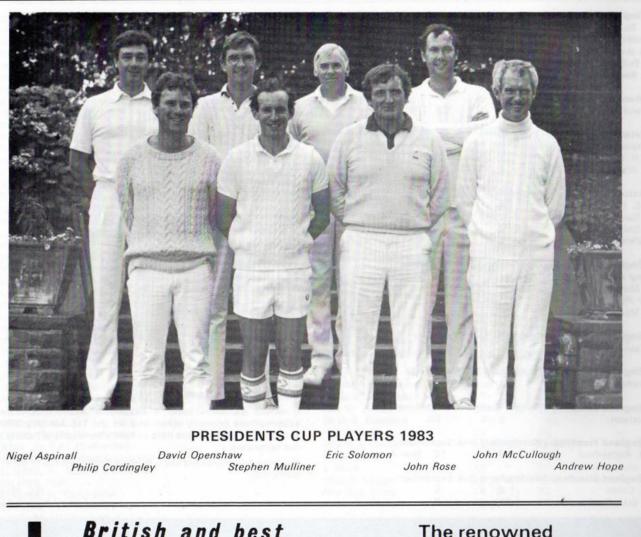
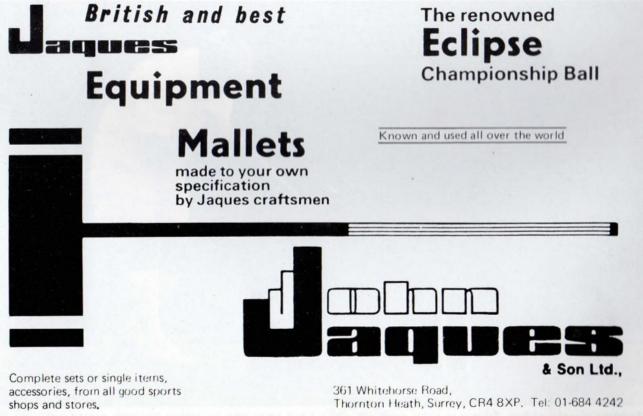
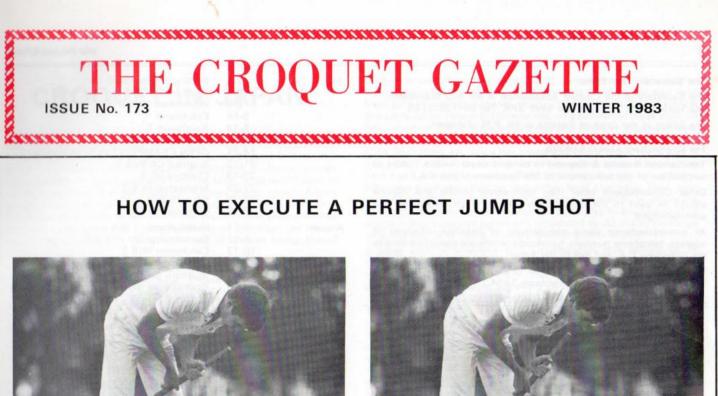
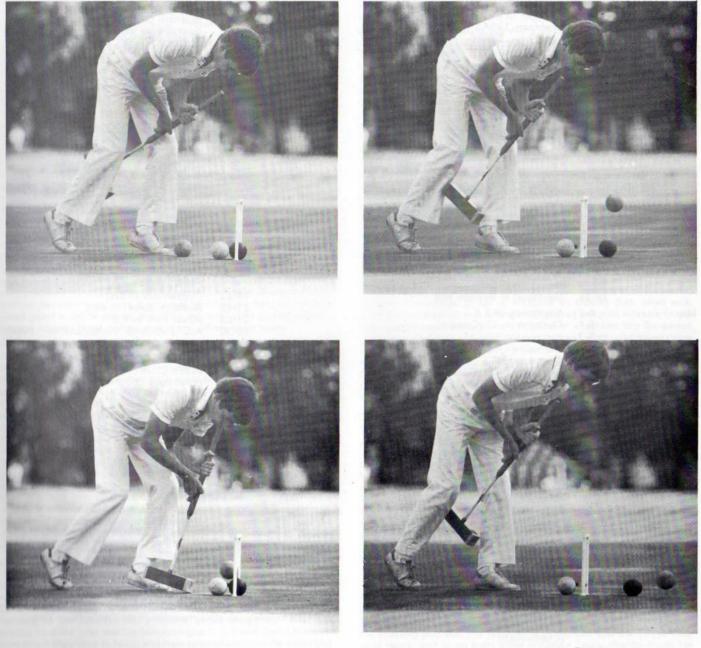
The Croquet Gazette





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David Openshaw executing a half jump shot during a game against Nigel Aspinall in the 1983 President's Cup. His partner ball had stuck in the Jaws during a straight 4-back peel and an attempt to cannon it through failed, leaving an angled shot at the hoop and an opponent ball almost obstructing the shot. Failure at this point would have given Nigel an easy opportunity to win with a triple peel, but our Test Team Captain produced a superb stroke and went on to win the game and runner up place. (Photographs at intervals of 0.2 secs. by Peter Alvey)

April

May

June

The Secretary, the Editor. The Secretary of the Croquet Association is Mr. B.C. Macmillan,

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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 Editor.

Deadline: Copy for the Spring issue of the Gazette must reach the Editor by no later than 15th February 1984.

C.A. CALENDAR FOR 1984

Notes: 1. C.A. events are shown in capital letters

2. * = Level play only 3. W/E = Weekend tournament

2. = Level play	only 3. $W/E = Weekend tournament$
2-7	SOUTH OF ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS 1 (Devonshire Park, Eastbourne)
9-14	SOUTH OF ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS 2 (Devonshire Park, Eastbourne)
21-23	Cheltenham W/E 1
22-23	Woking W/E
26-29	Roehampton W/E 1
28-29	Southport & Birkdale W/E 1*
4-7	Southwick W/E 1
5-7	Cheltenham 1* (Coles)
5-7	Hunstanton W/E 1*
5-7	Hurlingham W/E 1
10-13	Compton W/E 1
11-13	Colchester W/E 1*
12-13	GOLF CROQUET CHAMPIONSHIPS
12-13	(Harrow Oak)* Scottish CA W/E 1
14-19	Budleigh Salterton 1
	Wrest Park W/E 1
18-20	
19-20 20-25	Bristol W/E 1*
26-25	PEEL MEMORIALS (Cheltenham) Cheltenham W/E 2
26-28	Colchester W/E 2
26-28	Nottingham W/E 1
26-28	Southport & Birkdale W/E 2
26-28	Southwick W/E 2*
28-2 June	Parkstone 1
4-11	Carrickmines 1 MATEUS INTER-COUNTIES CHAMPION-
6-9	SHIP (Southwick)
11-16	CHALLENGE & GILBEY (Hunstanton)
15-17	Bowdon W/E
16-17	HOME INTERNATIONALS (Budleigh
10-17	Salterton)*
18-23	MEN'S & WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS
	(Cheltenham)*
18-23	Ryde
22-24	Edgbaston W/E 1*
25-30	VETERANS (Southwick)
29-1 July	Bristol W/E 2
29-1 July	Hunstanton W/E 2
29-1 July	Nottingham W/E 2*
23-1 July	Nottingham W/E Z

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2-7	Budleigh Salterton 2
6-8	Cheltenham W/E 3
6-8	Wrest Park W/E 2*
9-14	Colchester
9-14	Southwick 1
14-15	East Riding W/E
14-21	OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS (Hurlingham)*
21-22	Scottish CA W/E 2
23-29	Cheltenham 3
27-29	Edgbaston W/E 2
27-29	lpswich W/E
28-29	Compton W/E 2*
2-11	Hurlingham
6-11	Carrickmines 2
10-12	Colchester W/E 3
13-18	Nottingham
18-27	Northern Championships (Bowdon)
18-19	Roehampton W/E 2*
20-25	Compton
20-25	Edinburgh
20-25	Southwick 2
25-27	Cheltenham W/E 4
25-27	Hurlingham W/E 2
27-1 Sep.	Hunstanton
27-1 Sep.	Parkstone 2
3-6	Cheltenham 3* (B Levels)
3-7	CHAIRMAN'S SALVER (Colchester)*
3-7	SPENCER ELL CUP (Nottingham)*
4-8	PRESIDENT'S CUP (Hurlingham)*
8-9	ALL ENGLAND HANDICAP - AREA
	FINALS (Cheltenham, Colchester, Comp-
	ton, Harrow Oak, Nottingham, Scotland,
	Southport and one other)
14-16	Nottingham W/E 3
14-16	Ryde W/E
14-16	Southport & Birkdale W/E 3*
14-16	Southwick W/E 3
17-21	LADIES FIELD CUP & LADIES SECOND
.,	EVENT (Southwick)*
19-23	Cheltenham (5-day)
21-23	Budleigh Salterton W/E
21-23	Wrest Park W/E 3
29-30	ALL ENGLAND HANDICAP - FINAL
23-30	(Bowdon)
6	MARY ROSE TROPHY - FINAL*
7	INTER-CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP — FINAL*
12.14	LONGMAN CLUB TEAM CUP - FINAL*
12-14	Cheltenham W/E 5

(The Mary Rose Trophy, Inter-Club Championship and Longman Club Team Cup finals will be held at venues to be decided when finalists known).

ROVER NOTES

Paul and Penny Hands are pleased to announce the arrival of a daughter, Victoria Jane, born on Sunday 27th November, weighing 6 lbs 12 ozs and both doing well.

Rumour has it that Aspinall and Mulliner will play together in the 1984 Open Doubles - tricky for all their opponents!

Roger and Dab Wheeler have moved to the Cheltenham Area, and will no doubt become valuable members of the Cheltenham Club.

Apologies

July

August

September

October

The Editor apologises for the wrong number printed in the November issue which should have been issue 172, will all collectors please note. Apologies also to all concerned in the Ladies Field Candlesticks. The winners were Lady Bazley and Mrs Newman and not Miss Hampson and Miss Macleod as printed in the November issue.

The Croquet Gazette

CROQUET IN JAPAN

It was an ordinary Wednesday evening. We had just finished supper, and there was nothing much on the Box when the telephone rang. "Would Bernard like to go to Japan to teach croquet in 3 week's time?" The newly formed Croquet Association of Japan wanted someone from England, and also from the USA, to go for 10 days to demonstrate their two quite different games and to coach. A new croquet-like game called Gate Ball had caught on in Japan, appealing mostly to senior citizens, but also to the young. It was estimated that after 10 years Gate Ball had a following of 2 million, so it was reasonable to look into the possibilities of croquet being played there

The C.A.J. was formed in July 1983 with some 200 people already interested. The Executive Director, Professor Ikeda, had already visited this country during the Hurlingham tournament and also the USA, and was anxious to get things started. He is at the University of Tsukuba in the Institute of Health and Sports Sciences, with a special interest in minority sports.

Teddy Prentis, the U.S. Champion and coach, was asked to go too, and they would decide whether to adopt American Rules, or Asociation Croquet. In the end they decided on our game.

And so it was, on the 17th October we were on our way to Japan. knowing that we would visit Tsukuba, Osaka and Tokyo, but wondering what we would be confronted with when we got there. What did we known about Japan? Cherry blossom, chrysanthemums, kimonos and crowds. Earthquakes, typhoons and industrious workers. After 10 days one can of course only get an impression, but I would now list, impeccable manners, easy laughter and relaxed friendliness. Cleanliness, enthusiasm, determination, punctually. Tokyo, which seems to spread 200 miles either way up and down the coast, is crowded, but no more than London, and a lot cleaner. Of course it is unfair to say Tokyo sprawls for 400 miles, but most impressions are inaccurate, so our newly made friends must forgive this naivety. They will be the first to agree that the traffic in Tokyo is bad, but why go by car with such a splendid railway system? Each train is so precisely punctual that you must be ready to get off immediately it stops, because in no time at all it will be off again, flagged out by a smart guard in white gloves. Nor is he the only white gloved person, for taxi drivers, hotel porters and many others wear them.

We arrived on Saturday evening, and the next morning were taken to the Tsukuba Croquet Club's courts. These were three heavy and uneven lawns which have very sensibly been made 1/2 size. After an introduction in Japanese, Bernard's reply and also his first lesson in coaching was translated, and everyone went off to try the stance, the grip, and single ball shots. They came together again for further explanation, the croquet stroke, stop shot, roll and so on, and this was the pattern of coaching during our stay. With only one day to show so much, it seemed an almost hopeless task, but everyone remembered what had been said, or if they didn't they asked again. One day there was a group of YMCA Instructors and they were so good one felt that once they started to play in tournaments, it would be some time before their handicaps would catch up with them. But how, you will say, can they every get a handicap. Lat alone learn tactics in a vacuum? A good point, but bear in mind they are already thinking of getting another coach over in the Spring, and of bringing a group of about 10 over here to play in our tournaments next summer. In spite of this great determination to learn, it was all done with a

great sense of fun. Fits of laughter came after a bad shot, hoots at recognising an English word, "super" or a long drawn our "n-i-c-e". I think the whole tone was illustrated by Shigeru Ekuni (call me shiggy), an author and essayist, and President of the Tokyo Croquet Club. In welcoming us at a party on that first day, he instructed Bernard on the niceties and etiquette of the chopstick. "First the stance, now the grip, not the Solomon grip . . .". It was then I realised how much they love to laugh and how relaxed and friendly everyone was. What a wonderful game croquet is. There we were, half way round the world, in a completely different environment, and people were grappling with the stop shot, being intrigued by the split shot, and loving the jump shot. They will fit in so easily with any tournament here, and yet there we all were in Japan, in Tsukuba Science City.

Tsukuba Science City deserves a mention because it illustrates the forward thinking in Japan. It was decided that it would be greatly advantageous to have all Gorvernment Scientific Research Institutes

centred in one place, and so about 40 Institutes and 2 Universities have been built incorporating all the newest facilities. So also have been built new roads, schools, shops, hotels and housing to sustain this community, now only 10 years old, on a somewhat bleak plain 40 miles north of Tokyo. If the industrious and inventive Japanese want something, backed by money from sponsorship, be sure they will get it. So don't think, oh, only a few lawns and they only started to play in July 1983 — it will be years before they are any good. Already they have had 5 minutes croquet on NHK television, the equivalent to the BBC, and have appeared on two other local channels. They have played on artificial turf, presented to them permanently by one of the sponsors. And what better publicity than to play in the forecourt of one of Tokyo's biggest hotels and arrounded by 30 storey buildings on a Monday with office workers watching from above?

A great deal of kindness and consideration was shown us by Professor Masuro Ikeda who master-minded the whole 10 days. From his friendly greeting and lively chat at Tokyo Airport to our final departure he had thought out every detail to facilitate our stay. He could hardly have had a minute to himself, and yet he took us round Tsukuba Science City to some of the research stations that would interest Bernard, as well as to Osaka Castle - fascinating to a James Clavell fan - and then on to Kyoto where he arranged an excursion to see temples and shrines in the old city. Always calm and courteous and ready to join in with a joke, it was hard to remember he was dealing with at least four major sponsors, press and publicity.NHK and other TV networks. Enough mallets and balls for about 40 people had to be taken to each of the three coaching venues, and though he was helped enormously by Fumio Morooka of Sophia University in Tokyo and especially by his right hand man, Toru Takano, there was much to think about. However we were never left high and dry. I think in fact Masuro was afraid we would get lost in the labyrinth of the railway system, the vast underground shopping malls in Osaka and the bustle and side streets of Tokyo. It was comforting that many signs were in English, but Japanese restaurants forsook English on their menus. Here the pin method was as good as any way to choose a meal, and not choosing three different soups was reward in itself. We caused great titters and giggles from the waitresses at our first attempt, but this was mostly at our hamfisted wielding of chopsticks, and they came and showed us how to hold them. Actually the pin method produced the most beautiful dish I have ever seen, and it seemed a sacrilege to eat it. Imagine an oblong dish piled with crushed ice on which was arranged bright red and pink morsels of raw fish, opaque pearl white pieces, rolled with a leaf like tiny Swiss-roll and sliced. Delicate seaweed like purple cress and bright green moss was arranged amongst them, whilst a large shell of a contrasting rough texture set off by a tiny thymne-like sprig with pink flowers turned the whole into an enchanted garden. We were, of course, taken to Japanese restaurants with Tatami mats and low tables and the whole meal ordered for us, and delicious it all was,

During the coaching session at Isaka we saw a demonstration of Gate Ball. The lawn is a little smaller than a 1/2 size lawm, and golf-style strokes must be used. There are three enormous hoops facing in three different directions and also a peg. The balls, a bit smaller than tennis balls, are hard rubber and numbered, and coloured green or red. It is a five-a-side game and the players are also numbered and controlled by a vigorous referee and a scorer. The referee is the most energetic of the lot, blowing furious whistle blasts and signalling with his arms like a football referee giving a free kick. Croquet-like shots are made with the foot on one ball, and it is all done at top speed with the same despair and elation as any other game. This game, and the one Teddy Prentis and Bernard played to American Rules were televised on a local programme that evening, and neither games was sent up, although they couldn't resist including the odd awful face that was pulled.

The really big and important day was the last. This was in the Hibiya Hotel in the heart of Tokyo with Press, T.V., photographers, sponsors, interpreters and a representative from the British Embassy to make the opening address. The Presidents of the CAJ and the Tokyo Club were there, and as on each other occasion Teddy Prentis made his speech in Japanese which won him great applause. There was the usual coaching and then a game of Association Croquet between Teddy and Bernard. After lunch a bit more coaching and then a doubles game between the Neals, and Teddy and television celebruty Kay Anna, playing American Rules. Teddy was a great guy to have with us. Having been to Japan previously and knowing enough of the language to get around he was a mine of information, and guided us through menus and into nightspots. His cheerfulness, sense of fun and kindness will be long remembered by us both.

As before on other coaching days, but in an even grander style, the day was completed with a party. We all gathered round a table piled with food and drink. Speeches were made, gifts exchanged and farewells taken. We circled the room saying goodbye to everyone, and were ushered out to the sound of clapping. After that the return home, with Gatwick closed because of fog and a diversion to Brussels to pick up fuel, brought us down to earth in every sense.

Liz Neal

Constructive Bisque-Taking

How and when to take bisques? There is no simpler answer to these questions, since many factors are relevant, including the opponent's ability, confidence in one's own ability, the state of the game, the condition of the lawn and so on. This article discusses the situation when the player has several bisques available. It is based on the view that bisgues should be converted to hoops scored, and that the best way of making several hoops is by a 4-ball break. It follows that one or two bisques should be used first to set up the 4-ball break position and then to make a break, using further bisques as necessary as soon as the position deteriorates.

Two examples will suffice to illustrated the techniques of setting up a 4-ball break. The first is taken from an actual match

Blue, for hoop 1, was laid up close to that hoop with Black. Yellow was on the boundary near corner IV and Red, at hoop 2, shot at Yellow and missed. Blue roqueted Black but did not make hoop 1. Instead, Blue took off to Red and Yellow and roqueted Red. In the croquet stroke Red was sent a few yards into the lawn with a stop shot. Blue then roqueted Yellow, and croqueted this ball near the peg. In the last stroke of the turn Blue played to a position just South of Red

A bisque was then taken. Blue roqueted Red and croqueted it to hoop 2, finishing near Yellow, which was then roqueted. Blue then took off to Black at hoop 1 and the break was established.

Why was hoop 1 not made immediately? The reader is invited to consider the position if Blue begins by making hoop 1 off Black; a 4ball break can only be established from that position using only 1 bisque by playing much more difficult shots than in the method described

The second example supposes that the receiver of bisuges has a very strong opponent and has decided that it is imperative to make a break as soon as possible. He wins the toss and correctly makes the strong opponent, playing Red and Yellow, go first. Red is sent into Corner IV. and Black is played to the middle of the lawn. Yellow then shoots into corner II. Blue, playing fourth, now wishes to make an all round break, and is prepared to use as many as 3 bisques to set up the break position.

The method suggested brings Yellow into the break after hoop 1 has been made. Blue begins by shooting at Red in corner IV. If the shot is missed, a bisque is taken. Blue then roquets Red, and in the croquet stroke sends Red to hoop 1, Blue remaining near hoop 4. With the continuation stroke Blue goes near Black. Now another bisque is taken: Blue roquets Black, takes off to Red, and makes the first hoop. Blue then roquets Red again, and sends it to hoop 3 in the croquet stroke, finishing near Black, which is then roqueted. Black is then sent to hoop 2 with a stop shot, and Blue then shoots at Yellow in corner II. Presuming that the shot is missed, Blue is replaced in contact with Yellow.

A further bisgue is now taken. Blue croquets Yellow to the middle of the court, going to Black at hoop 2, and the 4-ball break then proceeds.

Once the break is under way it is important to maintain a good break position, and further bisques should be taken whenever the balls get out of place. For example, suppose that Blue, now for hoop 3, fails to rush Red close to the hoop, and in the croquet stroke does not go into position to run the hoop. Yellow is near the peg and Black is a badly placed pioneer at hoop 4, being in fact close to hoop 5.

In the last stroke of the turn many players would play Blue into its intended position to run hoop 3. But it would be far better to send Blue close to Black in this stroke. Then when the bisque is taken Black is roqueted, and a thick take-off sends Black to hoop 4 while Blue goes to Yellow. Blue now roquets Yellow, takes off to Red and when hoop 3 has been made Black is a better placed at hoop 4.

Bisque-taking is a fascinating art, and handicap games between good bisque takers and cunning bisque givers involve very subtle tactics impossible to explain in a short article. However, the following thoughts should assist the bisque taker.

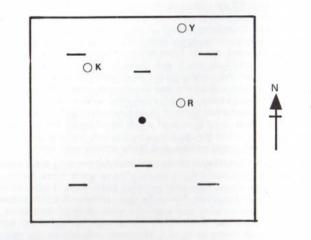
- Be on the alert for the possibility of setting up a 4-ball break 1. using one or two bisques.
- Using a bisque to restore the break position as soon as it 2. deteriorates.
- 3. Remember that an attempt to save a bisque by attempting a difficult hoop may cost two bisques if the hoop is missed and the ball lodges against the wire.
- 4. Similarly, if during the break there is a missable roquet (say 5 yards) shoot softly so that if the shot is missed the striker's ball remains very close to the target and a bisque can be taken.
- Consider very carefully where to go in the last stroke of a turn before taking a bisque; the best place may be far from obvious.
- Consider shooting at a ball close to the yard line and taking a 6. bisque if the shot is missed, if a useful rush is thereby obtained.

Good luck - and if you put all these ideas into practice I hope that I do not meet you in my next handicap tournament!

Bernard Neal

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Blue, a fairly strong player, had just made the first hoop and rushed Red to the position shown. What should he do next in order to develop a break? Would your answer be the same if Yellow or Black were in slightly different positions?



Both R & Y are in places which make the angles K R 3 and K Y 3 just under 90°, ie, it is easy to go to K with a split shot from R or Y.

The theme of this problem is the pursuit of accuracy. If Red is sent to 3. Yellow can easily be sent to 4 after 2 has been made. From the diagrammed position one could therefore simply send Red to 3 going to Black, or possibly send Red to 3 with a pass roll to Yellow followed by a take-off to Black. However, that is not the best line. It involves the pioneer for 4 being sent there from about 26 yards away, at which range there is too much scope for inaccuracy.

The key to good break play is to organize the break so that there are no long strokes. By keeping every stroke reasonably short one removes one of the main sources of error. This is one way in which the best players make the game look so easy.

The best line is to take off to Yellow and to send it to 3, going to Black with a split shot. Black is perfectly placed, so that a competent player should have no difficulty in making 2 and getting a rush on Black to the centre of the court. In this way the pioneer for 4 is sent there from 15 or at most 20 yards. Were croquet a more bookish game this would be "book'

Whilst one should always be on the lookout for stroke-shortening manoeuvres like this, it is important at the same time to keep a sense of proportion. It would be madness to take off to yellow if Black were (say) two yards South-West of 2. The need to get a rush on Black to 2 from a difficult direction would make it desirable to take off to it rather

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than to go to it with a split shot from Yellow. The best line would probably be to roll Red to 3 going to Yellow. Equally, if Yellow were (say) three yards nearer to the corner than shown in the diagram, it would not be practical to send it at all accurately to 3 while going to Black. Although it would not seriously damage the accuracy of the break for the pioneer for 3 to be two yards from it, it is wrong to put up with unnecessary inaccuracy at 3 for the sake of slightly greater accuracy at 4. One would therefore send Red to 3.

Readers who found the recent exploits of the Test team rather too selectively reported for their taste will be pleased to learn that when faced with a similar position against John Prince I got it totally wrong. Black was for the peg and it was the deciding game. Yellow was much nearer the corner, but I stupidly took off to it, carelessly cut it almost to the corner, soon broke down and deservedly lost the match. Keith Wylie

Extracts from proceedings: Council — 29th October 1983

- The Open Championships for 1984 return to Hurlingham and will be played over 8 days (Saturday 14th to Saturday 21st July). Only Doubles will be played on the first two days.
- The Sponsorship Committee was authorised to proceed with 2. negotiations for a televised sponsored Golf Croquet tournament
- Hedges and Butler (UK distributors of Mateus Wines) have 3. agreed to continue their sponsorship of the Inter Counties Championship for 1984.
- The Home Internationals will be held at Budleigh Salterton 4 over the weekend 6th/7th June even if it is not sponsored.
- Only one team may enter the Inter Club Championship, but up 5. to two may enter for the Mary Rose Trophy in 1984.
- It is hoped to stage croquet demonstrations on a half-size lawn 6. at the 1984 Liverpool Garden Festival which will run from March to October.
- Professor Neal reported on his recent visit to Japan where he 7. gave coaching at various centres. The Japanese are most enthusiastic and will be playing Association Croquet in favour of the American version which they also tried out. The Japanese CA is being affiliated to the CA.
- A record of 86 new Associates have been elected, all joining 8 since the last Council meeting in April. 20 new Clubs have been Registered this year.

Extracts from Proceedings of The Council — 26th November 1983

- There will be a contested election for the Council in 1984 1 Voting papers will be posted to Associates resident in the United Kingdom with the agenda for the AGM (at Hurlingham at 11.30 am on Saturday 7 April) after 1 February, the latest date for notices of resolutions. Candidates will be invited to submit short biographical notes for sending out with the voting papers.
- The Laws Committee has been appointed as a special sub-2. Committee under Rule XIV(ii) to submit to Council a re-draft of the Laws and Regulations to be published in 1984.
- 3. David Foulser is retiring as Editor and was warmly thanked for all the arduous voluntary work he has put in over the past three years. Philip Johnson, the present Assistant Editor, has offered to take over from him
- Mateus Wines will be sponsoring the Inter Counties Champion-4. ship in 1984 (at Southwick 7 to 9 June) for the third year.
- An invitation is to be sent to the United States Croquet 5. Association for a tour, possibly including matches at international level, to play Association Croquet here.
- 6. The Temporary Variation to regulation 23 "An alteration of handicap during play shall be effective for all events in which a competitor is still competing" is to be renewed for 1984 and will be incorporated in the re-draft.
- It was agreed that £5 per night for bed and breakfast should be 7. the suggested rate to be charged by those club members offering hospitality to visiting players at tournaments.

8

The Club Registration Fee for 1984, due on 1 January, is to be raised from 20p to 25p per croquet member (excluding country members) as of 1 August 1983 with a minimum of £5.

A new Directory is being prepared for 1984 which will be sent free to all Registered Clubs. Copies will be available shortly from the CA office for £3.00 (plus 40p postage).

CLUBS NEAR AND FAR

RETURN OF A 'LOST' STAR

Many of your readers will be interested in a 'discovery' made in North Bucks. a short while ago. I, with the help of Tom and Judy Anderson, were staging a Demonstration 'Come and Try it' Croquet Day at Milton Keynes

In the area there was already a small interested group headed by John Bevington and Howard Bottomley. They now hope to found a Club.

The day was perfect. The authorities allowed us the use of a bowling green: there was a bar and a hundred or so people came 'to try'.

Half way through the morning someone approached me and asked if I were the organiser. We talked: he was interested in Croquet; yes, he would help me to form a Club; yes, he had played Association Croquet but not for seventeen years; where? oh Hurlingham, Roehampton, Budleigh Salterton etc.; you must have had a handicap? well yes actually - 5III

It was John Bolton, winner of the Presidents Cup, in 1965, as depicted on the cover and fly page of Miller and Thorps 'CROQUET'. Needless to say then and there John was coopted to do the broadcast commentary to the Demonstration Game. When I left he was in conversation with John Bevington, Howard Bottomley and others deciding where to go from here. Hopefully there will be a Club at Milton Keynes and I know who will be the 'star'.

CERN CROQUET CLUB

Croquet has been played at Cern since 1964, using a personal set of equipment. The Cern C.C. was formed in Spring 1982 thanks to a hard-won subsidy (and not a little due to the reluctance of the owner to continue replacing battered equipment at his own expense!).

We play from early May to mid-October on Cern's admin. building lawn (of imported English seed!) which apart from a few local inclines, represents a tolerable playing surface. It's an ill wind at least people don't make endless breaks and bore the pants off everybody.

By dint of publicity inside and outside Cern, including local radio, we now have 12 members, and hope to continue to expand exponentially. Might soon be double-banking if we're not careful! It's hard kidding some of the potential disciples of some very peculiar ideas they have about the noble art.

Visitors would be extremely welcome, and should write to the C.C.C. President at the address below

Ch 1211 Geneva 23, Switzerland

Norman Eatough, President C.C.C.

OBITUARY

VIOLET ORMEROD

We mourn the recent death of our former President Violet Ormerod, who only last year moved away from us to live near William at Parkstone. Violet had been a club member for over 30 years, spending the last 7 as Club President.

When she moved the Club Members showed the regard in which they held her by not only voting her an Honorary Member of the Club but also by raising funds to purchase an impressive 'Ormerod Cup', which was won at the Club Finals for the first time a few days before her death.

The Cup will help keep her forever in our memory but, to those of us who had known he for some time, the first recollection will be of the hospitality of her house during Club functions and the warm words of welcome from a true croquet enthusiast. J.R.M.

(on behalf of the Bristol Club)

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When a hoop becomes loose it should be packed by soil rather than grass mowings, because the letter disintegrates more quickly than soil so the hoop becomes loose again more quickly. The cores from hollow- tining are very suitable as soil packing. Drop about three cores in the bottom of each carrot-hole, then use a 3/4" chisel to prise the sides of the centre of the hole inwards to close it, add three or four cores at the top of the hole and then tap the hoop back in position. The object of all this is to tighten the hoop using as little packing as possible; only the bottom and the top of the carrot need be held firm, the middle can't wobble on its own so needs no firm support. All imported packing (i.e. soil) must be eventually removed, otherwise it will create a hill. Some can be removed by hollow-tining when the hoop is moved but usually not all of it.

When you change a hoop's position make the new holes with a special 'Hollow crow-bar' which makes two considerable cores. Use only the top inch of each core to fill the top of the old holes, fill all the bottom part by chiselling in the sides, thus leaving most of the big cores as surplus 'profit' against the hoop hills problem.

There must be other ways of setting and re-setting hoops, but however it is done it must avoid making hoop-hills which are disastrous because they make hoop approaching difficult, they also result in the mowing machine scalping the hoop area.

As soon as the summer season is over, the hoops of the lawns kept in use should be moved 18 inches laterally from the centre of the middle hoop. It will probably develop rabbit-runs, because it will be all wear and no growth. That doesn't matter because it will recover in the Spring and it is not an important area.

Dear Sir.

PAINTING HOOPS

Whilst at Nottingham on 2nd October for the final of the Longman Cup I was struck by the condition of the hoops - they looked as if it was the first day of the season after their Winter's repainting rather than the last day.

They had been processed by a method introduced to the croquet world by Ken Townsend. He was at Nottingham on that day supporting Wolverhampton and he gave me the following notes which I feel are worthwhile passing on to other clubs. The process whilst costing some £4 per set would appear to be well worthwhile - not only saving a lot of labour (and paint) but producing a "new look" appearance for years.

painted the hoops with machinery paint. After a few weeks the paint sprayed-on coating of nylon. This gave a good coat, but the continuous hammering by the balls spread the nylon which was 0.004" thick causing small blisters which eventually burst and pieces of nylon peeled off. I have now settled for an epoxy-vinyl coating which is sprayed on at high-temperatures, and is suitable for both malleable iron and aluminium hoops. It is harder and does not blister.

able to find a local powder coating firm in the yellow pages of their telephone directory. The cost is between 60p and 70p plus VAT per hoop. The finish is white, and clubs will have to colour the blue and red tops using 'Humbril' enamel or insulating tape. It may be necessary to drill a 1/8" hole in the carrot of the hoops to hang them on the conveyor belt of the process machinery."

to Ken for providing it.

MEDICAL PROFESSION RELAXES WITH CROQUET (reproduced from the British Medical Journal of 28.9.83 contributed by "Minerva" - a lady doctor)

The week ended with Minerva pouring tea for the competitors in a croquet match between the Lancet and the BMJ. Salmon and cucumber sandwiches and Earl Grey tea beneath the shade of chestnut trees in Gray's Inn provided an elegant setting for a series of games which became harder fought as dusk approached. The final score was 3-3, and the match is to be repeated next year.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

HOOP GOLF

When members read the agenda for the AGM on 7 April 1984, they will discover that I am proposing a motion to have the official name of the game of golf croquet changed to hoop golf.

This may seem to be rather a trivial proposal: it is, however, not unlike those opposition motions in parliament that propose a reduction of a penny in a minister's salary and merely serve as a pretext for initiating a widely ranging debate on government policy that has little to do with the ostensible substance of the motion.

I am desperately worried that the Croquet Association, having now tasted the delights of sponsorship income on a modest scale and found them rather palatable, is about to rush headlong into illconsidered endeavours to attract more such revenue, whatever the cost. (From the apple to the mess of potage in one quick slurp?)

Clearly, without television coverage of the sport, no sponsor is going to make more than a passing nod in our direction and the defeatist attitude is gaining ground that the difficulties of presenting Association Croquet on television are likely to prove insuperable.

One welcomes the efforts of Lionel Wharrad, Eric Solomon and others to devise a challenging form of the game that will be suitable for television while not sacrificing the worthwhile features of the standard game. Unlike some other players, I am not at all dismayed at the prospect of seeing the game played on a smaller lawn, over a different course round the hoops, with mandatory peels and so on. But my personal feeling is that the essential minimum requirement for a game to merit the inclusion of the word 'croquet' in its title is that it should incorporate in its rules the potentially break-making sequence of rush; croquet stroke; continuation stroke.

What so-called golf 'croquet' conspicuously fails to offer is the croquet stroke. So why do we persist in calling it 'croquet'? It is a pleasant enough diversion, as is draughts. But it is not to be compared to the delights and subtlety of (association) croquet and chess and it should not be allowed to retain a similar name.

My fear is that, because the necessary development work on an acceptable television form of croquet will take a few years, our greed to obtain sponsorship at any price will lead us to consider hoop golf as a suitable vehicle for attracting money for our Association and publicity for our players. Once this is attempted, no matter how vigorous the disclaimers on TV that the game being shown is not proper' croquet, those half-baked notions that the public has so readily (and universally) absorbed will be all too obviously confirmed. They will see what is going on as merely a slightly less foolish of the bashing-into-the-shrubbery routine that they imagine to be at the core of our eccentric indulgence.

The harm this would do to the future prospects for the development of our sport would, in my view, be quite irreparable. We might as well get the flamingoes back from the taxidermist straight away.

My motion to force a change of name to hoop golf is a serious attempt to minimize the potential harm that may be done. But my even more passionate hope is that I can persuade fellow members to attend the AGM to forestall our strikers before the monumental fault of encouraging publicity for this quaint activity is countenanced.

Roger Wheeler

Nottingham and Hunstanton Clubs Ex-member of Council

Dear Sir,

FAMOUS OR INFAMOUS

As a practising barrister, I was interested in the reference to the Delves Broughton Challenge Cup Doubles (Gazette No. 166 July 1982 page 14). One of the most famous criminal trials in English legal history occurred in Kenya in 1941, when Sir Delves Broughton was charged with the murder of the Earl of Errol. Could anyone give the connection (if any, of course) between that accused (who was acquitted) and the Challenge Cup?

Box 15, Cape	Town,
R.S.A. 8000	

Yours sincerely, B. R. Bamford

lament that the Laws of Advanced Play need urgent alteration to prevent the tedium of +26's, the monotony of triple after triple and the dreadful spectacle of the entire President's Cup entry dropping dead (simultaneously, no doubt) of the British Boredom Crisis. Only Keith Wylie wrote to suggest that tight hoops and faster lawns might

IS A-CLASS CROQUET TOO EASY?

In no fewer than three recent issues of the Gazette do we see the

be an answer. The experience of the 1983 Open Championships at Cheltenham clearly shows that Wylie is correct. The very hot weather produced fast lawns and the hoops were set admirably firmly. The irregularities near boundaries and hoops, normally unexceptionable, assumed much greater prominence in such conditions. For the first time in seven years, the best players in the country were faced with a really difficult test and simply could not cope in the sense that triples were all but impossible (two successes in 187 games), 4-ball breaks were real achievements and the innings changed hands between experts at a rate that beginners at Roehampton could scarcely equal.

The moral is obvious. Firm hoops in fresh settings on a lawn that is not over-watered will provide sufficient difficulty for good games. If the lawns are easy-paced and the hoops set in spongy ground, the experts will still turn any match into a shooting contest no matter how much you tweak the rules.

148 Boundary Road London SW19 2AX

Dear Sir.

Dear Sir.

SOME IDEAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

- Although Croquet has been described as the Queen of games it still has a number of defects the chief of which are:
- 1. Too much space is required (1/4 acre)
- Games take too long (5 hours not unknown)
- It is often unfair at the top level of play 3
- 4. Four ball breaks often fail from sheer boredom

These defects in the game might be overcome by dividing the lawn down the middle (35 x 14 yds.) and moving the peg to a position half way between hoops 1 and 2 to give a 10 point game of 1, 2, 1-back, 2-back, peg. The balls would be played in from the first corner while the opposite corner would be used only in cases of wiring.

These changes would make for a better use of space without decreasing the length of the longest possible shot by more than about 7 yards. Clubs could accept more entries to tournaments and the games would be easier to manage. Matches would consist of an odd number of games each lasting about the same time as a frame in snooker. Matches between top level players would be fairer than at present when games frequently go to 26-0, the loser never having taken croquet. Half-lawn games should switch the interest to varied and dangerous manoeuvres round a few hoops and away from the four ball break, the aim at present, which consists of a repetition of similar shots, often resulting in the player losing interest and missing a short roquet or blobbing a hoop. This is usually wrongly attributed to loss of concentration when the real cause is boredom. Further interest could be added to the game if the yellow and black balls could be played but only advanced by being peeled through the hoops.

98 Thornton Road,	Yours sincerely,
Girton,	H. Green
Cambridge, CB3 ONN	

Hoops

9

The main difficulties with hoops is "rabbit-runs" (the wear in the centre of the hoop caused by the ball's passage) and hills caused by frequent packing of the carrot holes to keep the hoops firm.

The simplest and most effective way of dealing with rabbit-runs is to move the hoops. Move each hoop by 9 inches laterally either to the right or to the left. This distance allows work to be done (e.g. returfing, patching or hollow-tining) where the hoop was without interfering with its new site.

If possible move all six hoops of one lawn at the same time, which takes about an hour. If that amount of time is not available it is essential to move each pair, i.e. 1 and 2; 3 and 4 or 5, peg and 6 at one time. As the season goes on each hoop will have three positions, one' centre, one left and one right. It doesn't affect play so there is no need to move the sidelines.

I quote from Ken's notes:

"When I started making aluminium hoops I cleaned, primed, and abraded away due to the hard knurling of the balls. I then tried using a

Clubs wishing to process their hoops after sandblasting should be

I hope the above information will be of interest to clubs - and thanks

Richard Rothwell

Yours faithfully, Steve Mulliner Dear Sir.

SLOW PLAY

Slow players, like the poor, are always with us but it is usually impossible to identify individual offences. Slowness is poison that is allowed to take over a player silently, for want of specific symptoms, until it is too late to do anything about it. What is needed is some system of regulating each player's attitude, so that expedition becomes second nature and not just the occasional guilty reaction when time is running out. I therefore have a proposal to make:

(a) No turn may last for more than 35 minutes.

- (b) A player wishing to enforce this law may do so only by the following procedure:
 - (i) The striker is warned that at least 30 minutes have elapsed since he began his turn.
 - (ii) A timekeeper is appointed and the striker given 5 minutes to finish his turn.
 - (iii) When time is called the striker may have not more than two more strokes.

No doubt this law could be more felicitously drafted. Arguably 35 minutes is too generous.

I venture to suggest that with such a law it would become second nature for players able to do four-ball breaks to do them reasonably quickly, and that this would affect the speed of play even in short turns.

I see no reason why this law should apply only to time-limited games.

Yours sincerely.

Keith Wyte

FURTHER COMMENTS ON TIMINGS

lan Bond's paper on the length of time games take (Gazette 171) though based on a very small sample, as he says, demonstrates, once again, the two facts:

a)

- the time needed relates to skill, i.e. handicap
- seemingly slow or quick players get their reputations from the games they win.

I started timing games in 1969. By 1975 I had got more than 2,000. Some results from the analysis of these were given on page 13 of Gazette 139 of April 1976. Since then I've timed many more, and though they have not been fully analysed, cursorily they confirm earlier findings.

A pertinent extract is the time needed when groups of adjacent handicaps play each other.

Handicap range	
O and lower	1 hour 45 minutes
+1/2 to 2	2 hours 15 minutes
21/2 to 31/2	2 hours 30 minutes*
4 to 5	2 hours 40 minutes
51/2 to 61/2	2 hours 55 minutes
7 to 81/2	3 hours 10 minutes
9 to 12	3 hours 15 minutes
13 and over	4 hours 10 minutes
ot revised the table	a though various ranges ha

I have not revised the table though various ranges have been increased, since recent timings seem to show that handicaps above +1/2 have adjusted themselves downwards again. However the line at has been brought up to date.

As I have shown the amount of time needed accords to skill and is very pronounced, almost uncanny. It is varied only when conditions are faster than usual, as in part of this summer or hoops firmer than normal, or perhaps too wide, but even so the variation is constant.

As to the point about slow and fast reputations, in 1980 I was asked by the Cheltenham Committee whether I could confirm that certain people were slow, the idea being to do something about it. I was not keen on the idea: all my records related to handicap ranges not individuals. However I agreed provided the Committee were content with a report in general terms, not personally related to players. This took place. I went back to the original records over the years 1977, 78 & 79, and looked at all for whom I had got timings of 18 or more games played at Cheltenham. Certainly some people are slow at times but then just as many are fast compared with their handicap range. As was to be expected nothing came of the review, except perhaps two points of interest:

a)

MINERVA

those who are classed as fast or slow, are so when they win. When they lose their timing is normal i.e. within the limits expected for their handicap range.

GTW

b) players of handicap range 2 to 5 playing each other under Advanced Play need almost an hour more than those of lower handicaps. This is at least partly because the lifts interrupt the play rather than just dictate the leave.

I submit that if a Manager tries to mount matches according to reputations of slowness or otherwise he won't get too much joy! If he sticks to the few rules of thumb mentioned below he might do better (and poor fellow get asked to manage again!)

The lower handicap player conditions the length of the game, whatever its form: A.P. level, handicap. For handicap play: 1's and below nearly need less than 2 hours on average: 2's to 5's need 21/2 hours; 6's and more may want 3 hours. If there is a full range of handicaps present, say -1 to 16, the average game will be 2 hours 20 minutes. This figure can be much lengthened if the 2's and below are absent. A device to average out the playing time down to say 2 hours/ 2 hours 10 minutes, without reverting to time limits, is to shorten the length of the game to be played on the lines; if the sum of the handicaps is 12 or less play a full game, if 17 or more play 18 points, in between play 22 points.

For Advanced Play 1's and below want less than 2 hours on average; 2 to 5's not far short of 3 hours.

Isn't it a bore? We all think we are unique. It has even been said that you have to be an individualist to play the game at all. What a shame!

Park House,	Yours sincerely,
Thirlestaine Road, Cheltenham	Edgar Jackson

Dear Sir,

SIX-DAY TOURNAMENTS

I am very interested in the correspondence on Six-Day Tournaments as, for the last two years, I have taken over as Manager of the Edinburgh Tournament, which I try to run for the maximum enjoyment of everyone who enters. With no other experience to go on, I have continued the tradition of running as Class Singles (X, Y), a Handicap Doubles, and a Big Handicap Singles (X, Y, Z). As all of these are knockout events leading to more games if you win, and different events if you lose, there is no certainty how many games you will play nor when you will be asked to play them, but if you enter three events you will at least get six games, i.e. an average of one per day.

It may well be that our visitors look for better value from their week than this and I am very interested to know about better ways of organising a Six-Day Tournament. I would like to have details, for example, of the formula used for shortening games acording to the sum of the players' handicaps. I am also intrigued to know how it is possible to run a Handicap Doubles Knockout Tournament at Woking in one day, since I have seen the view expressed that "three games of handicap doubles in one day is probably too much for any normal person to take"!

This year we had nine visitors at our Tournament, six from England and three from the West of Scotland, all of whom took a week's holiday in Edinburgh to play Croquet. The glories and the miseries of their week are reduced to cold statistics in the Table below. One player certainly did play only six games, in spite of having two wins, and this is a quirk of the XYZ system, but the games played by four people moved into double figures and two of them played an average of two games a day. The person who played 11 games had a handicap of 16, a point I wish to mention later. Almost without exception, all games were 26 pt. with time limits of 3 hrs. for singles and 31/2 hrs. For doubles. So my feeling is that our visitors were given a reasonable opportunity to play Croquet over six days, but they can judge this better than I can.

The remaining 25 entrants also had their personal desires from the Tournament: for example, nine of them wanted to work during the week - and they did so! Clearly, they could not enter every event but the most successful of them worked every day, played one game every evening Monday to Friday, played two games on Saturday, and won the Open! The total number of players was 34, of which 21 entered 3 events, 8 entered 2 events, and 5 entered 1 event. It seems to me that the key to a successful week is not entirely the number of games per player, but more importantly letting people do what they want. Personally, I found last year's tournament, when I played 13 games, so overwhelming that I could not pick up a mallet or look at a croquet ball for days afterwards, while this year I played only eight games and enjoyed myself enormously.

The Croquet Gazette

Apart from offering croquet games, our Six-Day Tournament has other vital roles: it is the principal event of the year for drawing our Club together, and this may be the same for other Clubs. There is no other occasion which draws together everybody: players, helpers, bystanders in one grand social gathering. In addition it has been the starting point for so many beginners who have developed into strong handicap players, even at a handicap of 16, and are still developing. This gives me great satisfaction. I am horrified to see that some Tournaments exclude players of handicap 14 and over. These are the very people who should be encouraged to enter. The strength of the game, nationally, rests on its Clubs, and these can only grow from developing more beginners. If we neglect them it will not be the Six-Day Tournament that will die but the game itself.

Yours faithfully 3 Peel Terrace Edinburgh EH9 2AY Alastair Hunter

Visitors to the Edinburgh Tournament 1983

			*Gai	mes j	plave	Total				
Visitor	Handicap	М	Т	W	Th		S	games	Wins	
1	1	2	2	2	1	1		8	4	
2	11/2	2	1	2	2	2	1	10	7	
3	5	3	1	2	2	1	_	9	5	
4	51/2	1	1	2	3	3	2	12	11	
5	71/2	1	2	2	1	2		8	3	
6	8	2	1	2	2	3	3	13	8	
7	9	1	1	2	2	2	1	9	3	
8	10	2	2	1	1	_	_	6	2	
9	16	1	1	2	1	3	3	11	8	

* Includes Z games

A Plea for the Upright Game

A lot of people these days seem to be playing with short-shafted mallets, or with their hands well down the shaft. They spend their croquet days bent double, and, if young enough, will undoubtedly end up looking like a croquet hoop.

For the past two years I have been helping with beginners' classes, and find myself deploring the fact that so many ladies choose to play centre style. To my mind it is inelegant. No one cares very much about a man looking ungainly, but it is surely a lady's duty to make the most of her customary elegance and charm. Bottoms up is hardly the way.

However, my main objection to centre style for ladies is that for so many of them it is ineffective. It inhibits a good back-swing. In my club we have several ladies with three or four years' experience behind them. They roquet well and make hoops, but their further improvement is hampered by an inability to hit hard enough to get from corner to corner on a take-off, and to rush a ball more than a few yards towards a hoop. Most play centre style, hands well separated on the shaft, with a stiff-arm swing.

It is probably too late for them to begin to play side-style, and to me it seems they must develop more hitting power by progressively bringing hands closer together, higher up the shaft, and getting a longer swing from a combination of arm and wrist movement.

Those ladies who have accepted my advice to try side-style found that they lost direction to start with, but were much impressed with the extra power immediately apparent.

This brings me back to my opening remarks. Ladies playing side-style can use a longer-shafted mallet, with both power and control, while remaining erect.

In my view, far too many shots are played on hands and knees. I am all for the upright game. There are only two shots for which I find it necessary to "get down to it". The first is the narrow-angle equidistant croquet shot right across the lawn. Playing centre style, I am far over the balls for a comfortable execution, in the erect position. Wide-angle split shots are easily played erect, however, and so are the hoop approaches.

This is a personal view, of course, and there will be those who disagree. Their comments would enliven the pages of Croquet Gazette. They might even convince me that my instruction, such as it is, does more harm than good. Stop me before I do irreparable damage!.

Dear Sir

The Croquet Gazette

It is said that no experience in life is ever wasted, so it seems. Three years ago I gave up golf in favour of croquet, and I felt that the only useful experience I brought with me was in following the advice on putting - "If you're going to miss it, miss it quick." (Slow croquet players please note).

In my golfing days I did manage to achieve the distinction of a hole in one, on the 7th at the old Cotswold Hills course on Cleeve Hill, Cheltenham. It was in the middle of a very poor round, so it was, of course, a fluke.

However, a fluke, like lightning, can strike twice, as I have just discovered in the Cheltenham Croquet Club's winter competition for the Blumer Cup.

I had one clip on peg, the other ball having been pegged out by my opponent. He also had a clip on peg, with three hoops to make with the other ball. In his final turn he wired me from the peg, fair and square behind penult, at a distance of about 12 feet, and then joined up wide in fourth corner.

My opponent was an A class player, I dared not shoot at him and miss. thereby giving him an extra ball. There was only one thing for it back to golf. Taking a golf grip on the mallet and a golfing stance a little forward of my ball, I made the swing. The ball cleared the hoop by at least a foot, bounced twice, and crashed into the peg.

A fluke, again. But may I be forgiven for claiming this as the croquet equivalent of a hole-in-one?

Bill Bawden, Cheltenham

Dear Sir.

ANYONE ELIGIBLE FOR WELSH COUNTIES

I hope that a team from some of the Welsh counties can be forme time to enter for the Inter-Counties championship in 1984.

I would be glad to hear from anyone who is qualified under conditions specified in the CA fixture list and who would be prepa to play on one or more of the days allocated to the event.

Because the proposed Welsh Counties' team will be a new those who played for other counties last year (1983) can if the wish, switch their allegiance to a Welsh team.

Croquet has hardly any foothold in Wales, I believe that a Welsh in the Inter-Counties and more especially if it were to win, w enable us to secure some croquet publicity in Wales, which wou course help those few stalwarts who are currently trying to clubs.

Naturally I hope that we will have a team consisting of minus play but this should not deter anyone with a handicap of three or be from letting me know that they are interested.

Old Stable Cottage St Johns Hill Road Woking, Surrey

Yours faithfully. Lionel Wh

Speed of Lawns

The following extract from the SPORTS TURF BULLETIN No. (October/December 1983) "The Speed of Golf and Bowling Gr by the Sports Turf Research Institute, Bingley, West Yorkshire, I 1AU (telephone 0274-565131) was written primarily for Bow Greens, but obviously can be adapted for Croquet Lawns. It may interest to those responsible for club lawn maintenance.

.... A method of determining the speed of a bowling green has been in use but it is surprising how few clubs seem aware of this. recommended procedure is to stand as closely as possible to ditch at one side of the green and bowl a wood straight scross green so that it just stops short, or just topples into, the oppo ditch. The time taken for the wood to travel should be taken w stopwatch. The process should be repeated in the opposite direct and at right-angles as many times as is convenient and an ave time determined.

About 18 seconds would make the green very fast by average standards. About 14 seconds is generally satisfactory whil seconds would be considered excessively slow. The fact that the of travel of the wood across a slow green is faster than on the g

with good pace may seem confusing, but it should be remembered that on a slow green the wood must be bowled much faster to reach the opposite ditch. It hence initially moves much faster although it also decelerates at a quicker rate. Using this method of assessment many greens turn out to be excessively slow, this being one of the commonest faults encountered in bowling green advisory work.

If either golf or bowling greens are shown to be excessively slow then maintenance can be modified to improve matters. A layer of spongy thatch or fibre immediately below the surface is a common cause and reducing this by scarification can be effective, although it is often necessary to attack the cause of the thatch formation too. This may involve improving surface drainage and soil conditions or reducing the annual meadow grass content. Over-watering also produces soft surfaces, as does the excessive use of fertilizer which gives unnecessarily lush growth besides encouraging grass species. The use of soft or spongy top dressing materials like large quantities of peat may also encourage slow surfaces. Cutting too plays a part greens cut too infrequently or at too high level would tend to be slow."

GRADE ORDER 1983

	Pos.	Name	Grade
	1	Aspinall, G.N.	181
	2	Mulliner, S.N.	169
	3	Wylie, K.F.	161
	4	Openshaw, D.K.	154
ned in	5	Hope, A.B.	149
	6	McCullough, J.	143
er the	7	Heap, M.E.W.	141
pared	8	Foulser, D.R.	138
parea		Irwin, C.J.	138
team	10	Aiton, K.M.H.	137
ey so		Bell, E.	137
	12	Solomon, E.W.	136
team	13	Cordingley, P.	134
would		Croker, D.J.	134
uld of	15	Ormerod, W.P.	132
	16	Gunasekera, D.	131
start		Hilditch, J.R.	131
	18	Bond, I.D.	130
ayers,		Hands, P.W.	130
below		Murray, M.	130
	21	Rose, J.	129
	22	Prichard, C.H.L.	125
arrad	23	Neal, B.G.	124
unuu	24	Read, T.O.	123
	25	Avery, M.	122
		Griffith, T.	122
		Noble, G.W.	122
		Vincent, I.G.	122
	29	Coward, M.J.	120
		Wiggins, S.	120
. 143	31	Healy, G.	119
ireen"		Wood, T.I.	119
BD16	33	Haste, T.J.	115
wling		Lewis, S.E.	115
be of	35	Aldridge, W.O.	114
		Jones, K.E.	114
	37	Latham, L.V.	111
s long	38	Sykes, B.C.	110
s. The	39	Anderson, C.E.	109
to the		Davis, E.J.	109
ss the		Tapp, M.	109
posite	42	Guest, J.	108
with a	12	Jackson, G.E.P.	108
ection		Ormerod, M.	108
erage		Phelps, M.F.	108
	46	Johnson, P.M.	107
e club	40	Palmer, A.J.	107
le 12		Wheeler, J.A.	107
ie rate	49	Walters, J.O.	105
green	50	Allim, R.M.	102
green	00		102

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

PRESIDENT'S CUP Hurlingham 6–10 September

President's Cup	-	wei	-		hguo	E.	jley			Wins		
1983	Mulliner	Openshaw	Aspinall	Hope	McCullough	Solomon	Cordingley	Rose	1 st Series	2nd Series	Total	Final Order
S.N. Mulliner		+3 -5	+26 -17	+16 +17	+14 +25	+5* +22	+26* +24*	+13 +4	7	5	12	1st
D.K. Openshaw	-3 +5		-22 +11	+17 +14	+26 -17	+21 +2	+7 +24	+22 +24	5	6	11	2nd
G.N. Aspinall	-26 +17	+22 -11		+1 -16	+6 +6	+22 +17	+26* -7	+24 +17	6	4	10	3rd
A.B. Hope	-16 -17	-17 -14	-1 +16		+2 +16	-3 +10	+15 +17	-10 +26	2	5	7	=4th
J.R. McCullough	-14 -25	-26 +17	-6 -6	-2 -16		+7 +19	+22 +17	+14 +24	3	4	7	=4th
Dr E.W. Solomon	-5 -22	-21 -2	-22 -17	+3 -10	-7 -19		+11 -22	+26* +4	3	1	4	6th
P. Cordingley	-26 -24	-7 -24	-26 +7	-15 -17	-22 -17	-11 +22*		+20 -8	1	2	3	7th
J. Rose	-13 -4	-22 -24	-24 -17	+10 -26	-14 -24	-26 -4	-20 +8		1	1	2	8th

* = Triple Peel

The three separate tournaments of Eights Week are not only unique in the CA's Calendar but also the most unpredictable and exciting. A player may be on the crest of a wave at the half-way stage and then, 24 hours later is in a shallow or deep trough after three successive reverses. In Eights Week there are no "easy victims". Who would have imagined that Philip Cordingley was going to play such a fine game with its brilliant finish to defeat Nigel Aspinall in that vital 12th Round? or that in the Spencer Ell Cup Terry Wood, the eighth choice, would finish as the winner? As in the charming musical number. written by Cole Porter, in Eights Week "Anything Goes".

In the opening series of the President's Cup, Round 3 brought the first encounter between Mulliner and Aspinall. Mulliner was guickly round and, when the lift was missed, he continued to 1-back where an inaccurate hoop stroke sideways and close to one wire. Aspinall played gently to join his partner ball at hoop 1. Mulliner edged through 1-back successfully and shot across the lawn at his other ball which lay in the jaws of 4-back. So true was his aim that he not only hit the opposing wire but also simultaneously dislodged the ball clear of the hoop. This brilliant shot enabled him to proceed with ease to the peg and win by 26 in the next turn after Aspinall missed with the lift shot.

The match between Andrew Hope and Eric Solomon was closely contested with both players in good form and Hope nearly at the finishing post. But now Solomon rallied strongly and in two excellent turns from 3-back and 4-back scored a narrow victory. At the end of Round 3 Mulliner was in the lead with four players - Aspinall, Openshaw, Solomon and Hope - one point behind.

Mulliner and Aspinall continued in winning vein throughout Wednesday, the former was in danger of losing two games and the latter one game. Openshaw on peg and penultimate was all set to win in the next turn when Mulliner hit and went round from hoop 1. Openshaw missed and Mulliner finished his next break from 1-back pegging out Openshaw's forward ball. Openshaw shot from 'B' baulk down the boundary line but just failed to hit and Mulliner went out from 4-back. If Openshaw had hit his shot and made his last two hoops he would have been the eventual winner of the competition. Aspinall brought off a remarkable victory in Round 6 against Hope who had narrowly missed completing an exemplary triple by hitting

his partner ball as he ran rover. He then pegged out his playing ball having missed with the forward one. Aspinall promptly hit and though he had a lot of leeway to make up, set out on a series of accurate twoball breaks finishing each turn by laying up on the boundary so that if Hope shot across at the peg and missed he would have a 3-ball break. These patient tactics were rewarded and finally gave him a one point victory. This unexpected reverse was all the more unfortunate for Hope who had lost his other two games today. Meanwhile Eric Solomon threw away a golden opportunity of inflicting a decisive defeat upon Mulliner. With his clips on 4-back and peg and those of Mulliner on 4-back and hoop 1 and the lift shot missed, he was admirably placed to finish the game in his next turn. But having rushed an opponent ball from the centre of the west boundary a little short of 4-back he made an indifferent approach which left him with a straight but rather distant hoop to run. A forcing slam at the hoop brought disaster. Mulliner gaining the innings with his backward ball made a brilliant break and went out in that turn with a triple peel. John McCullough at the half-way stage had begun to strike his best form and move steadily upwards. With three wins to his credit he was level with Eric Solomon and a point ahead of Andrew Hope. Hope's consistent standard of play merited a higher placing than the sixth position. But, though he did not know it there was a rainbow over his shoulder just about to shine down upon him. And also upon Cordingley who had shown his quality by testing Openshaw to the full. Rose had played really well to defeat Hope and he had his flashes of promise in his game against Mulliner, otherwise, however, for those two players in 7th equal position, it had been a case of "jam yesterday, and, hopefully, jam tomorrow but no jam today"

Round 8 saw the three leaders Mulliner, Aspinall and Openshaw, now drawing away from the pack and an opening gap of three points. Lower down, Hope began a sequence of four wins to draw level and pass Solomon and McCullough.

Aspinall and Mulliner met for their second encounter in Round 9. Aspinall needed to win this game to keep him in contention, and win it he did. By sending a ball off the lawn in a croquet shot Mulliner gave his opponent the chance to go round but an accident at 2-back halted Aspinall's progress. In his next turn, however, he hit in with his backward ball and reached the peg. Mulliner gained the innings with the lift shot and made a break to 4-back. Aspinal retaliated in similar

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fashion and next turn out from 2-back. McCullough played a fine game to defeat Openshaw, who had taken an early lead, McCullough replied with two all-round breaks. Cordingley had much the better of his game against Solomon as also did Hope against Rose. Both these games were won with a triple peel.

The two leaders were now level at the start of an important Round 10, where Mulliner faced Openshaw and McCullough challenged Aspinall. The standard of play in these two matches was clear evidence of the mounting pressure that each must have been feeling. Aspinall had some very shaky moments and was fortunate in finding that his opponent after a good beginning failed to profit by the chances which he had. The most notable occasion occured when Aspinall with both balls for rover missed a very short roquet, McCullough's backward ball being for hoop 5. This exciting but undistinguished fame gave Aspinall victory by 6. Mulliner and Openshaw have had many tense duels in this competition and the present game was no exception. After each player had a ball on 4-back the heat was really turned on. Short bursts of good croquet were followed by a breakdown and the innings was frequently changing from one side to the other. Late in the game Mulliner went round with his backward ball and pegged out Openshaw's forward ball after Openshaw had stuck in penultimate. At this point Mulliner seemed the probable winner, but firstly he missed a 4-yard along the boundary line and Openshaw was home +5. And now for the first time Aspinall had taken the lead with 9 points, followed by Mulliner with 8 and Openshaw 7. And now for the first time came the realisation that if he were to maintain this lead to the end he would achieve the distinction of being only the third player since the War to complete, or in the vocabulary of bell-ringing to ring "a triple peal" of bells. And so to Round 11. Openshaw beat Cordingley and McCullough beat Solomon, but Mulliner found Rose in a tough mood and though both players made mistakes Mulliner had to hit a vital long shot at the end to prevent Rose from going out from 4-back. This shot enabled him to win +4. Hope was quickly at 4-back and peg before Aspinall took croquet. Aspinall advanced to 4-back and made this hoop in his next turn when the first lift shot was missed. But with the second lift shot Hope from A-baulk hit his partner ball by the peg and ran out the winner after a fine exhibition of croquet.

Round 12: Aspinall and Mulliner 9 points Openshaw 8. Three games were completed in good time on this dark and cloudy late afternoon. McCullough outplayed Rose and Mulliner, much happier and more confident than in Round 11, sent Solomon back to the same bed on which he had rested since Round 5. Hope and Openshaw were well matched in their present form. Openshaw's clips were presently on 4-back and 6, those of Hope on 4-back and 2. When Hope, in play, failed to run hoop 4 the issue was settled in favour of Openshaw +14. And so to the match of the day between Aspinall and Cordingley, After a cautious opening period Aspinall obtained the first break, but not having a straightforward passage with his second ball laid up on the centre of the east boundary with a rush to hoop 4. Cordingley now hit in and went round to 4-back and then, the lift shot being missed, played an excellent turn with his second ball to the peg with one peel. Aspinall hit with his forward ball and pegged out his opponent's ball. By now bad light may well have stopped play but both contestants opted to continue. Aspinall with his tactical knowledge kept his opponent at a far distance until Cordingley from the first corner struck a long shot straight on target across the lawn. His rush and approach shot to penultimate were not sufficiently accurate to attempt the hoop and he took position, nearly but not quite wired from Aspinall's ball on the other side. The next morning Aspinall attempted to hit this partly wired ball but failed. Cordingley ran the hoop and took position for rover. Aspinall joined on the north boundary and Cordingley ran rover, shot and missed. Aspinall progressed with a 2-ball break but after making 1-back did not have a forward rush and laid up on the east boundary. Cordingley took the lift shot from A-baulk and hit fair and square to record a splendid win, especially as Aspinall had made no mistakes. That final winning hit reminded me of the David and Goliath story

Round 13: Mulliner 10, Aspinall 9, Openshaw 9 - and Aspinall to play Mulliner, Mulliner in his best form defeated McCullough, Hope won by 17 against Cordingley. Solomon at last scored a point against Rose in a game with a remarkable incident which occurred when Rose in his break played with the wrong ball between hoop 4 and 2-back. Solomon failed to observe this mistake and the mistake which followed when Rose placed his clip on 3-back. After this Solomon played extremely well to win +4. Aspinall and Openshaw were on level terms in the early part of their game but Openshaw then took the lead with a second break to peg and one peel. Aspinall hit but failed at hoop 3 and later again at 1-back. Openshaw was the winner +11.

Round 14: Mulliner 11, Openshaw 10, Aspinall 9. Aspinall beat Solomon +19, McCullough beat Cordingley +17, Openshaw beat Rose +24 and Mulliner beat Hope +17. Hope had a good chance to win this important match. He led the way to 4-back and Mulliner missed the lift. But then Hope missed a very short roquet along the boundary and Mulliner hit. In three turns with the two lift shots missed he had won the game and the President's Cup for the second time, Final scores were Mulliner 12, Openshaw 11, Aspinall 10, Hope and McCullough 7, Solomon 4, Cordingley 3 and Rose 2.

Mulliner was the deserving winner of this exciting competition, he took the lead from the start and when Aspinall drew level and then passed him in Round 10 he fought back with such determination that he swept the opposition aside in the final four games. Openshaw had an excellent week and was a model of steadiness which finally gained him second place. Aspinall made a strong bid for victory in Round 9 and 10 but then his star flickered and went out. Hope played consistently attractive croquet whether he was winning or losing. Mccullough gave a most impressive performance after a black day on Tuesday. Eric Solomon had a disappointing week. If he had defeated Mulliner in Round 6, as he should have done, things might have been different. Cordingley touched the heights in two of his three wins. Rose, I think, missed too many hoops and paid the penalty. But he showed occasional flashes of his best form. And so Humphrey Hicks and John Solomon still remain the sole winners of the "grand slam".

Richard Rothwell managed and refereed with quiet and appreciative authority and he smoked his many pipes, and was no doubt grateful that the final result did not end in a triple tie, and Betty Prichard dismissed us her blessing in a charming speech at prize-giving. We are all indebted to the Hurlingham Club for once again providing such a perfect setting for this major CA event with four lawns of a quality unsurpassed anywhere in the world. Even the Gods were kind with the weather.

This President's Cup competition once again illustrated the truth of George Orwell's brilliant phrase in "Animal Farm" - "All winners are equal, but some are more equal than others."

D.J.V. H-M.

CHAIRMAN'S SALVER Bowdon 5–9 September

The National Trust I know has widespread and diverse interests; what I did not know - until venturing to these Northern parts - was that these interests extend to croquet: the Trust, I am told, owns the land on which the Bowdon Club is sited. That this is a wholly appropriate cooperation should not be gainsaid, for though the continuity of croquet skills is - on the evidence of this week - assured, we cannot be complacent about the pressures on space which are a lively threat to the game and a continuing worry for less fortunate clubs

The Bowdon Club's recent efforts to improve their lawns and facilities have already been chronicled in the Gazette. Suffice it to say here that their endeavours have borne fruit in four excellent lawns which will soon be challenging Hurlingham and even Colchester for quality. Rain in the week since the Northern Championships had turned them from very fast to easy paced, and rather soft; but, with Eddie Bell presiding over the hoop setting each day, we were guaranteed hoops which remained firm throughout the week and could not be taken lightly.

The first day started very windy and cold (though it had improved by the afternoon), which made it difficult for the players to settle and find their rhythm. The first round was in consequence scrappy, and round 2 little better, with minds not yet fully engaged. Even so, there was no delay in putting Riggall's Law to the test. Foulser, the two-ball player in a three-ball finish against Hilditch, did not improve his chances when, in making 2-back after the lift was missed, he forgot that he had made use of his opponent's ball and immediately conceded an even shorter lift by wiring from it behind 3-back. Hilditch gratefully accepted this unexpected generosity, hit, and went out. By round 3, though everyone was finding their feet. Aiton notched up the first triple of the week; and Foulser, pegging out his opponent'again, lost to a shot by Vincent from two feet north of 3-back (which he had just squeezed through) into corner 2. Probably a shot he should not have taken, but difficult to argue against when it is hit and wins the game! Also worth a passing mention is the shot of the week: a takeoff by Hilditch from corner 2 getting a rush to penult on an opposing ball in corner 1. What confidence - or is it only madness?

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Chairman's Salver					kera				Wins			
1983	Aiton	Bell	Croker	Foulser	Gunasekera	Bond	Hilditch	Vincent	1 st Series	2nd Series	Total	Final Order
K.M.H. Aiton		+8* -5	+8 -15	-22 +18	+7 +6	+14* -10	+9 +13	+6† +2‡	6	4	10	1st
E. Bell	8 +15		-23 +19	-23 +3	+9 -13	+11 +25	-15 +8	+5 +16	3	6	9	=2nd
D.J. Croker	-8 +15	+23 -19		-5 +11*	-18 -8	+26 +25	+10 +20	+21 +8	4	5	9	=2nd
D.R. Foulser	+22 -18	+23 -3	+5 -11		-14 -15	+3 +14	-5 +10	-4 +4	4	3	7	=4th
D.L. Gunasekera	-7 -6	-9 +13	+18 +8	+14 +15		-23 -15	+3 +10	-26 -3	3	4	7	=4th
I.D. Bond	-14 +10	-11 -25	-26 -25	-3 -14	+23 +15		-4 -16	+23 +16	2	3	5	=6th
J.R. Hilditch	-9 -13	+15 -8	-10 -20	+5 -10	-3 -10	+4 +16		+4 -4	4	1	5	=6th
Dr I.G. Vincent	-6 -12	-5 -16	-21 -8	+4 -4	+26 +3	-23 -16	-4 +4		2	2	4	8th

* = Triple Peel t = Triple Peel on Opponent t = Straight Triple Peel on Opponent

Tuesday suffered less from the weather, and play was generally much better. Round 4 saw Aiton completing another triple (this time Bell) well rescued from early difficulties, and round 5 failed triples by both Aiton and Gunasekera, together with a successful double from Foulser. We had the full range, from the sublime to the ridiculous, in round 6: Aiton, who tripled out Vincent's forward ball - completing the peels (two of which were rushes) by 3-back - standing firmly at one end of the spectrum; and Croker, who ran 4-back to the boundary, missed a five yard rush to penult but ran the hoop peg-high instead, at the other. Somewhere in between was what was very nearly a +2TP for Bond against Foulser, but failure at an easy 3-back with two peels completed and the break well under control put a stop to that.

Evening entertainment was provided by the third episode of the Bell v Vincent epic still alive from round 2, which Bell eventually won (it had been late to start after lunch on Monday because Eddie had other important business to attend to - locating the week's beer supply!): so, at the end of the day, Aiton was unbeaten with a two game lead over Hilditch, with three on 3 wins - by no means an unassailable lead, as two of those present knew from personal experience.

Wednesday gave us the best weather of the week, and with Aiton's first defeat as well as three wins apiece for Croker and Bell, some movement on the leader board. Round 7 saw Foulser a final roquet shot short of a triple against Aiton - though he went on to win - and Bond close to a straight against Vincent, being let down by a poor rush to rover. In round 8, Croker finally ended the Aiton monopoly of triples, after Foulser broke down at 1-back on Croker's backward ball - the penult peel done after 1-back with the 2-back pioneer at penult. By round 9, however, sobriety had returned. It was noteworthy only for the numerous refereeing incidents in the Vincent v Foulser match. These included ball moving between strokes on two occasions, and Foulser hitting a side cannon so gently that the balls scarcely moved (not much he could - legally - do after that; a just punishment for not attempting a proper cannon!).

Thursday started windy, and rain was (correctly) forecast; but round 10 was mostly played in the dry. Aiton surprisingly went down, at the hands of Bond (then the back marker), to his second defeat, though Croker — his nearest challenger — failed to capitalise on this, losing to Gunasekera for the second time. The other game with a bearing on the lead, Foulser v Bell, was pegged down soon after the rains came, with Foulser for 2 and peg, Bell for 4-back. The lunch break served only to ensure that round 11 caught the worst of the weather, Aiton lost again, this time to Bell (giving the pegged down game added interest) and Croker made amends for the morning by seeing off an out of touch Vincent; but another defeat in round 12 virtually ended his chances. Bell, however, who was his downfall,

was playing very steadily and moving rapidly into contention.

There was little sign from Aiton that he felt the lead to be in danger. He laid for a sextuple against Vincent, but failed to get it started - all he achieved was knocking his forward ball through 1-back without making contact. Some turns later, getting in with his forward ball (which was by then for 3-back), he calmly proceeded to execute a straight triple on Vincent's forward ball so well controlled that it could only with great injustice be called reckless. He was then soon in with a three-ball break from 3 and, though he got into difficulties at 2back, rescued the break with some fine play and went out.

All attention then turned to the resumed Bell v Foulser encounter on lawn 1. Foulser made slow progress, without Bell getting in, but stuck in penult when conceding a lift. This Bell hit, and despite an unlucky roll at 4-back was able to run it to the boundary, hit the six vard return and go out; moving himself to just one off the lead going into the final day, after a sequence of six wins.

A sunny start to Friday did not last, and it rained again for an hour or so around midday, but the results of round 13 brightened things up by keeping the competition very much alive: Croker, playing in his usual inimitable way inflicted on Aiton his fourth defeat of the week, while Bell continued his run of successes by beating Vincent, to tie the lead. All was set for a *final round* in which all the games were important — three for first place, the last (between Bond and Vincent) for the wooden spoon. Eighth place was first to be decided, and with Croker seeing off Hilditch shortly afterwards all depended on the last two games. Aiton, continuing to play his normal game (so often a more reliable route to success than the excessive caution which such a position frequently seems to induce), broke down at 2-back having completed two peels of a triple: but Foulser failed to capitalise on this and Aiton was soon safely home with nothing left to do but wait. Bell was still engaged in an 'in and out' game, in which he seemed to have edge in the early stages; but Gunasekera eventually got the upper hand, with Bell missing long shots, and ran out the winner - leaving Aiton undisputed in first place.

There you have the barest bones of a competition which was played to a consistently high standard and retained its interest to the final game. Riggall's Law must, I fear be reclassified as Riggall's Rule in the absence of conclusive empirical verification by the week's play; but it has added another colourful expression to the growing Cambridge lexicon, which must count in its favour. Perhaps the five vard 'Aiton tice' (as often as not missed, once by both players) will ioin it!

For Keith Aiton and (Paul Hands, please copy) Dayal Gunasekera, it was their first experience of play in an 'eight', and they acquitted themselves well. Dayal had a shaky start, but - once his confidence

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returned - confirmed that his rapid progress is soundly based on accurate play. Keith was a worthy winner and, though his shooting went off a little in the second series, he maintained a positive approach which showed how an 'eight' ought to be won - not for him the baneful caution which produces so much dull play. Richard Hilditch, too, has improved: elevated from the Spencer Ell, and a deceptive performer better than his wristy exuberance might have one imagine. This is not the last we shall hear of these three, though their progress will doubtless be slower once the constraints of earning a living encroach on the time thay can devote to playing.

Of the 'old hands' there is little to say, though I cannot end without mention of Eddie Bell. Quite apart from his excellent organisation of the whole week as referee of the tournament, i/c grounds and court furniture, arranger of food and drink (midday and evening) and even - for six of us - provider of accommodation, his continuing advance as a player was amply confirmed by his performance this week. His even temperament is ideally suited to his steady game, and as his tactical sense sharpens and his stroke play grows ever less prone to error, he is becoming increasingly hard to beat. Definitely a player to be reckoned with.

A statistical footnote

Those amongst you with an appetite for statistics may find some interest or amusement in the table below, which records how long

	Average time per game	Speed of play
Aiton	1:51	2.7
Bell	2:24	4.0
Croker	1:50	3.0
Foulser	2:07	3.1
Gunasekera	2:02	3.1
Bond	1:36	2.6
Hilditch	2:13	3.1
Vincent	2:23	3.5
Average	2:03	3.1

the games took and how fast each player scored with points. The shortest game took 60 minutes, the longest a little over 4 hours; and, as can be seen, your correspondent had fully 11 hours more time to enjoy the facilities of the clubhouse than the slowest player - not long enough, though, to discover how to win.

Finally, a curious fact. Three players invariably chose to play with red and yellow when the choice of colours was open to them and three others chose to go first - except in two games - when choice of innings was available. From their results, there is no support at all for these choices as a recipe for success; but I don't for one moment suppose that knowing this will change their minds!

Spencer-Ell Cup					2			9	Wins			
1983	Wood	Healy	Irwin	Guest	Wiggins	Haste	Death	Ormerod	1 st Series	2nd Series	Total	Final Order
T.I Wood		+12 -10	-7 +17	+16 -6	+12 +9	+4 +16	+21 +9	+3 +18	6	5	11	1 st
G.P.N. Healy	-12 +10		-8 -19	+10 -5	+14 +10	+10 +26	+2 +8	+7 +23	5	5	10	=2nd
C.J. Irwin	+7 -17	+8 +19		-9 +4	-3 +18	+17 +14	+25 -10	+7 +11	5	5	10	=2nd
J.E. Guest	-16 +6	-10 +5	+9 -4		+13 -10	-3 -19	-9 +10	-23 +23	2	4	6	=4th
Mrs W.R.D. Wiggins	-12 -9	-14 -10	+3 -18	-13 +19		-15 +19	+25 -4	+22 +3	3	3	6	=4th
Dr T.J. Haste	-4 -16	-10 -26	-17 -14	+3 +19	+15 -19		+8 +8	+19 -3	4	1	5	6th
P.J. Death	-21 -9	-2 -8	-25 +10	+9 -10	-25 -3	8 +8	1	-16 +3	1	3	4	=7th
M. Ormerod	-3 -18	-7 -23	-7 -11	+23 -23	-22 +4*	-19 +3	+16		2	2	4	=7th

LB.

THE SPENCER-ELL CUP Cheltenham 5–9 September

Blue sky and bright sunshine gave the Cheltenham club its most pleasing aspect as the competitors in a new-look Spencer-Ell, only one of whom had played in 1982, gathered on the Monday morning. The storms of the previous weekend had reduced the pace of the lawns from the fiery impossibility of high summer, but the sun and drying wind promised an early return to high speed. Inevitably, too, faster lawns made for longer games and cries of anguish were heard as players fell victim to the hidden dangers of the terrain.

The pattern of the contest was set over the first two days. Terry Wood, obviously a man with a point to make after the selectors originally made him only second reserve, set a cracking pace, as did Colin Irwin from Bowdon, well in form after playing over 25 games in the 10 days of the Northern Championships. The games between these two were shared and both were worthy of note. In the first Wood pegged out Irwin when for 1-back against 4 with the other ball. Irwin hit in when Wood failed at 2-back and established a difficult 3-ball break to go out in one turn. In the return Irwin was first to 4-back, having started the break from hoop 2 with his own balls near corner 4 and the opponent in corners 1 and 3. Wood then hit the lift and went out in 3 turns. Gerard Healy from Colchester was also always in contention: in the first series he lost to the two leaders but won the remainder, playing very accurately and quickly. He recorded the only +26 of the week when beating Tim Haste in Round 8, the game finishing in the 8th turn.

At halfway the leader was Terry Wood with 6 wins, Colin Irwin and Gerard Healy equal 2nd on 5. Colin could count himself unfortunate to have lost a close game against Susan Wiggins when with both players for rover and peg he played an apparently innocuous little take-off near the West Boundary to get his rush to rover, only to see his ball change course abruptly and fall off the lawn. This left Susan with a croquet stroke for position for her own rush that was short enough to be safe despite the slope, and she made no mistake. The lawns were now at their fastest and games were taking longer than ever. Edgar Jackson as manager was faced with a backlog of peggeddown games from the previous day and the day's third games not starting until after 5.30. He decided that Round 9 would have to finish on Wednesday night and imposed time limits to coincide with the onset of darkness. Three games finished in gathering gloom, but Mark Ormerod and Susan Wiggins had time called at 8.20 in almost total darkness. The turns after time were played with the aid of a torch shone from the boundary: "Where's the yellow ball? . . . Thank you. Now where is hoop 4? . . .". Mark won by 18 to 14 and at the end of the day the leader board showed Wood on 8 wins, Irwin and Healy 6 each.

* = Timed Game

An early start was made on Thursday, and the weather promptly changed. A cold wind from the East ushered in first drizzle, the torrential rain. The afternoon games became a contest of strength rather than finesse, as the balls left trails of spray behind them. Suddenly keeping control became easier and Mark Ormerod had the week's best chance of a triple against Peter Death, only to miss a short roquet approaching 1-back with the peelee perfectly placed inches from penult. The standard of peeling through the week was not high: several triples were started, but in every case this led to a more or less rapid disintegration of the break. Susan Wiggins did both peels of a double before missing the rush to the peg, but that was as close as anyone came.

Terry Wood dropped a game on Thursday morning to Jerry Guest, who made a strong come-back in the latter part of the week, so that with one day left the leading positions were unchanged: Wood 10 wins, Healy and Irwin 8 each. Wood and Healy met on Friday

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morning, the letter needing to win to keep the contest alive. The game was evenly poised for 2 hours, then a loose leave by Wood gave Healy a break from 6 to the peg when he hit the short lift shot, and he soon finished the game +10. Colin Irwin beat Susan Wiggins and with one round to go there was the possibility of a 3-way tie if Terry lost his afternoon game against Tim Haste while the other two won theirs. It was not to be; Tim had his chances but completed a miserable second series by sticking in several hoops and, no doubt to the manager's relief, Terry Wood was confirmed as the winner he had looked since Monday. Colin Irwin and Gerard Healy had the necessary victories to share second place, and the tournament ended in a suitably spectacular manner when Susan Wiggins pegged out her remaining ball from the boundary behind hoop 4 to win +3. Terry Wood received the trophy from Kitty Wheeler to the applause of the Cheltenham members gathered for tea and the players dispersed with many thanks for the warm hospitality of the host club.

P.J.D.

Ladies' Field	Hague Newman Bazley	c		Rolfe	omas	5	Wins			
Cup 1983		Bazley	Neville-Rolfe	Asa-Thomas	Hampson	1 st Series	2nd Series	Total	Final Order	
Mrs W. Hague		6 +9	-11 +11	+4 +14	+5 +11	Ξ	2	4	6	1st
Mrs F.H. Newman	+6 -9		+10 -8	+6 +6	+4 -3	=	4	1	5	2nd
Lady Bazley	+11 -11	-10 +8		-13 -8	+3 +5	=	2	2	4	= 3rc
Mrs A. Neville Rolfe	-4 -14	6 6	+13 +8		+4 +14	=	2	2	4	= 3rc
Mrs P. Asa-Thomas	-5 -11	-4 +3	-3 -5	-4 -14		Ξ	0	1	1	5th
Miss S.G. Hampson	-	-	_	-	_		-	-	-	-

Miss Hampson retired during the first game due to illness.

Ladies' Second		uo			u	nald	Wins			
Event 1983	Weitz	Anderson	Collin	Parker	Assheton	Macdonald	1 st Series	2nd Series	Total	Final Order
Mrs B.G.F. Weitz		+12 +5	+12 -10	+23 -9	+16 +17	+10 -13	5	2	7	1 st**
Mrs T.M. Anderson	-12 -5		6 +17	+6 +5	+18 +14	+4* +3*	3	4	7	2nd**
Mrs A. Collin	-12 +10	+6 -17			-11 +6	+19 +4	2	4	6	3rd
Miss P.E. Parker	-23 +9	6 5	+8 -15		6 +17	+8 -13	2	2	4	4th
Miss J.E. Assheton	-16 -17	-18 -14	+11 -6	+6 -17		+18 -13	3	0	3	=5th
Mrs I.P.M. Macdonald	-10 +13	-4* -3*	-19 -4	8 +13	-18 +13		0	3	3	= 5th

LADIES FIELD CUP Hunstanton 5–9 September

The six ladies from North, South East and West assembled ay Hunstanton for the Ladies Field Cup, a magnificent trophy. Unfortunately, Sarah Hampson collapsed and fainted on the court during her first game and had to withdraw from the competition. This meant only 5 players with each in turn being unemployed for 2 rounds.

Some of the games were very close and exciting though somewhat long drawn out and there were few good breaks during the whole competition.

Margaret Newman won all her games in the first session and looked all set to win the cup but she lost 3 games in the second session. Pat

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Hague played well to win all her games in the second session. Second Round: A.V. Camroux (1) bt Mrs B. Leonard (51/2) +4; N.D. Browne (11) bt McInerney +3(T); T. Browne bt J. McAuley (15) w/o Pat Asa-Thomas had some very exciting games and was unlucky not scr; G. Reynolds (10) bt P. Thornton (10) +7(T). to win more than one. In several of them she was well ahead but failed to consolidate her advantage. Carmen Bazley was the only one to Semi-final: N. Browne bt Camroux +3(T); Reynolds bt T. Browne beat both the leaders and did some very good hitting in. Two of the +12(T). players played for half an hour without realizing there was no peg. Final: Reynolds bt N. Browne +6(OT). The last game in the tournament was very exciting between Margaret Event 4. Founders Cup. Handicap Singles

Newman and Pat Hague as it would decide the winner. Pat Hague won and was quite over come with emotion. A worthy winner of the Ladies Field Cup.

Everyone enjoyed themselves very much and there was a very friendly atmosphere all through. The high winds made delicate shots difficult.

LADIES SECOND EVENT Southwick 5-9 September

The six ladies who came to Southwick this year were the youngest who have yet played in this event, since Mrs W. Longman suggested that there should be a second invitation event for ladies. Besides being the youngest, which must portent well for croquet, the ladies played a standard of croquet which was much higher than that achieved in this event in any previous year. Only two out of the thirty games went to the time limit of 31/2 hours. The speed of play and the determination with which nearly all of the competitors followed the ball, without waiting for it to come to rest, was admirable. Mrs Weitz and Mrs Anderson tied with 7 wins each. The play-off was very narrowly won by Mrs Weitz. Both played well throughout the competition, Betty Weitz ever steady and cautious, Judy Anderson going out for eveything and making some excellent breaks. Mrs Collin with 6 wins could well have been an equal winner with her hard hitting style. She is a pleasure to watch and it will not be long before she will be a winner. Miss Parker played some first class croquet. In her second game with Betty Weitz, Pat Parker made a splendid break of eleven from hoop 5 including a single peel of her other ball through rover to win the game in 2 hours 10 minutes.

Miss Assheton and Mrs Macdonald both played steadily and Mrs Macdonald improved her play very perceptively during the week. This is surely what it is all about, good practice and improvement of play by avoiding unnecessary mistakes. Analyses of some of the games showed very clearly that the innings was lost at least twice as often by bad play (sticking in easy hoops and missing short roquets). Now that it seems established that the ladies invitation events are limited to six players, a second event should be encouraged. At least three of the ladies who played in the second event this year will be worthy of promotion to the Ladies Field Cup next year, in the same way that three of the ladies who played in the Ladies Field Cup this year have graduated from the Ladies Second Event of last year or a previous year - long live the Ladies Second Event!

Championship of Ireland Carrickmines 6–13 August

Event 1. Open Singles

First Round: F.J. Rogerson bt Mrs R.J. Leonard +18 +25; C. Von Schmieder bt N. McInerney +16 +13; R.J. Leonard bt Rev N.D. Browne +8 +10.

Second Round: T.O. Read bt A.V. Camroux +9 +4; Rogerson bt A.D. Craig +19 +23; Von Schmieder bt Leonard +4 +15; C.A. Gamble bt G. Reynolds +10 +19.

David Peterson at this stage was winning everything in sight, singles Semi-final: Rogerson bt Read +3 +16; Von Schmieder bt Gamble (advanced and handicap) as well as doubles (with Jean Wright of +8 -3(OT) +6(OT). Ellesmere). Their opponents in the next round of the doubles were to be Cliff Anderson and 15-year old John Mann from Nailsea, playing in Final: Von Schmieder bt Rogerson +9 +5. his first major tournament, who beat them.

Event 2. Green Cup. Handicap Singles (6 bisques and over) First Round: N. McInerney (61/2) bt T. Browne (16) +5(OT); P. Thornton (10) bt J. McAuley (15) +7; G. Reynolds (10) bt H. Webb (81/2) +13.

In the final of the Bowdon handicap, David Peterson got well ahead, and then all the effort he had made over the previous 5 days seemed to catch up with him. He could do nothing right, and Andrew caught Semi-final: McInerney bt N.D. Browne (11) +18; Reynolds bt him up and won by 5. In the handicap doubles final, Peter Alvey and Thornton +8. his partner Mrs Barker of Chester triumphed over Cliff Anderson and Final: Reynolds bt McInerney +9. John Mann with some steady play.

Event 3. Steel Cup. Open Handicap (Plate) First Round: N. McInerney (61/2) bt A.D. Craig (51/2) +10; T. Browne (16) bt H. Webb (81/2) +3(OT).

T.F.O.

First Round: J. McAuley (15) bt A.V. Camroux (1) +5; G. Reynolds (10) bt N. McInerney (61/2) +7; R.J. Leonard (51/2) bt A.D. Craig (51/2) +1; F. Rogerson (5) bt B. Leonard (51/2) +21.

Second Round: C.A. Gamble (2) bt P. Thornton (10) +3; McAuley bt Reynolds +3(T); Leonard bt Rogerson +5; T.O. Read (-1/2) bt N.D. Browne (11) +12.

Semi-final: Gamble bt McAuley +9; Leonard bt Read +8. Final: Gamble bt Leonard +15.

Event 5. Stonebrook Cup. Handicap Doubles (6 bisques and over) Final: J. O'Driscoll & C. Gamble (16) bt T.O. Read & J. McAuley (13½) +5(OT).

The Northern Croquet Championships Bowdon 20–29 August

Writing a report on the Northern Championships at Bowdon is difficult for two reasons. First, they are the longest championship in the fixture list, spanning a full 10 days, and secondly Barry Keen as manager holds the view that if someone comes to play in a tournament, they expect to be fully occupied. Thus it was that your reporter set out to write some leisurely notes on the first two days, but found himself getting through 5 games in that time, with time limits placed on both his lunch and tea breaks!

This year's tournament had a similar format to last year, with the open doubles (a new event) and the handicap singles being played through the first weekend, the Reed Cup handicap then continuing throughout the evenings during the week, and the three class events starting on the Monday. The North of England championship itself was played on the last 4 days, with a Swiss event for those who fell by the wayside. Speculation before the Championship was intense as to who would win, with two previous winners (David Openshaw and Mark Avery) in the field of 32, with 4 players in this year's President's Cup, 4 more in the Chairman's Salver, 3 in the Spencer Ell, and altogether 18 players with a handicap of 1 or less, plus Keith Wylie, coming to test the setting of the Bowdon hoops, and Cliff Anderson, a former New Zealand test team captain, over for a visit. I doubt if we have ever seen such talent in the North before.

'Keen and Irwin reach final'

This was in the Open Doubles Championship, the final of which was played on the last day of the championship when Barry and Colin had a convincing win over Peter Death and Andrew Collin.

'Bowdon pair in last four'

David Peterson and Martin Granger-Brown had reached the semifinals of the big Bowdon handicap event. John McCullough, also playing in this handicap, reached the peg on the third turn of his game against Peter Dyke of Nailsea, and the first four turns in this game took 1 hour and 40 minutes (possibly a record of some sort), with Peter using his bisques when he played his second ball on to the lawn.

'Peterson in final place'

'Late revival by Bennett secures title'

With the early events now over, some players left us at this point, and others started arriving at Bowdon for the 'big one', the North of England Championship itself.

'Surprise exit by Openshaw'

Richard Hilditch knocked David out of the Draw. Bill Aldridge put out Dyal Gunasekera. In the Process, David Peterson and Phil Cordingley put out Peter Alvey and Keith Aiton respectively.

'Only Wylie and Bell unbeaten'

At the end of the 3rd round, only Keith and Eddie had two lives left. Mary Collin of Chester put out Mark Avery, David Peterson knocked out John Rose, and Colin Irwin put out Phil Cordingley. The other semi-finalists were Martin Kolbuszewski, John Meads, Andrew Bennett, and Richard Hilditch, and according to the Telegraph. 'Wylie is in impressive form, and looks likely to win the final today'.

'Championship for Wylie'

Keith continued a pegged-down game against Eddie Bell in the morning, and in a timed game, narrowly won by one point after Eddie, on his last turn with the score level, had cleared the balls out of baulk to give Keith a long shot on his lift, but left Keith's (Rover) ball in error some six yards from the peg. Keith hit the peg to score the point he needed. Keith then beat John Meads in the final of the Draw, with John winning a CA Silver Medal for having reached the final after beating Eddie in the semi-final in a most exciting game. In the final of the Process, Richard Hilditch got both his balls round to 4-back before Keith got started, and then put up a spirited fight in front of an appreciative audience as Keith overhauled him.

The Reed Cup handicap final was a family affair between Colin and Chris Irwin. Chris had too many bisques (then, not now!) and won decisively by 19. Colin beat John McCullough to win the 'A' class event, and Chris narrowly lost to Bert Mason in the final of the 'C' class to give the Irwins a very successful tournament. In the 'B' class, Brian Storey won outright, with a second win against Ian Maugham in the Process final.

On the social side, we had two evenings out together, with some 25 to 30 players, wives, and friends going on the first occasion to the new Bakers restaurant in Bowden, and on the second to the Hale Bistro, where Barry Keen presented CA Silver Medals to Dayal Gunasekera and Keith Aiton. (Humphrey Hicks nearly had to put a time limit on the meall). During the tournament, we also saw again the video recordings of two recent TV programmes in the North on croquet, featuring on the one hand Tim Haste and Peter Hallett's 'fight unto the death' at Southport, and on the other, the Pat Hague story, from the bottom up!

Judge Gerrard, Bowdon's President, presented the trophies at the end of the championships, and in thanking the club on behalf of the visitors, Cliff Anderson said he had been most impressed by the welcome he had received and the high standard of play of the local players. In saying farewell, he presented his mallet to 13-year old Mark Suter, from Bristol, playing in his first tournament with John McCullough; a nice gesture that was much appreciated by all present.

For the first time this year, we had some external financial support, with the National Westminster Bank making a very generous donation towards the cost of the tournament. The club is planning further developments over the winter, if funds permit, and hopefully work will be completed on the spectators gallery on the roof before the test match series in 1986 — the view from the top is very good indeed over all 4 lawns.

I thought it was a marvellous tournament, and hope that all the players who took part thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

C. Hudson

Event 1. North of England Championship DRAW

First Round: A. Bennett bt Mrs M.P. Collin +4; J.D. Meads bt A.J. Collin +15; K. Aiton bt J. Rose +14; J. McCullough bt M. Sandler +24; E. Bell bt A. Sutcliffe +11; J.R. Hilditch bt D.K. Openshaw +8; C.J. Irwin bt D. Peterson +4; W.O. Aldridge bt D. Gunasekera +16; M. Avery bt G. Collin +20; P. Death bt G.G. Strutt +13; P. Cordingley bt R. Jones +20; K.F. Wylie bt S.E. Lewis +14; M. Kolbuszewski bt D. Kelly +4; B.A. Keen bt C. Hudson +12; P. Alvey bt M.G. Brown +11; C. Anderson bt H.O. Hicks +16.

Second Round: Meads bt Bennett +18; Aiton bt McCullough +12; Bell bt Hilditch +23; Aldridge bt Irwin +3; Avery bt Death +12; Wylie bt Cordingley +19; Kolbuszewski bt Keen +12; Anderson bt Alvey +3(T).

Third Round: Meads bt Aiton +4; Bell bt Aldridge +3; Wylie bt Avery +19; Kolbuszewski bt Anderson +7.

Semi-final: Meads bt Bell +3; Wylie bt Kolbuszewski +1. Final: Wylie bt Meads +17.

PROCESS

First Round: Bennett bt Collin +11; Kelly bt Sutcliffe +15; Rose bt Jones +16; Peterson bt Alvey +8; Death bt Meads +9; Hilditch bt Keen +23; Lewis bt Sandler +7; Gunasekera bt Hicks +5; Mrs Collin bt Avery +7; Bell bt Kolbuszewski +18; Cordingley bt Aiton +26; Irwin bt Brown +14; Collin bt Strutt +4; Openshaw bt Hudson +18; Wylie bt McCullough +2; Anderson bt Aldridge +2.

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Second Round: Bennett bt Kelly +6; Peterson bt Rose +3; Hilditch bt Death +11; Lewis bt Gunasekera +22; Bell bt Mrs Collin +19; Irwin bt Cordingley +15; Openshaw bt Collin +21; Wylie bt Anderson +9.

Third Round: Bennett bt Peterson +5; Hilditch bt Lewis +3; Bell bt Irwin +3; Wylie bt Openshaw +14.

Semi-final: Hilditch bt Bennett +23; Wylie bt Bell +1(T).

Final: Wylie bt Hilditch +4.

Event 1A. Swiss Plate Event

	P	W	%	
P. Cordingley	9	7	78	
S.E. Lewis	6	4	67	
C.J. Irwin	8	5	62	
D. Gunasekera, W. Aldridge	7	4	57	
A. Bennett, M. Avery, A.J. Collin,				
C. Anderson	8	4	50	
A. Sutcliffe, P. Death, K. Aiton	7	3	43	
D. Kelly, B.A. Keen, G.G. Strutt	5	2	40	
D. Peterson, Mrs M. Collin,				
M.G. Brown, C. Hudson	6	2	33	
R. Jones	6	1	17	

Event 2. North of England Doubles Championship

First Round: D. Kelly & B. Storey bt S.E. Lewis & F.I. Maugham +5; C. Anderson & M.G. Brown bt W.O. Aldridge & M. Sandler +3; E. Bell & Mrs P. Hague bt A. Bennett & J. Wolfe +2(T); A.J. Collin & P. Death bt J. McCullough & P. Stoker +1; Mrs M. Collin & C. Hudson bt P. Alvey & D. Peterson +6.

Second Round: B.A. Keen & C.J. Irwin bt Kelly & Storey +11; Anderson & Brown bt Bell & Mrs Hague +17; Collin & Death bt Mrs Collin & Hudson +14; G. Collin & G.G. Strutt bt M. Kolbuszewski & J.D. Meads +5.

Semi-final: Keen & Irwin bt Anderson & Brown +17(TP); A.J. Collin & Death bt G. Collin & Strutt +15.

Final: Keen & Irwin bt A.J. Collin & Death +10.

Event 3. 'A' Class. Advanced Singles

DRAW

First Round: D. Peterson bt P. Alvey +10; C. Anderson bt M.G. Brown +15; G. Collin bt H.O. Hicks +7; P.D. Hallett bt B.A. Keen +12; J. McCullough bt A. Sutcliffe +10; C. Hudson bt J. Wolfe +14; M. Sandler bt Mrs P. Hague +17; P. Stoker bt E. Bell w/o scr.

Second Round: A. Bennett bt G.G. Strutt +8; C.J. Irwin bt J.D. Meads +3; Peterson bt Anderson +13; Hallett bt G. Collin +18; McCullough bt Hudson +8; Stoker bt Sandler +5; M. Kolbuszewski bt Mrs M.P. Collin +6; Kelly bt A.J. Collin +8.

Third Round: Irwin bt Bennett +6; Peterson bt Hallett +14; McCullough bt Stoker +25(TP); Kelly bt Kolbuszewski +4.

Semi-final: Irwin bt Peterson +16; McCullough bt Kelly +19.

Final: Irwin bt McCullough +14.

PROCESS

First Round: Strutt bt Sandler +7; Alvey bt Kolbuszewski +15; Bell bt Meads +24; Kelly bt Anderson w/o scr; Bennett bt Mrs Hague +5; Peterson bt A.J. Collin +11; Irwin bt Mrs Collin +19(TP); Stoker bt Brown +8.

Second Round: Hicks bt Strutt +15; McCullough bt Alvey +24; Bell bt Hallett +22; Kelly bt Wolfe +17; G. Collin bt Bennett +2; Sutcliffe bt Peterson +21; Irwin bt Keen +3; Stoker bt Hudson +11.

Third Round: McCullough bt Hicks +24; Bell bt Kelly +12; G. Collin bt Sutcliffe +4; Irwin bt Stoker +8.

Semi-final: McCullough bt Bell +10; Invin bt G. Collin +14.

Final: McCullough bt Irwin +20.

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PLAY-OFF: Irwin bt McCullough +11.

Event 4. 'B' Class. Handicap Singles (4 or more)

DRAW First Round: F.I. Maugham bt Mrs B. Sutcliffe +17.

Semi-final: Maugham bt M. Wilkins +4; B. Storey bt G.F. Ha

Final: Storey bt Maugham +7.

PROCESS

First Round: Wilkins bt Hallett +13.

Semi-final: Maugham bt Wilkins +23; Storey bt Mrs Sutcliffe Final: Storey bt Maugham +5.

Event 5. 'C' Class. Handicap Singles (10 or more)

First Round: M. Suter bt Mrs D. Dennett +5; Mrs C.E. Irwin bt M Meadows +24; Mrs S. Barker bt Mrs H.S. Wright +8.

Second Round: Miss S.E. Black by P. Dyke +14; Mrs Irwin bt + +11; Mrs Barker bt Mrs J. Walker +10; A.C. Mason bt J. Mann Semi-final: Mrs Irwin bt Miss Black +7(T); Mason bt Mrs Barker Final: Mrs Irwin bt Mason +9.

PROCESS

First Round: Miss Black bt Mrs Walker +8; Mason bt Mrs De +12; Mann bt Dyke +13.

Second Round: Miss Black bt Mrs Meadows +20; Mason b Barker +14; Mrs Irwin bt Mann +1; Suter bt Mrs Wright +6. Semi-final: Mason bt Miss Black +1(T); Suter bt Mrs Irwin + Final: Mason bt Suter +6.

PLAY-OFF: Mason bt Mrs Irwin +3.

Event 8. Reed Cup. Handicap Singles

First Round: F.I. Maugham (5) bt A. Sutcliffe (31/2) +5; D. Peters bt C. Hudson (3) +3; P. Alvey (1) bt G.G. Strutt (3) +4.

Second Round: M. Wilkins (7½) bt A. Bennett (2½) +13; B. Stor bt G. Collin (4) +15; Mrs M. Collin (4½) bt J. Wolfe (5) +26; Aldridge (1) bt Mrs B. Sutcliffe (7½) +13; J. Mann (15*) Sandler (4½) +8; Miss S.E. Black (11) bt Mrs P. Hague (4) +3(T C.E. Irwin (11) bt J.D. Meads (1) +24; M.G. Brown (2½) bt Mau +5; Peterson bt Alvey +5; J. McCullough (-½) bt A.J. Collin (2] H.O. Hicks (1½) bt Mrs D. Dennett (16) +10; C.J. Irwin (½) Suter (13) +10; Mrs S. Barker (13) bt E. Bell (-½) w/o scr; D. Ke bt P. Dyke (15) +4(T); B.A. Keen (1) bt M. Kolbuszewski (1½)

Third Round: Wilkins bt Storey +2(T); Aldridge bt Mrs Collin Mann (13*) bt Black +6; Mrs Irwin bt Brown +26; Peters McCullough +15; Hicks bt P. Stoker (3) +7; Irwin bt Mrs Barke Kelly bt Keen +8.

Fourth Round: Aldridge bt Wilkins +2; Mrs Irwin bt Mann Peterson bt Hicks +8; Irwin bt Kelly +4.

Semi-final: Mrs Irwin bt Aldridge +8; C.J. Irwin bt Peterson Final: C.J. Irwin bt Mrs Irwin +19.

Southwick 22–27 August

Event 1. The Abbey Challenge Cup. Open Singles DRAW

First Round: G.O.H. Whillock bt Mrs S. Sykes +10; A. Berry bt Moore +6; B.G.F. Weitz bt E.E. Rees +20; M.F. Phelps bt Holford +7.

Second Round: A.E.C. Tapp bt F. Reynold +9; Berry bt Whillow Phelps bt Weitz +26; T.F. Owen bt J. Haigh +10.

Semi-final: Berry bt Tapp +20; Phelps bt Owen +17.

Final: Phelps bt Berry +14.

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	PROCESS
	First Round: Reynold bt Phelps +15; Owen bt Whillock +20; Holford bt Tapp +22; Haigh bt Mrs Sykes +1.
	Second Round: Moore bt Reynold +16; Owen bt Rees +12; Berry bt Holford +4; Weitz bt Haigh +18.
Hallett	Semi-final: Owen bt Moore +9; Berry bt Weitz +14.
lanott	Final: Owen bt Berry +5(OT).
	PLAY-OFF: Phelps bt Owen +13.
+11.	Event 2. The Scott Cup (21/2 and over) DRAW
	<i>First Round:</i> Rev C.H. Townshend bt Mrs LA. Coombs +1(0T); P.J.C. Hetherington bt R.F.A. Crane +9; T. Vale bt G.A. Hutcheson +26.
Mrs S.	Second Round: A.J. Mrozinski bt D.M. Bull +16; Townshend bt Hetherington +4; Vale bt Mrs B.G.F. Weitz +6; P.W. Campion bt Mrs N.W.T. Cox +4.
Suter +15.	Semi-final: Mrozinski bt Townshend +21; Vale bt Campion +1(OT).
r+10.	Final: Mrozinski bt Vale +9.
	PROCESS
	First Round: Mrs Weitz bt Bull +20; Mrs Cox bt Mrs Coombs +14; Mrozinski bt Campion +14.
ennett	Second Round: Mrs Weitz bt Crane +1; Hutcheson bt Mrs Cox +1; Mrozinski bt Hetherington +18; Townshend bt Vale +6.
ot Mrs 3.	Semi-final: Mrs Weitz bt Hutcheson +1; Mrozinski bt Townshend +24.
+2.	Final: Mrozinski bt Mrs Weitz +10.
	Sugar 2. The Dalds Cure Mandiana (514 to 91
	Event 3. The Daldy Cup. Handicap (5½ to 8) DRAW
son(2)	First Round: 1.P. Plummer (8) bt G.F. Paxon $(5\frac{1}{2}) + 24$; Mrs E. Lewis (8) bt S.G. Kent (6) +8; T.G.S. Colls (7) bt Mrs E. Staddon (6) +8; R.G. Andrew (6) bt Mrs J. Chandler (8) +21; Miss P. Shine (7) bt E.B.T. Tanner (6) +6; A. Hittle (8) bt Mrs M. Grout (7) +22; M. French (7) bt Miss B. Dennant $(6\frac{1}{2}) + 25$.
prey(6) ; W.O.	Second Round: Plummer bt Mrs Lewis +22; Andrew bt Colls +15; Miss Shine bt Hittle +22; French bt Miss C. Cox (5½) +19.
bt M. T); Mrs	Semi-final: Andrew bt Plummer +1; French bt Miss Shine +24.
ugham 2) +17;	Final: Andrew bt French +6.
) bt M.	PROCESS
celly (5) (2) +10. (n +15;	First Round: Paxon bt Miss Shine +3(OT); Miss Dennant bt Mrs Staddon +5; Hittle bt Mrs Lewis +20; Miss Cox bt Mrs Chandler +12; Plummer bt Tanner +16(OT); French bt Colls +13; Mrs Grout bt
ker +5;	Kent +10. Second Round: Miss Dennant bt Paxon +10(OT); Hittle bt Miss Cox
n +11;	+1; French bt Plummer +3; Andrew bt Mrs Grout +15. Semi-final: Miss Dennant bt Hittle w/o scr; French bt Andrew +24.
n +24.	Final: French bt Miss Dennant +24.
	PLAY-OFF: Andrew bt French +19.
	Event 4. Handicap Singles (9 and over) DRAW
-+ 14/ F	<i>First Round:</i> R.A.G. Rogers (10) bt W.E. Philp (10) +15; Mrs E.A. Mapletoft (11) bt A.J. Oldham (9) +18; Mrs A. Smith (13) bt Mrs E.B.T. Tanner (12) +1(OT); J.J. Death bt Mrs F.A. Crane (13) +16; B.B.T. Tanner (12) +1(OT); J.J. Death bt Mrs F.A. Crane (13) +16;
bt W.E. ot M.A.	 P.J. Mansfield (15) bt Mrs S. French (13) +7(OT). Second Round: Rogers bt Mrs T. Vale (13) +7; Mrs Mapletoft bt Mrs Smith +3; Mansfield bt Death +4; Miss D. Harding (14) bt Miss J.
ock +8;	Loveys (15) +13. Semi-final: Mrs Mapletoft bt Rogers +4; Miss Harding bt Mansfield
	+5.

Final: Mrs Mapletoft bt Miss Harding +14.

PROCESS

First Round: Mrs Vale bt Mrs Crane +10; Oldham bt Miss Loveys +15; Mansfield bt Rogers w/o scr; Philp bt Mrs French +13; Mrs Mapletoft bt Miss Harding +7.

Second Round: Mrs Vale bt Oldham +7(OT); Mrs Smith bt Mansfield +10; Philp bt Mrs Tanner +5; Mrs Mapletoft bt Death +7.

Semi-final: Mrs Vale bt Mrs Smith +13; Philp bt Mrs Mapletoft w/o scr

Final: Mrs Vale bt Philp +10.

PLAY-OFF: Mrs Vale bt Mrs Mapletoft +7.

Event 5 (X). Douglas Jones Cup. Men's Handicap

First Round: B.G.F. Weitz (1/2) bt S.G. Kent (6) +9; G.O.H. Whillock (21/2) bt T.G.S. Colls (7) +15; C.J. Chandler (5) bt R.F.A. Crane (41/2) +6; A. Hittle (8) bt J.J. Death (16) +12; E.E. Rees (21/2) bt P.W. Campion (5) +20; A.J. Mrozinski (41/2) bt R.G. Andrew (6) +11; R.A.G. Rogers (10) bt E.B.T. Tanner (6) +23; D.M. Bull (4) bt M. French (7) +6; A.E.C. Tapp (1/2) bt P.J. Mansfield (15) +8(OT); T.F. Owen (1/2) bt P.J.C. Hetherington (5) +4; W.E. Moore (1) bt J. Haigh (1/2) +9; A. Berry (21/2) bt F. Reynold (2) +25; W.E. Phelps (0) bt W.E. Philp (10) +17; T. Vale (5) bt M. Holford (21/2) +14; A.J. Oldham (9) bt G.F. Paxon (51/2) +3(OT); I.R. Plummer (8) bt C. Townshend (31/2) +9.

Second Round: Whillock bt Weitz +2; Hittle bt Chandler +24; Mrozinski bt Rees +15; Rogers bt Bull +23; Owen bt Tapp +18; Berry bt Moore +18; Phelps bt Vale +7; Plummer bt Oldham +12. Third Round: Hittle bt Whillock +17; Mrozinski bt Rogers +13; Berry bt Owen +24; Phelps bt Plummer +7.

Semi-final: Mrozinski bt Hittle +6; Phelps bt Berry +16.

Final: Phelps bt Mrozinski +2.

Event 6. The Sussex Vase. Women's Handicap

First Round: Mrs M. Grout (7) bt Mrs S. French (13) +14; Mrs L.A. Coombs (5) bt Mrs E. Lewis (8) +9; Mrs E. Mapletoft (11) bt Mrs M. Tanner (12) +12; Mrs E. Cox (31/2) bt Mrs R.F.A. Crane (13) +15; Mrs M. Vale (13) bt Miss D. Harding (14) +8; Mrs E. Weitz (31/2) bt Miss P. Shine (7) +14; Mrs E. Staddon (6) bt Miss B. Dennant (61/2) +12.

Second Round: Mrs Coombs bt Mrs Grout +12; Mrs Cox bt Mrs Mapletoft +5; Mrs Vale bt Mrs Weitz +13; Mrs Staddon bt Mrs S. Sykes (2) w/o scr.

Semi-final: Mrs Coombs bt Mrs Cox +13; Mrs Vale bt Mrs Staddon +11.

Final: Mrs Vale bt Mrs Coombs +1(T).

Event 7. Howard Austin Cup. Mixed Handicap Doubles

Final: B.G.F. Weitz & Miss P. Shine bt Rev. Townshend & Mrs Staddon +1(T).

Edinburgh Tournament 22–27 August

It was a large entry by Scottish standards, with 34 players taking part, drawn frae a' the airts. Possibly it was the lure of the Festival; possibly the excellent facilities at Fettes, including the school swimming pool; but we like to think the biggest attraction was the chance to meet friends old and new in happy competition.

From over the border we welcomed Vincent Camroux and Mark Strachan from Roehampton and Parsons Green; and old friends Reg Forth, Bill Masterton, Peter Thompson and Caroline Hay from Norton Hall. The tournament would not be the same without Jack Norton, Rod Williams and Corla van Griethuysen from Glasgow and Roger Hissett and Malcolm Smith from Auchincruive; and Drew Nisbet and Ray Ottley came in to civilisation from the Bush. As Donald Lamont was to comment in his felicitous Presidential remarks, quite a number of our visitors did not depart empty-handed.

After a glorious opening day, torrential rain on the Tuesday morning left the three top lawns waterlogged till lunch-time. However, the rain was not unwelcome to those who had played on lawns 4 and 6, where much of the bounce was eased: we had seen on the Monday several hurdling shots and at least one hop, skip and jump.

Dew Nisbet, in his maiden tournament of his first season, swept aside B's and C's alike in his events. He was hardly extended in winning the Walter B. Laing Cup for high-bisquers, and in the main Handicap

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Singles he disposed of two doughty opponents before succumbing to Carol Rowe. His mentor and Club captain may take his revenge in the handicapping Committee, but other victims will not find it so easy to put him down on grass.

The Norton Hall quartet proved formidable opponents either as soloists or duos. Peter Thompson and Caroline Hay lost — but only to opponents of the calibre of Rod Williams and Margaret Lauder respectively — in the first round of the main handicap event but were invincible for the rest of the week. Caroline beat James Marshall in the 3Y final, and in his two Finals Peter defeated Mona Wright in the 5Y Milne Trophy and Allan Ramsay in the Level Singles Silver Jubilee Salver - all close matches with the opponents enjoyed (almost) as much as the winners. Together Peter and Caroline overcame Alastair Hunter and Margaret Lauder to win the Norton-Wright Doubles Trophies.

Close encounters were the rule rather than the exception, and the adjudicators for the Lauder Bowl - awarded to the competitor who plays most games without actually winning any event - also had a hard job. In the end, Mary Fotheringham was a popular choice, her defeat in the 3X Final just tipping the scales against Bill Masterton's Finals defeat by Malcolm Smith in the Level Singles Y and Fred Mann in the 5Z.

In the Edinburgh Cup Handicap Final, George Anderson, pondering about a bisque, made the fatal mistake of underestimating Rod Williams's ability to take a ball right round on only his first turn: he fought hard but could not recover against a player whose unobtrusive consistency conceals real mastery of all the shots. Earlier, George had to struggle against the evergreen Mr McCulloch who played his usual canny (and successful) game till tiring.

An early thrill for the humble high-bisquers was to watch Nick Hyne's attempted Triple Peel from an unpromising position: after a 10-foot peel through penult he just missed the following long roquet. One of the best matches of the week was the final of the Open Process, where Nick (already winner of the Draw) 'seemed to be trying to win' against Jack Norton. Nick soon took his first ball to 3-back and his second to the peg, controlling the game beautifully with Jack stagnating on 1 and 2, unable to hit in. Nick then pegged out his rover, whereupon his opponent trundled round to reach rover with both. Nick at last got in but made only two hoops before Jack finished matters. The play-off saw Hyne a comfortable winner. A feature of both matches - and of many at this level - was the speed of play: no doubt it is an easier game when you are good! It is a pity that there is not more time for the high-handicap players to watch the ties in the advanced and level singles events.

No praise can be too great for the lady members, players and nonplayers alike, who provided excellent coffees and teas throughout the week. A self-service bar was a new feature much appreciated, as were the 20 salad lunches daily prepared by Carol Rowe, who also had house guests, competed, and entertained almost everybody to the now-traditional Thursday night party; she was also seen mopping up surface water on the Tuesday morning. Alastair Hunter, aided by Rod Williams and George Anderson, staged 106 ties in the week, 21 more than last year; and once again made light of such problems as did arise in a very happy and friendly week, blessed by glorious sunny weather.

Event 1. Cramond Cup. Open Singles (Advanced) DRAW

First Round: Mrs C.A. Rowe bt Mrs M. Lauder +8; R.A. Williams bt A.V. Camroux +14; A.H.M. Adam bt M. Strachan +18; N.G. Hyne bt F.V.X. Norton +16.

Semi-final: Williams bt Mrs Rowe +7(T); Hyne bt Adam +2. Final: Hyne bt Williams +16.

PROCESS

First Round: Strachan bt Mrs Lauder +6(T); Hyne bt Williams +10; Adam bt Mrs Rowe +7(T); Norton bt Camroux +6.

Semi-final: Hyne bt Strachan +26; Norton bt Adam +25.

Final: Norton bt Hyne +4.

PLAY-OFF: Hyne bt Norton +16.

Event 2 (X). Silver Jubilee Salver. Handicap (51/2 and over) First Round: L.J. Fotheringham bt Rev A.D. Lamont +7(T); A.G.M. Hunter bt R. Forth +18; A.M. Ramsay bt M.P.W. Smith +14: R. Hissett bt W. Masterton +3(T); G. Anderson bt J.C. McCulloch +15.

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Second Round: Fotheringham bt C.I. Morrison +5; Ramsay bt Hunter +3; Anderson bt Hissett +8(T); P.W. Thompson bt J.E. Rowe +15. Semi-final: Ramsay bt Fotheringham +8(T); Thompson bt Anderson +1(T).

Final: Thompson bt Ramsay +7.

Event 2 (Y). Handicap (51/2 and over) Final: P.W. Smith bt W. Masterton +8.

Event 3 (X). Walter B. Laing Cup. Handicap (10 and over) First Round: Mrs Fotheringham (13) bt Miss C. Hay (16) +11; Miss Corla (10) bt Mrs M.G. Wright +5(T); A. Nisbet (16) bt Mrs J. Morrison (15) +17.

Second Round: R.F. Ottley (16) bt Mrs G. Clark (15) +2(T); Mrs Fotheringham bt Miss Corla +7(T); Nisbet bt J. Marshall (14) +24; F. Mann (11) bt H. Wright (15) +13.

Semi-final: Mrs Fotheringham bt Ottley +5(T); Nisbet bt Mann +12(T).

Final: Nisbet bt Mrs Fotheringham +17.

Event 3 (Y). Handicap (10 and over) Final: Miss C. Hay bt J. Marshall +5(T).

Event 4. Norton Wright Trophy. Doubles (Combined Handicap 5 and overl

First Round: W. Masterton & R. Forth (17) bt J.C. McCulloch & Miss A.M. Murray (18) +5(T); R. Hissett & Mrs G. Clark (211/2) bt R.A. Williams & Miss Corla +11(T); P. Thompson & Miss C. Hay (191/2) bt G. Anderson & A.M. Ramsay (151/2) +12; A.V. Camroux & M. Strachan (6) bt Rev A.D. Lamont & Mrs M.G. Wright (22) +4(T); L.J. & Mrs M. Fotheringham (22) bt J.E. & Mrs C.A. Rowe (111/2) +17.

Second Round: Masterton & Forth bt F. Mann & Mrs R. Baker (25) +1(T); Thompson & Miss Hay bt Hissett & Mrs Clark +7(T); Camroux & Strachan bt L.J. & Mrs Fotheringham +14; Mrs M. Lauder & A.G.M. Hunter (111/2) bt R.F. Ottley & A. Nisbet (28) +5(T).

Semi-final: Thompson & Miss Hay bt Masterton & Forth +2; Mrs Lauder & Hunter bt Camroux & Strachan +7(T).

Final: Thompson & Miss Hay bt Mrs Lauder & Hunter +5(T).

Event 5 (X). Edinburgh Cup. Handicap (Unrestricted)

First Round: M. Strachan (5) bt Mrs J. Morrison (15) +22; A.V. Camroux (1) bt R.F. Ottley (16) +14; W. Masterton (8) bt Mrs M.G. Wright (13) +18; Miss Corla (10) bt H. Wright (15) +21; R.A. Williams (11/2) bt P.W. Thompson (51/2) +12; A.M. Ramsay (8) bt Mrs G. Clark (15) +20; A. Nisbet (16) bt A. Lamont (9) +1(T); Mrs C.A. Rowe (5) bt R. Hissett (71/2) +8; M.P.W. Smith (61/2) bt F. Mann (11)

Second Round: Mrs M. Lauder (5) bt Miss C. Hay (16) +17; Strachan bt A.G.M. Hunter (61/2) +13; Camroux bt Masterton +1(T); Williams bt Miss Corla +12; Nisbet bt Ramsay +1(T); Mrs Rowe bt Smith +3; C.I. Morrison (9) bt Mrs M. Fotheringham (13) +3(T); G. Anderson (7½) bt R. Forth (9) +3(T).

Third Round: Mrs Lauder bt Strachan +5; Williams bt Camroux +18; Mrs Rowe bt Smith +3: Anderson bt Morrison +1(T).

Semi-final: Williams bt Mrs Lauder +7; Anderson bt Mrs Rowe +3(T).

Final: Williams bt Anderson +15.

Event 5 (Y). Milne Cup. Handicap Final: P.W. Thompson (51/2) bt Mrs M.G. Wright (13) +5.

Event 5 (Z). Handicap Final: F. Mann (11) bt W. Masterton (8) +4.

Cheltenham 27–29 August

American Handican Blocks

BLOCK A: D.R. Foulser (-1) 6 wins (+38); A. Adam (31/2) 4 wins (+4); P. Leach (9) 3 wins (-2); Mrs M. Langley (10) 3 wins (-2); T. Anderson (3) 3 wins (-22); R.W.B. Gladstone (51/2) 1 win (-16); J. Exell (7) 1 win (-46).

Soutter (scratched).

(11) 1 win (-50).

0 wins (-48).

Soutter (51/2) 0 wins (-84).

Parkstone 29 August-3 September

Parkstone had a good entry of thirty players amongst whom were a good number of visitors. The most striking was the ten year old son of Terry Wood who did extremely well in the first round of the doubles. It was quite a spectacle to see him win the game by pegging out. He should go far with an interest at such an early age. Fortune was not all that kind to him in that the second round had to be played following lunch. He was tired now and in spite of his fathers long hitting, the family pair went out to the eventual winners. This event as usual went to time and Dr Wiggins and Mrs Asa-Thomas won by +1 on time when the former hit a 20 yard shot to make the necessary point. The weather was lovely till the Friday morning when a severe storm hit the whole county. Play was extremely difficult in the driving rain and boisterous wind and this had the unfortunate effect of causing several of the ladies to scratch. The wind was force 9 according to the weathermen and your reporter has not experienced conditions touching it save somewhat similar wind and rain at Devonshire Park many years ago. The play could not be said to be very distinguished but picked up on Thursday when many accurate breaks were made. Two games were completed in just about an hour. The club are fortunate in having a built in watering system and this insured green turf on which it was very pleasant to play. They have improved considerably in recent years. We were well looked after by Betty McMillan and members of the club who produced excellent lunches and teas at a very reasonable price. The managers did well. It is a great advantage to the players to have one who does not play. Scores can be handed in at once and the players next due to go on can be ready, thus avoiding waste of lawn availability. Many clubs would do well to follow this example. The player-manager could well be compared with the player-manager at football - it does not work. The final of the Open was somewhat disappointing, numerous errors being made.

BLOCK B: J.S. Maud (21/2) 3 wins (+7); W. Bawden (5) 3 wins (-2);

Mrs L Latham (10) 3 wins (-2); Mrs T. Anderson (51/2) 2 wins (+11);

B.G. Neal (-1/2) 2 wins (+1); Mrs A. Warren (71/2) 2 wins (-15); J.

BLOCK C: R. Race (6) 6 wins (+81); Miss I. Roe (61/2) 3 wins (+19);

Mrs S. Blacker (9) 3 wins (+13); G/Capt R.S. Ryan (10) 3 wins (-6);

LV. Latham (1/2) 3 wins (-9); W.J. Sturdy (4) 3 wins (-9); Mrs J.

BLOCK D: G.E.P. Jackson (0) 4 wins (+44); D. Goulding (21/2) 4 wins

(+25); G. Blumer (51/2) 4 wins (+5); A. Warren (9) 3 wins (+1); Lady

Bazley (4) 3 wins (-19); S. Blackler (7) 2 wins (-12); Mrs N. Adlam

BLOCK E: R.J. Smith (41/2) 6 wins (+46); D.H. Moorcraft (1) 5 wins

(+34); G.K. Taylor (1/2) 4 wins (+60); T. Colls (7) 2 wins (-23); M. Duck

(51/2) 2 wins (-24); Mrs B. Neal (5) 2 wins (-27); A.N. Other (15)

Event 1. Advanced Singles

DRAW

First Round: R.F. Bailey bt F.H. Newman +15: J.E. Guest bt Dr C.A. Parker +15; Dr W.P. Ormerod bt L Wharrad +4(T); Mrs W.E.D. Wiggins bt Dr D.A. Parker +19; T.I. Wood bt L.S. Butler +2; F.L. Shergold bt Mrs P. Asa-Thomas +11.

Second Round: Dr Wiggins bt Bailey +16; Guest bt Ormerod w/o scr; Wood bt Mrs Wiggins +8; Shergold bt D.H. Moorcraft +5.

Semi-final: Dr Wiggins bt Guest +26; Shergold bt Wood +3. Final: Dr Wiggins bt Shergold +12.

PROCESS

First Round: Mrs Wiggins bt Dr Wiggins +5(T); Shergold bt Dr Parker +11; Bailey bt Butler +9; Wood bt Newman +13; Moorcraft bt Wharrad +17: Guest bt Mrs Asa-Thomas +8.

Second Round: Mrs Wiggins bt Shergold +24; Dr Ormerod bt Bailey +12; Wood bt Moorcraft +8; Guest bt Dr Parker w/o scr.

Semi-final: Ormerod bt Mrs Wiggins w/o scr; Guest bt Wood +11. Final: Guest bt Ormerod +13.

PLAY-OFF: Guest bt Mrs Wiggins +9.

Event 2. Advanced Singles (4-8 bisques)

DRAW

First Round: Air Cdre J.H. Greswell bt B.P. Whitehouse +1(T); Mrs F.H. Newman bt Mrs W.A. Scarr +1(T).

Second Round: R.H.C. Carder bt S.G. Kent +4(T); Greswell bt Mrs F.H.N. Davidson +10: Mrs Newman bt W.A. Scarr +4; R.O. Havery bt Miss A.R. Robertson +12.

Semi-final: Carder by Greswell +4; Mrs Newman bt Havery +9. Final: Carder bt Mrs Newman +11.

PROCESS

First Rounnd: Kent bt Havery +5(T); Carder bt Miss Robertson +14. Second Round: Whitehouse bt Kent +9; Mrs Newman bt Mrs Davidson +19; Carder bt Mrs Scarr +9; Greswell bt Scarr +13. Semi-final: Whitehouse bt Mrs Newman +6; Greswell bt Carder +7. Final: Whitehouse bt Greswell +19.

PLAY-OFF: Carder bt Whitehouse +3.

Event 3. Handicap Singles (9 bisques and over) DRAW

First Round: R.E. Vincent (9) bt Mrs B.R. Saunders (9) +4(T); Mrs R.E. Vincent (12) bt Mrs D. Mitchell (10) +5(T).

Semi-final: Vincent bt Mrs L. Wharrad (9) +14; J.O. Mays (9) bt Mrs Vincent +3(T).

Final: Vincent bt Mays +15.

PROCESS

First Round: Mrs Vincent bt Mrs Wharrad +8(T); Mrs Saunders bt Mays +8.

Semi-final: Vincent bt Mrs Vincent +13; Mrs Mitchell bt Mrs Saunders +1(T).

Final: Vincent bt Mrs Mitchell +11.

PLAY-OFF FOR 2nd PLACE: Mrs Mitchell bt Mays w/o scr.

Event 4 (X). Handicap Singles (Unrestricted)

First Round: R.H.C. Carder (4) bt Mrs L. Wharrad (9) +11; R.F. Bailey (3) bt Mrs F.H.N. Davidson (61/2) +13; L. Wharrad (2) bt Air Cdre J.H. Greswell (4) +9; D.H. Moorcraft (1) bt W.A. Scarr (6) +2; R.O. Havery (4) bt Mrs W.A. Scarr (5) +19; J.E. Guest (11/2) bt J.O. Mays (9) +14; B.P. Whitehouse (4) bt Mrs B.R. Saunders (9) +14; Dr W.R.D. Wiggins (1) bt Mrs P. Asa-Thomas (3) +18; Mrs W.R.D. Wiggins (0) bt R.E. Vincent (9) +15; Miss A.R. Robertson (8) bt Mrs F.H. Newman (4) +10; S.G. Kent (6) bt Mrs D. Mitchell (10) +4(T); L.S. Butler (1/2) bt Dr D.A. Parker (21/2) +24(TP); T.I. Wood (1/2) bt Dr C.A. Parker (11/2) +13.

Second Round: Mrs R.E. Vincent (12) bt Carder +1(T); Bailey bt Wharrad +19; Moorcraft bt Havery +3; Whitehouse bt Guest +19; Mrs Wiggins bt Wiggins +19; Miss Robertson bt Kent +13; Wood bt Butler +20; F.L. Shergold (2) bt F.N. Newman (3) +9.

Third Round: Bailey bt Mrs Vincent +18; Whitehouse bt Moorcraft +11; Mrs Wiggins bt Miss Robertson +16; Wood bt Shergold +15. Semi-final: Whitehouse bt Bailey +4; Wood bt Mrs Wiggins w/o scr.

Final: Wood bt Whitehouse +3.

Event 4 (Y). Halse Cup. Handicap Singles Final: Dr C.A. Parker (11/2) bt W.A. Scarr (6) +8.

Event 5. Autumn Doubles Cup (Handicap)

Final: Dr W.R.D. Wiggins & Mrs P. Asa-Thomas (4) bt Mrs W.R.D. Wiggins & R.H.C. Carder (4) +1(T).

Hunstanton 29 August-3 September

This was a delightful week in every way. Excellent weather, except on the last day (and that did not matter too much, since the more discriminating among us had got ourselves safely eliminated by then). A strong entry, with three Chairman's Salver players, several Carlisle's, and many familiar faces from previous years. And the lawns

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providing a good test of skill. A dry spell, and intermittent watering, had produced lawns of variable pace, calling for considerable powers of concentration and observation. As always, we were made more than welcome, and were filled with admiration for the energy of John Wood (out with the lark each morning to check hoops and put out clips) and his team of helpers who kept us so well supplied with food and drink

Much to everyone's delight (possibly including their own), the stars were totally eclipsed in the A class. Or perhaps "total eclipse" is a little harsh - quite apart from being, astronomically, an inaccurate metaphor anyway. There were gleams of brilliance. Keith Aiton did 6 peels of a sextuple against Don Gaunt. Admittedly the last peel was done after making rover, so the peg-out never looked more than a remote possibility; all the same, it is about 5 peels more than I have ever managed, so I do not feel inclined to be unduly critical. And then Dayal Gunasekera confirmed my opnion that he is a top-class player, in his semi-final against Roger Tribe, when he stuck in hoop 6 from 4 inches. Anyone can stick in a hoop from 2 or 3 feet, but only very, very good players do it from that close. This game was decided, in curious fashion, by Roger's withdrawal from it on the grounds that he was playing badly. There are those of us who would rarely finish a game if that principle became a categorical imperative. In the other semifinal, a pegged-down game resumed in gale-force winds on the Saturday morning, John Walters, undismayed by the elements, gained the narrowest of wins over Richard Hilditch; he then went on to defeat Dayal, with surprising ease, in the final.

The hot favourite in the B class was James Carlisle, but for most of the week the event was dominated by Hugh Carlisle, who reached the final of both the Draw and Process. At this point his strategy was upset by his success in also reaching the final of the doubles. So after losing to Martin French in one half, he found himself short of time. and decided to scratch (to James) in the other. This left James playing Martin - a game which James won, to provide a bad result for the bookies.

In the C class Ken Campbell beat Nan Zinn - a good and deserved win. But his finest achievements were reserved for the doubles, in which he was partnering Richard Hilditch. As the week progressed, we became more and more accustomed to the sight of Ken, prone on the grass, lining up peels as he nursed Richard through the testing centre hoops. Perhaps the 4-peel limit in handicap doubles should be waived when it is a question of the high bisquer peeling the low bisquer. Eventually, however, in the final, Hugh and James Carlisle, who had looked likely winners all week, showed once again how difficult it is to beat a partnership, both of whose members are capable of going round in one turn.

The most exciting games in the handicap were the semi-finals. John Haigh was gaining a comfortable win over Don Gaunt until he missed the peg-out. He then spent the next hour missing the peg and and his opponent from a variety of angles and distances, to lose by 1. In the other semi-final, played in filthy conditions on the Saturday morning, Roger Wheeler and Sarah Hampson showed great reluctance to venture out from the warmth of the clubhouse - or, having ventured out, to stay out for any length of time. Roger emerged as the loser in this clash of wills - or perhaps the winner, depending what view you take. Anyway, he lost the game, so Sarah earned the right to spend the afternoon watching Don play admirable croquet (in still horrible conditions) to earn himself a small handicap reduction.

And so to the end of a most enjoyable week. We may not all of us have played as well as we had hoped, but then neither, for the most part, did we play as badly as we had feared. And when we do play badly, it is not our fault, but Descartes? Or that is what Keith Aiton says, and I expect he is right.

Tom Griffith

Event 1. Norfolk Challenge Cup. Open

DRAW

First Round: T. Griffith bt J.R. Hilditch +5; D.L. Gaunt bt Mrs J.N. Rolfe +8; R. Tribe bt J.D. Wood +11; J.D. Walters bt Mrs H.B.H. Carlisle +15

Second Round: D.L. Gunasekera bt Mrs R.F. Wheeler +22; Griffith bt Gaunt +14; Tribe bt Walters +9; K.M.H. Aiton bt J. Haigh +16.

Semi-final: Gunasekera bt Griffith +14; Tribe bt K.M.H. Aiton +17. Final: Gunasekera bt Tribe +22.

PROCESS

First Round: Hilditch bt Gunasekera +11; Aiton bt Gaunt +19; Griffith bt Mrs Wheeler w/o scr; Mrs Neville-Rolfe bt Haigh +16.

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Second Round: Hilditch bt Tribe +11: Aiton bt Mrs Carlisle +16: Wood bt Griffith +3: Walters bt Mrs Neville-Rolfe +8. Semi-final: Hilditch bt Aiton +19; Walters bt Wood +10.

Final: Walters bt Hilditch +1.

PLAY-OFF: Walters bt Gunasekera +18.

Event 2. Hunstanton Challenge Bowl (31/2-7 bisques) DRAW

First Round: M. French bt I.P.M. MacDonald +18; Miss S.G. Hampson bt G. Henshaw +3; R.A. Gosden bt R.F. Wheeler +3: H.B.H. Carlisle bt H.F. Barnett +24; T. Harrison bt Mrs I.P.M. MacDonald +12

Second Round: J.W.H. Carlisle bt French +5; Miss Hampson bt Gosden +5; H.B.H. Carlisle bt Harrison +9; P.J.C. Hetherington bt A | Bucknell +8

Semi-final: J.W.H. Carlisle bt Miss Hampson +11; H.B.H. Carlisle bt Hetherington +11

Final: J.W.H. Carlisle bt H.B.H. Carlisle w/o scr.

PROCESS

First Round: H.B.H. Carlisle bt MacDonald +16; Henshaw bt Bucknell +8: J.W.H. Carlisle bt Harrison +2(T); French bt Mrs MacDonald +2(T); Hetherington bt Barnett +1(T)

Second Round: H.B.H. Carlisle bt Henshaw +25; Gosden bt J.W.H. Carlisle +14: French bt Wheeler +11: Hetherington bt Miss Hampson w/o scr.

Semi-final: H.B.H. Carlisle bt Gosden +19; French bt Hetherington +11

Final: French bt H.B.H. Carlisle +10.

PLAY-OFF: J.W.H. Carlisle bt French +7.

Event 3. Rose Bowl. Handicap

DRAW

First Round: Mrs R.A. Gosden (71/2) bt Mrs A. Zinn (10) +15. Semi-final: Miss P. Hampson (8) bt Mrs Gosden +1(T); Prot Campbell (71/2) bt Mrs M.R. Sheldon (8) +5.

Final: Campbell bt Miss Hampson +4.

PROCESS

First Round: Mrs Bucknell bt Miss Hampson +4(T); Mrs Zinn bt Sheldon +14(T).

Semi-final: Mrs Bucknell bt Mrs Gosden +1(T); Mrs Zinn bt Campbell w/o scr.

Final: Campbell bt Mrs Zinn +4.

Event 4 (X). Ingleby Challenge Cup. Handicap Singles

First Round: Mrs R.F. Wheeler (21/2) bt P. Hetherington (4) +9; G. Henshaw (4) bt T. Harrison (51/2) w/o scr; R.F. Wheeler (4) bt Miss P. Hampson (8) +3(T); Miss S.G. Hampson (4) bt J.R. Hilditch (0) w/o scr; Mrs H.B.H. Carlisle (2) bt Mrs R.A. Gosden (71/2) +17; R.A. Gosden (5) bt Mrs A. Zinn (10) +14; J.D. Walters (2) bt Prof K. Campbell (71/2) +13; J.W. Wood (2) bt T. Griffith (0) +22; D.G. Gaunt (3) bt I.P.M. MacDonald (31/2) +14; Mrs J. Neville-Rolfe (21/2) bt H.B.H. Carlisle +15; Mrs I.P.M. MacDonald bt D.L. Gunaskera (-1/2) w/o scr; M. French (5) bt J.W.H. Carlisle (4) +4(T); J. Haigh (11/2) bt Mrs A.J. Bucknell (10) +8; H.F. Barnett (7) bt A.J. Bucknell (7) +3(T). Second Round: Mrs Wheeler bt K.M.H. Aiton (-1/2) w/o scr; Wheeler

bt Henshaw +13; Miss S. Hampson bt Mrs Carlisle +3; Walters bt Gosden +13; Gaunt bt Wood +3; Mrs MacDonald bt Mrs Neville-Rolfe +6: Haigh bt French +3: R. Tribe (3) bt Barnett +14.

Third Round: Wheeler bt Mrs Wheeler +10; Miss S. Hampson bt Walters +24; Gaunt bt Mrs MacDonald +7; Haigh bt Tribe +10. Semi-final: Miss S. Hampson bt Wheeler +2(T); Gaunt bt Haigh +1. Final: Gaunt bt Miss S. Hampson +21.

Event 4 (Y). Rothwell Casket. Handicap Singles

As ever at Wrest Park in September, the rain could not stay away. It Semi-final: K.M.H. Aiton (-1/2) bt Prof K. Campbell (71/2) +2; D. even did its best to prevent lawn preparation and give John Wheeler Gunasekera (-1/2) bt J.W.H. Carlisle +25. and Harry Green pneumonia on the 15th. Fortunately, the sun shone throughout Saturday and the Sunday late shift had a dry day. Final: Aiton bt Gunasekera +14.

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Event 5. Hope Cups. Handicap Doubles Final: H.B.H. & J.W.H. Carlisle (8) bt J.R. Hilditch & Prof K. Campbell (71/2) +10.

Ryde 9–11 September

Swiss Handicap Singles (6 rounds)

	5 wins	G.C. Roy (11/2) (+37); M.G. Tompkinson (21/2) (+34);
		J.F.S. Thomas (9) (+14).
	4 wins	P.G. Gunn (31/2) (+34); H. Brownsdon (10) (+33).
i.	3 wins	P.H. Mann (10) (+25); D. Goulding (21/2) (+18); Mrs M.G.
1.		Tompkinson (71/2) (+4); F.A. Rowlands (6) (-3); C.G.
1.		Pountney (5) (-17); Mrs M. Robinson (14) (0).
	2 wins	Dr P. Watson (11) (+10); B.C. Sanford (51/2) (-6); A.J.
ot		Oldham (9) (-44).
ot	1 win	T.I. Card (41/2) (-34).
	0 wins	Mrs D. Erith (14) (-89).
-		

Nottingham 9–11 September

American Handicap

BLOCK A: J. Meads (1) 7 wins; P. Trafford (7) 5 wins (+44); K. Cotterell (2) 5 wins (+5); L Wharrad (2) 4 wins; Dr R.F. Wheeler (4) 3 wins; C. Chamberlain (8) 2 wins; Miss H. Watson-Walker (11) 1 win (-35); Mrs A.J. Bucknell (10) 1 win (-79).

BLOCK B: S. Hare (21/2) 7 wins; D. Moorcraft (1) 5 wins; J. Straw (5) 4 wins (+40); A.J. Bucknell (7) 4 wins (+17); M. Cowan (11) 4 wins (+12); Mrs R.F. Wheeler (21/2) 3 wins; L. Robinson (7) 1 win; Mrs L. Wharrad (9) 0 wins.

BLOCK C: D. Arthur (7) 7 wins; P. Bishop (5) 4 wins (+25); G. Hopewell (21/2) 4 wins (+7); Mrs K. Cotterell (41/2) (+6); J. Davis (1) 4 wins (-27); Mrs C. Chamberlain (10) 2 wins (-10); Dr T.W. Smith (4) 2 wins (-35); R.H. Fletcher (9) 1 win.

Cheltenham 12–15 September

Swiss B Level

	6 wins	R.S. Eades, R. Tribe, F.I. Maugham.
fK.	5 wins	R.F.A Crane, J. McLaren, P. Shepard, Mrs Weitz, W.R.
		Bawden, Lady Bazley, I.P.M. Macdonald, G. Sisum.
	4 wins	Mrs Neville Rolfe, Miss Arkell, N.J.C. Gooch, Mrs Neal.
	3 wins	A. Sutcliffe, G.F. Blumer, J. Exell, R.O. Havery, C.L.
		Greenbury.
Mrs	2 wins	T.G.S. Colls, Mrs Macdonald.
	1 win	Miss Shine, Mrs G.T. Wheeler.

Budleigh Salterton 16–18 September

American Block (Handicap Singles)

BLOCK A: Mrs F.H. Newman (4) 5 wins; Mrs W.R.D. Wiggins (0) 4 wins: Dr W.R. Bucknall (51/2) 2 wins (+0); K. Cotterell (2) 2 wins (+0); Mrs J.W. Potter (8) 2 wins (-32); N. Griffin (11) 0 wins. BLOCK B (5 players only owing to one very late withdrawal): J.S. Toye (1/2) 4 wins; Dr D.R. Laney (6) 3 wins; F.H. Newman (2) 2 wins; Miss M. Hardman (13) 1 win; Mrs K. Mapstone (5) 0 wins. BLOCK C: R.G. Andrew (4) 5 wins; B.G. Bucknall (5) 4 wins; B. Redford (3) 3 wins; Dr W.R.D. Wiggins (1) 2 wins; Mrs R.S. Stevens (6) 1 win; Mrs E.G. Grant (12) 0 wins. BLOCK D: A. Berry (11/2) 5 wins; G.W.R. Goodwin (71/2) 4 wins; F.A. Rowlands (6) 3 wins; Mrs P. Asa-Thomas (3) 2 wins; Mrs C. Bagnall (5) 1 win; Mrs W. Broad-Thomas (13) 0 wins. BLOCK E: M. Granger-Brown (21/2) 4 wins (+46); P.K.L. Danks (61/2) 4 wins (+30); D.L. Gaunt (3) 3 wins; R.W. Newnham (5) 2 wins; G/Capt R.S. Ryan (10) 1 win; Mrs H. Cruden (8) 1 win. BLOCK F: H.J. Crozier (10) 4 wins (+39): J.W. Potter (21/2) 4 wins (+21); W. Broad-Thomas (61/2) (+4); E.G. Kitchener (14) 2 wins (-7); Mrs K. Cotterell (41/2) 2 wins (-9); N. Morrison (41/2) 1 win.

Wrest Park 16–18 September

Mike Wilson's play has flourished since he left his employment at Wrest Park, and no longer has to maintain lawns, and he convincingly and deservingly won his block, to have his handicap reduced to four. Mary Collin achieved a remarkable double peel against Harry Green, making penultimate from the yard line and rover from half way to the stick. Although she then missed the peg out of her second ball with two shots, she went on to win and had her handicap cut to four. Harry Green's mallet suffered from double banking and was hit by a compatriot's rush shot while it marked a ball on the yard line!

The closest game of the tournament was between Tim Harrison and Adrian Williams, who were both on peg and rover when time was called. Tim had the innings, approached rover, but considered it too risky and played safe. Adrian duly missed, so Tim made rover and won.

In the heavy rain of Friday, Gerard Healy failed twice to peg out Mike Wilson and it took the example of John Meads pegging out Adrian Williams to show Mike just how easy it was to peg out Gerard. Following his liberal interpretation of Adrian's colour-blindness, John Meads effected a most casual peg out: sprinting out from the shelter of a tree, thwacking the ball and observing the peg out while trotting back to shelter.

Ralph Allim, Pat Hague, John Meads and Richard Hilditch fought closely for the "let's roquet a ball on the neighbouring lawn" prize, but Richard's commentary silenced all opposition.

Results:

BLOCK A: R.M. Allim (11/2) 6 wins (+77); R.C. Jones (4) 4 wins (+19); Mrs P. Hague (4) 4 wins (-2); E. Audsley (11/2) 3 wins; G. Cuttle (9) 2 wins; A.G. Dumont (5) 1 win; C. Anderson (0) 1 win.

BLOCK B: C.J. Irwin (0) 6 wins (+55); J.D. Meads (1) 5 wins (+44); Mrs M. Collin (41/2) 5 wins (+35); T.D. Harrison (51/2) 5 wins; R.A. Welch (5) 3 wins; P.J.C. Hetherington (4) 2 wins; H.C. Green (11/2) 2 wins; A.G. Williams (9) 0 wins.

BLOCK C: B.J. Storey (5) 5 wins (+36); P.L. Smith (11/2) 4 wins (+8); Mrs J. Anderson (51/2) 4 wins (+4); J.E. Guest (1) 4 wins, R.R. Sutherland (10) 3 wins; Mrs C.E. Irwin (9) 3 wins; J.R. Hilditch (0) 3 wins; T.W. Anderson (3) 2 wins.

BLOCK D: J.M. Wilson (5) 7 wins (+101); G.P.N. Healy (1/2) 5 wins (+40); J.A. Wheeler (1/2) 5 wins (-26); J.O. Walters (11/2) 4 wins; F,I, Maugham (41/2) 3 wins; R.F. Hall (9) 3 wins; A.E.R. Walters (71/2) 1 win; A Collin (2) O wins.

BLOCK E: H.J. Bottomley (2) 5 wins (+49); C. McKenzia (14) 4 wins (+49); J. Coutts (2) 4 wins (+3); B.A. Keen (1) 4 wins; A.G. Gordon (41/2) 3 wins; J. Wolfe (5) 3 wins; G.E.P. Jackson (0) 3 wins; Miss J.E. Assheton (4) 2 wins.

THE 1983 HOME INTERNATIONALS Compton 17–18 September

The welcome addition of the Ireland team and the absence of sponsorship led to the event being held as a 4-team knockout over one weekend. The Compton Club were the most hospitable of hosts and laboured mightily to produce good conditions and firm hoops despite the recent wet weather. England set out as clear favourites and proved to be convincing winners in practice, conceding only one game to Wales and none to Scotland. Ireland produced a really good side that was not significantly weaker than Scotland and augurs very well for the future.

England v Wales

England were not seriously tested in this match although mention must be made of Croker's excellent start against Aspinall. Although Aspinall reached 4-back first, Croker took full advantage of an error after hoop 3 to take the game in three turns. However, as the resident Scottish comedian put it, that is always a fatal error against Aspinall and so it turned out. Solomon had a close first game with Rees but won the second easily and Mulliner and Cordingley recorded convincing wins against the Prichards, Cordingley's triple being the only one of the weekend.

Scotland v Ireland

Murray and Hope had very close first game wins over McCullough and Rose respectively but won the second games by reasonable margins. However the innings changed hands frequently as conditions were by no means easy and Ireland were hardly disgraced. Vincent achieved Ireland's first win and revenge for reported

injustices involving Aiton and 4 yard tices in two desperately close games. The literary pairing of Read and Wright ended their prolonged and gentlemanly encounter at 1-1 when it could no longer affect the

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Ireland v Wales

outcome

McCullough played impressively to defeat an in-form Croker in two quick games while Colin Prichard returned the compliment over Rose in two rather longer and closer ones. However the No. 3 and 4 games went Ireland's way as Vincent and Read defeated Godby and Robert Prichard respectively.

England v Scotland

The Murray Gambit (hit on the second turn, lay double at the peg, hit on fourth turn . . .) gave its owner a great start against Mulliner but a short missed roquet allowed the latter to impose a grip on the match he never lost. Hope should have taken the first game against Aspinall but an uncharacteristic missed roquet before penult when he was going out was fatal. The second was a high-class game which depended on which lift-shots were hit and Aspinall emerged the more successful. Solomon beat Wright in straight games in which both players had their chances and so sealed the English victory. Openshaw and Aiton then abandoned their second game in the interests of expedition. Aiton twice broke down doing a straight rover peel - first in a TPO and then on partner! - to give Openshaw the

The weekend was further enlivened by a very pleasant dinner at the Cavendish Hotel and the British Isles 2-ball Championship (not recognised in Little Witcombe) in which Aspinall defeated Mulliner in a close and exciting play-off.

Results:

England beat Wales 4-0

G.N. Aspinall beat D.J. Croker -13 +26 +26 S.N. Mulliner beat C.H.L. Prichard +25 +22 Dr E.W. Solomon beat D.V.H. Rees +8 +25 P. Cordingley beat R.D.C Prichard +22(TP) +23

Scotland beat Ireland 2-1

Dr M. Murray beat J.R. McCullough +6 +23 A.B. Hope beat J. Rose +7 +12 K.M.H. Aiton lost to Dr I.G. Vincent -1 -10

England beat Scotland 3-0

S.N. Mulliner beat Dr. M. Murray +21 +26 G.N. Aspinall beat A.B. Hope +3 +16 Dr E.W. Solomon beat S.J.H. Wright +15 +13

Ireland beat Wales 3-1

J.R. McCullough beat D.J. Croker +14 +26 J. Rose lost to C.H.L. Prichard -10 -2 Dr I.G. Vincent beat R.A. Godby +23 +10 T.O. Read beat R.D.C. Prichard +13 -15 +5

PEEL MEMORIALS Southwick 19-24 September

September, once again, found us at Southwick for the Peels Memorial Tournament and, this year, it seemed that the heavens were going to smile upon us. Monday and Tuesday enjoyed quite a bit of sunshine although roundabout there were reports of heavy deluges. The lawns were very playable and on the Monday play proceeded with the start of the big Handican Event — the Trevor Williams Cup — for both men and women. Tuesday was Doubles say with some singles to follow. culminating in quite a saga between Pat Shine and Edna Cox who continued to play after dark when both players had a ball on the stick and on rover. To the amazement of spectators who could scarcely see Pat managed to part Edna's balls 15 times before Edna finally won by 1 on time

Wednesday started, unhappily, with some rain which continued throughout the day with very little let-up and players were trying to complete their singles events as quickly as possible. Lunchtime saw much wet rainwear dangling about in an effort to get it dry before donning it again to continue in the wet! But, as always on these

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occasions, there is an extra spirit of comradeship and everyone congregated in the Clubhouse to chat and enjoy the lunch provided. This year a new system was tried out — outside caterers taking over the lunches, and this proved very satisfactory. We are grateful to Mrs Ross for this arrangement.

By Thursday the 'lows' had passed over the country and were heading over the North Sea and we found ourselves enjoying sunshine and warmer weather again. Croquet proceeded happily with the continuation of the singles events and some doubles and also saw the start of the Swiss Extra Event for those who would otherwise be out of the tournament, which proved very successful. There were two quite outstanding matches. Tom Colls, our well-known Canadian Veteran friend, showed his true skill when he beat Dennis Moorcraft by +26. The other notable wins was that of Bob Rogers, one of the young starters, who managed to beat Derek Caporn, also by +26. The warm sunshine continued until the end of the day and this, together with a natural tiredness, or sense of well-being, induced a certain somnolence in at least one player who was seen taking 'forty winks' on Court whilst her opponent continued a break! There was a glorious sunset behind the trees which gives to Southwick a Japanese effect. and then darkness fell and still two players were doing battle. Finally they emerged from the gloom and we discovered Eileen Lewis in very high spirits, having had the best croquet day she could remember, winning two of her three matches and only having lost this last one to Geoffrey Paxon by 1 point.

Friday dawned a glorious day with bright sunshine and summer warmth. Semi-finals in the Peels Events were played and the Final of the Trevor Williams Cup - Derek Caporn proving the victor over Edna Cox. The Swiss Event continued and there was one exciting finish --Monica Grout and Geoffrey Paxon both having balls on the stick and rover with time running out. Monica laid up for rover but Geoffrey hit in from the corner and won the game by 1 point on Time.

Andrew Darby, in his first tournament, proved a promising beginner. His handicap having been reduced from 9 to 8 by the Manager in the early days, he won through to the finals of the Process beating both Guy Whillock and Lionel Wharrad. This brought him to the Play-off on Saturday when again he met Guy Whillock. The end of this match provided the spectators with much entertainment and excitement. Guy pegged out his red ball leaving yellow near the stick and both opponent balls for penultimate. Andrew hit in and showed us some imaginative play manoeuvring his balls to positions where Guy, missing the stick, would end up near them. Somehow Guy never did manage to hit either the stick or the balls and Andrew got home, winning by 1 point.

The Doubles Final provideo some entertainment with Edna Cox and Andrew Darby managing to beat Guy Whillock and Elieen Mapletoft; the last Final between Edna Cox and Rita Stanley Smith was another close game won by Rita within 40 seconds of time.

Finally, it seems appropriate to mention that, although the number of entries was average, several well-known faces were conspicuous by their absence - we missed them - but the wonderfully friendly and happy atmosphere, as always at Southwick, was very much in evidence. Our thanks goes to the army of helpers who work so hard behind the scenes, whose contribution helped to make this week a happy and enjoyable time for us all. B.D.

Event 1. Peel Memorial Bowl. Handicap Singles (Men) DRAW/

First Round: T.G.S. Colls (7) bt G.F. Paxon (51/2) +20; C.J. Chandler (5) bt L. Wharrad (2) +6; L.B. Barnes (51/2) bt E.P. Davey (14) +9; R.A.G. Rogers (8) bt D.C. Caporn (3) +26; D.H. Moorcraft (1) bt A.G. Darby (8) +5.

Second Round: Colls bt G.T. Coates (5) +18; Barnes bt Chandler +6(T); Moorcraft bt Rogers +3; G.O.H. Whillock (21/2) bt P.A. Dwerryhouse (71/2) +23.

Semi-final: Barnes bt Colls +5; Whillock bt Moorcraft +20. Final: Whillock bt Barnes +14.

PROCESS

First Round: Rogers bt Coates +24; Whillock bt Chandler +3; Darby bt Paxon +6(T); Colls bt Moorcraft +26; Wharrad bt Dwerryhouse +13.

Second Round: Whillock bt Rogers +15; Darby bt Davey +4; Barnes bt Colls +19; Wharrad bt Caporn +6. Semi-final: Darby bt Whillock +5; Wharrad bt Barnes +20.

Final: Darby bt Wharrad +12.

PLAY-OFF: Darby bt Whillock +1.

Event 2. Peel Memorial Bowl. Handicap Singles (Women) DRAW

First Round: Miss D. Harding (14) bt Mrs E. Ross (9) +7.

Second Round: Mrs L. Wharrad (9) bt Mrs B. Pearman (13) +14; Mrs E. Lewis (8) bt Mrs L.B. Barnes (9) +1(T); Miss B. Dennant (61/2) bt Mrs E. Cox (41/2) opp. ret'd. on peg; Miss Harding bt Mrs S. French (15) +7; Mrs E. Mapletoft (9) bt Mrs M. Grout (61/2) +18; Mrs P.A. Dwerryhouse (61/2) bt Miss P. Shine (7) +18; Mrs Stanley Smith (6) bt Mrs E. Staddon (6) +21; Mrs I. Moorcraft (10) bt Mrs R.E. Tucker $(6\frac{1}{2}) + 1(T)$

Third Round: Mrs Lewis bt Mrs Wharrad +15; Miss Harding bt Miss Dennant +3; Mrs Dwerryhouse bt Mrs Mapletoft +8; Mrs Stanley Smith bt Mrs Moorcraft +2(T).

Semi-final: Mrs Lewis bt Miss Harding +5: Mrs Stanley Smith bt Mrs Dwerryhouse +5.

Final: Mrs Stanley Smith bt Mrs Lewis +4(T).

PLAY-OFF: Mrs Stanley Smith bt Mrs Cox +5.

PROCESS

First Round: Mrs Wharrad bt Mrs Tucker +13.

Second Round: Mrs Ross bt Mrs Wharrad +17; Mrs Cox bt Miss Shine +1(T); Mrs Mapletoft bt Mrs Lewis +7; Mrs Staddon bt Mrs French +8; Mrs Grout bt Mrs Pearman +11; Mrs Stanley Smith bt Miss Dennant +10; Mrs Dwerryhouse bt Mrs Barnes +3; Mrs Moorcraft bt Miss Harding +16.

Third Round: Mrs Cox bt Mrs Boss +7: Mrs Mapletoft bt Mrs Staddon +7; Mrs Stanley Smith bt Mrs Grout +9; Mrs Dwerryhouse bt Mrs Moorcraft +1(T).

Semi-final: Mrs Cox bt Mrs Mapletoft +18; Mrs Stanley Smith bt Mrs Dwerryhouse +1.

Final: Mrs Cox bt Mrs Stanley Smith +4.

Event 3. Lady Murray Cup. Handicap Doubles

First Round: T.G.S. Colls & N.W.T. Cox (11) bt Mrs B. Pearman & Miss D. Harding (23) +14; G.O.H. Whillock & Mrs E. Mapletoft (161/2) bt Mrs & Mrs B. Barnes (15) +2; Mrs & Mrs L. Wharrad (11) bt E.P. Davey & Mrs S. French (27) +15; D.C. Caporn & Mrs I. Moorcraft(11) bt G.F. Paxon & Mrs E. Lewis (131/2) +6(T); Mrs E. Cox & A. Darby (121/2) bt Mr & Mrs P.A. Dwerryhouse (14) +8.

Second Round: Colls & Cox bt Miss B. Dennant & Mrs M. Grout (13) +11; Whillock & Mrs Mapletoft bt Mrs & Mrs Wharrad +1; Mrs Cox & Darby bt Caporn & Mrs Moorcraft +11; Mrs Tucker & Miss P. Shine (131/2) bt Mrs Stanley Smith & Mrs Ross (15) +9.

Semi-final: Whillock & Mrs Mapletoft bt Colls & Cox +13; Mrs Cox & Darby bt Mrs Tucker & Miss Shine +10.

Final: Mrs Cox & Darby bt Whillock & Mrs Mapletoft +5.

Event 4. Trevor Williams Cup. Open Handicap Singles

First Round: L. Wharrad (2) bt Miss B. Dennant (61/2) +1(T); Mrs E. Mapletoft (9) bt Mrs P.A. Dwerryhouse (61/2) +10; Mrs E. Cox (41/2) bt LB. Barnes (6) +1(T); P.A. Dwerryhouse (71/2) bt Mrs M. Grout (7) +14; Mrs L. Wharrad (9) bt Mrs E. Ross (9) +4(T); D.C. Caporn (3) bt G.O.H. Whillock (21/2) +15; T.G.S. Colls (7) bt Miss D. Harding (14) +14.

Second Round: R.A.G. Rogers (8) bt Mrs J. Barnes (9) +6; D.H. Moorcraft(1) bt G.F. Paxon (51/2) +10; Wharrad bt Mrs Mapletoft +4; Mrs Cox bt Dwerryhouse +1(T); Caporn bt Mrs Wharrad +5; G.F. Coates (5) bt Colls +10; Mrs Stanley Smith (6) bt Mrs R.E. Tucker (61/2) +8; Mrs I. Moorcraft (10) bt Miss P. Shine (7) +10(T).

Third Round: Rogers bt Moorcraft +15; Mrs Cox bt Wharrad +5; Caporn bt Coates +20; Mrs Stanley Smith bt Mrs Moorcraft +7.

Semi-final: Mrs Cox bt Rogers +2; Caporn bt Mrs Stanley Smith +6. Final: Caporn bt Mrs Cox +10.

Roehampton Autumn Tournament 19–24 September

Lt. Col. D.M.C. Prichard in his book "The History of Croquet" remembers sadly that the once mighty Roehampton of croquet lore on fourteen courts could but muster three regular ones. In September 1983 no tennis court nor putting green extension for the Autumn Tournament could be granted. Entries accepted by the Games Secretary earlier in the year passed, with apologies from the Manager, to the reserve list.

However, not many days before the opening day, Paul Macdonald decided to risk a larger entry than three courts, and five events, managerially permitted. 25 competitors thus began on the opening day to compete for the Trevelyan Cup on those three weed-free lush emerald green lawns of unrivalled turf. No martinet-cum-mother organized each day's play: consummate skill, consideration for each contestant and quiet Scottish organizational ability led us happily from the sunshine of Monday and the desperate downpours of Wednesday to the clouded skies and prize-giving of Saturday.

For perhaps it may be said that the weather played first part in the tournament. Few will forget the perfect double-rainbows on Monday, the gusts of wind that unsteadied the swing and even shifted the croqueted ball at take-offs. Second part, the great success of younger contestants, notably Miss Jan MacLeod and Martin Haggerston. However, although no triple peels were recorded, the defensive play on perfect courts reached a high standard - so much so that, even allowing for double banking throughout, too many games were decided on time. Apart from those, notable wins of 23 and 16 by Mrs Pauline Healy and of 22 and 26 by Mrs Winifred Browne; in the Doubles Lionel Adams and Barbara Mansfield scored a maximum 22 before losing by 18 to Paul and Pat Macdonald, who in turn lost to Robin Godby and Jan MacLeod in the final on Saturday morning. In the afternoon Robin and Jan fought out the final of the "X", eventually won by Jan, who doubtless profited from the expert advice given by her erstwhile partner. Martin Haggerston won the Thorpe Cup, and the Banelagh Gold Cup went to Jerry Guest who won both Draw and Process in the senior event. The play-off for second place in this event provided perhaps the best display of the tournament, when John Gosden, in semi-darkness and almost in solitude, achieved an all round 3-ball break which included 2 parts of a straight 3-ball triple.

Jim Townsend and Dudley Hamilton-Miller withdrew from the "Y" how "wise" they were, for their substitutes had to be content with the worst of the weather on Wednesday. Winifred Browne went on to win this event by dint of outstandingly accurate play and a nail-biting +1(T) semi-final against Pat Macdonald. The final of event 2 was contested by Winifred Browne and Jan MacLeod, who avenged her defeat by Winifred in the draw and eventually came home a comfortable winner. Tall, with a graceful swing and immaculately dressed in knee-length fencing breeches, Jan must surely be counted among the most promising of our younger lady players.

The origins of croquet tournaments are rooted in social gatherings and hospitality. At Roehampton no account would seem complete without praise for the mosty excellent buffet with its wide choice of English traditional dishes. It would not be out of place also to mention the parking in close proximity to the courts and the efficient organization that provides such commodious changing rooms for the use of members and visitors alike.

K.C.

Event 1. The Ranelagh Gold Cup. Open Singles DRAW

First Round: B. Whitehouse bt D.J.V. Hamilton-Miller +1(T); R.A. Godby bt I.P.M. MacDonald +21.

Second Round: M.G. Pearson bt Mrs H.B.H. Carlisle +19; Godby bt Whitehouse +16; J.E. Guest bt J.D. Gosden +8; A.V. Camroux bt LD. Adams +15.

Semi-final: Godby bt Pearson +10; Guest bt Camroux +13. Final: Guest bt Godby +11.

PROCESS

First Round: Mrs Carlisle bt Adams +3; Camroux bt Pearson +1(T). Second Round: Mrs Carlisle bt Godby +18; Gosden bt Whitehouse +16; Camroux bt MacDonald +1(T); Guest bt Hamilton-Miller +22.

Semi-final: Gosden bt Mrs Carlisle +15; Guest bt Camroux +11. Final: Guest bt Gosden +7(T).

PLAY-OFF FOR SECOND PLACE: Gosden bt Godby w/o scr.

Event 2. The Brooke Cup. Level Singles (4 bisques and over) DRAW

First Round: Mrs B. Mansfield bt P.W.P. Campion +17; Prof K. Campbell bt Mrs B.A. Gosden +13.

Second Round: Mrs I.P.M. MacDonald bt Mrs P.V. Healy +16; Campbell bt Mrs Mansfield +1(T); Mrs W.J. Browne bt Miss J. MacLeod +22; K.F.W. Townsend bt R.A. Gosden +9.

Semi-final: Campbell bt Mrs MacDonald +3(T); Mrs Browne bt Townsend +26.

Final: Mrs Browne bt Campbell +3(T).

PROCESS

First Round: Mrs Healy bt Gosden +4(T); Mrs MacDonald bt Townsend +18.

Second Round: Campbell bt Mrs Healy +4; Miss MacLeod bt Mrs Mansfield +17(T); Mrs MacDonald bt Mrs Gosden +18; Campion bt Mrs Browne +9.

Semi-final: Miss MacLeod bt Campbell +11; Mrs MacDonald bt Campion +9.

Final: Miss MacLeod bt Mrs MacDonald +4(T).

PLAY-OFF: Miss MacLeod bt Mrs Browne +16.

Event 3. The Thorpe Cup. Handicap Singles (9 bisques and over) DRAW

First Round: Mrs K. Townsend (12) bt Miss H.F. Watson-Walker (11) +6; M.J. Haggerston (14) bt Mrs W.G. Jones (9) +7.

Final: Mrs Townsend bt Haggerston +1.

PROCESS

First Round: Haggerston bt Mrs Townsend +5; Miss Watson-Walker bt Mrs Jones +8.

Final: Haggerston bt Miss Watson-Walker +13.

PLAY-OFF: Haggerston bt Mrs Townsend +9.

Event 4 (X). The Trevelyan Cup. Handicap Singles (Unrestricted) First Round: Mrs B. Mansfield (61/2) bt Mrs T. Townsend (12) +1(T); Prof K. Campbell (7) bt S.S. Townsend (11/2) +17; B. Whitehouse (31/2) bt Mrs I.P.M. MacDonald +2(T); J.D. Gosden (21/2) bt M. Haggerston(14) +6(T); M.G. Pearson (31/2) bt D.J.V. Hamilton-Miller (1) +8: A.V. Camroux (1) bt Miss H.F. Watson-Walker (11) +12: Mrs P.V. Healy (8) bt Mrs H.B.H. Carlisle (2) +23; R.A. Gosden (5) bt L.D. Adams (11/2) +6; I.P.M. MacDonald (31/2) bt K.F.W. Townsend (10) +4(T)

Second Round: R.A. Godby (1) bt Mrs W.J. Browne (61/2) +5(T); J.E. Guest (1) bt Mrs Mansfield +5; Campbell bt Whitehouse +2(T); Pearson bt J.D. Gosden +7; Mrs Healy bt Camroux +16; R.A. Gosden bt MacDonald +13; Miss J. MacLeod (7) bt Mrs W.G. Jones (9) +3(T); Mrs R.A. Gosden (71/2) bt P.W.P. Campion (5) +8.

Third Round: Godby bt Guest +8; Campbell bt Pearson +11; R.A. Gosden bt Mrs Healy +5(T); Miss MacLeod bt Mrs Gosden +3(T). Semi-final: Godby bt Campbell +9; Miss MacLeod bt R.A. Gosden +14.

Final: Miss MacLeod bt Godby +12.

Event 4 (Y). Handicap Singles (Unrestricted) Semi-final: Mrs W.J. Browne (61/2) bt Mrs I.P.M. MacDonald (61/2) +1(T); P.W.P. Campion (5) bt K.F.W. Townsend (10) +4(T). Final: Mrs Browne bt Campion +16.

Event 5. The Creyke Cup. Handicap Doubles

Final: R.A. Godby & Miss J. MacLeod (8) bt I.P.M. MacDonald & Mrs I.P.M. MacDonald (10) +11.

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Cheltenham 21–25 September

It was unfortunate that a somewhat low entry necessitated changing the format of the tournament this year, there being only two visitors, Mary Hardman from Sidmouth and Margaret Langley from Bath; however, thanks to Edgar Jackson's characteristic mangerial ingenuity this did not detract from the enjoyment of those who actually participated. Apart from the first day, when the rain was of such intensity that 'waterproofs' proved totally inadequate, the weather was extraordinarily well behaved.

The mornings were devoted to the handicap doubles, eventually won comfortably by Andrew Hope (stepping in at short notice) and Jean Wraith. Carmen Bazley had the rare distinction of having two partners (but not, fortunately for their opponents, playing concurrently!) -Mrs Margaret Cash and Mrs 'Teddy' Dyson, both competing in their first CA tournament, as was Rowena Bishop, who partnered Bernard Weitz. We would also just point out that those partners who scratched round in the 'bisque bucket' for the smallest, meanest halfbisque they could find, and then strategically placed it at the edge of the lawn where the recipients duly tripped over it, should consider themselves reprimanded for unsporting conduct!

Another late replacement, 'Paddy' Paddon, acquitted himself well in his first "A" class event with two wins, while John McLaren had an excellent victory over Edgar Jackson. Paul Smith finished as runnerup, earning himself a handicap reduction. However, all fell victim to Paul Hands, who, recapturing some of his temporarily absent brilliance, took the Gladstone Trophy with an almost 100% record, only losing the last of the five games to Laurence Latham, who in a real nail-biting climax caught up from fifteen behind to win +1. By this time it was 7.00 pm and the six spectators could hardly contain their excitement . .

Of the three "B" blocks, for handicaps of 3½ and over, two were run as Swiss blocks and the other as an American. In the latter Carmen Bazley wrested first place from Bill Bawden, while in one of the Swiss blocks Deborah Latham won the play-off against Peter Shepard to become block winner for the first time in her career. A most interesting situation occurred in the third block - six people each finishing with three wins! In order to decide the outcome in the limited time available a series of one-ball games had to be played, from which Gwen Bawden emerged as winner, keeping Cecil Duckworth in second place.

Finally, it should be mentioned that double banking, whilst comparatively rare on the courts, seemed to prove popular in the lunch room, as evidenced by the frequent appearance of the excellent smoked mackerel sharing the same plate as the sliced meats

LV.L/D.E.L

Results:

"A" CLASS (Gladstone Trophy): P.W. Hands 4 wins; P. Smith 4 wins; L Latham 3 wins; B.G. Weitz 3 wins; M.T. Paddon 2 wins; G.E.P. Jackson 2 wins; J. McLaren 2 wins; Mrs G.T. Wheeler 0 wins.

HANDICAP BLOCK A: Mrs W. Bawden 3 wins (won play-off); C. Duckworth 3 wins; Mrs Warren 3 wins; W.J. Sturdy 3 wins; Mrs Weitz 3 wins; Mrs Crane 3 wins; Miss Wraith 1 win; J. Exell 1 win.

BLOCK B: Mrs Latham 4 wins (won play-off); P. Shepard 4 wins; G.F. Blumer 3 wins; Mrs Harris 3 wins; R.F.A. Crane 3 wins; Mrs Paddon 2 wins; Miss Barber 1 win; Mrs Worsley 0 wins.

BLOCK C: Lady Bazley 4 wins; W.R. Bawden 4 wins; Mrs Langley 3 wins; G/Capt R.S. Ryan 3 wins; Miss Hardman 1 win; Miss Arkell 0 wins

HANDICAP DOUBLES (Swiss): A.B. Hope & Miss Wraith 5 wins; Mrs Weitz & A. Warren 4 wins; G.E.P. Jackson & Mrs Paddon 3 wins; W.J. Sturdy & Mrs Worsley 3 wins; Lady Bazley & Miss Cash 3 wins; B.G.F. Weitz & Miss Bishop 3 wins; M.T. Paddon & Mrs Harris 3 wins; G.F. Blumer & Mrs Warren 3 wins; Mr & Mrs Latham 2 wins; P. Shepard & G/Capt R.S. Ryan 2 wins; J. McLaren & Mrs Langley 2 wins; P. Smith & Miss Hardman 1 win; R.F.A. & Mrs Crane 1 win; Mrs G.T. Wheeler & J. Exell O wins.

Southport Weekend 24-25 September

The Northern season's final event attracted several new entrants, including a small contingent from Teesside, where I hear rumours of a possible new club based at the airport. I hope it won't be the sort of place where they do a lot of long take-offs.

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The Stoker Trophy was won by John Walters, also making his first appearance at Southport. He faced some stiff opposition from John Meads in the first game of the final, but won the second game convincingly. Richard Hilditch, in immaculately pressed trousers, won the Swiss after a tense pegged-out final against Andrew Bennet, who was displaying an impressive collection of germs brought back by his pupils from their summer holidays, and whose conversation consisted mostly of noises like "NNNGHK!" and "RRRRGLERGH!". Brian Storey and Mike Wilkins, both in the first advanced play tournament, beat or nearly beat several players of much lower handicap.

The rest of us concentrated on the Bell Peeling Prize (the manager's pun, not mine). Triples were completed by Richard Hilditch and David Peterson, and when your reporter attempted a very silly triple which concluded with an attempt at the Bell Clanging Prize, his opponent, Peterson, collected the peeling points with a double peel on one enemy ball and a single peel on the other, clinching the prize and making the astounded scribe buy the drink.

The best trick shot of the tournament was produced by Ian Maugham, who roqueted a full pint of beer, breaking the handle off cleanly without spilling a drop. Southport's traditional fish sandwiches were much appreciated. The loudest applause shoull however be reserved for Tim Haste, who as manager succeeded in preventing it from raining, even when the club was surrounded by filthy black clouds.

Advanced Play (Singles)

Single Life Event (for Stoker Decanter)

Winner:	J. Walters bt (2) Kelly +12; (3) Collin +24; (4) Storey +24; (F) Meads +4 +24.
Runner-up:	J. Meads bt (2) Mrs Collin +15; (3) Bennet +12; (4) Hilditch +24.
Progressive	'Swiss' Event (wins carried forward from main event)
Winner:	R. Hilditch bt (2) Gordon +13; (3) Thompson +15(TP); Collin +14; Storey +1; Bennet +5.
4 wins:	A. Bennet, P. Death, D. Kelly.
3 wins:	A. Collin, B. Storey, K. Aiton, M. Wilkins.
2 wins:	Mrs P. Hague, C. Snowdon, Mrs A. Collin, A. Gooden, M. Kolbuszewski, F.I. Maugham, T. Haste.
1 win:	D. Peterson, P. Stoker, P.W. Thompson.

K. Aiton and T. Haste played only in the second event.

All-England Final Bowdon 1-2 October

Handicap/Swiss

C.J. Irwin(0) (4 wins) bt Mann +4, Goulding +6, Rutherford +17, Jay

J.R. Mann (8) (3 wins +38) bt Nash +22, Greenwood +17, Rutherford +8.

T. Greenwood (9) (3 wins +37) bt Irwin +26, Nash +11, Davies +21. D. Goulding (21/2) (3 wins +25) bt Mann +5, Rutherford +9, Davies +21.

*C. Jay (10) (3 wins +19) bt Greenwood +4, Goulding +4, Davies +2. *H. Rutherford (12) (2 wins) bt Nash +17, Davies +5. P. Nash (7) (1 win -51) bt Jay +1.

Mrs G.H. Davies (8) (1 win -66) bt Nash +2. Non-Associate

Cheltenham 7–9 October

American Blocks

BLOCK A: J.A. Wheeler (1/2) 5 wins: R.F.A. Crane (4) 5 wins: T.W. Anderson (3) 5 wins; B.G. Neal (-1/2) 2 wins; P.R. Laney (5) 2 wins; W.R. Bawden (5) 2 wins; Mrs D.J. Croker (71/2) 2 wins; Miss Wraith (11) 0 wins.

BLOCK B: D.L Gaunt (3) 5 wins; D.H. Moorcraft (1) 5 wins; D.R. Foulser (-1) 4 wins; F.H. Newman (3) 4 wins; Mrs Neal (5) 2 wins; G/Capt R.S. Ryan (10) 1 win; Mrs Crane (13) 0 wins.

BLOCK C: M.T. Paddon (3) 5 wins; D.J. Croker (-1/2) 5 wins; A. Berry (11/2) 4 wins; Mrs Warren (71/2) 3 wins; R.E. Burnell (5) 2 wins; Lady Bazley (4) 1 win; Mrs Moorcraft (10) 1 win.

BLOCK D: G.E.P. Jackson (0) 6 wins; J. McLaren (3) 4 wins; Mrs Dyson (15) 4 wins; W.J. Sturdy (4) 3 wins; Col E.L.L. Vulliamy (2) 2 wins; Mrs D. Harris (61/2) 2 wins; Mrs Newman (4) 2 wins; Mrs Langley (10) 2 wins.

BLOCK E: P.L. Smith (1) 5 wins; Dr B.G.F. Weitz (½) 4 wins; P.F. Leach (9) 4 wins; Dr C.B. Snowdon (2½) 3 wins; Mrs T. Anderson (5½) 3 wins; C.B. Sanford (4½) 2 wins; J. Exell (7) 0 wins.

BLOCK F: F.I. Maugham (4½) 5 wins; A.B. Hope $(-1\frac{1}{2})$ 5 wins; Mrs B.G. Weitz (3½) 3 wins; G.F. Blumer (5½) 3 wins; R.E. Adlard (2) 2 wins; Miss I.M. Roe (6½) 1 win.

The Inter-Club Championship Final 1983

Roehampton regained the Inter-Club Championship and so scored their third success in four years by beating a spirited Bowdon side 6-1 at Edgbaston on 25th September. The final score does not do justice to the losers who, despite being without their top pair of Eddie Bell and Tim Haste, very nearly established a 3-0 lead by lunchtime.

Steve Lewis was too strong for an out-of-touch Adrian Palmer and quickly gave Bowdon the lead by winning +18. Irwin and Keen almost pulled off the incredible against Mulliner and Aspinall and the game eventually hinged on Keen failing to make a difficult penult on each of two occasions with Irwin on the peg. Nonetheless, Bill Aldridge was given an excellent chance to regain the lead for Bowdon when Mark Ormerod missed into baulk with Aldridge on 3 and the peg. With time imminent, the Bowdon player created a perfect 4-ball break very quickly but mishaps at 2-back and 4-back gave Roehampton a not particularly well-deserved lunchtime lead.

Undismayed, Bowdon made the early running in all four afternoon singles. Pride of place goes to Barry Keen who took full advantage of an Aspinall error at 3 to reach 4-back. A repeat mishap by Aspinall tempted Keen to make progress with his forward ball and he reached rover. Luckily for Roehampton, Aspinall now hit and went to the peg, peeling and pegging out the opposition and, although Keen manufactured one excellent chance of a 3-ball break, the outcome was never really in doubt. In the top single, Colin Irwin reached 4-back first and began a break with his second ball before Steve Mulliner got under way. However, the Mulliner momentum increased steadily and he gave Roehampton her winning point in style with a straight triple. In the other games Ormerod and Palmer proved to be the steadier against Lewis and Aldridge respectively.

Edgbaston were warmly thanked for the use of their lawns which were deceptively quick and provided a very fair test of touch. Although Roehampton are to be congratulated on winning once more, perhaps greater congratulations are due to Bowdon for their appearance in the final at the expense of mighty Harrow.

MARY ROSE FINAL Edgbaston 16 October

Having received a telephone call from the Edgbaston Club the day before, reporting that the lawns were under water, both teams arrived at the club in stormy conditions wondering whether the match would be played. To everyone's relief there was no water in sight and the rain stayed away until the end of the match.

Bowdon arrived in a curious mixture of moods; confidence having lost only 3 games on their way to the final, and trepidation, having been squashed 6-1 in the final of the Inter-Club only 3 weeks earlier on the same lawns. Meanwhile, Cheltenham had had more than their fair share of close encounters en route to the final in what was probably the tougher half of the draw and no doubt considered that their greater experience would pull them through should the final turn out to be close.

Fresh from his victory in the All-England, Colin Irwin just failed to complete his triple peel against Tom Griffith after an hour, and then spent the next 45 minutes trying to peg out his remaining ball before Tom stuck in hoop 5 when Colin hit. The doubles game started out with Edgar Jackson showing how croquet should be played while Barry Keen seemed hell bent on hitting every hoop on the lawn instead of the balls. With Edgar and Barry on 4-back and Phil Johnson going round on a controlled 4-ball break, Cheltenham looked as though they would soon be level in the match. This was not to be as Phil failed to notice his ball drop into a hole in front of 1-back on Bill Aldridge's ball, and with Bill on 1 the match soon went to Bowdon. Meanwhile both Bernard Weitz and Steve Lewis were demonstrating, to those who could stand it, how not to play croquet. In a game which both players would want to forget, Steve eventually ran out the winner to give Bowdon an extremely comfortable 3-0 lead at lunch time.

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In the afternoon, Colin set off against Phil as he did in the morning and quickly put Bowdon into an unassailable 4-0 lead. With thoughts of a 7-0 victory running through the Bowdon captain's mind play continued at a more sedate pace in the other games. Steve seemed well on his way when on peg and rover against Tom who had barely started. However, Tom showed his class by pulling the game out of the fire with a well executed straight triple, thereby putting the Bowdon captain in his place. Barry eventually overcame Bernard who started off as if his morning's form belonged to someone else but then began to fade, while Edgar who was behind Bill throughout their game pulled off a thrilling finish to win by 2.

So the first winners of the Mary Rose trophy were Bowdon by 5 games to 2. Both teams warmly thanked Edgbaston for their hospitality with special thanks to Ray Jones for setting the hoops and acting as referee of the tournament.

Everybody who has played in the competition has welcomed the chance to play opens against other clubs without being whitewashed by the 'International Set' and I am sure that all participants will join me in thanking Richard Rothwell for initiating what already is an extremely popular competition.

B.A.K.

Results (Bowdon names first):

W.O. Aldridge & B.A. Keen bt G.E. Jackson & P.M. Johnson +9 S.E. Lewis bt B. Weitz +11 C.J. Irwin bt T. Griffith +11 C.J. Irwin bt P.M. Johnson +19 S.E. Lewis lost to T. Griffith -4(STP) W.O. Aldridge lost to G.E.P. Jackson -2 B.A. Keen bt B. Weitz +12

Bowdon 1 beat Cheltenham 1 5-2

THE MARY ROSE

As donor of the new Mary Rose Trophy I have been asked the question Why the Mary Rose? Perhaps, therefore, it may be of interest if some explanation as to how this competition came to be introduced and with a name having no apparent croquet connections.

Croquet clubs tend to be scattered far and wide, some over 50 miles from their nearest neighbour, making some rather insular. Inter-club competitions help to get them involved in CA activities.

The Inter-Club Champion was the first, started in 1906. It was not until I was browsing through records in the CA office in 1970 and came across the magnificent silver salver awarded to the winner that I realised that it had not been competed for since 1939. This omission was quickly put to rights and the competition has been held annually since 1973.

Then in 1928 the late William Longman presented the Longman Club Team Cup (to give it its full title, although it is affectionately known as 'The Longman'), his objective being to encourage players of comparatively high handicaps to take part in competitive play outside their own Clubs which otherwise they probably would not do. The emphasis has always been on handicap doubles. Over the years the minimum handicap permitted has come down to 3½, but the joint combined handicap of the whole team of four has been kept as high as 24 to make it necessary for some high bisquers to take part. The competition has proved popular and in recent years has attracted an entry of upwards of 40 Clubs.

In recent years there has been a significant increase in handicaps of players (particularly men, many comparatively young) now with handicaps too low to allow them to play in The Longman, and yet possibly not yet low enough for them to stand a realistic chance in the Inter-Club in which there are several clubs with more than one President's Cup player to call upon.

There seemed, therefore, room for another inter-club competition to cater for that ever increasing breed of player between the 3 and 0 handicap bracket. I put this suggestion to the Council in October 1982 and to try and give this proposed new competition some initial status offered to present a trophy for it. I was gratified that the Council received this suggestion with enthusiasm and accepted my offer.

The CA is very well endowed with trophies, the majority being cups, and when thinking what trophy I could give other than a cup name an incident which helped me to make up my mind. In November came the dramatic raising of the wreck of The Mary Rose, seen by millions live on television, after nearly 450 years lying beneath the Solent.

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To celebrate this event the Mary Rose Trust commissioned Rose & Crown, the world's oldest surviving cast pewter makers (established in the XVth century) to make a limited (850) of replicas of a pewter flagon previously recovered from the wreck, the profits from the sale of which to be devoted to the Trust's funds. I applied for one and was allotted No. 362. This seemed to me to be a suitable trophy for a new competition being a reminder of such an historic event occuring in the year when the new competition was launched.

Some thought the trophy should be known as The Rothwell Trophy, but my wish that it be known as The Mary Rose prevailed. This name has clearly caught on and it is gratifying to record that there was as many as 23 entries for the first competition. Croquet in the North of England has surged forward in recent years, particularly Bowdon. When they entered the Inter-Club in 1983 they did so not expecting to get very far, but they did reach the final only to succumb to a strong Roehampton side in the final. However, they did have the consolation of winning the Mary Rose, so becoming the first name on its plinth.

Richard Rothwell

Secretary's Shield 1984

The 1983 winners of the various leagues played off during the summer. Wolverhampton (West Midlands Federation) beat Chester (Northern Federation) 4-3; and Aldermaston (Home Counties A) beat Parsons Green (Home Counties B) 5-2.

In the final, played at Nottingham on 25th September on a lovely sunny day on excellent lawns, the holders Aldermaston retained the Shield by beating Wolverhampton 5-2. Despite the score the match was very keenly contested and much enjoyed by all concerned. Scores (Aldermaston names first):

W. Marlow & J.L. Wankling lost to Miss H. Hewitson & D. Spear -3(OT); N.A. Mclean (5) beat H. Hawkins ($2\frac{1}{2}$) +25; Dr J.A. McMordie beat J. Coutts (2) +12; W. Marlow (16D14) lost to D. Spear -15; J.L. Wankling ($7\frac{1}{2}$) beat Miss H. Hewitson (6) +13; N.A. Mclean beat J. Coutts +25; Dr J.A. McMordie (3) beat H. Hawkins ($2\frac{1}{2}$) +1.

Aldermaston will not be able to win the Shield for a third successive time in 1984 as the Home Counties winners this year are Harwell and Woking. Edgbaston have won the West Midlands League. The 1983 winners of the Northern Federation are not yet known.

Longman Cup 1983

The final was played at Nottingham on 2nd October. Wolverhampton had beaten Bath, Harwell and Worcester (the holders) to reach the final, and Colworth had beaten Harrow Oak, Cambridge University and Ipswich.

After the morning's doubles Colworth were leading 2-0, but after lunch Wolverhampton fought back well. They won the double easily and the first single narrowly after both players had chances of pegging out. So all depended on the second single. This proved a long game which went to time. Nancy Lenfestey had to give her younger and less experienced opponent 6½ bisques. Despite a strong rearguard action she failed which gave Colworth the cup for the first time. Congratulation to them and commiserations to Wolverhampton for losing at Nottingham twice in eight days.

Scores (in order of finishing) — Colworth names first: B.A. Cumming & L Aspinall beat D. Spear & R. Weaver +17; Mrs T. Anderson & K: Davis beat Miss H. Hewitson & Mrs D. Lenfestey +8(OT); C.A. Cummin & Mrs T. Anderson lost to D. Spear & Miss Hewitson -20; L Aspinall beat R. Weaver +2; K. Davis beat Mrs Lenfestey +8(OT).

R.F.R.

MAKING A MALLET

Materials

- Hardwood for the head ideally 2 pieces approx. $22 \times 6.5 \times 3.5$ cm; but pieces of other thicknesses totalling a head $22 \times 6.5 \times 6.5$ cm will suffice.
- b) Approx. 3 ft of ¼ inch, 16 gauge aluminium tubing. (eg: Kays Engineering, Woodbridge)
- c) About 20 oz of scrap lead.

- d) A piece of 1 inch thick polypropylene, 6.5 x 6.5 cm (eg: offcut from lpswich Plastics)
 e) Some plastic or rubber tubing, to thicken the grip, eg: ¾ inch l.D. radiator hose covered in leather or handlebar tape; or a piece of ¾ inch l.D. plastic hose covered with 1 inch plastic
 - f) A pack of Araldite (not Araldite Rapid), a small amount of Cascamite wood glue, yacht varnish, a 3 inch piece of % inch dowel, a 35 mm cutter (sold for fitting concealed hinges to kitchen units.), etc.

Stages

2)

 Cast some lead weights. Use 15/16 inch broomhandle or a 33 mm diameter former pushed into casting sand as a mould, or drill holes of this size in a piece of scrap-wood, and cast directly into these. Lead can be melted in an old pan on a gas cooker, but be very wary of the fumes. If you have to saw the lead, use a very coarse blade.

15/16 inch lead bar weighs about 2 oz for each 1 cm length.

Mark centre lines on

all faces of each piece

33 mm lead billets, 15 mm thick, weigh approx. 5 oz. You will probably want about 20 oz of lead, eg: for 33 mm billets.

Cut and prepare the wood for the head. Ideally, you want two pieces, each $22 \times 6.5 \times 3.5$ cm, roughly finished. Plane flat one face of each — these two faces will later be glued together to complete the head, so they must be really flat.

Plane these faces to match

Bore 1 inch or 35 mm holes into the two planed faces, near the ends of the head, so that the lead can be concealed inside the finished head.

If 1 inch diameter lead

7.5 cm	7.5 cm.
t	1 T
1	

You may want to add a second piece in each end, a little way towards the middle of each piece of wood

in be cond	cealed insid
f 35 mm di	ameter lead
7.2 cm	7.2 cm

Take care not to allow the thread or spike of the drilling-bit to emerge out of the other side of the wood.

Holes	bored in top half
-	A Charles
	- diana Ta

Lead	glued	into	bottom	half
	SI//	11		

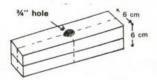
Araldite the pieces of lead in place, in the top and bottom halves of the head, such that no lead protrudes above the planed surface.

When the Araldite has had at least 16 hours to harden, clean any lumps of it off the planed faces of each block, and glue the blocks together with Cascamite, so that the lead is hidden inside. Clamp the blocks with 4 clamps while the glue dries.



Make sure all your centre-lines match-up

4) After 16 hours minimum to set, plane the block down to a 6 cm square cross-section; re-draw the centre-lines on each face as it is planed smooth. Bore a ¾ inch hole for the handle preferably on a drilling machine, using a speed bit, as this will ensure it goes in true. If you use a brace and bit, keep checking you are drilling in the right direction.



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D. Splits. Aiming line is zero. K. measured anti-clockwise U clockwise (R).

U CIUCI	wise (11)	•					
Shot	K° set	U°	Ud	K°	Kd	Total d	Spli
12	35°	37°	1.42	40°	1.95	337	779
25	35°	47°	1.21	35°	1.83	3.04	82
26	35°	40°	1.26	32°	2.0	3.26	72
13	40°	36°	1.80	38°	1.48	3.28	74
14	45°	37°	1.83	38°	1.70	3.53	75
24	45°	33°	1.89	37°	1.63	3.52	700
15	50°	31°	2.29	51°	1.03	3.32	81
16	55°	27°	2.47	50°	0.85	3.32	779

Second Series: 1815 on 26.8.83 after mowing

E.	Splits.	Same	notation	as	for	ſ
	opino.	Samo	norarion	00	101	

27		0°	4.03	Ran	ge is abo	ut 10% furt	her
28	-	0°	4.33	*Ro	lled over	coin and th	en 1"
29	-	0°	4.39	*2"	further a	nd then 11/2	" left
30		0°	4.45	*2"		et, then 2"	
37	30°	44°	1.64	38°	1.85	3.49	8
36	35°	40°	1.94	421/2°	1.59	3.53	82
35	40°	33°	2.26	49°	1.48	3.74	8:
34	45°	30°	2.31	50°	1.41	3.72	80
33	50°	28°	2.47	53°	1.10	3.57	8
32	55°	281/2°	2.97	59°	0.79	3.76	87
31	60°	24°	3.31	60°	0.69	4.00	84

* Smoothing effect is still significant

These are more consistent than Group D, but now the croqueted is coming away on the near side of the set angle, whereas in grou it mostly went to the far side (smaller angle than that set). Barbrona,

Frank R. F

Coppice Lane, Reigate, RH2 9JF

SECRETARY'S NOTES

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Associates are reminded that 1984 annual subscriptions are due payment on 1st January. These are the same as in 1983, nam £10.00

Standard Rate	£10.00	
Reduced Rate Junior Rate (under 24 on 31.12.83) Overseas	} £5.00	

CLUB REGISTRATION FEE

The annual Club Registration Fee for 1984 is 25p per croquet play member (exclusive of country members) as at 1st August 1983, with maximum of £5.00. These fees are due for payment on 1st Janu 1984. (Note: the rate for 1983 was 20p.)

Reprinting of Laws and Regulations

Council has appointed the Laws Committee as a special committee to submit for approval a redraft of the Laws of Association Croquet and Golf Croquet and the Regulations for Tournaments prior to reprinting.

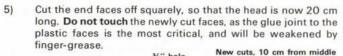
In accordance with Rule XIV (a) (ii), if the redraft is passed by the Council by a majority of 6 to 4, it will become law on publication or on any later date fixed by the Council, and such later date shall then be printed in the publication itself.

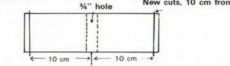
An explanation of the principal will appear in a later Gazette.

NEW REGISTERED CLUBS

Auchincruive Croquet Club, West of Scotland Agricultural College, Auchincruive, Ayrshire. Secretary: L. Reid, 4 Craigsgreen Place, Prestwick, Ayrshire. Tel: 0292-70579.

Shrewsbury Croquet Club, Monkmoor Recreation Ground, Shrewsbury. Secretary: Brian Christmas, Pulley Hall, Lower Pulley, Bayston Hill, Shrewsbury SY3 0AC. Tel: 074-372-2900.

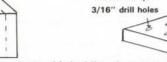




Saw the 1 inch thick piece of polypropylene down the middle, to produce two plastic faces. Again, do not touch the sawn surfaces.

> Then drill shallow dents into these sawn faces, but not within 1 cm of the edges. These are to provide an added key.

> > sawn face

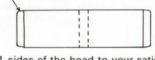


Saw long

Fill these dents with Araldite, then coat all of the sawn face of the plastic with the glue. Fix the plastic onto the sawn faces of the wooden head, checking it goes on squarely. Spare glue should ooze out on all edges of the join as you press the plastic down. Sellotape the plastic tightly in place.



After a minimum of 24 hours (longer is better), use a plane and 61 gently plane the plastic down to size, Work along line of the joint, not across it - the glue takes 3 days to reach full strength, so take care. Taper and chamfer the ends slightly.



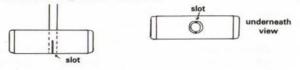
7) Sand the 4 sides of the head to your satisfaction — you can also lightly sand the plastic faces - it will give a little more grip on the ball when you first use the mallet. Cut a sight-line in the top face of the head with a hacksaw, about 1 or 2 mm deep.



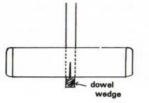
Cut the handle to length, eg: 36 or 37 inch if you play with a 8) conventional grip, 34 inch if you play with an Irish grip. Cut a slot across the bottom 4 cm of the tube.



Sandpaper the bottom 6 cm. of the tube. Do not touch this sanded area, as again this will be glued. Coat this area lightly with Araldite and fit the tube into the head, with the saw-cut in the tube running across the head.



Taper a 3 inch piece of % inch dowel, cover it in Araldite and hammer this part-way into the bottom of the tube as a wedge.



- After 16 hours minimum, trim off spare dowel and sand the 9) bottom face clean.
- Apply a minimum of 3 coats of yacht varnish to all of the head 10) except the playing faces of the plastic; rub down between each coat. Take care to seal the end grain of the dowel. Paint the sight-line white.
- 11) Apply the grip to the handle; plastic pipe may be a tight fit place the pipe in hot water first if too tight. If the pipe is at all loose, glue it with Evostick. Cover with handlebar tape or leather (Evostick again). Put a rubber plug in the top of the tube, to prevent water entering and affecting the wedge.



First Experiments with Cromac

State of lawn: grass beginning to grow after rain, after drought. Dry.

Machine setting: no power; mallet drawn back to 46°; hitting when

Distances are given in yards: 1 inch = 0.03 yd app. Ball is 0.1 yd.

A. Single ball shots

Bernard Neal suggested that a succession of balls hit in the same way would not end up on the same spot; FFR thought that a ball going over the same track would go further than the immediately previous.

3.65	marked with 1/2p
3.85	rolled over 1/2p and veered 1" to rt. 1/2p on
	straight line
4.2	rolled over both coins and veered 2" to rt.
38	the grass has recovered partially in an hour or so

B. Take-Offs. Zero angle is the aiming line for U. take-off from the

Shot	Mallet°	U°	Ud	K°	Kd	Total d	
22	5°	1°	3.4		sh	3.4	
21	10°	2°	3.56	-2°	.03	3.6	(K rolled back)
20	15°	3°	3.36	-3°	.1	3.46	
19	20°	2°	3.25	-5°	.26	3.51	
18	25°	2°	2.8	-5°	.48	3.28	
17	30°	4°	2.58	-3°	.7	3.28	
16	35°	8°	2.47	-5°	.85	3.32	

As stated by J. Solomon, within limits the mallet angle (aim) does not affect the direction in which the striker's ball takes off - only the relative distances the two balls move. The limit is close to 30°, when the croqueted ball will move a quarter of the distance of that struck. The angle between the balls is not 90° but 83-86°. Results could be somewhat different with power on the mallet. At the moment of striking in these shots there is no power at all - only the velocity of

C. Drives or Peels. Zero angle is the aiming line for K. Angles measured clockwise.

4	0°	0°	0.64	0°	3.64	4.28	(Paths smoothed
5	10°	27°	0.69	5°	2.61	3.3	by 1-3)
6	10°	27°	0.8	5°	2.92	3.72	(Paths smoothing
7	15°	n	.a.	-1°	2.3		effect)
8	15°	35°	0.86	0°	2.5	3.36	and the second sec
9	20°	51°	0.83	2°	2.26	3.1	
10	25°	61°	1.0	4°	2.42	3.42	
11	30°	62°	1.28	0°	2.12	3.40	
12	35°	72°	1.42	-5°	1.95	3.37	
Chat E		haliou	able b	ad the	cotting	hoon 5	hu mistaka? Pools

Shot 5 was unbelievable, had the setting been 5° by mistake? Peels with aim slightly off line need looking into.

A 36	cm
/ /	The grip should finish 36 cm

Martin French No. 2 The Row. Parish Road Bramford, Ipswich

Dew beginning to moisten surface around 19.00 (shot 23 app.). Time: 17.45 to 19.15 app.

vertical.

dia. app.

Shot Blue distance

1.	3.65	marked with 1/2p
2.	3.85	rolled over ½p and veered 1" to rt. ½p or straight line
3.	4.2	rolled over both coins and veered 2" to rt.
23.	3.8	the grass has recovered partially in an hour or so

the grass has recovered partially in an hour or so.

right. Angles reported anti-clockwise. Black is croqueted ball.

the mallet.

4	0°	0°	0.64	0°	3.64	4.28	(Paths smoothed
5	10°	27°	0.69	5°	2.61	3.3	by 1-3)
6	10°	27°	0.8	5°	2.92	3.72	(Paths smoothing
7	15°	n	.a.	-1°	2.3		effect)
8	15°	35°	0.86	0°	2.5	3.36	
9	20°	51°	0.83	2°	2.26	3.1	
0	25°	61°	1.0	4°	2.42	3.42	
1	30°	62°	1.28	0°	2.12	3.40	
2	350	720	1 42	-5°	1 95	3 37	

Leave in a warm place to set.

(L),	Beecham Pharmaceuticals, Harlow. Secretary: S.M. Cooper, Beecham Pharmaceuticals, The Pinnacle, Harlow, Essex CM19 5AD.
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ball	East Grinatead, West Bussex Initio Trint
Jp D	
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loss	Budleigh Salterton: Secretary: W.C. Broad-Thomas, 28 The Rolle, Budleigh Salterton, Devon EX9 6PH. Telephone (03954) 5448. Kent & Sussex Croquet Club: Mrs J. Reeves, 3 The Pantyles, Goathurst Common, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN14 6BX. Telephone Ide Hill (073-275) 435.
	Parkstone (East Dorset): Miss M.D. McMordie. Telephone number is (0202) 733111.
	Southport: Miss Alice E. Dawson, 3 Petworth Road, Ainsdale, Southport, Merseyside PR8 2QL Telephone Merseyside (0704)
e for	78173.
iely:	SIDMOUTH CC Secretary: E.G. Kitchener, Byres End, Byres Lane, Sidmouth Devon, EX10 9QX. Tel: 039-55-2812.
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uary	OVERSEAS COUNCILS
,	Australian Croquet Council: Hon. Secretary: Dr Jose M. San Tonnellier, 8/3 Cox Lane, Boni Beach, New South Wales, Australia.
	DEATHS
	Mrs P.H. Mann
auk	Mrs V. Ormerod
sub-	

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Referees: E.J. Davis B. Redford

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10

8

Non-Associate

G. Reynolds

R.J. Leonard 51/2 J. McCauley 15 13 Non-Associate Miss M. McGoldrick 16 (D14) 15 Non-Associate N. McInerney 6 Non-Associate 61/2 16 (D14) 15 Non-Associate J. O'Driscoll Mrs H.M. Read 8 F.J. Rogerson 5 3 Cheltenham (Trophies) 21-22 August Miss D.E. Barber 13 (D11) 12 (D10) K. Cotterell 3 Mrs K. Cotterell 51/2 41/2 Dr J.W. King 5 4 11 (D9) P.F. Leach 9 Mrs D.H. Moorcraft 11 (D9) 10 (D8) J.E. Ross 31/2 21/2 Miss J. Wraith 11 (D9) 11 Compton 15-20 August Miss J.E. Assheton 41/2 4 D. Daintree 11 10 61/2 Mrs M. Grout Dr C.A. Parker 11/2 Miss P.E. Parker 41/2 R. Welch 5 6 Dr R.F. Wheeler 41/2 4 Dr W.R.D. Wiggins 11/2 1 Budleigh Salterton 16-18 August W. Broad-Thomas 61/2 Mrs W. Broad-Thomas 13 14 51/2 Dr W.R. Bucknall 41/2 H.J. Crozier 11 10 Mrs H.J. Crozier 14 (D13) 13 (D11) P.K.L. Danks 61/2 L Mills 12 11 Non-Associate Miss S. Legge 16 (D14) 15 Non-Associate 14 (D12) Mrs B.G. Perry 12 16 (D14) 15 Non-Associate J. Mc B. Wood Edinburgh 22-29 August R. Forth 9 10 Miss C. Hay 16 Non-Associate 15 16 (D14) 14 A. Nisbet Non-Associate R. Ottley 16 (D14) 15 Southwick 22-27 August R. Andrews 6 5 11/2 A. Berry 21/2 N.W.T. Cox 4 3 Mrs N.W.T. Cox 31/2 41/2 M. French A. Hittle 8 Non-Associate 6 Mrs E.A. Mapletoft 11 (D8) 9 (D8) A.J. Mrozinski 41/2 31/2 J. Plummer 8 61/2 R.A.G. Rogers 10 8 Bowdon 20-29 August During Play: 15 (D12) P. Dyke 15 15* J.R. Mann 13 (D10) After Play: 21/2 A. Bennet 2 Miss S.E. Black 11 10 G.K. Collin 31/2 14(D12) P. Dvke 15 (D12) C.J. Irwin 1/2 0 Mrs C.J. Irwin 11 9 D. Kelly 31/2 5 J.R. Mann 13 (D10) 12 (D10) D. Peterson 2 M.H. Sandler 41/2 31/2 B.J. Storey 6 5 M.J. Wilkins 71/2 7

13

J. Harvey

10

5

The Croquet Gazette

The Croquet Gazette

Non-Associate

Hurlingham 27, 20 August			
Hurlingham 27–29 August H.G. Bellm	12	8	
R. Hall	11	9	
Miss J. McLeod	9	7	
Mrs D. Torrington Petrie	11 (D9)	10 (D9)	
A.A. Reed	21/2	11/2	
Cheltenham 27–29 August			
R. Race	6	5	
Hunstanton 29 August-3 Se	71/2	7	
Professor K. Campbel! J.W.H. Carlisle	4	31/2	
J.O. Walters	2	11/2	
Parkstone 29 August-3 Sep	tember		
R.H.C. Carder	4	31/2	
J.E. Guest	11/2	1	
F.L Shergold	2	11/2	
B. Whitehouse	4	31/2	
All England Handison (Chal		1 Contembor	
All England Handicap (Chel	tennam) 3-	4 September	
<i>During Play:</i> J.T. Mann	12	10	
After Play:	12	10	
J.T. Mann	10	8	
or the internet			
All England Handicap (Com	pton) 3-4 5	September	
P. Nash		7	
All England Handicap (Edgt	baston) 3-4	September	
J. Greenwood	11	9	
All England Handicap (Harr			
J. Watson	8	6½	
All England Handicap (Huns	stanton) 3	1 Sentember	
	14*		sociate
Dr H. Rutherford	14	12 NOIPAS	
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All England Handicap (Hurl W.T. Coles	ingham) 3–4 6	1 September 5	
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All England Handicap (Hurl W.T. Coles	ingham) 3–4 6	1 September 5	

Handicap Doubles.

T.I. Wood	enham) 6–9 Se	0	
	/-		
Stourbridge (Club) 7 Se	eptember		
Mrs J.W. Potter	71/2	8	
Nottingham 9-11 Sept	ember		
Before Play:			
M.R.L. Cowan	14	11*	
After Play:			
M.R.L. Cowan	11*	11	
D.G. Arthur	7	5	
S.J. Hare	21/2	5 2 4	
J.C. Straw	5	4	
P. Trafford	7	6	Non-Associate
Ryde 9-11 September			
H. Brownsdon	12*	10	
T.I. Card	41/2	5	
C.G. Pountney	5	41/2	
Mrs M. Robinson	14*	14	Non-Associate
J.F.S. Thomas	9	8	
Dr P.A. Watson	11	10	
Cheltenham 12-15 Sep	otember		
R.F.A. Crane	41/2	4	
F.I. Maugham	5	41/2	

SUBSCRIPTIONS 1984

It would be appreciated if Associates would pay their 1984 subscriptions promptly when due on the 1st January 1984. This would be of considerable help in time also in cost of having to send out reminders.

Any member who would like a Bankers Order sent out to them, please notify me.

> B.C. Macmillan. Administration Secretary



Cliff Anderson (Captain of New Zealand in 1974) going out with a 3-ball break atter his partner had been pegged out in the Bowdon (Photo by Peter Alvey)