First Round</i>	Mrs P.Harrison	bt. Madame O'Morchoe	+12
	W.A.Scarr	w.o.	opp. scr.
	G.Coats	bt. Mrs R.F.A.Crane	+20
	Mrs D.Osborne	bt. Mrs M.Rankin	+11

<i>Semi-Final</i>	W.A.Scarr	bt. Mrs P.Harrison	+11
	G.Coats	bt. Mrs D.Osborne	+11

<i>Final</i>	W.A.Scarr	bt. G.Coats	+ 6
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Event 5: Handicap Doubles (18 Pairs)

<i>First Round</i>	Miss F.Joly & Lady FitzGerald (6)	bt. Mrs W.Longman & Mrs E.Higinbotham (8)	+11
	J.N.Robinson & Mrs M.Rankin (14½)	bt. Mrs E.M.Speer & Mrs F.F.W.Staddon (10)	+12

<i>Second Round</i>	Mr & Mrs R.F.A.Crane (20)	bt. W.E.Moore & Mrs E.H.P.Mallinson (6)	+ 7 (T)
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	Mrs E.Asa-Thomas & H.A.Sheppard (7½)	bt. Madame O'Morchoe & Miss H.D.Parker (12½)	+ 4
	Captain F.Tucker & Mrs R.E.Tucker (14)	bt. Mrs B.G.Neal & I.G.Vincent (16)	+ 1 (T)
	Robinson & Mrs Rankin	bt. Miss Joly & Lady FitzGerald	+12
	Mrs P.Harrison & Mrs E.R.Cox (18)	bt. W.A.Scarr & S.Tapp (13)	+ 9
	W.R.Bulloch & Mrs S.J.Turner (6½)	bt. W.H.Austin & Mrs W.Naylor (9)	+21
	D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller & Mrs D.Osborne (9½)	bt. F.F.W.Staddon & G.Coats (18)	+15
	D.J.Bulloch & Lt-Col E.H.P.Mallinson (6½)	bt. C.E.Knight & Mrs H.F.Chittenden (9)	+20

<i>Third Round</i>	Mr & Mrs Crane	bt. Mrs Asa-Thomas & Sheppard	+ 6 (T)
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	Robinson & Mrs Rankin	bt. Captain Tucker & Mrs R.E.Tucker	+14
	Mrs Harrison & Mrs Cox	bt. W.R.Bulloch & Mrs Turner	+ 8
	D.J.Bulloch & Mallinson	bt. Hamilton-Miller & Mrs Osborne	+21

<i>Semi-Final</i>	Robinson & Mrs Rankin	bt. Mr & Mrs Crane	+ 7
	D.J.Bulloch & Mallinson	bt. Mrs Harrison & Mrs Cox	+ 1

<i>Final</i>	D.J.Bulloch & Mallinson	bt. Robinson & Mrs Rankin	+ 7
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PROCESS	D.J.Bulloch & Mallinson	bt. Robinson & Mrs Rankin	+ 7
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Event 6a: The Gilbey Cup (36 Entries)

<i>First Round</i>	W.H.Austin (2)	bt. C.E.Knight (6½)	+17
	Miss H.D.Parker (5½)	bt. Mrs D.Osborne (10)	+ 4
	Mrs E.Asa-Thomas (6)	bt. Mrs S.J.Turner (6½)	+16
	W.E.Moore (-1)	bt. W.A.Scarr (11)	+ 7

<i>Second Round</i>	W.B.C.Paynter (6)	bt. Miss F.Joly (1)	+17
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	Mrs E.R.Cox (4)	w.o.	opp. scr.
	Mrs H.F.Chittenden (2½)	bt. Mrs M.Rankin (14)	+20
	J.N.Robinson (½)	bt. N.W.T.Cox (-1)	+19
	I.G.Vincent (2)	bt. Madame O'Morchoe (10)	+18
	R.F.A.Crane (6)	bt. W.J.Baverstock (3½)	+12
	D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller (-½)	bt. H.A.Sheppard (1½)	+ 7
	W.H.Austin (2)	bt. Miss H.D.Parker (5½)	+17
	W.E.Moore (-1)	bt. Mrs E.Asa-Thomas (6)	+ 9
	F.F.W.Staddon (6)	bt. Mrs W.Longman (1)	+ 1
	Mrs B.G.Neal (6)	w.o.	opp. scr.
	D.J.Bulloch (-2½)	bt. Mrs P.Harrison (14)	+ 2
	G.Coats (13)	bt. Captain F.Tucker (9)	+19
	Lady FitzGerald (5)	bt. Mrs F.F.W.Staddon (6)	+ 8
	S.Tapp (2)	bt. Mrs R.F.A.Crane (14)	+13
	Mrs E.H.P.Mallinson (7)	bt. W.R.Bulloch (0)	+ 4

<i>Third Round</i>	Mrs E.R.Cox (4)	bt. W.B.C.Paynter (6)	+13
	J.N.Robinson (½)	bt. Mrs H.F.Chittenden (2½)	+18
	I.G.Vincent (2)	bt. R.F.A.Crane (6)	+ 3
	W.H.Austin (2)	bt. D.J.V.Hamilton-Miller (-½)	+18
	W.E.Moore (-1)	bt. F.F.W.Staddon (5)	+12
	D.J.Bulloch (-2½)	bt. Mrs B.G.Neal (6)	+13
	Lady FitzGerald (5)	bt. G.Coats (13)	+10
	S.Tapp (2)	bt. Mrs E.H.P.Mallinson (7)	+11

<i>Fourth Round</i>	Mrs E.R.Cox (4)	bt. J.N.Robinson (½)	+26
	I.G.Vincent (2)	bt. W.H.Austin (2)	+ 8
	D.J.Bulloch (-2½)	bt. W.E.Moore (-1)	+22
	S.Tapp (2)	bt. Lady FitzGerald (5)	+19

<i>Semi-Final</i>	I.G.Vincent (2)	bt. Mrs E.R.Cox (4)	+13
	D.J.Bulloch (-2½)	bt. S.Tapp (2)	+ 2

<i>Final</i>	D.J.Bulloch (-2½)	bt. I.G.Vincent (2)	+11
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Event 6b: 'Y' Handicap Singles (17 Entries)

<i>Final</i>	Mrs S.J.Turner (6½)	bt. W.R.Bulloch (0)	+15
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Budleigh Salterton: June 30 - July 5

The renowned relaxed atmosphere of this most pleasant venue was greatly enhanced by a week of delightful sub-tropical weather. Under these conditions great credit is due to the groundsman, Tubby, for the impeccable state of the lawns which was the result of his devoted and skilled care late at night and at daybreak. All the hoops were evenly firm and tight, as evidenced by the unusually large number of balls getting hoop-bound even in the most experienced hands.

The very large entry, necessitating 170 matches, caused little hardship to the players because of the most efficient and always courteous control and planning of the Manager Richard Rothwell. Credit is also due to the club members who graciously agreed to play a number of games during the week-end before the tournament really began, even though several were eliminated from some of the events before the official start on Monday.

The standard of play varied considerably; perhaps the highlight was the precision and intelligent tactics of Betty Prichard, who was only just beaten in an exciting final of the Opens by the finesse of Dennis Bulloch. Even so, she qualified for a coveted C.A. Silver Medal, which surprised many, as they assumed she had won one years ago. The presence of the Bulloch brothers from New Zealand has become this summer part of the scene of most tournaments, and their friendliness and characteristic personalities were matched only by their play, which brought them both to the final of the Open Handicap when William beat his younger brother for the first time in his life. Dennis, on winning the Opens, also qualified for a C.A. Silver Medal. Another welcome visitor was Mr James, the President of the Western Province Croquet Association, South Africa; unfortunately he was rather off form so that his name did not appear in the winners lists.

Perhaps there have been few tournaments where such a large number of games finished with one ball pegged out and consequently an exciting end-game. The habit caught on so well that one determined player pegged out his opponent only to realise too late that he was playing with his non-rover ball. Several triples were attempted, but few succeeded, although Bill Perry gave a text-book display of the double peel straight finish.

The handicap doubles always promote pleasant but friendly rivalry, but it took the experience and determination of Alison Wood and the high spirits of Margerie Cave in the final to beat the Boltons, who fought gallantly right to the finish. Players left the club with a memory of a most pleasant holiday and a friendly week, largely due to the efforts of the local catering

and Club committees. Overheard during the week: "Did you beat him?" "No, but he is late for dinner." "I am used to dealing with dairy cows but I cannot cope with the Bullocks."

Results

Event 1: Open Singles (19 Entries)

DRAW

<i>First Round</i>	R.F.Rothwell	bt. A.J.Cooper	+ 2
	Prof. B.G.Weitz	bt. Dr W.R.Bucknall	+ 9
	P.Newton	bt. Mrs E.M.Lightfoot	+ 9

<i>Second Round</i>	Mrs G.H.Wood	bt. R.S.Stevens	+ 1 (T)
	D.J.Bulloch	bt. R.H.James	+14
	Sir Leonard Daldry	bt. Mrs E.Rotherham	+14
	Prof B.G.Weitz	w.o. R.F.Rothwell	opp. ret'd.
	P.Newton	bt. Miss F.Joly	+ 3
	W.R.Bulloch	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	+ 8
	B.G.Perry	bt. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	+ 3

<i>Third Round</i>	D.J.Bulloch	bt. Mrs G.H.Wood	+26
	Sir Leonard Daldry	bt. Prof B.G.Weitz	+ 3 (T)
	W.R.Bulloch	bt. P.Newton	+ 4
	B.G.Perry	bt. R.A.Godby	+ 3

<i>Semi-Final</i>	D.J.Bulloch	bt. Sir Leonard Daldry	+12
	B.G.Perry	bt. W.R.Bulloch	+ 2

<i>Final</i>	D.J.Bulloch	bt. B.G.Perry	+ 4
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PROCESS

<i>First Round</i>	B.G.Perry	bt. R.S.Stevens	+17
	D.J.Bulloch	bt. R.A.Godby	+ 5
	H.G.T.Bolton	bt. Mrs G.H.Wood	+ 7

<i>Second Round</i>	B.G.Perry	bt. Prof B.G.Weitz	+ 8
	Miss F.Joly	bt. Sir Leonard Daldry	+19
	D.J.Bulloch	bt. P.Newton	+20
	W.R.Bulloch	bt. A.J.Cooper	+ 3
	H.G.T.Bolton	bt. Dr W.R.Bucknall	+12
	Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Mrs E.Rotherham	+ 9
	R.H.James	bt. Mrs E.M.Lightfoot	+12
	Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	bt. R.F.Rothwell	+ 8

<i>Third Round</i>	B.G.Perry	bt. Miss F.Joly	+13
	D.J.Bulloch	bt. W.R.Bulloch	+10
	Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	bt. H.G.T.Bolton	+10
	Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	bt. R.H.James	+15

<i>Semi-Final</i>	B.G.Perry	bt. D.J.Bulloch	+24
	Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard	+12

<i>Final</i>	Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	bt. B.G.Perry	+10
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PLAY-OFF	D.J.Bulloch	bt. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard	+ 5
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Event 2: 'B' Level Singles (19 Entries)

<i>First Round</i>	L.D.Adams	bt. Miss K.Ault	+ 9
	L.S.Butler	bt. Lady FitzGerald	+18
	Mrs M.H.Vincent	bt. Captain M.F.Buller	+ 3 (T)

<i>Second Round</i>	P.K.Devitt	bt. R.S.Alford	+ 5 (T)
	Mrs B.G.Weitz	bt. Miss J.Cooper	+16
	K.S.Schofield	bt. R.H.Lee	+14
	L.S.Butler	bt. L.D.Adams	+19
	Mrs M.H.Vincent	bt. Mrs P.Newton	+14
	C.Edwards	bt. J.G.Warwick	+ 5
	G.H.Betts	bt. R.F.A.Crane	+13
	R.H.C.Carder	bt. C.W.Haworth	+ 1 (T)

Third Round

Mrs B.G.Weitz	bt. P.K.Devitt	+ 1 (T)
L.S.Butler	bt. K.S.Schofield	+14
C.Edwards	bt. Mrs M.H.Vincent	+ 8
G.H.Betts	bt. R.H.C.Carder	+18

Semi-Final

L.S.Butler	bt. Mrs B.G.Weitz	+ 2 (T)
C.Edwards	bt. G.H.Betts	+ 4

Final

L.S.Butler	bt. C.Edwards	+ 4
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Event 3: 'C' Handicap Singles (14 Entries)

First Round

Dr C.W.Evans (9)	bt. Mrs P.A.Dwerryhouse (14)	+12
Mrs C.W.Haworth (14)	bt. Mrs R.F.A.Crane (14)	+ 4 (T)
F.Pilling (12)	bt. Mrs D.Waterhouse (11)	+ 4
Madame O'Morchoe (10)	bt. J.H.T.Griffiths (8)	+ 5
Mrs L.A.Davies (12)	bt. Miss D.Lockes Latham (9)	+17
Brig H.E.Fernyhough (9)	w.o. Mrs C.E.Devitt (8)	opp. scr.

Second Round

Dr C.W.Evans (9)	w.o. Mrs H.S.Harris (14)	opp. scr.
F.Pilling (12)	bt. Mrs C.W.Haworth (14)	+18
Madame O'Morchoe (10)	bt. Mrs L.A.Davies (12)	+ 1 (T)
Brig H.E.Fernyhough (9)	bt. Mrs S.S.Cruden (8)	+ 3

Semi-Final

F.Pilling (12)	bt. Dr C.W.Evans (9)	+11
Brig H.E.Fernyhough (9)	bt. Madame O'Morchoe (10)	+13

Final

F.Pilling (12)	bt. Brig H.E.Fernyhough (9)	+15
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Event 4a: 'X' Handicap Singles (52 Entries)

First Round

Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard (-1)	bt. Mrs D.Waterhouse (11)	+18
R.F.A.Crane (6)	bt. Miss J.Cooper (5)	+19
R.H.C.Carder (6)	bt. R.S.Stevens (1½)	+ 7 (T)
Mrs B.G.Weitz (4)	bt. Mrs L.A.Davies (12)	+12
P.Newton (-½)	w.o. Col. W.R.Healing (½)	opp. ret'd.
W.R.Bulloch (-½)	bt. Miss D.Lockes Latham (9)	+10
Sir Leonard Daldry (0)	bt. J.H.T.Griffiths (8)	+ 7
Dr W.R.Bucknall (1½)	bt. P.K.Devitt (6)	+17
J.G.Warwick (4)	bt. Mrs G.E.Cave (5)	+11
C.Edwards (3)	bt. F.Pilling (12)	+11
R.F.Rothwell (1)	bt. Mrs S.S.Cruden (8)	+16
R.A.Godby (0)	bt. G.H.Betts (2½)	+ 2 (T)
L.S.Butler (2½)	bt. Mrs E.Rotherham (0)	+18
R.H.James (1)	bt. Mrs R.F.A.Crane (14)	+13
Mrs P.Newton (6)	bt. R.S.Alford (6)	+ 6 (T)
Mrs G.H.Wood (1½)	bt. H.G.T.Bolton (1½)	+ 9
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (0)	w.o. Mrs C.E.Devitt (8)	opp. scr.
Prof B.G.Weitz (2)	bt. Miss K.Ault (4½)	+22
Mrs M.H.Vincent (3)	bt. Mrs C.W.Haworth (14)	+15
D.J.Bulloch (-3)	bt. Mrs H.S.Harris (14)	+17

Second Round

Mrs E.M.Lightfoot (1½)	bt. P.A.Tunmer (6½)	+11
L.D.Adams (4)	bt. K.S.Schofield (3½)	+25
C.W.Haworth (6)	bt. Miss F.Joly (1)	+ 7 (T)
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard (-1)	bt. R.F.A.Crane (6)	+ 4
Mrs B.G.Weitz (4)	bt. R.H.C.Carder (6)	+14
W.R.Bulloch (-½)	bt. P.Newton (-½)	+ 9
Sir Leonard Daldry (0)	bt. Dr W.R.Bucknall (1½)	+ 2 (T)
C.Edwards (3)	bt. J.G.Warwick (4)	+14
R.A.Godby (0)	bt. R.F.Rothwell (1)	+ 6
L.S.Butler (2½)	bt. R.H.James (1)	+ 3 (T)
Mrs P.Newton (6)	bt. Mrs G.H.Wood (1½)	+ 9
Prof. B.G.Weitz (2)	bt. Mrs D.M.C.Prichard (0)	+13
D.J.Bulloch (-3)	bt. Mrs M.H.Vincent (3)	+22
Mrs P.A.Tunmer (7)	bt. R.H.Lee (3½)	+ 7
Captain M.F.Buller (4)	bt. Lady FitzGerald (5)	+17
A.J.Cooper (-1)	bt. Mrs P.A.Dwerryhouse (14)	+23

Third Round

L.D.Adams (4)	bt. Mrs E.M.Lightfoot (1½)	+17
Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard (-1)	bt. C.W.Haworth (6)	+10
W.R.Bulloch (-½)	bt. Mrs B.G.Weitz (4)	+14
Sir Leonard Daldry (0)	bt. C.Edwards (3)	+17
R.A.Godby (0)	bt. L.S.Butler (2½)	+ 6
Prof. B.G.Weitz (2)	bt. Mrs P.Newton (6)	+20
D.J.Bulloch (-3)	bt. Mrs P.A.Tunmer (7)	+18
Captain M.F.Buller (4)	bt. A.J.Cooper (-1)	+18

Fourth Round

L.D.Adams (4)	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard (-1)	+11
W.R.Bulloch (-½)	bt. Sir Leonard Daldry (0)	+ 7
Prof. B.G.Weitz (2)	bt. R.A.Godby (0)	+ 4
D.J.Bulloch (-3)	bt. Captain M.F.Buller (4)	+19

Semi-Final

W.R.Bulloch (-½)	bt. L.D.Adams (4)	+ 8
D.J.Bulloch (-3)	bt. Prof. B.G.Weitz (2)	+ 4

Final

W.R.Bulloch (-½)	bt. D.J.Bulloch (-3)	+10
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Event 4b: 'Y' Handicap Singles (26 Entries)

Final

Miss F.Joly (1)	bt. G.H.Betts (2½)	+ 4
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Event 5: Handicap Doubles (24 Pairs)

First Round

Mr & Mrs H.G.T.Bolton (14½)	bt. Mrs E.Rotherham & Mrs R.S.Leach (14)	+19
Captain M.F.Buller & A.J.Cooper (3)	bt. L.S.Butler & Mrs P.A.Dwerryhouse (16½)	+ 8
Professor & Mrs B.G.Weitz (6)	bt. Mrs M.H.Vincent & Miss J.Cooper (8)	+ 7
R.H.Lee & C.Edwards (6½)	bt. D.J.Bulloch & Mrs H.S.Harris (10)	+ 3
L.D.Adams & G.H.Betts (6½)	bt. Dr C.W.Evans & P.K.Devitt (15)	+ 4
Mrs G.H.Wood & Mrs G.E.Cave (6½)	bt. R.S.Alford & R.S.Stevens (7)	+ 1 (T)
Mrs D.M.C.Prichard & Mrs S.S.Cruden (8)	bt. R.H.James & Mrs C.W.Haworth (14)	+16
Dr W.R.Bucknall & B.Hancock (8½)	bt. Sir Leonard Daldry & K.S.Schofield (3½)	+ 4 (T)

Second Round

R.A.Godby & C.W.Haworth (6)	bt. J.H.T.Griffiths & R.H.C.Carder (14)	+11 (T)
Mrs E.M.Lightfoot & Madame O'Morchoe (8½)	bt. Mr & Mrs P.A.Tunmer (13½)	+ 1 (T)
Mr & Mrs Bolton	bt. Buller & Cooper	+10
Lee & Edwards	bt. Professor & Mrs Weitz	+ 7
Mrs Wood & Mrs Cave	bt. Adams & Betts	+ 4
Mrs Prichard & Mrs Cruden	bt. Dr Bucknall & Hancock	+12
W.R.Bulloch & Mrs L.A.Davies (11½)	bt. Mr & Mrs R.F.A.Crane (20)	+ 5
Mr & Mrs P.Newton (5½)	bt. Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard & J.G.Warwick (3)	+ 7

Third Round

Mrs Lightfoot & Madame O'Morchoe	bt. Godby & Haworth	+ 2 (T)
Mr & Mrs Bolton	bt. Lee & Edwards	+ 4
Mrs Wood & Mrs Cave	bt. Mrs Prichard & Mrs Cruden	+ 2
W.Bulloch & Mrs Davies	bt. Mr & Mrs Newton	+13

Semi-Final

Mr & Mrs Bolton	bt. Mrs Lightfoot & Madame O'Morchoe	+12
Mrs Wood & Mrs Cave	bt. W.Bulloch & Mrs Davies	+ 2 (T)

Final

Mrs Wood & Mrs Cave	bt. Mr & Mrs Bolton	+ 4
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Extract from Proceedings of Council Meeting held on 31 May 1975

- R.F.Rothwell was re-elected as Chairman and D.C.Caporn as Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.
- It was decided that the five members of Council re-elected at the Annual General Meeting earlier should serve for the full term of three years, and that two of the newly elected members should serve for three years and one for two years. By lot it was decided that Mrs E.E.Bressey (Roehampton) and Mrs R.E.Tucker (Southwick) would serve for three years, and G.B.Martin (Harrow Oak) for two years.
- The existing members of the Selection Committee were re-elected for the ensuing year, namely I.C.Baillieu, Revd W.E.Gladstone, Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard, R.F.Rothwell and J.W.Solomon.

- The Chairman's nominations for the Council's Standing Committees were accepted as published elsewhere in this issue of the *Croquet Gazette*.
- Following the resolution by the Council on 8th March to elect Mr M.B.Reckitt as a permanent member of the Council following his resignation as President, it was realised that Council did not have the power to co-opt Mr. Reckitt was extended a permanent invitation to attend Council meetings whenever he wished, and it was agreed that he would be sent such papers as are generally circulated to all members of Council.
- An *ad hoc* Committee was appointed to consider revisions of the Rules of the Association and to update the present contents of the current handbook (1970), of which there are few copies left. A reprint will be necessary for 1976. The members of the Committee will be G.N.Aspinall, D.C.Caporn, A.J.Oldham and S.S.Townsend.
- Professor Neal reported upon the match played against Scotland at Gleneagles on May 10-11 which was won by Scotland by five matches to four. Scotland team: M.E.W.Heap, S.Wright, D.Nichols, I.H.Wright, R.N.Maclean and F.V.X.Norton. England team: B.G.Neal (captain), K.A.Ross, S.R.Hemsted, S.S.Townsend, R.F.Rothwell and N.Williams.
- J.W.Solomon reported on his visit to South Africa in March to coach at the invitation of the South African Croquet Association. The visit appeared to be very successful. Whilst in South Africa he won the Western Province Championship (not the South African Championship). He reported that at their main tournaments each player was provided with a copy of the draws, and he thought that this was a practice that might well be copied in England. His offer to have reproduced 50 copies of the draw for the singles and doubles in the Open Championship for £1 was accepted with thanks.
- The question as to whether another venue for the Ladies Field Cup, scheduled to take place at Hurlingham, should be arranged was discussed in view of the rise in lawn hire charges at Hurlingham. It was agreed by 13 votes to 5 that the event should be moved, but subsequently a member of Council offered to pay the difference if the event was held at Hurlingham rather than elsewhere. It was decided not to move the Open Championships from Hurlingham in 1975.
- Mrs Sundius-Smith delivered orally a report of the meeting of the Editorial Board held on 19th April. The recommendation that there should be four 24-page issues of the *Croquet Gazette* in the coming year in August, October, December and April was confirmed.
- Reporting on a meeting of the Laws Committee on 8th March, Professor Neal paid tribute to Mrs Prichard for the magnificent work she had done (and is doing) in running Referees Courses.
- Professor Neal also reported upon the draft Basic Laws that he had produced at the request of the Council. This had been previously circulated to all members of Council. The text was approved. He reminded Council that they had decided in 1973 that a new pamphlet should be prepared and published. There was discussion as to whether the title of the pamphlet should be "Basic Laws", "Simplified Laws", or maybe "Abridged Laws". It was left to a Committee consisting of Professor Neal, I.C.Baillieu, R.F.Rothwell and S.S.Townsend to decide on the title and to arrange for publication, with authority to consult the Treasurer. Professor Neal was thanked for all the work he had personally put in, and it was suggested that his name should be included in the text in recognition of the work he had done in its preparation.
- It was decided that the miniature silver mallet presented by Mrs Alistair Graham and won by her grandmother Mrs Preston at Devonshire Park in 1924 should be held by the runner-up in the Ladies Field Cup. Mrs Longman kindly

- offered to have a pin added to the mallet so that it could be worn as a brooch. This offer was accepted with thanks.
- The Chairman reported that he had considered Dr Bray's suggestion that the number of Council meetings should be reduced. He felt that each of the normal five meetings are usually necessary, but the fifth meeting could be cut if lack of business justified this. Provisional dates for future meetings have been fixed for 18th October and 15th November 1975, 7th February, 6th March and after the Annual General Meeting in May (when this has been fixed) 1976.
- The Chairman reported on the very substantial reduction in profit that the Hunstanton Club had sustained over their main tournament in September 1974 as a result of the Test Series and a clash with the Ladies Field Cup. It was agreed to make a subsidy to the Club of £25 as provided for in Regulation 18.
- The Chairman tabled a pamphlet he had written on the Construction of Croquet Lawns following requests for such a publication from several clubs. This pamphlet would be available on request from the C.A. Office.
- The Chairman of the Tournament Committee, Revd W.E.Gladstone, sought authority to make next year's tournaments five days later than in 1975 (1976 being a Leap Year) rather than two days earlier. This was agreed. He was also given authority, in view of low entries already received for the Men's and Women's Championships, to accept entries at his discretion after the official closing date (19th May).

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Hurlingham Club on Saturday 31 May 1975

Present: M.B.Reckitt, retiring President; E.P.Duffield, new President; Miss D.A.Lintern and Mrs E.Rotherham, Vice-Presidents; Mrs S.M.Adler, I.C.Baillieu, Lady Bazley, Mrs E.E.Bressey, D.C.Caporn, Mrs F.H.N.Davidson, Revd W.E.Gladstone, R.A.Godby, Mrs E.M.Lightfoot, Mrs W.Longman, G.B.Martin, Mrs B.Meachem, F.R.Meachem, D.H.Moorcraft, Professor B.G.Neal, Mrs B.G.Neal, A.J.Oldham, Lt-Col D.M.C.Prichard, R.F.Rothwell, Mrs G.W.Solomon, J.W.Solomon, E.Strickland, Mrs B.L.Sundius-Smith, N.Williams.

Apologies: G.Williams, Vice-President; Mrs H.B.H.Carlsle, Revd P.D.Hallett, His Honour Judge A.D.Karmel, Mrs A.D.Karmel, S.S.Townsend, R.O.B.Whittington.

1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting had been published in the *Croquet Gazette* of July 1974. They were approved by the Meeting.

2. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting.

3. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

The President (M.B.Reckitt) referred to the death of several prominent members of the Association: J.B.Gilbert, Mrs E.A.Roper, Mrs Heathcote, Mrs J.H.Dibley, and finally Major J.H.Dibley, who had been a member of the Council for some 29 years, had been made an Honorary Life Associate, and was still a member of the Council when he died on 4th May. The President also mentioned that it was the 70th Anniversary of the first appointment of a President of the Association; he himself was the seventh President. He said that these Presidents had been some valuable, some venerable, but he himself voluble.

4. ELECTION OF A NEW PRESIDENT

The President remarked that there had only been one nomination for the office of President, which he was relinquishing, namely Mr E.P. Duffield, a Vice-President of the Association and the representative of one of the most excellent Croquet Clubs. As his last act as President, he commended Mr Duffield to the members, and proposed that he be appointed President.

Mr Rothwell seconded this nomination, which was carried unanimously. Mr Reckitt then left the Chair, which was taken by Mr Duffield. The new President said a few words, thanking the members.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

The Treasurer remarked that the Association's investments had risen in value since the accounts were prepared. On the other hand, the cost of printing and posting the *Croquet Gazette* had risen enormously during the past year.

As the balance sheet and accounts had been published in the April issue of the *Croquet Gazette*, he felt that there was no need for him to say anything further, but he would endeavour to answer any questions from members.

There were no questions or comments.

The Treasurer proposed and Mr Sanford seconded that the accounts be approved. This was carried unanimously.

6. ELECTION OF TREASURER

The President expressed the thanks of the Association to Mr Oldham, and its appreciation of the valuable and arduous work which he carried out so competently.

Mr Rothwell proposed and Mrs Sundius-Smith seconded that Mr Oldham be re-elected Treasurer. This was carried unanimously.

Mr Oldham accepted his re-election, but warned members that the time would come when he would be obliged to give up the treasurership on account of his increasing business responsibilities.

7. ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Six members of the Council who retired by rotation presented themselves for re-election; these were G.N. Aspinall, Mrs W. Longman, Professor B.G. Neal, C.B. Sanford, J.W. Solomon and S.S. Townsend.

Commander G. Borrett, R.N. (ret.) retired in November 1974. Major Dibley (who would in any case have retired by rotation) had died three weeks earlier. Professor Weitz, whose term had still two years to run, retired.

Three candidates had been nominated for election: Mrs E.E. Bressey, G.B. Martin and Mrs R.E. Tucker.

There were thus nine candidates for nine places, and these were declared elected.

8. ELECTION OF AUDITORS

The Treasurer proposed and Mr Baillieu seconded that Messrs Nicholass, Ames & Co. be re-elected Auditors. This was agreed.

9. INCREASE OF RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION

The proposal to increase the rates of subscription had been set out in the Agenda, published in the April 1975 issue of the *Croquet Gazette*.

Mr Rothwell explained that a major expense, borne by the Association and not attracting Grant from the Sports Council, was the printing and despatch of the *Croquet Gazette*. The cost of this undertaking had enormously increased, and was no longer covered by the £1.50 subscription at present payable by Junior, Overseas and Reduced Rate subscribers, or the £1.50 element not hypothecated to tournament services in the Standard Rate subscription. He moved that the rates of subscription pro-

posed in the Agenda be adopted, with effect from subscriptions for the year 1976.

This was seconded by Mrs Rotherham and carried unanimously.

10. AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION

The proposed amendments to the Rules were set out in the Agenda and fell into three parts:

(A) Mr Rothwell explained that an alteration had become necessary in the Rules governing the privileges of Associates and their election to membership, and as the materials on this subject were scattered untidily between Rule XVII and Rule XXII it seemed advisable to take this opportunity to rearrange them. This was the purpose of Proposal A, and he moved that it be adopted.

This proposal was carried.

(B) The change proposed in (B) was simply the implementation of the decision on subscriptions which the Meeting had taken in the previous item of the Agenda. It was agreed.

(C) By some oversight, the Rule governing the position of registered Croquet Clubs made no provision for the levying of a registration fee. This had not in practice given rise to difficulties, but was irregular, and the amendment now proposed was intended to rectify the omission and regularise the situation.

This change was proposed by Mr Rothwell and carried unanimously.

The meeting closed at 12.20 p.m.

Secretary's Notes

1. NEW ASSOCIATES

John Abrey, 3 Springwell Road, North End, Durham City.
Eric Audsley, 20 The Coppins, Ampthill, Bedfordshire MK45 28N.

Major J.N.D. Bettley, Compton Lodge, Compton Palace Road, Eastbourne, Sussex.

A.J. & H.J. Betts, 12 Chelwood Avenue, Goring-on-Sea, Worthing, Sussex. (Tel. Worthing (0903) 49803)

Mr & Mrs L.M. Bromfield, 76 Old Fort Road, Shoreham Beach, Sussex.

A.J. Cantlay, 35 Methley Street, Kennington, London SE11 4AL.

G.T. Coates, 3 Halton Lodge, Hurstpierpoint, Sussex.

A.H. Davidson, 71 Norwich Street, Cambridge.

Stephen Furniss, Rose Cottage, Back Lane, Otham, Maidstone, Kent ME15 8RY.

Charles A. Gamble, Cartref, Redford, Greystones, Co. Wicklow, Irish Republic.

J.S. Gordon, Old Maltings, Newport, Essex.

Air-Commodore J.H. Greswell, Picket Lodge, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 3HH.

Nicholas Kennedy, University of Natal, P.O. Box 375, Pietermaritzburg, Natal, South Africa.

Mr & Mrs D.J. Keyes, 815 Hedwig Way, Houston, Texas, 77024, U.S.A.

C.T.J. Lindsay, 21 Routh Road, London S.W.18.

Mrs B. Mansfield, 72 Fulham Park Gardens, London S.W.6. (Tel. 01-736 1012)

D.K. Openshaw, 33 Cambridge Street, London S.W.1.

H.E.J. Ovens, Cliffe Cottage, Cliff Road, Sidmouth, Devon EX10 8JN. (Tel. Sidmouth (039 55) 4254)

J.G.C. Phillips, 41 Theberton Street, Islington, London N.1.
Captain P.H.S. Reid, 5 Verney Close, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL53 7DD. (Tel. Cheltenham (0242) 23455)

J.C. Ruddock, 111 London Road, Ramsgate, Kent.

Mrs M.L. Shackleton, 11 Uley Road, Dursley, Gloucestershire. (Tel. Dursley (0453) 2536)

Mrs W.J. Sturdy, Chelcombe, Pilford Avenue, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. (Tel. Cheltenham (0242) 25096)
Miss V.M.B. Twiss, 28 Huggens College, Northfleet, Kent.
Dr B.D. Yallop, Royal Greenwich Observatory, Herstmonceux Castle, Hailsham, Sussex.
Martin Yates, 53 Bulkington Lane, Nuneaton, Warwickshire CV11 4SP.

2. CHANGES OF ADDRESS, ETC.

Miss W. Adye, St Faith's Nursing Home, Western Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

Miss R.M. Allen: post code GL50 2PY.

G.F. Blumer: Tel. Cheltenham (0242) 57218.

Brigadier L.E.B. Bourke: post code GL53 9BP.

M.J. Bushnell, 19 Thackley End, 119 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 6LB.

Miss E.G. Clarke-Lens, 17 Roseberry Road, Hampden Park, Eastbourne, Sussex. (Tel. Eastbourne (0323) 56349)

Mrs A.M. Daniels: post code GL50 2LU.

Willard H. Gilmore, Brooksville, Maine, 04617, U.S.A.

Mrs H.J. Gray: post code ME15 8RL.

J.R. Hawkins: for 'The Studio' read 'Neti Neti'.

Miss E.X. Hodgins, The Mews Cottage, 33 Langton Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

A.B. Hope: post code GL3 4SW.

G.E.P. Jackson: post code GL53 7AS.

Mrs E.M. Kay, c/o Nat. Westminster Bank, 21 East Street, Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex BN4 5ZP.

B.A. Keen, 20 Dawnay Road, Great Bookham, Leatherhead, Surrey KT23 4PE.

Paul Kropp, 24 Bold Street, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

Mr & Mrs D. de Q. Lenfestey: Tel. (0902) 753762.

Mrs N.A.C. McMillan: * Life Associate.

C.G. Miller, Gordon House, Ham Common, Richmond, Surrey. (Tel. 01-940 9090)

Dr R. Milne, c/o Richardson, 32 Netherdale Court, Wetherby, Yorkshire.

Dávid O'Connor, P.O. Box 6105, Ndola, Zambia.

John Parr, 80 Elms Crescent, London S.W.4. (Tel. 01-675 0065)

Brian Redford, 10 High Shapter Street, Topsham, Exeter, Devon. (Tel. Topsham (039 28) 4847)

Miss I.M. Roe: post code GL53 2TR.

Cdr & Mrs J.E. Rowe, Radcroft, Cramond Road North, Edinburgh EH4 6JA. (Tel. (031-336) 4761)

K.S. Schofield, 4 Boucher Road, Budleigh Salterton, Devon EX9 6HG. (Tel. Budleigh Salterton (039 54) 2074)

Miss K.M.O. Sessions has married and is now Mrs G.T. Wheeler.

R.J. Sparkes, 1 Queens Court, Foxgrove Road, Beckenham, Kent BR3 2AX.

Mr & Mrs F. Stanley-Smith: Tel. Coxtie Green 724.

Paul Stoker: Tel. Southport (0704) 33360.

Miss Violet Straker, Hotel Bristowe, Grange Road, Southbourne, Bournemouth BH6 3NY.

William Tobin, 2 William Orshard Close, Headington, Oxford OX3 9DR.

Mr & Mrs K.F.W. Townsend: Tel. (0902) 752975.

Miss A.K. Trumper (as for Miss Straker).

Col. & Mrs G.T. Wheeler: post code GL53 9BP.

3. NEW TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS

Mrs Barbara Meachem has been appointed an *Examining Referee*.

D.J. Bulloch, T.F. Owen and Dr B.R. Sandiford have been appointed *Referees*.

4. CHANGES IN THE CLUBS

Abington Croquet Club, Park Avenue South, Northampton.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs G. Chambers. (New Club)

Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell, Didcot, Berkshire. New Secretary: M. Moreton-Smith.

Carrickmines. New Secretary: Charles A. Gamble, Cartref, Redford, Greystones, Co. Wicklow, Irish Republic. President: T.O. Read.

Caversham — disbanded.

Corpus Christi. Correspondence to The Secretary, Corpus Christi College Croquet Club, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.

Ferranti. New Secretary: C.V. Robinson.

Maidenhead. New Secretary: J. McKean, Mingary, Robert Road, Hedgerley, Slough, Buckinghamshire SL2 3XS.

Roehampton. New Secretary: A.V. Camroux, 121 Como Road, London SE23. (Tel. 01-699 5112)

Southport & Birkdale. New Secretary: G.B. Binks, 75 Dunbar Crescent, Southport, Lancashire. (Tel. (0704) 78068)

Swallowfield Park. New Secretary: Mrs D.H.C. Whiteman.

Wellcome Research Laboratories. New Secretary: P.R.W. Baker.

Wolverhampton. New Secretary: Mrs D. de Q. Lenfestey, Windybank, 65 Codsall Road, Wolverhampton WV6 9QG.

(Tel. (0902) 753762)

Vandeleur Robinson,

Secretary,

July 1975.

Handicap Alterations

Cheltenham Weekend I: March 29—31

B.G. Bucknall 10 to 9; C. Hudson 9 to 8.

Budleigh Salterton: May 5—10

Mrs L.A. Davies 13 to 12; R.H. Lee 4 to 3½; W.R. Bulloch 2 to 1½; Col. W.R. Healing 1½ to 1; A.J. Cooper —½ to —1; Mrs C.W. Marshall 14 to 13 D12; Mrs S.S. Cruden 9 to 8.

The Peels: May 12—17

A.F. Coleman 6 to 5 (during play); W.R. Bulloch 1½ to ½; J. McLaren 8 to 7.

Southwick: May 19—24

L.N. Bromfield 14; Mrs N.W.T. Cox 5 to 4; E.B.T. Tanner 6½ to 6; T.F. Owen 5½ to 3; Lt-Col E.H.P. Mallinson 10 to 9.

Colchester Weekend I: May 24—26

G.S. Digby 5½ to 5; M.E.W. Heap —1½ to —2.

Cheltenham Weekend II: May 24—26

Dr G.K. Taylor 1½ to 1; F.E. Pearson 3 to 2; P.W. Elmes 1 to 0; Miss M.J. Lodge 9 to 8.

Nottingham Weekend I: May 30—June 1

R. Wheeler 13 to 12 D10; Mrs R. Wheeler 12 to 11 D9; G. Noble 6½ to 6; G. Henshaw 4½ to 3½; E. Bell 4½ to 4; G. Strutt 3 to 2; Dr M. Haslam 8 to 6.

Parkstone: June 2—7

Mrs E. Asa-Thomas 7 to 6; L.S. Butler 3 to 2½; D. de Q. Lenfestey 7 to 6; Miss M.D. McMordie 3½ to 3; Mrs D. Mitchell 16 D14 to 16 D13; Captain F. Tucker 9; Dr J.N. Robinson 1 to ½.

Compton: June 2—7

Dr H.A. Pim 6½ to 6; B.D. Yallop 8 to 6; E.J. Tucker 1 to ½; C.E. Knight 7½ to 6½; Dr S.R.C. Malin 8 to 7; L. Rushworth 11 to 10 D8; H.J. Devitt 6½ to 6.

Hunstanton Weekend: June 6—9

W.H. Carlisle 8 to 7; Miss S.G. Hampson 3½ to 3; R. Forth 10 to 9; D. Turner 15 to 14; Miss P. Hampson 16 to 15.

Veterans' Championship: June 9—14

G.S. Digby 5 to 4; Col. E.L.L. Vulliamy 3½ to 3; Dr C.W. Marshall 13 to 11; Col. W.R. Healing 1 to ½.

Men's and Women's Championships: June 16—21

W.R. Bulloch ½ to 0; Mrs G.F.H. Elvey 1½ to 2½ (at own request); Cdr G. Borrett —1 to 0 (at own request).