

## COMMENT

## ● Brian Macmillan takes up the pen whilst Tony Antenen is on holiday....

Tony Antenen is away on a well-earned holiday, so I am holding the fort. After 9 months as Commercial Manager, I think it's time to tell you what I have been doing!

The first 3 months were mostly spent easing Tony into the job as Secretary. He took over at one of the busiest times of the Croquet year, with subscriptions coming in, membership cards and Fixture Books going out. A period when all hands are needed on deck.

I have sent out letters to numerous hotels, companies, and business organisations to encourage them to stage "Croquet Days" for their clients and staff. This benefits the Croquet Association in three ways: first, we get a fee for organising and running these days; secondly, invariably I manage to sell them books or croquet sets as prizes; and thirdly, it introduces people to the game and encourages them to join a club.

Sales of equipment and literature are increasing, mainly through my "Croquet Days" and the information packs I send out to enquiries, as I deal with all

initial enquiries from prospective members.

Helping with the Atco British Open Championship and the World Championship took up a lot of my time. Not only did I have a stall to manage, from which I sold equipment and literature, but I also acted as an on-the-spot Press Officer, doing four Radio broadcasts and getting Television to come along. Besides our own TV, we had a visit by a Finnish Television crew, and a film unit working for the Central Office of Information. I hope to have a copy of the COI film shortly.

The "National Croquet Day" response was a little disappointing. Very few Club Press Officers bothered to return the form I sent them, so it was difficult to assess the overall effect of the Day.

This year, it was very much a last minute effort, but next year we shall have another "National Croquet Day" on 23rd May to coincide with the start of the Inter-Counties, and I hope we can make an early start planning it.

Please let me know what your requirements will be for



Brian Macmillan with one of the teams that took part in the Cit-Banks "Croquet Championship" in Exchange Square, above Liverpool Street station. The lawn was raised 3 feet above the forecourt. Altogether there were 48 players, representing 16 World Banks, and the "Turning Point" trophy was won by the Bank of Canada. The event raised over £3,000 for Charities concerned with Mental Health and Alcoholism.

Posters, Spectators Guides, Golf Croquet Leaflets, etc. "Help us to help you". I would welcome your suggestions.

## 1991 FINAL SUMMARY

World Champion:  
John Walters  
Atco British Open Champion  
Robert Fulford  
Atco British Open Doubles  
Champions  
Chris Clarke & Robert Fulford  
British Men's Champion  
David Openshaw  
British Women's Champion  
Gail Curry  
Angostura President's Cup  
Chris Clarke  
Barlow Bowl  
Gail Curry  
Gieves & Hawkes British  
Seniors Champion  
Bill Lamb  
Royal Bank of Scotland  
Schools Champions  
Queen Elizabeths GS,  
Blackburn (Level)  
King Edwards School,  
Birmingham (H'cap)  
National Junior Champion  
Dan McCormick  
Regional Champions  
Northern: David Openshaw  
Western: Steve Mulliner  
Southern:  
Eastern:

## 1992 SUBSCRIPTIONS

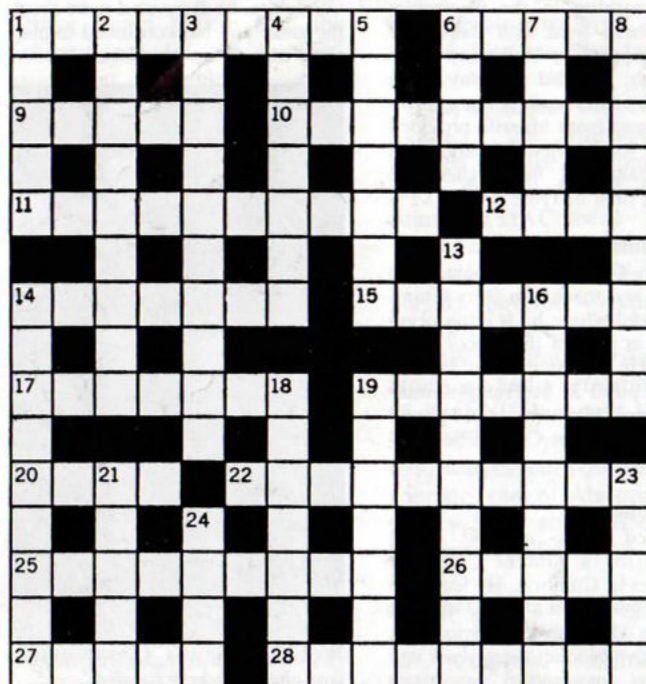
Subscription rates for 1992 are given in full on Page 4.

Please pay your 1992 subscription promptly and make life easier for the CA Office.

## CROSSWORD by "Crofter"

(Chambers 1988 is highly recommended)

See Page 21 for information about the Crofter Crossword.



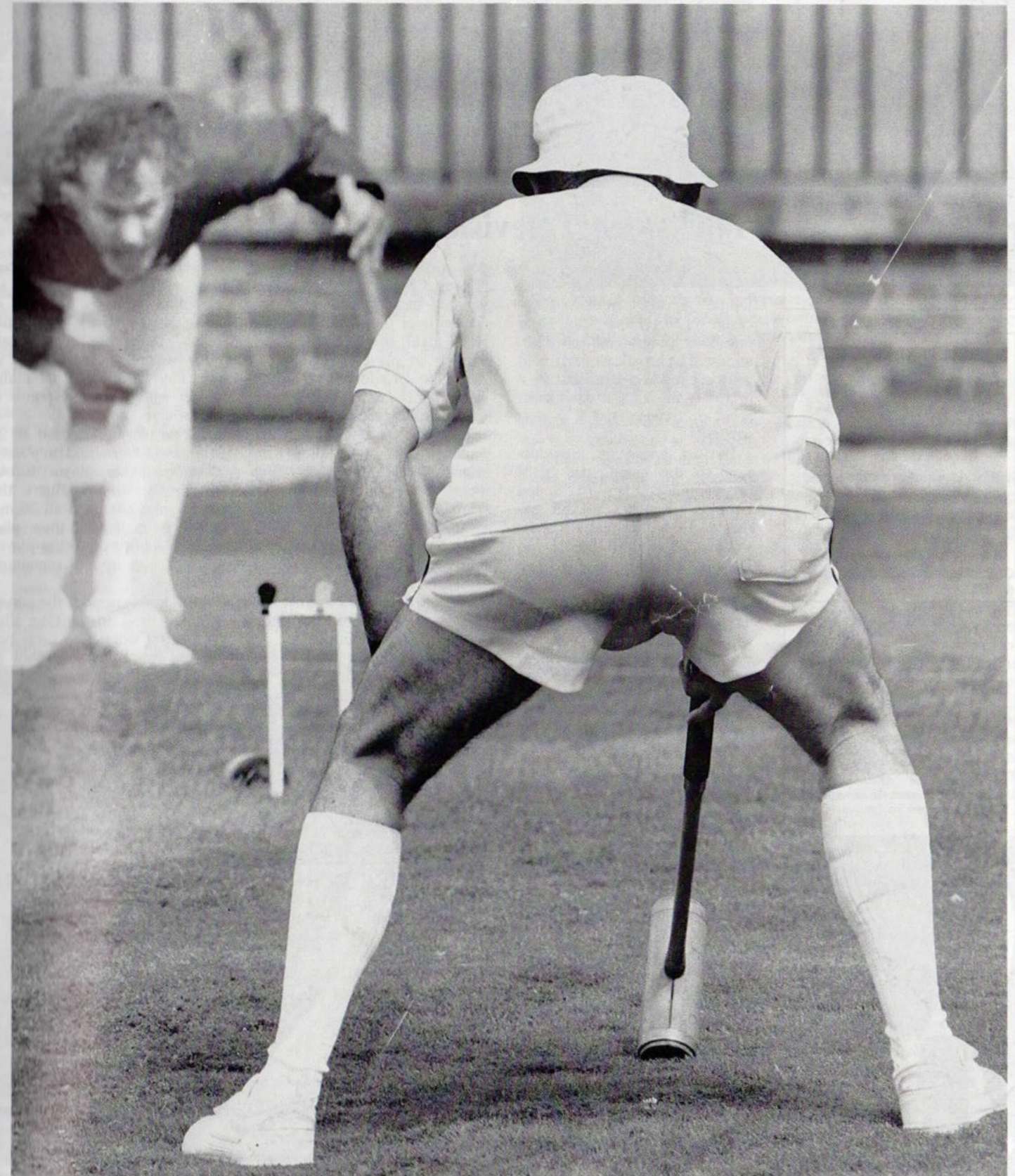
## ACROSS

- I'm intervening for the present. (9)
- Posit strange hats for sunwear. (5)
- German car with nothing pertaining to broadcast sound. (5)
- Veto one in a four person game. (9)
- Former pupil learned to blot out. (10)
- Above ground I might be a cube but below usually tapering. (4)
- What remains at home when aristo is in? (7)
- A suggestion to partner - not to the lawn mower we hope! (3,4)
- and 19. Tools of the trade for joiner - and the Plummer? (7,7)
- Gore flowing therefore. (4)
- How one searches for two types of bisquer? (4,3,3)
- See 24 down.
- A worn out sorbus tree. (5)
- Unit of DNA the first fur. (5)
- An over-actor meets a wood nymph - poisonous creative! (9)

## DOWN

- Urim and Thummin a godhead pair holding the perfect insect. (5)
- Formerly an area north of the river centre of m or f. (9)
- Dodo or Roto coalesce to form a sort of sales person (4-2-4)
- A swallow-tailed flag fluttering about the inn. (7)
- Castile in a lather yet able to regain form quickly. (7)
- A Yorkshire lad found in a dirty keelboat. (4)
- Chief artist at a party in the picture gallery. (5)
- Without issue ragged clothes and heavy stains. (9)
- A fish darts up and around the tank battle. (10)
- Butler initials betting slip the centre when cutting a groove. (9)
- Should be printed on a drip feed - otherwise you swells! (3,6)
- The hush after I lied badly - fiendish in Edinburgh! (7)
- Hammid's translation of a Muslim doctrine in the last century. (7)
- The grinding rumble of Lavengro and wild wales. (5)
- Gloomy old editor declined in prosperity. (5)
- 24 and 25 across. Unassailable excuse for being elsewhere. (4-4,5)

## CROQUET



## NEW COUNTIES TIE AVAILABLE

Players who have represented their Counties in the Inter-Counties Championship will be pleased to learn that they can now sport an "Inter-Counties" tie.

The tie, which is available from the CA Office, has a green background with two sets of first colour stripes. Between these stripes is a circle with crossed mallets, above which are the words "Inter-Counties".

Price £11.75 each, plus p&p 24p.

## NEW CA COACHING MANUAL

Revised edition now available  
Price: £10 (£7.50 to registered CA coaches)

Please add 50p p&p

ARDINGLY COLLEGE SUMMER SCHOOL  
2nd-8th August, 1992

A week of tuition and games for players with handicaps of 6 or over (subject to conditions) in a friendly atmosphere.

The likely cost will be £178 for residents, and £29 plus meals for non-residents.

A prospectus giving full details and an entry form is available from: Mrs M. Payton, 21 Marine Parade, Seaford, East Sussex, BN25 2PL.

## CHRISTMAS GIFTS

We have a large stock of books and equipment, ideal for Christmas presents. Support the Croquet Association by buying your equipment through the CA Office.

For details of available items, please contact: Brian Macmillan, The Croquet Association, c/o The Hurlingham Club, Ranelagh Gardens, London, SW6 3PR. (Tel: 071-736-3148).

## LOUGHBOROUGH SUMMER SCHOOL

Coaching Course for Beginners  
3rd-7th August 1992

The aim of this course is to improve the personal performance of "beginners" - those players who have not yet obtained an official handicap, or those whose handicap is 12 or more. Initially major emphasis will be placed on good stroke production, but as soon as groups have a good command of stroke technique, the emphasis will shift to tactical play. Coaching will be interspersed with competitive play and time will be made available for individual coaching on particular difficulties.

The course is restricted to Associate Members of the Croquet Association. Details of how to join the CA may be obtained from Tony Antenen, The Croquet Association, c/o The Hurlingham Club, Ranelagh Gardens, London, SW6 3PR. (Tel: 071-736-3148). Short Lawns (24yds by 16yds) will be used throughout the course.

Fee: Tuition: £123.

Accommodation: £87.

A brochure giving details of the Loughborough Summer School can be obtained from: Mrs Shirley Sandover, Loughborough Summer School, Loughborough University of Technology, Loughborough, Leics, LE11 3TU. (Tel: 0509-222773).

This course, now in its 6th year, has proved to be extremely popular and worthwhile. All bookings for the Loughborough Summer School should be made through Mrs Sandover. Please apply early to make sure of your place, as the course is usually over-subscribed.



## New 4-Lawn Club at Salisbury

A new 4-lawn croquet club under construction at Salisbury. Local players have joined up with the management of a new golf course, and the CA has helped the project with an interest-free bridging loan. When the lawns and clubhouse have been built, the Salisbury Croquet Club will have facilities of a very high standard. For membership details, contact the Club Secretary, Dr Jeremy Church (Tel: 0794-884357).



## Yorkshire Television to Film "Speed Croquet"

Yorkshire Television is to film "Speed Croquet" at "The Dome" Sports Centre in Doncaster on November 30th. Their one-hour programme on Croquet will be broadcast early next year, either as a Regional Programme in YTV's catchment area, or nationally if it is networked.

Besides giving an introduction to the game, the YTV programme will feature "Speed Croquet" matches played between John Walters, Robert Fulford, Steve Mulliner, and Debbie Cornelius.

Spectators are welcome at "The Dome", and we hope that many players and their families will come to watch the matches and take part themselves afterwards.

Played indoors on a fast car-

pet surface 24yds by 16yds, "Speed Croquet" has been developed by the Croquet Association over the past five years. It is ideal for television and appeals to players and spectators alike, providing an exciting version of the outdoor game and using similar tactics.

The new game follows all the modern rules of Croquet. The winner is the player who first steers two balls through six hoops, and then hits them against the centre peg. Each time a ball passes through a hoop in the right order and direction it earns the player a point. Hitting a ball against the peg at the end of the game scores an extra point.

In "Speed Croquet", each player has a total time of only 20 minutes in which to score

points. The players take alternate turns as usual, but an electronic clock is used, as in chess, to keep track of the time taken. If neither player gets both balls all the way round in the time available, then the player with the most points is the winner.

If one player has used all 20 minutes and is behind on points, then the other player is obviously the winner. But if the player who has used all 20 minutes is in front, then play continues until the other player wins or uses up the remaining time.

During this period, the player who has used up the time allocation has only 5 seconds per turn to make just one shot to score a point or disrupt the opponent.

## 1992 Indoor Programme

The East Anglian Federation are organising an Indoor weekend with the fast carpet at Kings Lynn on 9th to 10th November, during which time there will be exhibition matches between John Walters (the new World Champion), Robert Fulford (British Open Champion), and others.

Following that, they are hoping to stage indoor croquet once again at Soham on 27th and 28th December.

Full details of both events can be obtained from Judy Anderson (Tel: 0234-781783).

An Indoor Inter-Federation competition is planned to start in the New Year. Full details will be available in our next Issue; meanwhile the provisional venues are listed here.

In addition to the Federation match, a full programme of events is planned for each venue. Depending on local circumstances, programmes

will comprise a combination of matches between local clubs, exhibition matches between top players, coaching for players at various levels, and sessions for the general

public to try out the game for themselves.

For further information, please contact: Chris Hudson (Tel: 0270-820296).

## "SPEED CROQUET" Match Schedule

Date	Venue	Match	
<b>FIRST ROUND</b>			
4/5 Jan 1992	Seaburn Centre, Sunderland, Tyne & Wear	North + Yorks & Humberside v. East Midlands	(1)
18/19 Jan 1992	Hornchurch Sports Centre, Hornchurch, Essex	E. Anglia v. London & SE	(2)
25/26 Jan 1992	Armitage Centre, Manchester	North West v. W. Midlands	(3)
15/16 Feb 1992*	Hutton Moor Leisure Centre, Weston-Super-Mare	South West v. South	(4)
<b>SEMI-FINALS</b>			
14/15 Mar 1992	Granby Halls Leisure Centre, Leicester	Winner of (1) v. Winner of (2)	(5)
28/29 Mar 1992	Perdiswell Sports Centre, Worcester	Winner of (3) v. Winner of (4)	(6)
<b>FINAL</b>			
11/12 Apr 1992	National Indoor Arena, Birmingham	Winner of (5) v. Winner of (6)	(7)

\* To be confirmed.

## Golden Mallet Hits the News!

From Chris Hudson

The "Golden Mallet" Golf Croquet competition made its first appearance this year, and met with an enthusiastic response from all those who took part.

Twelve groups entered the event, and ran their own competitions to decide which of their players would go forward to the relevant Regional Final.

All the "Group" competitions are played as progressive doubles. Partners are drawn at the start, each game of 7 points is given a time limit of 15 minutes, and when time is called or at the end of the game, both partners score their team points as individual players.

The winning pair then move on to the next lawn, and swap partners with the pair already there to play another 15-minute game.

At the end of 6 rounds or so, the players with the highest number of points play a knockout singles to decide the Group winner. Each Group winner receives a CA trophy or medal.

In the North, Syd Jones organised 6 group competitions; in Cumbria, Cleveland, Wearside, Tyneside, Northumberland, and Richmond. The Wearside group included a team from Blue

Watch of the Sunderland Fire Service and a team from Wear FM Radio Station.

Altogether there were 75 entries, 85 per cent of whom had never played the game before, with half men and half women and an age range of 10 to over 80.

The Northern Regional Final was played at Cochrane Park, the only croquet club used during the Northern competition.

A second Regional Final was held at Himley Hall, where players from Tracy Park, Himley, and Upton Park Croquet Clubs took part and shrugged off the constant rain in the early afternoon. The event was won by Margaret Scott from Upton Park, a club with some 60 members where Golf Croquet is played with two pegs.

The losing finalist was Ian Wilkinson, from Tracy Park.

The third Regional Final, at Denman, the Womens Institutes' Residential College, was won by John Hanson (Sapcote Croquet Club) who beat his fellow club member Joyce Critchley in the final.

Semi-finalists were Di Kemp, from Winslow Croquet Club, and Brenda Jarrett (Thames Valley C.C.).



New Croquet Converts Sheila Weldon and Ken Ashurst being interviewed by Tyne Tees Television before the Croquet North "Golden Mallet" Regional Final at Cochrane Park, Newcastle.

## New Club at Kirklees

A new Association Croquet Club has been established at Kirklees.

With origins in Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, the Kirklees Croquet Club held an Open Day at the end of April in a blaze of publicity and attracted 24 people, all of whom have since joined the club.

At present, the Club has accepted the invitation of The Forte Hotel, Brighouse (A644) to use their lawn, and an appli-

cation is with Kirklees Leisure Services for an area in Greenhead Park.

Some new members have been to the Golf Croquet Course run at Sheffield, and so now the membership plays both types of game.

Matches have been arranged with York, Beverley, Harrogate, and East Riding Croquet Clubs, and the new Kirklees Club has been invited to participate in a Sports Demonstration Day arranged by Kirklees Leisure Services.

After years of "being in the wilderness" we are now ready to welcome all comers. Please contact Anna Giraud, President of the new club, at 36 Wherwell Road, Brighouse, HD6 3TZ.



The "Golden Mallet" Regional Final at Denman College. The Thames Valley Croquet Club hosted the event, and sixteen players took part.

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*Croquet News*

is published 4 times a year by the Croquet Association.

If you would like to continue receiving your own copy of Croquet News, please send your annual subscription of £2.00 to 'Croquet News', The Croquet Association, c/o The Hurlingham Club, Ranelagh Gardens, London, SW6 3PR. (Tel: 071-736-3148).

Please make cheques payable to 'The Croquet Association'.

The annual subscription for 'Croquet' magazine is £15.00.

**Subscription Rates: 1992**

The amounts in brackets are the discounted rates which apply if payment is made before 1st February 1992.

The payment of any subscription which is different from STANDARD RATE should be accompanied by an indication of the intended category of membership.

1. The STANDARD RATE of subscription is £21.00 (£18.00). A husband and wife may pay a composite rate of £34.00 (£29.00), and both will have all the privileges appertaining to the payment of the STANDARD RATE of subscription, except that they will receive only one copy of "Croquet" and of the Fixtures Book.

2. The VETERANS RATE of subscription is £16.00 (£14.50) and applies to those who have attained the age of 65 or over on 31st December 1991.

3. The JUNIOR RATE of subscription is £14.00 (£12.00) and applies to those who were under age 21 but not under age 18 on 31st August 1991.

4. The YOUTH RATE of subscription is £9.00 and applies to those who were under age 18 on 31st August 1991.

Payment of the rates of subscriptions 1-4 confers full membership benefits.

5. The NON-TOURNAMENT RATE of subscription is £13.00 (£11.00) and is available to Golf Croquet players and others who do not intend to enter tournaments in the list of Calendar Fixtures. Associates in this category have full membership benefits except that they do not receive the Fixtures Book and may not enter tournaments (with certain exceptions). A husband and wife may pay a composite rate of £21.00 (£18.00) and both will have all the privileges appertaining to the payment of the NON-TOURNAMENT RATE of subscription except that they will receive only one copy of "Croquet".

6. The OVERSEAS RATE of subscription is £42.00, which covers a period of three years. This rate applies to those who are normally resident outside the UK, Channel Islands, and Isle of Man and only entitles the subscriber to receive "Croquet" and to enter tournaments in the list of Calendar Fixtures.

Overseas Associates are asked to remit in sterling or to include an additional sum (equivalent to £5.00) to cover the bank charges for conversion and collection of non-sterling cheques.

7. NEW MEMBERS RATE. A new member joining after 1st August in any year and paying the current full (ie undiscounted) rate of subscription of the appropriate category 1-5, will be entitled to the benefits of that category of membership until 31st December of the following year.

**EDITORSHIP OF "CROQUET"**

Applications are invited for the post of Editor of "Croquet" in succession to Chris Hudson who retires after the publication of the January 1992 edition.

If you are interested in the post, please write to the Chairman of the Council, Stephen Mulliner, at the C.A. office as soon as possible and in any case no later than the 30th November. An appointment will be made in December following inter-

views. It would be most helpful if each applicant will indicate dates and times in late November and early December when he or she will be available for interview in London.

The Editor is required to produce six editions of "Croquet" each year within a budget laid down by the Council. The Editor will report to the Editorial Board of the Council on matters of policy but, subject thereto, will have full responsibility for content and all aspects of production, including dealing with the printers and despatchers. It is intended that the budget will be sufficient to include an honorarium for the post. It is envis-

aged that an appointment will be for an initial period of three years with the possibility of re-appointment.

The Editor is entitled to attend Council meetings and some committee meetings. He or she will have the opportunity to play a central role in the promotion of Association Croquet and to take an active part in the affairs of the Council.

Applicants are encouraged to submit written proposals in advance of interview covering editorial policy (including tournament coverage), design and production. Detailed information about the existing production routine will be made available on request.



Spectators enjoying the final of the Gieves & Hawkes Senior Championship for players over 50.

**PUBLICATIONS & OTHER ITEMS AVAILABLE FROM THE ASSOCIATION**

Publications	CA Associate	CA Affiliates	Postage
	Members	& non-members	
Full 'Laws & Regulations'	£ 3.00	£ 5.00	27p
'Know the Game'	£ 1.65	£ 1.99	27p
'12 Hints for Beginners'	75p	£ 1.50	27p
'Croquet Handbook'	75p	£ 1.50	27p
'History of Croquet' (Prichard)	£10.00	£15.00	£1.30
'Croquet' (Solomon)	£ 7.00	£ 7.95	55p
'Plus One on Time' (Gaunt)	£ 5.00	£ 6.00	55p
'Teach Yourself Croquet' (Danks)*	£ 6.00	£ 7.95	71p
'Simplified Croquet' (Danks)*	£ 6.00	£ 7.95	71p
'Play the Game' (Mulliner)	£ 3.66	£ 3.99	46p
'World of Croquet' (McCullough & Mulliner)	£14.95	£16.95	£2.10
'Croquet: The Skills of the Game' (Lamb)	£ 9.50	£10.95	80p
'How to Play Croquet' (Aspinall)	£ 2.60	£ 2.95	32p
'Croquet: The Complete Guide' (Gill)	£ 7.50	£14.95	£1.25

**Video**  
Coaching Video (Joe Hogan) £23.00 £30.00 71p

**Equipment**  
Hoop Gauges £5.00 + 75p VAT CA Ties £11.67  
Ball Gauges £15.00 + £2.25 VAT (including VAT and postage)

**\*SPECIAL OFFER**

A bumper bundle. Two books by the late Peter Danks 'Teach Yourself Croquet' and 'Simplified Croquet'. Associates £7.50. Affiliates £9.00. Both plus £1.00 postage.

# CROQUET

## National Croquet Day, 1992

Chris Hudson

National Croquet Day this year was organised at the last minute, but generally those clubs that took part found it a useful promotional exercise.

Following feed-back from the participating clubs, the Publicity Committee decided at its October Meeting to stage another National Croquet Day next year, subject to Council approval. The proposed date is 23rd May, the first day of the Inter-Counties Championship.

So next year we shall have time to prepare properly for National Croquet Day, but we need to find ways of financing the event. It provides a host of opportunities both for Clubs in recruiting new members, and for a sponsor in terms of achieving masses of local publicity all round the country.

With a sponsor behind us, we could provide posters, leaflets, audio tapes for local radio stations, and a lot of other publicity material to back up local efforts by Clubs. Whilst the search for a sponsor goes on, I would welcome suggestions from Clubs on the materials and support they would need to mount their own campaigns.

In case anyone doubts the need for continuous recruitment of new members, let me

cite the case of my own club, Bowdon. An analysis of the club's membership figures for each year since 1976 reveals that the club has lost on average one-fifth of its membership each year. I believe this figure applies equally well to CA membership and to most other clubs.

Thus just to maintain membership figures at their current level a club needs to recruit one-fifth of its numbers each year. Or looking at it another way, if a club wants to double its membership over a period of 5 years, it will have to increase its "start of year" membership by 43% every season during that period. Food for thought!

On another topic, congratulations to Gail Curry on successfully completing a Triple Peel during the Barlow Bowl at Cheltenham last month. Ladies Croquet appears to be undergoing a resurgence, with Debbie Cornelius placed a good sixth in the President's Cup, beating Fulford (twice), Mulliner, French, and Heap (twice). As a consequence to this, the Tournament Committee has decided to hold a "Ladies 8" next year. I hope all our top ladies will be able to take part, and look forward to some top class croquet.

**PUBLICITY ASSISTANTS FOR 1992 CA EVENTS**

The CA is seeking Publicity Assistants to help with its major 1992 events. These are likely to include the Men's & Women's at Cheltenham, a match against the USA at Roehampton, and the Open Championships and President's Cup at Hurlingham.

The duties involve scrutinising matches during the day, ascertaining what is happening in the event, and then liaising with the media. This liaison is best achieved by preparing entertaining and informative articles of a few paragraphs that can easily be understood by non-croquet players.

These brief articles are then phoned

through to contacts in the media with up-to-date results, or given to media representatives on the ground. Reports would be distributed with information on matches in progress to media representatives present at the event twice daily.

The CA is willing to pay expenses and a small honorarium to its Publicity Assistants. Those wishing to enjoy top-class croquet and help the CA publicise the sport, should contact Charles Townsend, Chairman of the Publicity Committee, at 30 West Street, Harwich, Essex, CO12 0LX (Tel: 0255-553408 (H) or 0255-674404 (W)).



A group of players at the Grand Island Croquet Club after competing in the Isle of Man Doubles Championship.

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**Photographs in this issue by:**

Clare Arron (Daily Telegraph), Ann Belcher, Debbie Cornelius, Rosemary Gagan, Ray Hall, Sheila Hatch, Chris Hudson, Syd Jones, KBH Communications, Andrew McRobb (Gieves & Hawkes), Jean Miller, The PR Network, Richard Stevens, and Liz Taylor-Webb.

**Cover Photograph:**

"Let Battle Commence!" by Clare Arron (Daily Telegraph).

**Editorial Team**

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## TOURNAMENT REPORTS

## Southport: 25-27 May

## Peter Walker "Man of the Tournament"

From Jack Shotton

There was another good turn out for the very popular Southport handicap weekend again this year. However, it was more like a family weekend, with no less than seven married couples entered out of the twenty-four entries.

The event was managed again by Don and Di Williamson which was to guarantee yet again a well run, efficient tournament with a very friendly atmosphere.

The tournament commenced on time on Saturday, but the weather was miserably cold and did not improve all day. However, this could have been instrumental in speeding up the games and most people completed their three games in good time, much to Don's delight.

Matches started off quickly again on Sunday with much improved weather, although shorts were still conspicuous by their absence.

Sunday saw a most interesting match between Colin Irwin and Adrian Saurin.

Adrian, winning the loss, put Colin in. Colin shot his red ball off to East Boundary level with the peg. Adrian shot his blue ball to corner 4.

Colin with his second ball roquets his opponent's blue in 4th corner and with a split shot puts blue near corner 2 and joins his red on the boundary. With no rush, Colin takes off to hoop 1 landing well South and West of the hoop.

Colin then fires at and runs the hoop like a rocket, his ball joining

Adrian's blue. He commences and does a three ball break to peg, making his leave red at 2, yellow at 4, and blue near penult.

Adrian, using one bisque of his one and a half bisques, does a four ball break to peg and pegs out Colin, laying up in corner 3 with Colin at 1.



As if Colin's three ball break against Adrian isn't enough, doing it with his shooting stick is really rubbing it in. (Cartoon by Jack Shotton).

Colin hits in, does another three ball break and pegs out beating Adrian 26-12 with a half bisque standing.

The match giving away the most bisques also involved Adrian Saurin who gave away eighteen and a half bisques to Florence Taggart. Adrian won this match 26-7 in a spectacular

fashion when he aimed his ball which was for rover at his peg ball which was almost on the wire of rover from a position on the yard line between corner 2 and hoop 2 and ran rover leaving himself a rush to the peg.

By Sunday evening, we had the four block winners, namely Paul

tournament positions more or less decided, everybody seemed to be in a very relaxed mood, just enjoying playing and having a good chat.

The only disturbance on Monday was caused by an outing to Southport of some 50 Liverpool Orange Lodge bands all supposedly playing the same tune but not at the same time. At times it felt like the siege of Mafeking.

The play-offs resulted in a very popular win by Peter Walker of Bowdon who, won all eight of his matches and well deserved to win the Jubilee tankard presented to him by Paul Stoker, Southport's President.

The runner-up was James Hawkins, another popular player.

Although it takes good management to run a well-organised tournament, the ladies behind the scenes who organise the coffees, teas and meals deserve a great deal of credit for all their hard work carried out in such a friendly manner. Also a big thank you to the Southport ladies who provide the wonderful savouries and sweets - in fact, I think I only go for the home-made cakes.

In conclusion another great Southport weekend with wonderful company.

*Man of the Tournament:* Peter Walker.

*Match of the Tournament:* Colin Irwin v. Adrian Saurin.

*Most Unpopular Player:* Jack Shotton, the only man to get beaten by his wife in the play-offs.

## Parkstone: 18-19 May

## Clean Sweep for Goacher

From Chris Williams

Once again this was a very successful and enjoyable open tournament.

Unfortunately, due to late withdrawals the numbers were down from the anticipated 24 to 20.

The tournament was run as a six-round swiss.

David Goacher was the convincing winner with 6 wins.

However he was very closely pushed in his match in Round 5 by Mike Llewellyn-Williams, who had won his first 4 games (with a widest margin of 6).

David won by 2 after Mike over-rolled at rover with his remaining ball, having deliberately pegged out his other ball in a previous turn.

Ian Burridge commenced a sextuple against John McMorrie, performing the 1-back peel at the correct time.

However he was unable to do

the 2-back peel until he was for 2-back with his backward ball, thus leaving himself with a straight quintuple.

He managed 3 of the peels until failing to rush the ball to penultimate.

Allan Parker against Strat Liddiard ran hoops 5 and 6 in one shot and got a perfect rush to 1-back.

Runner-up position was decided by shooting at the peg.

Ian Maugham won with 2 shots out of 4.

**Results**

**Winner:**  
David Goacher (6 wins).

**Runner-up:**  
Ian Maugham (4 wins).

Also with 4 wins:  
Mike Llewellyn-Williams;  
Ray Ransom; John Toye;  
and Francis Landor.

Stoker (Southport), John Haslam (Southport), James Hawkins (Southport) and Peter Walker (Bowdon).

Although some of the play-offs for overall winner commenced late Sunday afternoon, Monday saw the continuation of these and the other play-offs between the lower positions.

Monday was a glorious day, at least some sunshine, and with the

## Cheltenham: 2-4 July

## William Ormerod Wins Gieves &amp; Hawkes Qualifier

"Croquet is for Wall Street types" pronounced the Daily Telegraph on the opening day.

Chatting to stockbroker Don Cornelius over supper in the lovely Cotswold Elkstone Valley I could only agree in part.

The three day tournament was in two sections: Twelve players competed in the British Seniors Championship sponsored by Gieves and Hawkes - a 6-round swiss advanced play. Everyone else (49 players) played seven American blocks of six games each.

The efficient managers were Betty Weitz and Denis Moorcraft.

Your correspondent was driven to verse by the three ecstatically sunny dog days:

Around the corner in the Old Bath Road;  
Competing at Cheltenham's Croquet Mecca; Rivaling the skills of Agassi and Becker,

for three dog days. Ten doughty Seniors strode. Where Edgar sadly only walks and talks,

The ten competed for the Gieves and Hawkes. Pidoock Cocobola he wielded, Did William, and only to Denis he yielded.

No Triple, Double nor Single Peel did,  
But tactically wore down Don Gaunt and sealed it.

**Results**

*Gieves and Hawkes British Seniors Championship: Qualifying Round*  
Winner (5 wins): Dr W. Ormerod.  
Runners-up (4 wins):  
D.L. Gaunt, D.H. Moorcraft, E.E. Scott, and J. Wurml.

**Handicap Singles**

Block Winners: Ms A. Whittaker, Ms E. Widdows, K. Cotterill, Mrs D.H. Harris, Mrs K. Whittall, B. Hewitt, and C. Thursfield.

## TOURNAMENT REPORTS

## Nottingham: 25-27 May

## Egyptian KO by Peter Death

From Graham Fowler

The players congregating for this tournament provided an interesting field: about half 'regularly' play at Nottingham, but a number of new faces were also present - all willing to demonstrate their star quality. The thirty players also divided equally around the upper boundary of B class.

Peter Death, making his regular return to manage this tournament, had a surprise in store. For he had imposed a knockout upon a basically Egyptian format: those who met with success continued in the knockout section, those who lost in this event were paired with opponents at a similar point on the Egyptian scale.

The third round of the knockout saw Geoffrey Taylor easily overcome a sleepy Graham Fowler. A tight match between Michael Cowan and Keith Hutton was won by the latter. Paul Day advanced at the expense of Gordon Boyce. Lawrence Whittaker defeated the elegant play of Margaret Cotterell.

The semi-finals were decided rather more clearly. Keith Hutton showed his ability to compose long breaks in defeating Geoffrey Taylor by 14. Lawrence Whittaker made full use of the 1½ bisques he was receiving from Paul Day and won by 26.

A best of three final was scheduled for Monday. The 1½ bisques available in this match were again to prove decisive - unfortunately for Lawrence he was conceding them on this occasion. Keith

Hutton won the first game by 14. In the second he left Lawrence to attempt a hit across the full width of the court. To great applause Lawrence made it, but broke down shortly after, leaving Keith to finish the game. Both finalists received handicap reductions through the automatic system.

So the manager had one clear winner. But the Egyptian was continuing, and some familiar names were making progress. Monday morning saw - yet another - battle between Richard White and Graham Fowler, who had both lost only once. The handicap reduction (from 9 to 6½) that Richard received for winning the Peel Memorials made the difference on this occasion. This meant that Graham would win the Egyptian if Guy Willard lost his last match against Marjorie Boyd. However, Marjorie did not make full use of her bisques; Guy was left to complete the game, and so win the Egyptian.

Other noteworthy performers were: Rick Davis (5/7), who consequently moved down to 3½; James Death (5/8) who is beginning to produce the results to match his promise; Ian Storey (4/6) whose play was sufficient to confirm his club handicap in CA terms.

Thanks are due to Peter Death for his organisation and enterprise. The lawns at Nottingham continue to be excellent. Almost everyone at the spring weekend intends to be back again next year: so book early if you intend to come.

## Ipswich: 20-21 July

## A Good Result for Celia Pearce

As I neglected to pick on some poor unsuspecting player to write the tournament report, and as I had the pleasure of managing the event, I have taken it upon myself to write it.

Falling on the weekend before the Open Championships, this tournament would have provided an excellent opportunity to put in some last minute practice were it not for the handicap restriction of 2. Nevertheless, the twelve players (mostly from Ipswich and West Park) turned up eager to do battle with the infamous Ipswich hills and the famous Ipswich hospitality.

The event was run as a seeded Swiss, the two seeds being Annabel McDiarmid and Cliff Jones whose handicaps were somewhat lower than the rest of the field. However, the tournament was thrown wide open when they both lost their first round games respectively to Roger Jackman (the eventual winner) and Andy Beck (his only win).

Due to time limits of 3 hours on all games, the first day's play saw a lot of close timed finishes and ended with four pegged down games and surprising leaders: Roger Jackman and Celia Pearce.

The tournament dinner (for those who had regained their appetites after the excellent bar-b-q lunch and sherry trifle) was held at Celia Steward's house and was up to her usual high standard.

By the end of the fourth round at lunch on the second day, four players were still in with a chance of winning. The two seeds had both regained their composure after their shock first round defeats and had won their next three games. In the final round, Cliff had to play Roger and Annabel was up against Celia Pearce.

In the first of these games, Roger Jackman, showing dogged determination as he had done throughout the weekend, came from behind to beat Cliff and so take the

title outright. Celia beat Annabel fairly comfortably to take the runner-up spot, a remarkable achievement for an 11-handicap player.

All in all, only 11 out of the 30 games went to time, very few lift shots were forgotten, and the manager escaped with his knees intact!

**Results:**

**5 wins**  
Roger Jackman.

**4 wins**  
Celia Pearce

**3 wins**  
Hugh Williams,  
Cliff Jones,  
Neil Jackson,  
Annabel McDiarmid.

**2 wins**  
Jill Waters,  
Celia Steward,  
John Williams.

**1 win**  
Andrew Beck,  
Richard Kimmerling,  
Mark Firth.

## Himley: 29-30 June

## Crap Shoot at Himley

From Andrew Gregory

Saturday 9.20 am. Malcolm Shepherd strolls on to lawn 2 and tests the width of hoop 1. "Barn door" he announces. Too right, Malcolm - but the remark would return to haunt him....

In years to come, Robert Owen may well refer to his game with Heather Pritchard thus: "I pegged out an opponent once when she was at rover with the other ball. This was a very poor tactic. However for some reason it felt right to do so, and indeed I won." Avid students of croquet literature will now be experiencing *deja vu*, for the above quote is lifted from page 117 of Don Gaunt's "Plus One On Time" (still only £5.00 from the CA Office).

The same avid students will have realised that two of last year's Abnall's champions returned to Himley, i.e. Robert and Heather. The third champion Peter Dorke, was away at the Welsh Championship: but, as ever, his spirit was present, embodied in three of his Ludlow proteges.

One of these, Paul Heath, is even now kicking himself. "If only I'd joined the CA," he is lamenting, "I'd have won my Silver Award." Another Ludlovian, Greg Field, won the C class in elegant style - despite a sun-stricken comeback by Mike Wills in the last game. Only the call of "Time" deprived the crowd of a 4-way tie in the block, despite Greg needing 28 shots at the peg to score his last point against Mary Cook; and despite his hat.

The A class rested on the game between Gregory and Paul Smith. The former won narrowly: the latter compiled the tournament triple peel. Chris Bennett, who is no respecter of Welsh internationals, re-encountered his nemesis: lawn 4. His comments echoed those of Andre Agassi on that other great sporting arena, Centre Court at Wimbledon: "It feels like a crap shoot out there. You just throw the dice and hope it rolls your way."

I read in July's "Croquet" of a game at Cheltenham where someone made a couple of hoops against the wrong opponent. Here at Himley, Roy Milner and Heather Pritchard

*continued on page 8* ►

## TOURNAMENT REPORTS

Colchester: 2-4 August

## Leicester's White Brothers Dominate



Richard White (right) won the Colchester Weekend. David White (left) was equal second.

From Pat Hetherington

Enjoying the warm sunny weather – a reminder of 1989 and 1990 – a restricted field of 16 players assembled at Colchester for the August Swiss handicap weekend tournament.

East Anglian players were very much in evidence and all three of the Bury St Edmunds contingent (including David Bell, making his first tournament appearance) were in early contention. However it was the White brothers from Leicester who generally dominated, with Richard winning all his games.

In fact, Richard was outright winner after six rounds, so the manager opted to take a break and persuaded last year's winner, Robert Fulford, to play the final round, a challenging game in which Richard needed every one of his 8½ bisques to run out the winner.

Richard was duly rewarded with a handicap reduction and the John Foreman Cup, while joint runners-up David White and John Robinette, also saw their handicaps fall.

## Results

7 wins: R.K. White. 5 wins: D. White, J. Robinette. 4 wins: A. Bell, D. Bell, J. Wheeler, J. Rusted, P. Allnut, T. Anderson. 3 wins: J. Williams, Mrs C. Heritage, Miss J. Waters. 2 wins: J. Collis, Mrs J.A. Hetherington, (played 4 games). 1 win: Mrs J. Anderson. 0 wins: G.F. Hallett.

Southwick: 1-6 July

## Impressive Performance by Stephen Badger

From Audrey Howell

It is always a pleasure to drive into the car park at Southwick and gaze across the lawns to the clubhouse sited amongst the trees.

After the damaging drought of last year, the Club and its groundsmen have worked extremely hard to bring the lawns back to standard and their efforts have certainly been rewarded. The lawns were in beautiful condition for this 78th Summer Tournament, which is a very friendly, well-run and relaxed affair, giving two matches per day, played according to Swiss rules.

The Manager, Paul MacDonald, as always, organised everything in a calm efficient manner and remained cheerful throughout the week despite carrying a total of 84½ bisques to the lawns for his own matches.

The tournament began under dark skies and downpours of rain but by Wednesday the British summer had arrived and wetsuits were discarded for sunhats and shorts and there were a few red faces and burnt knees.

The warmth of the sun improved the quality of the croquet and there were some very good and close matches.

There was a three-way tie for the singles event.

Stephen Badger (Dulwich), Hugh Smorfit (Winchester) and Lionel Wharrad (Woking) all achieved six wins but as Hugh had not met either of the other two players, the normal rules

applying to a tie-break could not be used.

Instead, the Manager decreed that he would apply the Sonnebohn-Berger Method which apparently is widely used and respected in chess tournaments. This method determines the victor by summing the wins of the defeated players by each of the players in the tie-break. The player who acquires the highest number of such wins is declared the winner.

It is always difficult to achieve an absolutely fair way of deciding a tie-break and luck always plays its part in this kind of situation. By using the Sonnebohn-Berger method, Stephen Badger was declared the winner with 23 points. Lionel Wharrad and Hugh Smorfit with 22 and 21 points respectively were very close runners-up.

It was definitely Stephen Badger's week. He also won the Doubles Event with his partner Margaret Green (Southwick). They proved to be a formidable team, winning all their five matches. Sue and Roger Best (Dulwich) put up a brave fight against them in the third round. At four p.m. when the tea bell sounded, Stephen Badger and Margaret Green were on the peg and Margaret heaved a sigh of relief and relaxed at the thought of an early finish. However, once back on the lawn, Sue and Roger Best played some excellent croquet and it was a quarter past six before Stephen Badger, with his

partner ball already pegged out, finally shot at the peg and won the match.

Two players achieved their Bronze Medals during the week. Congratulations to Doreen Parsons (Caterham) and John Eardley-Simpson (Southwick).

Our thanks are due to the stalwart members of Southwick who give up their own playing time to organise the catering and ensure that everyone has a happy time.

Due to the thoughtfulness of Pat Asa-Thomas in providing a rented television, they were able to watch a minor tournament taking place elsewhere in the country. It's a game called tennis and I believe the club was Wimbledon!

One more thing about Southwick. They always welcome you with a happy heart and are just as pleased if a visitor walks away with the silver as one of their own club members.

## Results – Singles event:

6 wins:  
Stephen Badger,  
Hugh Smorfit,  
Lionel Wharrad,  
Stephen Badger (23 points)  
declared winner.

5 wins  
Dorothy Miller,  
John Eardley-Simpson.

## Doubles event

5 wins  
Margaret Green and  
Stephen Badger (winners).

4 wins  
Sue Best and Roger Best  
(runners-up).

## OVERSEAS NEWS

## Debbie Cornelius and Annabel McDiarmid complete their travels.....

## The Intrepid Explorers Reach CANADA

Time to drive North again, back to Oregon. An even more scenic route, inland this time. We drove to a town call Ashlands where there are on-going Shakespeare plays for 4 months. Unfortunately this is very popular and we hadn't booked. We made it to the Hanners' house once more, this time to lie back and watch the stars. The tail of a Comet was overhead and we watched the many shooting stars with cries of ooh and aaah; although there appeared to be more satellites than shooting stars.

On to our last tournament together, The Vancouver Open 1990. A beautiful city set on the bay and backed by mountains, which in winter offer good skiing within an hour of the town. Vancouver offers everything a city should. Theatres, croquet lawns, beautiful views, parks everywhere and most important of all, good Beer. Our host, Bob Imhoff, was keen to guide us through all the local beers. Annabel especially was delighted to discover that Bitter, unheard of in every other country we'd visited, was in plentiful supply, and proceeded to test all the different brands, Shaftesbury Bitter coming out as a clear victor.

The tournament was held at Greypoint West Bowling Club which doubles as the Vancouver Croquet Club lawns. These beautifully flat, fast lawns were some of the best we'd seen and we both settled in to some serious croquet. We both came through our blocks to meet in the final and a tough match ensued. Annabel, despite struggling with the American strategy, had had some good break play during the tournament and proceeded to take an early lead. Then the game got a little bogged down with deadness and both of us were seen standing around wondering what on earth to do next. Eventually Debbie gained the innings and won by a short head. Annabel then sold her mallet to an eager buyer and was heard bemoaning on a daily basis, the fact that she was "malletless".

We were sorry to leave Vancouver, but joined Hood and

Margaret (our Phoenix hosts) for a trip to Victoria, Vancouver Island. The ferry trip was beautiful, whilst the patchwork fields reminded us both of home. Victoria sells itself as an English-like town, right down to red London buses on the sea front and replicas of English villages, complete with English cops and red telephone booths (although not completely realis-

Annabel also experienced the joys of hitching the 30 K's to the nearest town; getting into the cab of a double-length huge truck required some skill. But the main problem hitching was her interest in the scenery. She was once seen, whilst checking out the scenery, to practically walk into a car that had pulled up for her (who knows how long it had been waiting).



Bob Imhoff, Ross Robinson, Kermit Rosen, and Hood Chatham in play at the Vancouver Croquet Club.

tic as they worked).

Then on to Okanagan Valley, travelling through some of the most beautiful scenery. We were surprised at one point to notice a large farm going by the name of McDiarmid Meadows – was this some unknown relative, does Annabel have relatives owning half of Canada? ....we'll never know. We stayed with a family in the Okanagan Valley and in the evening helped them peel 82lbs of peaches!!

And so to the Rocky Mountains. We drove through Yoho National Park, to Banff National Park, and North to Jasper in Jasper National Park, through the Icefields Parkway. Again no words explain sufficiently the magnificence of the Rockies. A lot of them are seen in long ridges, often giving the impression of rock ripping out of the ground. It was a drive never to be forgotten.

Debs then left Annabel in Banff, where she succeeded in finding a free bed and half-price food by working in a small youth hostel in the middle of nowhere. At this time of the year there were few people about, and Annabel was able to waive the 10 o'clock lights out policy. Castle Mountain Youth Hostel was soon busy rocking till about 1am nightly, with a couple of 5.30's thrown in.

protective mallet? Am I really cut out for travelling on my own?

Two months, of desperately trying to find paying work, later, Annabel decided she would have to leave her mountain paradise to start her journey home.

Debbie's last two weeks in America were spent at the US Nationals at Newport, Rhode Island. The converted tennis courts provided plenty of croquet lawns for the 100-plus participants. The social activities during the week were plentiful and as well as the Croquet Hall of Fame Ball, with an interesting Alice in Wonderland theme, and various cocktail parties, I also managed to fit in a trip to Jai-Lai – an interesting ball game, heavily gambled on, a little like the Basque game, the name of which I forget.

I won't talk about the croquet except to say that it was very hard-fought – details in this year's Almanack. I have to admit I spent a lot of my last week in America inside the local pubs, aided and abetted by a few kindred spirits (who shall be nameless). Disgraceful! (But much more fun than sight-seeing).

Well, that's the end of our exploring for the moment. We have both had a wonderful time – loads of thanks and hugs for those who have helped us along the way. 1991 and 1992 are likely to be years of paying off the odd debt built over the last year (all contributions gratefully received), and also saving for the next trip, wherever that may be.

Thank you for persevering with our "little" reports. We hope you have enjoyed them, and that perhaps we have made you think a little more about croquet abroad. Hope to see you on the lawns next year.

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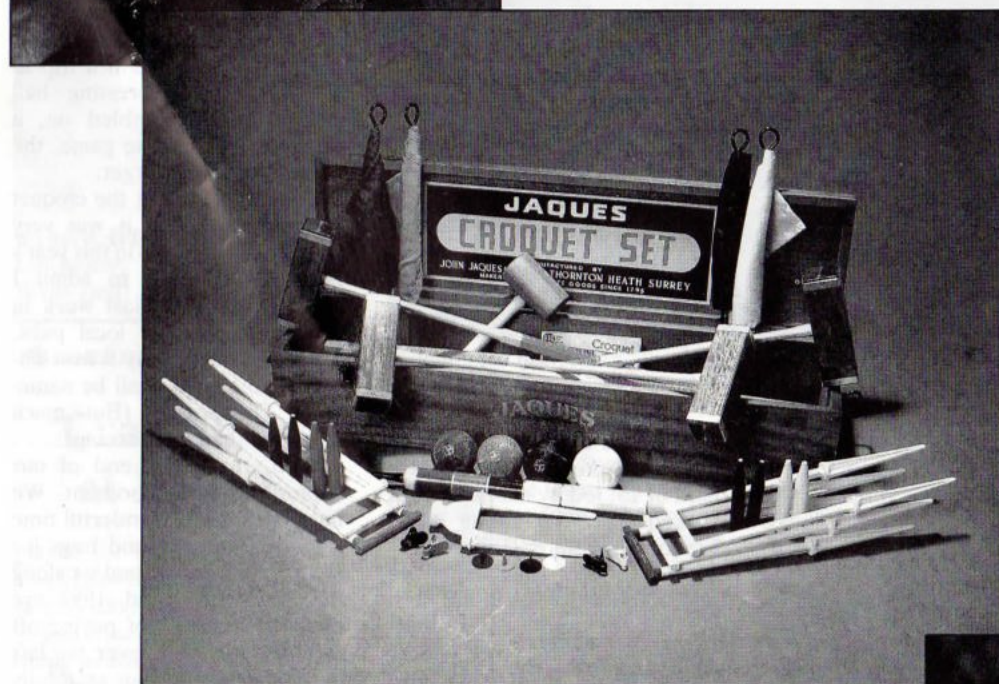
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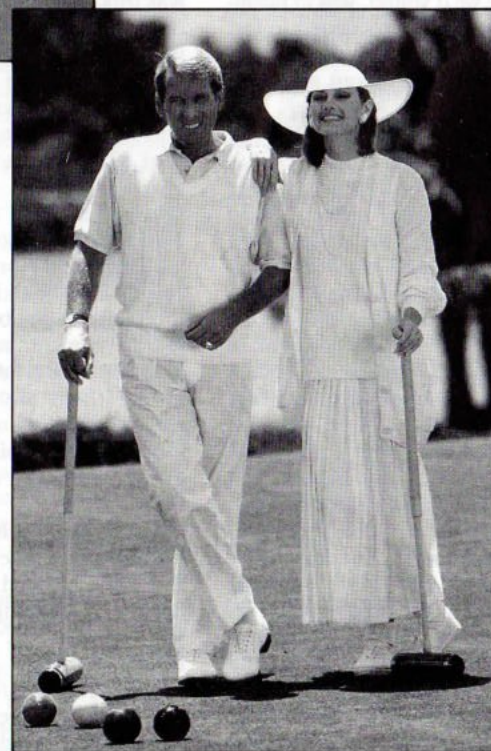
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## COACHES CORNER

### ● Ian Plummer Provides More Tips from his Intermediate Coaching Course...

#### Section 6

#### LEAVES & BALL POSITION

(Cont'd from Issue 217)

6.8 It is a desirable leave to place each of the enemy balls on your next hoops. You can then leave a rush to either hoop.

6.9 If you place an enemy ball as a pioneer on your hoop and are leaving yourself a rush to it, firstly avoid leaving a double. If possible, position the enemy as a three-ball break pioneer (Section 2: The Three Ball Break).

If you place the enemy between the hoop and the boundary and plan to get a rush to the boundary, then you only have to get the direction of the rush correct and not worry about the strength. You can then stop your partner ball out and approach the pioneer along its rush line from the boundary.

6.10 At the end of a turn, if an enemy is for the same hoop as you, you should try to leave that enemy ball by its hoop as your pioneer. You should not of course leave it in a position where it can run the hoop. If you leave the other colour enemy ball there, then it is a pioneer if the enemy hits in with the first ball. As it is, the enemy has to move away from the hoop it wants and there is no easy pioneer.

6.11 Always consider which ball an opponent is likely to play and where they are likely to hit it. If you lay a rush to the boundary where their ball would travel if they took the obvious shot and missed, then you can readily pick them up and build a break. They often overlook this type of trap.

6.12 Suppose during a break you fail to get hoop position off your partner ball, and the enemy is not directly threatening you. As a general rule, do not finish your turn by adopting a perfect hoop running position. This limits your options; firstly you will probably be wired from your partner ball and vice versa, this forces you to play with the hoop ball and your opponent knowing this will take appropriate action. Secondly you cannot alter the direction of the rush once you have run the hoop and obviously your opponent will have moved their ball. You should leave a rush on your partner instead of taking hoop position - being careful not to leave a

double target. This keeps your options of playing either ball open and of positioning your reception ball for a useful rush.

6.13 An occasion when you may take hoop position is when you are slightly threatened. The opponent stands a plausible chance of hitting in. You can then take hoop position as close to the hoop as possible (or even in the jaws) to deny them of any useful rush on that ball should they hit in and try to build a break. Not recommended against good opponents.

6.14 When placing an opponent ball in a croquet shot check that you could not protect your partner ball by an easy wiring. You aim to place the opponent in the wired position, but with a low priority on the demands of the shot. You may only get one out of ten but that is going to be better than if you ignore the possibility.

6.15 If you fail a hoop approach you must resist the temptation to just knock your ball to an arbitrary point on the boundary or in a corner. Ensure that you do not leave your ball near to your opponent's next hoop or forward of their break. For example if the opponent is for hoops 3 and 4, then near corners I and II would be much better than III or IV.

6.16 It is dangerous to knock your ball into a corner especially if you are playing an 'A' class player (say of handicap 2 or less). You should shoot to end up about 9" away from the corner spot.

This prevents your opponent getting an easy corner cannon (Section 8: Special Shots) and hence moving two balls away from the boundary.

#### Section 7

#### GETTING BALLS INTO PLAY

It is always the aim during a break to pick up balls which are on the boundary and gradually to build up a four-ball break. Be prepared to be patient. You may find that your first attempt moves the ball 1 foot in from the yard line, then you have to return to it later to get it into play fully. This is normal and prudent.

7.1 **Balls on boundaries.** The general recipe is to get a rush to near a ball on the boundary, then play an accurate little stop shot (do not be ambitious at all) to get



Chris Hudson coaching at the 1991 Loughborough Summer School. The 1992 course runs from 3rd-7th August. Details on page 2.

a perfect rush on that boundary ball to the appropriate point in your break. You have replaced the boundary ball with one which is now a few feet off the yard line. This can be subsequently collected by the same routine except you now have more space to play a useful stop shot and get the rush on the other ball to a strategic position.

7.2 If you have control of three balls then it is likely that you would consider collecting a boundary ball when you pass near it in your break. With fewer balls you must be prepared to play more aggressively - trying to get behind balls remote from your next hoop and setting up a successful rush to it.

7.3 Obviously you must determine to rush your ball to the side of the boundary ball which will offer you the most advantage. Remember you must have enough room to play a little stop shot but not be too far away so that you cannot obtain that perfect rush.

7.4 By way of an example, suppose that you have a three-ball break at hoop 3 with a pioneer at hoop 4. The boundary ball is on the North boundary directly behind hoop 3. If after hoop 3 you arrange to rush your reception ball between the boundary ball and corner III, you can then play a stop shot to get a rush on the boundary ball to near the pioneer on hoop 4. The croqueted ball ends up between hoops 3 and 6.

7.5 **Balls in corners.** It is generally thought that knocking a ball into a corner is a very defensive shot. It is better however to aim to lie 9" or so outside the corner spot. The reason will become clear.

7.6 Obviously the same tactics can be used for a ball in a corner as can be used for a general boundary ball, whereby you swap a ball on the yard line for one some distance off it.

7.7 A ball in a corner offers an easy opportunity to obtain a cannon, since a ball rushed anywhere into the corner area comes back on to the lawn in contact with the corner ball. The major advantage of a cannon is that both balls can be moved large distances and with accuracy from the boundary.

7.8 The procedure for replacing balls when they would come back on to the lawn on the same or overlapping spot is as follows. The roqueted ball is placed on the yard line in contact with the original ball already there. If in a corner it can be placed on either yard line; if on a yard line away from a corner it is placed on the side where it went off, or if exactly in the same position it is your choice. You can now remove the original ball, leaving your roqueted ball where it is. You are now free to replace the original boundary ball and your striker's ball anywhere in contact with the roqueted ball, except the striker's ball may not also be in contact with the original ball.

7.9 You may not do the above if you rush a ball into contact with another ball, in a position where neither ball is a yard line ball. The original ball and roqueted ball must maintain their orientation. The striker places his ball anywhere in contact with the roqueted ball but not touching the original ball. (See Laws 16(d)ii and 19(c)).

7.10 Details of cannons will be given in Section 8: Special Shots.

To be continued...

Hurlingham: 21-28 July

## ATCO BRITISH OPEN CROQUET CHAMPIONSHIPS

## Youth Dominates

From Chris Clarke

The players gathered to watch the managerial treat provided for us on lawn 4 - mixed doubles Ransom and Ransom vs. Heap and Fellows. The lawns were playing beautifully and faster than I have ever seen them at the start of the week. Both ladies had consecutive take-offs which thudded against the boundary wire. After three hours it was 10-9, but Michael then spoilt it by completing a triple in his first "real" turn, and the match eventually went their way.

Last year's finalists, Comish and Reeve, went out in the first round to Gunasekera and Prichard - Dayal playing particularly well with a third turn ball round and important hit-ins. Mulliner and Saurin made their first doubles appearance at the Opens and it was almost their last one, as Haslam and McCormick should have made more of the chances offered. Despite taking the middle game by 26, the youngsters couldn't push home their advantage.

One of the more amusing moments in the doubles came with Bill Lamb, ex "Coach of the Year", coaching David Goacher how to create a diagonal spread. The end result of this was David's split after 3-back finishing with the striker's ball in hoop 5 and their oppo Aspinnall and Irwin joined up at the peg! Tony Mrozinski partnering Richard Hilditch also managed to create a good leave against Neal and Solomon. Having double-peeled Eric's ball out, he was giving contact and, in trying to put a ball in the second corner, sent it off, leaving the other on the rush line to Bernard's hoop.

Burridge and Maugham also had a scare in reaching the semis. Playing Heap and Fellows, they failed to finish twice before their opponents had started. However a break to 4-back from Pamela forced them to hit the lift and lay-



Robert Fulford receives his prize of an ATCO motor mower from Martin Murray, our Sponsor's Managing Director.

up. Next turn, to the delight of the crowd, Michael hit and finished. Order was restored in the next two games, despite Heap trying his first-ever TPO (he only made one hoop).

All four seeds reached the semis despite Aspinnall and Irwin going to time on a bowling green and Burridge taking an enormous divot on the front lawns. Only Fulford and Clarke won in straight games.

And so to the singles. In the suspiciously strong part of the draw, Fulford played McCormick and Burridge faced Walters. Robert won in straight games after a stopping bisque in the second which turned a -26TP into a +4. (Earlier in this match, Dan had hit a ball off the lawn and picked up the tice in the game next door.)

The other match was ridiculous. It would take too long to describe the intricacies of the ending to the first game which involved Walters refusing to join up and Burridge with only one ball left refusing to take position at the hoop or shoot. The crucial shot was probably when John ran a four-yard angled penult with Murray control. John took the second comfortably with a triple.

The other first round game that caused interest was Saurin v. Neal. It is difficult to say anything other than Bernard won in straight games and Mark retained his record of never winning a match in the Opens.

This was the first Opens in which the players were effectively banned from wearing other sponsors' clothing. The success of this could be seen from the sight of Tournament Director John Walters playing in a Carlsberg top. Other items of interest were the shorts sported by Cornelius, Noble, Fulford and Mulliner. One female spectator was heard to say "I'd pay him to buy a bigger pair of shorts!"

The second round saw Maugham in trouble against Tom Browne who had made a promising debut in the doubles. Tom took the first by two and gave David something to think about in the remainder of the match before succumbing. Fulford beat Walters with a quad, and Clarke beat Goacher, taking his tally to 4/4. Openshaw played Tuke and needed the overnight break to secure victory. The last match to finish was Lamb against Greenwood, in which Bill tripled his total number of matches won prior to the event.

The most entertaining match of the third round was Mulliner v Heap, played on the cricket pitch which was disappointingly slow. In the first game, Heap reached penult and box against 1 and 1, having his own ball in penult and a ball on rover. Mulliner hit and the endgame began. The crowd revelled in the tactics employed by both sides. Steve stuck in several easy hoops and twice Michael hit in, gaining position both times. However, only one hoop was made as Steve hit in and eventually took the game by 2. The next game was held over until the morning and gave Steve an easy win, including a straight triple.

Another promising match was between Haslam and Dawson. Jeff had played very well to reach this stage, disposing easily of Foulser and

Bond. He had also played a marvellous pseudo-cannon from first corner to 1 and 2, in which both balls were within a foot of their hoops. The match went to the third, with both playing solidly, but Jeff seemed to crack whilst taking his second ball round to allow Chris to win in three turns.

Aspinnall versus Noble was the closest match of the round, with Nigel winning by 3 in the third after George had failed to finish. Irwin became the second seed to fall, losing in straight games to Clarke after a failed TPO in the first.

Player of the tournament was Paul Day. Having played croquet for under two years, he is undoubtedly the most promising non-junior for several years. In his match against Fulford, his tactics were immaculate - shooting at every opportunity and taking a ball to peg to force Robert to hit a last shot in the second game.

If "youth was at the helm" last year, then it owned the boat after this year's quarter-finals. Fulford beat Cornelius convincingly and Clarke came back from game down to defeat Mulliner. The other two matches were of more interest. Haslam took the first game against Openshaw, but David equalised with an uncharacteristic +26TP. I would not have believed what happened in the final game if I hadn't seen it. Openshaw missed a 4-yard peg-out with Haslam on 3 and 4-back. David had three more shots, including an 8-yard last lift, but failed to connect, allowing Chris a fantastic reversal of their Men's final. This was the first time that Openshaw had failed to reach the semi-finals of the Opens in an odd year since 1977.

The last match of the round to finish was Aspinnall against Maugham. This match was notable for two consecutive turns in the second game. Nigel, on 3 and 4-back, had his hoop 3 ball in 3rd corner, his 4-back ball in front of 3, and the opponent's balls at 2 and the North boundary behind 2. In an old flash of inspiration, Nigel turned down his 7-yarder and hit the ball at 2 with his backward ball to gain a laid triple. The crowd went wild, expecting to see the wonderful sight of an Aspinnall triple. They were almost on the pitch when the first peel was achieved with the rare "Aspinnall" peel - the striker's ball cannoning the peelee through. It therefore came as a surprise to see Nigel cross-wire himself when returning to the peelee and he failed to roquet it through the hoop. David hit in from 6 to 5, but immediately rolled into hoop 5, allowing Nigel to take the game. The decider was a strange, nervy, game which went the way of youth after Nigel had a Spooner error after hitting his last lift.

The doubles semi-finals saw Fulford and Clarke remain unbeaten and take their triple tally to five consecutive, whilst Mulliner and Saurin made use of their opportunities against Burridge and Maugham.

It was at this cunning stage that a ranking list was produced with guess who at Number 1. Yes, Steve was on top by 0.5 of a point.

The four semi-finalists of the singles had a combined age of 80. The Fulford/Maugham

match had only 13 turns and despite David taking croquet on the third turn of the second game, Robert won +26TP; +26TP. The Clarke/Haslam match had a close first game, with Clarke hitting his last lift to obtain a rigall, 5 and peg v. 4-back. The key point came with Clarke laid up with no rush at 3-back and Haslam having run 4-back. Haslam decided not to shoot and took position for penult at the end of B-baulk. Clarke approached 3-back and finished. The second game produced a 6th turn +26TP win to put Clarke into the final, the first-ever non-seed to do this.

The doubles final followed immediately and Mulliner was soon round to 4-back. However, an error at 3 by Saurin was punished by a Fulford TPO. Clarke finished soon after from a rush to hoop 1 and a ball just out of the second corner. The second game also saw



The ATCO Open Championship silverware...

Steve quickly round, but this time Mark managed to get a triple out. The game looked all over before Mark failed a straight rover peel, finishing too close to the peelee to run the hoop. Robert took a ball to 4-back and forced Steve (the peg ball) to play. Steve missed and Chris finished with a triple, the seventh consecutive from the pair with each one alternating between the two players. They must surely now have a very strong claim to be the best pair in the world.

The Plate gave Saurin some consolation with a win over Walters in the final.

The singles final was played best-of-five for the first time since 1881. Fulford was bidding to become the youngest player to have won every English championship singles event, whilst Clarke would become the youngest-ever winner of the Opens if he won.

The first game saw Robert quickly round to 4-back. The lift was missed but Robert went off the lawn trying to get behind the ball in 4th corner. Chris, in his first turn with croquet in the match, completed a TPO (the first-ever in a final), and with Robert on hoop 2, left his balls in corners 1 and 4. Robert split the ball in 4 to hoop 3, but then missed the ball in corner 1. Chris, attempting to send a ball to 2 going to partner, put the backward ball off the lawn. Robert hit the 15-yarder and finished. The second went to Robert +26TP, no croquet.

The third started with Robert again quickly round to 4-back, but Chris hit the lift. Failing twice to get the TPO started, Chris had to settle for an NSL. This was missed and Chris's triple was proceeding well until a bad contact on his rush to 4-back followed by some hill on the approach caused him to break down. Robert looked as though he was certain to finish until he inexplicably became hampered

after 1-back. This shot was missed and, despite giving Robert a 10-yarder, Chris won the game.

The players broke for lunch, after which Robert won +26TP, no croquet, to complete his set of Championships.

The Championship had produced a high standard of play, with a triple rate of 27.6% in the main event, one of the highest ever. Robert Fulford won the peeling prize with 7 triples and one quadruple in the main event and, in the reporter's opinion, proved himself to be the best player in the world, irrespective of ranking.

Many thanks to the Hurlingham Club for the use of their lawns and to Richard Hilditch who ensured the smooth running of the event, even when players were incorrectly given leave.



... and where it went! Clarke & Fulford reigned supreme.

RESULTS  
ATCO British Open Singles Championship

## Round 1

\*S.N. Mulliner bt E.W. Solomon +25TP, +26TP; A.F. Sutcliffe bt J.R. Hilditch +16, +22; C.D. Clarke bt Mrs P.M. Fellows +25TP, +26TP; D.J. Goacher bt R.W. Ransom +21, -5, +26; \*D.K. Openshaw bt A.J. Mrozinski +8, +24; S. Tuke bt M.J. Llewellyn-Williams +21, +5; I.D. Bond bt B.C. Sykes +23, +21; J.P. Dawson bt D.R. Foulser +10, +26TP; B.G. Neal bt \*M.A. Saurin +15, +17; Miss D.A. Cornelius bt D.C. Reeve +20, +22; \*R.I. Fulford bt D.J. McCormick +13, +4; J.O. Walters bt I.J. Burridge +2, +24TP; \*G.N. Aspinnall bt D.L. Gunasekera +26TP, +14; W.E. Lamb bt J.P. Goddard +2, +8; J.D. Greenwood bt A.R.K. Miller +20, +4.

## Round 2

Mulliner bt Sutcliffe +22TP, +20; M.E.W. Heap bt G.S. Liddiard +6, -12, +16; Clarke bt Goacher +23TP, +17TP; \*C.J. Irwin bt S. Comish +15, +26; Openshaw bt Tuke -16, +17, +25; M. French bt I.G. Vincent +10, +16TP; Dawson bt Bond +26, +16; \*C. Haslam bt P. Cordingley +21, +14; Miss Cornelius bt Neal +21, +14; D.C.D. Wiggins bt J.E. Guest +12, +7; Fulford bt Walters +17, +25TP; P. Day bt W.T. Coles +22, +22; Aspinnall bt G. Noble +22, -17, +3; A.J. Symons bt Mrs F.E. Ransom +3, +19; Lamb bt Greenwood -3, +14, +4; \*D.B. Maugham bt T.N. Browne -2, +25TP, +17.

## Round 3

Mulliner bt Heap +2, +26TP; Clarke bt Irwin +13, +15; Openshaw bt French +22TP, +25TP; Haslam bt Dawson -14, +26, +9; Miss Cornelius bt Wiggins +18, -4, +14; Fulford bt Day +26TP, +12; Aspinnall bt Symons +4, +15; Maugham bt Lamb +25TP, +24TP.

## Round 4

Clarke bt Mulliner -17, +25, +26; Haslam bt Openshaw +17, -26TP, +2; Fulford bt Miss Cornelius +26TP, +17TP; Maugham bt Aspinnall +3, -17, +16.

## Semi-Finals

Clarke bt Haslam +3, +26TP; Fulford bt Maugham +26TP, +26TP.

## Final

Fulford bt Clarke +14OTP, +26TP, -8, +26TP.  
\* Seeded Player.

## ATCO British Open Doubles Championship

## Round 1

C. Haslam & D.J. McCormick bt D.R. Foulser & J.O. Walters +24TP, +8; M.E.W. Heap & Mrs P. Fellows bt Mr & Mrs R.W. Ransom +13TP, +9; \*G.N. Aspinnall & C.J. Irwin bt D.J. Goacher & W.E. Lamb +16, +17TP; J.P. Dawson & D.C.D. Wiggins bt

G.W. Noble & I.G. Vincent +23, +16; Miss D.A. Cornelius & M.R. French bt M. Llewellyn-Williams & A.R.K. Miller -15TP, +20, +19TP.

## Round 2

\*S.N. Mulliner & M.A. Saurin bt Haslam & McCormick +16, -26, +7; J.D. Greenwood & S.M. Tuke bt I.D. Bond & B.C. Sykes +6, +15; \*I.J. Burridge & D.B. Maugham bt Heap & Mrs Fellows -4TP, +17, +26TP; D.L. Gunasekera & R.D.C. Prichard bt S. Comish & D.C. Reeve +6, +4; Aspinnall & Irwin bt T.N. Browne & J.E. Guest +3, -8, +24; B.G. Neal & E.W. Solomon bt J.R. Hilditch & A.J. Mrozinski +10, +17; \*C.D. Clarke & R.I. Fulford bt Dawson & Wiggins +3, +26TP; Miss Cornelius & French bt G.S. Liddiard & A.F. Sutcliffe +24TP, +15.

## Round 3

Mulliner & Saurin bt Greenwood & Tuke +26, +6; Burridge & Maugham bt Gunasekera & Prichard +14, +2; Aspinnall & Irwin bt Neal & Solomon +3(T), +25; Clarke & Fulford bt Miss Cornelius & French +16TP, +14TP.

## Semi-Finals

Mulliner & Saurin bt Burridge & Maugham +17TP, +22; Clarke & Fulford bt Aspinnall & Irwin +17TP, +26TP.

## Final

Clarke & Fulford bt Mulliner & Saurin +11TPO, +3TP.

## Plate (Draw)

## Round 2

Mrozinski bt Guest +17; Gunasekera bt Greenwood +10; Saurin bt Bond +15; Walters bt Heap +17TP.

## Semi-Finals

Gunasekera bt Mrozinski +6; Walters bt Saurin +24.

## Final

Walters bt Gunasekera +22.

## Plate (Process)

## Round 2

Wiggins bt Irwin +14; Reeve bt Greenwood +12; Goacher bt Bond +25; Saurin bt Comish +17.

## Semi-Finals

Reeve bt Wiggins +17; Saurin bt Goacher +26.

## Final

Saurin bt Reeve +3TP.

## PLATE PLAY-OFF

Saurin bt Walters +22.

## GOLF CROQUET:

Singles (23 entries)

## Round 3

Mulliner bt Bond; Maugham bt Irwin; Heap bt Guest; Clarke bt Walters.

## Semi-Finals

Mulliner bt Maugham; Clarke bt Heap.

## Final

Mulliner bt Clarke.

## GOLF CROQUET (Doubles)

(12 pairs entered).

## Round 2

Irwin & Saurin bt Lamb & Walters; Clarke & Fulford bt Foulser & Mulliner; Maugham & Burridge bt Heap & Bond; Tuke & Greenwood bt Mrozinski & Liddiard.

## Semi-Finals

Clarke & Fulford bt Irwin & Saurin; Maugham & Burridge bt Tuke & Greenwood.

## Final

Clarke & Fulford bt Maugham & Burridge.

## INVITATION EVENTS

Cheltenham: 9-13 September

## THE BARLOW BOWL

## Gail Triple Peels to Win Barlow Bowl

From Gail Curry

Monday morning saw all the competitors gathered at Cheltenham (not, however, at the same time, but that's another story). The weather was obligingly sunny and the lawns were just obliging. At the end of play, Bo and Gail were both 2 out of 2, Judy and Kismet 1 out of 2, and Frances and Dabs were both out for a duck! When asked for quotes, the competitors told the papperazzi "no comment", except of course Frances who asked if the reporter wanted anything to eat and promptly reeled off a menu, twice, just to make sure "no" really meant "no".

Tuesday saw the spectators' arrival. The competitors rose to the occasion and provided some exciting finishes. Dab Wheeler secured her first win against Bo Harris +3. This was tug of war croquet, the game swinging first to one player and then back again, before finally resting with Dabs.

Meanwhile Gail was finding herself on the wrong end of Kismet Whittall's play. Gail eventually began a comeback with the start of a triple peel, which due to incompetent play became delayed, and then straight, and then failed, and then Kismet won! However, the piece de resistance was the completion of a pegged down game between Frances (peg and pegged-out) and Bo (2-back and penultimate). Eventually, after much running of hoops and shooting at the peg, Bo was laid up to finish. When, wait for it, Frances hit the peg. I could say

at this point that the crowd went wild, but they didn't - they just went home.

Wednesday saw Frances involved in another pegged-out finish, this time against Dabs. This time the peg ball was close to the peg, Dabs missed, and Frances finished. Meanwhile, Gail and Bo had played the fastest game so far in 1 hour 47 mins, with Gail being victorious by +23.

The second series got off to a flying start, with Gail playing Frances on lawn 7. Gail gained the initiative and made hoop 1, but neglected to make hoop 2. Frances shot and missed, running hoop 2 but neglecting to make hoop 1 first. Gail made her way to 4-back. Frances missed the lift shot down West boundary. Gail missed the turn-around shot to the corner. Frances broke down at hoop 4. Gail laid up, Frances failed hoop 1. Gail embarked on a triple peel, ably accompanied by Pavarotti on her Walkman. Approximately 30 minutes later, Gail finished a standard triple. (Gold Badge in the post). Quote of the week from Frances: "I could strangle that Pavarotti". Meanwhile elsewhere Bo Harris played steadily and put a slight crack in the armour of Kismet Whittall's record, winning +8.

Thursday saw Frances dent Kismet's chances of winning again in the week's fastest game, Frances winning +24 in 1 hour 31 mins. (Rumour has it that Frances played so quickly that there were scorch marks on



Gail Curry talks to Sara Miller of Radio Newcastle whilst Robert Fulford looks on.

the lawn.) Gail won +18 against Dabs, but the score did not do justice to Dabs' play. She picked up several difficult breaks, only to break down on the final shot. Battle of the day was on lawn 7 between Judy and Bo. Judy had built up a considerable lead, but Bo hit and closed the gap. The game finely tuned. Judy rover and rover, Bo penult and rover. However, the bell-ringer failed the rover peel (sorry Judy) and Bo won.

In the afternoon, Gail embarked on another triple peel against Judy. With everything going to plan, Gail failed to run 1-back for no apparent reason other than the tea bell had been rung a few minutes earlier. (Perhaps Madame Butterfly was thirsty.) The last game to finish was between Kismet (4-back and 4-back) and Dabs (1-back and 4-back) - "clips of death". No need to say who won. Wrong again - it was Dabs. Joke of the day was played by Judy, who hoisted Gail's white jacket up the flagpole and declared it a "Gale Warning". Although there was some who were probably wishing it was Gail herself and not the jacket!

Friday saw the competitors working out the mathematical connotations of the day's play. Gail needed to lose both games and Bo needed to win both games for there to be a play-off. Frances needed to win both

games and Bo to lose to be runner-up. Kismet needed to win both games and Frances and Bo to lose to be runner-up.

Gail, not having a fondness for maths, upset everyone but Frances by winning both games, and thus the mathematical possibilities went up in smoke. Gail retained the Barlow Bowl and Frances was runner-up (aptly named). The trophies were kindly presented by Carmen Bazley to round off an extremely enjoyable tournament.

Thanks to the Cheltenham Croquet Club for a most enjoyable week. Thanks also to Bo for managing the five day's play and keeping the competitors under control. They behaved like ladies most of the time! Finally a big thanks to the Cheltenham members for providing meals that would put many tournaments to shame.

## RESULTS

1. Miss G. Curry (9 wins) beat: Mrs J. Anderson +9, +21; Mrs D.A. Wheeler +13, +18; Mrs F. Ransom +5, +23TP; Mrs K. Whittall +8; Mrs D.H. Harris +23, +14.

2. Mrs F. Ransom (6 wins) beat: Mrs Anderson +7, +12; Mrs Wheeler +3, +4; Mrs Whittall +24; Mrs Harris +3.

3. Mrs D.H. Harris (5 wins) beat: Mrs Anderson +12, +12; Mrs Wheeler +21; Mrs Ransom +12; Miss Curry +4.

4. Mrs K. Whittall (5 wins) beat: Mrs Anderson +12, +12; Mrs Wheeler +21; Mrs Ransom +12; Miss Curry +4.

5. Mrs D.A. Wheeler (4 wins) beat: Mrs Anderson +5; Mrs Whittall +5; Mrs Harris +3, +14.

6. Mrs J. Anderson (1 win) beat Mrs Wheeler +14.

Nine am on Wednesday and we arrived bright and early to meet the sponsors, Angostura Aromatic Bitters, and have the publicity photos taken. Bill Lamb, ROT and Manager, was demonstrating a new piece of hoop-setting equipment, a hand brace and a 1/4" bit for drilling hoop holes in the court. Clearly the hoops were going to be firm!

The front courts looked very fast and likely to be a bit bumpy and rolly on the hoop approaches; the top courts a bit variable in pace. This combination promised to be rather challenging and we were already wondering if 14 games by 6pm on Saturday would be possible.

Rounds 1 and 2 confirmed our fears and it became clear that we would finish the first day a round behind at least. Games on the top lawns were ending in reasonable time, but the front lawns were proving very difficult to cope with, the games there being characterised by lots of errors, few controlled breaks, and generally broken play.

## Round 1:

Mulliner bt Heap +4  
Irwin bt French +16  
Maugham bt Fulford +8  
Clarke bt Cornelius +25

## Round 2:

Fulford bt Clarke +18  
Maugham bt Cornelius +8  
Irwin v. Heap: Pegged down  
Mulliner bt French +19

## Round 3:

Maugham v. French:  
Pegged down  
Clarke bt Heap +17  
Mulliner bt Cornelius +7  
Irwin bt Fulford +12

The second day's play started at 9.00, with the Manager threatening an 8.30 start for the third day if we didn't get four rounds played. Cornelius and Clarke responded to this threat with +26 wins over Heap and Mulliner respectively. Fulford struggled through against French +7, and this left Irwin and Maugham, clearly unconcerned by the threat of an early start, to be pegged down (again!).

Round 5 saw the games over quickly, with a TP for Fulford. Was this the start of play of the standard expected in the President's Cup? Round 6 soon disabused anyone of that idea, though Irwin and Heap had time to finish their pegged down game. In Round 7, Mulliner remembered how to play and demolished Irwin, Cornelius had a good win against Fulford, and at the end there was even time for Maugham to win his pegged down game against Irwin.

So at the end of the second day we were still a round behind. At this halfway stage, Mulliner, Irwin, and Maugham all had 5 wins out of 7, but Maugham had a pegged down game still to finish. Clarke was one behind, on 4/7, but starting to play better. We retired to the clubhouse to discuss the

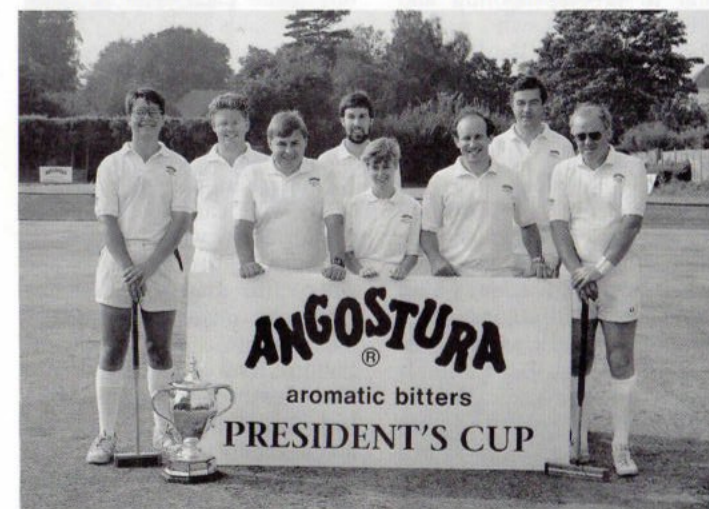
start time for the third day, and eventually settled on 8.30.

## Round 4:

Cornelius bt Heap +26  
Fulford bt French +7  
Maugham v. Irwin: Pegged down  
Clarke bt Mulliner +26

## Round 5:

Irwin bt Clarke +5  
Maugham bt Mulliner +15  
Fulford bt Heap +24TP  
French bt Cornelius +19



The President's Cup eight (L to R): Chris Clarke, David Maugham, Robert Fulford, Martin French, Debbie Cornelius, Steve Mulliner, Michael Heap, and Colin Irwin.

## Round 6:

Mulliner bt Fulford +11  
Irwin bt Cornelius +17  
French bt Clarke +8  
Maugham bt Heap +24  
Irwin bt Heap +2  
(From Round 2)

## Round 7:

Clarke bt Maugham +8  
French bt Heap +16  
Mulliner bt Irwin +26  
Cornelius bt Fulford +12  
Maugham bt Irwin +3  
(From Round 4)

Third day and the early start clearly suited Heap, who beat Mulliner. Cornelius had her chances and nearly beat Clarke, and Fulford found some form to beat Maugham. Undeterred by the early start, Irwin and French got pegged down. In Round 9, Fulford continued to play well, beating Heap +26. Irwin's game fell apart against Clarke, Cornelius played another good, steady game to beat Mulliner, and Maugham had a fairly easy win over French. By now it was early afternoon, and the hottest so far. Cornelius and Fulford coped well with the front lawns, beating French and Irwin respectively, and Clarke continued his excellent standard of play with a +26 against Heap. Maugham and Mulliner fought out a very close game, which Mulliner took +3.

Coming into Round 11 we were calculating the possibilities for a tie. It was certainly possible to get a 4-way

tie, and there was even a mathematical possibility of a 5-way tie. The Manager was not pleased by this thought. Maugham and Irwin had another long battle, Maugham winning +4, and French with some excellent shooting nearly upset Clarke, eventually going down by only 3. The pegged down games were finished off, so the situation after 11 rounds was Maugham 8, Clarke 8, Fulford 7, Irwin 6, Mulliner 6, but Clarke still had to play Mulliner, Fulford, and Maugham; and Irwin still

would force a play-off. There wouldn't have been time to play it, so it was fortunate for the management that Maugham and Clarke both won.

This left the last round game between Maugham and Clarke as the decider.

It was played on lawn 4, probably the best of the lawns, and both players played good solid croquet with very few errors (really only two, both by Maugham) and Clarke ran out a worthy winner, having won his last eight games in a row.

All in all, it was an interesting competition. Only one TP, which must be the fewest in the President's for many years.

The difficult conditions made it a very open competition, with no-one really stamping their authority on it. It seemed to be friendlier and more relaxed than in previous years, perhaps because of this.

Lunches were from the Hilditch school of catering, perfected at Harrow Oak, with everybody helping themselves to the fruits of several visits to Sainsbury's. Teas were by Pat Hetherington, rather more elegant affairs, and very welcome too.

Bill Lamb got in even earlier starts than the players, setting the hoops. The groundsman was attacked with a large wooden missile from one of the neighbours for mowing the lawns too early. It was discovered that David Maugham's thighs at 24" are bigger than Debbie's waist at 23", but neither David nor Robert could quite manage a waist double Debbie's (more Coke and burgers needed there).

Our Sponsors now have a cocktail called "The President's Cup" - orange juice, cassis, and a dash of Angostura Bitters over crushed ice, topped up with sparkling white wine (or champagne if you feel flush). Thanks to them for their support. We hope they enjoyed the croquet and that we shall see them again.

## Round 12:

Clarke bt Mulliner +2  
Maugham bt Heap +9  
Irwin bt Cornelius +17  
French bt Fulford +10

## Round 13:

Maugham bt Cornelius +7  
Clarke bt Fulford +22  
Mulliner bt French +4  
Irwin bt Heap +25

## Round 14:

French bt Heap +14  
Irwin bt Mulliner +11  
Cornelius bt Fulford +2  
Clarke bt Maugham +16

## Final Placings:

1. C.D. Clarke 11 wins
2. D.B. Maugham 10 wins
3. C.J. Irwin 9 wins
4. R.I. Fulford 7 wins
5. S.N. Mulliner 7 wins
6. Miss D.A. Cornelius 6 wins
7. M.R. French 5 wins
8. M.E.W. Heap 1 win

## INVITATION EVENTS

Colchester: 4-7 September

## THE ANGOSTURA PRESIDENT'S CUP

## Chris Clarke Wins in Last Round Cliff-Hanger

From Colin Irwin



Hurlingham: 8-15 September

# WCF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

## John Walters Qualifies and Wins: Sensational End to World Championship

From Steve Mulliner

The third World Championship used the 1990 format of four preliminary blocks and a knock-out final stage with an enlarged field of 32 to permit every WCF member country to send one representative.

Competitors from France, Italy, Switzerland and Wales joined four official nominations from Australia, England, New Zealand, and the USA, one each from Japan and Scotland, and two from Ireland. These 24 were joined by four WCF wild card entries and four qualifiers. Only Canada and Jersey were unable to send representatives.

Despite the withdrawal of the previous sponsor, an alternative

source of funds and vigorous self-help from the various croquet governing bodies led to the assembly of almost the strongest possible field. Conditions at Hurlingham were expected as usual to favour shooting and peeling although Lawn 1 proved to be much quicker than normal and the cricket pitch lawns had recovered some of their difficulty.

Practice facilities had been generously provided for the foreign competitors by Hurlingham and Parsons Green and the senior "home" players were fresh from the President's Cup at Colchester. The allocation of competitors to the blocks was

balanced and it can be said confidently that any surprises in store were due to the players and not to the conditions!

In Group A, Robert Fulford and Paul Skinley dropped only one game each. Fulford, with three triples and two TPOs, seemed nearer to championship form, while the New Zealander had to battle for every peelless win. Steve Jones, ex-Cheltenham and now another NZ international, played as a WCF wild card and qualified comfortably with five wins, although he had a lucky escape when Jim Bast, the leading American, missed a 3-yard peg-out. Despite a good win against Fulford, Bast could only tie with Colin Irwin on four wins. Irwin had been unable to reproduce his excellent President's Cup form of the previous week and had to struggle grimly before grinding past Bast in the play-off for the last place.

Group B provided the first surprises. John Walters, Chairman of both the CA Tournament Committee and the World Championship organising committee, had found the time to qualify at Southport and now emerged as undisputed winner of the group with six wins. Despite long experience and recent good form, he was ranked very much as an outsider and the soundness of his play went largely unnoticed by all except his opponents. In his wake with five wins came David Openshaw, fresh from victory in the Northern Championship and now making his usual battling start, and 1989 World Champion, Joe Hogan. Hogan performed two of the three triples achieved by the group but was whitewashed by Walters and beaten by Ian Burrridge, the emerging Welshman, in the tightest of finishes on Lawn 8.

Burrridge gave a fine imitation of a man clinging onto a cliff edge by his fingertips. Having lost to Wayne Rodoni, the American wild card, by a sixth turn triple (rumoured to be Rodoni's first in competition),

he lost two other games by a total of seven points and won his remaining four games by a total of 18 points. He spent most of his time working out increasingly unlikely ways in which he might qualify for a play-off and, when the chance finally arrived, clinched it at the expense of Kobelt, the affable Australian champion. Kobelt, who cited sheep-shearing as his occupation and should no doubt be known as Crocodile Dundee, is a new name here but looked to be a fine player not quite in touch with the conditions.

Block C was dominated by Stephen Mulliner and the New Zealander, Tony Stephens with six wins, and David Maugham, another WCF wild card, with five. These three produced five triples and a TPO and were not really challenged by the others. Jerry Stark, the flamboyant American who reached the last four in 1990, was struggling to find form, although he took full advantage of an unexpected peeling error by Maugham to perform his own triple and thereby qualify with four wins. He comfortably beat the weaker players in the block, came within three points of defeating Maugham, and had chances in all his other games.

Block D promised to be interesting and produced several surprises. Chris Clarke, winner of the President's Cup, was in tremendous form and included in his six wins the first ever World Championship sextuple. His only loss was to the redoubtable George Noble, the second Surbiton qualifier. Ian Bond, representing Scotland, elegantly excelled himself in winning six games by large margins and sharing first place. These two were chased home by Reg Bamford, the 23 year old South African champion who had received a WCF wild card entry and scored three triples in his five wins.

The bigger surprises came in the disappointing form displayed by George Latham and Bob Jackson. In 1990 Latham

was the only player to emerge undefeated from the preliminary stage but this year, sadly, he was a shadow of his usual self and could only manage two wins. The ageless Bob Jackson had won the 1991 NZ Championship and started as a firm joint favourite with Clarke. However his single ball strokes were not up to par and he limped to four wins before losing a play-off to the ebullient Noble.

The preliminary stage and the various play-offs were completed by Thursday afternoon and the draw for the best-of-three (or five) final stage was conducted on a fully-seeded basis that separated everybody as appropriately as possible. Up to now the standard and speed of play had been a little disappointing, given reasonably easy conditions. 23 triples (15 of them from Clarke, Fulford, Mulliner and Bamford) and Clarke's sextuple from 112 games compared with 20 from 84 the year before. With the preliminaries over, the pundits now favoured Mulliner and Clarke to meet in one semi-final and Bamford to play Fulford or Hogan in the other.

The pundits were destined to get it wrong in Round 1. George Noble, who had not expected to be involved in the later stages, was drawn against Mulliner and lost the first game to a triple. Undaunted, Noble reached 4-back first in game 2 but Mulliner replied by hitting the lift and executing a neat TPO. Undaunted again, Noble produced an extraordinary pass-roll to create a break and finish on the contact turn! Mulliner extracted the first break in the decider but risked a very gentle 3-back to get a leave. He stuck and Noble took full advantage to take a ball round, followed by an excellent triple, to great applause.

Noble now faced Openshaw who had never looked in real trouble against Steve Jones on Lawn 1, despite dropping the middle game. However, Noble could not reproduce the magic of the morning and Openshaw moved comfortably into the semi-finals by 22 and 26. The loser gained some consolation by being nominated as the winner of the Italian CA's Fun Cup for his excellent approach to the event.

Chris Clarke had lost to Burrridge in the Northerns but produced a straight triple in the opening game. Burrridge reached penult and peg in the second before Clarke hit and took a ball round. The lift was

missed but Ian had a final chance when Clarke sat in hoop 1 offering a good target to the backward ball. The shot missed by very little and Clarke showed good composure to complete a second triple to take the match. He now faced David Maugham who had proved too accurate and too steady for Paul

rocked back on his heels as Walters continued his charmed life with a quick first game. However, Bamford snapped up the second by 24TP and built up a substantial lead of peg and penult against 4-back and 5 in the third before bad light stopped play. On Friday morning, play resumed with great deliber-



John Walters, 1991 World Champion, raises the Wimbledon Cup in victory.

Skinley, winning by 16, 26TP.

The quarter-final was a clash typical of the ultra-competitive top slice of English croquet. Clarke took the first by a routine triple, Maugham completed a straight triple to snatch the second by 8, but for once did not hit either of two vital shots in the third and lost by 15. Maugham is possibly the straightest hitter in the game when on form and has risen steadily to the top over the last two years.

Initially, the lower half of the draw was free from drama. Fulford produced two triples to eliminate Stark who was not in quite his best form. Hogan did likewise at the expense of Bond, although Ian had chances which came to grief at hoop 4 in both games. Bamford proved too strong for Stephens but could not manage any peels and, out on Lawn 5, Walters enjoyed a relatively easy victory over an out-of-sorts Irwin.

The obvious question was who would win the battle of the world champions and, presumably, face Bamford in the semi-final. As it happened, a relaxed and confident Fulford enjoyed a relatively straightforward victory. Hogan never had a chance in the first, a routine Fulford 26TP, and, in the second, failed at hoop 5 attempting a delayed triple. Fulford replied with a TPO and Hogan was unable to make any further progress.

In the remaining Quarter-final, Bamford was initially

ation on Walters' part which lead to him receiving an official warning for lack of expedition. Bamford failed to capitalise on a good chance to finish by sticking in rover and Walters seized the initiative, finishing the game with a series of difficult shots, including a very angled rover, played with great conviction.

A repeat of the British Open final featuring Fulford and Clarke now seemed likely as Walters, in particular, had progressed much further than expected and would surely not provide much opposition for Fulford. The qualifier, who mainly attributed his recent form to an improved mental attitude, did not share this view and began the semi-final with an assured fourth turn break to 4-back. Fulford hit the lift, laid up and then completed a TPO. Walters obtained a reasonable hoop 1 double squeeze from the contact and Fulford then rashly shot with his backward ball near the north boundary at his partner lying midway between hoops 1 and 2. He missed into A-baulk and Walters, whose single ball play had been particularly strong, turned round and hit this burnt offering, rolled it to hoop 2 while gaining a rush to hoop 1 on the other ball and took a 3-ball break to take the game in the tenth turn.

Walters began the second equally confidently and reached 4-back in the sixth turn after Fulford missed a long shot by a much greater margin than usual.

The lift was not threatened but Walters missed a hampered roquet after hoop 1 and presented Fulford with a choice of two 7-yard roquets. However, even this was missed and Walters gratefully retrieved the innings and laid up. After some further wild shooting from Fulford, Walters calmly completed a delayed triple for the match. In the end, the result was surprising only for the composure and solidity of the winner. Given the chances let slip by Fulford, the only serious barrier to victory lay within.

The Openshaw-Clarke semi-final provided gripping if error-strewn entertainment. Clarke was very nervous and Openshaw eventually took the first by 25 and gained the first break in the second. Clarke, having reached hoop 4 with one ball, decided to try a TPO with the other. The manoeuvre became ominously delayed and, after the striker's ball failed to jump over the peelee, Clarke attempted a forceful 8-yard peg-out which missed and left Openshaw with the earth, a contact, and the easiest of chances to claim victory. To general astonishment, Openshaw failed to get a good rush to hoop 1 from an easy position and stuck. Clarke now pulled himself together and squared the match in the next turn.

Despite his escape, Clarke was again beset by nerves in the decider and Openshaw seemed set for a comfortable victory when he reached rover and peg with Clarke on 1 and 3. At this desperate juncture, Openshaw croqueted off the court while returning to partner and Clarke bravely hit from 20 yards. Playing with increasing confidence, he sped round to 4-back, peeling partner through hoop 3 on the way, and laid a forcing leave with Openshaw's peg ball lodged in hoop 4. Suddenly, there was every possibility that Clarke would snatch victory with a delayed TP. Openshaw now displayed his famed steadiness of nerve, hit a 15-yard lift and finished.

The final was played as a best-of-three with an 11 a.m. start and the second game not to start before 2 p.m. Early thoughts of a best-of-five were forgotten, given the likely speed of the finalists. Walters again began impeccably with a meticulous break to 4-back on the fourth turn. The lift was missed and he embarked on a triple that refused to behave, with the result that he bounced off a long hoop 6. This was the cue for Open-

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George Noble, winner of the "Fun" Cup presented by the Italian Croquet Association.





## A Victorian Evening at Standen

From Len and Jean Nash

Crawley Association Croquet Club was invited by the National Trust to put on Croquet at a Victorian garden party at Standen in Sussex on 15 June in celebration of the centenary of the property. Punch and Judy, Morris dancers and music hall entertainers were to be the other items on the programme.

Standen is a fine Victorian country house designed by Philip Webb, a friend of William Morris. The house has been restored with Morris textiles and wallpapers and good furniture, pottery and pictures of the period. It still has the original electric light fittings. There is a beautiful hillside garden with fine views across the Medway valley, while tucked away behind a beech hedge there are two croquet lawns and a small pavilion.

The National Trust wished to make the evening a Victorian occasion with entertainments and dress representing that period. Len and Jean Nash, together with croquet friends Phil and Sheila Hatch, were fitted out with appropriate clothes from the wardrobe of the Sybil Thorndike Theatre at Leatherhead. They consisted of brightly coloured broad striped blazers and straw boaters for the men to be worn with white trousers, while the ladies were resplendent in billowing skirts



The Standen Victorian Evening in full swing.

with bustles, tight fitting jackets and large feathered hats.

We decided against using Victorian rules for the game and settled for golf croquet as the Trust wanted the visitors to participate in the game, not just to watch. All we needed was good weather but the heavens opened in the afternoon, thoroughly soaking the lawns and paths. Mercifully, the rain had eased off in the evening when the event took place.

The visitors arrived from 7 o'clock onwards and we were kept busy demonstrating until gone 9 pm, taking round an assortment of 'Victorian' ladies attired in crinolines or long dresses and sober suited gentlemen, some sporting stove pipe hats. We even initiated the cele-

brated Isambard Kingdom Brunel into the mysteries of golf croquet! Everyone seemed to enjoy hitting the balls around the lawns, although the long dresses soaked up water from the wet grass and some ladies in crinolines had difficulty swinging a mallet!

The Trust told us that Croquet was the highlight of the event and who knows - we may have given some people the urge to take up the game.

## A New Club to Start in Ferring?

From Doreen Box

More than 70 Ferring residents gathered at 1, Beehive Lane, Ferring on Sunday 21st July for a social afternoon to learn the initial steps of the game.

It was a pleasure to welcome Miss Patricia Shine (President of the Worthing Croquet Club) and Miss Brenda Hollis (Chairman of the Worthing Croquet Club).

Mr and Mrs Jenkins kindly made their tennis lawn available for the occasion and served tea in their beautiful garden.

Those who attended - ages ranging from 11 to over 70 - enjoyed a happy afternoon, emphasising the strong local support there is for a Ferring Croquet Club. Only the lawns are needed.

Winners of the American tournament were Reg and Val Baily. The runners-up were Alison Jenkins and Alan Gundle.

## Andrew Gallacher Wins Classic: Nigel Hind is Runner-Up

From Chris Hudson

This year's Classic Final was played at Heathfield School, by kind permission of the Headmistress. Arrangements were made by Tony Backhouse, the School Bursar, who is also a member of the Woking Croquet Club.

This year saw a slight change in the way the competition was organised, insofar as competitors were matched wherever possible into blocks of four, giving most people a minimum of three games during the summer, win or lose.

From reports coming through from matches in the early rounds, this year's entry were genuine garden players. Whilst there may have been an occasional bandit, they were not very noticeable, and the sixteen players who met in the final appeared to be very evenly matched.

The final was played as four all-play-all blocks of four. The block matches took place in sunny weather whilst Heathfield School were playing a lacrosse match against the Royal Naval College on an adjacent pitch. An unusual combination, but the two sports went well together.

By mid-afternoon, each block of four produced one player who had won all three games, but the net point scores showed that Andrew Gallacher was the man to watch. He won his block with +37 net points, and was obviously going to be hard to beat. The other block winners were Malcolm Beacham (+14 net points), Bill Robinson (+22), and Nigel Hind (+16).

The draw for places in the final knock-out rounds matched Malcolm against Nigel and Bill against Andrew. In the latter match, Andrew was quickly 5-0 up, but Bill fought back to get in front 10-5. At this stage, he attempted a rover peel to enable him to peg out his opponent, fluffed it, and let Andrew in. That was that, and the end of a very good, tight game which Andrew won 14-10. In the other semi-final, Nigel, a previous finalist, put his experience to good use to beat Malcolm +10.

All set for the final, and Nigel started off with some positive play. After 23 minutes he was 3-0 up, and starting a break with his second ball, but jammed against

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the wire of hoop 4. Nigel got to 6-1 up shortly afterwards, but by now play was a bit scrappy, with both players missing short roquets.

Andrew then made a good break with Yellow from hoop 3 to make it 5-6, leaving Nigel with a long dangerous shot that he missed. Andrew used this tactical error to set up a break but stuck in hoop 1. Nigel responded by sticking in hoop 4, and gave Andrew the chance to creep slowly to 7-6 and take the lead. Nigel again had a long shot and time was called with the same score. Andrew made hoop 3 on his last turn to win by 8-6.

As always, the Classic final provided a lot of enjoyment for the players and some exciting games to watch. The rain held off until after the CA Challenge Cup and medals had been presented by Alan Oldham. My only regret is that there were no lady players amongst the finalists, and indeed very few entries at all from ladies. Let's hope that next year sees a significant change in this respect.

Throughout the day, girls from the school manned a stall to provide the croquet players with squash and sandwiches which were most welcome. The money earned from these refreshments went to a Charity supported by the school. Thank you to all concerned.

## CROQUET CLASSIC FINALISTS: 1991

### Malcolm Beacham

Aged 39, Malcolm is an underwriter at Lloyds and a member of the Lloyds Croquet Society. He lives in Sussex and was taught the rules of croquet by his father-in-law, David Lethbridge, who is also playing in this year's final. Formerly an active hang-glider, he gave up the sport on breaking his arm.

### Michael Beany

Aged 55, Mike lives in Esher, Surrey, and has played garden croquet since he was a boy, entering the annual church croquet competition with his brother. An electronics engineer, he is semi-retired, having left Thorn EMI last year to give himself more time to play hockey, golf and croquet! Two years ago, he formed the Ember Croquet Club with a group of croquet-playing friends. Mike is now the Club Secretary, and the club has 38 members.

### Roderick Campbell

Roderick is a 15-year old pupil at Wrekin College, where he won the school's group competition to qualify for this year's Classic final. He comes from Wigan and has played garden croquet for several years, recently representing Wrekin in school matches.



The 16 finalists in this year's Croquet Classic. The winner, Andrew Gallacher, is standing left.

### Jonathan Cullis

Jonathan, aged 30, is a medical doctor at the Hammersmith hospital. Played garden croquet with his parents for many years before becoming interested in Association Croquet at Cambridge University, where he won the Trinity Hall doubles in 1981. He reached the final of the Classic in 1987 and again in 1989, and joined Vine Road Croquet Club earlier this year.

### Ben Dickinson

Ben lives in Kilburn, London. Aged 25, he works for the British Council and is the Country Officer for Malawi. He learnt the rules of garden croquet by playing with his parents and then took up the game again when passing through Australia on a world tour. This is the first time he has entered the Croquet Classic.

### Andrew Gallacher

Andrew lives in High Wycombe where he works as a Systems analyst with Equity & Law. Aged 24, he started playing croquet when he was at Lincoln University, but since then he has been handicapped by the lack of a lawn on which to play. Consequently, apart from competing in the last three Croquet Classics, he plays on relatively few occasions.

### Nigel Hind

Aged 42, Nigel is a Project manager with the Friends Provident in Salisbury. A garden croquet player for most of his life, he only started the "four-ball" game 5 years ago when he built his own three-quarter size lawn. This is his third appearance in the Classic final. He plays regularly in his garden with three other local players in the "Whiteparish mixed croquet circuit". A keen sportsman, he plays village cricket, hockey and fives.

### David Holmes

Aged 47, Dr Holmes is a Senior Lecturer at Bristol Polytechnic. He has played serious garden croquet for some 10 years, having learnt the game from his parents. He has played in every Croquet Classic

since its inception, and intends to join his local club next year. A keen tennis player and a member of the Bristol Orienteering Club, he worked in California for 2 years earlier in his career.

### Warwick Howe

Aged 50, Warwick is an accountant with Pulnix Europe Ltd in Basingstoke. The company manufactures security systems and associated video cameras. He began playing croquet 3 years ago when his neighbour bought a croquet set, and has played in the Classic for the past two years. He reached the Regional final in 1989.

### David Lethbridge

A keen garden croquet player with his own half-size lawn, David was an accountant with British Alcan Aluminium until he retired in August 1988. Since then, he has enjoyed a regular game of croquet at home with his family.

### Tim Masterton

Aged 30, Tim is a chartered engineer working in the electronics development field with Racal. He played croquet at University many years ago, but did not play again until 1984. A croquet set as a birthday present from his wife provided the spur for his first appearance in the Classic and he reached the National final in 1989.

### Tony Phillips

Aged 32, Tony lives in Colne, Lancashire, and teaches at Bury Grammar School where he is introducing croquet as part of the school curriculum. He learnt croquet himself whilst a pupil at St Francis Grammar School, Hartlepool, and joined the Bury Croquet Club in September last year.

### Bill Robinson

Bill, aged 36, is a Land Agent working for a firm of Chartered Surveyors in Cumbria. He learnt to play the game when young with his family in Derbyshire, and took up competitive croquet three years ago when he answered a newspaper

advertisement looking for players to form a group. This is his third appearance in the Croquet Classic.

### David Taylor

Aged 65, David has just retired as General Manager of Zemco, a firm manufacturing car alarms in the Midlands. He took up croquet some 3 years ago, having played the game some 30 years earlier during lunch hours when he was with ICI at Northwich, Cheshire.

### Doug Taylor

Aged 69, Doug is a retired accountant who worked with the Dunlop Organisation in Coventry. He took up croquet two years ago and is now Secretary of a group of 15 players who play croquet at the Kenilworth Lawn Tennis & Squash Club.

### Giles Thorman

Aged 48, Giles is a Solicitor in private practice in London. He learnt the game at a very early age from his parents, playing on a lawn which extended into their orchard and had a bank in the middle of it. Whilst at Cambridge, he discovered more about the game and has continued to play since then on his own home lawn.



Roderick Campbell, winner of Wrekin College's Group entry, was the youngest finalist.

## Honourable Artillery Company Hosts 2nd Croquet Afternoon

Drake Beam Martin Ltd, the international leaders in Outplacement Consultancy, held their second annual croquet afternoon on the lawns of the

Honourable Artillery Company in the City on Monday, 15th July.

Despite recent unpredictable weather, the afternoon remained fine for the players as they "roqueted" their way round the HAC lawn.

The DBM Cup was keenly contested by the 30 competitors, playing the Golf Croquet version of the game.

After a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon and a refreshing glass of Pimm's, Managing Director Peter Twigg presented DBM ties, scarves and rosettes to the winning team of Alastair Paterson of Shell and DBM's own Catherine Gilbert and also to runners-up.

Other players included guests from major companies such as BP, Citibank, Jardines and Taylor Woodrow.



Winners Alastair Paterson (Shell) and Catherine Gilbert (DBM).

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