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# THE CROQUET GAZETTE

Number 153

Autumn 1979

The Official Organ of the Croquet Association

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen

## World Croquet Championships

The offer of sponsorship for a World Croquet Championship has been withdrawn. Initial discussions between the C.A. and the sponsors proved very encouraging, but it was then discovered that the event would not be able to attract adequate publicity. Both the B.B.C. and I.T.V. decided that they could not give full television coverage for the event in 1980 and there seemed little prospect of obtaining such coverage in future years.

R.W. Bray  
Chairman C.A. Council.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** to be held at  
The Hurlingham Club on  
SATURDAY 19th APRIL 1980 at 11.30 am.

### 1. Minutes of Previous Meeting.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd June 1979 were published on Page 21, issue No. 152 (Summer 1979) of the Croquet Gazette.

### 2. Minutes of Special General Meeting held on 8th March 1980.

### 3. President's Address.

### 4. Chairman's Report for 1979.

### 5. Treasurer's Report for 1979.

If passed by the Special General Meeting on 8th March 1980 under new rule XVI the Audited Accounts for the year ending 31st December 1979 will be available before the Meeting or sent by post on request to Associates in the United Kingdom.

### 6. Election of Treasurer.

The retiring Treasurer, A.J. Oldham, offers himself for re-election.

### 7. Election of Members of the Council.

(i) Under Rule VI(a) (i) the following members retire having completed their term of office and seek re-election:-  
D.C. Caporn, D.J.V. Hamilton-Miller, A.J. Girling, Mrs B. Meachem, Lt. Col. D.M.C. Prichard, K.S. Schofield.

(ii) Under Rule XII the following members retire and seek re-election:-  
G.B. Martin, Dr. R.F. Wheeler.

(iii) Under Rule VI(a) (ii) having been proposed and seconded by two other Associates the following seeks election:-  
S.N. Mulliner.

(iv) Dr. G.K. Taylor retires under Rule VI(a) (i) having completed his term of office and does not seek re-election.

### 8. Election of Auditors.

Messrs. Nicholass, Ames and Co., offer themselves for re-election.

### 9. Benefactors.

The names in the Benefactors Book to be read.

### 10. Any Other Business.

## NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is given that a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Association has been called by the COUNCIL in accordance with Rule IV to be held at the Hurlingham Club on SATURDAY 8th MARCH 1980 at 11 am. for the purpose of conducting the following business:-

That Rule XVI be AMENDED by the DELETION of existing Rule XVI which reads as follows:-

### ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Council shall submit to the Annual General Meeting a Report and Statement of Accounts for the preceding year accompanied by a report from the Auditors and signed by the Chairman of the Council, which shall be published in 'Croquet' or sent by post with the notice convening the Meeting.

and the SUBSTITUTION of the following new Rule:-

### ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Council shall submit to the Annual General Meeting a Report and Statement of Accounts for the preceding year accompanied by a report from the Auditors and signed by the Chairman of the Council. The Annual Report and Statement of Accounts shall be published in 'Croquet' as soon as possible after they have been approved by the Council. Copies of these documents shall be available before the Meeting and on request shall be sent by post to individual Associates in the United Kingdom. R.F. Rothwell Secretary.

### The Secretary & Editor.

The Secretary of the Croquet Association is Mr. R.F. Rothwell. The Hurlingham Club, London, SW6 3PR. Tel: 01-736 3148.

The Editor of the Croquet Gazette (from 1st January 1980) is Mr. D.R. Foulser. 17 Moorend Road, Leckhampton, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. Tel: Cheltenham (0242) 580295 (Home)

**All Contributions** should be sent to the Editor. They are not acknowledged but are most welcome. Please send EARLY — do not wait for the deadline.

**All Correspondence** concerning non-delivery of Gazettes or incorrect addresses must be sent to the SECRETARY C.A. and NOT to the EDITOR.

### Deadline

Copy for the Winter Issue of the Gazette must reach the Editor not later than SATURDAY JANUARY 19th.

### C.A. Directory 1980/81.

A new Directory for 1980/81 is in course of preparation. Associates and Clubs are asked to notify the C.A. Secretary as soon as possible of any alterations or additions to addresses, telephone numbers or postal codes for inclusion in the new Edition. It is hoped to go to press as soon as possible.

### Apology.

MLM Mailings regret that they have again been unable to produce this issue on time. They are taking steps to resolve the internal difficulties which they have encountered.



### The Problem of Side

In the *Summer 1979 Gazette*, Dr. C.A. Parker describes how when approaching a hoop from behind with a thin take-off, he uses that part of the face of the mallet which is nearer the hoop, thus imparting side which causes the ball to execute a fraction of a turn inwards towards the front of the hoop when coming to rest.

But, regardless of which part of the mallet face is used, this effect can always be observed if one takes off from the outside (the side further from the hoop) probably due to the slight rotation imparted by the sliding action against the croqueted ball. In support of this, try taking off from the inside of the croqueted ball when a turn in the opposite direction will be seen.

OLD BROWN

### A Question of Tactics. 6. (C.G. 152 p6).

Surely the best plan is to shoot very softly at Blue? If Yellow hits he has the best chance of a two-ball break to finish (Blue would remain near penultimate). If he misses Black dare not play so little will be lost directly.

S.N. Mulliner.

### Accommodation

The price of accommodation has risen so steeply that a number of players have been deterred from entering tournaments. Most Clubs will help would-be visitors to find the type of accommodation they want, but it has been suggested that Clubs

should maintain lists of the cheaper forms — such as holiday flatlets or bed and breakfast only. In addition the Croquet Gazette will print the names and addresses of any C.A. member who is willing to offer bed and breakfast to other players during tournaments (terms to be arranged privately).

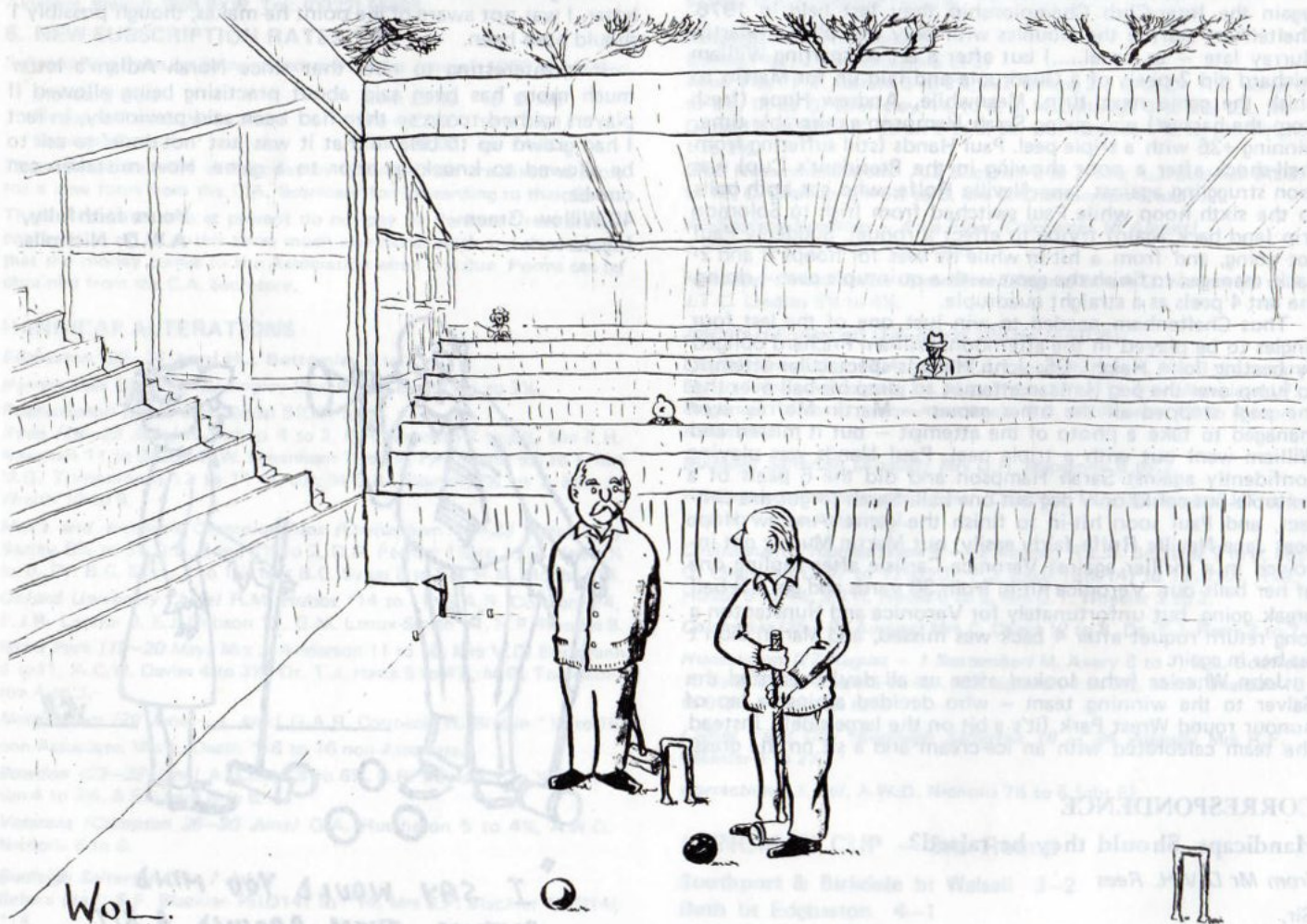
### SCOTTISH CROQUET ASSOCIATION

#### SPRING WEEKEND TOURNAMENT I at Edinburgh 12 — 13 May.

Block 1. M.P.W. Smith (6) 3 wins (+16); I.H. Wright (1) 3 wins (+2 points); A.H.M. Adam (8) 2 wins (+14 points); R. Williams (2½) 2 wins (+12 points); Mrs V.M. MacPherson (7) 2 wins (-14 points); R.O. Calder (4) Nil.

Block 2. E.M. Bowie (3½) 4 wins; R.N. MacLean (1½) 3 wins (+16 points); Mrs M. Lauder (6½) 3 wins (0 points); P. Simpson (10) 2 wins; C.J. Tait (8) Nil (-40 points); J.E. Rowe (5½) Nil (-47 points).

Play-off: E.M. Bowie bt M.P.W. Smith +15.



"IT'S NO GOOD. I CAN'T PLAY WITH AN AUDIENCE."

### C.A. DIRECTORY 1980/81

A new Directory for 1980/81 is in course of preparation. Associates and Clubs are asked to notify the C.A. Secretary as soon as possible of any alterations or additions to addresses, telephone numbers or postal codes for inclusion in the new addition. It is hoped to go to press by the end of November.

### Inter-County Championship 29 May—1 June.

The Counties started in its usual stuttering way. The last game on at Roehampton on Tuesday morning started at 11.30. This was because of the now standard reason that the Club had not been informed that it was taking place.

The decline of Berks and Oxon coincided with the absence of Aspinall, and others of the Test team did not make regular appearances for their respective Counties. William Prichard was absent throughout and Neal and Openshaw were sporadic players. On the other hand, Wylie appeared on Friday morning for the struggling Eastern Counties and won well. Cousins, electing to play for Middlesex in the absence of a true Shire County, was a major factor in their successful defence of the title. Sykes, playing for Berks and Oxon signalled his appearance with a triple-peel. Other newcomers included Matthew Tapp of Sussex, and Alvey and Mulliner of Surrey, all of whom seem to have promising futures in the game.

Middlesex had won the title by Thursday evening, which may have accounted for their whitewash at the hands of Surrey the next morning. In addition to Cousins, they welcomed back Townsend to their team who played soundly throughout. Though sometimes handicapped by Colin Prichard and Mrs Sundius-Smith, who both palpably failed to get to grips with double-banking, the imaginative Captaincy of Godby and the skills of Eric Solomon saw them through. Godby, injected the experience of both Col. and Mrs Prichard to clinch the victory that Middlesex so keenly wanted.

Surrey had to play under strength on occasions, winning all their matches when Neal was present. Pountney, Wiggins, Hamilton-Miller and Haigh were not at their best, but Camroux was in superb form, culminating in a brilliantly controlled break against Middlesex, with which even Wylie would have been pleased.

Northern Counties suffered most from the absence of Openshaw in one or two of the most crucial matches, but Rose and Bell both played consistently well.

Sussex were cruelly handicapped by an injury to Tyrwhitt-Drake, and the unavailability of Tucker, probably their best player. Both were very much missed. Roger Wood manipulated his remaining resources well and Yallop, Borrett and Owen all performed creditably. Owen, in particular, made a couple of immaculate breaks, to take them to equal 2nd with 5 wins.

The whole of the Bedfordshire team were below their normal form. Davren appeared to be short of practice.

Midland Counties provided grace if not much good play. Mrs Meachem, Hopewell and Archer all looked very stylish.

Berks and Oxon were always going to struggle without Aspinall, who also was much missed, and they were further handicapped by the loss of form of Rothwell, the working Secretary, which coincided with the disappearance of his mallet. On the other hand both Croker and Mrs Croker look to be players of great potential.

The Eastern Counties finished last again but they improved their tally of wins by 3 games. Peter Hallett was their star player, when, of course, Wylie was not playing. Neither Judge Karmel nor Pearson were on top form, (at least on the court).

Carlisle Captained them thoughtfully but with little success.

Eric Solomon Managed well, and it is encouraging to see that the standard of play was higher than usual, double-banking excluded. Everyone still misses Devon, Perry, Cooper et alia, and Midland Counties badly missed Col. Cave. It is sad that they do not still come.

### FINAL ORDER.

MIDDLESEX 6 wins. (15 games) R.A. Godby (Capt), C.H.J. Cousins, C.H.L. Prichard, Lt. Col. and Mrs D.M.C. Prichard, Dr. E. Solomon, Mrs B. Sundius-Smith, S.S. Townsend.

SURREY 5 wins (15 games) B.G. Neal (Capt), P.L. Alvey, A.V. Camroux, J. Haigh, D.J.V. Hamilton-Miller, G.B. Martin, S.N. Mulliner, C.G. Pountney, Dr. W.R.D. Wiggins.

SUSSEX 5 wins (13 games) Dr. R. Wood (Capt), Cmdr G. Borrett, R.N. D.A. Harris, T.F. Owen, A.E.C. Tapp, M. Tapp, Mrs H.G. Wills, Dr B.D. Yallop.

NORTHERN COUNTIES 4 wins (12 games) J. Rose (Capt), J. Maude, J. Meads, D.K. Openshaw, D.G. Richardson, P. Stoker, E. Bell

BEDFORDSHIRE 4 wins (11 games) D.V.H. Rees (Capt), T. Anderson, E. Audsley, N. Davren, A. Dymont, H.C. Green, B. Harral, J.A. Wheeler.

BERKS and OXON 2 wins (7 games) R.F. Rothwell (Capt), G.H. Betts, I.D. Bond, R.F.A. Crane, D.J. Croker, Mrs D.J. Croker, J.H.J. Soutter, B.C. Sykes, Mr and Mrs B.G.F. Weitz, T.I. Wood.

MIDLAND COUNTIES 2 wins (8 games) D.C. Caporn (Capt), D. Archer, Mrs H.B.H. Carlisle, G. Hopewell, J. McLaren, Mrs B. Meachem, G. Noble, L. Wharrad, Dr. and Mrs R.F. Wheeler.

EASTERN COUNTIES Nil wins (3 games) H.B.H. Carlisle (Capt), Mrs E.E. Bressey, Miss S. Hampson, Judge A.D. Karmel, Mrs B.G. Neal, M. Pearson, K.F. Wylie, P.D. Hallett, A.W. Skempton, E.B.T. Tanner.

### GRADES FOR 1979 (1) ending 31st JULY 1979

1 D.K. Openshaw	177	21 R.A. Godby	125
2 W. De B. Prichard	171	22 P.J.M. Fidler	124
3= D.J. Croker	166	23 A.J. Cooper	123
3= Dr. M. Murray	166	24= C.H.L. Prichard	122
5 Dr. E.W. Solomon	164	24= S. Tapp	122
6 G.N. Aspinall	161	26= P. Newton	120
7 M.E.W. Heap	158	26= B. Weitz	120
8 Prof. B.G. Neal	157	28 M.J. Evans	119
9 T.O. Read	156	29 T.F. Owen	118
10 G.W. Noble	155	30 J.A. Wheeler	117
11 K.F. Wylie	152	31 L.S. Butler	116
12 P.W. Hands	145	32= Dr. W. Ormerod	115
13 A.B. Hope	142	32= D.J.V. Hamilton-Miller	115
14 G.E.P. Jackson	141	32= J.H.J. Soutter	115
15 S.N. Mulliner	139	32= B.C. Sykes	115
16 S.R. Hemsted	135	36 G. Birch	114
17=G.J. Roberts	132	37 A. Coleman	113
17=S.J.H. Wright	132	38= Mrs H.B.H. Carlisle	112
19 I.H. Vincent	131	38= J.G.C. Phillips	112
20 D.R. Foulser	128	40 E. Bell	111

### NOTE

The game scores on which these grades are based are calculated by a new formula which will be fully explained in an article which it is hoped to publish in a forthcoming issue. In brief, the system is now able to use the results of all Open Games between players of any grade. S.N.M.

### Weekend Tournaments

#### Wrest Park II (Open) 6 — 8 July

Block A. MURRAY 6 wins bt Foulser +17, Hemsted +8, Mulliner +15, Openshaw +26, Phillips +15, Roberts +10. P.W. Hands 5 wins bt Hemsted +26, Mulliner +5, Murray +11, Phillips +23, Roberts +25. S.N. Mulliner 4 wins bt Hemsted +26, Openshaw +6, Phillips +5, Roberts +8. D.K. Openshaw 4 wins bt Foulser +12, Hands +5, Hemsted +3, Phillips +17. D. Foulser 3 wins bt Hands +26, Hemsted +14, Mulliner +10. J. Phillips 2 wins bt Foulser +2, Roberts +24. G. Roberts 2 wins bt Foulser +24, Openshaw +12. S. Hemsted 2 wins bt Phillips +11, Roberts +14.

Block B. I.D. BOND 6 wins bt Bell +3, Green +15, Keen +17, Rose +14, Ruddock +5, Wheeler +4. J.A. Wheeler 5 wins bt Bell +3, Green +11, Keen +20, Ruddock +19, Sykes +16. J. Rose 4 wins bt Green +11, Ruddock +9, Sykes +23, Wheeler +22. B.C. Sykes 4 wins bt Bell +16, Bond +1, Green +2, Ruddock +22. B.A. Keen 4 wins bt Bell +10, Rose +5, Ruddock +1, Sykes +15. H.C. Green 3 wins bt Bell +3(T), Keen







was not to be and Hudson's last long shot saw him win a very high class match by +3. Collin won the "Y" Handicap singles against Alex Fotiadi in a surprisingly close game. The Doubles final was won by Stoker and Lewis by the slenderest of margins after Don Lenfestey had been pegged out by Stoker when his wife was still for rover.

"The Trophy for the Championship was very kindly donated by Mrs Faulkner, widow of Ron Faulkner who won the last Championship held in Buxton in 1956. Second in the 1956 Championship was Mrs Fotiadi, still competing and playing well this year. Another competitor in 1956 was Edward Duffield, President of the Croquet Association, whom we were very pleased to welcome to Bowdon as a visitor during this year's tournament".

As a visitor I was made most welcome and I can recommend both these Championships and Bowdon Club to croquet players throughout the country. I believe David Openshaw is intending entering next season — I hope more of our top players join him.

#### Event 1. Open Singles (entries 7) (Advanced Play)

##### DRAW

*First Round:* B.A. Keen bt D. De Q. Lenfestey +15, D.R. Foulser bt E. Bell +18, D.G. Richardson bt C. Hudson +14.  
*Semi-final:* Keen bt Richardson +17, Foulser bt P. Stoker +2.  
*Final:* KEEN bt Foulser +8.

##### PROCESS

*First Round:* E. Bell bt B.A. Keen +20, C. Hudson bt P. Stoker +13, D. Foulser bt D. De Q. Lenfestey +26.  
*Semi-final:* Bell bt Hudson +11, Foulser bt D.G. Richardson +17.  
*Final:* FOULSER bt Bell +12.  
*Play-off:* FOULSER bt Keen +6.

#### Event 2. Level Singles (entries 7)

##### DRAW

*First Round:* J.M. Bowman bt S.E. Lewis +16, A.J. Collin bt Mrs A. Madcroft +9, Mrs D. De Q. Lenfestey bt G.A. Binks +8.  
*Semi-final:* Bowman bt Collin +10, Mrs Lenfestey bt D. Anderson +9.  
*Final:* BOWMAN bt Mrs Lenfestey +10.

##### PROCESS

*First Round:* G.B. Binks bt S.E. Lewis +3, D. Anderson bt Mrs A. Madcroft +15, J.H. Bowman bt Mrs D. De Q. Lenfestey +8.  
*Semi-final:* Anderson bt Binks +1, Collin bt Bowman +4.  
*Final:* COLLIN bt Anderson +4.  
*Play-off:* COLLIN bt Bowman +13.

#### Event 3. Bowdon Handicap 'X' Singles (entries 14)

*First Round:* S.E. Lewis (8) bt Mrs A. Fotiadi (7½) +10, D. Anderson (8) bt D.G. Richardson (3½) +5, J.M. Bowman (6) bt P. Stoker (2½) +3, D. De Q. Lenfestey (4½) bt Mrs A. Madcroft (9) +3, Mrs S. Tyldesley (5) bt Mrs D. De Q. Lenfestey (6) +19, C. Hudson (4) bt A.J. Collin (8) +12.  
*Second Round:* D.R. Foulser (1) bt G.B. Binks (6) +20, Lewis bt Anderson +9, Bowman bt Lenfestey +14, Hudson bt Mrs Tyldesley +14.  
*Semi-final:* Lewis bt Bowman +14, Hudson bt Foulser +3.  
*Final:* LEWIS bt Hudson +16.

#### Event 4. Bowdon Handicap 'Y' Singles (entries 6)

*First Round:* P. Stoker (2½) bt D. Anderson (8) +5, Mrs D. De Q. Lenfestey (6) bt Mrs A. Madcroft (9) +14, A.J. Collin (8) bt G.B. Binks +24.  
*Semi-final:* Mrs A. Fotiadi (7½) bt Stoker +12, Collin bt Mrs Lenfestey w.o. opp. scr.  
*Final:* COLLIN bt Mrs Fotiadi +7.

#### Event 5. Handicap Doubles (entries 6 pairs)

*First Round:* G.B. Binks & J.M. Bowman (12) bt Mrs A. Madcroft & Mrs J.S. Tyldesley (14) +3, S.E. Lewis & P. Stoker (10½) bt D.R. Foulser & A.J. Collin (9) +4.  
*Semi-final:* Mr & Mrs D. De Q. Lenfestey (10½) bt Binks & Bowman +10, Lewis & Stoker bt D.G. Richardson & D. Anderson (10) +4.  
*Final:* LEWIS & STOKER bt Mr & Mrs Lenfestey +1.

#### Compton. Veterans Tournament. 25–30 June

The Veterans Tournament was held at Compton during the last week of June. The sun shone brightly, the groundsman had made a first rate job of the lawns, excellent meals were provided to keep us going and the Management was superbly smooth and efficient. However, we were much saddened when Cyril Grout collapsed while in play and was found to be dead on arrival at hospital. Although Cyril started playing too late to be a good player he was a very determined player with that determination that he showed throughout his life in overcoming deafness. Our sympathies go out to Monica whose courage matched his own.

The standard of play was high throughout the tournament although there were no triple-peels in spite of the influence of the Wheelers who sat on the side lines like a Roman Emperor and Empress at a gladiatorial show encouraging by their presence the Christians to peel and peg the lions (or vice versa). Their influence certainly appeared to affect the final of the Handicap event when Green after failing to peel and peg Deno Harris was himself pegged out leaving his other ball for hoop and three. After some manoeuvring with Deno laid up for 3 back, Green hit in the length of the lawn and then conducted a 3 ball break from hoop 5 to the peg by means of a number of mammoth splits. The final of the restricted Handicap between Alan Hutcheson and Allan Nicholls was even more exciting. Both players alternately hit in long shots as they raced neck and neck for the peg. With the peg dressed overall with all four colours Alan Nicholls in spite of careful lining up missed the peg with his leading ball. Alan Hutcheson who had joined up now had the innings but had difficulty in getting a safe rush to the peg, with the result that Nicholls with his distinctive swinging pendulum style hit in nearly the length of the lawn to win.

#### Event 1. Open Singles (entries 8) (Advanced Play)

##### DRAW

*First Round:* G. Borrett bt E.J. Tucker +10, Mrs K.M.O. Wheeler bt W.T. Cox +9, D.A. Harris bt Miss F. Joly +8, E.C. Tyrwhitt Drake bt C. Green +14.  
*Semi-final:* Borrett bt Mrs Wheeler +5, Tyrwhitt Drake bt Harris +9.  
*Final:* BORRETT bt Tyrwhitt Drake +6.

##### PROCESS

*First Round:* Borrett bt Miss Joly +12, Tyrwhitt Drake bt Mrs Wheeler +9, Tucker bt Harris +21, Cox bt Green +11.  
*Semi-final:* Borrett bt Tyrwhitt Drake +13, Tucker bt Cox +20.  
*Final:* BORRETT bt Tucker +2.  
*Play-off for 2nd place:* Tucker bt Tyrwhitt Drake +23.

#### Event 2. Felixstowe Cup. Handicap Singles (entries 20) (3½ bisques and over)

##### DRAW

*First Round:* Col. G.T. Wheeler (4½) bt A.N.D. Nicholls (6) +2, Mrs W.T. Cox (3½) w.o. opp. scr., G.A. Hutcheson (5) w.o. opp. scr., C.E. Knight (4½) bt D.F.T. Brown (6) +11.  
*Second Round:* Mrs E.J. Tucker (7½) bt J.E. van Berckell (11) +6, R.P. Chappell (6½) bt H.A.C. Evans (10) +16, Mrs E.M. Temple (5½) bt C. Grout (11) +4, Mrs E. Cox (3½) w.o. opp. scr., A. Hutcheson (5) w.o. opp. scr., Mrs G. Day (8) bt Mrs G.F.H. Elvey (3½) +4, Mrs E.C. Tyr-

whitt Drake (6½) bt Mrs H.G. Wills (7) +5, G.H. Betts (3½) bt Mrs A.E. Millns (9) +7.

*Third Round:* R.A. Chappell (6½) bt Mrs Tucker +13, Temple bt Mrs Cox +16, Day w.o. opp. scr., Mrs Tyrwhitt Drake bt Betts +10.

##### PROCESS

*First Round:* Mrs E.J. Tucker (7½) bt Mrs T. Wills (7) +17, R.P. Chappell (6½) bt Mrs A. Millns (9) +6, Mrs E.C. Tyrwhitt Drake (6½) bt J. van Berckell (11) +17, H.A.C. Evans (10) bt G.H. Betts (3½) +2.  
*Second Round:* Mrs Tucker w.o. opp. scr., E.J. Knight (4½) bt Mrs M. Temple (5½) +12, Chappell w.o. opp. scr., A.N.D. Nicholls (6) bt Mrs G. Day (8) +16, Mrs N.W.T. Cox (3½) bt Mrs Tyrwhitt Drake (6½) +11, D. Brown (6½) w.o. opp. ret., A.J. Hutcheson (5) bt Evans +11, Col. G.T. Wheeler (4½) bt Mrs G.F.H. Elvey (3½) +11.

*Third Round:* Tucker bt Knight +2, Nicholls w.o. opp. scr., Cox bt Brown +10, Hutcheson bt Wheeler +9.

*At this stage the DRAW and PROCESS were combined and redrawn under REGULATION 20(d) as follows:—*

*Quarter final:* A.J. Hutcheson (5) bt Mrs G. Day (8) +17, Mrs N.W.T. Cox (3½) bt Mrs E.J. Tucker (7½) +12, A.N.D. Nicholls (6) bt Mrs E. Tyrwhitt Drake (6½) +9T, R.P. Chappell (6½) bt Mrs E.M. Temple w.o. opp. scr.

*Semi-final:* Hutcheson bt Mrs Cox +14, Nicholls bt Chappell +18.

*Final:* NICHOLLS bt Hutcheson +2.

#### Event 3X. Singles (entries 24)

*First Round:* Mrs E. Tyrwhitt Drake (6½) bt C.A. Grout (11) +7, H.C. Green (1) bt H.A.C. Evans (10) +5, A.N.D. Nicholls (6) bt J.E. van Berckell (11/9) +15, E.C. Knight (4½) bt G.H. Betts (3½) +6, Col. G.T. Wheeler (4½) bt Mrs H.G. Wills (7) +16, E.C. Tyrwhitt Drake (½) bt F.T. Brown (6½) +17, D.A. Harris (1½) bt G. Borrett (½) +7, R.P. Chappell (6½) bt Mrs E.M. Temple (5½) +15.

*Second Round:* Miss F. Joly (2) bt Mrs G. Day (8) +13, Mrs E.J. Tucker (7) bt Mrs G.F.H. Elvey (3½) +23, Green bt Mrs Tyrwhitt Drake +14, Nicholls bt Knight +2, Tyrwhitt Drake bt Col. Wheeler +21, Harris bt Chappell +10, Mrs G.T. Wheeler (2) bt Mrs N.W.T. Cox (3½) +3, N.W.T. Cox (1½) bt Mrs A. Millns (9) +19.

*Third Round:* Miss Joly bt Tucker +13, Green bt Nicholls +22, Harris bt Tyrwhitt Drake +13, Mrs Wheeler bt Cox +4.

*Semi-final:* Green bt Joly +5, Harris bt Wheeler +16.

*Final:* GREEN bt Harris +6.

#### Event 3Y. Handicap Singles. (entries 12)

*First Round:* Evans w.o. opp. ret., Betts bt van Berckell +19, Mrs Wills bt Brown +22. Mrs Temple bt Borrett +16.

*Second Round:* Mrs Elvey bt Mrs Day +2, Betts bt Evans +7, Wills bt Temple +13, Mrs Cox bt Mrs Millns +13.

*Semi-final:* Betts bt Mrs Elvey +18, Mrs Cox bt Wills +7.

*Final:* MRS COX and BETTS divided.

#### Event 4. Handicap Doubles (¾ hours) (entries 11)

*First Round:* E.J. Tucker & R.P. Chappell (6½) bt G. Borrett & Mrs J. Tucker (8) +12, A.N.D. Nicholls & D.F.T. Brown (12½) bt Mrs E.M. Temple & Mrs A. Millns (14½) +11, Col. & Mrs G. Wheeler (6½) bt D.A. Harris & J.E. van Berckell (10½) +17.

*Second Round:* C.E. Knight & G.A. Hutcheson (9½) bt H.C. Green & H.A.C. Evans (11) +8, Tucker & Chappell bt Nicholls & Brown +10, Col & Mrs Wheeler bt Mrs T. Wills & C.A. Grout (18) +11, Mr & Mrs E.C. Tyrwhitt Drake (10) bt T. Owen & E. Strickland (6½) +7.

*Semi-final:* Tucker & Chappell bt Knight & Hutcheson +11T, Mr & Mrs Tyrwhitt Drake bt Col. & Mrs Wheeler +18.

*Final:* TUCKER & CHAPPELL bt Mr & Mrs Tyrwhitt Drake +6.

#### Roehampton Evening Tournament. 24 June — 1 July.

This second year of the tournament saw a much increased entry, and though four lawns were available for most of the week the Manager was faced with a considerable challenge. By the end of the first Sunday things were not looking too bright: strong winds and several heavy showers made play difficult, and the consequently longer games put the events dangerously behind schedule. However, by "doubles evening" on Wednesday (followed, as before, by a Dinner in the Club) the willingness of players to start games which would inevitably be peg-

ged down (at least one starting as late as 8.55) and the promptness with which play started in the evenings, had enabled the deficit to be made up.

The Doubles were dominated by Mulliner and Mrs Soutter, who played very confidently together, with Mulliner attempting a triple in every game — somewhat difficult from a third hoop start — but succeeding only against Alvey and Mrs Mansfield. In the "C" class, Smith and Mrs Gosden stood out as the best players, both attracting the attentions of the Club Handicap Committee at the end of the week. The three hour time limit was clearly too short for full games in this class — even with the Knock-up which was allowed in all events — but with two lives rather than one they had plenty of play nevertheless.

In the Opens, Mulliner progressed steadily through the Process; but was beaten by Hamilton-Miller, who was in excellent form and played particularly steadily, in the Draw. Bond only narrowly avoided defeat by Phillips in the Draw, being let in by a failed peg out. After a tentative start in the play-off, both were round to four back, and though Bond progressed to four Mulliner was soon in again and started on a triple. Sticking in four back on Bond's backward ball proved to be a costly mistake, and Mulliner missed his last two shots.

For spectators, Maude v Cozens in the third round of the "X" was one of the most enthralling games. With Cozens eleven points behind, Maude pegged out one of his balls. Cozens then shot from close to the middle of the North Boundary, hit the peg and bounced off onto Maude's remaining ball two feet away! There then followed a thrilling struggle. Maude, whose excellent hitting-in had contributed to his success in both halves of the "B", found that his shooting had deserted him; and after what seemed like an eternity Cozens finally won, having himself missed a peg out before doing so.

Croker's victory in the "X", and Alvey's success against Mrs Croker in the "Y", completed the tournament by 7 pm. on Sunday. A full week, but by no means impossible; and from all appearances much enjoyed by all.

#### Event 1. Open Singles (entries 12)

(Advanced Law 36)

##### DRAW

*First Round:* M.J. Stevens bt Miss B. Duthie +23, J.G.C. Phillips bt Mrs B. Mansfield +20, S.N. Mulliner bt J.H.J. Soutter +26, M.G. Pearson bt D.J. Croker +3T.  
*Second Round:* I.D. Bond bt J. Haigh +15, Phillips bt Stevens +24, Mulliner bt Pearson +23TP, D.J.V. Hamilton-Miller bt P.L. Alvey +9.  
*Semi-final:* Bond bt Phillips +1, Hamilton-Miller bt Mulliner +7.  
*Final:* Bond bt Hamilton-Miller +14.

##### PROCESS

*First Round:* Croker bt Bond +23, Hamilton-Miller bt Miss Duthie +5, Pearson bt Haigh +6, Alvey bt Stevens +7.  
*Second Round:* Phillips bt Croker +5, Hamilton-Miller bt Soutter w.o. scr., Pearson bt Mrs Mansfield +18, Mulliner bt Alvey +19.  
*Semi-final:* Hamilton-Miller bt Phillips +4, Mulliner bt Pearson +12.  
*Final:* MULLINER bt Hamilton-Miller +19.  
*Play-off:* BOND bt Mulliner +7.

#### Event 2. Level Singles (entries 14) (Advanced Law 36)

##### DRAW

*First Round:* T.J. Haste bt P.J. Crawford +25, S.M. Godsi bt Mrs S. Soutter +1T, J.S. Maude bt Mrs W. Jones +11, Mrs B. Mansfield bt P. Campion +15, L. Wharrad bt Mrs A. Croker +9, P.V. Cozens bt Mrs Y. Rentoul +14.  
*Second Round:* Haste bt J. Greenwood +12, Maude bt Godsi +23, Wharrad bt Mrs Mansfield +11, D.C. Caporn bt Cozens +11.  
*Semi-final:* Maude bt Haste +3, Caporn bt Wharrad +12.  
*Final:* Maude bt Caporn +5T.















lain (10) +19, P. Cozens (bye), Mrs D. de Q. Lenfestey (6) (bye).  
**Second Round:** Hopewell bt Gardiner +12, Noble bt Lenfestey +11, Cozens bt Robinson +10, Mrs Lenfestey (bye).  
**Semi-final:** Hopewell bt Noble +17, Cozens bt Mrs Lenfestey +16.  
**Final:** HOPEWELL bt Cozens +23.

**Event 6 Handicap Doubles (entries 14 pairs)**

**First Round:** S.J.H. Wright & R.H. Fletcher (7) bt J.C. Straw & J.L. MacDonald (16) +1, A.J. Girling & Dr. R.C. Jones (8½) bt G. Henshaw & P.J. De'ath (5½) +9, P. Stoker & J. McCullough (5½) bt Mr & Mrs D. de Q. Lenfestey (10½) +15, Dr. T.W. Smith & A.J. Bucknall (11½) bt P.V. Cozens & L. Robinson (10) +1, E. Bell & C. Chamberlain (9) bt J.G. C. Phillips & Mrs J. Haworth (12) +15, G.W. Noble & Mrs A.J. Bucknall (10) bt Dr. & Mrs R.F. Wheeler (8) +4T, Dr. G.K. Taylor & E.L. Gardiner (10) (bye), G.C. Hopewell & R.O. Calder (5½) (bye).  
**Second Round:** Girling & Jones bt Wright & Fletcher +18, Stoker & McCullough bt Smith & Bucknall +10, Bell & Chamberlain bt Noble & Mrs Bucknall +6, Dr. Taylor & Gardiner bt Hopewell & Calder +24.  
**Semi-final:** Girling & Jones bt Stoker & McCullough +2, Bell & Chamberlain bt Taylor & Gardiner +2T.  
**Final:** GIRLING & JONES bt Bell & Chamberlain +8.

**LADIES FIELD CUP**

**Budleigh Salterton 20 – 24 August**

In the first series, Kitty Wheeler started by narrowly missing a triple peel against Frances Joly, and in the next round, Betty Prichard did in fact go out with a double peel, also against the luckless Frances. Jocelyn Sundius-Smith and Kitty then had a nailbiting finish before an enthusiastic audience, but Kitty in her game against Barbara Meachem the following morning, failed to take croquet: The remaining fifth round matches being very closely contested.

Thus, at the end of the first series, Barbara led, having won all five matches and playing easily and well, with Betty and Jocelyn on four and three wins respectively.

In the second series, Barbara faltered. In the first game, she lost to Mrs (Dabs) Wheeler, who played with great courage and spirit to win with an adventurous finish. This so encouraged "Dabs" that she went on to win all her remaining four games, finishing with a classic win over Frances. The latter with her opening break, went to 4 back and 2, and looked, and was, pleased with herself. "Dabs" however, counter attacked, and taking her second ball from the first hoop to the peg, won handsomely; thus showing not only her fighting spirit but her true potential and should earn her future recognition.

Jocelyn and Betty, meanwhile, were fighting for third and fourth place, which looked to be Betty's. With both clips on 4 back to Jocelyn's 4 back and 1, an injudicious shot invited Jocelyn to make an all round break, an invitation she accepted with alacrity and went to the stick with her backward ball. This was promptly pegged out by Betty, who retired to the South Boundary. Jocelyn moved to the centre of the North Boundary, and Betty laid her rush to 4 back, well wired from Jocelyn. The latter, with a bold and accurate shot, made penult from the boundary, travelling well down beyond rover; from there, she hit what was now a double and went out, a most stout-hearted performance, and a match well worth going a long way to see, if only for the sporting spirit in which it was played.

Barbara meanwhile, won her last match against Kitty, bringing her tally to 8 games out of 10 - she had lost another one to Betty in the seventh round - and shewed herself a convincing and popular winner.

One must mention the spectacular one ball finish in the ninth round between Betty and 'Dabs' Wheeler; and also some glorious shots by Kitty Wheeler, but not enough of them.

Ken Schofield's statistics informs us that "the winner of the toss" won 15 games and lost 15; and that Red and Yellow won 22 and lost 8.

The prizes were presented by Mrs Rotherham, Vice-President of the Croquet Association, a six times winner of this

event, who thanked the Club, on behalf of the C.A., for their hospitality and excellent catering and for the enthusiasm of the Club members in watching. She stressed too, the relief of both Players and Management in having only six players in the event, and remarked on how obvious was the improvement in the standard of play, with the players so much more relaxed and not tired out.

All in all, it turned out to be a very happy and successful Tournament

"LADIES FIELD" CUP  1979	SERIES	1979						TOTALS	FINAL PLACINGS
		Miss F. Joly	Mrs B. Meachem	Mrs D.M.C. Prichard	Mrs B.L. Sundius-Smith	Mrs G.T. Wheeler	Mrs R.F. Wheeler		
Miss F. Joly	1		-8	-18	-21	-4	-4	0	5th
	2		-15	+10	-14	+10	-14	2	
Mrs B. Meachem	1	+8		+4	+14	+25	+13	5	1st
	2	+15		-9	+14	+15	-8	3	
Mrs D.M.C. Prichard	1	+18	-4		+2	+15	+21	4	4th
	2	-10	+9		-5	-11	-1	1	
Mrs B.L. Sundius-Smith	1	+21	-11	-2		+3	+11	3	3rd
	2	+14	-14	+5		+19	-18	3	
Mrs G.T. Wheeler	1	+4	-25	-15	-3		-18	1	5th
	2	-10	-15	+11	-19		-24	1	
Mrs R.F. Wheeler	1	+4	-13	-21	-11	+18		2	2nd
	2	+14	+8	+1	+18	+24		5	

**Edinburgh 20 – 25 August**

'Le style est l'homme meme.' Why is it that in most games there is a generally accepted good style? All the best golfers have similar swings; in snooker the top players have similar cue actions; cricketers who score a lot of runs play their strokes in a similar fashion; the examples are endless. We have only to look at the players in the Edinburgh Croquet Club Tournament to see how untrue this is of Croquet.

Glancing round the Courts, we see Stephen Wright with a fluid and apparently effortless swing sending the croqueted ball the full length of the court while Donald Lamont seems to expend five times as much effort in forcing a ball to travel half as far. Look at Ewen Bowie stalking his ball casually with a swinging mallet, playing his stroke almost without pausing in his stride and not even grounding his mallet. Compare this with Gavin Anderson's stop-go stalk like a kitten playing with a ball of fluff or Alisdair Adam's long contemplation after he has grounded his mallet and is performing his genuflection routine. Consider Miss Murray glaring at the object ball after she has grounded her mallet as if defying her own ball to miss the target while Roger Wood seems to obtain his aim solely from his stalk with scarcely a flicker of an eyelid at the object ball. If there is any lesson to be learned from this it is to stick to your own style for they are all good players in their class and any attempt to change their methods would probably be disastrous.

But what of the tournament? In the Open event, four different players reached the finals of the Draw and Process, the successful finalists being Jack Norton and Ewen Bowie. In the Play-off we expected fireworks but it turned out to be a day on which both players made mistakes and Jack Norton eventually achieved victory in a somewhat undistinguished game which was of much poorer quality than some in the earlier rounds.

Another success for Jack Norton was in the Doubles final where he skillfully piloted his 10 bisque partner Stewart Kil-

patrick to victory against Stephen Wright and Reg. Forth. We were sorry that Stephen was able to play only in the Doubles so that we missed the opportunity of seeing more of the high class croquet which he nearly always produces.

In the Big Handicap Jack Norton reached another final, this time against Robert Milne to whom he conceded 1½ bisques. The bisques, aided by their user's skill, were too much for Jack and Robert regained the Edinburgh Cup of which he was the first holder in 1969 but has never won since. A happy tenth anniversary.

Ian Wright, Managing the tournament with his usual competence, coped with a vast number of requests for leave and succeeded in having the last final finished on Saturday shortly after half past five. Mrs Tait presented the prizes with charm and accomplished grace and within a short time the tents were down, the courts were cleared and the events of the week began to become memories.

**Event 1 The Cramond Cup (entries 9)**

**DRAW**  
**First Round:** F.V.X. Norton bt E.M. Bowie +10.  
**Second Round:** R. Williams bt S.R.C. Malin +15, G. Anderson bt I.H. Wright +16, Norton bt R.M. Milne +22, R. Wood bt R.O. Calder +18.  
**Semi-final:** Anderson bt Williams +13, Norton bt Wood +8.  
**Final:** NORTON bt Anderson +8.

**PROCESS**

**First Round:** R. Williams bt R. Wood +19.  
**Second Round:** Williams bt I.H. Wright +5, E.M. Bowie bt G. Anderson +19, S.R.C. Malin bt R.O. Calder +5, R.M. Milne bt F.V.X. Norton +2.  
**Semi-final:** Bowie bt Williams +3, Milne bt Malin +7.  
**Final:** BOWIE bt Milne +11.  
**Play-off:** NORTON bt Bowie +7.

**Event 2 The Silver Jubilee Salver (entries 4) (level Singles)**

M.P.W. SMITH bt Mrs V. McPherson +2 +18, Mrs Lauder +5 +3, R. Forth +6. Mrs M. Lauder bt R. Forth +10 +22, Mrs MacPherson +6. Mrs V.M. MacPherson bt Mrs Lauder +6, R. Forth +9. R. Forth bt Mrs MacPherson +3(T), M.P.W. Smith +8.

**Event 3 The Walter B. Laing Cup (entries 6)**

**DRAW**  
**First Round:** Miss A.M. Murray bt A.G.M. Hunter +5(T), P. Simpson bt C.J. Tait +1(T).  
**Semi-final:** G. Anderson bt Miss Murray +2(T), Simpson bt A.D. Lamont +9.  
**Final:** SIMPSON bt Anderson +14.

**PROCESS**

**First Round:** C.J. Tait bt Miss A.M. Murray +5(T), P.G. Simpson bt G.M. Hunter +11.  
**Semi-final:** A.D. Lamont bt Tait +5(T), Simpson bt G. Anderson +19.  
**Final:** LAMONT bt Simpson +3(T).  
**Play-off:** SIMPSON bt Lamont +3.

**Event 4 Norton-Wright Cups (entries 10 pairs)**

**First Round:** S.J.H. Wright & R. Forth (6½) bt Mrs M. Lauder & R. Lay (19½) +6, F.V.X. Norton & W.S. Kilpatrick (10½) bt J.C. McCullough & Miss A.M. Murray (17) +16.  
**Second Round:** C.J. Tait & A.D. Lamont (16) bt R. Wood & S.R.C. Malin (5) +3(T), Wright & Forth bt R. Williams & M.P.W. Smith (8½) +13, Norton & Kilpatrick bt E.M. Bowie & Mrs V.M. MacPherson (10) +20, R.O. Calder & A.H.M. Adam (12) bt A.G.M. Hunter & G. Anderson +5(T).  
**Semi-final:** Wright & Forth bt Tait & Lamont +14, Norton & Kilpatrick bt Calder & Adam +12.  
**Final:** NORTON & KILPATRICK bt Wright & Forth +19.

**Event 5X The Edinburgh Cup (entries 19)**

**First Round:** I.H. Wright (2½) bt S.R.C. Malin (4) +16, M.P.W. Smith (6) bt A.D. Lamont (8) +8, E.M. Bowie (3) bt R. Williams (2½) +12, O. Calder (4) bt George Anderson (12) +14.

**Second Round:** A.G.M. Hunter (11) bt R. Wood (1) +3(T), Mrs M. Lauder (6½) bt P.G. Simpson (10) +6, Smith bt Wright +3, Bowie bt J. Tait (8) +8, A.H.M. Adam (8) bt Calder +3(T), Mrs M. MacPherson (7) bt R. Forth +20, F.V.X. Norton (½) bt Gavin Anderson (4) +6.  
**Third Round:** R.M. Milne (2) bt Hunter +21, Smith bt Mrs Lauder +7, Bowie bt Adam +15, Norton bt Mrs MacPherson +12.  
**Semi-final:** Milne bt Smith +9, Norton bt Bowie +21.  
**Final:** MILNE bt Norton +13.

**Event 5Y Handicap Singles (entries 9)**

**First Round:** R. Williams (2½) bt C.J. Tait (8) +16.  
**Second Round:** R. Wood (1) bt P.G. Simpson (10) +2, S.R.C. Malin (4) bt A.D. Lamont (8) +14, Williams bt George Anderson (12) +14, Gavin Anderson (4) bt R. Forth (7) +16.  
**Semi-final:** Malin bt Wood +5, Gavin Anderson bt Williams +11(T).  
**Final:** GAVIN ANDERSON bt Malin +15.

**Event 5Z Handicap Singles (entries 9)**

**First Round:** Mrs M. Lauder (6½) bt R.O. Calder (4) +22.  
**Second Round:** A.G.M. Hunter (11) bt I.H. Wright (2½) +12, Mrs V.M. MacPherson (7½) w.o. opp. scr., A.D. Lamont (8) bt P.G. Simpson (10) +7, C.J. Tait (8) bt George Anderson (12) +5(T).  
**Semi-final:** Hunter bt Mrs MacPherson +7, Tait w.o. opp. scr.  
**Final:** HUNTER bt Tait +10.

**Hunstanton 27 August – 1 September**

The Hunstanton lawns have improved considerably since this reporter was there two years ago. The departure of the rabbits, who in previous years made interesting holes overnight the attention and skill fo the groundsman and the work of such members as John Wood have all contributed to this improvement. There were of course the usual one or two boundaries which gave an advantage to the initiated but small irregularities are present at all Clubs and add to the fun of the game. Golfers have to read the lawns - why not croquet players?

The Club is unusual in having a grass apron in front of the Clubhouse - the five lawns surround this area, two on each side and one ahead, - so that it is possible to watch three games without moving one's seat. With swivel chairs one could comfortably follow the play on all five lawns! There was no time during which from this apron there wasn't a game or two worth watching and there were some really high spots.

Double banking was used from the first day. This presented one or two problems, particularly to those who had never double-banked before (some of whom would perhaps have benefitted from reading the C.A.'s guide lines for players in double-banked games). There were some minor grumbles but on the whole these were a minority expression - most people seem to have accepted that the economics of running a club requires more paying members than can be accommodated without double-banking. Anyway this writer finds in double-banking yet another excuse for inadequacies in prowess!

Fortunately, the Managers, Sarah Hampson and Roger Wheeler, had decided that there would be no time limits - a wise decision when double-banking - nothing is more calculated to raise the temperature than a slow player who is in the lead, or a hold up caused by the other game - especially in the last half hour of play. Double-banking and time limits are uneasy companions.

Although a census revealed that there were in fact only three of them, the tournament seemed to be full of Tapps. They appeared at one stage to be set to win everything except the 'B' and 'C' class events, but they were finally frustrated in the main handicap event for the Ingleby Challenge Cup by thirteen year old Mark Avery, who, playing off a handicap of 8 uncremoniously ousted Matthew Tapp (1½) in the semi-final by using his bisques with speed and confidence to win the game in just over twenty minutes.

Matthew Tapp is himself only sixteen and it was no doubt a

new experience for him to be so decisively beaten — and for such a brilliant young player very hard to take. But he took his defeat well — no doubt consoled by memories of his own pretty meteoric rise during which he has no doubt inflicted similar defeats on many experienced and crestfallen players. He had even more positive consolation from his own brilliant win in the Open Singles for the Norfolk Challenge Cup, in which he beat his brother Simon. The finalists in both Draw and Process were all Tapps — Simon beat his father in one of these in a very exciting game. Arthur (father) Tapp took his first ball to 4 back and before Simon had made much progress had completed two thirds of the triple but broke down at 1 back; Simon hit in but made little of it and Arthur went round to the peg but only pegged out one ball — nor did he peg out the other as Simon took both his balls round and pegged out to win.

The Tapps filled three places in the finals of the Doubles, Matthew and father beating Simon and David Godfree.

In the main Handicap event young Mark Avery (8) had to play Steve Hoole (5) who is also relatively new to the game and an improving player. Mark took his first ball to three back with one bisque. Steve took his first ball to Rover and cross wired Mark at hoop one. Mark used two bisques to run the second hoop and join up. Steve did not hit in and Mark, now without bisques, took his second ball round to the peg from the second hoop, peeled his partner ball through Rover and pegged out. The game took an hour.

Apart from the exploits of the young Tapps and Avery there were a lot of other interesting games. Sarah nearly lost her chance of the Hunstanton Challenge Bowl by inadvertently pegging herself out with her second ball on Rover. Lionel Wharrad plodded round from 4 back and 3 wiring Sarah at each hoop until he reached peg and Rover where he unwisely left a ball open which Sarah hit and went out. She went on to contest the final but succumbed to Jane Rolfe who had played consistently well to win the Challenge Bowl.

The weather was marvellous — almost any croquet ground would be enjoyable in such weather. The croquet was at times almost as dazzling as the skies and there was excitement at all levels of play. Edith Wood and Moira Wharrad with all four clips on the peg — Hugh Carlisle who played Midge Sheldon as though determined not to score finally coming to when Midge had very capably taken both balls to Rover. He responded to the muttered if cynical aside of a passing competitor “a nice game to win” by doing just that!

I recommend Hunstanton to all who have not so far gone there — pick some nice weather if you can — then you will be assured of a delightful week fortified by excellent food and a friendly and warm welcome.

#### **Event 1 Norfolk Challenge Cup (entries 8)**

##### **Open Singles 'A' (up to 2 bisques)**

###### **DRAW**

**First Round:** S.A. Tapp bt Mrs H.B.H. Carlisle +15, A.D. Karmel w.o. opp. scr., M.Tapp bt H.B.H. Carlisle +17, Mrs B. Sundius-Smith bt A.E. Tapp +7.

**Semi-final:** S. Tapp bt Karmel +23, M. Tapp bt Mrs Sundius-Smith +25.  
**Final:** M. TAPP bt S. Tapp +3.

###### **PROCESS**

**First Round:** S.A. Tapp bt H.B.H. Carlisle +4, Mrs B. Sundius-Smith w.o. opp. scr., Mrs H.B.H. Carlisle bt M. Tapp +4, A.E. Tapp bt A.D. Karmel +7.

**Semi-final:** S.A. Tapp bt Mrs Sundius-Smith +4, A.E. Tapp bt Mrs Carlisle +4.

**Final:** S. TAPP bt A.E. Tapp +1.

**Play-off:** M. TAPP bt S. Tapp +13.

#### **Event 2 Hunstanton Challenge Bowl (entries 12)**

##### **Level Singles 'B' (2½ — 6 bisques)**

###### **DRAW**

**First Round:** L. Wharrad bt G. Henshaw +10, Miss S. Hampson bt S.G. Kent +9, Mrs R. Wheeler bt D. Turner +26, Mrs A. Neville-Rolfe bt S.J.W. Hoole +8.

**Second Round:** D.R. Wheeler bt P.M. Johnson +6, Miss Hampson bt Wharrad +3, R. Alford bt Mrs Wheeler +3, Mrs Rolfe bt H. Ormerod +8.

**Semi-final:** Miss Hampson bt Wheeler +5, Mrs Rolfe bt Alford +3.

**Two Life Variation (marriage) see PROCESS**

###### **PROCESS**

**First Round:** P.M. Johnson bt Mrs A. Neville-Rolfe +15, G. Henshaw bt Mrs D.R. Wheeler +12, D.R. Wheeler bt S.G. Kent +18, L. Wharrad bt S.J.W. Hoole +7.

**Second Round:** Johnson bt Ormerod +24, Henshaw bt Alford +15, Miss Hampson bt Wheeler +7, Turner bt Wharrad +11.

**Semi-final:** Johnson bt Henshaw +16, Miss Hampson bt Turner +7.

**Two Life Variation (marriage)**

**Semi-final:** Mrs Rolfe bt Johnson +6.

**Final:** Mrs ROLFE bt Miss Hampson +16.

#### **Event 3 Silver Rose Bowl (entries 13)**

##### **Handicap Singles 'C' (6½ bisques and over)**

**First Round:** Mrs F.H.N. Davidson (7½) bt Miss M. Bradds (14) +16, Mrs A. Solomon (14) w.o. opp. scr., Mrs L. Wharrad (13) bt Miss E. Wood (10) +1, J. Wood (8) bt M. Avery (8) +6, G. Solomon (8) bt Mrs A. Zinn (8) +8.

**Second Round:** D. Godfree (10) bt Mrs Davidson +5, Mrs A. Solomon bt Mrs Wharrad +6, Wood bt G. Solomon +14, I. Meredith (11) bt Mrs P. Sheldon (10) +2.

**Semi-final:** Godfree bt Mrs Solomon +6, Meredith bt Wood +1(T).

**Final:** GODFREE bt Meredith +8.

#### **Event 4X Ingleby Challenge Cup (entries 32)**

**First Round:** S.A. Tapp (0) bt Mrs A. Zinn (8) +8, I.C. Meredith (11) bt Mrs A.N. Rolfe (2½) +12, Mrs F. Davidson (7½) bt Mrs L. Wharrad (13) +19, M.J. Tapp (1½) bt Mrs A. Solomon (14) +14, A. Tapp (0) bt A.D. Karmel (1½) +5, P.M. Johnson (4) bt Mrs B. Sundius-Smith (½) +6, J. Wood (8) bt D.L. Godfree (10) +9(T), M. Avery (8) bt Mrs H.B.H. Carlisle (1½) +16, L. Wharrad (3½) bt D. Turner (4) +5, Rev. H. Ormerod (4½) bt Miss S. Hampson (3) +12, H.B.H. Carlisle (1½) bt Miss E. Wood (10) +16, Mrs P. Sheldon (10) bt S.G. Kent (4) +3, G. Solomon (8) bt J. Haigh (0) opp. ret., S.J.W. Hoole (5) bt Mrs A.D. Karmel (7) +12, G. Henshaw (3) bt Dr. D.R. Wheeler (5) +5, Mrs R.F. Wheeler (2½) bt R.S. Alford (3) +12.

**Second Round:** S.A. Tapp bt Meredith +8, M. Tapp bt Mrs Davidson +7 Johnson bt A. Tapp +24, Avery bt Wood +6, Wharrad bt Rev. Ormerod +9, Carlisle bt Mrs Sheldon +2, Hoole bt Solomon +20, Henshaw bt Mrs Wheeler +21.

**Third Round:** M. Tapp bt S. Tapp +6, Avery bt Johnson +20, Wharrad bt Carlisle +24, Hoole bt Henshaw +7.

**Semi-final:** Avery bt M. Tapp +26, Hoole bt Wharrad +16.

**Final:** AVERY bt Hoole +15.

#### **Event 4Y (entries 15)**

**First Round:** Mrs A. Zinn (8) bt Mrs A. Neville-Rolfe (2½) +3, Mrs L. Wharrad (13) bt Mrs A. Solomon opp. ret., Mrs B. Sundius-Smith (½) bt A.D. Karmel (1½) +8, Mrs H.B.H. Carlisle (1½) bt D.L. Godfree opp. scr., D. Turner (4) bt Miss S. Hampson w.o. opp. scr., S.G. Kent (4) bt Miss E. Wood (10) +3, R.F. Wheeler (5) bt R.S. Alford (3) +13.

**Second Round:** Mrs Zinn bt Mrs Wharrad +10, Mrs Carlisle bt Mrs Sundius-Smith w.o. opp. scr., Turner bt Kent +10, Wheeler bt Mrs A.D. Karmel (7) +22.

**Semi-final:** Mrs Carlisle bt Mrs Zinn +10, Turner bt Dr. Wheeler +9.

**Final:** TURNER bt Mrs Carlisle +4.

#### **Event 5 Hope Cups (Handicap Doubles) (entries 16 pairs)**

**First Round:** I. Meredith & Mrs A. Solomon (22) bt Judge A.D. Karmel & Mrs A.D. Karmel (8½) +4(T), S. Tapp & D. Godfree (10) bt Mrs H.

Carlisle & Miss F. Carlisle (15½) +24, Mrs A. Neville-Rolfe & J. Wood (10½) bt Rev. H. Ormerod & Mrs A. Zinn (12½) +10, P.M. Johnson & S.J.W. Hoole (9) bt G. Henshaw & Miss F. Wood (13) +13, S.G. Kent & Mrs F. Davidson (11½) bt L. Wharrad & Mrs L. Wharrad (16½) +10, Miss S. Hampson & D. Turner (7½) bt H.B.H. Carlisle & J. Carlisle (15½) +20, Mrs B. Sundius-Smith & G. Solomon (8½) bt R. Alford & M. Avery (11) +2, A. Tapp & M. Tapp (2½) bt Dr. R. Wheeler & Mrs R. Wheeler (7½) +6.

**Second Round:** S. Tapp & Godfree bt Meredith & Mrs Solomon +17, Johnson & Hoole bt Mrs Rolfe & Wood +10, Miss Hampson & Turner bt Kent & Mrs Davidson +6, A. Tapp & M. Tapp bt Mrs Sundius-Smith & Solomon +6.

**Semi-final:** S. Tapp & Godfree bt Johnson & Hoole +13, A. Tapp & M. Tapp bt Miss Hampson & Turner +6.

**Final:** A. TAPP & M. TAPP bt S. Tapp & Godfree +16.

#### **The President's Cup 4 — 8 September**

There was bound to be a new winner of this cup because for almost the first time there was no former holder playing — there are normally three or four. However, the only newcomer to the eight was Eric Solomon and he did not come unsung having won the Chairman's Salver twice in the last three years. From the start Neal looked the likely winner, winning not only the games in which he established early leads but also three close games against Solomon, Openshaw and Mulliner from behind. The narrow hoops coupled with welcome fast lawns brought mistakes from all the other players to begin with: Prichard and Jackson both stuck in 4 back when well set to finish, giving the games to Mulliner and Murray; in the next round Mulliner had made a fine come-back but carelessly ran on to his partner ball after Rover to hand the match back to Solomon. Hands was the first to complete a triple but it was to be his last — he had to wait until the 9th round to notch another win. Murray was making more mistakes than usual but was at his best with a fine triple peel against Solomon. The last named was playing consistently well and made up for only one win on Tuesday by winning all three on Wednesday, starting with a quadruple peel against Jackson. Jackson was not hooping well and had to wait until the 6th round for a win, then one mistake, while doing a triple, from Mulliner gave Jackson the opportunity to make a fine break to peg Mulliner out and win the game. Openshaw was not playing like the Open Champion and although he had 3 wins in the first series one was a gift from Prichard who missed a short roquet after running Rover with his backward ball. So at the end of the 1st Series it looked as though only Murray and Solomon who had each completed fluent triples in the 7th round and who had 5 wins apiece were the only threats to Neal. But Mulliner's fiery brilliance and Openshaw's more measured tread were still there behind them. The star game was Openshaw's five peels, 1 back to penultimate, before Neal had started, yet the latter snatched a remarkable victory. Had that game gone the other way, or Prichard's 'gifts' to Mulliner and Openshaw, or the Solomon game or.... but they didn't!

The second series started with Neals first defeat, an easy win for Solomon, while Murray looked unbeatable with a fast triple against Jackson and Openshaw played more confidently to beat Hands. Prichard and Mulliner started scratchily but after a good break from the latter this game was pegged down (after 2 hours only) to enable the 9th round to start so that Jackson could go to the Opera. At 6 o'clock the Prichard/Jackson game was also pegged down for the same reason, after less than 2 hours, with Prichard on 4 back and Penultimate. The Mulliner game was then resumed and Prichard hit in ruthlessly to win it by 3. This was a setback for Mulliner who had just completed a brilliant triple against Openshaw who had looked set for a +26 until he missed a short roquet a penultimate. Hands had beaten Neal, who was feeling the strain that bedevils leaders and with Solomon having been too steady for Murray (who could not hit in) there were now joint leaders with 7 games each, Murray being on 6 and Mulliner 5.

Friday was a day that Murray will never forget. In the morning he lost for a second time to a triple peel from Mulliner; in the afternoon he triple peeled Neal and pegged both balls out leaving Neal for hoop 1 and himself for 2 back. With accurate positioning and incredible hitting-in Neal made his 13 points while Murray made only 3 (reminiscent of a game at the Caskets in 1974 when Murray beat Wylie from a similar position). With his chance of winning the event gone Murray was to meet players who were not in contention so he set his sights on a sextuple peel. In the evening his opponent was Colin Prichard. Murray laid a close cross wire at hoop 1 with his forward ball eight inches in front of 1 back and his backward ball 6 foot away. Prichard just missed this ball and the sextuple was afoot; a rush peel at 1 back was followed by the 2 back peel after running hoop 1, 3 back after 4, 4 back before 6, but because the pioneer at 2 back was not well placed Murray now concentrated on making the next three hoops, and accomplished the penultimate peel before 4 back. There was an anxious moment when Murray sent the two balls too near to each other and Rover but this was felt more by the spectators than by the player who coolly nudged one with the other and completed the first sextuple peel in the President's Cup (with 3 11/16th ins hoops). The astonishing thing about the break was how easy it was made to look and how quick.

Meanwhile there was no let up between the three leaders: Mulliner had three easy wins with 2 triples; Solomon had his first game in the bag with both balls for the peg when Openshaw went off beside them on the Boundary but Solomon only managed to peg one ball out leaving the other near the peg with Openshaw neatly the other side of the peg. Openshaw hit in from corner IV and playing carefully and cleverly took both balls round to win by 1. Solomon followed this set-back with two masterly wins bringing him into the joint lead with Neal at 9 wins. Neal had the gift of a game from Jackson who stuck in Rover from 6 ins, which was followed by the game stolen from Murray and ended in a protracted game with Openshaw which both would like to forget and which was pegged down — the only one of the week. Solomon's game against Jackson had been too long to allow for more than a short second act of the Opera game (Prichard won it quite quickly in the 3rd act on Saturday).

The needle game on Saturday morning was Solomon/Mulliner — if the latter won he might go into the lead jointly with Neal and Solomon. Solomon was first round but Mulliner followed with a brilliant triple peel on his opponent with Solomon's other ball for Hoop 2 and his own for hoop 1. With so much at stake it is not surprising that a few errors crept in: the contact was useless to Solomon but he kept forcing Mulliner to use him by shooting at the forward ball wherever it retreated to. Mulliner became less sure and due to his errors Solomon got in three times with what would have been easy chances in a normal game but Solomon only made one hoop each time. Mulliner switched from defence to attack but failed twice at 1 back whereupon Solomon strode on to take the game +7 with outward confidence but — so he says — inner turmoil. Prichard had meanwhile played Neal who was not hitting in and with some effective cut rushes and huge splits Prichard put paid to Neal's chance of winning the Cup — Prichard had proved himself to be a specialist in recovery throughout the week and played well to win 4 games in the second series. Jackson got his second win to keep his record. He and Hands are different players in London from the form they show at Cheltenham; Jackson's mallet seemed too inert to hit the ball crisply while Hands hit harder and wider as the week progressed.

In the last round, with the pressure off, Neal resumed where he left off at the end of the first series. Mulliner had set off like Sebastian Coe to show us the quickest triple peel but Neal hit in and showed us the surest — with only the occasional glance down to see if Prichard could possibly topple Solomon. But Solomon was not going to be deprived of his

dream; he broke down trying a triple peel but almost rescued himself with a brilliant jump over a ball at 5th to scatter a ball at 6th, sending both balls to the North Boundary. Prichard, robbed of an easy break did hit in but when Solomon got back in he went out in style. He did the penultimate peel splitting his other ball to within the yardline area on the West boundary to get a rush on an enemy ball to 2 back. John Solomon at his best would have been justly proud of these two strokes, and they show how Eric Solomon has grown in stature during this year — even during this week.

Noel Hicks has said that out of the many President's Cups he has watched perhaps the finest consistent play was shown in 1972 when there were 22 triple peels and half the games were won by 20 points or more and now Dr. E.W. Solomon joins the winner that year, William Prichard, and Patrick Cotter (1949) as the only players to win the event at their first attempt since the war. This year Murray did his historic sextuple plus four triples and Mulliner did seven triple peels — yet they only tied for fourth place with 8 wins each. Neal had played well enough to win and had fought well while Openshaw, almost unnoticed, had won six games in the second series to pull himself up to third place, only one behind Neal and two behind the winner. The absentees, when they return will not find vacant spaces. This year, to quote Aesop "slow and steady wins the race" but next it could equally well be the turn of the hare or the grasshopper.

PRESIDENT'S CUP	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. E.W. Solomon		-8	+24	+1	-23	+24tp	+16	+22tp	11
2. B.G. Neal	+8		+2	+2	+10	+25tp	+6tp	+24	10
3. D.K. Openshaw	-24	-2		-11	-15	+10	+11	+16	9
4. S.H. Mulliner	-1	-2	+11tp		+5	+25tp	-4		8
5. M. Murray	+23tp	-10	+15	-20		+22	+20tp	+5	8
6. G.H.L. Prichard	-24	+13	-10	+3	-26		+17	+11	6
7. P.W. Hands	-16	-6	-11	-25	-20	-21		+20tp	2
8. G.E.P. Jackson	-22	-24	-16	+4	-5	-4	-20		2

**The Chairman's Salver — Compton 3 — 7 September**

To members of the Compton Club, and perhaps many others, this year's eight players selected for the Chairman's, looked to be rather weaker than usual. They were in great contrast to those eight from the previous year. There were only two survivors from 1978, 4 promoted from the Ell Cup and two newcomers to the "Eights" altogether in Ian Bond and David Foulser. The Courts were easy paced and warm and sunny weather prevailed throughout. Ed Strickland managed the event superbly, and the players were treated most graciously by the host Club.

The first day's play can be best described as historic, in that all three rounds were completed by 4.13 pm. in lightning fashion, despite an hour and a half break for lunch. John Phillips and Foulser were the only unbeaten players by Monday evening with Tristram Owen and Vincent Camroux each on two wins. The favourite, Graeme Roberts, started badly losing his first three games. Foulser looked in tremendous form on the first day, beating Bond +25 in 66 minutes, David Croker +26 with the aid of a perfect triple peel in 48 minutes and Owen by +21 in 74 minutes. Triples were attempted by Bond, Croker and Camroux as well, but none were successful. Roberts was on peg and 4 back against Owen, who pegged him out with his other ball still for the 1st hoop. Roberts made 4 back but never took croquet again.

On Tuesday morning Foulser went to 4 back on the 4th ball against Robin Godby, but in trying to leave a ball ham-

pered in front of the 4th hoop, he did a poor leave which Godby hit without the necessity of a lift shot, and Foulser never recovered the innings again. This was followed by Roberts inflicting a flowing +26 defeat on Foulser. Phillips was meanwhile playing delightful croquet to beat both Bond and Croker easily. The sixth round saw the first clash between Phillips and Foulser which the latter won in a rather tense match in which both players made surprising errors.

Phillips won all his three matches on Wednesday by single figure margins, whilst Foulser lost to Bond and Roberts equally closely. The game between Foulser and Roberts was won by Roberts with an intriguing score +1TP. However, there was not a 3 ball triple peel by Roberts as the score might suggest. Foulser was on the peg with both balls and Roberts was for the 1st and 3rd hoops. Instead of attempting a fairly long peg-out, Foulser laid up with a rush to the peg, when Roberts hit in with his backward ball and went to 4 back. His opponent missed the lift and Roberts brought off a beautifully controlled delayed triple peel, with all 3 peels done by the time he made 3 back. Before pegging out to win the match, Roberts also pegged out one of the enemy balls. Foulser recovered his form in the evening session to beat Camroux by +23. This was a match which should have been +26 for Foulser did all three peels of a spectacular straight triple but missed the peg-out, after which Camroux made three hoops before breaking down. Camroux did two peels of a triple himself against Phillips but missed a short roquet going to 1 back. Later, he was on peg and peg, but missed a 6 foot roquet after running rover to give Phillips the game.

On Thursday morning there seemed little prospect of any-one catching Phillips, who had won 8 out of 9, followed by Foulser, Croker and Owen, all having 5 wins. Owen was immediately despatched by Foulser, whilst Croker beat Roberts and Phillips got the better of Bond. Phillips was then well beaten by both Croker, and for the second time, by Foulser. This round saw 2 pegged out games which were both won by the player left with only one ball. Phillips broke down at 1 back, having done the 4 back peel. Bond played immaculately to double peel and peg out Phillips, thus giving him contact. Phillips shot well, and played soundly to win without too much trouble. Godby pegged out one of Croker's balls, when both players were for the peg and 4 back. Croker's brilliant shooting saw him hit in to make 4 back and penultimate whereupon he broke down. Godby laid up, and Croker hit in again to make rover and obtain victory.

The final day saw Phillips starting with 9 wins, closely followed by Foulser and Croker on 8. These two met immediately, and Foulser played with great composure to win +26 again with Croker not taking Croquet. Phillips, at this point, was showing signs of pressure and was beaten by Godby. However, he recovered to trounce Owen in the afternoon, in convincing style. Camroux made the first hoop against Foulser early in the game, but missed a 12 foot roquet after which he never regained the innings as Foulser strolled to victory +25.

Thus Phillips and Foulser were level on 10 victories apiece, and a play-off was required. Phillips was the first to strike but broke down at 1 back on his partner ball. Foulser misses a reasonably short shot and Phillips played a fine all round break to give the opposition contact. Unfortunately, in trying to get all four balls on the boundary, one went off to spoil what would otherwise have been a clever leave. Foulser was soon around to 4 back, resisting the temptation to go to the peg and peg out Phillips' ball. The lift was missed and Foulser picked up a difficult break but found himself hampered after running a controlled 5th hoop. He conceded the innings and Phillips hit in to run the last 6 hoops and to take the Salver.

Phillips strength was his ability to punish opponents for their mistakes thanks to his determination to win. Having been the leader all week, only to falter near the end, it would have been sad if he had not won the event. Foulser's play was near-

ly always quick and flamboyant, in the mould of Cheltenham's trio of Martin Murray, Paul Hands and Andrew Hope. Croker's form was a little erratic as his success owes so much to his shooting ability which sometimes deserted him. Owen, too, did not shoot as well as he can, but always fought hard, and was as difficult to beat as ever, taking very few risks. Roberts play varied enormously — sometimes brilliant and other times rather poor. Godby played very nicelt at times but often broke down unaccountably. Bond was not at his best due to his shooting not being up to its usual standard. In addition he was a little unwell for a couple of days. Camroux began well, winning his first two games, but then faded. He lost several games through missing short to middle distance shots that he would have been expected to hit.

Finally a few statistics:— 28 games were won by the player having won the toss whilst 28 were won by the player having lost the toss. Every game was timed by the Manager. The players average times over their 14 matches were as follows:— Foulser, 1 hour 21 minutes — Bond 1.33 — Croker 1.38 — Phillips 1.39 — Camroux 1.48 — Roberts 1.50 — Godby 1.52 — Owen 2.05. The shortest game lasted 48 minutes and the longest 3.08.

CHAIRMAN'S SALVER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1. D.R. Foulser		+12	+26tp	+21	-26	-17	+25	+23
2. J.G.C. Phillips	-12		+22	+6	+20	+16	+25	+10
3. D.J. Croker	-26	-22	-14	+16	+9	-21	+5	+2
4. T.F. Owen	-21	-6	-7		+3	+17	-4	+3
5. G.J. Roberts	+26	-20	-13	-3		-24	+17	+5
6. R.A. Godby	+17	-16	-7	-17	+24		-6	+10
7. I.D. Bond	-8	+21	-5	-9	-4	-10		+8
8. A.V. Camroux	-25	-10	+12	-3	-5	-10	+23	

Play-off: J.G.C. PHILLIPS bt D.R. Foulser +12.



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**The Spencer—Ell Cup 3 — 7 September**

This year we have to thank the Nottingham Croquet Club for their hospitality in allowing the competition for the Spencer-Ell Cup to be played on their lawns, and what magnificent lawns they are now, true and well maintained. The weather was perfect all the week and Mrs Ward worked hard to provide very excellent lunches and teas. Ian Vincent managed, and nearly won, the event and although the whole event was well planned in advance, he did have the worry of deciding to peg down the slower games and when to get them played off. In addition Ian produced a form and persuaded the players to keep a record of their games-opening gambits- long shots- peels and any items of note. As a result there is now a vast amount of information on the event which will take a long time to analyse. Some games ran to around 5 hours duration and over 50 turns. On the other hand one game was finished in 55 minutes and there were 6 triples, four by Brian Sykes. Triples were also done by George Noble and Ian Vincent and there were many other attempted and failed triples, one even after all three peels had been completed. Cautious play rather spoilt the games at the lower levels in the league. After all the safest play may well start with a successful suicide shot followed by a triple. While if the suicide shot is missed the cautious player by his caution will give the adventurous player plenty of later opportunities. It was unfortunate that Vic Rees had to drop out in the week before but his place was taken by Peter Alvey who put up a good performance to come equal 5th with Eddie Bell. Although Chris Cousins made a slow start in the first half he only lost one in the second half to clock up 8 wins.

SPENCER ELL CUP	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1. B.G. Sykes		+19	-14	+15	+4	+26tp	+16	+23tp
2. I.G. Vincent	-19		+17	-11	+15	+14	+24tp	+14tp
3. G.W. Noble	+14	-17		-1	-9	+5	+14	+9
4. C.H.J. Cousins	-15	-8	+1		+19	+4	+13	+5
5. P.L. Alvey	-4	-15	+9	+11		-4	+16	+16
6. E. Bell	-2	-14	-5	+3	+4		+14	+14
7. H.C. Green	-16	-24	-14	-4	-16	-14		+16
8. L.E. O'Brien	-23	-13	-9	-19	-16	-14	-16	

Play-off: B.G. SYKES bt I.G. Vincent +17.



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