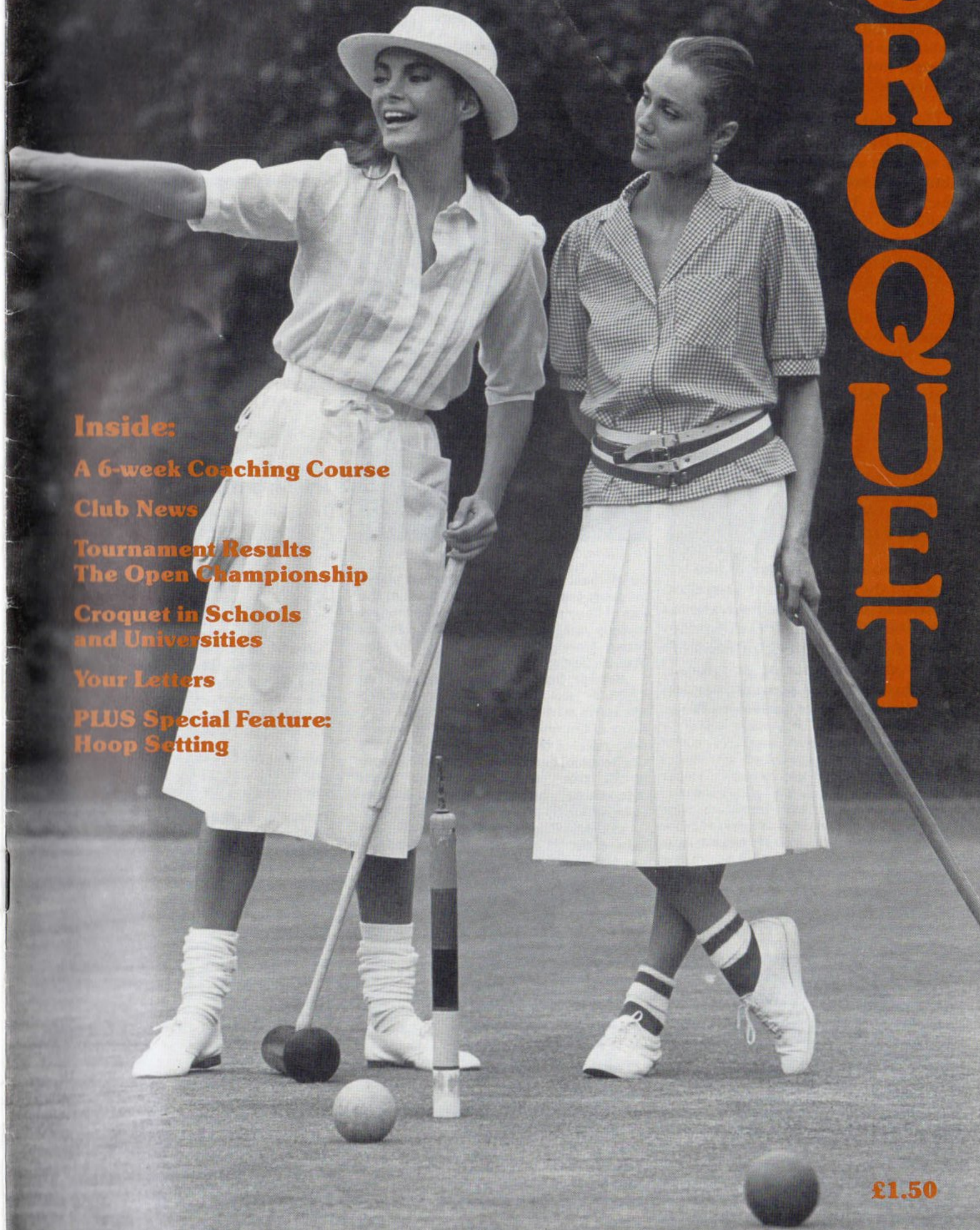


CROQUET



- Inside:**
- A 6-week Coaching Course**
- Club News**
- Tournament Results**
- The Open Championship**
- Croquet in Schools and Universities**
- Your Letters**
- PLUS Special Feature: Hoop Setting**



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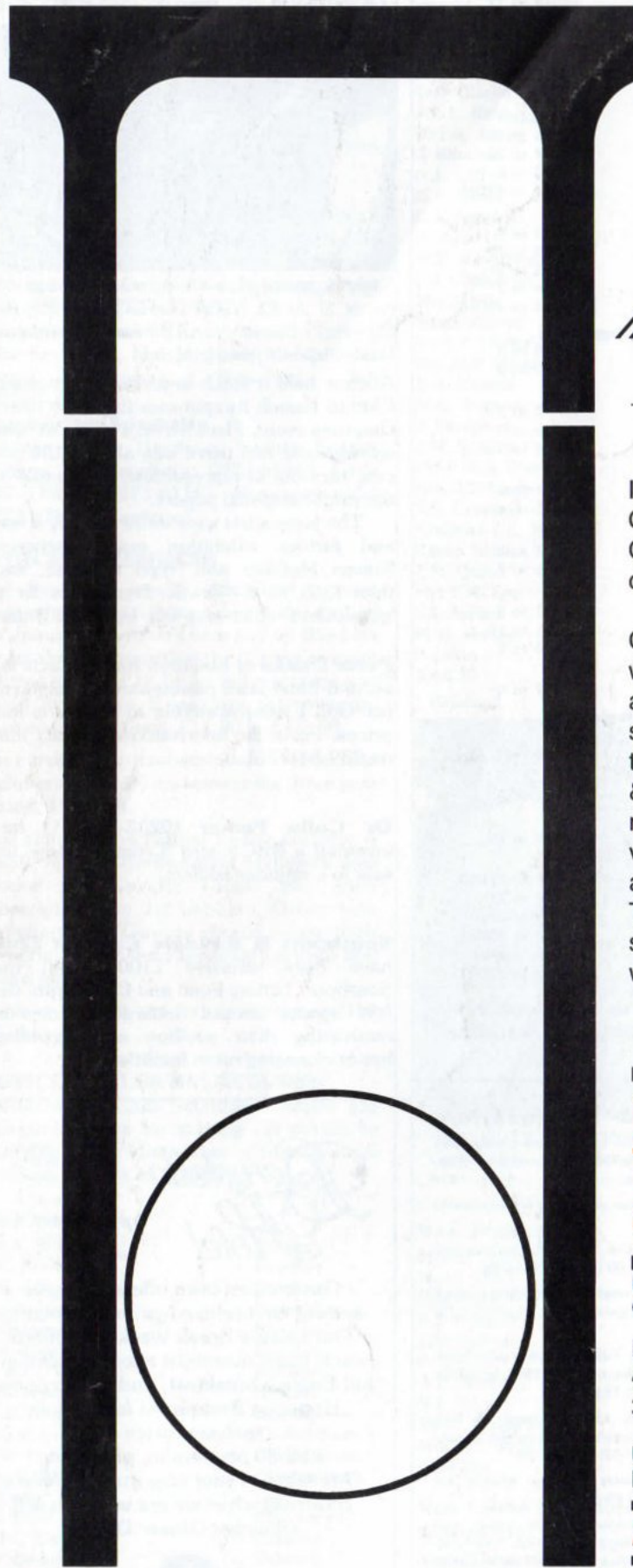
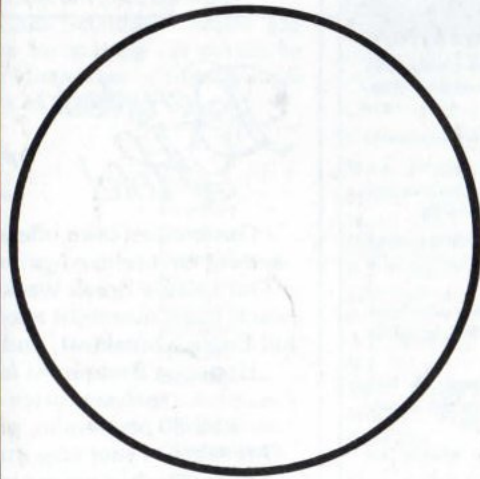
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Modern attitudes - traditional values



Two major developments have occurred with this issue of 'Croquet'. First, Andrew Bennet has assumed the role of 'Sports Editor' and has taken over the editing and layout of tournament reports and results. Second, the final text is now being transmitted directly into the printer's typesetting machine to avoid the 'double-keying' we hear so much about in Fleet Street.

No doubt there will be a few teething troubles with the next issue or two, but eventually we should be able to produce 'Croquet' at a lower cost. More importantly, the time taken to publish it should be reduced, thus enabling us to produce news earlier than hitherto.

Each of the last issues has contained thirty or more photographs, which I believe makes them more attractive to the reader, and I am most grateful to those who have sent photographs for possible inclusion. Also to all those who have sent reports and other contributions, on which we are totally dependent if we are to cover the national scene.

Now that we have a 'Sports Editor', is there anyone who would like to take on the job of 'Features Editor'? Someone else might like to take over the production of a regular 'Coaches Corner'. In the past, there have been official 'Club Correspondents', and club profiles, or news of club events and social activities, with photographs if possible, would be very welcome for inclusion. Any offers?

CHRIS HUDSON



Keith Wylie

'EXPERT CROQUET TACTICS'

This new book by Keith Wylie will be published towards the end of this year. The price has not yet been determined but will probably be between £10 and £15, hardbound.

Would anyone wishing to order a copy please write to him, **not** enclosing any money, at 17 Carlton Crescent, Southampton, SO9 5AL.

Every effort will be made to post copies in time for Christmas.

"Croquet", incorporating the Croquet Gazette, is published by The Croquet Association, The Hurlingham Club, Ranelagh Gardens, London SW6 3PR. Tel: 01-736 3148

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"Croquet" is published on the first day of every second month. To be certain of inclusion, copy should reach the Editor on the 20th of the month, two months before the month of issue (i.e. on 20th May for the issue being published on 1st July).

Tournament results and reports to be sent direct, within 7 days of completion of the tournament, to the Secretary of the CA.

Other contributions other than tournament results and reports should be sent to the Editor. They will be much welcomed and acknowledged. Photographs (preferably black and white) should also be sent to the Editor.

All correspondence about non-delivery of "Croquet", changes of address, telephone numbers, handicaps or officials should be sent to the CA Secretary and **not** to the Editor.

Photographs in this issue by

Peter Alvey, Ian McDiarmid, The Monitor Group, Jeff Bowden, Express & Star, Tony Porter Associates, Deborah Latham, and Wilfred Harper.

Cover Photo

The skirts and blouses are by Gor-Ray, available from leading stores and shops in a variety of colours. But which club do the girls belong to?

Annual Subscription Rate **£6.50**
(incl P&P). Individual copies **£1.50**

The 1985 Championship

There were 22 entries this year, as against 15 in 1984. This time Marlborough, King Edwards at Bath, Farlingaye and Chigwell were not able to take part, but 11 new schools entered - Arnold School (Blackpool), Queen Elizabeth's (Blackburn), Ludlow College, Wrekin, Nailsea, Radley, the Royal Ballet School, St John's (Leatherhead), Rugby, Oundle, and Kimbolton. Several more are hoping to take part next year.

Some 35 girls' schools were invited to compete but unfortunately none of them was able to accept. Although this was something of a disappointment, rumour has it that Ludlow College, this year's winners, expect to field an all-girl team next year, and it should not be long before we see some young lady players doing well in this competition.

From the very first round, one could sense that the competition was being taken more seriously than last year. Queries about opponents handicaps, allegations of 'gamesmanship', and well-defined questions about the laws of croquet were far more frequent than before, and often we were asked to provide both referees and handicappers for matches, a request we were fortunately able to meet owing to the support we received from the individual clubs where the matches were held.

Incidents abounded! Time was called half an hour early in one match and the contestants had dispersed before the mistake was realised. One game was triple-banked - adhesive fluorescent tape being used to distinguish the third set of balls - and the lawn was actually less than full size! In another match, one doubles pair found themselves a few hoops ahead, and then as a matter of tactics, which they quite openly admitted, deliberately played slowly to prevent their opponents catching up - not quite in the spirit of the game!

James Carlisle (playing for Oundle) and John Mann (playing for Nailsea) found themselves several times up against opponents playing much better than their handicaps. Indeed, against Warwick, John's opponent took 3 bisques to set up a break, during the course of which he peeled John through Rover and pegged him out.

Several of the schools reported that 60 to 80 pupils and staff were playing croquet regularly during break times and the lunch hour. A number of schools play friendly matches between themselves, but probably Ludlow, a sixth form college, was the only team in this year's competition that played regularly in a local league against established croquet clubs. The experience they gained in this way must have stood them in good stead in the championship.

Thanks are due to those clubs who offered their grounds for the competition (Bowdon, Cheltenham, Edgbaston, Harrow Oak, Nailsea, Parsons Green, Taunton Deane, and Wrest Park) and to those members who acted as officials. Also to the masters in charge of each team, who drove their teams to matches and ensured that (nearly) all matches were played by the due dates. Scheduling is all important in this sort

of tournament, and without their help, it would never have been completed.

Finally, congratulations to all who took part on the standard of play they achieved in the short time available in the summer term. Some school teams are composed of 3rd year pupils who will make a big impact later, and the standard will surely rise each year as the competition progresses.

CHRIS HUDSON

RESULTS

1st Round

Manchester bt Arnold 2-0; Queen Elizabeth's bt Chethams 2-1; Ludlow bt Wrekin 3-0; Oundle bt Rugby 3-0; Dulwich bt Kimbolton 3-0; Stowe bt Merchant Taylors 2-1

2nd Round

Queen Elizabeth's bt Manchester 2-1; Ludlow bt Kings Chester 3-0; Nailsea bt Taunton Junior 3-0; Warwick bt Radley 3-0; St John's Leatherhead bt Royal Ballet 3-0; Ardingly bt Worth 2-1; Oundle bt Bishop Vesey's 2-1; Stowe bt Dulwich 2-1

3rd Round

Ludlow bt Queen Elizabeth's 3-0; Warwick bt Nailsea 2-1; St Johns bt Ardingly 2-1; Stowe bt Oundle 2-1

Semi-Finals

Ludlow bt Warwick 2-1; Stowe bt St Johns 2-1

Final

Ludlow bt Stowe 2-1

CROQUET

POSTER COMPETITION

We need a new poster - one that catches the eye - A4 size, for use by clubs to advertise events. The poster should include the words "Association Croquet" and have sufficient space for the Club to insert its message.

This text is written on a previous poster design. A small prize will be awarded to the budding designer who submits the chosen design. Entries should reach the CA Office by 1st December.



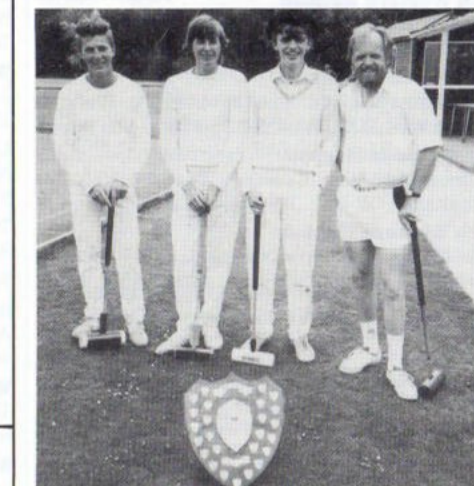
Wolverhampton Girls' High School Croquet team, coached by Ken Townsend. (L to R) Back: Susan Wycherley & Kay Catell. Front: Rebecca John & Rachel Lewis. Preparing for 1986?

Cheltenham: 11 July The Final

Ludlow and Stowe travelled to Cheltenham to play in the final of the Croquet Association's School Championship, won last year by Manchester Grammar School.

This is but the second year of the championship. The potential is undoubtedly there, but it is fair comment to say that experience, as yet, is understandably lacking.

It is a moot point whether doubles is a suitable game for pairs of handicap 16 or so, who have been playing the game for a comparatively short time. It tends to be a series of conferences.



Ludlow College - 1985 Champions. (L to R) Stuart Packer, Dave Thomas, Nick Carter, and Peter Dorke.

Ludlow fielded Peter Dorke (12) to lead his partner Nick Davies (13) against the Stowe pair of Robert Marsh and Nick Mellor, both playing off 16. In the event 3½ bisques proved too much to give, and the game ended with a +10 win for Stowe, regrettably on a shortened time.

In his game with Richard Woolley of Stowe (16), Dave Thomas soon showed his superiority. He knew his way around, had some excellent shots in his armoury, and ran hoops well. Richard Woolley put up a game fight, but contributed to his own downfall with the common beginner's error of joining up at the end of a turn, when his opponent is also joined up.

In the other singles Stuart Packer, at 11 the lowest handicap player in the match, played aggressively, with good control of both direction and distance in his croquet shots. An ambitious player, he rather spoiled his performance with a show of petulance on two occasions, aiming a kick at a hoop he failed to run.

Nick Davies, on the other hand, showed a different attitude of style and demeanour. His impeturbability is to be commended.

The Rothwell Shield was presented to the winning team on behalf of the Croquet Association by that much-capped Cheltenham croquet international, Andrew Hope, who modestly suggested that it is far easier to become an international in croquet than in any other sport, and for the young players present he opened up the prospect of worldwide travel, mallet assisted!

BILL BAWDEN

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Ryde: 17-22 June

Holford shows how it's done

Thanks are once again due to all the members of the Ryde Club for their generous hospitality and the very warm welcome extended to all visitors. The best croquet of the week came from Miles Holford of Roehampton who completed two triple peels – the first seen at Ryde for many years – and almost pulled off a quadruple in the final of the handicap doubles if you've ever heard of such a thing! Miles and Vincent Camroux had the same number of wins and both had to play Margaret Newman who had one win less. Various results were thus theoretically possible but Miles, who played Margaret first, won by 26 with a superb triple. This left Vincent needing to win by 24 but Margaret made the first four points and that was that. Vincent at least had the consolation of beating Miles in both their individual matches.

Miles' first game against Margaret produced an instance of the wrong ball being played in the 3rd turn of the game with the new rule coming into play whereby that ball stays where it is instead of being replaced and the fourth ball having to be placed in any legal position on either baulk line. Margaret in fact placed the ball on the 3rd corner spot and no great advantage was gained.

Roy Newnham combined his managerial duties with playing steadily to win the B class from Harry Brownsdon but even he lost a game by 2 to Steve Thomas who generally was not having too happy a week (croquet wise). Bill Casey won the C Class quite convincingly but again there were some close finishes; Mary Robinson just getting home by 1 against Diane Erith who in turn won a close scrap with Richard Carleton by 6. The final of the X was contested between Arthur Rowlands and Frank Newman. Arthur had most unselfishly limited his play during the week to help out Joe Orchard with the general running of affairs and his victory – regaining the cup he won last year – was a popular and well deserved one. Val Tompkinson won the Y with yet another close finish by 2 against Edward Carleton. This brings us to the Handicap doubles and as intimated earlier Miles in the final with his partner Diane Erith having nursed her round to 3-back nearly brought off a quadruple using the last two bisques but had to finish with the clips on rover whilst the Tompkinsons were still on 3 and 6. It might be thought that this was enough excitement for a wet Saturday afternoon but not a bit of it! The real fun was just about to start. Mick played very well to get round and peg out Miles; Diane at one stage hit the ground when trying to run rover from no distance but eventually managed to hit the peg and win by 6 after black narrowly missed a roquet on blue.

Finally a word of commiseration for Cyril Pountney who started to play in the X but had to withdraw on Tuesday morning because of a pain in his arm and hand which meant that he could not hold a mallet. He nevertheless continued to act as a genial referee throughout the week. Cyril's withdrawal from the doubles before play had started meant that Roy as manager had to hurriedly sort out a rearrangement of partners. The week was

Southwick: 17-22 June

Veterans' Championship

Veterans are 'old hands at the game' – and that is what you had at the Veteran's Tournament at Southwick. Those who deplore the fact that sportsmanship is becoming a thing of the past – and being replaced by unspeakably bad behaviour in other games – will have rejoiced at the



Watching Croquet at Southwick

rounded off by a very nice cheese and wine party on Friday evening.

VINCENT CAMROUX

RESULTS

Ryde: 17th-22nd June

Isle of Wight Championship:
Advanced Play in Block of 5, each playing the others twice

5 wins: M.A. Holford +49, A.V. Camroux +43;
4 wins: M.G. Tompkinson;
3 wins: F.H. Newman -33, Mrs F.H. Newman -79

Level Singles (4½ to 8 bisques)
Advanced Play in Block of 5, each playing the others once

3 wins: R.W. Newnham;
2 wins: H.B. Brownsdon +22, Mrs M.G. Tompkinson +6, J.S.F. Thomas -2;
1 win: Mrs S.B. Hudson;

Handicap Singles (9 bisques and over)

3 wins: W. Casey (12);
2 wins: Mrs M. Robinson (12);
1 win: Mrs D. Erith (14);
0 wins: E. Carleton (16)

The Dibley Cup: Handicap Singles

1st Round:
H.B. Brownsdon (7½) bt Mrs D. Erith (14) +20; F.H. Newman (3) bt Mrs M.G. Tompkinson (6½) +14; Mrs M. Robinson (12) bt E. Carleton (16) +11; M.G. Tompkinson bt J.S.F. Thomas +18; A.V. Camroux (1) bt C.G. Pountney (4½) +14; F.A. Rowlands (4½) bt R.W. Newnham (5) +9

2nd Round:

M.A. Holford (2½) bt Brownsdon +7; Newman bt Mrs Robinson +15; Tompkinson bt Camroux +23; Rowlands bt Mrs Newman +18

Semi-Finals: Newman bt Holford +6; Rowlands bt Tompkinson +10

Final: Rowlands bt Newman +12

'Y' Final: Mrs Newman bt Mrs Tompkinson +4

The Birch Cups: Handicap Doubles

Final: Holford & Mrs Erith bt Mr & Mrs Tompkinson +6

News from the South Coast

complete contrast at Southwick where gentlemanly amateurism prevailed.

Organising any tournament is an exacting and time-consuming business but this one ran smoothly and efficiently under the joint guidance of Pat Shine and Edith Tucker. 'Oh, but I enjoy doing it' said Pat.

The scope for enjoyment was enhanced by the catering arrangements which were excellent and added to the general bonhomie. The handicap singles for seven bisques and over was referred to by one in that category as 'the duffers' class'. That would imply that competitors in it could be described as 'old duffers' – the generic term 'old buffers' (applied, of course, to men only) being reserved for use as a term of endearment.

Croquet is a game in which 'senior citizen status' is less of a drawback than in any other. After all, it is only comparatively recently that young lions have come into the game at all. But make no mistake about it: a team selected from the veterans would give a good account of itself against any club.

D.C.A. GOOLDEN

RESULTS

VETERAN'S CHAMPIONSHIP:

Open Singles, Advanced Play

DRAW:
1st Round:
H.C. Green bt N.W.T. Cox +2(T); G.F. Rothwell bt D.A. Harris +5; R.S. Eades bt W.E. Moore +21
Semi-Finals: Rothwell bt Green +4; Eades bt E.C. Tyrwhitt-Drake +25
Final: Rothwell bt Eades +1(T)

PROCESS:

1st Round:
Eades bt Cox +1(T); Harris bt Tyrwhitt-Drake +17; Moore bt Green +8
Semi-Finals: Eades bt Harris +8; Moore bt Rothwell +12
Final: Eades bt Moore +12
Play-Off: Eades bt Rothwell +12

Felixstowe Cup:

Level Singles, 3½ to 6½ bisques

DRAW:
Semi-Finals: Sturdy bt Betts +14; Chandler bt Dwerryhouse +1
Final: Sturdy bt Chandler +7

PROCESS:

Semi-Finals: Chandler bt Mrs Browne +24; Crane bt Mrs Mapletoft +16
Final: Crane bt Chandler +4
Play-Off: Sturdy bt Crane +8

Strickland Cup:

Handicap Singles, 7 bisques & over

Semi-Finals: Goolden bt Mrs French +3; Ross bt Mann (w.o.)
Final: Ross bt Goolden +1(T)
'Y' Final:
A.C.F. Armstrong bt Mrs C.W. Marshall +14

Meredith Cup: Open Handicap Singles

Semi-Finals: Sturdy bt Mrs Browne +16; Betts bt Greenbury +11
Final: Sturdy bt Betts +2(T)
'Y' Semi-Finals: G.F. Rothwell bt Mrs Mapletoft +15; Eades bt Crane +8
'Y' Final: G.F. Rothwell bt R.S. Eades +11

Handicap Doubles

Semi-Finals: Betts & Greenbury bt Miss Shine & Rothwell +2(T); Moore & Mrs Marshall bt Chandler & Mrs Mapletoft +1(T)
Final:
Moore & Mrs Marshall bt Betts & Greenbury +7

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Hoop Setting by Eddie Bell

Accurate hoop setting and rigid hoops are important to maintain the challenge of croquet, to reward good quality stroke execution, accuracy of the rush, and tight control of the break, and to punish sloppy play by ensuring that hoops cannot be run from seemingly impossible angles and abnormally long distances.

I had the opportunity this year to inspect the hoop settings at the UK Open Championships (delegated by the Tournament Referee), and to observe the method used to set the Hoops. Using a precision width gauge, I inspected every hoop on 9 lawns on Monday evening.

According to the Laws, the internal hoop width should be 3¾ inches, plus or minus one thirty-second, and the ball diameter should be 3⅝ inches, plus or minus one thirty-second. At the extremes of these tolerances, the gap between hoop and ball will thus be one-eighth of an inch, plus or minus one-sixteenth. (The tolerance is therefore plus or minus fifty percent of the standard gap, which I would submit is excessive and methods of reducing it could be debated.) My inspection revealed that no hoops were below standard width, only 22% were on standard, 20% were between standard and the upper limit, 36% were on the upper limit, and 22% were greater than the 'legal' limit. Most of them were also loose in the ground. Admittedly they had been subjected to a full day's play, but even so, it is not a satisfactory situation.

The Hurlingham ground staff have a parallel-sided plate set to the standard size, which is used as a GO; NO-GO check. If the gauge will not fit, the hoop is removed and re-set; if the gauge passes through the hoop it is accepted. This technique prevents any hoop being set to a width less than standard; a restriction, incidentally, that also applies to the President's Cup competition where a narrower parallel-sided gauge is used. Because of the limitations of the gauge, few hoops will be set to standard size, and it is highly probable that with the GO check, the upper limit will be exceeded many times as the hoop width tolerance, one thirty-second of an inch, is very small to be judged by eye alone. Additionally, setting the hoops in the ground with no clamps of any description and achieving good control of width is very time-consuming for the groundsman.

The front six lawns at Hurlingham are on relatively soft ground, which people claim makes it impossible to obtain an acceptable degree of hoop rigidity. At Bowdon, where the ground (not turf) is similar to Hurlingham, we re-set the hoops in new holes at the start of the season and for every tournament (and if necessary, for important club matches). The looseness of the Hurlingham hoops seems to stem from reluctance to use sufficient force when driving them into the ground. I found that an acceptable degree of rigidity could be achieved by stamping on the hoop with one's heel as hard as possible to a point that does not cause any pain – a coarse measure incidentally of the force needed to obtain satisfactory rigidity. The hoops did sink but this can be minimised if the holes are correctly sized when newly cut

at the start of the tournament.

A demonstration of the effect of hoop rigidity occurred when croquet was played indoors at Burscough. Holes were cast into the concrete to facilitate hoop removal and this gave very rigid hoops, so much so that it was almost impossible to run a hoop unless the ball passed through without touching the wire. The explanation is associated with the energy absorption characteristics of the hoop setting arrangement. If you unleashed a hard inaccurate shot at a hoop at Burscough, evasive action was needed to avoid serious injury from the rebounding ball which contained all the input energy of the shot!

It will be difficult to specify a 'rigidity test' or to provide a simple and cheap tool to measure it, but hoop rigidity is clearly an important factor in determining the ease with which a hoop can be run. However, because there is no standard, many tournaments take place with hoops set loose in the ground.

On the Hurlingham lawns, due to the excellent care and attention of the ground staff, balls roll in a consistent and predictable manner. Stroke playing therefore becomes relatively easy and on gaining the innings, players will 'go round' more readily than elsewhere. Good hoop setting is therefore more important on lawns like Hurlingham's than on other 'run-of-the-mill' lawns in order to counter-balance the high predictability of ball placement.

With rigid hoops set to the correct dimensions, the manner of winning a tournament would be very different to current experience. The distribution of play between players would be more balanced because more mistakes would occur around hoops. Unexpected results would occur more frequently in early rounds (as when the Opens was held at Cheltenham in 1983). Games would be less of a shooting match with triple peels being at a premium. More interesting play would develop in which tactics and strategy could be explored. More onerous conditions would tend to eliminate the many games where one mistake makes the difference between winning and losing. The gratuitous 10 yard roll-up (from all directions) to a hoop, followed by a 2 or 3 yard hoop run would be less prevalent. Sloppy and speculative play would be punished by reducing the number of hoops run from acute angles. The 'tough' playing conditions would provide much better experience and preparation for Test Matches in other countries besides raising the standard of play amongst the general 'A' class players.

In my view, all clubs that hold tournaments should be provided with an updated specification for hoop settings in respect of width and rigidity. This should include details of techniques for making the initial hoop holes in the ground, clamping the hoops at the required width whilst they are driven in position, methods of re-setting hoops during tournaments and provision of mandatory criteria with which hoops must comply. Also a gentle reminder that the Referee of the Tournament is endowed by the



Eddie Bell

Laws of Croquet with the duty and the power to ensure that the required standard is provided.

Eric Solomon has made an excellent gauge that can be purchased from the CA Office (Price £2.00). It is wedge shaped and very accurate and I would advise all referees to buy one. As a point for more general discussion, I would like to see the tolerance on the hoop width reduced for the premier CA events, to 3 and three-quarter inches, plus zero, minus one thirty-second.

EDDIE BELL

Croquet in Russia

Yes, they do play croquet in Russia, although the average person would find it almost impossible to locate a croquet green.

The main reason for this is that the powers that be feel that croquet, along with cricket and golf, is not an "active" enough sport to warrant consideration. At least that's the story I was told.

This attitude is regrettable as Russia has more flat land available for golf, cricket and croquet greens than many other countries in the world. Also the Government is generous in allocating sporting facilities for most other sports. Sports arenas are large and kept in immaculate condition.

However, there are a number of private croquet greens throughout Russia and the players are as enthusiastic as players anywhere else in the world.

Russian players still use the old fashioned, round, wide hoops. Mallets were also of the old fashioned kind – big round heads and long handles. They play a very stereotyped game, and know nothing of our more modern and demanding faster type of game.

An interesting point is that cosmonauts on returning to earth are encouraged to play croquet. Scientists say that croquet, above all other games, has a calming effect on the mind and body which, after a long space flight, have to readjust to earthly conditions.

During a visit to the Space Centre Pavilion, I was shown a number of photos of cosmonauts "relaxing" in a game of croquet.

If scientists are correct in their assumption that croquet can calm and relax the mind and body, perhaps there is room for investigation by doctors to find out if croquet could help overcome depression and other related illnesses here in New Zealand.

A story has it that a former American ambassador to Russia, Averell Harriman, refused to go to Moscow unless a croquet green was set up in the American Embassy. And this was done. It can therefore be said that croquet has played its part in international diplomacy.

PHIL CLARKE

(Courtesy of Croquet Gazette, New Zealand)

Woking: 29 June – 7 July

Woking's 'Irish Week'

This unique event, comprising 4 separate Tournaments in 9 days of continuous croquet, was a great success. All Tournaments were over-subscribed and we had the strongest entry in all events that we have seen for years. We even welcomed Simon Williams from Southern Ireland – an Irishman in 'Irish Week'! David Wiggins dominated all events in which he played and in spite of repeated reductions in handicap, he continued to beat most of his opponents.

The outstanding game of the 9 days was undoubtedly Stephen Wright playing David Wiggins in the American handicap Tournament. Taking off from the 2nd corner with White halfway between hoops 1 and 2, Stephen got into position at hoop 1 but 3 yards from it, ran it to White, split to 3rd hoop and over to Green in 2nd corner, took off and finished in front of hoop 2, ran it, hit Green in the corner and from that went round to the peg, leaving Pink in the jaws of hoop 6, White against 4, Brown in the 2nd corner and Green on the middle of the east boundary. David Wiggins should have given up but he didn't and gave an excellent display, with the intelligent use of his



Bob Smith (left) and John Rose, winner and runner-up respectively in the Woking Open Challenge Cup



Brian Whitehouse, Block winner during Woking's 'Irish Week'

Nottingham: 28-30 June

The Lords Test Match and the Wimbledon Finals couldn't compare with the Nottingham chocolate bar Tournament for triples. Several being won by the men (hardly noteworthy) but nobody achieved the bottle of gin (offered by the Manager) for pegging out in two turns without conceding a lift or contact.

Much credit to A.J. Bucknell for winning five games and rumoured to be in his late 80s and to John Walters who celebrated his 21st by appearing not to play.

By Sunday the hoops were of such a high standard that four on lawn two were deemed too narrow – a change from balls being too fat!

With only three games a day there was plenty of time for a bowls competition, with Ian Vincent probably emerging the victor as well as conclusively the winner of the croquet. As is obvious, the reporter was appointed after play ceased and she hadn't watched the croquet or noticed the weather.

JAN MacLEOD

bisques, to prove that games are never lost until the opponent pegs out both balls, which Stephen eventually did to win by 2.

Many other games were decided by one point. Bob Smith showed great concentration and skill to win the Woking Challenge Cup and the Open Doubles Chalice with Dennis Goulding. Brian Whitehouse, Jill McDiarmid, David Wiggins, and Lionel Wharrad all played well to win their handicap blocks. We were delighted to welcome back as visitors Lionel and Moira Wharrad who had resigned from the Club on their move to Sussex.

The catering by Jill McDiarmid and her helpers was excellent and the fellowship in the bar outstanding. Our visitors congratulated us on our lawns, our normal two now being amongst the best in the country. All who entered the 4 Tournaments were guaranteed 19 games in 9 days. If you want to play lots of croquet in a relaxed well-run tournament with good food, plenty to drink, and a lot of fun, this is the event to enter.

DEREK CAPORN

RESULTS

Woking: 29 June – 7 July

(A) Woking Open Challenge Cup (American blocks with play-offs)

Semi-finals:
J. Rose bt Mrs W.R.D. Wiggins +9; R.J. Smith bt Dr W.R.D. Wiggins +19

Final:
Smith bt Rose +1

Final:
Smith bt Rose +1

Caporn Caskets

D.C.D. Wiggins bt B.P. Whitehouse +21, Mrs P. MacDonald +8, I.G. McDiarmid +11, G. Cuttle +22, and lost to S. Williams –7

Open Doubles Chalice

(American Blocks with play-off)
D. Goulding & R.J. Smith bt A.J. Mrozinski & C. Lamb +1

(B) Day Open (American Blocks with play-offs)

Semi-finals: R.J. Smith bt J. Guest +9; D. Goulding bt J.S.H. Battinson +17

Final: Goulding bt Smith +19

Day Restricted Singles

(American Blocks with play-offs)

Semi-finals: S. Williams bt Mrs P. Healey +12; Mrs P. MacDonald bt G. Cuttle +18

Final: Williams bt Mrs MacDonald +4

Day Open Doubles. Semi-Finals:

Dr Wiggins & Caporn bt Guest & Haigh +2; Mrs Wiggins & D. Wiggins bt Mr & Mrs MacDonald +15
Final: Mrs Wiggins & D. Wiggins bt Dr Wiggins & Caporn +6

(C) One Day Handicap Doubles

Final: A.J. Mrozinski & D.C.D. Wiggins (7) bt R.J. Smith & Dr P.A. Watson (11) +12

(D) American Handicap Singles:

Blue Block: Winner: B.P. Whitehouse (3½) bt J. Rose (0) +14, D.C. Caporn (3) +16, R.A. Gosden (5) +5, J.L. Wankling (7) +10, Mrs M.E. Wharrad (9) +9, and Mrs G. Vincent (11) +7

Red Block: Winner: D. Goulding bt S.J.H. Wright (0) +26, D.C.D. Wiggins (5) +10, R.E. Vincent (8) +12, L.A. Hopkins (11) +12, and lost to A.J. Mrozinski (1½) –6

Yellow Block: Winner: L. Wharrad bt J.S. Maude (2½) +6, C.S. Lamb (3) +10, Dr P.A. Watson (7½) +6, D.E. Wood (8) +2, M.J.C. Young (10) +2, and lost to G. Cuttle (8) –11

Black Block: Winner: Mrs G.C. McDiarmid bt J.S.H. Battinson (1) +13, W.B. Denison (2) +11, J. Haigh (3) +6, K.J. Carter (6) +18, Mrs B. Gosden (7) +11, and Mrs M.A. Nalder (10) +14

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RESULTS

Swiss 1 (Advanced Play)

7 wins: Dr I.G. Vincent

6 wins: D. Foulser, G. Noble

5 wins: M.J. Stevens, P.J. Death, T. Harrison, Dr G. Taylor, B. Hallam

4 wins: Miss J. MacLeod, J. Meads, J. Guest, N. Hynes

A.J. Girling, P.L. Smith, D. Peterson

3 wins: Dr R. Jones, Mrs C. Smith, J. Wheeler, G.C. Hopewell

2 wins: Mrs D.A.B. Wheeler, Dr R. Wheeler

0 wins: P. Roteus

Swiss 2: (Level Play)

7 wins: J. Straw

5 wins: A.J. Bucknell, M. Cowan

4 wins: Dr T.W. Smith

3 wins: A. Bobak, R. Blackburn, J.F.S. Thomas, Mrs E. Chamberlain

2 wins: Dr M. Haslem

0 wins: Mrs Bucknell

University Croquet

Hurlingham: 13 June

Oxford v. Cambridge

This, the sixteenth contest between Cambridge and Oxford, took place at Hurlingham on 13th June. It was unique in two respects; for the first time the event was sponsored (by Frank Cooper (Oxford) Ltd) who are this year also sponsoring the Schools Championship, the Home Internationals and the President's Cup; and secondly Oxford achieved victory in two successive years for the first time.

The Reeve Cup was presented by Mrs Muriel Reeve after the first contest in 1962 in memory of her late husband, when she expressed the hope that in due course of time the cup would be competed for by many universities.



Frank Cooper's Director, Simon Anderson, bands out the champagne to Oxford and Cambridge at Hurlingham

In future years, the annual Cambridge/Oxford match will be played for the Frank Cooper Trophy, generously presented by the new sponsors, whilst the Reeve Cup will be presented to the winners of the university championship as was the original intention.

Oxford started as slight favourites this year, but a keen contest was anticipated. Oxford began well. In under 1½ hours, 2nd string Adam Berry had beaten Tim Harrison by 25 with a well executed triple, and within 2 hours, 1st string David Peterson had beaten Guy Whillock by 15 with a triple attempt ending with an unsuccessful combination peg-out. Oxford's success continued with 5th string Mark Wormald beating Andrew Gregory by 21 and 6th string David Cohen beating Colin Wright by 13. So when lunch was taken, Oxford had an almost unassailable lead of 4-0.

The three doubles were all keenly contested. This gave a more respectable score sheet in what was an interesting if uninspiring contest with the final score being Oxford 6, Cambridge 3.

All twelve young men showed a good knowledge of the game and most should still be up for 1986. This must be good for the game.

Simon Anderson, a Director of Frank Cooper's, presented the new trophy to Oxford's non-playing Captain, John Black, and an inscribed glass tankard to each competitor, with both clubs (and Frank Cooper Ltd) being toasted in champagne provided by the sponsors. Both Captains thanked Frank Cooper Ltd for their generous sponsorship and the Hurlingham Club for the use of their excellent lawns and club facilities.

RICHARD ROTHWELL

Durham: 18-20 June

University Championships

The first ever University Championships were staged at Durham by members of the Durham University Association Croquet Club. The Club Committee made all the arrangements for accommodating the players and under the able direction of their President, Paul Hetherington, organised the setting up and maintenance of the lawns during the course of the tournament.

Preliminary enquiries through the British Universities Sports Federation had indicated that many Universities played croquet in one form or another, and we were hoping to have about eight entries. However, it proved difficult to arrange a date that suited all the teams, owing to exams and other end of term activities, and with the withdrawal of teams from Oxford and Nottingham at the very last minute, we were down to three teams on the day - Bristol, Cambridge, and Durham.



Duncan Reeve (left) and Simon Cawdell, members of Durham's victorious team, pose for a local press photographer on Palace Green.

The fact that Bristol appeared in these Championships was quite remarkable. John Jepson, their captain, had played croquet previously but the other three members of the team - Dave Fuller, Fergus Wilson and James Boulton - had never held a mallet until 5 weeks before the tournament. A crash course was instituted by Martin Murray and John McCullough to bring them up to standard whilst a club was being formed at Bristol University, and with only 5 weeks experience under their belts, they acquitted themselves marvellously well.

The Individual Championship was played level, in two blocks, with two members of each University in each block. Paul Hetherington and Keith Davis proved to be the two strongest players in Block 1, and played each other in their final game to decide the Block winner.

In Block 2 Ian Whitely looked to have it buttoned up, but he lost by 1 on time to Duncan Reeve who made a late challenge and nearly caused an upset. Third place in this block went to Jeremy Ames, a player with an endearing habit of dropping into a yoga position at the side of the court in between turns.

In the team championship, played this year as a handicap event, Durham beat Cambridge in the first match, winning the doubles and taking one of the two singles games. In the second match, Cambridge then beat Bristol, taking all three games, so that Durham needed to win their final match against Bristol to take the team title. Durham won the doubles game easily, but then lost the top singles, so the score was one-all. Time was called in the second

singles when the players were dead level, so the result all hung on who would make the first hoop. James Boulton played and to his dismay, just went off, leaving Simon Cawdell to make the necessary point and clinch the Championship for Durham.

The Championships were played on four lawns, two of which were directly in front of the Cathedral which formed a magnificent backdrop for the match. The other two lawns were on the old Race Course ground and were of better quality. From a publicity point of view, the Cathedral lawns were ideal, as Palace Green was full of tourists visiting the Cathedral, and the scene was a photographer's dream. In fact, the local paper published reports in two separate issues, a photographer from the Times took photos that were sent post haste to London, and the event was covered by both BBC TV and ITV. All in all, it was a good start to what I hope will become a regular annual event, providing much pleasure for those who take up the game whilst at University.

CHRIS HUDSON



Two team captains: Ian Whitely (Cambridge) (left) and Paul Hetherington (Durham). Ian just beat Paul in a closely-fought final.

RESULTS

Team Championship - (Handicap Event)

Durham v. Cambridge

D. Reeve (11) lost to D. Ball (9) -3(T); S. Cawdell (15) bt J. Ames (11) +16(T); P. Hetherington & P. Robson (18) bt I. Whitely & K. Davis (14) +6

Result: Durham 2, Cambridge 1

Cambridge v. Bristol

J. Ames (11) bt J. Boulton (13) +13; D. Ball (9) bt D. Fuller (13) +5; I. Whitely & K. Davis (14) bt J. Jepson & F. Wilson (26) +18

Result: Cambridge 3, Bristol 0

Durham v. Bristol

D. Reeve (11) lost to D. Fuller (13) -10; S. Cawdell (15) bt J. Boulton (13) +1(T); P. Hetherington & P. Robson (18) bt J. Jepson & F. Wilson (26) +19

Result: Durham 2, Bristol 1

Level Singles

Block 1

5 wins: P. Hetherington

4 wins: K. Davis

3 wins: D. Ball

1 win: J. Boulton (-43), S. Cawdell (-54), J. Jepson (-60)

Block 2

4 wins: I. Whitely (+56), D. Reeve (+24)

3 wins: J. Ames

2 wins: P. Robson

1 win: F. Wilson (-18), D. Fuller (-35)

Play-Off

I. Whitely bt P. Hetherington +3

Budleigh Salterton: 1-6 July

Good win for Tim Harrison

This Tournament was lucky to start in real summer weather. In Event I, competition was keen - some of the long distance rushes and hits were exceptionally accurate. Tim Harrison, last year's Captain of Croquet at Cambridge, won both Draw and Process, though John Walters, runner up in each, gave him a close finish in the latter.

One example of Harrison's play, in the Doubles, is worth recording. Danks and West broke down at two-back, with Harrison's yellow ball near at hand. Taking their one bisque they despatched yellow to the North boundary, yellow finishing some five or six feet north-east of one-back, which carried yellow's clip. One does not suppose that they were worried, but they should have been! Harrison played hard for the hoop, ran it and went off at the South boundary. Thence it was no trouble to break up the carefully prepared rush for the hoop and thus destroy their chances of a win.

Event II, the Longman Cup, was won by Danny Palmer of Ipswich. One of the younger players, he has a very pleasing style and no doubt we shall hear more of him in the future.

Event III, the Stone Cup, was won by Mrs K. Whittall of Bath. In this her first tournament her handicap was brought down from 15 to 13 in her first game. Her opponent in the final was Mrs Dorothy Iredale. Mrs Iredale was also playing in her first tournament and both ladies reflected great credit on their coaches.

The Oliver Bowl, Handicap Singles, went to Jeremy Short, now of Parsons Green. John Hatherley, of Sidmouth, a much improved player, was the runner-up. The Y event was won by Paul Gregg, the winner of the Stone Cup last year, the other finalist being Les Butler of Parkstone.

The Le Mesurier Cups, Handicap Doubles, were won by Nick Hyne of Nottingham, partnered by Jeremy Short.

Eliminated players enjoyed a 'one ball' American event at the end of the week; this was won by Mrs Marjorie Marshall.

Much sympathy was expressed with Philip Dwerryhouse of Sidmouth, who scratched on the Tuesday when he was admitted to hospital with an acute eye condition. All were relieved to hear at the end of the week that an operation had been successful and that he would soon be home again, assured of eventual recovery.

In conclusion, mention must be made of the indefatigable Club ladies, whose appetising meals were much appreciated.

C.W. MARSHALL

South West of England Championship

Colman Cup: Advanced play

DRAW

1st Round: M.A. Holford bt J.H.J. Soutter +22

2nd Round:

T.D. Harrison bt B.G. Perry +2(T); N.G. Hyne bt Dr C.A. Parker +7(T); D.V.H. Rees bt L.S. Butler +4(T); P.D.B. West bt Holford +20; J.O. Walters bt P. Stoker +14; D. Peterson bt H.G.T. Bolton +23; Dr D.R. Laney bt F.A. Shergold +19; M.G. Tompkinson bt J.S. Kos +14

3rd Round:

Harrison bt Hyne +13; Rees bt West +1; Walters bt Peterson +11; Tompkinson bt Laney +4

Semi-Finals:

Harrison bt Rees +5; Walters bt Tompkinson +17

Final:

Harrison bt Walters +3

PROCESS

1st Round:

Perry bt Tompkinson +20

2nd Round:

Perry bt Soutter +1(T); Peterson bt Butler +23; Walters bt Parker +25; West bt Laney +3(T); Harrison bt Stoker +7(T); Shergold bt Rees +14; Hyne bt Bolton +23; Kos bt Holford +8(T)

3rd Round:

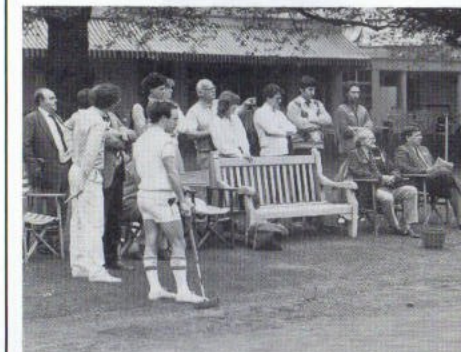
Peterson bt Perry +1(T); Walters bt West +10; Harrison bt Shergold +5; Hyne bt Kos +19

Semi-Finals:

Walters bt Peterson +3; Harrison bt Hyne +22

Final:

Harrison bt Walters +20



Lionel Wbarrad explains... (See Page 23)

Longman Cup: Advanced play 3½ to 7½ bisques

DRAW

1st Round: D.G. Palmer bt D.M. Bull +25

2nd Round:

R.H.C. Carder bt P.A. Dwerryhouse (wo); R.S. Stevens bt J.A. Short +7(T); P.G. Gregg bt Mrs M.G. Tompkinson +7; Palmer bt J.C. Hatherley +22; Dr W.R. Bucknall bt Miss P.E. Parker +2(T); Mrs P.A. Dwerryhouse bt Mrs K. Mapstone +4(T); Mrs C. Bagnall bt P.K.L. Danks +3(T); H.J. Crozier bt R.W. Newnham +1(T)

3rd Round:

Stevens bt Carder +16; Palmer bt Gregg +13; Bucknall bt Mrs Dwerryhouse +2(T); Mrs Bagnall bt Crozier +1(T)

Semi-Finals:

Palmer bt Stevens +23; Mrs Bagnall bt Bucknall +12(T)

Final:

Palmer bt Mrs Bagnall +1(T)

PROCESS

1st Round:

Crozier bt Dwerryhouse (wo)

2nd Round:

Palmer bt Crozier +19; Gregg bt Mrs K. Mapstone +10; Short bt Miss Parker +20; Mrs Bagnall bt Hatherley +4(T); Carder bt Bucknall +2(T); Danks bt Mrs Tompkinson +9(T); Stevens bt Mrs Dwerryhouse +4(T); Newnham bt Bull (wo)

3rd Round:

Gregg bt Palmer +1(T); Mrs Bagnall bt Short (wo); Carder bt Danks +11 (T); Stevens bt Newnham +11(T)

Club News and Tournament Results (2)

Semi-Finals:

Mrs Bagnall bt Gregg +1(T); Stevens bt Carder +1

Final:

Mrs Bagnall bt Stevens +9(T)

Play-off

Palmer bt Mrs Bagnall +8

Stone Challenge Cup 'X': Handicap Singles

Semi-Finals:

Mrs Whittall bt Mrs Perry +6; Mrs Iredale bt Griffin +2(T)

Final:

Mrs Whittall bt Mrs Iredale +21

Stone Challenge Cup 'Y':

Semi-Finals:

Mrs Langley bt Mrs Crozier +9; Dr Davey bt Mrs Cruden +12

Final:

Mrs Langley bt Davey +9

Oliver Bowl: Open Handicap 'X'

Semi-Finals:

Hatherley bt Holford +1(T); Short bt Hyne +25

Final:

Short bt Hatherley +9(T)

Oliver Bowl 'Y'

Semi-Finals:

Butler bt Goode +2; Gregg bt Bucknall +1

Final:

Gregg bt Butler (wo)

The Le Mesurier Cups Handicap Doubles: 3rd hoop start

Semi-Finals:

Peterson & Gregg bt Harrison & Kos +1(T); Hyne & Short bt Mr & Mrs Perry +9

Final:

Hyne & Short bt Peterson & Gregg +1(T)

1985 Christmas Cards



Liz Taylor has designed another Xmas Card for you to send...

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Players of the Future

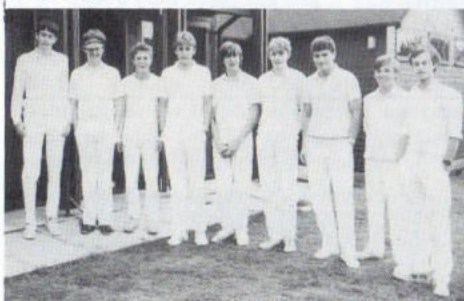
Bowdon: 13-14 July National Junior Championships James Carlisle beats other rising stars

Nine Juniors entered for the Championship this year, a considerable increase on 1984 when there were only four entries for the inaugural event. The increase in numbers meant that accommodation had to be found for the competitors at fairly short notice, and we were fortunate that the Bursar of Loretto School, about a mile from the club, allowed us to use rooms at the school for overnight accommodation.

A most encouraging feature of this year's event was the number of entries from schools who had taken part in the schools' competition. Three members of the Ludlow team entered, as well as the two from Warwick, and both John Mann and James Carlisle had also played for their schools in this year's tournament. Whilst there were no girls playing in the Junior Championship this year, they may well make a welcome appearance next year if, as expected, some girls' schools start to take up the game.

The Championship itself was played level but there was also a handicap Swiss event to provide more play for those who lost in the early rounds of the main event.

There was plenty of action. In the first round of the Draw, Mark Suter completed the three peels of a triple against Stuart Packer, but then broke down at 2-back, eventually winning by 20. He then went on to the semi-final, where he met James Carlisle. In this game, Mark was at 4-back and penult, with James at 2-back and penult when time was called, with James in play. James made a break to penult with his backward ball, left a good leave, Mark shot and missed, and that was that! James was through to the final of the Draw where he met John Mann.



The 9 Juniors who took part. (L to R) John Mann (Nailsea), David Maugham (Bowdon), Stuart Packer (Ludlow), Mark Suter (Bristol), Dave Thomas (Ludlow), Nick Davies (Ludlow), James Carlisle (Hurlingham), David Neal (Warwick) and Simon Tilley (Warwick).

In this game, James was quickly round to 4-back with his first ball and to 3-back with the other. A few turns later, he took his forward ball round to the peg. John then went round and pegged James out, but gave a contact with a ball near 3-back, James' hoop. James went round and out on a 2-ball break, demonstrating some first class control.

James Carlisle again played John Mann in the final of the Process, with both players showing skill and tactical ability that would

be the envy of many of their seniors.

Unfortunately, next year the Ludlow players, Stuart Packer, Nick Davies and David Thomas will all be too old to enter the tournament, but Simon Tilley and David Neal of Warwick will still be eligible, as will David Maugham (son of Ian). If this year's form is anything to go on, they will all be considerably better next year. John Mann, runner-up for the second year, is just young enough to compete next time (by one day!), so let's hope that it will be a case of third time lucky for him. Meanwhile, congratulations to James Carlisle on a very gritty performance in winning the title. He is a worthy Champion.

CHRIS HUDSON



James Carlisle (right), 1985 Junior Champion, with John Mann (runner-up) and Judge Gerrard, President of the Bowdon Club

RESULTS

DRAW

1st Round:
M. Suter bt S. Packer +20

2nd Round:

J.W.H. Carlisle bt N. Davies +17; M. Suter bt S. Tilley +3; D. Maugham bt D. Neal +14; J.R. Mann bt D. Thomas +14

Semi-Finals:

Carlisle bt Suter +1(T); Mann bt Maugham +21

Final:

Carlisle bt Mann +11

PROCESS

1st Round:
Carlisle bt Thomas +23

2nd Round:

Carlisle bt Packer +9; Davies bt Maugham +11; Tilley bt Neal +19; Mann bt Suter +24

Semi-Finals:

Carlisle bt Davies +16; Mann bt Tilley +25

Final:

Carlisle bt Mann +7

The Croquet Player

Unhurriedly within the encircling gloom He stalks his ball.
Then, thwack, with no uplifted head
He roquets red.

Meanwhile, the cold unceasing rain
Envelops player and hoop and ball.
But he, cocooned in thought
Pursues his break -

An English summer has him in its thrall.

SMOKEY EADES

(Written in the rain at Southwick)

A fertile breeding-ground: Durham University

Croquet has had a chequered existence in Durham. There are some sketchy records of croquet prior to 1977, but at that time the club had no courts, and no equipment. The club was saved from extinction by an enthusiastic intake of first years including George Doughty, Julian Straw, Mark Elliot, and David Iddon.

This flourish was short lived, and by 1983 the club was barely in existence, and much of the equipment in poor condition. Once again, the club was saved from the grave by the new intake of students. This time it was Paul Hetherington who got the ball rolling. The load of re-founding the club was spread as he enthused enough people to take on the committee work necessary to regain the status of the club in the University. In one year, club membership rose from 14 to 106, including 10 associates.

The club now competes in the East Pennine League and the Longman Cup, as well as putting individuals into the All-England Handicap. Interest is sufficient to take a touring party to Ireland to play in the Carrickmines tournament, and to have matches against the Carrickmines Club and Trinity College Dublin whilst over there, as well as fitting in a match against Southport on the way back.



Limbering up on the lawns at the old Race Course Sports Grounds in Durham

On the club's initiative the Inter-University Championship was set up and staged in Durham where four lawns were provided, but Palace Green, although a beautiful setting, was of dubious quality. Next year however, this will not be a problem as the ground staff have agreed to turn over the hockey pitches to make five further lawns. The Club is not missing this chance to organise a tournament in this most beautiful of venues.

We hope that there will be sufficient interest to set up a Durham City Club and to this end an open weekend is planned on the club lawns at the end of September. The club now also has a coaching scheme which has created enough interest to put several players on the circuit this summer.

Croquet now has a firm base in Durham and as players start to come through, it is hoped it will become a recognised nursery ground for the next generation of senior players.

Wrest Park: 5-7 July

We were treated to three days of fine weather, good lawns, lean cuisine and the usual mixture of croquet.

The top block was played as a Swiss among seventeen players. Only the ignominy of reaching the four hour time limit appeared to persuade some of these games to finish. David Openshaw soon emerged as the favourite and won his games in all eight rounds, but without any triple peels. Compare this with Martin Murray who only achieved five wins, but included three triples. Messrs Audsley, Cordingley and Noble also had five wins, but second place went to Tom Griffiths with six (one triple).

The middle and bottom blocks were played as American. Both were still undecided by tea-time on Sunday. The middle block was dominated by Fred

Cheltenham: 8-9 July The McWeeney Trophy

C.A. just squeeze home against Ireland

This event is much better than the so-called Internationals. You get to play real Irishmen who have crossed the Irish Sea, and, if the selector was watching my doubles and not my singles, I will go all the way to Carrickmines to play in it next year. In addition to the familiar Irish players, two very promising young men, Simon Williams and David Beatty, were in the team, making a powerful impression both in the matches and in the apres-croquet one-ball game.

Some of the Irish had played at Wrest Park that weekend and arrived to join us in the bar at Cheltenham to start work on that state of mind the following morning which discouraged loud hoop-clangs.

The doubles were all decisive scores, although Ian Maugham and Carol Smith did take rather a long time over it. (I thought everything was fast at Cheltenham.) Two games went to England, one to Ireland, and all was wide open between what were obviously very well-matched sides.

Carl von Schmieler produced the classiest play in the singles. He knows how to create defensive leaves which allow no shot to the opponent, but equally can move in to attack boldly and accurately.

The spectators enjoyed the game between Ian Maugham and Charles Gamble, in which the innings changed hands frequently. Ian demonstrated his famous two-ball trundle whilst Charles' turns were more spectacular, including the best trick shot: the perfect rush to hoop 4 from the first corner by means of a ricochet off hoop 1. In the end Charles failed an easy rover hoop when Ian was for the peg.

Simon Williams struck a blow for Ireland by beating Carmen Bazley, and it looked as if David Beatty was about to do something similar against Peter Darby, but the end of their second game held the gallery spellbound. With time approaching, David missed the pegout with his front ball, Peter's blue and black both being for penultimate. Peter tried to approach penultimate and wisely retired. Precious minutes ticked by

Rogerson from Carrickmines, (one triple), who well deserved the handicap reduction which he received. But Fred's poor performance on Sunday allowed Andrew Collin to win the block with some competent croquet.

Jan MacLeod dignified the bottom block with her first triple in match play, much to the delight of her opponent Judy Anderson who up until then looked set to win the block. Jan herself could have won the block if she had not failed a rover peel in her final game against Jonathan Wolfe. This allowed one of the other competent Collins, George, to take first place.

RESULTS

BLOCK A (Swiss)

8 wins: D. Openshaw (+121)
6 wins: T. Griffith (+70), J.E. Guest (+28)
5 wins: P. Cordingley (+53), M. Murray (+36), E. Audsley (-9), G. Noble (-25)

while your reporter made a decision that David had a wiring lift, which shot he missed. Peter made penultimate with black, rolled blue rather short of rover, and stuck black in rover greater than as good a leave as any with less than a minute to go. David shot at the peg rather than the blue which was a larger target, missing very narrowly. Peter roqueted the black, putting it through rover, took off to red on the boundary, took off for position to make penult, ran it beautifully up to black, made rover and pegged out! The third game, however, went David's way.

Meanwhile, Adam Berry was defeating Fred Rogerson, which meant that the result depended on the last match, in which Carol Smith kept a cool head and played fast, fluent and accurate strokes to defeat Miles McWeeney, so the trophy stays in England until next year's meeting. This maintains the artistic alternation of the words 'England' and 'Ireland' engraved upon it, but we do not intend to let aesthetic considerations rule the croquet next year.



Ireland celebrating their win in the McWeeney Trophy match last year at Carrickmines. The tables were turned this year at Cheltenham! (L to R): Fred Rogerson, Charles Gamble, Miles McWeeney, Denis Moorcraft, Ian Maugham, Bernard Neal, Gerrard Healy, Phil Cordingley, Terence Read, and Carl von Schmieler.

Club News and Tournament Results (3)

4 wins: C. von Schmieler (+14), E. Bell (+12), R. Prichard (+6), J.R. Hilditch (-20), J.A. Wheeler (-29)
3 wins: K. Jones (-34), J. Meads (-45), Mrs M. Collin (-72)
2 wins: B.A. Keen (-40), G. Roy (-66)

BLOCK B (American)

5 wins: A. Collin (+61), F. Rogerson (+40)
4 wins: H. Bottomley (+41), T.J. Anderson (+30)
3 wins: J. Coutts (-16), D. Gaunt (-36)
2 wins: H. Green (-48)
1 win: M. Kolbuszewski (-78)

BLOCK C (American)

6 wins: G. Collin (+81)
5 wins: Miss J. MacLeod (+71), J. Wolfe (+31), Mrs J. Anderson (+1)
3 wins: M. McWeeney (-20)
2 wins: M.P.W. Smith (-53)
1 win: Mrs D. Wheeler (-35), Dr R. Wheeler (-83)

Our thanks are due to the Cheltenham club for hosting the event, providing a high standard of lawns and catering, and in particular to Ian Maugham for accommodating players, managing and refereeing the competition, and chopping David Beatty's handicap.

ANDREW BENNET

RESULTS (English names first)

Singles

A. Berry bt F. Rogerson +4, +16
A. Bennet lost to C. von Schmieler -21, -23
I. Maugham bt C. Gamble +3, +9
Mrs C. Smith bt M. McWeeney +23, +9
Lady Bazley lost to S. Williams -11, -7
P. Darby lost to D. Beatty -11, +1, -12

Doubles

A. Berry & Lady Bazley lost to F. Rogerson & C. von Schmieler -21, -23
I. Maugham & Mrs C. Smith bt C. Gamble & S. Williams +8, +9
A. Bennet & P. Darby bt M. McWeeney & D. Beatty +9, +15

The Open Championships

Hurlingham: 13-20 July

There was only a marginal reduction in the entry from last year for both Championship events to 47 in the Singles and 21 pairs in the Doubles, which included 5 former Open Champions (all those back to 1974 and Dr Wiggins 1957), four pairs of former Open Double Champions and 15 President Cup players - a strong field in any era.

Once again the event was sponsored by Debenham Tewson & Chinnocks who generously provided a cheque for the CA, commemorative silver cups for prize winners and a splendid lunch feast on Finals Day for Rabbit's friends and relations (and a few others!).

The introduction of seeding into the Singles Championships rekindled debate about this controversial subject, but as it happened the 8 seeds experienced differing fates.

One of the effects was to provide an extraordinary looking Draw, which more resembled a Process - clearly not drawn in accordance with the Bagnall-Wild method laid down in Regulation 14.

The first two rounds of Doubles were duly completed over the first weekend with only one unpredicted result; this was the narrow defeat of Murray and Hope in three games by Bond and Stevens, despite a Houdini-like escape by Murray in the second after Hope had been pegged out. Eric Solomon, who had volunteered to manage, introduced the salutary expedient of starting matches late in the evening which kept the bar pundits entertained throughout the week.



Mark Avery, who partnered David Openshaw to win the Open Doubles title

On Monday the two youngest entrants had decisive victories - Kiley Jones (USA) over Dr Wiggins and Charles Barlow (RSA) a maximum against Michael Pearson. The one seed to fall by the wayside was Michael Heap, who was uprooted by William Prichard making a return after a five year absence to the Championships, which he had won at his last appearance. Of the other seeds, Nigel Aspinall was at his most dominant against Ian Bond, and Martin Murray stuttered briefly only to produce an impressive triple peel in the third game against Adrian Palmer.

On Tuesday morning two seeds, the Men's Championship finalists, made their first appearance in the Singles and were both soon in trouble. Steve Mulliner scraped

home against the redoubtable Eddie Bell in two games, in the second of which Bell just failed to snatch a win. Meanwhile Andrew Hope encountered little difficulty in defeating Susan Wiggins, and Colin Prichard comfortably removed Ian Vincent from the competition. John McCullough efficiently despatched his compatriot Irishman, John Rose, in two games, the first of which included the only TPO of the Championships.

Wednesday witnessed the removal of two further seeds from the top half when the last sixteen met. McCullough gratefully accepted the many chances given to him by a rather clumsy Murray and won the first game without serious challenge. Although Murray began to play more fluently he was unable to prevent McCullough, now growing in confidence, from winning a close second game and the match. Meanwhile Colin Prichard was in dominating form against Aspinall, the holder for the last three years, and won the first game easily. It looked as though Aspinall would recover to square the match in a close second game, but Prichard hit in with the last roll of a slowly struck 30 yard final shot to steal the game.

The five other seeds all moved through to their appointed quarter final positions. Mulliner, Hope and Murray all played fluently and achieved decisive victories in two games. Openshaw, however, experienced a torrid time against Steve Lewis, a semi-finalist last year, in a match whose result could easily have been reversed. Indeed Lewis missed a return roquet after Rover in the third game with the match nearly in his pocket! However, Openshaw once again displayed his remarkable fighting quality to wrap up the match with a marvellous triple peel. To complete the list of quarter-finalists William Prichard came through to beat Colin Irwin in two games. The first game comprising some errors whereas the second was of high quality culminating in a pegged out game in which Irwin failed to hit either of the two shots he was given.

The quarter-finals of the Doubles were started on Wednesday evening. The match between Openshaw/Avery and Bell/Rose was the last to start and did not finish until after lunch on Thursday. The first game was a cliff hanger and depended on Bell having to go out from 4 Back after Rose had been pegged out greater than he hit the lift and with his knees holding steady finished in fine style. The next day Openshaw and Avery struck back to win the second easily and, after some skirmishing in the third, emerged the winners.

On Thursday only two quarter-finals Singles matches could start at 10am because of the unfinished doubles match. Both the other two matches of this round started at about 3pm and turned out to be fascinating encounters.

Openshaw and Hope were soon one game each, having both completed a triple in one of the highest standard matches of the week. Openshaw again snatched victory from defeat after disaster struck Hope at the Rover in the third game.

In the Doubles semi-finals, Avery and Openshaw lost their first game to

McCullough and Cordingley. However, with their batteries recharged overnight they were able to battle their way through on Friday to beat the 1983 Champions.

The start of the Singles semi-finals was consequently delayed until tea time on Friday, which enabled the City Slickers to swell the dwindling evening crowd. Openshaw was in devastating form and devoured a caged Mulliner in the first game with a TP. The second was more evenly matched and included some crowd-gasping errors, but Openshaw, after one missed peg-out finally eclipsed Mulliner to earn his fourth appearance in the Final.

In the other semi-final Prichard seemed to have the game in his grasp until he stuck at 2 Back on a standard TP. McCullough replied by single peeling and pegging-out Prichard's forward ball, giving a contact. Despite Prichard hitting a 42 yard shot, McCullough eventually captured the first

a TP only to fail at the fourth. Openshaw pounced to finish the game in two turns in perfect time for the Sponsor's lunch. The match resumed 35 minutes later. Openshaw stuck in the first hoop and as everyone else was still feasting indoors on raspberries and cream, the players jointly refereed Prichard's unsuccessful attempt to hit in. Openshaw was again first to 4 Back and although Prichard hit the lift he only made two hoops. He soon regained the innings, however, and after extracting two balls from the fourth and third corners with a variety of cannons he too went to 4 Back. When Openshaw missed the lift, Prichard advanced to Peg and Penult and in the next turn, levelled the match. Openshaw was yet again first to 4 Back in the third game but Prichard replied strongly and eventually, after two accurate breaks, was on Peg and Penult laid up to finish. A determined Openshaw hit a short lift and decided to peg out Prichard, a

David Openshaw Takes The Title



Mrs Solomon presents Open Champion David Openshaw with the Trophy

game with a carefully controlled three ball break. Prichard quickly gained supremacy in the second game in which McCullough hardly had a chance, winning by 26. On resuming the match on Saturday, Prichard maintained his impetus, denying McCullough an innings.

The Doubles Final was stopped after the first game in which Openshaw and Avery had gained a large lead before Mulliner hit the lift and duly went to 4 Back. Aspinall, however, could not capitalise on his several chances and allowed the game to slip away. This match was completed three weeks later, with Openshaw and Avery clinching the Championship in two games.

The Singles Final started shortly after 11am. Openshaw was the first to strike going to 4 Back, but Prichard replied in kind with a well constructed break. Openshaw, after hitting the lift, lost the innings at the second hoop, but later Prichard established

manoeuvre which pleased the crowd, now rapidly expanding as a result of the Hurlingham picnic. Openshaw then demonstrated perfectly how to play the pegged out game, either by wiring or leaving strongly guarded boundaries, and clinched the Championship for the third time. David Openshaw, who played 24 games, demonstrated throughout the week the commendable attributes necessary to win by punishing errors and remaining unruffled when defeat stared him in the face.

The Plate proved to be a very open contest between some of the stars and those improving. Indeed the 20 year run of this event not being won by a previous winner was extended when Guest beat Lewis in the play-off.

The completion of the events was clearly hampered by three players appearing in both Championship semi-finals but perhaps shorter lunch and tea breaks, punctuality in

the morning and a greater acceptance for later evening play would have eased the manager's problems.

WILLIAM PRICHARD

RESULTS

1985 OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP Open Singles, Advanced Play

DRAW:

1st Round:

*G.N. Aspinall bt I.D. Bond +25, +26(TP); K. Jones bt Dr W.R.D. Wiggins +26, +14; D.J. Croker bt C. Southern +17,-2 +3; *M. Murray bt A.J. Palmer +15,-13, +24(TP); W.O. Aldridge bt D.V.H. Rees +12, +4; W. de B. Prichard bt *M.E.W. Heap +26, +17; J.R. Hilditch bt N.G. Hyne +3, +20; J.D. Meads bt G.C. Roy +7, +13; *E.W. Solomon bt M.J. Stevens +3, +7; T. Griffith bt Miss J. MacLeod +12, +3; J.O. Walters bt P.L. Smith +10, +15; C. Barlow bt M.G. Pearson +26, +26(TP); S.J.H. Wright bt L. Wharrad +21, +24; *D.K. Openshaw bt K.E. Jones +7, +13; A.J. Mrozinski bt D.R. Foulser -1, +5, +6

2nd Round:

Aspinall bt K. Jones +24, +17; C.H.L. Prichard bt I.G. Vincent +14, +12; Murray bt Croker +26, +26; J.R. McCullough bt J. Rose +9(TPO), +8; W. Prichard bt Aldridge +19, +20(TP); C.J. Irwin bt J.D. Greenwood +13, +14; Hilditch bt Meads +5, +11; *M.N. Avery bt D.N.S. Peterson +26, -20, +15; Solomon bt Griffith +25, -10, +25; P. Cordingley bt J.E. Guest +22, -15, +2; Barlow bt Walters +26, +26(TP); *S.N. Mulliner bt E. Bell +7, +2; Openshaw bt Wright +3, +1; S.E. Lewis bt H.J. Bottomley +24, +17; G.W. Noble bt Mrozinski -5, +23, +3; *A.B. Hope bt Mrs W. Wiggins +17, +20

3rd Round:

C. Prichard bt Aspinall +16, +3; McCullough bt Murray +21, +4; W. Prichard bt Irwin +16, +4; Avery bt Hilditch +17, +23; Solomon bt Cordingley +26, -26, +15; Mulliner bt Barlow +26, +17; Openshaw bt Lewis +2, -12, +4; Hope bt Noble +22, +24

4th Round:

McCullough bt C. Prichard +15, +14; W. Prichard bt Avery -17, +25, +14; Mulliner bt Solomon +3, +26(TP); Openshaw bt Hope -13, +24(TP), +2

Semi-Finals:

W. Prichard bt McCullough -4, +26, +26; Openshaw bt Mulliner +24(TP)

Final:

Openshaw bt W. Prichard +17, -14, +3

*Seeded Player

1985 OPEN DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP Advanced Play

1st Round:

G.N. Aspinall & S.N. Mulliner bt Miss J. MacLeod & C. Southern +24, +23; K.E. Jones & A.J. Mrozinski bt Dr & Mrs W.R.D. Wiggins +14, +13; I.D. Bond & M.J. Stevens bt A.B. Hope & M. Murray +25, -1, +3; P. Cordingley & J.R. McCullough bt D.R. Foulser & C.J. Irwin +17, -4, +17; J.R. Hilditch & W. de B. Prichard bt M.J. Bottomley & D.V.H. Rees

2nd Round:

C. Barlow & K. Jones bt M.G. Pearson & J.O. Walters -3, +5, +26; S.E. Lewis & D.N.S. Peterson bt E.W. Solomon & L. Wharrad +19, +6; Aspinall & Mulliner bt M.E.W. Heap & S.J.H. Wright +16, +25; Bond & Stevens bt Jones & Mrozinski +12, -7, +14; Cordingley & McCullough bt Hilditch & Prichard +24, +26; G.W. Noble & I.G. Vincent bt J.E. Guest & N.G. Hyne -9, +5, +10; E. Bell & J. Rose bt D.J. Croker & G.C. Roy +1, -6, +5; M.N. Avery & D.K. Openshaw bt C.H.L. Prichard & W.T. Coles +22, +16

The Open Championships

3rd Round:

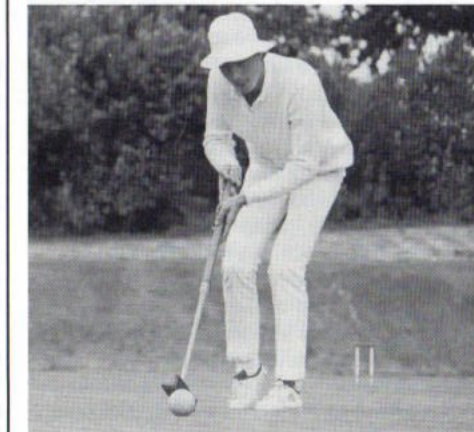
Lewis & Peterson bt Barlow & Jones +8, +12(TP); Aspinall & Mulliner bt Bond & Stevens +25, +23(TP); Cordingley & McCullough bt Noble & Vincent +23, +25(TP); Avery & Openshaw bt Bell & Rose -16, +21, +25

Semi-Finals:

Aspinall & Mulliner bt Lewis & Peterson +4, +11(TPO); Avery & Openshaw bt Cordingley & McCullough -15, +8(TP), +12

Final:

Avery & Openshaw bt Aspinall & Mulliner +16, +13



William Prichard, Runner-Up in the Singles

ASSOCIATION PLATE Advanced Singles

DRAW:

1st Round:

Smith bt K.E. Jones +13; Miss MacLeod bt Pearson +14; Noble bt Meads +8; Walters bt Cordingley +8; Bond bt Hyne +24; Irwin bt Wright +14; Lewis bt Bell (wo); Croker bt Roy +6; Guest bt K. Jones +4; Southern bt Bottomley +15; Stevens bt Peterson +9; Vincent bt Heap (wo)

2nd Round:

Rose bt Smith +4; Miss MacLeod bt Greenwood +15; Noble bt Walters +22; Bond bt Mrozinski +18; Irwin bt Palmer +23; Lewis bt Croker +23; Guest bt Southern +14; Vincent bt Stevens +3

3rd Round:

Rose bt Miss MacLeod +20; Bond bt Noble +26; Lewis bt Irwin +10; Guest bt Vincent +23

Semi-Finals:

Rose bt Bond +13(TP); Guest bt Lewis +4

Final:

Guest bt Rose +15

PROCESS:

1st Round:

K. Jones bt Noble +5; Hyne bt Stevens +19; Palmer bt Smith +12; Bottomley bt Walters +11; Miss MacLeod bt Roy +22; Irwin bt Rose +13; Guest bt Meads +19; Bell bt Greenwood +24; Peterson bt Bond +4; Cordingley bt Southern +15; Croker bt Pearson +24; Heap bt Mrozinski +13

2nd Round:

K. Jones bt Wright +12; Lewis bt Hyne +23; Bottomley bt Palmer +5; Vincent bt Miss MacLeod +10; Guest bt Irwin +6; Peterson bt Bell (wo); Cordingley bt K.E. Jones +17; Croker bt Heap +4

3rd Round:

Lewis bt K. Jones +5; Vincent bt Bottomley +10; Peterson bt Guest +2; Cordingley bt Croker +26(TP)

Semi-Finals:

Lewis bt Vincent +26; Cordingley bt Peterson +13

Final:

Lewis bt Cordingley +4

Play-Off

Guest bt Lewis +17

Club News and Tournament Results (4)

Colchester: 8-13 July

The tournament got off to an entertaining start on Monday 8th July with the handicap X competition. John Walters was scratched for arriving three hours late, only to be reinstated when the manager realised he had given him leave for the morning at the Men's and Women's Championship two weeks earlier.

Many fancied players were beaten as Hyne, Peterson, Walters, and Paul Hetherington went out, Paul Hetherington being beaten by one after bad luck with a rover peel.

It was very pleasant to see Humphrey Hicks so obviously enjoying spectating though it was sad not to have him playing. Tuesday saw the first triple-peel of the week, by John Walters as he cruised through to win the draw half of the A-class. Upsets were caused by Palmer, who beat Moorcraft, Heap and Peterson before losing to Walters. Doubles day saw some exciting finishing, and some surprising lapses. Peterson failed to get a rover peel on partner from four, despite 2½ bisques and it was left to his high bisque partner to peg out oppo advanced ball! Nevertheless Peterson and Reeve went on to win through in the final on Friday. There was a social evening of candlelit golf croquet which was summed up by Dennis Moorcraft who said 'It was an excellent evening - I won!'



Micheal Heap, who won the Colchester Bowl

Despite his lapses in the early rounds of the open process, Peterson had a triple-peel against Pat Asa-Thomas. Heap progressed on his way to the final of the process aided by various lawn repairs caused by subsidence during play. The best play of the day was seen in the evening as William Prichard in practice completed all the peels for a triple prior to running 2-back. Friday was finals day and Heap beat Barlow in the process final with a triple peel and then went on to win the play-off against Walters comfortably.

The B-class final finished somewhat sensationally, as both players failed to call time, and on correct time Sarah Hampson was 3 up. When time was called, however, Gregory was one up. In view of the circumstances he graciously offered the Trophy to Sarah Hampson, who accepted. He then went on to beat Barlow in the handicap X final.

Saturday saw the close of the tournament as Reeve won the handicap Y but lost the C-class to Elliot. In an earlier match

much amusement was caused as Elliot's then opponent Cawdell tripped over a hoop, walking forwards. The same Cawdell could well lend his name to a new error. Not any old take-off off the court by opponent balls but a solid ball into the boundary board (Durham speak).

Another notable feature was the damage report: two burst balls, one broken hoop, one hoop a-missing, one L-shaped Neal mallet, and a broken toe!

PAUL HETHERINGTON

RESULTS

Colchester Bowl (Advanced Play)

DRAW

1st Round:

C. Barlow bt S. Wright +21; J.O. Walters bt Mrs Asa-Thomas +24; D. Palmer bt D.H. Moorcraft +21

2nd Round:

Walters bt Barlow +25(TP); N. Hyne bt P.J.C. Hetherington +25; D. Peterson bt R.A. Girling +3; Palmer bt M.E.W. Heap +17

Semi-Finals:

Walters bt Hyne +4; Palmer bt Peterson +15

Final:

Walters bt Palmer +16

PROCESS

1st Round:

Heap bt Wright +15; Walters bt Moorcraft +22; Barlow bt Palmer +24

2nd Round:

Heap bt Hyne +9; Girling bt Walters +17; Barlow bt Hetherington +25; Peterson bt Mrs Asa-Thomas +24(TP)

Semi-Finals:

Heap bt Girling +4; Barlow bt Peterson +10

Final:

Heap bt Barlow +17(TP)

Play-Off: Heap bt Walters +24

The Cordy Salver

(Handicap Singles: 22 pt game)

Block A

3 wins: D. Reeve (11)

2 wins: J. Williams (12)

1 win: Mrs D.H. Moorcraft (10)

0 wins: Mrs Carter (13)

Block B

4 wins: P. Elliott (13)

3 wins: N. Carter (10)

2 wins: Mrs Purdon (11)

1 win: S. Cawdell (15)

0 wins: Mrs Joscelyne (12)

Play-Off: Elliott bt Reeve +17

Franklin Cup Handicap Singles

1st Round:

R.A. Girling (2) bt N.G. Hyne (1) +12; Mrs P. Asa-Thomas (3) bt Mrs J.A. Hetherington (6) +11(T); D. Palmer (3) bt C. Sheen (3½) +13; A.K. Gregory (6½) bt G.F. Hallett (5½) +14; J. Williams (12) bt D. Reeve (11) +5; P. Bishop (5) bt P.J.C. Hetherington (3) +1

2nd Round:

Girling bt Mrs Asa-Thomas +20; Palmer bt S.H. Cawdell (15) +17; D.H. Moorcraft (½) bt Mrs M. Purdon (11) +14; C. Barlow (-½) bt D. Peterson (½) +26; Dr R. Sutherland (6) bt J.O. Walters (½) +17; Miss S. Hampson (3½) bt P. Elliott (12) +10; Gregory bt Mrs R. Stanley-Smith (5½) +15; Bishop bt Williams +2

3rd Round:

Palmer bt Girling +18; Barlow bt Moorcraft +5; Miss Hampson bt Sutherland +12; Gregory bt Bishop +23

Semi-Finals:

Barlow bt Palmer +11; Gregory bt Miss Hampson +20

Final:

Gregory bt Barlow +25

Clark & Cork Trophies

Semi-Finals:

Sutherland & Williams bt Hetherington & Gregory +8; Peterson & Reeve bt Walters & Mrs Hetherington +26

Final:

Peterson & Reeve bt Sutherland & Williams +4

Southwick: 8-13 July

On Monday morning, 8th July, three dozen eager contestants, bright eyed and bushy tailed, arrived at sunny Southwick, keen once again to enjoy, or suffer, the delights of Edgar Jackson's excellent managership. They were divided into Swiss groups, named by Edgar, somewhat alcoholically, as Pilots and Cricketers, after two local hostilities. The whimsicality had already started: Swiss Pilots? and Swiss Cricketers?

After two days of singles the Cricketers were led by Bob Rogers, a former Rugby, not a cricket, player, and the Pilots by Paul MacDonald, a non-pilot (a former Fleet Air Arm observer/navigator). Later in the 6th round the rugby player fell to an excellent tackle by John Exell, and the navigator lost his way, lured by the wiles of Southwick's senior Cox (Edna). John went on to win the event, the Maurice Reckitt Bowl, after beating the Manager and, in the final, Michael Phelps, the holder.



Lionel & Moira Wharrad, winners of the 'Y' Doubles at Southwick

The doubles (X, Y (and Z!)) while not perhaps approaching some of the frivolities of earlier years, did have their quaintnesses, which will doubtless make good bar talk for a year or two. For example, a distinguished low bisquer succeeded in losing a match by pegging out not one but both of his opponents' balls! And one old lady (not three) was late for a game because she had found herself locked in the lavatory of her hotel.

Family pairings in the doubles abounded (the Wharrads, the Ransoms, the MacDonalDs, the Weitz/Shine twins). And family partnerships prevailed, the X doubles being won by Ray and Frances Ransom, and the Y doubles by Lionel and Moira Wharrad; to the best of your reporter's knowledge, the Z doubles, played as a Swiss, is still going on.

This was, as always, a happy friendly week, made more so by the fine catering provided. A warm thank you to Edgar Jackson and to the members of the Southwick Club for providing us with so much fun.

Southwick: 8-13 July

RESULTS

The Maurice Reckitt Bowl

(Handicap Swiss)

The 'Pilots'

6 wins: M.F. Phelps (0)

5 wins: J.J. Laurence (7), B.G.F. Weitz (½), I.P.M. Macdonald (3), Mrs N.W.T. Cox (4)

4 wins: R.W. Ransom (5½), Mrs E. Mapletoft (5½), Mrs L.A. Coombs (5)

3 wins: L. Wharrad (1), W.E. Moore (2), Miss A. Dawson (11), Miss C. Cox (5½), Miss S. French (11), Miss D.E. Dennant (7½)

2 wins: Mrs E.M. Lewis (8), Mrs M. Grout (6)

1 win: Mrs B.K. Pearman (11), G.F. Paxon (5½)

The 'Cricketers'

6 wins: F.J. Exell (6)

5 wins: R.A.G. Rogers (5½), Mrs T. Vale (8), Mrs R.W. Ransom (7)

4 wins: J.S.H. Battison (1), Mrs I.P.M. Macdonald (5½), G.E.P. Jackson (0), D.M. Bull (4)

3 wins: Mrs L. Wharrad (9), N.W.T. Cox (4), Mrs E.E. Bressey (5), Mrs M.J. Loveys, Miss P. Lewis (11), Mrs B.G.F. Weitz (4), Mrs P. Shine (7)

2 wins: Dr D. Higgs (7), Dr E.P. Davey (12)

1 win: Mrs D.V. Harding (12)

Play-Off: Exell bt Phelps +26

Handicap Doubles 'X'

1st Round:

Mrs E. Bressey & D.M. Bull bt Mrs E. Lewis & G.F. Paxon +11; F.J. Exell & Mrs Staddon bt Mr & Mrs L. Wharrad +13; Mr & Mrs Ransom bt Miss A. Dawson & D. Higgs +3(T); Mrs Grout & Miss Dennant bt Miss P. Shine & Mrs B. Weitz +4; W.E. Moore & Mrs Millns bt Miss Harding & Mrs Vale +4; J. Laurence & Mrs Mapletoft bt Mrs Coombs & Mrs French +21; B.G.F. Weitz & Miss P. Lewis bt Mrs C. Cox & Mrs Pearman +6; Mr & Mrs Macdonald bt M. Phelps & Mrs N. Clapperton +13

2nd Round:

Mrs Bressey & Bull bt Exell & Mrs Staddon +1(T); Mr & Mrs Ransom bt Mrs Grout & Miss Dennant +13; Laurence & Mrs Mapletoft bt Moore & Mrs Millns +5; Mr & Mrs Macdonald bt Weitz & Miss Lewis +10

Semi-Finals:

Mr & Mrs Ransom bt Mrs Bressey & Bull +9; Laurence & Mrs Mapletoft bt Mr & Mrs Macdonald

Final: Mr & Mrs Ransom bt Laurence & Mrs Mapletoft +11

Handicap Doubles 'Y'

Semi-Finals:

Mr & Mrs Wharrad bt Mrs Weitz & Miss Shine +12; M. Phelps & Mrs Clapperton bt Mrs Coombs & Miss French +11

Final: Mr & Mrs Wharrad bt Phelps & Mrs Clapperton +4

East Riding: 13-14 July

Crowds flock to Hull!

On the 13th July, Costello Park in Hull was not only the venue for the East Riding Weekend Tournament but also the Schools International Athletics Competition. Hustle, Bustle everywhere! Bill Lamb ran a magnificent hoop and the applause of 15,000 people rang in his ears. Alas the applause was not meant for Bill but for a female who had just set a new 100yd record on the adjacent running track!

Club News and Tournament Results (5)

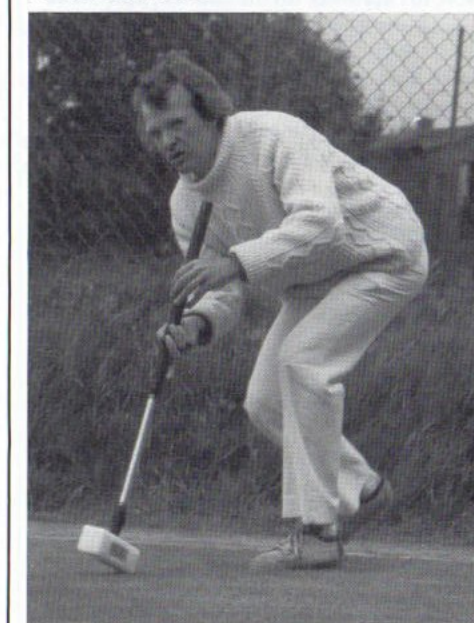
Edgbaston: 19-21 July

In an American tournament, the decisive game may pass without comment at the time, if it is played early enough in the tournament. And so it is that no-one can quite remember just how it was that Barbara Sutcliffe beat Alex Bobak by 3 on Friday evening, enabling her to draw level on games, but stay behind on points, in Block A.

Block B was dominated by Andrew Gregory whose performance included a most impressive win by 25 when giving 8 bisques! He succumbed only to Ivor Meredith's unconventional tactical approach and then only by the smallest of margins. Block C found Alan Sutcliffe in convincing form. He recovered well after a disastrous start against Andrew Sweeney whose comparative lack of practice this season prevented him from making a more serious challenge for the block.

At the tournament dinner on Saturday night a certain block-winner was observed to be dancing on the table in a public room at the restaurant. This was such an attractive sight that the committee may decide to require such performances from all future winners.

ALAN GIRLING



Alan Sutcliffe, Block winner at Hull

RESULTS

(American Handicap Singles)

Block A

3 wins: P.A. Thompson (5½) +16, Mrs P. Hague (4) +15, E.E. Scott (3½) +13, B.A. Keen (½) -15

2 wins: P. Watson (7½)

1 win: D. Watson (14)

Block B

5 wins: W. Lamb (4½)

4 wins: A.G. Gordon (4)

3 wins: P. Stoker (2½)

2 wins: J.D. Meads (1)

1 win: F.F. Ross (8)

0 wins: Mrs J. Walker (13)

Block C

5 wins: A. Smith (8)

3 wins: P.W. Thompson (4½) +23, Mrs B. Sutcliffe (7½) +4, B. Storey (2) -3

1 win: D. Dudeney (12)

0 wins: A. Bennet (1)

Block D

4 wins: A. Sutcliffe (2½) +61, I. Maugham (2) +40

2 wins: R. Gillespie (11) +7, M. Haslam (5½) -26, T. Haste (0) -56

1 win: Mrs N. Tyldesley (12)

Alan Girling

RESULTS

(American Handicap Singles)

Block A

5 wins: A. Bobak (8) +78, Mrs A. Sutcliffe (7½) +65

4 wins: A.G. Gordon (4)

3 wins: A.J. Girling (1)

2 wins: Miss J.E. Assheton (4)

1 win: Mrs R. Flutter (13) -55, Mrs P. Meredith (14)

Block B

5 wins: A. Gregory (4)

4 wins: I.C. Meredith (6)

3 wins: B.C. Hallam (2½) +4, R.C. Jones (3) -24

2 wins: C. Davey (12), P. Jones (11)

1 win: L. Hopkins (11)

Block C

5 wins: A. Sutcliffe (2½)

4 wins: K.E. Jones (0) +27, S. Clay (3) +23, A. Sweeney (7) +12

2 wins: R.A. Welch (4)

1 win: Miss V. Worsley (11) -39, Mrs P. Hetherington (6) -63

Club News and Tournament Results (6)

Cheltenham: 22-28 July

The fifteenth anniversary of Edgar Jackson's managing of the Cheltenham July Week was slightly disrupted on account of his son being called to the Bar, and Edgar taking a day off to follow him there, but the Wheelers stepped in as assistant managers while he was away mingling with what he described as all the other 'purring parents'.

As ever, this tournament was packed with as many people as possible playing as much croquet as possible, which meant extensive double banking. It also meant five class events, with no trophy for the 'D' class, so perhaps Margaret Langley may not mind quite so much being once again the bridesmaid instead of the bride. Liz Paish did well to win the Calthrop Cup in her first calendar event, and Ron Gosden carried the Asa-Thomas Trophy back with him to Hunstanton. Steve Hoole was in devastating form, and Carol Smith needed to – and did – play extremely well to wrest the Money Salver from within his grasp. Steve made up for that by promptly going on to win the Daniels Cup, only giving Denis Moorcraft any real opportunity when failing over with his second ball. Sadly for Denis, he was unable to capitalize on his chance, and Steve got both the cup and a handicap reduction – both well deserved. Like Steve Davis at the Crucible earlier in the year, Dave Foulser discovered the vulnerability of being poised for a hat-trick, and John Toye from Budleigh Salterton deservedly won the Cheltenham Challenge Cup.

In the Barwell Salvagers the Wolverhampton duo Roy Weaver and Terry Greenwood surely produced the upset of the week by beating Dave Foulser and Carol Smith from a third hoop start +22 in 44 minutes! They might easily have won their semi-final against the Lathams +16 had Terry not wired Laurence, with Deborah – who had still to make a hoop – in baulk. Despite the best efforts of Carmen Bazley and her newfound partner Kismet Whittall, a relatively new but positive and attacking player from Bath, Roy and Terry went on to win the Barwell Salvagers, and no-one was surprised when Terry's handicap was slashed from 7 to 5½, since he had not lost a game throughout the tournament. The Family Pairs play-off had to be interrupted to allow Deborah Latham to play a Daniels Cup semi-final against Steve Hoole, but with Steve safely in the final the match was resumed. Sadly Roger and Dab Wheeler failed to secure the Secretary's Spoon.

One person who must be mentioned is poor John Haigh, who was really in the wars! He bravely came to the tournament with an injured right foot and torn ligaments in his left leg, only to be walloped in the face by a backswinging mallet when refereeing a shot (no names will be mentioned, but the guilty party wasn't allowed to hear the end of that!). Terry Greenwood volunteered to arrange a refereeing situation where he could crush John's finger between ball and hoop, to 'complete the set', but John felt he had to decline this thoughtful offer . . .

The other occurrence worthy of note involved the one overseas visitor – Forrest Tucker of the Birnam Wood Croquet Club,

Santa Barbara, California (where 'we play by British Association rules, not American'). He gained a small victory by winning the one-ball event. Falling into conversation with Jane Neville-Rolfe, he discovered they are what in Virginia are called 'kissing cousins' – that is to say, Jane's cousin is married to Forrest's cousin! Croquet is, relatively speaking, a small world, but it seems it can be even smaller than we think!

LAURENCE & DEBORAH LATHAM



Virginia's 'Kissing Cousins', Jane Neville-Rolfe and Forrest Tucker, pictured at the tournament.

RESULTS

Cheltenham Challenge Cup

(American Open Singles)

- 4 wins:** J.S. Toye (+42)
3 wins: D.R. Foulser (+33)
2 wins: G.E.P. Jackson (+17), D.H. Moorcraft (-8), R.F. Bailey (-12), L.V. Latham (-18)
1 win: Dr B.G.F. Weitz (-29)
0 wins: J. Haigh (-31)

Money Salver. (American + Play-Off. 22pts)

Block A

- 3 wins:** C. Duckworth (+43), Mrs C. Smith (0)
2 wins: Mrs W. Hague
1 win: Mrs J. Neville-Rolfe (-11), Dr. R.F. Wheeler (-31)

Block B

- 3 wins:** Mrs R.F. Wheeler (+32), S. Hoole (+16)
2 wins: J. McLaren (0), Lady Bazley (-5)
0 wins: Mrs K.M.O. Wheeler

Block C

- 3 wins:** W.J. Sturdy
2 wins: A.G. Gordon (-1), Mrs B.G.F. Weitz (-6), R.F.A. Crane (-12)

Play-Off. 1st Round:

- Mrs Smith bt Gordon +8; Duckworth bt Mrs D. Wheeler +17

- Semi-Finals:** Mrs Smith bt Duckworth +8; Hoole bt Sturdy +12

- Final:** Mrs Smith bt Hoole +3

Asa-Thomas Trophy

(American & Play-Off; 22pt level play)

Block A

- 4 wins:** R. Gosden
2 wins: W.R. Bawden, Mrs B.G.F. Weitz
1 win: M.J. Finn (-7), F.J. Exell (-14)

Block B

- 4 wins:** Mrs K. Yeoman
3 wins: P.F. Leach
2 wins: Mrs G.D. Harris

- 1 win:** Gp Capt R.S. Ryan

- 0 wins:** Mrs L.V. Latham

Play-Off: Semi-Finals:

- Gosden bt Leach +8; Bawden bt Mrs Yeoman +4

- Final:** Gosden bt Bawden +9

'D' Class

(American Handicap Singles & Play-Off: 22pts)

Block A

- 4 wins:** T. Greenwood (6)
2 wins: R. Gosden (7), Mrs D.H. Moorcraft (10)
1 win: Mrs W.R. Bawden (8); Miss A. Ryan (9)

Block B

- 4 wins:** Mrs M. Langley (8)
2 wins: F.F. Ross (8), R. Weaver (7)
1 win: Mrs A. Warren (7), F. Tucker (8)

Play-Off

- Semi-Finals:** Greenwood bt Ross +17; Mrs Langley bt Mrs Gosden +14

- Final:** Greenwood bt Mrs Langley +17

Calthrop Cup

(American Handicap Singles & Play-Off: 18pts)

Block A

- 4 wins:** Mrs J. Cima (12)
2 wins: Mrs J. Leach (16) +6, Mrs M. Finn (11) -2, Mrs R. Bishop (16) -4

- 0 wins:** Mrs R.F.A. Crane

Block B

- 4 wins:** Mrs E. Paish (14)
3 wins: Mrs K. Whittall (11)
2 wins: Mrs Exell (12)

- 1 win:** Miss D. Barber (11)

- 0 wins:** Miss J. Wraith (11)

Play-Off

- Semi-Finals:** Mrs Cima bt Mrs Whittall +13; Mrs Paish bt Mrs Leach +3

- Final:** Mrs Paish bt Mrs Cima

Daniels Cup

(Handicap Singles: Swiss & Play-Off)

Block A

- 5 wins:** J.S. Toye (½)
3 wins: Mrs A. Warren (7), F.F. Ross (8), Dr B.G.F. Weitz (½)

- 2 wins:** Mrs K.M.O. Wheeler (4), Mrs K. Yeoman (5)

- 1 win:** Mrs B.G. Neal (5)

- 0 wins:** Mrs R.F.A. Crane (11)

Block B

- 5 wins:** J. Haigh (2½)

- 4 wins:** D.R. Foulser (-1)

- 3 wins:** Mrs G.D. Harris (5)

- 2 wins:** Mrs B.G.F. Weitz (4) +11, Mrs M.J. Finn (11) -9, F.J. Exell (5½) -13

- 1 win:** F. Tucker (8) -35, Miss E.K. Arkell (5) -51

Block C

- 5 wins:** S. Hoole (3)

- 4 wins:** L.V. Latham (½)

- 3 wins:** P.F. Leach (6)

- 2 wins:** R.F.A. Crane (4) +5, M.J. Finn (6) -3, Dr R.F. Wheeler (4) -28

- 1 win:** Mrs M.T. Paddon (8) -23, T. Exell (12) -25

Block D

- 4 wins:** Mrs L.V. Latham (5½) +42, D.H. Moorcraft (½) +10

- 3 wins:** R. Weaver (7) +38, W.R. Bawden (3) +21

- 2 wins:** Mrs D.A. Wheeler (4) -25, Mrs R. Gosden (7) -31

- 1 win:** Lady Bazley (4)

Block E

- 5 wins:** R. Bailey (2½)

- 3 wins:** A.G. Gordon (4) +1, W.J. Sturdy (4) -21

- 2 wins:** Mrs C. Smith (3) +12, Mrs E. Paish (14) +1

- 1 win:** Mrs P.F. Leach (16) -25, Miss A. Ryan (9) -30, Gp Capt R.S. Ryan (6½) -30

Block F

- 5 wins:** T.P. Greenwood (8)

- 3 wins:** G.E.P. Jackson (0) +17, Mrs W. Hague (4) +16, Mrs M. Langley (8) +3, J. McLaren (3) -15

- 2 wins:** Mrs J. Neville-Rolfe (3½)

- 1 win:** R. Gosden (5)

- 0 wins:** Miss J. Wraith (11)

Play-Off

- 1st Round:** Hoole bt Greenwood (ret'd); Mrs Latham bt Haigh +17; Toye bt Bailey +4

- Semi-Finals:** Hoole bt Mrs Latham +10; Moorcraft bt Toye +22

- Final:** Hoole bt Moorcraft +21

Barwell Salvagers & Secretary's Spoon

(Handicap Doubles)

Married Semi-Finals:

- Lady Bazley & Mrs Whittall bt Dr & Mrs Wheeler +20; Weaver & Greenwood bt Mr & Mrs Latham

- Final:** Weaver & Greenwood bt Lady Bazley & Mrs Whittall +9

Play-Off for Secretary's Spoon

(Most successful family pair)

- Mr & Mrs Latham bt Dr & Mrs Wheeler +16

Reporting Tournaments & Results

Dear Sir

I have been giving some thought to the contents of 'Croquet' in view of your comments in the Editorial.

You suggest that the reports and results of club tournaments are of little interest, but I beg to differ. My wife and I choose which tournaments we will enter from these reports. We are not of sufficient ability to consider the top grade competitions which seem to be won regularly by the best fifty players in the country. Clubs advertise their tournaments in the fixture list and pay levies, surely they are entitled to have the results published for the interest of their competitors. If it is expensive, is the levy too low?

Being a handicapper for my club, I use these results to ensure that the players are at the standard of other clubs.

Ken Townsend

Wolverhampton.

Dear Sir

Apropos your editorial remarks about the publishing of croquet results, I for my part would regret the disappearance from the Gazette of the reporting of minor events. I always like to see how people I know and have played against have performed in tournaments however humble their standard of play might be. The croquet world is a small one and that is what I like about it. It would be a great pity if results were confined to major events and the performance of the star players. It would be a move towards making us like the major sports and these days events in those fields, e.g. cricket, are much less attractive than they used to be. I believe that to be due to the build up of star performers by the media and of course the existence of substantial sums of money – one way or another.

We are not likely to experience the latter in the foreseeable future, it is true, but it would be a pity if we did anything to destroy our unique characteristic whereby members of the Association at whatever level of ability can feel part of one large 'family'.

Alan Oldham

High Wycombe.

One-Roquet Croquet . . .

Dear Sir,

One-roquet croquet is an alternative to Golf Croquet, giving experience in some croquet shots. Up to 8 people can play. The balls are played in strict sequence: Blue, Red, Black, Yellow, Green, Pink, Brown, and White. Three (or four) players may use two balls each, a natural plus its alternative colour. The player's aim is to get his ball(s) through each hoop in turn, irrespective of the progress of others, and clips are used normally.

In each turn a player is allowed to roquet and croquet ONE other ball; if with the continuation shot he makes the hoop for that ball he may again roquet and croquet

another ball. Otherwise the Laws of Association Croquet apply as relevant. A player who gets left behind is likely to find balls near the hoops ahead and may be able to 'climb the ladder'. Bisques can be used, usually half the handicap difference for each ball, scaled down as appropriate for short games of 11, 9, or 7 points; half bisques are not used, a fraction counting as one. A length of board with 3-inch strips of colour is an aid to keeping tally of individual bisques.

The game is surprisingly fast. With several balls in play, a good player of two-ball breaks may be expected to go out in very few turns; to reduce the number of bisques, they may be reckoned from, say, 5, better players being saddled with minus bisques requiring them to skip that number of turns before pegging out. For example, in a 13-point game, a 16-bisquer would have (16-5)/2 = 6, and an 8 or 9-bisquer 2, and a 2-bisquer who is playing mainly for coaching and social reasons would have 3 bisques on the other side of the board, requiring him to forego 3 turns at his option.

This variation of croquet has possibilities for beginner sessions. I believe it was invented by a member of Reigate Croquet Club (perhaps David Higgs) and after more trials, it might well be developed further. I have only played it with 4 balls (and no bisques).

Fraser Ross

Alne.

. . . and Alternate Stroke Doubles

Dear Sir,

I had my first experience of the 'Alternate Stroke Handicap Doubles Play' game recently and my partner and I lost. I reflected on the game later and concluded that there appeared to be some anomaly in the calculation of the bisques given.

In a normal doubles game, the calculations are based on the players using a specific ball and subject to Law 43(c) the stronger player cannot score points for his partner; however in the alternative stroke game, he is able to play either ball and effectively takes unfair advantage of the bisques given, the risk of a mistake being made with a ball which the weaker player would normally use being much less.

I write to give you my experience and wonder if other members share my views.

Gordon Drake

Tunbridge Wells.

Peculiarities of the Laws

Dear Sir,

While attempting earlier this season to play a stop shot, I hit my ankle on the backswing and landed in a crumpled heap on the lawn. My opponent came on to the lawn looking as if he was going to ask me if I needed first aid, but instead said, 'I think you committed a fault on that stroke.'

After some discussion, my opponent (a referee) concluded that I had mis-hit the ball in a hampered stroke. It seems that the new edition of the Laws defines a hampered

Your letters

stroke as one which ' . . . requires special care because of the proximity of a hoop or the peg or another ball'. This definition, perhaps unintentionally, does indeed include not only all croquet strokes but all rushes, pegouts and hoop running or hoop clanging strokes (except perhaps very long ones).

I shall, of course, be asking for a referee to watch all my own and my opponents' croquet strokes, rushes, pegouts and hoop strokes until advised otherwise. I hope the Council is taking steps to recruit enough new referees to cope with what will surely be an increased demand for their services as a result of this change to the Laws.

Incidentally, I suspect that the fault I really committed was putting my hand on the ground in the process of falling over and before quitting my stance under control. This raises the interesting possibility of falling over without touching the ground with your hand and then having to call a referee to help you up in order to continue your turn without committing a fault. Or would an umpire be allowed to perform this duty?

Martin Kolbuszewski

London NW1.

Waterproof Clothing

Dear Sir

One of the bonus points of the game of croquet is that we don't have to scuttle for shelter the moment the stuff descends.



Is an umbrella the answer?

The problem, I find, is what protective clothing to wear. The majority that seems to be offered in the local sportshops is waterproof alright but it sets up such condensation problems from within that it doesn't seem worth bothering. How do other players overcome this problem? There must be waterproof material that breathes. Could cyclists, walkers or climbers let us know how they have solved this problem, with makes and sources of supply?

Peter Bishop

Colchester.

The New Gazette

Dear Sir,

Just a note to congratulate you warmly on the spectacular developments on the UK Croquet scene. All of us here are most impressed with the new format of the Gazette and with the new spirit of up-and-go!

Brian Bamford

Cape Town.

Club News and Tournament Results (7)

Cheltenham: 13-18 May

The Peel Memorials – A late report!

According to the manager, Dennis Moorcraft, the objective was for everybody to get lots of games without much double-banking. The result was a very active and entertaining week of handicap play, with men's and women's draw and process events, mixed X and Y blocks, X and Y doubles and a Z event, and there were still empty lawns available for anyone who wanted more.

There was a large entry of all ages and standards. The Cheltenham lawns were playing better than your correspondent had ever seen them since first visiting the Club about six years ago. If this wasn't enough, the clubhouse dazzled the eye with its new coat of paint, while inside Captain Kirk was still recorded as having won the Challenge Bowl in 1912, although there is no record of Mr Spock having won anything. The catering, which I understand was done by an external enterprise, was well up to the usual high Cheltenham standard.

Heavy rain soaked the competitors on Monday and Tuesday, but they battled on bravely in barely playable conditions. When they remained unimpressed on Wednesday by rain falling out of a clear blue sky, the manager took decisive action and for the rest of the week we were bathed in brilliant sunshine.

On the final day, there was an Inter-Club

match in a far corner with minus players doing triples and things, but most of us preferred to watch the handicap doubles, featuring the famous actor Ryan and Neal against Carmen Bazley and Robin Burnell. Apparently Liz Neal and Dick Ryan had a bet beforehand about the outcome of the game. Unfortunately I have no record of the result, except for a note quoting Carmen as saying that every time she and Robin were about to win, the manager reminded them of the need to entertain the tea-drinking spectators, and of course they complied.

The block winners went into a knockout event, World Cup style, which was won by Cecil Duckworth after he had given Bernard Weitz a chance by missing his pegout. The men's and women's handicap singles events were won after two closely fought finals by Lawrence and Debbie Latham. Examination of the names engraved on the two trophies revealed that this was the first time that a husband and wife had won both events since Mr and Mrs Riggall in 1966.

Not everybody knows about the Peel Memorials, but if you want to play for a week early in the season, this tournament is certainly well worth a visit.

MARTIN KOLBUSZEWSKI

RESULTS

The full results of this tournament appeared in our last issue, No 181.

Compton: 27-28 July

RESULTS

Cowhorn Trophy (Advanced Play)

1st Round

Mrs W.R.D. Wiggins bt A.J. Palmer +14; A.J. Mrozinski bt J.R. Hilditch +2; P. Cordingley bt N.G. Hyne +16(TP); D. Peterson bt K.M.H. Aiton +6; G.W. Noble bt Dr W.R.D. Wiggins +9(TPO); J.O. Walters bt S.J.H. Wright +9; J.E. Guest bt Dr R. Wood +4; R.D.C. Prichard bt M.J. Stevens +18

2nd Round

Mrs Wiggins bt Mrozinski +6; Cordingley bt Peterson +9; Walters bt Noble +13; Guest bt Prichard +11

Semi-Finals

Cordingley bt Mrs Wiggins -13, +14, +14; Guest bt Walters -14, +14, +26(TP)

Final

Cordingley bt Guest +1, +26(TP)

Cowbell Trophy

(Progressive Swiss: Open Singles)

5 wins: J.O. Walters

4 wins: K.M.H. Aiton, R.D.C. Prichard, D. Peterson

3 wins: S.J.H. Wright, G.W. Noble, N.G. Hyne, Mrs W.R.D. Wiggins

2 wins: Dr R. Wood, A.J. Palmer, M.J. Stevens

1 win: J.R. Hilditch, A.J. Mrozinski

0 wins: Dr W.R.D. Wiggins

Southport: 27-28 July

Long-Bisquers' Weekend

This was not a CA Calendar fixture but we think that its success will be of interest to clubs in other regions. It was advertised within the Northern Federation for players of handicap 10 and over, both established tournament competitors and beginners aiming to get experience before entering a Calendar event. Entries came from Bowdon, Chester, Ellesmere and Tyneside, as well as the home club. It was especially pleasing to welcome two players introduced to croquet by the Inter-Schools Championship.

The games were played full-bisque, allowing club handicaps up to 20, with the base handicap at 9. (It was going to be 10, but Colin Wild had been reduced.) This format led to fast and enterprising play, with remarkably few games reaching the 2½ hour time limit, helped by wet lawns and the presence of Referees in Charge.

The hoop setting deserves a mention in the light of recent correspondence in 'Croquet'. Most players were having no trouble in running them, and one lady accused me of widening them! I began to worry in case my home-made hoop gauge was not accurate, because I thought they were correct, erring on the tight side if at all. Suffice it to say that when a CA hoop gauge was used, it would not fit between the wires! The Long Bisquers were sailing merrily through President's Cup hoops.

At lunchtime Paul and Shirley Stoker organised soup and salad while Brian and Carol Lewis produced tasty burgers and sausages on their barbecue, then at teatime the club ladies brought so many cakes that not even Tim Haste could scoff the lot. These pleasures added greatly to the jovial atmosphere which defied the dismal weather. The winner, fourteen-year-old Chris Clarke, had the sense to polish off his fifth opponent before the worst of the rain washed out some of the longer games in the last round.

Many club members worked hard to ensure the success of this new event, but special credit must go to Paul Stoker for his tireless efforts and to Tim Haste for managing the twenty-four competitors and for originating the Long Bisquers' Weekend.

ANDREW BENNET



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Club News and Tournament Results (8)

RESULTS

Cheltenham: 17th-22nd June

Du Pre Cup: Advanced Play

DRAW:

1st Round:

Aiton bt Miss MacLeod +1(T); J. Wheeler bt A. Collin +9; Hyne bt Bond +7; Peterson bt Maugham +16; Murray bt Wharrad +19; Moorcraft bt Butler +16; Mrs Carlisle bt Dr Wiggins (scr); C. Barlow bt Mrs K. Wheeler +21; Hilditch bt Berry +12

2nd Round:

Roy bt Weitz +10 (TPO); Guest bt Aiton +19; Wheeler bt Hyne +3; Murray bt Peterson +9; Moorcraft bt Mrs Carlisle +16; Hilditch bt Barlow +14; Walters bt P. Smith +4; R.D.C. Prichard bt Mrs Smith +16

3rd Round:

Roy bt Guest +5(TP); Murray bt J. Wheeler +21; Hilditch bt Moorcraft +9; Walters bt Prichard +23

Semi-Finals:

Murray bt Roy +17; Hilditch bt Walters +25

Final:

Murray bt Hilditch +26

PROCESS:

1st Round:

Weitz bt Dr Wiggins (scr); Hyne bt Mrs Smith +16; Aiton bt Berry +10; Guest bt Mrs K. Wheeler +21; P. Smith bt A. Collin +19; Roy bt Barlow +2; Walters bt J. Wheeler +5; Hilditch bt Miss MacLeod +7; Bond bt R. Prichard +6

2nd Round:

Hyne bt Weitz +5; Murray bt Aiton +1; Peterson bt Guest +10; Butler bt Smith (scr); Roy bt Maugham +16; Walters bt Moorcraft +5; Hilditch bt Wharrad (scr); Mrs Carlisle bt Bond +3

3rd Round:

Hyne bt Murray +17; Peterson bt Butler +13; Roy bt Walters +13; Mrs Carlisle bt Hilditch +8

Semi-Finals:

Peterson bt Hyne +7; Roy bt Mrs Carlisle +13

Final:

Peterson bt Roy +25(TP)

Play-Off

Murray bt Peterson +20(TP)

Ladies Plate: Advanced Play

DRAW:

1st Round:

Mrs Yeoman bt Mrs D. Wheeler +1(T); Mrs Neville-Rolfe bt Miss Arkell +13; Mrs Harris bt Mrs Hague +2(T); Mrs Neal bt Mrs Weitz +7(T)

Semi-Finals:

Mrs Neville-Rolfe bt Mrs Yeoman +24; Mrs Harris bt Mrs Neal +1(T)

Final:

Mrs Harris bt Mrs Neville-Rolfe +17

PROCESS:

1st Round:

Mrs Harris bt Mrs D. Wheeler +1(T); Mrs Weitz bt Mrs Neville-Rolfe +12; Mrs Hague bt Mrs Yeoman +17; Mrs Neal bt Miss Arkell +3(T)

Semi-Finals:

Mrs Harris bt Mrs Weitz +2; Mrs Hague bt Mrs Neal +23

Final:

Mrs Hague bt Mrs Harris +13

Play-Off

Mrs Hague bt Mrs Harris +6

Bristol: 29-30 June

Experience beats youth!

At this tournament your reporter was introduced to the misfortune known locally as the 'Bristol Rush' (but in other quarters as the 'Portwood Rush') – ie the potentially cross-field dolly rush in which the back ball launches itself into the air and barely clips the top of the forward ball.

The better games were played on the Saturday. By the end of that day, short odds would have been given on a youthful local final between M. Suter and J. Mann. In the first game of the tournament, Suter beat the New Zealander, Kos, +13. Kos peeled Suter through penultimate and rover, but was unable to peg out. Suter then played an excellent four ball break with his second ball to complete. Suter next beat D. Latham +15.

The Semi-final matched Suter against R. Gugan, and Mann against D. Goacher. In both matches youthful but intemperate enthusiasm was curbed by the careful play of experienced opponents.

In the Gugan-Suter match, Suter, in separate turns, peeled Gugan through penultimate and rover and pegged both balls out; Suter's remaining ball being for 3-back and Gugan's for 6 (she having 1½ bisques in hand). Suter proceeded by turns to reach penultimate (with Gugan still for 6) but failed that hoop in attempting a jump shot. This allowed Gugan to take her ball to rover (using the half-bisque). Suter roqueted and drove Gugan's ball to the south boundary, taking position for penultimate on a long take-off.

Gugan took her bisque, removed Suter from penultimate and took position at rover. Suter failed to connect and Gugan ran rover and shot wide of the peg halfway to the west boundary. Suter struck and ran penultimate. The return roquet sent Gugan's ball to hoop three, wherefrom he took off to five feet short of rover. Suter achieved the hoop but struck the outside wire attempting to peg out and bounced away to the side. Gugan's last hope

A Day Out in Ramsgate

On 29th June Ipswich CC paid a visit to Ramsgate for a one day friendly. Although we are only about 70 miles apart it is 120 miles by road via the Dartford tunnel. Ramsgate is a new club and has two old public putting greens converted to lawns. They may be found just above the delightful harbour, towards Broadstairs (near the dog track). The surface of the lawns leaves a certain amount to be desired, and hitting over a distance is somewhat of a chance affair! The important thing however is that they exist and all credit to the enthusiasm of the club members in getting the club going. Before we left we were shown an area near the sea where there had been some more old putting greens, where four or even five lawns are proposed. If this comes off then in a few years Ramsgate could well be on the 'circuit' of tournaments. On the way home, we had a very pleasant stroll through the grounds of Canterbury Cathedral. A very enjoyable day out. The result? Oh, it was an honourable three-all draw.

DON GAUNT



Pat Hague making a mark at Bristol

was a roquet; that ambition was realised and she completed.

Gugan and Goacher then met in the final. Goacher played a better-controlled game and won +12.

The Manager was John McCullough.

STEPHEN KOS

RESULTS

Bristol: 29-30 June

Latham Cup: Handicap Singles

1st Round:

D. Ruscombe-King (6½) bt Dr D. Gugan (12) +13; D. Goacher (5) bt Mrs P.A. Hague (4) +17; J. Mann (3) bt L.V. Latham (½) +26; R. Race (3½) bt R. Jenkins (9) +8; J. Jeffrey (7½) bt A. Gordon (4) +17; Mrs R. Gugan (10) bt M. Elder (6) +10; M. Suter (5½) bt S. Kos (3) +13; Mrs D. Latham bt Lady Porter (15) +15

2nd Round:

Goacher bt Ruscombe-King +8; Mann bt Race +16; Mrs Gugan bt Jeffrey +15; Suter bt Mrs Latham +12

Semi-Finals:

Goacher bt Mann +20; Mrs Gugan bt Suter +1

Final:

Goacher bt Mrs Gugan +12



Don Gaunt

RESULTS (Ramsgate names first)

D. Shaw (4½) bt D. Gaunt (1½) +10; T. Ballard (6½) bt M. French (2) +20; J. Williamson (12) bt J. Waters (14) +4(T); A. Mitchell (12) lost to C. Steward (15) -1(T)

Shaw & Williamson lost to Gaunt & Steward -3; Ballard & Mitchell lost to French & Waters -7

Coaches Corner

A 6-Week Coaching Course

Skilful and persistent advertising using local TV, local Radio and local Newspapers, together with posters, door to door leafletting, car stickers, etc will ensure a large enough flow of beginners for any Club to deal with. But all this effort is wasted if the Club does not have a structured plan of how to deal with its beginners. This plan should consist of:

Coaching Courses

The layout of small Lawns for use by the Beginners.
Competitions specially arranged for Beginners.

Club sessions designed to get Beginners and Established players to mix with each other.

Below is a plan for a 6-week Coaching Course based on one lesson per week, 1½ hours per lesson. All equipment is provided by the Club and beginners are just asked to bring soft-soled shoes. The course should have a maximum of 9 Beginners – normally one will be absent and 8 is the largest number that one coach can properly deal with. Lessons should be conducted on one Lawn split into 2 small Lawns. On Lesson 6, the Coach will require an assistant.

You will notice how Club events are brought to the notice of beginners during the course. The Golf Croquet Afternoon, held on a Saturday afternoon between lessons 5 and 6, is specifically organised as a doubles event with experienced player/beginner pairings. It often proves to be the key selling point of the Course, the beginners being delighted to find they can compete so effectively after such a short time and enjoying the social nature of the occasion.



Coaching at Southwick: Tommy Vale shows them how.

LESSON 1

Introduce Grip and Stance
How to hit a single ball

Exercise: In pairs hit a ball the width of the lawn

Introduce HOOP RUNNING and STALKING

Exercise: Practise running straight hoops

Introduce HOOP RUNNING AT AN ANGLE

Exercise: Practise running angled hoops

Introduce A BAULK and THE YARD LINE

Exercise: Competition – least number of

shots to run first six hoops and hit peg

Introduce GOLF CROQUET and B BAULK

Exercise: Golf Croquet Doubles till end of

lesson

AT END remind them they can visit the Club

and watch or practise at any time during the

6 weeks and remind them of two dates:

May 17/18: Come and watch Open Weekend

June 7: 2 pm. Golf Croquet afternoon designed for beginners

LESSON 2

Revise and practise hoop running.

Introduce concept of 'Bonus shots' and

ROQUET/CROQUET/CONTINUATION

Introduce STRAIGHT DRIVE CROQUET

SHOT and concept of distance ratio –

front:back balls)

Exercise: Practise straight drives, work out

your own ratio.

Introduce STRAIGHT STOP SHOTS

Exercise: Practise straight stop shots

Introduce STRAIGHT ROLLS

Exercise: Practise straight rolls

Introduce SPLIT CROQUET STROKES and

principles involved with aiming in such

shots.

Introduce ONE BALL CROQUET

Exercise: One ball games (6 hoops and

peg) until end of lesson.

LESSON 3

Revise and practise rolls and/or stop shots.

Introduce HOOP APPROACHES

Exercise: Practise hoop approaches from

in front of the hoop.

Introduce TAKE-OFF.

Exercise: Practise take-offs.

Set up 2 balls in front of Hoop 1 and good

pioneers at 2 and 3. Then use best beginner

to make a 3 Hoop break using just hoop

approach and take-off shots. Stress the

concept that you need a second ball at a

hoop to help you make it. As Homework ask

them to try to find out next week (by

reading/observing good players or sheer

brainpower) how the 4 balls could be re-

arranged to enable the break to continue for

more than 3 hoops.

Exercise: All beginners to try this 3 hoop

break (2 lawns at once – get best beginner to

help you).

Introduce CLIPS and then get 4 best

beginners to play a game from Penultimate

to the Peg, introducing a few tactics as you

go and stimulating group discussion.

LESSON 4

Revise and practise take-offs.

Introduce RUSHES.

Exercise: Practise rushing, finish with a

couple of competitions – e.g. who can do

the longest rush with the balls say 18 inches

apart; get group in a circle and 6 to 7 yards

from the peg and see who can dolly rush a

ball nearest to it.

Demonstrate a 4-ball break (keep pivot ball

near the peg and use take-offs to pioneers).

Stress the importance of the Pivot ball and

the difference from the break in Lesson 3.

Introduce BISQUES

Exercise: Doubles from 3-back to Peg till

end of lesson (Give each player 6 bisques).

Use these games to get them all to try a

4-ball break.

LESSON 5

Revise and practise rushes.

Exercise: Competition – least number of

strokes to run 12 hoops and hit the peg.

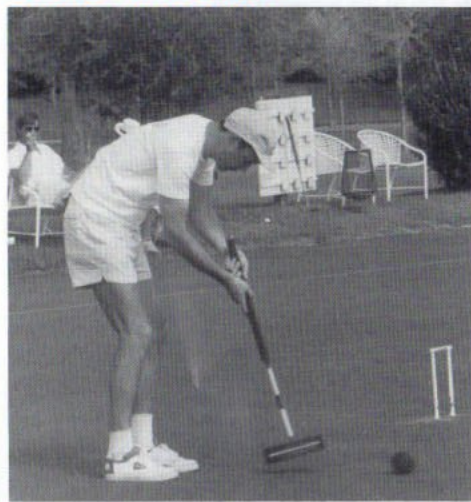
Exercise: Practise half-rolls

Exercise: Practise 4-ball breaks from hoops

1 to 3
REMEMBER THIS IS THE LESSON BEFORE THE GOLF CROQUET AFTERNOON

Exercise: Use Full lawns for Doubles Golf Croquet till end of lesson.

REMINDE THEM TO BRING CHEQUE BOOKS FOR LESSON 6!



John McCullough playing in the United States in March this year. Note the 'Deadness' Board in the background.

LESSON 6

Start straight off with doubles games of 6

hoops and the Peg. Give each player 8

bisques. Explain that they will be playing

this format of game in the singles

competition and this is what they should

play in friendlies.

Get assistant to watch one game whilst you

watch the other. Sit with the outplayers and

explain to them what their opponents are

doing wrong – make them think for

themselves on the Lawn.

Try and arrange for the Membership

Secretary to come along and deal with the

Admin – collecting money, giving out keys,

etc.

COMMENT

Naturally you can modify the lessons above

to suit your own Club – e.g. if you have a lot

of Lawns, then by Lesson 5, encourage

Singles Golf Croquet.

JOHN McCULLOUGH

1986 Coaching Courses

Croquet is to be included in the 1986 Summer School at Loughborough University.

Three 4-day courses will run in parallel. The first is for people who would like to qualify as Grade I coaches, the second is for Grade I coaches who would like to progress to Grade II, and the third is for players at beginner and improver level who would like tuition from CA coaches to help them raise their standard of play.

The inclusive charge for the 4 days, covering both accommodation and tuition, will be £92. The courses will be held from Monday 11th August, to Friday 15th August, and during this time, there will be opportunities for competition play for both coaches and players as an integral part of the 3 courses.

Further details of these courses and other 1986 coaching activities will be published in future issues of "Croquet" and the 1986 Calendar Fixture Book that is sent to all CA members.

Percentage Croquet

Shooting at Singles and Doubles

The performance of the 'average' player as calculated from the data presented by Col. Prichard (Gazette No 144, 1977) are shown in the accompanying table. The first column lists some recognisable distances on the croquet court: the second column shows the percentages of shots that will hit a single ball at these distances: the third column gives the corresponding percentages for a perfect double (i.e. two balls separated by a space exactly equal to the diameter of a ball, viz 3.625 inches), and columns 4, 5 and 6 give the percentages for three kinds of imperfect double (Baillieu Double), viz balls separated by 1.5, 3 and 9 ball spaces (5.4, 10.9, and 32.6 inch gaps). Two percentages are shown for the latter – the first is the percentage hits to be expected if the striker aims at the midpoint between the two balls, and the figure in brackets is the percentage hits to be expected if the striker aims directly at one of the balls. The merits of doing the latter were discussed in Gazette No 146 (1977).

You may be interested to compare your own performance with that of Dr Grundy's 'Average Player'. For example, the 'Average Player' expects to hit the 10 yard tice in 2 shots out of 5. How does your shooting compare with this? Of course we all know opponents who do much better than this! Again, if you take a large number of shots at a BALL by the peg from the middle of a long

boundary (a 13 yard shot), do you expect to hit better than 1 in 3 (i.e. 36% of the shots)? This is approximately the same distance as the short lift shot. What about the normal lift shot at a ball near the peg (16-17 yards)? The 'Average Player' expects to hit this in less than one in three (i.e. 29%) of the shots.

Now look at the percent hits for doubles. First notice that at 26 yards and greater it makes little difference whether we shoot at a ball, or at the 'middle'. This applies for all ball separations up to 9 (approximately one yard between centres). Of course, for very short distances and wide separations we are likely to miss if we aim at the middle (see values for a 3-yard shot), but notice that even for shots of intermediate length (e.g. 16.5 yards) the gain obtained by shooting at the middle is not very great, even with 'good' doubles (e.g. 1.5 ball separation). The values for the three Baillieu doubles are worth further study. For example, you are quite 'safe' in laying a 1-yard rush at hoop 1 with an enemy ball at hoop 2 because the percent hits are still 23%, the same as for a single ball. It is a different story with a 1-foot rush – the percent hits now increase to 35%.

Note on Method of Calculation:

The percent hits described by Col. Prichard fall into two groups – the shots at 12 yards and under show a slightly lower degree of accuracy than those at longer range (standard deviation 1.09 degree compared with

0.95 degree). The appropriate standard deviations for each group were used in the calculations. Some of the percent hits for a single ball differ slightly from Dr Grundy's values. This is because the latter did not all fall exactly on the line representing the mean standard deviation derived from ALL of the results in each group.

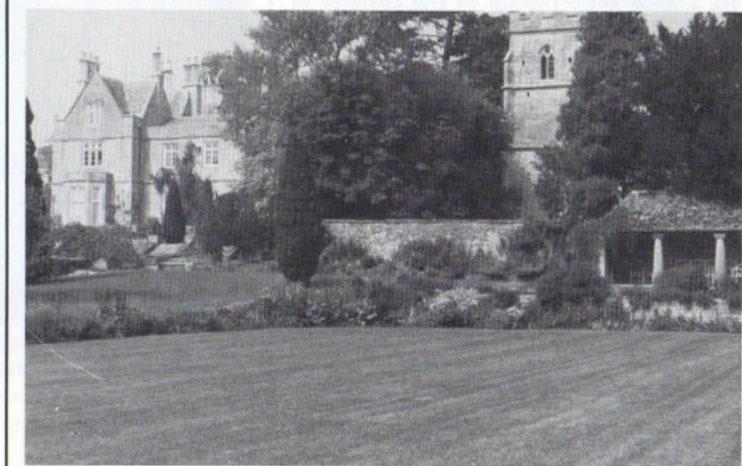
ALLEN PARKER

Hints for Beginners No. 2. The Half-Bisque

Where you have many bisques and also a half-bisque *don't forget the half-bisque*; use it early in the game. The best use you can put it to is to lay yourself a break, with a bisque immediately to follow. But this is by no means its only use. Bisques are too often expended where a half-bisque would serve just as well (e.g. where there is little prospect of your scoring even a point though it is essential to gain the innings). Avoid this mistake on the first occasion that arises. To leave your half-bisque to the very end may deprive you of most of its advantage should one of your balls get pegged-out. *Use the half-bisque early!* The earlier the better is a sound general rule. Remember that bisques carry always the value of half-bisques, but never vice versa.

From: "Twelve Hints for Beginners" by R.L.J. (See list of publications on page 23)

Ampney Park Croquet Weekends



Ampney Park

Ampney Park is a country house near Cirencester that has been completely renovated by Tim Eaton and his wife. They are aiming to recreate the style of living when country parties were all the rage and to provide an opportunity for those who are keen on country sports to pursue them in the privacy of this magnificent setting. Amongst the opportunities available are fishing, hawking with both long and short winged birds, and the chance to meet experts on gardening and the rearing of deer.

On the weekends of 17/18th May and 28/29th June next year, they are arranging weekend croquet parties for up to 16 people who would like to learn more about the game. The first weekend will be for beginners – those who have played croquet in their gardens or just joined a club – and the second weekend will be for improvers who have been playing the game for a year or so at club level. Coaching will be provided by a Croquet Association coach, and during the course of the weekend, there will be opportunities for competitive play to put theory into practice on the two croquet lawns in the grounds of Ampney Park.

Guests will be welcomed on Friday evening for an initial introduction to the weekend, and for the two days accommodation, full board, and coaching, the inclusive charge will be £95 per person. Further details will be gladly supplied on request to: Tim Eaton, Ampney Park, Near Cirencester, Gloucestershire. Tel: 028-585-365.

% HITS PREDICTED FOR THE AVERAGE PLAYER

(Figures in brackets are for aiming directly at one of the balls: those not in brackets are for aiming at the middle)

Length of Shot	% Hits on Single Ball	% Hits on Perfect Double	% Hits on Balls Separated by:			Typical Shot
			1.5	3	9	
Ball Spaces						
3 yards	92	>99	66 (93)	8 (92)	<1 (92)	
6 yards	62	92	78 (71)	37 (62)	<1 (62)	Corner Hoop to Yard Line
10 yards	40	71	66 (58)	48 (46)	3 (40)	Tice
13 yards	36	65	62 (55)	48 (43)	6 (36)	Middle End of Baulk to Yard Line
16.5 yards	29	54	52 (48)	44 (39)	11 (29)	Middle End of Baulk to Peg
21 yards	23	44	43 (41)	39 (35)	16 (23)	Corner to Peg or Hoop 1 to Hoop 2
26 yards	19	36	36 (34)	33 (31)	19 (20)	East to West Yard Line
33 yards	15	29	29 (28)	27 (26)	19 (17)	North to South Yard Line
40 yards	12	24	24 (23)	23 (22)	18 (16)	Diagonal from Near Corners

CA Brooches

CA Brooches are now available again from Headquarters following delivery of new stock. Price £2.00 each (including p&p).

Official Business

Changes in Officials

Club Officials

Carrickmines C.C.

New Secretary: P. Thornton, 'Bellemer', 1 Colliemore Villas, Dalkey, Co Down, Dublin, Eire.

Cheltenham C.C.

Secretary's telephone number should read 0452-512650.

Jealotts Hill C.C.

I.C.I. Plant Protection Ltd, Plant Research Station, Jealotts Hill, Bracknell, Berks RG12 6EV. New Secretary: R.J. Smith, 33 Donegal Close, Caversham, Reading, Berks RG4 0DT. Tel: 0734-478802.

Taunton Deane C.C.

New Secretary: Mrs M. Luke, Middle Ford Farm, Wellington, Somerset. Tel: 082347-2717.

Cambridge University

Secretary: T.D. Harrison, Sydney Sussex College. Tel Numbers: 0223-66466 Ext'n 343 (Office). 0223-61501 (Messages only) 0223-67801 (Evenings)

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

The Secretary would appreciate prompt payment of subscriptions which are due on 1st January. Members who pay by Bankers Order should check that the correct amount is being paid - £12.00 for full members and £6.50 for Juniors. If paid late, the subscriptions are respectively £14.00 and £7.50.

The current rate of subscription for Overseas members is £20.00 and covers the three year period, 1986/88.

The annual subscription to the Gazette is £6.50, and non-tournament members who receive the Gazette should pay their subscriptions on 1st January. Other subscribers to the Gazette should renew their subscriptions on the anniversary of their first subscription.

Bankers Orders can be obtained from the CA Secretary.

NOTICE TO CLUB SECRETARIES

Please would Club Secretaries claim any outstanding fees for staging CA events by notifying Brian Macmillan of the amounts involved as soon as possible.

New Associates

*M.A. Rothera	- Ardingly
E.E. Bowker	- Bowdon
R.R. Edwards	- Bowdon
Mrs A. Harte	- Bowdon
K. Jackson	- Bowdon
D.B. Maugham	- Bowdon
Dr A.C. Peterson	- Bowdon
C.H. Wild	- Bowdon
Dr D. Gugan	- Bristol
M.G.B. Collings	- Cheltenham
*P.W. Hands	- Cheltenham
Mrs K. Turtle	- Cheltenham
J. Collis	- Colchester
P.J. Elliot	- Colchester
N.F.C. Gale	- Dulwich
S.T. Badger	- Glasgow
Sir Patrick Grant	- High Wycombe
G. Youd	- Hurlingham
D.A. Sheffield	- Ipswich
L.J. Palmer	- Ipswich
B.E. Raymond	- Ipswich
Miss J.H. Waters	- Ipswich
H.A. Fay	- Leicester

J. Filsak	- Leicester
R. Davis	- Nottingham
M.J. Bush	- Oxford
C.F. Moon	- Parkstone
P.D. Carter	- Phyllis Court
B. Christmas	- Shrewsbury
C.D. Clarke	- Southport
J.A.L. Reid	- Trossachs
Mrs A. Jones	- Tyneside
J. Shotton	- Tyneside
N.L. Luff	- Woking
G.A. Vince	- Woking
D.J. Parsons	- Wrest Park
R. Best	-
M.D. Broadway	-
L.J. Chapman	-
Mrs J. Ede	-
S.G. Fullilove	-
Dr A.J. Laidlaw	-
Mrs M.P. Minskoff	-
B.A. Rastall	-
M.E. Rumsey	-
T. Sampson	-
J.M. Sinden	-
Col F.M.S. Winters	-
Mrs D.V. Barton	- Australia
T.E. Creswell	- Australia
Madame J.L. Menier	- France
Kazu Tomita	- Japan
T.M. Quin	- Switzerland
Mrs T.M. Quin	- Switzerland
S.T. Arkley	- USA
M.M. Hanner	- USA
P. Lukin	- USA
Total 57	

* Rejoined



Brian Macmillan with Mike Coley, PR Consultant to Debenham Teuson & Chinnocks, at this year's Open Championship at Hurlingham.

New Subscribers

Miss M. Reid	- Crawley
Ms H. Shuff	- Crawley
D.M. Bull	- Southwick
B.F. Blamey	- Surbiton
J.A. Baswell	- Winchester
D. Daniel	-
D.J. Hopkins	-
N.E. Lane	-
Mrs F. Gould Lee	-
Mrs D.C. Simon	-
Total 10	

New Clubs Registered

Welcome to . . .

Ansell Trust Sports Club

Osterley Lane, Stoney Stratford, Milton Keynes, Bucks. Secretary: Mrs D.P. Hughes, 6 Egmont Avenue, Stoney Stratford, Milton Keynes, Bucks, MK11 1EV.

Ashby-de-la-Zouche Croquet Club

Secretary: Mrs J.F. Falconer, 20 St Michael's Close, Ashby-de-la-Zouche, Leics. Tel: Ashby 414431.

Loughborough Croquet Club

Loughborough Technical College Bowling Green, Forest Road, Loughborough, Leics. Secretary: Mrs Shelagh Rastall, 9 Fairmount Drive, Loughborough, LE11 3JR. Tel: 0509-263954.

Cranford Croquet Club

Salterton Road, Exmouth, Devon. Tel: 0395-265771. Secretary: Miss E.N. Holly, 6 Valley Way, Exmouth, Devon.

Trossachs Croquet Club

Forest Hills Hotel, Kinlochard, Near Aberfoyle, Stirlingshire. Tel: 08777-277. Secretary: J.A.L. Reid (at the Hotel).

Surbiton Croquet Club

Alexandra Drive, Surbiton, Surrey. Secretary: G.W. Noble, 13 Sandy Lane, Richmond, Surrey TW10 7BW. Tel: 01-940-1427.

Peterborough Croquet Club

Warrington Sports Centre, Peterborough. Secretary: G. Head, 80 Crowhurst Road, Warrington, Peterborough, Northants PE4 6JZ. Tel: 0733-262524 Ext'n 2345 (Office).

Organisations newly affiliated

Simpact Conference Centre

New Place, Shedfield, Southampton. Contact: Mr P. Connor, General Manager. Tel: 0329-833533.

Berystede Hotel

Bagshot Road, Ascot, Berks SL5 9JH. Contact: Mr C. O'Modhrain, Accommodation & Services Manager. Tel: 0990-23311.

Handicap Alterations

Egdbaston v. Shrewsbury	
H. Christmas	15
S. Christmas	15

Hurlingham Open Championship

P. Cordingley	-1/2 to -1
K. Jones	1 to 1/2
S.E. Lewis	0 to -1/2
A.J. Mrozinski	1 1/2 to 1
R.V.H. Rees	0 to 1/2
J.E. Guest	1 to 1/2

Egdbaston 19-21 July

Mrs V. Worsley	11 to 13
R. Flutter	13 to 14
A. Gregory	4 to 3 1/2
Mrs B. Sutcliffe	7 1/2 to 7
A. Bobak	8 to 7
Mrs P. Meredith	14 to 15

Longman Cup: Roehampton v. Thos Cook

R. Green	10D9 to 9
I. Straw	10D9 to 9
N. Richardson	12D10 to 10

East Riding 13-14 July

W.E. Lamb	4 1/2 to 4
M. Haslam	5 1/2 to 6
A. Smith	8 to 6

Ryde Club

Mrs S.B. Hudson	7 to 6
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Compton Club

E.C. Tyrwhitt Drake	2 to 3 1/2
Cdr G. Borrett	2 to 3 1/2
D.A. Harris	1 1/2 to 3 1/2

Sidmouth Club

M. McDavis	11 to 10
E.G. Kitchener	10 to 9
R. Peirce	6 to 7

Chester Club

H. Wang	10 to 9
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Parkstone Club

Miss M.P. McMordie	3 1/2 to 4 1/2
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Tyneside Club

D.R. Appleton	16 to 14
D. Trotman	14 to 13
S. Taggart	16 to 15

Southport Club

S. Jones	16 to 13
J. Portwood	10 to 9
B. Thompson	15 to 11
J. Powell	12D11 to 11
C.D. Clarke	16 to 13

Cheltenham 28 July

Gp Capt R.S. Ryan	7 to 6 1/2
Miss M. Murray	9 to 8

Official Business

Hurlingham 3-10 August

C.B.J. Pace	12 to 9
C.M. Gerrard	11 to 10
Mrs D. Torrington	10D9 to 11D10
J.M.H. Carlisle	3 1/2 to 2
G.C. Roy	1/2 to 0
P. Torrington	2 to 1 1/2
M.J. Haggerston	7 to 6
Miss J. MacLeod	2 1/2 to 2
C.B.J. Pace	9 to 8

Wolverhampton v. Stourbridge

P. Dorke	12 to 10
C. Cant	16 to 14

Sidmouth Club

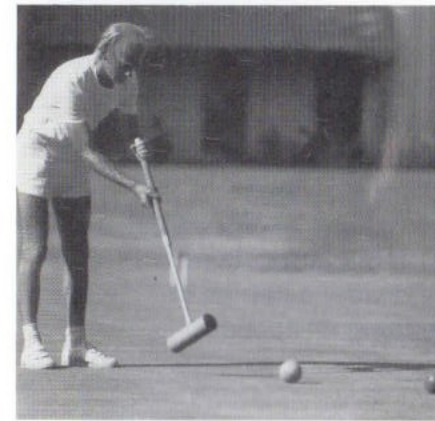
J.C. Hatherley	7 to 6
R.A. Peirce	6 to 7

Nottingham 12-17 Aug

A.J. Bucknell	7 to 9
M.R.L. Cowan	8 to 7
B. Hallam	2 1/2 to 1 1/2
N. Leech	4 to 5
I. Robinson	8 to 10
Mrs H.F. Smith	11D10 to 13
J.O. Walters	1/2 to 0
Dr F.L. Whittaker	9 to 7
I. Johnson	14D12 to 13D11

Carrickmines 5-10 Aug

D. Beatty	7 to 5
R. Hannon	5 1/2 to 6
Dr M. Lyons	14 to 13
N. McInerney	4 to 3 1/2
P. Thornton	7 1/2 to 7
S. Williams	4 1/2 to 3
H. Webb	8 to 7 1/2
A. Brown	10 to 9
S. Cawdell	14 to 10
T. Easterling	14 to 13
P. Robson	15 to 10



Jerry Guest, now playing off 1/2

Southwick 19-24 Aug

R. Sowerby	12
R.A.G. Rogers	5 1/2 to 6 1/2
Mrs K. Whittall	11 to 10

Edinburgh 19-24 Aug

A.S. Adam	3 1/2 to 3
G. Anderson	5 1/2 to 5
Dr C. Van Griethuysen	7 to 6 1/2
C.G. Waterfield	10 to 9
A. Ramsey	6 1/2 to 6
D. Warhurst	7 1/2 to 7
D. Lamont	10 to 8
A. Nisbet	10 to 9
Mrs M. Fotheringham	11 to 10

Ryde Club

H.B. Brownsdon	7 1/2 to 6 1/2
R.W. Newnham	5 to 4 1/2

Hunstanton 25-31 Aug

D. Reeve	8 to 6
D.S. Cornelius	9* to 9
S.G. Cornelius	9* to 8
Miss D.A. Cornelius	9* to 7 1/2

Cheltenham 13-18 Aug

M. Jackson	5 to 4
Mrs L. Paish	12D10 to 10D9
G. Sisum	3 to 5

Cheltenham 24-26 Aug

M. Finn	6 to 5
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Durham University Club

I. Sims	16 to 15
Miss J. Skinner	16 to 15

Longman Cup Nottingham

D. Trotman	13 to 11
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Colchester 9-11 Aug

N.F.C. Gale	8 to 7
L.J. Palmer	14 to 12
R. Sutherland	6 to 5
J. Williams	10 to 9
P. Williams	4 1/2 to 3 1/2
P. Elliot	10 to 9

Egdbaston 31 Aug-1 Sept

K. Ruston	16D14
Mrs M. Curtois	14 to 15
Mrs R. Flutter	14 to 12
P. Dorke	10 to 8
I. Johnson	13D11 to 12D11

Parkstone 2-7 Sept

G.C.H. Weldon (Before)	9 to 8
Mrs B.R. Saunders	8 to 7
J.H.J. Soutter	3 to 2 1/2
G.C.H. Weldon (After)	8 to 7
D.M. Wood	15D14 to 15D10

SW Fed'n Tournament 31 Aug-1 Sept

P. Dyke	9 to 8
E. Kitchener	9 to 8

Hurlingham 24-26 Aug

N. Gale (Before)	7 to 5 1/2
N. Gale (After)	5 1/2 to 5
J. Straw	4 to 3 1/2

Southwick 13-15 Sept

D. Higgs	7 to 6
N. Gale	5 to 4

Southport 14-15 Sept

W.E. Lamb	4 to 3
M.H. Sandler	2 1/2 to 2

Ryde 13-15 Sept

J.E. Jones	11 to 9
G. Youd	11 to 10
T.I. Card	5 to 7

Cheltenham 5-8 Sept

P. Darby	7 to 6
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All-England Area Finals

Southport	
P. Robson	10 to 9

Hurlingham

J. Eden	11 to 10
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Colchester

R. England	16 to 12
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Budleigh Club

Mrs J. Broad-Thomas	13D11 to 12D10
W. Broad-Thomas	5 to 4
N.M. Griffin	9 to 7 1/2
G. Iredale	14D12 to 13D11
Mrs D. Perry	9 to 7 1/2
Mrs D. Smith	14D12 to 13D11

We regret that owing to lack of space, we are not able to include non-Associates' handicaps.

Publications from Headquarters

Laws & Regulations The full Laws of Association and Golf Croquet, and the Regulations for tournament play. Price: £2.00 (£2.00) P&P 17p

Basic Laws Gives all the Laws necessary for beginners. Price: 50p (£1.00) P&P 13p

Commentary on Laws by Col. Prichard. Explains and amplifies the Laws. Price: £1.00 (£2.00) P&P 50p

"Know the Game. Croquet" Straightforward guidance on how to play the game. Price: £1.00 (£1.25) P&P 24p

"Croquet" by John Solomon. Fully comprehensive book on all aspects of the game. Reprinted in 1983 by public demand. Price: £5.00 (£6.00) P&P £1.20

"History of Croquet" by Col. Prichard. A well illustrated, complete and interesting book on the history of the game. Price: £6.00 (£8.50) P&P £1.20

Twelve Hints for Beginners A useful booklet for beginners. Price: 60p (£1.00) P&P 13p

CA Directory (1985) Complete list of names and addresses of Associates and Registered Clubs. Free to all Registered Clubs. Extra copies supplied on request. Price: £3.00 (£25.00) P&P 40p

CA Fixtures Book (1985) Full details of all tournaments and events for the season. Free to all full Associates and Registered Clubs. Extra copies supplied on request. Price: £1.50 (£3.00) P&P 40p

CA Handbook with amendments to date. Gives Officers, Rules, Trophies and Winners, etc. Price: 25p (-) P&P 20p

Odds and Ends