

Answer: (b). So you thought we didn't know, Terry!

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THE CROQUET GAZETTE

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A VIEW ON CROQUET TACTICS

While watching some tournament games it seemed to me that most players would benefit from a serious study of tactics.

One of the most common but erroneous ideas is the belief that a player has only to peg out one of the opponent's balls to ensure victory. And when, as so often happens, the result goes the other way and the single ball wins, the first player feels that the result was unfair.

But what has really happened is that the result reflects the fact that the odds were in favour of the single ball. The following is a very common example. Blue goes to four-back, red or yellow misses the lift and black goes round to the peg. Red hits in or takes a bisque and goes to the peg and pegs out black. This is very dangerous, because blue has only a very easy sequence of three hoops to make. Yellow has much greater need of the black ball than blue, because he has to make twelve hoops. In fact I have often seen players peg out an opponent's ball when the other opponent ball has only one hoop to make (one for rover and one for peg is a common situation). A player who pegs out his opponent in such a situation simply deserves to lose.

When I first propounded this theory in England many years ago it was received with scepticism. So I arranged a series of test part-games with Maurice Reckitt, a "grand-master" of croquet. The results surprised him and proved that in the four-back example given above, the odds were heavily in favour of the single ball. Other tests indicated that the odds favoured the single ball if it was for three-back, and that pegging-out the opponent was generally not worthwhile unless the backward ball was only half way round or less.

The corollary of this urge to peg out an opponent ball, is a commonly-observed reluctance to peg out one's own ball. There was an extraordinary example of this in one of the games referred to in the first paragraph, between two top players.

The player of black and blue was in deep trouble, his black had made only two hoops, and blue had a few more to make. Red and yellow were pegging out but the rush did not take the balls to within a safe distance from the peg. Red missed the peg and travelled to between the boundary and the second hoop, while yellow came to rest about three feet from the peg. If yellow had been pegged out the opponent's chance of completing the course would have been remote. But yellow was sent to red, black near the first hoop hit in on blue which was near the fourth, and it was easy to make the third hoop off red and yellow, with a four-ball break to follow. Thus red and yellow snatched defeat from the jaws of victory, by not taking the opportunity to eliminate all possibility of a four-ball break.

If a player is pegging out an opponent ball it is often important for him to peg out his own ball at the same time. If your backward ball has about a four-hoop lead over the opponent's ball it is essential to peg out your own forward ball as well. Because virtually the only hope your opponent has of catching up is a three-ball break, and he cannot make this with only two balls. A more precise assessment of the lead required might be as follows.

If the opponent has eleven or twelve hoops to make, a safe lead to enable you to peg out your own ball would be five hoops. If nine or ten hoops remain, a safe lead for you would be four hoops. Less than nine hoops means that three hoops is a safe lead. The score should be watched carefully. Suppose that you start with only a four-hoop lead and your opponent has twelve hoops to make. If you make two hoops and your opponent is still four hoops behind, leave your backward ball at its hoop and peg out your forward ball immediately, and thus eliminate the possibility of a three-ball break.

It is generally accepted that one should join up on or near boundaries, and avoid joining up in the court if possible. But there are many games in which the opposite tactic is correct. These are games in which one player is conceding bisques. If he joins on a boundary the opponent can shoot at his balls with impunity, knowing that if he

misses he can take a bisque with a certainty of getting an innings from it. But if the balls are five or six yards off the boundary the high-bisquer has problems. If he shoots firmly and misses, the ball will reach the boundary, and make the taking of a bisque too risky. If he tries to stop at the two balls, his ball is almost sure to waver off course as it slows to a stop, and he is unlikely to hit the target.

This brings us to the most important aspect of bisque-taking, the use of bisques without spending them. In one game I had only a half-bisque. Most players keep a half-bisque in hand until they find themselves in trouble, and use it then to extricate themselves, with no possibility of scoring. But I used my half-bisque with the intention of scoring points with it. With my first shot, while still live on all balls, I shot at boundary balls which, I would not have tried without the half-bisque, on the first two occasions hitting in with a good chance of making a break. I lost a close match through fumbling at hoops, etc., but got wonderful value from the half-bisque.

Another important factor when using bisques in this way is the fact that a player is more likely to make the roquet if he intends to take a bisque or half-bisque in the event of missing. The bisque gives confidence and relaxes the tension.

Players who have several bisques rarely use them to full advantage. Here is an example from the same tournament. Blue was trying to make the fourth hoop off yellow, but failed the approach shot. Black was close at hand, on the east boundary level with the peg, while red was a few feet south-east of the peg.

Blue then played the shot which one sees repeated over and over again. With her last shot she took position to roquet yellow in front of the hoop, took a bisque and made one more hoop only.

With her last shot she should have shot at the boundary ball (black), and then taken the bisque in complete safety. A simple little split would have sent black to the sixth hoop, blue going to red in the middle. Another simple split would have sent red to the fifth, blue going to yellow at the fourth hoop. The result would have been a laid-out four-ball break which must surely have scored four hoops, because those hoops are all close together.

After a faulty approach one must realise that the ball at the hoop will not go away, therefore one should try to improve the position of the other balls, before finally returning to the ball waiting at the hoop.

Incidentally one should not take a bisque unless there IS a ball at the next hoop. Thousands of bisques are wasted every year through players not knowing, or not following, this simple rule. I could think of exceptions to this rule, (in croquet there are exceptions to every tactical rule), but they are so rare that it is better not to risk becoming confused by speculating about them.

You cannot possibly have a better opportunity of using your last bisque, and probably will never again get such a good opportunity, so take it without hesitation. Concentrate, remember to keep your eye on the ball with every shot, especially the easy ones, and probably you will make up for the wasted bisques.

Leslie Riggall

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,

LESS FORMALITY

Surely the time has come for the Croquet Association to move out of the Victorian Era into the Second Elizabethan Age, by using Christian names for all players and giving our wives an identity of their own rather than their husband's initials.

I have recently enjoyed a very pleasant week playing in the Budleigh Salterton Tournament, where although over 30 of the 50 entrants were from other clubs, most of us were soon on Christian name terms. But the report in the Gazette will doubtless appear in the traditional less personal form.

For many years at the Sidmouth Club all members, old and new, have quite naturally used each others' first names, and this has resulted in a very friendly club with newcomers almost queuing up to join — 24

The Secretary, the Editor & Assistant Editor

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Tournament Results & Reports to be sent direct, within 7 days of completion of the tournament to the Secretary of the C.A.

Other Contributions other than tournament results and reports should be sent to the Editor. They will be much welcomed and acknowledged.

All correspondence about non-delivery of Gazettes, changes of address, telephone numbers, handicaps or officials should be sent to the Secretary C.A., and not to the Editors.

more this season and others on the waiting list. I would suggest that the publicity the Croquet Association is seeking and the image and popularity of the game might be enhanced if we adopted the practice common to most other sports of using players' Christian names in all reports.

Clyro, Cottington Mead,
Sidmouth, Devon EX10 8HB

Yours sincerely,
Reg A. Peirce

Editors Note: I agree with the writer's sentiments entirely.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS AND REPORTS**Cheltenham Easter W/E 2nd-4th April****AMERICAN HANDICAP SINGLES**

BLOCK A: A.J. Collin (2) 4 wins (+30), W.J. Sturdy (4) 3 wins (+22), B.G. Neal (-1) 3 wins (+19), Mrs T.W. Anderson (5½) 2 wins (-20), J. Haigh (½) 2 wins (-27), M. Suter (15) 0 wins (-33).

BLOCK B: Mrs A.J. Collin (6) 5 wins (+80), D.R. Foulser (-1) 4 wins (+68), L.V. Latham (½) 3 wins (+8), G/Capt R.S. Ryan (12) 2 wins (-21), Col E.L.L. Vulliamy (2) 1 win (-68), D.L. Gaunt (4) 0 wins (-67).

BLOCK C: M.G. Tompkinson (2½) 5 wins (+37), D.J. Croker (-½) 4 wins (+62), J.A. Wheeler (½) 3 wins (+21), Mrs B.G.F. Weitz (3½) 2 wins (-14), H.S. Watson (7) 1 win (-55), Mrs A.J. Bucknell (10) 0 wins (-51).

BLOCK D: J.R. McCullough (-½) 5 wins (+40), Dr G.K. Taylor (½) 4 wins (+27), I.P.M. Macdonald (4) 3 wins (+18), Mrs R.F. Wheeler (2½) 2 wins (-11), Mrs M.G. Tompkinson (8) 1 win (-12), P. Fitzsimmons (7) 0 wins (-62).

BLOCK E: A. Berry (5½) 5 wins (+87), T.I. Wood (½) 3 wins (+46), P. Cordingley (-½) 3 wins (+20), A.J. Bucknell (7) 2 wins (-11), Mrs B.C. Sykes (2½) 2 wins (-28), Miss J. Wraith (11) 0 wins (-73).

BLOCK F: R.M. Hobbs (1) 4 wins (+33), G.E.P. Jackson (0) 3 wins (+22), J.W. Potter (2½) 3 wins (+9), Mrs I.P.M. Macdonald (6½) 2 wins (+21), Mrs L.V. Latham (13) 2 wins (-20), Dr R.F. Wheeler (4½) 1 win (-65).

BLOCK G: R.E. Burnell (7) 5 wins (+82), R.D.C. Prichard (1) 3 wins (-14), T. Griffith (0) 2 wins (-29), Mrs D.J. Croker (7½) 2 wins (-15), Dr R.C. Jones (4½) 1 win (-2), G. Henshaw (3) 1 win (-22).

BLOCK H: T.W. Anderson (3) 5 wins (+49), Dr B.G.F. Weitz (½) 4 wins (+49), F.I. Maugham (8) 3 wins (+20), P.J. Shepard (5) 2 wins (+3), A.J. Girling (1) 1 win (-40), Mrs J.W. Potter (7½) 0 wins (-77).

Devonshire Park 2 (Eastbourne) April 11-16

As if to dispel any lingering doubts that it was really time for croquet again after the long hard winter months, we arrived at Devonshire Park on Monday morning to be greeted by grey skies and the first specks of rain. The only bright spots of that day were provided by the variety of gaily coloured waterproofs on display, belying the mood of the forlorn figures huddling beneath them. Happily the weather

improved throughout the week, culminating in a glorious day for the finals on Saturday, by which time the lawns were beginning to dry out and we were able to concentrate (though not too hard) on the croquet.

The large contingent of Cambridge players soon decided to concentrate their efforts on winning the Z in which the stiff opposition expected from the Wheelers was not forthcoming. Meanwhile in the X the storming progress of Matthew Tapp, which had included two triples against opponents with bisques unused, was brought to a sudden halt by the steadiness of Susan Wiggins, setting up an intriguing final with Jerry Guest. Mrs Wiggins soon took a ball round to rover, which Jerry then proceeded to peg out using three of his four bisques. However, after missing and leaving Susan with a three ball break Jerry, much to the crowd's dismay, failed to take the remaining bisque. Unfortunately Mrs Wiggins was forced to leave a ball behind at fourth and progressed only to two-back. The reprieve however was only temporary and Mrs Wiggins soon completed a well deserved victory, whilst in the Y, Denis Shaw confirmed his progress throughout the fortnight with a most popular win.

There being no Z doubles, the Oxbridge players devoted their efforts to the X where the final produced 'The Battle of the Aitches'. Unfortunately an off-form Yne and Olford could make little of the few chances allowed them by Ilditch and Arrison who throughout the week had done all and more than his more experienced partner had asked of him.

In the class events, a large entry in the Open produced many close games but only one triple, by Martin Coward. Martin won the Process after surviving a dour struggle with Hilditch and snatching an improbable victory against Brian Sykes. In this game Brian appeared to be pegging out with Martin still on 1st and 4-back, but missed the peg with one ball. Martin hit the lift and Brian, possibly with his concentration broken by news of escaping jeans (?) requiring his attention in Oxford, missed his remaining long shots at the peg to allow Martin to scrape home. In the final of the Draw Mrs Wiggins again demonstrated the virtue of making fewer mistakes and repeated this victory over Martin in the play-off to complete a most successful week.

In the B class Jerry Guest beat Nick Hyne in the final of both halves, the first game being keenly contested but the second being a conclusive victory. The most entertaining game was another 'Blues Battle', involving Nick and Peter West. After some fairly even early exchanges, Peter managed to peg out one of Nick's balls, leaving the other for 4-back and himself for 1-back and peg. Nick used two lifts to lay double targets of Peters' ball, only to discover that they were in fact 'polos' (hole in the middle) as his ball went whistling through with unerring accuracy HOWEVER, with Peter laid up with a rush to the peg Nick managed to hit his final lift shot. Having nonchalantly taken his rush to 4-back through rover (!) Nick stuck in his hoop from 9 inches allowing Peter to rejoin near rover. Having run 4-back, Nick hit these but failed to rush to penult; a speculative approach left him with an optional 5 foot position. Not only did he run this without hitting a wire, but also just nicked the pioneer at rover, cut-rushing it into ideal position as his own ball disappeared into the centre of the adjoining lawn, and enabling Nick to strike another blow for light blue dominance.

This was confirmed rather more conventionally in the C and D classes by Andy Soper and Tim Harrison who had looked likely winners throughout, although Andy was forced to fight very hard by Denis Shaw and was nearly taken to a play-off. Tim was less troubled in his small class and showed a marked improvement through the week in his first tournament.

Thus ended a week which was made enjoyable for all thanks to the hard organisational work (not to mention cheering presence) of Ed Strickland and that dedicated managerial duo of Roger and Dale Wheeler who took time off from directing their latest blockbuster epic to keep us all in line and keep us playing croquet.

All in all another season happily under way.

Event 1A. Ionides Trophy. Singles

DRAW

First Round: D.L. Gunaskera bt J.R. Hilditch +3, **Mrs W.R.D. Wiggins** bt Mrs R.F. Wheeler +24, **W.B. Denison** bt B.C. Sykes +24, **Dr W.R.D. Wiggins** bt Cdr G. Borrett +26, **M.J. Coward** bt D.A. Harris +26, **M. Tapp** bt E.C. Tyrwhitt Drake +18.

Second Round: Mrs Wiggins bt Gunaskera +5, **Dr Wiggins** bt Denison +7, **Coward** bt Tapp +4, **L. Wharrad** bt M.A. Holford +3.

Semi-final: Mrs Wiggins bt Dr Wiggins +21, **Coward** bt Wharrad +23(TP).

Final: Mrs Wiggins bt Coward +16.

PROCESS

First Round: M.J. Coward bt J.R. Hilditch +8, **B.C. Sykes** bt L. Wharrad +11, **Mrs R.F. Wheeler** bt E.C. Tyrwhitt Drake +18, **D.L. Gunaskera** bt D.A. Harris +3, **W.B. Denison** bt M.A. Holford +26, **M. Tapp** bt Mrs W.R.D. Wiggins +7.

Second Round: Coward bt Sykes +1, **Cdr G. Borrett** bt Mrs Wheeler +3, **Gunaskera** bt Denison +2, **Tapp** bt Dr W.R.D. Wiggins +2.

Semi-final: Coward bt Borrett +22, **Tapp** bt Gunaskera +4.

Final: Coward bt Tapp +17.

PLAY-OFF

Mrs Wiggins bt Coward +7.

Event 2A. Devonshire Park Salver. Singles (2½ bisques & over)

First Round: J.E. Guest bt R.P. Chappell +21, **N.G. Hyne** bt Dr P.D.B. West +2.

Semi-final: Guest bt Dr R.F. Wheeler +16, **Hyne** bt Mrs H.G. Wills w/o scr.

Final: Guest bt Hyne +20.

DRAW

First Round: J.E. Guest bt Dr P.D.B. West +13, **Dr R.F. Wheeler** bt Mrs H.G. Wills w/o scr.

Semi-final: Guest bt Wheeler +15, **N.G. Hyne** bt R.P. Chappell +10.

Final: Guest bt Hyne +7.

Winner: J.E. Guest

Runner-up: N.G. Hyne

Event 3A. Luard Cup. Level Singles (5½ & over)**PROCESS**

First Round: Mrs A.E. Millns bt Mrs M.E. Wharrad +2, **C.G. Pountney** bt D.W. Shaw +7, **Mrs I.B. Tucker** bt W.E. Philp +10.

Semi-final: Pountney bt Mrs Millns +18, **A.K. Soper** bt Mrs Tucker +11.

Final: Soper bt Pountney +19.

DRAW

First Round: W.E. Philp bt Mrs M.E. Wharrad +6, **A.K. Soper** bt C.G. Pountney +13, **Mrs A.E. Millns** bt Mrs I.B. Tucker +11.

Semi-final: Soper bt Philp +22, **D.W. Shaw** bt Mrs Millns +14.

Final: Soper bt Shaw +1.

Play-off for second place:

Shaw bt **Pountney** +19.

Event 4A. Trevor Williams Cup

T. Harrison 3 wins

S. Wibble 2 wins

Miss D. Harding 1 win

Miss E. Taylor 0 wins

Event 5A 'X'. Sussex Challenge Cup. Handicap Singles (Open)

First Round: Dr R.F. Wheeler (4½) bt Mrs A.E. Millns (7½) +20, **M.J. Coward** (-½) bt Cdr G. Borrett (2) +12, **Dr W.R.D. Wiggins** (2) bt D.L. Gunaskera (1) +13, **J.E. Guest** (4½) bt W.E. Philp (10) +9, **J.R. Hilditch** (½) bt D.W. Shaw (7) +12, **E.C. Tyrwhitt Drake** (2) bt C.G. Pountney (6) +2, **N.G. Hyne** (3) bt R.P. Chappell (3½) +14, **B.C. Bykes** (-½) bt L. Wharrad (2) +9, **T. Harrison** bt Miss D.V. Harding (11) +10, **M. Tapp** (0) bt M.A. Holford (2½) +8, **A.K. Soper** (6) bt Mrs H.G. Wills (5) w/o scr., **Dr P.D.B. West** (3) bt Mrs I.B. Tucker (6½) +12, **S. Wibble** (11) bt Mrs E.C. Tyrwhitt Drake +15, **Mrs R.F. Wheeler** (2½) bt W.B. Denison (2) +8.

Second Round: Dr Wheeler bt Coward +20, **Guest** bt Dr Wiggins +23, **Tyrwhitt Drake** bt Hilditch +6, **Sykes** bt Hyne +13, **Tapp** bt Harrison +7(TP), **Dr West** bt Soper +2, **Mrs Wheeler** bt Wibble +11, **Mrs W.R.D. Wiggins** (½) bt Mrs M.E. Wharrad (9) +15.

Third Round: Guest bt Dr Wheeler +17, **Tyrwhitt Drake** bt Sykes w/o scr., **Tapp** bt **Dr West** +25(TP), **Mrs Wiggins** bt Mrs Wheeler +24.

Semi-final: Guest bt Tyrwhitt Drake +25, **Mrs Wiggins** bt Tapp +24.
Final: Mrs Wiggins bt Guest +11.

Event 5A 'Y'. Sussex Challenge Cup. Handicap Singles (Open)

Final: D.W. Shaw (7) bt W.B. Denison (2) +11.

Event 6A. Handicap Doubles

Final: J.R. Hilditch & T. Harrison (9½) bt N.G. Hyne & M.A. Holford (5½) +21.

Roehampton 21-24 April**Swiss Handicap Singles (8 rounds)**

7 wins **D.J. Croker** (-½); **J.E. Guest** (4).

6 wins **D.J.V. Hamilton-Miller** (1).

5 wins **J. Haigh** (½); **I.P.M. Macdonald** (4); **A.A. Reed** (1½); **M.J. Stevens** (½); **K.F.W. Townsend** (10).

4 wins **Miss J.E. Assheton** (4½); **R.A. Godby** (0); **Mrs. P. Healy** (7); **Mrs W. Jones** (9); **Mrs I.P.M. Macdonald** (6½); **Mrs F.H. Newman** (4½); **G.C. Roy** (2); **C.B. Sanford** (4½); **R.A. Welsh** (6).

3 wins **Mrs D.J. Croker** (7½); **F.H. Newman** (3); **Mrs K.F.W. Townsend** (12); **S.S. Townsend** (1½).

2 wins **Mrs B. Mansfield** (7); **Mrs W.J. Browne** (11); **M.A. Holford** (2½).

1 win **Miss J. Wraith** (11).

0 wins **M.J.B. Haggerston** (13).

Southport and Birkdale Open Weekend 23-24 April

There was a high standard of both entry and performance at this event, under the experienced efficiency of Barry Keen's management. His definition of a playable lawn raised eyebrows among regular visitors during Saturday afternoon's torrential rain and thunder, but play continued. Pat Hague is practising her golf swing and jump-take-off-over-the-pond shots for next time. Apart from that the weather was mostly fine, and the courts, although soggy just below the surface, were nicely smooth and medium paced.

Some of the finest play was seen in the Swiss. Nick Hyne achieved a triple peel and Eddie Bell just failed one with most of the work done. Richard Hilditch, temporarily abandoning the green-tufted antennae through with some suspected that he was receiving extra-terrestrial advice, and which may have eclipsed the Kolbuszewski headgear in éclat (or éclaboussement), produced a splendid triple peel on his opponent, Andrew Collin, when both other balls were for hoop 1. To the dismay of the spectators, he resisted the temptation to peg out his own ball until he was in a commanding lead.

Undoubtedly the outstanding peeler was Keith Aiton. In one game he was robbed by lawn 3, which took his ball into a wired position on a delicate shot at hoop 3 with the balls otherwise perfectly placed for the triple peel. Undaunted, he impressed the spectators in the next game against Barry Keen by attempting to complete a triple, having already made rover, by cannon-peeling his partner ball successfully, but unfortunately did not obtain arush to the peg. In his next game, against Steve Lewis, he embarked on a quintuple peel on the opponent. Although this broke down after three peels, he completed it in a subsequent turn, incidentally peeling Steve's other ball through hoop 6 and his partner ball through 3-back. The imagination and precision of these manoeuvres were much appreciated by the gallery, and received exceptionally loud acclaim from Southport's most discriminating and vociferous audience, the park-keeper's chickens.

In the latter stages of the draw, the question was whether a formidable Bowdon contingent would be able to ward off John McCullough. In the event, the accuracy and determination of Colin Irwin triumphed. One has good grounds for suspecting that the Jubilee Tankard will by no means be the only trophy on the Irwin mantelpiece this season.

These Southport weekends are rapidly increasing in popularity, owing to the time and effort contributed by Paul Stoker and the rest of the club committee, to whom our thanks are due for a most enjoyable tournament.

Main Event (Knock Out)

Winner: C.J. IRWIN beat Mrs A. Collin +26, E. Bell +19, P.J. Death +17, J.A. McCullough +4.

Runner Up: J.A. McCULLOUGH beat P. Stoker +21, A. Collin +26, K.M.H. Aiton +15.

Progressive Swiss

- 4 wins K.M.H. Aiton; W.O. Aldridge.
 3 wins E. Bell; P.J. Death; J.R. Hilditch; N.G. Hyne; B.A. Keen; M. Kolbusevski; S.E. Lewis.
 2 wins A. Collin; G.K. Collin; Mrs W. Hague; Dr R.C. Jones; A.F. Sutcliffe.
 1 win Mrs A. Collin; J.D. Meads; J. Wolfe.
 0 wins P. Stoker.

Southwick Weekend 29 April-2 May

Persistent wet weather during April and earlier has produced quite slow conditions on most croquet lawns this Spring, and this was certainly the case at Southwick. Nevertheless they were in good condition and provided for most enjoyable croquet.

The first two days of the tournament were bright and sunny, but deterioration set in and the final day was wet, cold and wintry. Increasingly one looked forward to the warmth and hospitality that awaited in the clubhouse.

There were 26 competitors to play on eleven lawns so with no double banking, but some skilful management by Tristram Owen, each player had two games a day for four days. It can presumably be argued that to win a Swiss tournament the competition is keener than in an American, because in order to get to the top and stay there one is constantly playing winners and jostling for 'Room at the Top'.

Nobody won all eight games, but nobody lost them all either. Tristram Owen always looked like winning, but did drop one game. Close on his heels came Pountney, Bull and Wharrad. Eleanor Bresssey was the first of the ladies.

Two final thoughts — how pleased Cyril Pountney must be (and indeed we all are) that he has laid the particular bogey that has dogged him during the last two seasons — and watch out for Marjorie Vale!

Results

T.F. Owen (½) 7 wins (+55), C.G. Pountney (6) 6 wins (+58), L. Wharrad (2) 6 wins (+48), D.M. Bull (4) 6 wins (+19), E.E. Rees (2½) 5 wins (+44), R.H. Newman (3) 5 wins (+19), T. Vale (5) 5 wins (+5), F. Reynold (2) 4 wins (+16), *Mrs E. Cox (3½) 4 wins (+15), Mrs E.E. Bresssey (4) 4 wins (+3), *N.W.T. Cox (3) 4 wins (+1), Mrs F.H. Newman (4½) 4 wins (-1), Mrs T. Vale (11) 4 wins (-4), R.W. Newnham (5) 4 wins (-4), W.E. Moore (1) 4 wins (-12), Mrs A. Smith (15) 3 wins (+1), *Mrs E. Mapletoft (12) 3 wins (+1), E.P. Davey (14) 3 wins (-23), *E.B.T. Tanner (6) 3 wins (-26), Mrs M.E. Wharrad (9) 3 wins (-29), Miss P. Shine (7) 2 wins (-31), Mrs L.A. Coombs (5) 2 wins (-34), Mrs R.E. Tucker (6½) 2 wins (-39), Miss D. Harding (11) 2 wins (-51), Mrs E.B.T. Tanner (12) 2 wins (-52).

* scratched

**'Coles' Cheltenham Open Championship
30 April-2 May**

The fourth running of the 'Coles' attracted several new faces to Cheltenham this year — such as Richard Hilditch, Dial Gunaskera, Keith Aiton (who came in as substitute for the last 3 rounds of the Plate when Les Butler dropped out because his wife was poorly), Colin Irwin (fresh from victory in the Southport Open weekend just 7 days earlier), Peter Death and Martin Coward.

Due to a winter 'returfing disaster' Lawn 2 was not available for use, which forced me (as Manager) to use double-banking of Plate matches on the final day.

Saturday . . . was quite a pleasant day, sunny and bright — more than can be said for much of the play, which was very 'early seasonish'. However, several of the Seeds were quickly scattered to the wind. . . . John Rose was comfortably beaten by Ken Jones (+14 . . . the margin — not his handicap), Paul Hands was easily beaten by Eddie Bell — who always does well in this tournament (so Martin Murray was telling me . . .), and Bernard Neal somehow (he's still not too sure) ended up a loser (by 3) to Peter Death — who for the first hour seemed to be missing 25-yard roquets across the lawn every time I looked. Other notable first round victories were by Robert Pritchard who beat George Noble +6, and Bill Aldridge beating Mark Avery +20.

Round 2 saw Dave Foulser beat Martin Murray +12, Andrew Hope squeeze through +5 against Robert Pritchard, Tim Haste scramble past Ken Jones +4, Martin Coward eventually triumph +1 against

Peter Death, top seed Steve Mulliner win fairly comfortably against Tom Griffith, and of course 'Steady' Eddie Bell marching on +16 against Colin Irwin. John McCullough and Phil Cordingley also battled their way through, against Bill Aldridge and Robin Godby respectively. The Plate also got under way — Dial Gunaskera scoring notable wins (both +5) over John Rose and George Noble. Your intrepid reporter slipped to further defeats in the Plate.

Sunday . . . whatever did we do to deserve this sort of day . . . the heavens opened and we all got cold, wet, and then colder and wetter still. However, this didn't stop Eddie Bell reaching the Semi Finals at the expense of Phil Cordingley +7, +19, and then taking the first game from Andrew Hope +23 in the evening. Andrew had come from a game down in his Quarter Final against Tim Haste to reach the Semis. Steve Mulliner marched right through to the final — beating John McCullough in 2 games, then Dave Foulser (who had overcome Martin Coward +4, +17, in 3 games (Dave completing a very nice delayed triple to win his one). As for the Plate, well, names moving towards the top of the table were Irwin, Neal, Gunaskera, Haste, McCullough (last years winner), and Aldridge. Late on in the day a soggy-looking John McCullough trudged back with the news that Tim Haste had beaten him by 22 — so that was the end of him. In fact, . . . hard to believe that on such a nasty day things could get worse — but they did . . . we ran out of beer. Oh, by the way, your intrepid reporter lost a couple more games today.

Monday . . . well it was better than yesterday (I won a game for a start). Andrew Hope overwhelmed Eddie Bell in the 2 remaining games of their Semi-Final to face Steve Mulliner after lunch. In fact after a protracted first game (when Steve had missed his rush to the peg) we had all just gathered (along with our sponsor Nick Norman of Coles) at about 5.30 p.m. for the presentation of the Cup to Steve — when Andrew hit in and won to make it 1-1 (back to the bar folks). But the third game didn't take long and Steve joined the likes of Nigel Aspinall (twice) and David Openshaw as a 'Coles' Cheltenham Open Champion.

In the play-off for 3rd place Eddie Bell notched another fine win +13 over Dave Foulser (but Dave received the greatest prize of all after the game — a trip to the hospital to bring home wife Sally and new-born baby girl Katie Miranda . . . we all wish them well).

Meanwhile the Plate reached its climax with Tim Haste the victor by 20 over Colin Irwin in the final. Tim has improved greatly over the last couple of years and was a worthy winner. John McCullough managed a fine win over Bernard Neal with a quintuple peel. Also notable were efforts by Keith Aiton (5 peels of a sextuple) against Phil Johnson, and a triple peel by Tom Griffith against Laurence Latham (who himself had a fine first win of the weekend over Keith Aiton in the morning). John Davis can be pleased with his efforts — to win 4 games, including the scalps of George Noble and Martin Coward — was very good for John (the highest handicapped player in the weekend at 2).

The last word should, however, be reserved for Steve Mulliner — always the one player that everyone expected to win this tournament . . . and incredibly that's exactly what his ratings said would happen . . . well I never.

Paul Hands

Results

Winner: S.N. Mulliner beat E.J. Davis +21, T. Griffith +12, J.R. McCullough +23 +3, D.R. Foulser +25 -17TP +16, A.B. Hope +10 -3 +26.

Runner-Up: A.B. Hope beat P.M. Johnson +25, R.D.C. Prichard +5, Dr T.J. Haste -4 +25 +20, E. Bell -23 +26 +21.

Third: E. Bell beat P.W. Hands +16, C.J. Irwin +16, P. Cordingley +7 +19, D.R. Foulser +13.

Fourth: D.R. Foulser beat J.R. Hilditch +10, Dr M. Murray +12, M. Coward +4 +17.

Plate (for all those knocked out of the main event before the Semi-Final stage — those reaching the Quarter-Finals received 1 bonus win on entering the Plate . . . ie. entered Plate with 3 wins instead of 2). The four players concerned have an * entered after their wins total

6 wins *Dr T.J. Haste beat D.L. Gunaskera +8, K. Jones +4. **Plate:** P. Cordingley +5, J.R. McCullough +22, C.J. Irwin +20.

5 wins *P. Cordingley beat Dr I.G. Vincent +15, R.A. Godby +21. **Plate:** M.J. Coward +24, R.D.C. Prichard +16.

5 wins D.J. Croker. **Plate:** beat M.N. Avery +15, E.J. Davis +25, Dr I.G. Vincent +14, K. Jones +15, D.L. Gunaskera +1.

5 wins C.J. Irwin beat L.S. Butler +2. **Plate:** R.A. Godby +4, K. Jones +23, W. Aldridge +8, Prof B.G. Neal +14.

5 wins *J.R. McCullough beat D.J. Croker +10, W. Aldridge +11. **Plate:** M.J. Coward +2, Prof B.G. Neal +26QP.

- 4 wins E.J. Davis. **Plate:** beat Dr G.K. Taylor +7, T.I. Wood +8, G.W. Noble +18, M.J. Coward +7.
 4 wins D.L. Gunaskera. **Plate:** beat J. Rose +5, G.W. Noble +5, Dr I.G. Vincent +4, W. Aldridge +3.
 4 wins J.R. Hilditch. **Plate:** beat L.V. Latham +7, Dr G.K. Taylor +16, A.J. Girling +18, Dr I.G. Vincent +1 (from 6 games).
 4 wins K. Jones beat J. Rose +14. **Plate:** R.D.C. Prichard +3, P.J. Death +4, A.J. Girling +19.
 4 wins Prof B.G. Neal. **Plate:** beat L.V. Latham +11, T.I. Wood +8, D.J. Croker +2, D.L. Gunaskera +21.
 4 wins R.D.C. Prichard beat G.W. Noble +6. **Plate:** R.A. Godby +4, Dr M. Murray +7, E.J. Davis +23.
 4 wins T.I. Wood. **Plate:** beat J.R. Hilditch +24, T. Griffith +10, J. Rose +23, G.W. Noble +5.
 3 wins W. Aldridge beat M.N. Avery +20. **Plate:** T. Griffith +8, P.J. Death +1.
 3 wins M.N. Avery. **Plate:** beat L.V. Latham +10, P.M. Johnson +24, R.A. Godby +14.
 3 wins *M.J. Coward beat L.V. Latham +9, P.J. Death +1.
 3 wins A.J. Girling. **Plate:** beat L.S. Butler +13, J. Rose +2, Dr M. Murray +16.
 3 wins T. Griffith beat Dr G.K. Taylor +1. **Plate:** L.V. Latham +24, P.W. Hands +24.
 3 wins G.W. Noble. **Plate:** beat P.M. Johnson +13, P.W. Hands +16, P.J. Death +15.
 3 wins J. Rose. **Plate:** beat P.M. Johnson +13, Dr G.K. Taylor +25, P.J. Death +14.
 3 wins Dr I.G. Vincent. **Plate:** beat A.J. Girling +4, P.W. Hands +19, M.N. Avery +13.
 2 wins K.M.H. Aiton. **Plate:** beat P.M. Johnson +25, R.A. Godby +16 (from 3 games).
 2 wins P.J. Death beat Prof B.G. Neal +3. **Plate:** Dr M. Murray +17.
 2 wins R.A. Godby beat A.J. Girling +8. **Plate:** P.W. Hands +8.
 2 wins P.W. Hands. **Plate:** beat L.S. Butler +14, Dr G.K. Taylor +19.
 2 wins P.M. Johnson. **Plate:** beat L.S. Butler +17, Dr G.K. Taylor +4.
 2 wins L.V. Latham. **Plate:** beat K.M.H. Aiton +7, Dr M. Murray +20.
 2 wins Dr M. Murray beat T.I. Wood +19. **Plate:** T. Griffith +4.
 1 win Dr G.K. Taylor. **Plate:** beat M.N. Avery +17.
 0 wins L.S. Butler (from 4 games).

Hunstanton 30 April-2 May

A wet and windy weekend except for the first day which was fine and warm. Rain slowed up play somewhat, but all the games were finished.

Mike Stevens won Block A and the Fermor Cup and John Wood did well in this block, finished second. His shooting is exceptional and a menace to his opponents.

In Block B, Mick Tomkinson was in good form, clearly enjoying his games, and G.K. Collin in Block C did well to win on his first visit to Hunstanton.

There was a struggle for first place and a silver spoon in Block D with three players winning 4 games each. Mrs M.G. Tomkinson came out top on a points count.

In spite of the weather it was an enjoyable three days, though early spring can be very cold in East Anglia. Mrs H. Carlisle managed us all magnificently, and the lawns, which were in good condition, were never vacant for a moment.

The turkey lunch on Sunday was much appreciated.

J.N.R.

Results — American Singles (Advanced and Level)**Block A (Advanced: 3¼ hours)**

- 5 wins M.J. Stevens.
 4 wins H.C. Green; J.W. Wood.
 3 wins Mrs H.B.H. Carlisle; J. Haigh.
 2 wins Dr M. Kolbusevski.
 0 wins J.D. Meads

Block B (Advanced: 3¼ hours)

- 5 wins M.G. Tomkinson; J.O. Walters.
 4 wins Mrs J. Neville Rolfe.
 2 wins M.A. Holford; Dr C.B. Snowdon; Mrs R.F. Wheeler.
 1 win H.B.H. Carlisle.

Block C (Advanced: 3¼ hours)

- 5 wins G.K. Collin.

- 4 wins R.F.A. Crane.
 3 wins D.L. Gaunt.
 2 wins R.A. Gosden; Dr C.L. Greenbury; Miss S.G. Hampson (retired sick); Dr R.F. Wheeler.

Block D (Level: 3¼ hours)

- 4 wins H.F. Barnett; Mrs R.A. Gosden; Mrs M.G. Tomkinson.
 3 wins M. French; Mrs R.F.A. Crane.
 2 wins Miss P. Hampson.

Hurlingham 30 April-2 May**Handicap Singles (Swiss)****After 6 rounds**

- 5 wins I.P.M. Macdonald (4); Dr W.R.D. Wiggins (2).
 4 wins J.E. Guest (4); S.G. Kent (6); A.J. Palmer (2); Lt Comdr R.M. Ponsonby (6); P.G. Torrington (12).
 3 wins Mrs W.J. Browne (7); G.E.J.A. Doughty (2½); Mrs I.P.M. Macdonald (6½); P.B. Whitehouse (4).
 2 wins Mrs P. Cheyne (10); T.G. Coles (8); R.S. Eades (2); Mrs D. Torrington Petrie (12); C.B. Sanford (4½); Mrs W.R.D. Wiggins (0).
 0 wins Miss J. Wraith (11).

Compton 5-8 May**Handicap Singles**

- BLOCK A. Winner: E.C. Tyrwhitt Drake** (2) beat N.W.T. Cox (3); D.A. Harris (1½); Mrs W.R.D. Wiggins (0); Dr B.D. Yallop (1).
BLOCK B. Winner: Dr W.R.D. Wiggins (1½) beat Cdr G. Borrett (2); J.H. Bowman (2½); Lt Col D.F.T. Brown (5); Mrs N.W.T. Cox (3).
BLOCK C. Winner: C.B. Sanford (4½) beat Mrs E.C. Tyrwhitt Drake (5); D.W. Shaw (7); Mrs H.G. Wills (5). Lost to R.W. Newnham (5).
BLOCK D. Winner: Mrs J.B. Tucker (6½) beat Miss B.E. Dennant (6½); Miss D.V. Harding (11); Mrs A.E. Millns (7½). Lost to E.J.A. Salmon (14).

Semi-Finals: Mrs Wiggins (winner not available) beat Sanford (ret red on peg); **Dr Wiggins** beat Mrs Millns (winner not available).

Final: Dr Wiggins beat Mrs Wiggins.

Golf Croquet Cups 1983**Harrow Oak 7-8 May**

The continuing low entry for this event may reflect a reluctance on the part of players to submit to this ultimate test of the mallet, hoops, balls, and ankles. Their fears are unfounded as Association Croquet is a splendid preparation for the game. Indeed each of the six entrants for this year's championship has, at some time or another, expressed an interest in the Association game.

The standard of play attained heights which are unlikely to be surpassed in any other Golf Croquet event to be held this year. Martin Murray, in winning the singles, made a point of coming from behind in all but his last game when, driven on by frenzied applause from a contingent of spectators specially rushed in from Colchester, and undazzled by his opponent's apparel, he ran out the 7-3 winner over Adrian Palmer.

In the doubles, the reigning champions Rose and Solomon finished the fresher, but dropped a vital game against the eventual winners Murray and Cordingley.

Graham Martin managed with his customary capability and had the proceedings finished in good time for the traditional downpour.

Results**Ascot Challenge Cup Singles**

	Mur	Cor	Ros	Gue	Sol	Pal	Wins
M. Murray		6	7	7	7	7	4
P. Cordingley	7		7	2	5	7	3
J. Rose	5	5		7	7	7	3
J. Guest	6	7	5		3	7	2
E. Solomon	4	7	4	7			2
A. Palmer	3	3	2	6			0

Delves Broughton Challenge Cup Doubles

	Mur/Cor	Ros/Sol	Gue/Pal	Wins
M. Murray				
P. Cordingley		7	7	2
J. Rose				
E. Solomon	6		7	1
J. Guest				
A. Palmer	5	6		0

Budleigh Salterton 9-14 May

Participants will long remember this year's May Tournament at Budleigh Salterton, held from the 9th to the 14th. It started in rain followed by gales. One morning the lawns had pools on them after an inch of rain had fallen in the night. However strenuous sweeping had most of them ready for play in an hour or two, a great relief to the Manager, Pat Tunmer. Luckily on the last two days the playing conditions were ideal, and faster play was possible and the last game was only an hour or two late finishing. For the statistically minded no less than 47 of the 163 games finished with the calling of time, 25 of them in the top five blocks and 22 in the two blocks of Division II.

This year we were pleased to have 34 visitors, a record entry, which called for an extra couple of dozen games to be added as compared with last year. They were accommodated by the use of 'double-banking' on two of the ten lawns. This was the first occasion of its use at this club; many players were already used to it and the others soon adapted. A welcome return visitor was Dr 'Bobbie' Wiggins, Open Champion in 1957 and last seen at the club when playing in matches in the fifties. His wife, Susan, the current Ladies Champion and Ladies Champion of New Zealand in 1979, delighted onlookers by the precision of her play.

In the final of Division I she was on the verge of being beaten plus ten by Paul MacDonald of Roehampton, who had lost heavily to her on several previous occasions. At the crucial moment he missed the peg-out with his forward ball, going on to peg out the other. Mindful of the old adage "a game of croquet is not lost until both opponent's balls are pegged out" Susan then hit in, and though Paul was allowed more long shots at the peg they were not successful and he lost by the one point.

In Division II Don Laney, a second season player from the home club, created a sensation by not only winning his block but by beating a strong player in Peter Shepard of Cheltenham in the play-off.

In the final against Chris Newman of Woking, Don used his three bisques to get a twelve point lead; things looked black for Chris who had only made three hoops. However a good hit in gave him the innings, and he took his backward ball round from one to penult, leaving Don beautifully wired at three back. Nothing daunted, Don removed the clips and jumped the hoop, but though his aim was correct he went over his partner ball. This inspired Chris to further accurate play, not easy at the end of a long day, and after some good hits he got his backward ball on to win plus seven on time, Don having advanced no further.

In Division III block winners were Mary Hardman (14) from Sidmouth and Peter Danks (9) of Budleigh Salterton, the latter winning the final fairly comfortably by plus eight. Newly appointed Lawns Manager, Peter received many congratulations on his work and that of the groundsman.

Ray Stevens, now Chairman of the club's Croquet Committee, once again acted as Tournament Secretary.

Results — American Handicap Singles (3 hour time limit)

The Godfrey Turner Challenge Cup

BLOCK A: **Mrs W.R.D. Wiggins** (0) **6 wins**; M.G. Tompkinson (2½) 3 wins (+16); L. Wharrad (2) 3 wins (-6); B.G. Perry (1) 3 wins (-27); Dr W.R.D. Wiggins (1½) 2 wins; R.S. Stevens (2) 2 wins; Col E.L.L. Vulliamy 1 win.

BLOCK B: **I.P.M. MacDonald** (3½) **5 wins** (+55); D.C. Wallace (4) 5 wins (+53); F.H. Newman (3) 4 wins; K.S. Schofield (4) 2 wins; R.A. Simpson (2½) 2 wins; Mrs. C. Bagnall (4) 1 win; Mrs R.A. Simpson (4) 1 win.

PLAY-OFF: **Mrs Wiggins** beat MacDonald +1.

The J.K. Brown Memorial Challenge Cup

BLOCK C: **P.J. Shepard** (5) **5 wins**; R.F.A. Crane (4½) 4 wins; Mrs K.G. Yeoman (4) 3 wins; T.I. Card (4½) 3 wins; R.A. Peirce (5) 2 wins; Dr W.R. Bucknall (4½) 2 wins; Mrs. F.H. Newman (4½) 2 wins.

BLOCK D: **C. Newman** (7) **6 wins**; Mrs P.A. Dwerryhouse (6½) 4 wins (+28); Mrs I.P.M. MacDonald (6½) 4 wins (+18); H.E. Owens (5½) 3 wins; Mrs P.A. Tunmer (7) 3 wins; F.J. Exell (7) 1 win; F.A. Rowlands (6) 0 wins.

BLOCK E: **Dr D.L. Laney** (8) **5 wins** (+66); W. Broad-Thomas (8) 5 wins (+21); Mrs W.J. Browne (7) 4 wins (+25); Mrs M.G. Tompkinson (8) 4 wins (+23); Mrs D.J. Croker (7½) 2 wins; P.A. Dwerryhouse (7½) 1 win; F.T. Moores (7½) 0 wins.

PLAY-OFFS: **Dr Laney** beat Shepard +2; **Newman** beat Dr Laney +7 and won.

The L.G. Walters Long Handicap Trophy

BLOCK F: **P.K.L. Danks** (9) **4 wins**; R. Forth (9) 3 wins; Mrs M. Langley (10) 3 wins; R.E. Vincent (9) 3 wins; Mrs E.M. Pursey (8) 2 wins; Mrs L. Wharrad (9) 0 wins

BLOCK G: **Miss M. Hardman** (14) **4 wins**; Mrs R.F.A. Crane (13) 3 wins; Mrs R.E. Vincent (12) 3 wins; Miss K. Holroyde (14) 2 wins; Dr H.A. Thomas (16) 2 wins; Mrs E. Grant (12) 0 wins.

PLAY-OFF: **Danks** beat Miss Hardman +8.

Wrest Park 13-15 May

Handicap Singles

It rained and shone; sometimes simultaneously. Lawns 5 and 6 were almost indistinguishable from the nearby lake on the Friday morning. Nonetheless, play continued throughout the weekend and, on average, there was more sun than rain. The rain does, however, appear to quieten a certain Cambridge player, so breathing a relaxed silence over the proceedings.

Off the lawns, some stirring arrow throwing was seen in the "Bell at Wrest", with John Wheeler causing amazement with a double top, thrown to order, so enabling Wrest Park to draw honourably with the All Stars. Thanks are due to the fine management of Eric Audsley and the Wrest Park Catering Committee's "volunteers".

Dr Adrian Williams

Results

BLOCK A: **B.B. Harral** (5) **6 wins** (+72); D. Gunaskera (1) 5 wins (+48); R. Martin (6) 4 wins (+33); M.A. Holford (2½) 3 wins (+3); Dr R.F. Wheeler (4½) 3 wins (+1); D. Goacher (11) 3 wins (-19); T.W. Anderson (3½) 2 wins (-46); J.A. Wheeler (½) 2 wins (-92).

BLOCK B: **M. Coward** (-½) **7 wins** (+117); D.L. Gaunt (4½) 4 wins (+49); Mrs J. Anderson (5½) 4 wins (+30); Mrs E. Neal (5) 4 wins (+5); A.J. Collin (2) 4 wins (0); C.B. Sanford (4) 2 wins (-46); J.D. Meads (1) 2 wins (-95); Dr A.G. Williams (9) 1 win (-60).

BLOCK C: **T. Harrison** (8) **7 wins** (+109); H.J. Bottomley (2) 5 wins (+35); H.C. Green 4 wins (+8); J. Wolfe (5) 4 wins (+4); G. Collin (4½) 3 wins (0); A.K. Soper (5) 2 wins (-13); Prof B.G. Neal (-1) 2 wins (-106); Mrs D. Wheeler (2½) 1 win (-37).

BLOCK D: **J.E. Guest** (3½) **6 wins** (+63); E. Audsley (2) 5 wins (+42); Mrs M. Collin (4½) 3 wins (+16); R. Allim (1) 3 wins (+13); J.R. Hilditch (½) 3 wins (-10); R.F. Hall (9) 1 win (-67); A.G. Dumont (5) 0 wins.

Colchester Spring Week-end

The weather was in complete contrast to the perfect conditions of May 1982, but fortunately the sandy soil withstood the rain and no playing time was lost.

Conditions militated against expert play, but an excellent spirit was maintained throughout, both with our old friends and a number of new visitors to Colchester: one of our regular visitors, the later John Phillips, was sadly missed.

As in previous years, there was one clear winner with a maximum five wins. 19-year old John Walters of Ipswich retained the cup in spite of playing off a handicap of 3, compared with 6 in 1982; there were five runners-up with four wins each. To replace a late scratching, Paul Williams, one of our 14-year old junior members agreed to play and performed very creditably, winning two of his five games.

An unusual incident occurred in the deciding match played on Monday afternoon. John Walters lined up his balls for a long peg-out, with R.J. Smith's clips both on Rover. Although his forward ball finished some ten yards beyond the peg, he pegged out his backward ball and walked over to his opponent to shake hands. Smith asked Walters whether he was quite sure that his forward ball had made contact. Walters said that it appeared to him that it just grazed, with very little deflection, but if Smith was in any doubt whatever he would like to seek other opinions. The spectators all thought he had missed. The Referee of the Tournament was called for and explained the position under the laws. Walters immediately said he would prefer to continue the game as there were now genuine doubts in his own mind and he might have been mistaken: he was facing the sun (the weather had belatedly relented) and others could have had a clearer view than himself.

Play continued, with Smith laying up for a rush to his hoop, but Walters hit in to win.

Both participants were friendly and sporting throughout but what a pity that a referee was not called for in the first place. Does Law 45(e) give sufficient protection to the non-striker?

G.S.D.

Colchester 6-8 May

Open (Advanced)

Winner	7 wins	M.J. Coward
Runner-Up	5 wins	I.D. Bond (lost to Coward in final)
3rd	5 wins	R.M. Allim
4th	3 wins	G.P.N. Healy
5th	6 wins	*J.R. Hilditch
6th	5 wins	*Mrs S. Sykes
7th	5 wins	*M.N. Avery
8th	3 wins	*R.M. Hobbs
9th	6 wins	D. Gunaskera
10th	5 wins	R.A. Girling
11th	3 wins	J. Walters
12th	3 wins	Mrs J. Neville Rolfe
13th	2 wins	G. Henshaw
14th	0 wins	Mrs R. Stanley-Smith

* Players marked with an asterisk played 9 games; and others played 8 games.

Nottingham 28-30 May

American Handicap Blocks

BLOCK A: **Dr I.G. Vincent** (-½) **5 wins**; P.W. Thompson (7) 3 wins (+27); C.G. Hopewell (2½) 3 wins (+12); Mrs K. Cotterell (5½) 3 wins; Mrs K. Townsend (12) 2 wins; J.F.S. Thomas (9) 1 win; M. Cowan (14) 0 wins (scratched).

BLOCK B: **A.G. Gordon** (6) **6 wins**; P.J. Death (½) 4 wins; C. Chamberlain (8) 3 wins (+29); K.F.W. Townsend (10) 3 wins (-3); Miss G.F. Hallam (11) 3 wins (-19); K. Cotterell (3) 2 wins (-17); Miss H. Watson-Walker (11) 0 wins.

BLOCK C: **B. Hallam** (9) **6 wins**; J.C. Straw (5) 5 wins; Dr R.F. Wheeler (4½) 4 wins; J.A. Wheeler (½) 3 wins; Dr M.T. Haslam (5½) 2 wins; Mrs A.J. Bucknell (10) 1 win; R.H. Fletcher (9) 0 wins.

BLOCK D: **E.J. Davis** (2) **6 wins**; Mrs W. Hague (4½) 4 wins (+43); A.J. Bucknell (7) 4 wins (+30); D. Daintree (11) 3 wins (+3); Mrs R.F. Wheeler (2½) 3 wins (-32); Mrs J. Haworth (14) 1 win; Mrs C. Chamberlain (10) 0 wins.

Southport and Birkdale Weekend 28-30 May

Torrential rain in the early hours of Saturday morning presented Tim Haste with a manager's nightmare; the lawns were so badly flooded that the whole day's play had to be abandoned. This proved to be an expensive washout for Andrew and Mary Collin, who went out and bought a new washing machine, and less unfortunate for those of us who found plenty of time to sample the delights of Higson's bitter before returning to work on the lawns.

Tim decided that his careful plans should not go to waste, and that by shortening the games in the Swiss he could still finish the tournament about 5.30 on the Monday — and he did.

Once the lawns had drained, they were not particularly slow but still were more resistant than usual, favouring those players who need to "scoop to the hoop" from some distance away. (Your reporter began to gibber faintly when his opponent, handicap 10, produced the perfect approach to 3-back from first corner.) The balance was redressed by hoops which Paul Stoker set firmly at the correct width.

The manager had foreseen the need for extra baskets of bisques to cope with the unusual field on entry: all but one of the players were within the handicap ranges 0 to 4½ or 10 to 16. The expert at pulling a fence of bisques artistically out of the ground was John Meads, who in five games gave 61 bisques, off which the opposition made 62 hoops. It must be said that these statistics are inflated by one opponent who took 10 bisques before a point was scored with an accidental peel of the partner ball. Club officials were watching John carefully: he did not break any hoops this time but did manage to wreck a chair — other clubs be warned.

The high bisquers did not perform well, which led to some very slow games when they played each other at the bottom of the Swiss. The lowest score, though not by very far, was six hoops to four on time, and double-bankers were kept waiting while some confusions were sorted out between inexperienced players:

"Are they in contact?"

"Well, they're close enough to be in contact."

"But how can it be in contact if it missed?"

However, the experience will have done much more good for these players than playing gentle friendly games against each other every week.

While this was going on, the lower bisquers were playing very well, easing the manager's problems by finishing their games quickly. Of these, Martin Kolbuszewski (1½) and Colin Irwin (½) won their way into the semi-finals, where they were beaten by two improving players who know how to use their bisques, respectively Mike Wilkins from Chester and Barbara Sutcliffe from Ellesmere.

Mike is a cautious player, and he took some time in the final to establish a substantial lead. Barbara played as she had done in all her other games, with accurate strokes and a determined competitive spirit, to become the winner of the Jubilee Tankard. This was her first tournament apart from playing doubles in last year's Northern Championships, and we will follow her progress with interest, as her bold tactics and tidy breaks are sure to make their mark elsewhere.

And so another Southport tournament came to an end in the nearest to sunshine we had seen for a while, helping us to forget Saturday's disaster. Our thanks go to all who make the tournament possible. I wonder what sort of weather they intend to provide for the end of September . . .

Results:

Single Life Knockout

Winner	Mrs B.C. Sutcliffe (10) 5 wins
2nd	M. Wilkins (8) 4 wins
3rd	C. Irwin (½) 3 wins
4th	M. Kolbuszewski (1½) 2 wins

Progressive Swiss (wins carried forward from main event)

Winner	W.O. Aldridge (1) 5 wins
2nd	A. Bennet (3) 4 wins
	A. Collin (2) 3 wins
	G.K. Collin (4½) 3 wins
	J.D. Meads (1) 3 wins
	M.H. Sandler (4½) 3 wins
	J.D. Williams (10) 3 wins
	Mrs M. Aldridge (15(D13)) 2 wins
	Mrs S. Barker (13) 2 wins
	Mrs M. Collin (4½) 2 wins
	Miss A. Dawson (13) 2 wins
	Mrs C.E. Irwin (12(D10)) 2 wins
	Miss P. Lewis (11) 2 wins
	P. Stoker (4) 2 wins
	Mrs L.J. Taylor (12) 2 wins
	A. Sutcliffe (4) 1 win
	Mrs D. Dennett (14*) 0 wins
	Mrs A. Rimmer (16(D14*)) 0 wins

Cheltenham 28-31 May

American Blocks

BLOCK A: **A.H.M. Adam** (4) **5 wins** (+44); D. Moorcraft (1) 5 wins (+35); F.I. Maugham (7) 4 wins (+46); Mrs G.T. Wheeler (3) 3 wins (+6); R.E. Adlard (2) 2 wins (-13); Mrs M.T. Paddon (10) 2 wins (-22); Mrs J. Soutter (5½) 0 wins (-98).

BLOCK B: **J. Wurmli** (2½) **6 wins** (+62); D. Goacher (8) 5 wins (+18); C.B. Snowdon (3) 3 wins (+3); P.M. Johnson (0) 3 wins (-3); Mrs A. Warren (7½) 3 wins (-4); Lady Bazley (4) 1 win (-32); Mrs D. Moorcraft (12) 0 wins (-45).

BLOCK C: **L.V. Latham** (½) **6 wins** (+90); G.W.R. Goodwin (9) 5 wins (+39); Mrs B.G. Weitz (3½) 3 wins (+22); G/Capt Ryan (12) 2 wins (-12); Miss I. Roe (5½) 2 wins (-50); G.N. Leech (2) 2 wins (-64); Mrs W.R. Bawden (13) 1 win (-25).

BLOCK D: **D.R. Foulser** (-1) **5 wins** (+40); C. Duckworth (3½) 4 wins (+33); Mrs G. Harris (7) 4 wins (+12); Mrs L.V. Latham (13) 3 wins (+3); P. Shepard (4) 2 wins (-14); P. Smith (2) 2 wins (-48); Mrs V. Worsley (9) 1 win (-26).

BLOCK E: **J. Ross** (3½) **6 wins** (+56); D. Cairns (2½) 5 wins (+56); J. Soutter (1) 4 wins (-5); A. Warren (9) 3 wins (-5); G.F. Blumer (5½) 2 wins (-5); Miss J. Wraith (11) 1 win (-41); Mrs L. Wharrad (9) 0 wins (-66).

BLOCK F: **M.T. Paddon** (3½) **6 wins** (+79); Dr B.G. Weitz (½) 4 wins (+14); W.R. Bawden (5½) 3 wins (+20); J. Exell (7) 3 wins (-6); L. Wharrad (2) 3 wins (-28); Mrs B.G. Neal (5) 2 wins (-26); Mrs N. Adlam (11) 0 wins (-53).

Southwick Salver Championship

A strong field of 16 assembled for the second holding of this wholly 'best-of-three' weekend tournament, over half having handicaps of scratch or better. The lawns were in generally good condition and, never becoming so fast as to cause real difficulty, allowed plenty of rapid play. McCullough, Hilditch and Avery all had particularly quick first round wins before lunch on Saturday. Sue Sykes played extremely steadily to beat Hobbs in three and Phelps, a local player, scored an excellent win over the Chairman's Salver winner, Coward. Mulliner, the holder, finished three best-of-threes in one day in this event last year but was still locked in battle with Cordingley at tea-time. This encounter was real 'match of the day' stuff. Mulliner had a triple going in the first game before betting hampered at hoop 4. Cordingley then picked up two excellent breaks and hit remorselessly to take the lead. He made an excellent start in game 2 as well although Mulliner eventually completed a neat triple to level matters. The final game was a copy of the first until Cordingley landed himself in rover trouble when about to win. Mulliner (for 5 and 4-back) elected to go for the triple and suffered the agony of peeling so cleanly through 4-back from 3 yards that the peeler 'went boundary' in the Antipodean vernacular. This proved fatal.

All four second round matches were notable in their way. McCullough and Avery traded triples but in both the final games McCullough's greater experience in the pegged out game proved decisive. Healy pegged out Cordingley in game 1 when a long way from home and, despite heavy betting against him 'Honest John' McC, your local bookie, eventually triumphed. However Cordingley won the second game easily and took a close final game as well. Hilditch 'vigour' proved only just too much for Griffith in a match that can fairly be described as eventful and Mrs Sykes really impressed by beating Phelps in straight games.

Cordingley and McCullough reached the final, the latter only just squeezing home against Hilditch. However, it was McCullough who took an early lead, reaching peg and penult before Cordingley hit, went round and started a triple. Unfortunately he cross-wired himself at penult and that was that. The second game began in similar fashion — only this time Cordingley missed all his lift shots and McCullough became the second holder of the Southwick Salver without further ado. Both the finalists managed to display impressive consistency throughout the weekend coupled with interesting play and McCullough in particular should be pleased with the manner as well as the fact of his first win in top competition for two years.

Whiole the sheep (or do I mean goats?) were occupied in the main event, the losers enjoyed mixed fortunes. Mulliner managed a straight triple against Coward, Griffith player very well to beat Avery in three and Owen beat Arthur Tapp in what amounted to a Southwick club match. The unexpected absence of a competitor on Monday necessitated the formation of a 5-man American block in which Hobbs and Griffith emerged as winners. The Southwick catering team received lavish but deserved praise for their lunches and teas, which match Cheltenham's in both quality and price, not to mention a particularly pleasant real ale available in the bar.

Results:

Best of Three

Semi-finals

P. Cordingley bt Mrs S. Sykes +18 +24
J.A. McCullough bt J.F. Hilditch +23 -13 +2

Final

McCullough bt Cordingley +6 +26

Swiss

S.N. Mulliner 3 wins

M.J. Coward 2 wins
K.E. Jones 2 wins
I.D. Bond 1 win
T. Griffith 1 win
G.P.N. Healy 1 win
R.M. Hobbs 1 win
M.A. Holford 1 win
T.F. Owen 1 win
M.N. Avery 0 wins
M.F. Phelps 0 wins
A.E.C. Tapp 0 wins

Roehampton Evening Tournament 29 May-5 June

This year's tournament was marred by its timing. It competed with at least five Bank Holiday tournaments, the Counties and a match in the Mary Rose. Other problems brought the total entry to 12, which made the thought of an A, B and C farcical. It was arranged in two American Blocks A and B with a massive blocked X, and a doubles which started out as a block with 5 teams, but a "grass roots" revolution turned it into a knockout after one round.

The A was won by the manager, who also gave away the prizes, after Jerry Guest had come back from being on 1 and 5 against peg and rover, only to stick a rush peel in 4-back, and fail to make 3-back therefrom. However he must be congratulated for his first tournament triple peel in the X.

The B was won by Pat MacDonald with four wins out of five, from Audrey Croker. It was played as a level block, maximum handicap 9 with Martin Haggerston (14) getting 5 bisques to try to level things up.

The X was enlivened by the presence of David Jesson-Dibley who had not wielded a mallet since 1971 his handicap of 1½ was adjusted for the tournament to 4½ by an ultra vires decision by the manager with the support of his henchmen. His mallet objected to this neglect by breaking in the second game. The Neal special provided by the manager proved the manager's undoing, as it assisted in hitting a wired shot across the diagonal of the lawn, and prevented David blaming the bent mallet for his performance in any other game. The distinguished winner of the block was Win Brown with seven out of eight, closely followed by Jerry Guest with six.

The alternate stroke doubles knock-out was won by Win Brown and Shlomo Godsi who only had to win two matches for this prestigious title, beating the MacDonalds in the final.

Adrian Palmer
Manager in absentia

Parkstone 1 30 May-4 June

Event 1. Dorset Salver

DRAW

First Round: T.I. Wood bt Revd P.D. Hallett +9; F.L. Shergold bt Dr P.D.B. West +20; Dr C.A. Parker bt G.G. Strutt +2(T); Dr W.P. Ormerod bt Dr W.R.D. Wiggins +22; Mrs W.R.D. Wiggins bt L.S. Butler +7(T).

Second Round: Wood bt Col E.L.L. Vulliamy +26; Shergold bt Parker +2; Ormerod bt Mrs Wiggins +6(T); Dr J.A. McMordie bt Mrs E Asa-Thomas +15.

Semi-final: Shergold bt Wood +16; Ormerod bt McMordie +20.
Final: Ormerod bt Shergold +9.

PROCESS

First Round: Dr W.R.D. Wiggins bt Col E.L.L. Vulliamy +11; Mrs E. Asa-Thomas bt Dr P.D.B. West +9; Mrs W.R.D. Wiggins bt T.I. Wood +17; L.S. Butler bt Revd P.D. Hallett +10; Dr J.A. McMordie bt F.L. Shergold w/o scr.

Second Round: Wiggins bt Mrs Asa-Thomas +23; G.G. Strutt bt Mrs Wiggins +1; Butler bt Dr C.A. Parker +1(T); McMordie bt Dr W.P. Ormerod w/o scr.

Semi-final: Wiggins bt Strutt +6; McMordie bt Butler +10.

Final: Wiggins bt McMordie +18.

PLAY-OFF

Dr Ormerod bt Dr Wiggins +8(T).

Event 2. Evans Trophy. B Level Singles (4-8 bisques)

DRAW

First Round: R.H.C. Carder bt Miss B.E. Dennant +3(T); Air Cdre J.H. Greswell bt Mrs P.A. Dwerryhouse +8; R.F. Bailey bt J.F. Pollard +1(T); P.A. Dwerryhouse bt Miss P.E. Parker +4(T).

Semi-final: Greswell bt Carder +19; Bailey bt Dwerryhouse +8(T).
Final: Bailey bt Greswell +14.

PROCESS

First Round: J.F. Pollard bt Miss B.E. Dennant +11; P.A. Dwerryhouse bt Mrs P.A. Dwerryhouse +2(T); R.F. Bailey bt R.H.C. Carder +20; Air Cdre J.H. Greswell bt Miss P.E. Parker +20.

Semi-final: Dwerryhouse bt Pollard +6; Bailey bt Greswell +22.
Final: Bailey bt Dwerryhouse +17.

PLAY-OFF (for 2nd place)

Greswell bt Dwerryhouse +22.

Event 3. Cope Cup. Handicap (9 bisques and over)

DRAW

First Round: H.R. Mortimer (10) bt Miss A.M. Ryan (10) +6; Dr C.W. Marshall (10) bt Mrs B.R. Saunders (9) +9; Mrs C.A. Parker (10) bt J.O. Mays (*9) +6(T).

Semi-final: Mortimer bt Marshall +15; Mrs Parker bt Mrs C.W. Marshall (10) +10.

Final: Mortimer bt Mrs Marshall +6.

PROCESS

First Round: H.R. Mortimer (10) bt J.O. Mays (*9) +7; Dr C.W. Marshall (10) bt Mrs C.W. Marshall (10) +10; Miss A.M. Ryan (10) bt Mrs C.A. Parker (10) +15(T).

Semi-final: Mortimer bt Marshall +16; Miss Ryan bt Mrs B.R. Saunders (9) +3.

Final: Mortimer bt Miss Ryan +3.

PLAY-OFF (for 2nd place)

Miss Ryan bt Mrs Marshall +11.

Event 4X. Cripps Memorial Cup. Handicap (unrestricted)

First Round: Dr C.A. Parker (2) bt Mrs E. Asa-Thomas (3) +9; L.S. Butler (½) bt Col E.L.L. Vulliamy (2) +3(T); Dr J.A. McMordie (3½) bt Air Cdre J.H. Greswell (4) +22; Dr P.D.B. West (3) bt Miss A.M. Ryan (10) +20; T.I. Wood (½) bt Miss P.E. Parker (5½) +6; Mrs P.A. Dwerryhouse (6½) bt Mrs L.D. Ledsham (14) +8; Mrs C.W. Marshall (10) bt Mrs C.A. Parker (10) +4(T); Miss B.E. Dennant (6½) bt Mrs H.R. Mortimer (15) +2(T); Mrs B.R. Saunders (9) bt J.O. Mays (*9) +8; Dr H.R.D. Wiggins (1½) bt J.F. Pollard (5) +3(T); H.R. Mortimer (10) bt Revd. P.D. Hallett (1) +23; F.L. Shergold (3) bt Mrs W.R.D. Wiggins (0) +8.

Second Round: R.F. Bailey (4) bt Dr C.W. Marshall (10) +14; Parker bt Butler +12; West bt McMordie +13; Wood bt Mrs Dwerryhouse +13; Mrs Marshall bt Miss Dennant +21; Wiggins bt Mrs Saunders +16; Shergold bt Mortimer +23; P.A. Dwerryhouse (7½) bt R.H.C. Carder (4) +12.

Third Round: Bailey bt Parker +1(T); Wood bt West +16; Wiggins bt Mrs Marshall +15; Shergold bt Dwerryhouse +18.

Semi-final: Bailey bt Wood +19; Shergold bt Wiggins +14.

Final: Bailey bt Shergold +8.

Event 4Y. Evans Rose Bowl. Handicap

Semi-final: Col E.L.L. Vulliamy (2) bt Miss P.E. Parker (5½) +14(T); Mrs W.R.D. Wiggins (0) bt Mrs C.A. Parker (10) +16.

Final: Mrs Wiggins bt Vulliamy +6(T).

Event 5. Handicap Doubles (not less than 4 bisques — combined)

Final: F.L. Shergold & Mrs B.R. Saunders (12) bt Revd P.D. Hallett & H.R. Mortimer (11) +3.

Carrickmines 6-11 June

Event 1. Duff Mathews Cup. Handicap (6 bisques and over)

First Round: H.B. Milne (16) bt G. Reynolds (15) w/o scr.; Revd N.D. Browne (11) bt P. Thornton (10) +13; D. Beatty (13) bt P. Brown (12) +12; S. Williams (16) bt S. Terry (16) w/o scr.

Second Round: A. Brown (14) bt M. Lyons (16) +5; Milne bt Browne +1; Beatty bt Williams +15; J. McAuley (16) bt N. McInerney (7) +3.

Semi-final: Brown bt Milne +5; Beatty bt McAuley +10.

Final: Brown bt Beatty +10.

Event 2. Boxwell Cup. Open Handicap

First Round: P. Thornton (10) bt A.D. Craig (5½) +16; H. Webb (8½) bt S. Williams (16) +11; R.J. Leonard (5½) bt D. Beatty (13) +11; N. McInerney (7) bt J. McAuley (16) +11; C.M. Schmieder (1½) bt C.A. Gamble (2) +24; F.J. Rogerson (5) bt A. Brown (14) +6; H.D. Browne (11) bt R.J. Leonard (5½) +20; G.N. Leech (4) bt Mrs H.M. Read (7) +19.

Second Round: Thornton bt Webb +10; McInerney bt Leonard +8; Schmieder bt Rogerson +3; Browne bt Leech +6.

Semi-final: McInerney bt Thornton +11; Schmieder bt Browne +9.

Final: Schmieder bt McInerney +9.

Event 3. Championship of Co. Dublin

DRAW

First Round: C.A. Gamble bt R.J. Leonard +1; C.M. von Schmieder bt Mrs R.J. Leonard +19.

Second Round: A.D. Craig bt Mrs H.M. Read +9; H. Gamble bt Schmieder +25; T.O. Read bt F.J. Rogerson +24; G.N. Leech bt H. Webb +10.

Semi-final: Gamble bt Craig +13; Read bt Leech +18.

Final: Read bt Gamble +16.

PROCESS

First Round: Mrs H.M. Read bt F.J. Rogerson +3; A.D. Craig bt Mrs R.J. Leonard +16.

Second Round: C.A. Gamble bt H. Webb +19; Craig bt Mrs Read +19; T.O. Read bt R.J. Leonard +24; C.M. von Schmieder bt G.N. Leech +15.

Semi-final: Gamble bt Craig +24; Read bt Schmieder +26.

Final: Read bt Gamble +26(TP).

Event 4. Coronation Cup. Handicap Doubles

Final: Mrs H.M. Read & D. Beatty (20) bt T.O. Read & A. Brown (13½) +14.

Bowdon 10-12 June

American Handicap Singles

BLOCK A: F.I. Maugham (6½) 5 wins (+59); J. Rose (-½) 5 wins (+58); C. Hudson (3) 5 wins (+45); Mrs C. Irwin (14) 2 wins (-19); J.D. Meads (1) 2 wins (-27); Mrs K. Cotterell (5½) 2 wins (-46); Mrs L.J. Taylor (12) 0 wins.

BLOCK B: B. Storey (7) 5 wins (+64); K. Cotterell (3) 5 wins (+48); E. Bell (-½) 5 wins (+37); A. Sutcliffe (4) 2 wins (-10); R. Edwards (10) 2 wins (-22); M. Kolbuszewski (1½) 1 win (-49); Mrs L. Taylor (9) 1 win (-58).

BLOCK C: W. Aldridge (1) 5 wins (+54); K.M.H. Aiton (0) 5 wins (+58); Mrs A. Sutcliffe (8) 4 wins (+14); N.G. Hyne (2½) 4 wins (+3); A. Gordon (6) 2 wins; Miss A. Dawson (13) 1 win; Mrs A. Collin (4½) 0 wins.

BLOCK D: C.J. Irwin (½) 6 wins (+54); D. Kelly (5) 4 wins (+54); M.J. Wilkins (11) 4 wins (+11); A.J. Collin (2) 3 wins; C.B. Sanford (4½) 2 wins (-28); M.G. Brown (2½) 2 wins (-32); Miss P. Lewis (11) 0 wins.

Dear Sir,

CONGRATULATIONS

My Committee have asked me to convey to you their praise (which Editors seldom seem to get) for the excellence of production of the current number of the Croquet Gazette.

No lady (or man either!) could fail to be tempted to join a croquet club having seen the glamorous cover picture of Mrs Pat Hague on the cover of the Issue No. 169, Spring, 1983.

And no croquet-cum-camera enthusiast could hope to better the technical quality of the view through a hoop of Mr Denno Harris, on page 2.

Garth
Knowle Drive
Sidmouth
Devon EX10 8HN

Yours faithfully,
R.C. Case
Hon. Sec., Croq. Sect.
Sidmouth Cricket Club

Obituaries

GEOFFREY B. BINKS

We mourn the death in May of a well known figure in the Croquet world especially in the North West. Geoffrey had served as Hon. Secretary of the Southport and Birkdale Croquet Club for several years. His enthusiasm for the game was well known and his help and encouragement has been a source of inspiration to many a beginner. I remember him once telling me that if I didn't use my bisques properly he was going to come over and snatch them away! Geoffrey

was a lovable character who was always ready for a chat and worked increasingly to promote Croquet in the North West and especially in Southport. His loss has left a sadness in our hearts and a thankfulness for his life and example.

A.E.D.

EDITH WOOD

With the passing of Edith Wood Ipswich Croquet Club has lost a very valued member, in fact one hardly thinks of the one without the other. AT the beginning of her retirement in 1957 Edith came to live in Ipswich to be near her sister Mrs N. Zinn who was already a member of the Club. At that time the Club had few members who mostly played Golf Croquet. With great enthusiasm and much arranging on their part the Club grew and at one time we had nearly 50 members. Nan already played Association Croquet and Edith was determined to play as well. Members from other Clubs were invited to give demonstrations and talks and some Ipswich members were going to other Club tournaments and generally putting Ipswich Club on the map.

In turn she was both Secretary and Chairman of the Club and at the time of her death was Publicity Officer in which she was very successful in getting details of tournaments and members' successes into the local press and keeping croquet before the public.

A very patient and skilful teacher she was always willing to help and encourage members. It is largely due to the 'sisters' that Ipswich Club has such young and promising players as Mark Avery and John Walters along with other up and coming youngsters.

C.S.

(on behalf of Ipswich Club)

SECRETARY'S NOTES

SUBSCRIPTIONS

There are still about Sixty members who have not yet paid their 1983 Subscriptions, are you one of them, if so I would appreciate it if you would send your remittance immediately as it is now long overdue.

CLUBS AFFILIATION FEE

Would those Clubs who have not yet paid their affiliation fee please do so, the cost is 20p per playing member or if less than 25 members £5.

TOURNAMENT RETURNS

It would assist me greatly if Secretaries would ensure that Tournament returns are sent to me within five days of the finish of tournaments. It is important that we get these to enable the Handicap Co-ordination Committee to alter Handicaps, without the results this cannot be done, also please ensure that the Levy is paid, some Clubs are not sending it. I would appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

"CROQUET" by JOHN SOLOMON

The above book has now been reprinted and can be obtained from the C.A. Office at a cost of £5.00 plus £1.20 postage and packaging. For non-Associates the cost is £6.00 plus postage.

DIRECTORY

The 1983 Directory has now been printed and can be obtained at a cost of £2.50 inclusive of postage from the Secretary.

OBITUARIES

G.B. Binks — Secretary of Southport
Mrs G.H. Wood — Life Member
Miss E.I. Wood — Ipswich

NEW OFFICIALS

A. Berry — Handicapper

NEW ASSOCIATES (up to 20/6/83). All Standard rate unless stated

J ANDREW, Robt., Corpus Christi College, Oxford, OX1 4JF.
BROWN, B.C., 85 Northcott, Bracknell, Berks., RG12 4WS.
BEVINGTON, J.W.K., 260D Conniburrow Boulevard, Conniburrow, Milton Keynes, Bucks., MK14 7AH.
CARTER, K.J., The Ramblers, Turners Hill Road, Crawley Down, West Sussex.
COLES, W.T., 18 Cheyne Row, London, SW3 5HL.
DAVEY, Dr E.P., 9 Maines Farm Road, Upper Beeding, Steyning, West Sussex, BN4 3TH.
FREEMAN, J.A.D., 9 Shillinglee House, Chiddingfold, Godalming, Surrey, GU8 4TA.

O FELLOWS, S.K., P.O. Box 12-204, Wellington North, New Zealand.
O FELLOWS, Mrs S.K., as above.
FRENCH, Mrs S., 1 Lyndhurst Courner, Holland Road, Hove, East Sussex, BN3 6FR.
GIBBONS, Orlando, 42 Cumberland House, Cumberland Road, London, N9 8LY.
HARVEY, Robert E., 64 Brockhurst Road, Hodge Hill, Birmingham, B36 8JB.
HARE, S.J., 93 Greenwood Road, Aldridge, West Midlands, W59 8XW.
HARRIS, R.R., 54 Chandos Road, Newbury, Berks., RG14 7EF.
HARRISON, T.D., 85 Montague Road, Warwick, CV34 5LL.
JONES, J.C.H., "Simric", Flowers Bottom Lane, Speen, Nr Aylesbury, Bucks., HP17 0SL.
S JONES, J.E., 10 Uden Walk, Hazlemere, High Wycombe, Bucks., HP15.
LAMB, C., 1 Wellbank, Rectory Road, Taplow, Nr Maidenhead, Bucks., S16 0ES.
J MANN, J.R., 9 Avenue Close, Nailsea, Bristol, BS19 2TB.
LE MATIAS, Mrs B.H., "Parcoy", Cuennevais Gardens, St Brelade, Jersey, C.I.
MACMILLAN, B.C., 28 Albermarle, Parkside, Wimbledon, London SW19 5NP.
J POOLE, Simon, 8 Seddon Road, Morden, Surrey.
REEVES, Mrs J., 3 The Pantyles, Goathurst Common, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TH14 6BX.
RUSTON, K., 14 Chadbrook Crest, Richmond Hill Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 3RL.
RUSCOMBE-KING, D.R.T., 37 Salterns Road, Parkstone, Poole, Dorset, BH14 8BL.
SPEAR, D.E., "Runnymede", Old Stafford Road, Slade Heath, Coven, Nr Wolverhampton.
SOPER, A.K., Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, CB2 3HU.
J SUTER, M., 22 Stowey Road, Yatton, Avon, BS19 4HX.
O SWANSON, W.C., 6831 Canal Boulevard, New Orleans, USA.
J TRIBE, R., Trinity Hall, Cambridge.
J TYSON, A., Glyteg House North, Gelligrong Road, Pontardawe, Swansea, SA8 4AU.
WILLIAMS, Dr A.G., The Millstone, 7 Church Street, Langford, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, SG18 9QT.
O WILSON, J.P., 21 Bruce Street, Propect, Launceston, T250 Tasmania.
O WILSON, Mrs J.P., as above.
J YOUNG, N., St Edmund Hall, Oxford.

CHANGES IN CLUBS

BATH *Secretary:* Mrs M. Langley, 9 Avondale Buildings, Larkhall, Bath, Avon, BA1 6RD. Telephone 0225 310923.
BARNES De-registered.
SOUTHPORT *Secretary:* Alice E. Dawson, 3 Petworth Road, Ainsdale, Southport, Merseyside, PR8 2QL.

NEW REGISTERED CLUBS

Helleden Tennis & Croquet & Tennis Club, Helleden, Northants
Secretary: P. Bosworth, Berry Cottage, Berry Lane, Helleden, Northants.
North East Regional Tennis Centre Ltd., Teeside Airport, Middleton St-George, Darlington, Co. Durham, DL2 1NX. Tel: 0325-333245
Secretary: John Davies, 9 Eastbourne Avenue, Stockton, Cleveland, TS16 9BZ. Tel: 0642-780009.

ALTERATIONS IN ASSOCIATIONS

Australian Croquet Association
Secretary: Dr Jose M. Sanz Tonnelier, 8/3 Cox Avenue, Bondi Beach, New South Wales, Australia.
Tasmania Croquet Association
Secretary: D.B. Ikin, 135 Derwent Avenue, Lindisfarne., Tasmania, Australia.

NEW CLUBS AFFILIATED

Glasgow Croquet Club, Pollock Park, Glasgow. *Secretary:* F.V.X. Norton, 364 Albert Drive, Glasgow, G41 5P1. Tel: 041-427-1994
Ramsgate Croquet Club, Montefiore Games Centre, Ramsgate, Kent. *Secretary:* Mrs E.J. Shaw, 9 Collingwood Court, Belmont Road, Ramsgate, Kent, CT11 7QQ. Tel: 0843-51789.

ASSOCIATE RE-JOINED

S LEWIS, Mrs E.M., 5 Hove Lodge Gardens, Hove, Sussex, BN1 2TS.

ALTERATIONS IN OFFICIALS

Ewart Whitehead resigned as Handicapper.

ALL ENGLAND HANDICAP

409 entries have been received from 71 Clubs with 71 to qualify for the eight Area Finals.

The seven area finals in England will be held over the weekend 3rd/4th September with the exception of Eastern Region which will be played over the weekend 10th/11th September.

Eastern Region — Hunstanton Northern Region — Bowden Home Counties 'A' — Harrow Oak Home Counties 'B' — Hurlingham Midland Region — Edgbaston Southern Region — Compton Southwest Region — Cheltenham

Scottish Region to decide date and venue for their Area Final.

Final to be held at Bowden over the weekend 1st/2nd October commencing at 10 am on the Saturday.

LONGMAN CUP

1st Round

Chester beat Southport
East Riding beat Walsall 3-2
Cheltenham beat Stourbridge 3-2
Bath beat Nailsea 4-1
Parsons Green beat Compton 4-0 (1 unfinished)
Aldermaston beat British Airways 4-1
Harrow Oak beat Roehampton 3-2
Ipswich beat Hunstanton 4-1

2nd Round

Edinburgh beat Norton Hall 4-1
Bowdon beat Chester 3-2
Bretby beat East Riding 3-2
Edgbaston beat Ellesmere 3-2
Worcester beat Coal Research 4-1
Cheltenham beat Bristol 3-2
Wolverhampton beat Bath 4-1
Harwell beat Parkstone 4-0 (1 unfinished)
Southwick beat Hurlingham 3-2
Reigate Priory beat Parsons Green 4-1
Aldermaston beat Ryde 3-2
Woking beat Oxford University 4-1
Cambridge University beat Colchester 4-1
Colworth beat Harrow Oak 3-2
Ipswich beat Nottingham 5-0
Wrest Park v Nottingham University (abandoned)
(3rd round matches to be played by 3rd July)

MARY ROSE TROPHY

1st Round

Southport beat Stourbridge 6-1
Roehampton beat British Airways w/o
Colchester beat Hunstanton 7-0
Cheltenham 1 beat Worcester 4-3
Southwick beat Harrow Oak w/o
Woking beat Reigate Priory w/o
Bowdon 1 beat Bowdon 2 7-0

2nd Round

Cheltenham 2 beat Budleigh Salterton 5-2
Aldermaston beat Parsons Green 6-1
Southport beat Roehampton 5-2
Cheltenham 1 beat Colchester 4-3
Woking beat Southwick 5-2
Bowdon 1 beat Compton 6-0 (1 unfinished)
Wrest Park beat Colworth 7-0
Wolverhampton beat Harwell 5-2
(3rd round matches to be played by 14th August)

INTER-CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

1st Round

Colchester beat Reckitt 4-3
Nottingham beat Cheltenham 1 4-3

2nd Round

Cheltenham 2 beat Harwell 6-1
Cambridge University beat Aldermaston 7-0
Hurlingham beat Compton 4-3
Roehampton beat Colchester 5-2
Harrow Oak beat Nottingham 4-2 (1 unfinished)
Edgbaston beat Stourbridge 7-0
Bowdon beat Wrest Park 1-1 (abandoned)
Colworth beat British Airways w/o
(3rd round matches to be played by 14th August)

Alterations to Handicaps

Bowden Northern Championship 21-30 August 1982

A.J. Collin	3	to	2
G.K. Collin	6		4½
C.J. Irwin	2		½
S.E. Lewis	2½		1½
J.D. Meads	1½		1
M.H. Sandler	5		4½
A.F. Sutcliffe	4½		4

Roehampton 21-22 August 1982

K.M.H. Aiton	½		0
J.R. Hilditch	1		½

Roehampton 13-18 September 1982

P. Cordingley	0		-½
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Cheltenham W/E 30 April-2 May

W.O. Aldridge	1½		1
E. Bell	0		-½
A. Berry	3½		2½
M.J. Finn	16 (D14)	15	(D13) Non-Ass.
Mrs J. Fry-Smith	14 (D12)	12	(D10) Non-Ass.
Mrs G. Harris	10 (D8)	9	
T.J. Haste	½		0
P.F. Leach	13 (D11)	11	(D9)
J. Wurmili	3½		2½

Compton 5-8 May

E.J.A. Salmon	12		
Mrs J.B. Tucker	6½		6

Cambridge University Club 9 May

R.M. Allim	1½		1
Mrs B.C. Sykes	2½		2

Chester Club 1 May

M. Wilkins	11		10
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Chester Club 8 May

M. Wilkins	10		8
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Budleigh Salterton 9-14 May

P.K.L. Danks	10		9 Before Play
Dr D.L. Laney	10		8 Before Play
Dr D.L. Laney	8		7
Miss M. Hardman	14 (D12)	13	(D12)
Miss K. Holroyde	14	13	(D12) Non-Ass.
C. Newman	7		6
D.G. Riches	12 10	(10)	
P.J. Shepherd	5		4
Mrs M.G. Tomkinson	8		7

Bristol Club 15 May

Miss M. Scott	12		14
R. Tribe	7		5½

Wrest Park 13-15 May

E. Audsley	2		1½
J.E. Guest	3½		2½
T.D. Harrison	8		7
D. Goacher	11		8 Non-Ass.

Colchester Club 17 March

P. Bishop	4	5
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Cheltenham Club March

R.E. Burnell	8	7
Dr D. Cairns	3	2½
Mrs G.D. Harris	11 (D9)	10 (D8)
P.F. Leach	15 (D13)	13 (D11)

Cheltenham W/E 2-4 April

A. Berry	5½	3½
R.E. Burnell	7	6
Mrs A. Collin	6	4½
M. Suter	15 (D13)	

Devonshire Park 4-9 April

R.F. Hall	11	9
Miss D.V. Harding	14	11 (D9)
D.W. Shaw	8	7
Mrs T. Vale	13 (D12)	11 (D9)
T. Vale	5½	5

Devonshire Park 11-16 April

J.E. Guest	4½	4
T.D. Harrison	12	9
W.E. Philp	10*	10
A.K. Soper	6	5
Mrs W.R.D. Wiggins	½	0

Cambridge University Club 18 April

Dr R.R. Martin	11	10
T. Harrison	9	8

Oxford University Club

I.R. Plummer	10	
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Cheltenham 9-10 April

W.R. Bawden	7	6
Mrs W.R. Bawden	13 (D11)	11 (D9)
Dr J. King	12	8

Roehampton 21-24 April

M.J.B. Haggerston	13	14
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Scottish C.A. Club May

A.H.M. Adam	6	5 (Sept. 1982)
A.H.M. Adam	5	4 (March 1983)

Hurlingham 30 April-2 May

W.T. Coles	8	
Mrs P. Cheyne	10	Non-Ass.
P.G. Torrington	12	11 Non-Ass.
"	11	9
"	9	8
"	4	3½
J.E. Guest	4	3½
I.P.M. McDonald	4	3½
Dr W.R.D. Wiggins	2	1½

Cheltenham 16-22 May

W.R. Bawden	6	5½
Mrs G. Harris	9	7
F.I. Maughan	8	7
W.A. Shaw	6	4½ Non-Ass.
Mrs A. Warren	8	7½
Mrs V. Worsley	11 (D9)	9

Cambridge University

R.D. Martin	6	5
Roger Tribe	4½	4
Guy D.H. Willock	4½	3½

Colchester 25 May

Mrs G.P.N. Healy	12	11
J.O. Walters	3½	3

Nottingham 20-30 May

R.H. Fletcher	7½	9
A.G. Gordon	6	5
B. Hallam	9	7 Non-Ass.
Miss G. Hallam	12	11
P.W. Thompson	7	6½
Miss F.H. Watson-Walker	12	11

Southport W/E 28-30 May

Mrs D.C. Dennett	14*	16
Mrs A. Rimmer	16*	16
A. Bennett	3	2½
M.J. Wilkins	8	7½
Mrs A.F. Sutcliffe	10	8

Cheltenham W/E 28-30 May

A.H.M. Adam	4	3½
G.W.R. Goodwin	9	7½
D. Goacher	8	7 Non-Ass.
Mrs L.V. Latham	13	11
G.N. Leech	2	4*
F.I. Maughan	7	6½
M.T. Paddon	3½	3
J. Wurmili	2½	2

Parkstone 30 May-4 June

T.D. Mays	9	Non-Ass.
R.F. Bailey	4	3
H.R. Mortimer	10	9
Miss A.M. Ryan	10	9
F.L. Shergold	3	2

Colchester 28-30 May

Miss S. Hampson	4½	4
Mrs J.A. Hetherington	7½	7
R.J. Smith	4½	4
J.O. Walters	3	2½

Cambridge University 9 June

D.L. Gunaskera	1	½
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Caskets (Mens and Womens Championships)**Hurlingham 13-18 June**

R.A. Godby	0	1
J.E. Guest	2½	2
J. Haigh	½	1½
Mrs W. Hague	4½	4
A.J. Palmer	2	1½

Southwick 17-19 June

D.L. Gaunt	4	3
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Edgbaston 17-19 June

E.J. Davis	2	1½
S.J. Hare	3½	2½
A.F. Sutcliffe	4	3½

Ryde 13-18 June

R.M. Morshead	13	11 (D9)
C.G. Pountney	6	5

Bowden 10-12 June

F.I. Maughan	6½	6
B. Storey	7	6

Veterans, Compton 20-25 June

R.G. Balkwell	8	(Star removed)
A. Armstrong	15	13 (D11)
R.F. Rothwell	3½	4

Wrest Park 1981

A.A. Reed	1½	2½
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Budleigh Salterton

A.H. Crozier	12 (D11)	11
Mrs A.H. Crozier	16 (D14)	14 (D12)
Dr D.R. Laney	7	6