

# *The Croquet Gazette*

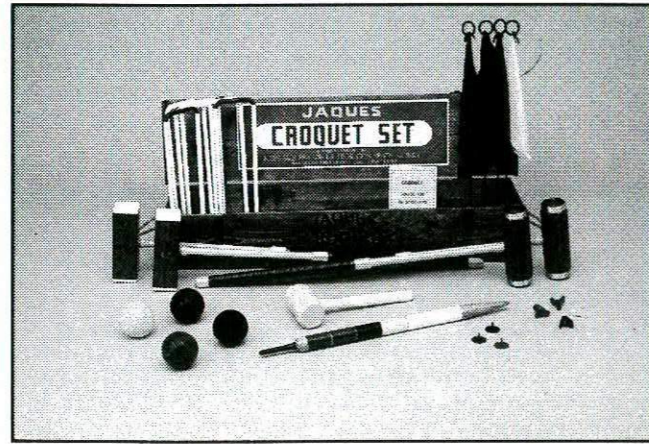
*Issue 256*

*July 1998*



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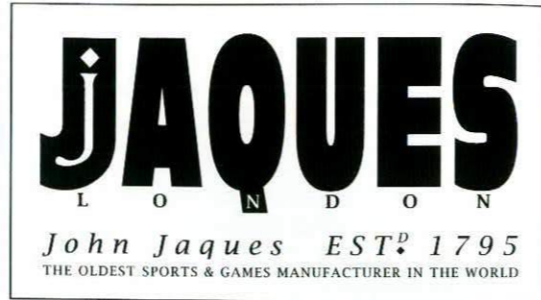
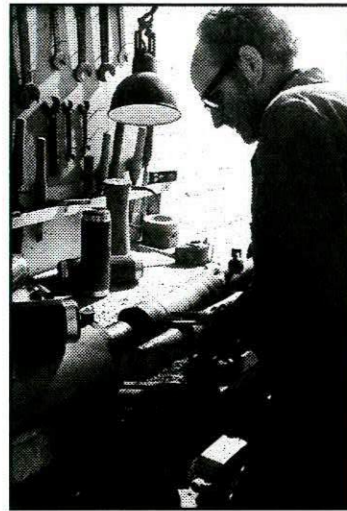
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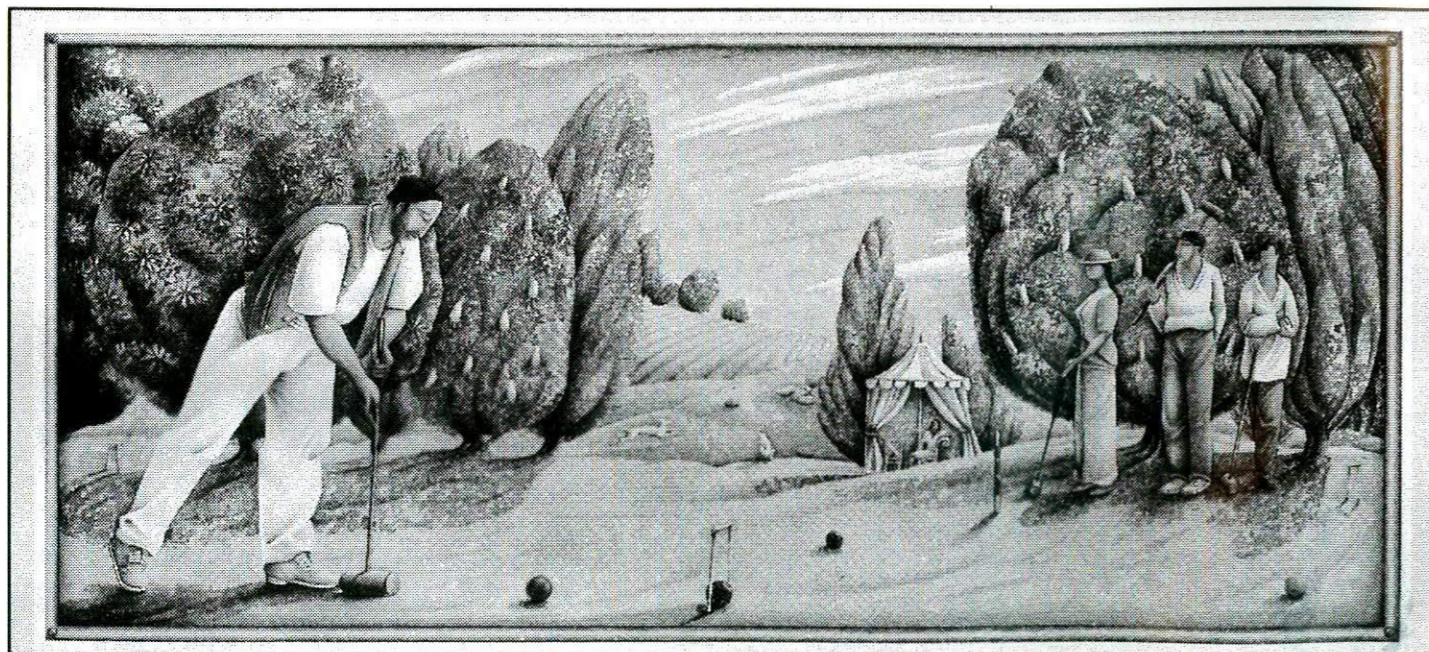


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**PUBLICATION DETAILS**

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**Specific Questions & Queries**

Specific questions or queries should be sent direct to the relevant CA official, e.g. Laws questions to the chairman of the Laws Committee.

**Copy Details**

General copy and contributions should be sent direct to the editor on floppy disc (text or ASCII files). Typed work or clear handwriting is also acceptable.

Photographs are always required. Both black and white or colour prints can be utilised. Please detail on the reverse of all photos the subject of the picture, and if you require the photographs to be returned please include your address on the reverse.

**Tournament Results & Reports**

Tournament results should be reported on the new tournament return sheet. These have been issued in a bid to make the reporting of events and the administration of the rankings easier. Please ensure that the forms are used. Tournament reports should be written and sent to the editor within SEVEN DAYS of the completion of a tournament. Failure to comply with this guideline will result in reports failing to be published.

**Delivery Queries**

Queries regarding delivery of the Gazette to members should be directed to the Secretary of the Croquet Association and not to the Editor.

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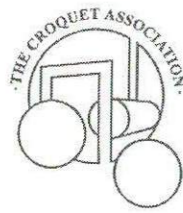
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THE CROQUET GAZETTE



Issue 256 July 1998 £3.00

Front Cover: Kristian Chambers, James Dixon, John Jeffrey, John Solomon, David Murphy, Martin Murray and Bernard Neal prior to the exhibition game at Nailsea.

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Editorial

At two separate tournaments earlier this season I was aware of some incidents which seemed to me to be either somewhat unfair, or at least to warrant some form of discussion.

The first of these such events was the very late arrival of a competitor at a tournament. Fortunately for him it was not the Open Championships, as if it had been he would have lost the game. As it happens it was simply an advanced weekend, but should that really make a difference? If there can be a lateness policy for one event should it not apply to all events?

My second question relates to the disappearing player. Or to be more precise, players who, on being knocked out of the main event, mysteriously find something better to do than play in the consolation event. The collection of excuses grows as each tournament passes, while those of us of a more cynical nature simply believe that the real reason for premature withdrawal from the event is in fact far more likely to be the protecting of the ever so important ranking points. Of course some will deny this, but it is strange that it is always the better players who set this poor example, and it is also unique to advanced events. Should players be able to continue in this self protecting way, which protects them from playing the rank and file tournament regulars, or should something be done to 'encourage' all players to play throughout consolation events as well as the main events? After all, we are all keen to see fairness in the use of the automatic handicapping system, but manipulation of the ranking system is far easier and serves a better purpose.

Which brings me round nicely to tournament entries. Why do advanced tournaments entries give preference to the better

Chairman's Column

Here we are again almost at the deadline date for the Gazette, and suddenly I realise no Chairman's column prepared. Guilty I am afraid, I have been playing croquet.

I would like to start this column by apologising to some clubs for not being able to accept various kind invitations to visit. Unfortunately the summer programme is already very full. I would have very much liked to be with you at Nailsea for the opening of your new pavilion but was already committed. I managed to see it two weeks later during a visit to the Bristol club. An excellent effort which I am sure will be appreciated by your members and also encourage new members to join. I even managed a short game during the visit.

One visit I did manage to make was to Ramsgate for their Schools day. After some very



ranked players? This might seem like a stupid question, but who is to say that one player's entry fee is better than another's, and why should a player who believes he has been accepted for a tournament suddenly be told he hasn't been successful because someone with a higher ranking applied after him. Perhaps it is time all tournaments accepted entries on a first come first served basis, then everyone would know exactly where they stand.

My fourth and final question relates to the behaviour of individuals at tournaments. Let's say for example, that a player leaves a tournament before the final day without informing the manager of that event. This raises two points, firstly a severe lack of manners, and secondly the possibility that something may have actually happened to them but as nobody knows where they are staying how does one find out? (Perhaps we should think about leaving contact numbers with managers of events, as well as lists of car registrations at busy croquet car parks.)

Have we come to such a point in the game where perhaps a disciplinary committee is required? Or is it just time that lack of thought for others and lack of manners were challenged more directly? There are some who have advocated the age of professionalism in croquet; as yet I am not one of those, I would much prefer to see the amateurs get it right.



hard organisational work, Ramsgate CC managed to obtain sponsorship from local authorities and businesses to bus in 40 children from local schools for an introduction to croquet and some simple competitions. This is being followed up with regular weekly coaching sessions for several who would like to continue with the game. It is the second year Ramsgate have tried this venture and this year would appear to build on last year's success. Medway have

Continued on page 7

NEWS & INFORMATION

Nominations for Council

Now is the time for you to consider whether you would like to stand for Council. If you feel that you have something to contribute to the running of the Association, have some time to give and much enthusiasm, it might be just the right thing for you to do.

Any current Associate is entitled to stand; councillors are normally elected for a term of three years, running from the AGM in October. All you need to do is send in your nomination, proposed and seconded by two other current Associates, to the CA office before 1st August. Do contact the secretary, Paul Campion, or chairman, Bill Arliss, if you would like to discuss the procedure and don't be modestly reluctant; NOW is the time for action!

New CA Directory Available

The 1998 CA Directory is now published and available to individual Associates at the price of £7.50 including inland postage.

The Directory includes full details of all U.K. and overseas Associates, registered clubs, qualified coaches, referees, managers and handicappers.

Cheques should be made payable to the Croquet Association and sent to the Secretary of the CA.

Advance Notice

It was agreed at the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee on 28 February that the subscription rates for Associates for 1999 (and effective for new Associates from 1st August 1998) would be as follows:

|                        | Direct Debit | Other Means |
|------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Tournament             | £25          | £30         |
| Tournament             |              |             |
| + Tournament spouse    | £38          | £43         |
| Veteran                | £23          | £28         |
| Junior                 | £12          | £12         |
| Non Tournament         | £15          | £20         |
| Non Tournament         |              |             |
| +Non Tournament spouse | £22          | £27         |

We understand very well that some Associates are not in favour of the Direct Debit system, in spite of the lower subscription rate it attracts. It has, however, become so popular that over 74% of our current home members pay that way and the percentage is increasing all the time.

If you wish to discuss the system and how you could benefit from it, please contact me in the office on the usual number.

The 1999 Club Registration Fee will show an increase in line with inflation but this figure cannot be determined until the July RPI is known.

A History of Croquet in South Africa

The South African Croquet Association has commissioned a History of Croquet in South Africa. They would be most grateful for material from anyone - photographs, press cuttings, programmes, anecdotes etc - in fact anything relating to the game in this country. Material will be acknowledged and, if so requested, returned.

Dates and venues of our major tournaments are as follows and visitors would be made most welcome.

- 23 Sept - 1 Oct Natal Champ, Durban
- 21 Nov - 28 Nov SA Nationals, Cape Town 1999
- 13 March - 20 March Western Province Championships, Cape Town.
- Brian Bamford, 47 Sandown Road, Rondesbosch 7700, South Africa.

Croquet Association AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Croquet Association will be held at 11.00am at the Hurlingham Club on Saturday 17 October 1998. All associates are welcome to attend.

3rd World Golf Croquet Championship Leamington Spa: 3rd - 11th October

England's four nominated players for Leamington Spa in October are Roy Edwards, Ivor and Richard Brand, and Syd Jones. Salah Hassan, World Golf Croquet Champion, will be defending his title, and Walid Mahmoud, last year's runner-up in Cairo, will also be competing. A strong challenge will come from the United States whose four players will be anxious to improve their 1997 rankings.

The Championship will be played as a preliminary all-play-all block competition, with 8 blocks of 6 players. All block matches will consist of single games. The top four in each block (32 players in total) will go through to the Championship knockout, where all the matches will be best-of-three games. A supplementary competition will run throughout the week to rank all players in order from 1 to 48.

All Championship matches will be played on the five Bowling Greens in Victoria Park, Leamington Spa, with additional matches being played on the two courts at Kenilworth Croquet Club. Players are expected from at least

12 countries.

In addition to forty nominated players, eight more players will qualify for places through qualifying competitions, one of which will be held at Kenilworth on Saturday, 22nd August. Additional qualifying competitions can be arranged to suit entrants from other parts of the country (contact Chris Hudson on 01270-820296). The entry fee per player will be £15, and the winner of each qualifying competition will have free entry to the Championship

A WCF Working Party has put together a set of Rules to be used in the qualifiers and at Leamington Spa. These Rules are broadly based on those used by the Egyptian CA. Rules from Australia, England, and the USA, have been studied to incorporate the best aspects of the game played in these countries.

The Championship "arena" and spectator facilities are being sponsored by Warwick District Council. Local school parties are being invited to watch the Championship and then try the game themselves on a small court nearby. The same court will be used for local corporate hospitality events.

A one-day course for potential Referees, to explain the new Rules and gain practical experience, will be held at Kenilworth on Saturday, 8th August. (This could be a useful first step for those wishing to become Association Croquet Referees.) Help will also be needed at the Championship with scoring, stewarding, and many other activities. Clubs or individuals who would like to get involved on a full or part time basis should contact Chris Hudson (01270-820296).

Video difficulties

Due to circumstances beyond the control of Brian Macmillan, the coaching video's featuring Robert Fulford (volumes 1 & 2 only) are temporarily unavailable. When this problem is overcome it is hoped that further supplies may be offered for sale.

\*\*\*\*\*

TOURNAMENT MANAGERS & REPORTERS PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU FORWARD TOURNAMENT RESULTS AND REPORTS WITHIN SEVEN DAYS OF THE COMPLETION OF THE EVENT. FAILURE TO DO SO MAY RESULT IN NON-PUBLICATION.

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# Letters...

Dear Editor

It is not surprising that a fast-growing number of advanced croquet players are enthusiasts for the internet. Some share their contacts and information discovered in that way, and even, with permission, record telephone numbers so that 'outsiders' may join in the exchange and collection of information by old-fashioned means.

However, when such matters as the formulation of rules are dealt with by this group of players, it is time for the voices of the not so privileged to be heard. Would it be possible for an internet quarterly record to be photocopied and made available on request to federations and clubs?

Judging by the constant stream of information emerging from this wonder, considerable editing would be necessary. It would be preferable that it should be done by someone outside the administration of the game, representing those who, willingly or not, are outside the internet.

In any case all CA members should be aware of this important innovation and its possible effect on our game.

Claire Heritage

There are several points here which are in need of correction. Presuming that by 'the internet' we should really be reading the 'Nottingham e-mail list', I think it would be stretching the point to say that the content of this public list could be construed as informative. It is simply a discussion forum for anyone who wishes to talk about any aspect of croquet, and it is not run by any organisation or administration. It is true that rules are frequently discussed, as are so many other topics, but this is not a forum that is used to formulate the rules of the game.

Alas I doubt it would be possible to produce a record of internet activity, not unless you would be happy to destroy all remaining rain forests in order to print out huge amounts of some very tedious and less than worthwhile drivel, mostly written by people who should know better. And if you don't believe me, as I am part of the administration, send me a large stamped addressed envelope and I will supply a small selection for your 'information'.

## No planning for slow play

Dear Editor

Thank you for issue No 255 which, as always, I greatly enjoyed reading. My only regret was the failure of the 'Planning Group' to address the

problem of 'slow play'.

Thankfully, there are not many slow players; but the few who indulge themselves in this form of legalised cheating can ruin the pleasure of the vast majority. Not just the frustrations of the immediate opponent; but the planning/timings of an entire tournament.

'Timed' games are not the solution: indeed they favour the slow player. The answer, surely, is to follow the example of chess: introduce a clock to ration the time fairly.

Much as I enjoy competitive croquet, I don't think the game will become universally popular until we put the skids under the more ponderous players who cause so many of us such irritation and frustration.

James Malcolm

## Courting success

Dear Editor

Earlier this year I wrote to Paul Campion telling him that I had entered the seniors' tournament at Surbiton but was worried to find (from the directory) that the Club only had 7 lawns.

I pointed out that as an Association player of long standing I was used to playing croquet on courts not back-garden lawns. I asked him for advice.

Paul apologised for the misleading description and assured me that, as required by the laws, the lawns were courts.

He was right! I went and enjoyed a very civilised tournament under the benign management of Brian Rees. I learned also that if there were a good food guide to Croquet clubs, then Hazel and her team at Surbiton would rate high honours and many rosettes.

Thank you Surbiton.

Smokey Eades

## A little more thought please

Dear Editor

Why are some players so thoughtless? Players are still dreadful at notifying tournament Secretaries of any change of handicap. This can cause problems when they arrive 5 mins before the start of play and find themselves in the wrong block, or even when they are no longer eligible for that tournament if there is a handicap restriction.

Hunstanton, like many small clubs, asks players to state on their entry form if they do not require lunch, so we cater for the rest assuming

they will have the inexpensive club lunch. Invariably we find several players don't require any lunch, the result is food wastage and loss of income. Surely they know at the time of entry if they 'never eat lunch at croquet tournaments'. We always have a vegetarian alternative, thus attempting to cater for all tastes. It seems the club can't win.

Sarah Hampson

## Biographical correction

Dear Editor

Eddie Hunt is an excellent living example of the appeal that croquet can have or all ages, as you say, but I am sorry that in a few respects I found the biographical article in the May 1998 issue of *The Croquet Gazette* slightly disappointing.

In the first place it is not pointed out that Eddie is the CA's oldest living Associate (by length of membership though not by age) having been given life membership in 1937. He is also enrolled as one of our Benefactors.

Leaving aside the question of whether Lord Tollemache might be regarded as legendary - so far as his croquet prowess is concerned he would not be classified as one of the really great players of the past and - whether his book is either "definitive" or the "first" - propositions which are open to dispute; it would have been to Eddie's credit, I think, to mention that in beating Maurice Reckitt in the fifth Test he obtained one of only three singles victories that the Australian side secured in the 1937 series. More importantly it ought not to be forgotten that the visit here in 1937 of Eddie and his fellow Australians, full of enthusiasm for rapid and enterprising play, provided the CA with a great deal of welcome publicity, for which it had a pressing need at that time.

The second photograph of the article is a bit of a puzzle. It cannot be, as stated, that of the teams for the 5th Test which took place at Southwick on 4th & 6th September 1937; one reason being that fact that Maurice Reckitt was a member of the team on that occasion. I believe it to have been taken at Hurlingham on the occasion of the 1st Test on July 12th & 13th 1937. Identification of the players in the photograph is not clear and in order to set the record straight for future historians still further the caption should, I think, have read as follows:- Back row: (left to right) J A McMordie (E), C F Colman (E), J C Windsor (A), Sir Francis Colchester-Wemyss (Manager), C J Miller (A Capt.) Front row: (left to right) E M Hunt (A), Lt Col W B Du Pre (E, Capt.) Miss A B Morrison (A), Miss D D Steel (E).

Alan Oldham

## A message of thanks

Dear Editor

May I take this opportunity to thank the CA for their kind letter of congratulations on becoming a nonagenarian and probably taking the place of

the late Freddie Stone, who had a wonderful record with the CA.

I have been very fortunate to be made an Hon Life Member of the CA along with the other three members of the 1937 team, Agnes Morrison, John Windsor and Cyril Miller, who have all long since departed.

I remember the test we played at Carrickmines. It was for a trophy given by Bertie O'Reilly, to be won outright. Their team was Duff Matthews, Cyril and Herbert Corbally and John Hopkins. We managed to win the test 4 - 2. The trophy was a beautiful silver cup, fully inscribed of the event with the result it has become a very important trophy for Australian croquet. When the Australian Croquet Council was formed in 1949 the cup was used for our 'Interstate' cup and is played for annually, the six states competing, next year it is to be held in Tasmania and will be the 50th occasion.

Once again thanking the CA for their kind wishes.

Eddie Hunt (Aus)

## Croquet & the U3A

Immediately on retirement I joined the U3A (University of the Third Age) and in one of the newsletters was a notice asking if anyone would be interested in learning to play croquet. Nothing ventured nothing gained, so I rang the organiser, Derek Stooling, treasurer of the Bath Croquet Club and arranged to go with my husband and other hopefuls to a learning session.

When I look back now I realise what patience Derek and his wife Gwen had with us all. They are excellent teachers and thanks to their help and encouragement we soon picked up the rudiments of golf croquet. We were a noisy lot, and still are, and I am sure the hallowed courts of Bath Croquet Club have never before had to suffer the indignity of so much laughter and mirth but I quickly learnt that you do not shout out "Go on, go for it, bash that red ball". What a way to get rid of aggression!

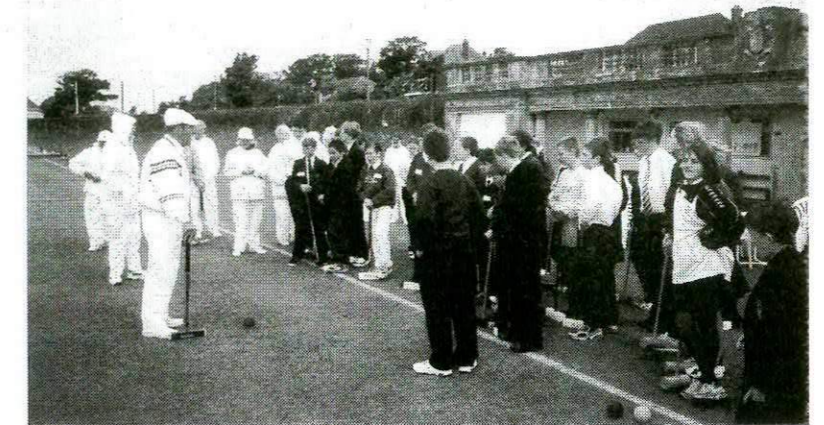
The croquet club were benefiting financially from us U3Aers as we are called, as we each paid a green fee of £2.50 per session but by the end of that first year some of us decided we would be better off if we joined the club, as not only could we play as U3Aers but we could also play on club afternoons or at any time we liked and in addition could learn Association Croquet. Those of us who joined are now in our second year of learning Association and in addition we all enjoy the social events arranged outside of the croquet season and have made many new friends.

If any other croquet clubs have the University of the Third Age in their area I would strongly recommend that they approach the organisers to see if they would like to start a U3A group. No only does it bring in fees for the club but also provides a good source of potential members.

Mary Woodman

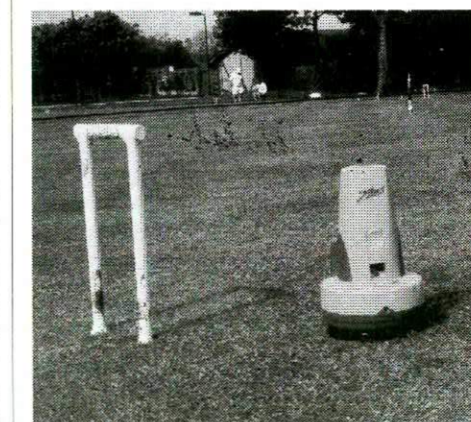
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staged a similar event which was also quite successful. It is our intention that all the do's and don'ts for this type of function are fully documented and available for all Federations to see and use if appropriate. If your local club is making good contacts with local schools, please make sure your Federation is fully in the picture about your successes.



Children eagerly awaiting their participation in croquet at Ramsgate

A highlight of the recent weeks has of course been the Inter-Counties Championship at Southwick and Compton. Again this year the divisional format produced fierce competition right up to the last games. We are at the maximum entry level that the lawn availability will allow and unless any of you have any new ideas on format I do not see how it could be expanded. I for one would oppose any splitting of the first and second divisions into different tournaments. The mixing of the different ability levels in this large festival of croquet is as much a part of Inter-Counties as the Championship itself.



Alan Pidcock's 'Lawn Dalek' encounters a hoop

Well enough about tournaments for the present. All being well I hope to meet many more of you during my visits to Nottingham, Budleigh and Bowdon.

Turning to development matters. Two of the mini mats are now available for use, one in the north and one in the south. Originally it was hoped that most Federations would purchase one but only Croquet North and the South East made moves in this direction. As there has been interest

for use with schools in other areas, the CA may have to review the financing of these carpets to ensure they are available to all potential borrowers.

There have been no announcements as yet on the new Jaques balls but Jaques have stated that development is continuing and they are confident an acceptable ball will be available in the near future. At present Barlow GT's are the

only approved ball commercially available. Alan Pidcock is continuing with his development of the lawn speed measuring systems and will shortly have the laser levelling device available for clubs to borrow. It may look like a mini Dr Who's Dalek but unfortunately does not have the power to blast away all the hills on your lawns. Its duty is simply to tell you where all the hills and dales are and how big they are. Its accuracy is quoted as 1/4ins in 100ft and will be made available for any clubs to use for a very nominal fee.

It had been planned that the first club with a full-sized synthetic lawn, Bury St Edmunds, would be in operation by now but unfortunately organisational problems have delayed the start of the project.

One question that crops up regularly at my own club and I am sure at many others which hold tournament is 'What are the full ingredients for a successful tournament?' As you all well know, some tournaments are oversubscribed as soon as published but others only stagger through with very poor entries. Is it the format, the club facilities, the lawns, the manager, the bar, the home-made cakes etc or a combination of everything? Please let us have your thoughts on this subject.

May I wish all croquet players a successful season. Please remember this is your Association so please don't complain in your local bar, bring your soap boxes into the Gazette or write to me personally if you have a pet subject to air. And finally, I would like to remind all Associate Members that the closing date for nominations for the vacancies on Council this year is 1 August.

Bill Arliss  
Chairman of Council

## ~ Obituaries ~

**John Exell 1907 - 1998**

John Exell died on Good Friday morning. His enthusiasm for croquet was unparalleled and he was a much loved member of the Cheltenham Club, which he joined in 1978. John was 91, and had entered to play in our Easter Tournament. As his son said at his funeral tribute, John's first act in heaven was to send down an unseasonal snowfall to ensure that, without him, the tournament could not start.

John had a long and successful career as a farmer in Dursley. His competitive spirit was evident even in those days. He won the coveted 'Berkley Exam' for young farmers in 1929, and had a long association with the Berkley Hunt Agricultural Society, winning many prizes for his cattle. He retired from farming in the 1970's and devoted himself with equal enthusiasm to favourite leisure activities, including horse racing, croquet and bridge.

John was nearly seventy when he discovered croquet, made rapid progress and soon competing in tournaments all over the country. Some of his successes are recorded in the photograph on the cover of an issue for the Croquet Gazette, showing him surrounded by the 9 trophies he had won aged 86 in 1993. He was very proud of this and enjoyed showing off the photo to non-croquet players. He probably derived even greater satisfaction from his win (aged 89) in the family doubles in the July tournament of 1996 with his grandson Tim. This was a remarkable feat, as he had won the title twice before: with his wife Doreen in 1979 and with his son David in 1980.

John was the despair of managers! Young players half his age would come to the Manager's table at the end of a game and say 'Please can you let me have a little rest? I'm completely exhausted.' John, however, would arrive - even before he had taken a restorative drink at the bar - and urge one to find him another game quickly. While other competitors were having to be chivvied into not lingering too long over their lunches, John would have to be coaxed into taking a short break to give his nonagenarian digestion a sporting chance. Towards evening, when most other players would be straining to get home, John would be hoping for yet another game.

He was a delightful and determined opponent, always difficult to beat, especially when he became a young bandit again (with a handicap of 18 or 20), but always a generous adversary with a warm personality.

The world of croquet has lost a sprightly and colourful character, who will continue to be sadly missed.

Cheltenham CC

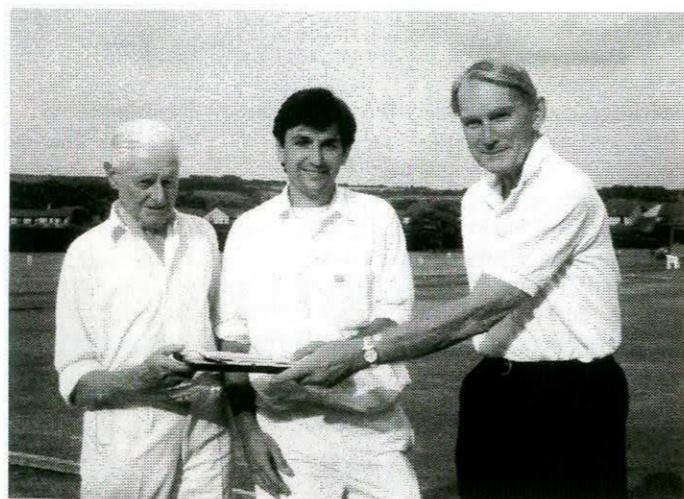
**Jean Chandler, Southwick C.C.**

Jean was a very talented person, especially as a pianist, and at creating pictures in needlepoint, and chose to be a wonderful home-maker.

At Southwick Jean is remembered, with her late husband Colin and several others, as one of the group who did all the catering, gardening in the border, and maintenance of all the buildings in the 1980's. This included carpentry, cleaning, and painting the Pavilion - cladding had to be painted annually. Nothing was outside her capabilities.

As well, she was a good average Croquet player and very keen to encourage and help beginners; her family are giving a Cup in her memory for the Most Improved Player.

Jean is sadly missed by all who knew her.



John pictured with his grandson Tim receiving the family doubles trophy from Bernard Neal in 1996.

**Shock result at Nailsea**

report & photos by Paul Pristavec

Nailsea and District CC have a new swish clubhouse but did you know that they also have a secret weapon to ensure that you stay inside? Not the weather, but a rather more **shocking** weapon!

At the recent advanced weekend, Saturday's play progressed according to form and players did not produce too many shocks. Sunday however was a day that no-one could resist talking about before they went "ohm".

Why all the electrical puns? Nailsea's feature of three power cables are to blame. At 9.45 sharp a loud explosion at the power line, near to Don Gaunt was followed rapidly by a bright light and 10 players scattering when Don cried "Look out!" The Cables had exploded at one end of their run between two poles. Much discussion and a phone call to SWEB saw a resumption of play beneath the now tangled lines.



The problem cables draped across cars and courts during the Nailsea tournament.

An hour later (I remember it vividly, I was about to run hoop 6) a further explosion at the other end of the run saw everyone scatter again as this time the lines came down across the lawns, narrowly missing Ed Duckworth, who on that sprint form is a certainty for the 2000 Olympics.

Mary Wills, supporting husband Michael, was trapped by the cable in their car. Fire, police and ambulance arrived along with the SWEB emergency team and she was thankfully rescued without harm. We were forced to wait inside the clubhouse - hence the secret weapon - until the cables were safely removed.

**New pavilion, new future at Nailsea**

report & photos by Greta Stringer

The magnificent new pavilion at Nailsea and District Croquet Club was opened officially by Dr Liam Fox MP on 8th May 1998. After many years of struggling with a summerhouse, where teas, coffee and meals were prepared and one garden shed where equipment was stored, the club now boasts an attractive brick built building providing luxury facilities, including a large kitchen, clubroom, changing rooms, a store for machinery and to the relief of all members and visitors - toilets! But no bar.

After months of preparations and planning by the committee, at last the day came. Flowers adorned the pavilion, caterers were in the kitchen at 8am preparing lunch for about 60 visitors. The lawns were cut, lines were whitened, car parking signs erected and flags hung over the door. Ribbons were tied across the door in readiness for the official cutting. Midday came and visitors arrived, many in 'whites', and the atmosphere was full of excitement as guests chatted together. After a welcome speech by our Chairman, David Murphy, the ribbons were cut and Dr Liam Fox declared the pavilion open. We then enjoyed a marvellous spread followed by an exhibition match played by Martin Murray and Bernard Neal against Kristian Chambers and James Dixon, our young champion players. The game was introduced by John Solomon, president of the Croquet Association, and was eventually won by the youngsters +12.

The pavilion has been a vision in the minds of members for over 10 years and it is a great achievement, thanks to the grant from the Lottery Sports Council fund, and to past members' work in raising the 35% of money



The Nailsea Club open day with the new pavilion

needed to allow the club to apply for the grant - so many congratulations to all who were involved in the project. Special mention should be made of John Jeffrey, recently chairman of the club, now our president, who had the vision, masterminded the project and worked very hard to make sure the building was to the very highest standards, and also made many of the internal woodwork fittings. Club members helped with interior painting, laying floors, and cleaning up when the builders eventually finished.

Already the club is attracting new members who are benefiting from the facilities. We held our first open day on April 1st which coincided with a visit from our local radio team. 16 members of the public came, and in spite of pouring rain all of the time, all signed up for coaching. Radio Bristol gave us 13 minutes on

air! A second open day was held in May and due to a massive publicity campaign on local television, radio, posters, fliers etc we attracted nearly 40 visitors, 27 of whom enrolled for coaching. So we now have a mammoth task to teach all of these beginners the mysteries of croquet, and to encourage them to join the club and the CA.

The opening of the pavilion is a new beginning for the club and is just the start of more years of hard work to improve the four lawns to enable us to host more tournaments, and to continue to increase our membership and the profile of the Nailsea club. We cannot sit back and think the hard work is now done, but it is certainly a great leap forward in the history of a club which was only established in 1981.

**Extracts from the unconfirmed Minutes of the Council Meeting on 21st March 1998**

compiled by Alan Oldham

1. W H Arliss (Chairman), B G Neal, A J Oldham and L Wharrad (Vice Presidents), R W Bray (Hon Treasurer) and 19 other members of Council were present with P W P Campion (Secretary CA). Graham Gale, who is to be the future compiler of the Fixtures Book, attended by invitation.

2. D L Gaunt was elected Vice-Chairman of Council and R Q Barrett was elected to the Executive Committee.

3. A report on the meeting of the World Croquet Federation at Bunbury, Western Australia in November 1997 was received from Colin Irwin and it was learnt that:-

(1) Belgium, Spain and Palestine had been admitted as observer members of the WCF:

(2) work is being done by the WCF (a) to

simplify and clarify the Laws with the intention that an internationally acceptable revised edition shall be adopted in 1999 and (b) to standardise the basis for qualifying as a referee and so enable persons in countries other than Great Britain, New Zealand and Australia to be trained and become appropriately qualified: (3) a Golf Croquet working party is to be set up by the WCF to consider, *inter alia*, the problem of the four different sets of rules already existing - here, in Australia, in New Zealand and in Egypt.

Council agreed to a proposal that Chris Clarke be appointed World Croquet Federation Liaison Officer to be a focal point of contact with the WCF, to be the channel of communication between the CA and the WCF, and to act to strengthen the CA's relations with the WCF.

4) In order to meet the requirements of the English Sports Council the Executive Committee recommended and Council adopted the following Statement on Equal Opportunities Policy:-

Croquet is a game where men and women, old and young, can and do compete together. The Croquet Association welcomes this position. Membership of the Association is open to all classes of person, whether or not croquet players, on payment of the relevant annual subscription and it is the policy of the Association not to discriminate on grounds of gender, age, race, nationality, or religion. In view of the complete openness of the game the Association does not consider it appropriate to adopt a positive

*Continued on page 17*

# TOURNAMENT REPORTS.....TOURNAMENT REPORTS.....TOURNAMENT REPORTS.....TOURNAMENT REPORTS.....

## Robert Prichard Tournament, Hunstanton, May 1-3rd

report by Ian Vincent

Hats off to Hunstanton

No, the title is not a reference to the effects of the wind, variously estimated to have been between 3 and 6 on the Beaufort scale, sweeping across the Hunstanton lawns from the North Sea. (The event was heavily oversubscribed, so it is not a problem if I put a few readers off the idea of coming next year!). It did moderate by the last day, but the hot meals, including excellent crumbles, were much appreciated.

Due to the very recent arrival into the world of Stephen Malcolm Watson, his father John was unable to play, but the baby's head was metaphorically well soaked, thanks to the donation of a generous fraction of a firkin of Chiswick. The ROT calibrated the largest drinking vessel at 1.9 pints.

A brisk trade in fashionable headgear was done by an emporium in Burnham Market. At least six creations were purchased during the weekend, all with large boxes, and those of the field who attended the 'at home' in the caravan were treated to a parade of them.

The tiffers must be raised, however, to George Noble, Club President, Manager and Cellerman, who won the Robert Prichard Trophy by virtue of being undefeated ... and fully satisfying the Duncan Reeve expectation.

## Western Championships (Parkstone 2-4 May 1998)

report by Ian Burridge

The tournament which attracted amongst others the top 9 ranked players in the country, was played in glorious weather which soon dried out the few remaining wet patches on the lawns from the heavy rain earlier in the week. Play in the early rounds was very scrappy with only Comish and Maugham looking to be in any real sort of form and the pair cruised to a quarter-final meeting which the latter won rather easily. The other seeds struggled most noticeably World Champion, Robert Fulford, who after missing a 3 yard single ball stroke at the peg at the end of the second game against Jersey's Matthew Burrow to lose by 1, went on to lose the third game and with it the match. The remaining seed in the top half, David Goacher, fell to Keith Aiton who solidly progressed to a semi-final meeting with Maugham. In the bottom half Avery and Clarke emerged as semi-finalists progressing through several scrappy games, with Avery



Lionel Tibble receiving the Coles Cup from Bernard Neal. (photo by Frances Ransom)

appearing to be in the best form and also very confident after his easy win against Mulliner, his best match result for several years.

In the semi-finals Avery played well making only one error and completing two triples to beat a disappointing Clarke who had appeared to be improving with every match prior to his demise. The other half saw a good quality match, although not without errors, which Maugham won in three games. The final, which promised much, was a disappointment with Avery appearing to be distracted from full concentration by the light-hearted chat with his opponent which took place throughout (as is normal for games between the two). Maugham the instigator of the banter, had no such problems being better able to isolate the match from the chatter and with two TPO's (after which he pegged out both his own as well as an opponent ball) coasted to a 3-0 victory and never looked troubled or extended.

The consolation Y event, which was also played as a best of three knockout, was won in style by Robert Fulford. In winning the event,



Chris Williams receives the Inter-Counties 'wooden spoon' from CA President John Solomon. (photo by Bill Arliss)

which was stronger than your average weekend tournament, he didn't drop a game and completed 6 triples before sealing victory in the final against David Harrison-Wood with a sextuple peel.

## The Coles Championship Cheltenham 2 - 4 May

report by Lionel Tibble

After the deluge over Easter the Cheltenham weather got its act together for a sunny start to the event, however it still wasn't warm enough for Frances Ransom to play without fluffy ear muffs or Shona Vaissiere to await her second round match.

Some surprising results in the first round with Brian Hallam losing in 3 games to Bernard Neal. In the deciding game Bernard played a very good three ball break after pegging-out Brian. Next to fall was Debbie Cornelius losing in straight games to David Kibble, closely followed by Mark Saurin who lost to Lionel Tibble in three games. Gordon Porter and Frances kept the crowds entertained on lawn 8, with Frances eventually winning.

Sunday was not quite so sunny, and indeed waterproofs were the order of the day.....and of course fluffy ear muffs. Nick Evans confident after his victory over Andrew Cowing lost to David Kibble, and although Ian Maugham qualified for his gold award with a triple peel, lost to David Foulser in three games. Bernard Neal continued to play well consistently and made his victory over Shona on a difficult lawn look easy. His progress faltered slightly in his quarter final meeting with Frances, which was completed the following day to progress Bernard into a semi-final with Lionel Tibble, which put an end to his challenge for the championship in two straight games. The remaining semi-final was between the Daves, Kibble and Foulser, which went to three games, with Dave Kibble finally sealing his place in the final by hitting the peg from north of hoop 3.

So the 'ibble' final Tibble v Kibble. Game one saw an early error from Kibble, Tibble capitalised, Kibble missed twice, game to Tibble. The second game saw a similar pattern and Lionel gracefully accepted the Coles cup.

## Southwick Spring Weekend 2 - 4 May

report by Sue Mackay (Dyffryn)

32 players from eight clubs as far afield as Preston, Cardiff, Cheltenham and Norfolk assembled on May 2 in freezing drizzle, but were soon cheered by the warmth of the Southwick welcome and the much vaunted bacon butties.

Handicaps ranged remarkably evenly from 0.5 (the manager himself) to 20 (yours truly). On the first day there were some close matches, none much closer than that between Bill Arliss and Peter Pullin, which Peter eventually won +1 after a 2 ball finish. Signs of major tussles to come were seen in comfortable wins by 15 year old James Mackay (Dyffryn) and locals John Scrase, John Low and Martin Rogers, the only four who ended the day undefeated.

Day 2 brought rain and bitterly cold winds, but again it cleared up in the afternoon. Young James Mackay had a real battle with John Low in the morning but finally triumphed +3, and John Scrase beat Martin Rogers, setting up an afternoon game between James and John on Lawn 2. Another titanic struggle ensued, watched keenly by crowds inside the tearoom, many of whom had just discovered that James is the grandson of a former Southwick stalwart, Colin Chandler. James came out the winner and was the only one to finish the day on 5 wins.

On Day 3 the sun came out and suddenly shirt sleeves and shorts were to be seen! John Scrase continued undefeated apart from his loss to James and picked up his silver award, and a bronze award was won by Jack Davies. Jack was playing in his first tournament, having only just taken up the game, and as a 14 handicap had been quietly gathering scalps. In the afternoon he had to play James Mackay for the championship on Lawn 1. Both found it a little nerve racking playing in front of an audience, and made uncharacteristic early errors. James in particular was not happy to find himself double banked with his mother; yours truly was playing Bill Arliss in the final game and Bill had employed an army of stick pullers to count down the 19.5 bisques he had to give away! These were soon squandered, however, (the penalty was having to write this report!!) and the crowd could settle to watch the outcome of the more important battle. It was very close until Jack played the wrong ball from a take-off, and James was able to seize the advantage and finish +9. He therefore won the King Cup, which was won by his grandfather the year before James was born! John Scrase was runner up, and Peter Pullin won the one ball competition.

This was one of the friendliest tournaments I have played in, and I can thoroughly recommend the trip to Southwick next May. Everyone had at least one win, the food was superb, and even the weather turned up trumps in the end.

## Ramsgate Handicap Singles Weekend 9-10 May 1998

report by Colin Hemming

Summer arrived in Ramsgate on 9th May, as the tournament competitors assembled on the Westcliff Lawns on the first really sunny day of the year. A wide range of handicaps was present, from 2 to 18, and the participants came from as

far as Letchworth and Colchester, but with Medway CC and, of course, the home club particularly well represented. The tournament was managed by Roy Ware, ably assisted by his wife Mary.

The bright sunshine meant that the courts were drying for the first game, making it a little difficult to judge the pace. However, this didn't stop Dave Mundy, playing in his first CA tournament, beating the hapless manager +26. A few of us found the afternoon heavy going as well, but that probably had more to do with the tasty and substantial lunch than the courts, which were by then playing to an even pace. Continuing his fine form, Dave Mundy won his second game +22. A fine spread of sandwiches and cakes at tea-time fortified us all for the evening session, which concluded with Dave Mundy and Keith Noble both on three wins, and a number on two, all with everything to play for the following day.

Blustery winds made playing conditions difficult on the Sunday morning, with a large proportion of the games going to time, but with Dave Mundy continuing his winning run to creep ahead of the field on four wins. The leader was eventually defeated by Simon Miles in a closely-fought game, to mean that the tournament finished with four players all on four wins: Robert Alexander, Dave Mundy, Simon Miles and Ian Price. On points difference however, Dave's two outstanding wins on the Saturday left him a clear winner with Robert the runner-up. Both of these players are from Medway CC. Bronze awards were earned over the weekend by Dave Mundy and Paul Miles (also from Medway).

## Good News - New Sponsor for croquet in Kent

report by Don Beck

The Kent Reliance Building Society is the first major sponsor of croquet in Kent. The investment comes at a time of significant growth, with croquet clubs expanding playing facilities and new clubs opening in the county. The new funds will support grassroots development giving more opportunities for people of all ages throughout Kent to experience the pleasures and frustrations for this sport. e.g. the school days at Medway and Ramsgate will

Thanks are due to the rank-and-file members of Ramsgate CC who, in addition to the lunches and teas, kept all the players supplied with tea and coffee during their games, and with their friendly approach simply made us all feel very welcome.

## The Kent Reliance Golf Croquet County Cup

report by Don Beck

The inaugural County Cup competition was held at the Medway Club, on Sunday the 17th May. It attracted a strong entry, three of the players with experience from the World Championships last October. The early rounds saw no surprises, though some confusion, as for some of the players this was their first major competition. The top 4 players proceeded through to semi-finals to play a best of three knockout. The other players played in a league to generate a ranking order. Medway CC was strongly represented with three of the semi-finalists. The fourth, Ed Dymock was from Dulwich CC.

In the first semi-final David Parkins played well but lost to Ed Dymock in 2 games. The second, an all Medway affair, was closely fought requiring the referee to adjudicate on several points. Donald Beck took the match in 2 games with Simon Miles improving throughout as his shooting found the accuracy to match its speed. In the 3rd place playoff Parkins, in his first major Golf Croquet tournament did especially well to take the first game but Miles fought back, running out a less than comfortable winner 2-7,7-5,7-6.

Continued on page 14

be run under the supervision of David Collins, SECF Schools Development Officer, and will give a first class introduction to the game. Coaching and development work with new clubs including Bexley, Brenzett, and Kensing/Sevenoaks will help them establish and flourish. The sponsorship extends to the successful Kent Golf Croquet Team, holders of the national title, the Golf Croquet Inter-County Championship.



Jon Fordham, General Manager, Marketing & Development Kent Reliance Building Society presents a cheque to Don Beck, Publicity Officer, SECF, with Don Sparkes, Dave Mundy and Adrian Dickens.

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

BALANCE SHEET

|  | 1997     | 1996     |
|--|----------|----------|
|  | £        | £        |
| <b>Income</b>  |          |          |
| Subscriptions  | 26,367   | 23,243   |
| Registration fees  | 16,218   | 15,653   |
| Levy   | 10,873   | 10,423   |
| Sale of books, equipment etc (net)                       | 9,493    | 7,218    |
| Advertisements & royalties (net of tax)                  | 2,605    | 2,304    |
| Surplus on tournaments                                   | 4,331    | 3,792    |
| Coaching (net)   | 1,875    | 2,736    |
| Investment income on general funds (net of tax)          | 2,367    | 1,819    |
|  | 74,129   | 67,188   |
| <b>Expenses</b>  |          |          |
| Publications (Gazette, Fixtures Book, Directory)         | 20,401   | 19,221   |
|  | 53,728   | 47,967   |
| <b>General Overheads</b>                                 |          |          |
| Rent & insurance   | 3,481    | 2,602    |
| Staff salaries and national insurance contributions      | 27,714   | 27,594   |
| Council travelling expenses                              | 3,203    | 2,571    |
| Postage & telephone                                      | 2,598    | 2,339    |
| Printing and stationery                                  | 2,228    | 3,343    |
| Sundry expenses  | 1,611    | 1,072    |
| Accountancy charges                                      | 2,250    | 2,040    |
| Computing and maintenance services & equipment           | 647      | 1,081    |
|  | 43,732   | 42,642   |
|  | 9,996    | 5,325    |
| <b>Grants, Sponsorship and Related Expenditure</b>       |          |          |
| <b>Income:</b>   |          |          |
| Sports Council's grants                                  | 27,620   | 28,000   |
| Sponsorship (net)  | (1,017)  | (2,500)  |
|  | 26,603   | 25,500   |
| <b>Expenses:</b>   |          |          |
| Development officer's fees                               | 9,001    | 15,000   |
| Grants to clubs & federations                            | 11,478   | 100      |
| General publicity and development (net)                  | 9,186    | 8,202    |
| International  | 2,596    | 6,292    |
| Centenary  |          | 29,594   |
|  |          | 1,231    |
|  |          | 936      |
|  |          | £ 5,274  |
| <b>Surplus for the year before exceptional items</b>     |          |          |
| Tax adjustment for previous years                        |          |          |
| <b>Surplus for the year transferred to general funds</b> |          |          |
|  |          | £ 1,231  |
| <b>Fixed Assets</b>                                      |          |          |
| Furniture and equipment at written down value            | 650      | 950      |
| Trophies   | 10,000   | 10,000   |
| Investments, at cost                                     | 48,678   | 48,678   |
|  | 59,328   | 59,628   |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                                    |          |          |
| Stock of literature and equipment for sale               | 5,470    | 5,100    |
| Loans to member clubs                                    | 6,731    | 6,896    |
| Sundry debtors and prepayments                           | 5,329    | 6,307    |
| Cash at bank and in hand                                 | 72,173   | 50,782   |
|  | 89,703   | 69,085   |
|  | 149,031  | 128,713  |
| <b>Current Liabilities</b>                               |          |          |
| Subscriptions received in advance                        | 5,075    | 4,752    |
| Accrued expenses   | 12,038   | 8,901    |
| Taxation   | 1,314    | 577      |
|  | 18,427   | 14,230   |
| <b>Net Assets</b>  |          |          |
|  | £130,604 | £114,483 |
| <b>Represented by:</b>                                   |          |          |
| Accumulated general funds as at 1 January 1997           | 55,165   | 53,934   |
| Surplus for the year on activities                       | 5,274    | 1,231    |
|  | 60,439   | 55,165   |
| <b>Other Funds as per attached schedule</b>              |          |          |
| Life membership  | 1,360    | 1,360    |
| International  | 14,759   | 8,332    |
| Benefactors  | 25,032   | 23,476   |
| Tournaments and trophies                                 | 3,010    | 3,182    |
| Development  | 6,300    | 3,800    |
| Duffield bequest   | 19,704   | 19,168   |
|  | £130,604 | £114,483 |

Notes

Quoted

Nominal value

|           | 1997                                    | 1996   |
|-----------|---|--------|
|           | £                                       | £      |
| 9,993.20  | 6% treasury stock 1999                  | 9,853  |
| 10,019.20 | 7% treasury stock 2001                  | 9,988  |
| 10,395.39 | 6.75% treasury stock 2004               | 10,027 |
| 15,409.14 | 4.125% index linked treasury stock 2030 | 18,810 |

(Market value at 31 December 1997: £52,397)

2. OTHER FUNDS

|                                    | Life membership | International  | Benefactors    | Tournaments & trophies | Development   | Duffield bequest |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Balance at 1 January 1997          | 1,360           | 8,332          | 23,476         | 3,182                  | 3,800         | 19,168           |
| Add:                               |                 |                |                |                        |               |                  |
| Interest on invested funds         | -               | 427            | 1,203          | -                      | -             | 536              |
| Donations                          | -               | -              | 353            | -                      | -             | -                |
| From general funds                 | -               | 6,000          | -              | 300                    | 3,500         | -                |
|                                    | 1,360           | 14,759         | 25,032         | 3,482                  | 7,300         | 19,704           |
| Deduct:                            |                 |                |                |                        |               |                  |
| Allocation in year                 | -               | -              | -              | 472                    | 1,000         | -                |
| <b>Balance at 31 December 1997</b> | <b>£1,360</b>   | <b>£14,759</b> | <b>£25,032</b> | <b>£3,010</b>          | <b>£6,300</b> | <b>£19,704</b>   |

THE CROQUET ASSOCIATION  
ACCOUNTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1997

ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

In accordance with your instructions, we have examined the books, vouchers and other records maintained by The Croquet Association for the year ended 31 December 1997 and obtained such further information as considered necessary. In our opinion, without having carried out an audit, the accounts as presented by The Association are in agreement with the accounting records for the year ended on that date.

MORGAN BROWN & SPOFFORTH  
Chartered Accountants

30 March 1998

Treasurer's Comments on the 1997 Accounts

In 1997 subscription rates rose for the first time in several years and payment by direct debit was introduced. Thanks in large measure to the excellent response of Associates to both these changes, the financial situation of the CA improved markedly through the year and significant strides were made towards self-sufficiency, i.e. a position where income *excluding* Sports Council grants (which will cease after 1998) covers expenditure.

Major changes also occurred in expenditure. Following the termination of the post of National Development Officer, the CA has started to formulate a more diverse development policy. This is reflected in more financial support for federations and clubs and in a greater allocation to general publicity and development activities. The more favourable financial outcome has also enabled Council to set aside, by transfer to special funds, some £6,500 extra in 1997 for future development and international activities.

A more detailed commentary on the 1997 Accounts is available on request from the CA office (please send a SAE). It will also be available immediately prior to the 1998 AGM.

Roger Bray



This new, and hopefully regular, feature will dip into past issues of the Gazette to re-visit the topical or otherwise writings of another day.

The Gazette of June 1948 reported the Annual General Meeting held at the Roehampton Club on 11 May, during the Peels. Introducing the Council's first motion, the Rev G F H Elvey

"... said that requests had been received from New Zealand and South Africa for a change of name which would emphasise the more serious and scientific character of the game. The two Dominions favoured 'Lawn Billiards', but the suggestion found little favour elsewhere. The Council had given the matter serious consideration and had come to the conclusion that 'Association Croquet' would meet the need

for stressing the difference between the game which existed in the popular imagination and the game for which the Association was responsible. He hoped that Associates would put aside any personal prejudice and vote for a change which would help recruiting. The notion to adopt 'Association Croquet' as the official name of the game was seconded by Mr E P Duffield and carried with three dissentients."

The July issue reported the results of the Inter-County Championship, played at Hurlingham a fortnight later. Seven counties competed, the winners being Surrey "... who have now won the Inter-County Championship 10 times in all, thus establishing a record. The nearest number of successes to this had been attained by Middlesex, who, up to 1939, had won this Championship 9 times."

The Editorial Notes in the same issue

included a comment headed simply 'The Out-Player':

"There is a great art in playing the role of the out-player, coming second only in importance to that of his opposite number, the in-player. He, indeed, gets most of the limelight, for he is actually on the stage in the full glare of publicity.

The out-player should be definitely 'off stage', and out of sight - particularly that of the in-player who might easily be robbed of the most important, the most critical point in the play if he catches but a glimpse of the shadow of the out-player.

Yet we have seen an out-player walking restlessly around the court, sometimes almost on the court, unable to control his chagrin at not being allowed by his opponent to come on the court and show him that he can play quite as well - if not better.

The out-player should be unseen and unheard, and must only come on the court when he sees that his opponent's turn has definitely ended."

Advice as valid today as it was 50 years ago.

The Final was played out between 2 Yorkshiremen both now resident in Kent. Dymock with his greater experience and control was the favourite but fell behind early in the first game due some accurate hoop running by his opponent. At 6-6 in the first game Beck found his second ball hampered from a clean approach by hoop 12 and eventually Dymock scored the deciding point. The second game was less close and despite a fightback to bring the score to 6-5 Beck could not contain Dymock who ran out the winner 7-6,7-5.

The competition organised by Rodney Parkins of the Medway Croquet Club ran smoothly in the glorious May sunshine and was such a success that many are already thinking of entering again next year.



The successful team of Avon, Inter-County Champions 1998. (LtoR) Andrew Symons, Roger Jenkins, Ed Duckworth, Alex Leggate, David Goacher, Roger Tribe, Frances Ransom & Raymond Ransom.

**1998 Inter-Counties**  
report by Sue Mackay

This year's Inter-Counties clashed with Sonoma, so some of the top players were missing. This meant that some counties were struggling for A class players and more B and C class players had a chance to savour this unique event, but few counties can have found themselves in quite such desperation as Glamorgan. With only a few days to go Shaun Carter had to pull out with a back injury, and they were forced to play Liz Williams and myself for two days each (because we happened to be there) - we have a combined handicap of 44!! But this is an extremely friendly tournament and we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. What a coaching course!!

Last year's winners, Avon, were playing at Compton on the first two days, but news filtered through to Southwick that the holders were winning all their matches and obviously had a very strong team in Ray and Frances Ransom, David Goacher, Roger Tribe, Ed Duckworth, Alex Leggate, Roger Jenkins and Andrew Symons. Most other teams had mixed fortunes, leaving the competition wide open, and even the depleted Glamorgan managed a 2-1 win over Sussex, with Chris Williams' TPO on John Solomon turning into a TPOT.

The second division had some very strong individual players in it. Mark Avery (Suffolk) did a total of 31 peels which included two triples and two TPOs. Keith Aiton (Nottinghamshire) did the six peels of a sextuple and Michael Heap (Essex) had to play a game on his own on the last day when the sixth member of the team had to leave early. The Channel Islands were playing in the competition for the first time and won a lot of friends. I was playing at Compton on the Monday when a great cheer went up in the clubhouse. News had just come through that the Channel Islands had beaten Dublin, so that no team now had 'null points'.

Cheshire were without David Maugham and had some bad defeats, but on the second day they were smiling all over their faces

as they managed to beat Lancashire in the local derby, something they had failed to do for two years. The games all ended just before the tea bell and there was a positive stampede to be first in the queue, causing mutterings from the Middlesex team about uncouth northerners!

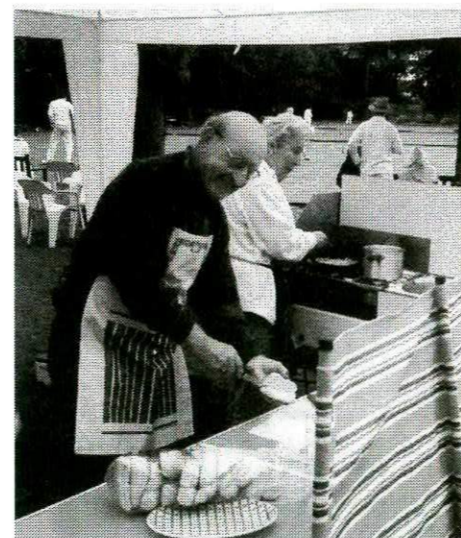
Three juniors were taking part in the tournament, Matthew Burrow, Sam Tudor and James Mackay but it was nice to see the next generation of players being groomed for stardom. Young Ben Coles (aged 1) was a staunch Middlesex supporter and screamed when they missed a hoop! Ian Burrigge also disproved the theory that it is good luck to be dumped on from above by a seagull. When one dive-bombed him at Compton he failed to hit another roquet in the game!

There was some excellent play, but as a high handicap player amongst such august company I was somewhat reassured to see quite a few blobbed hoops and bad misses. Avon continued their relentless assault on the championship, although even they were not immune from mistakes. In their game against Lancashire Alex Leggate peeled 4-back and was lining up the peel for rover when Frances Ransom rushed on to tell him he had missed out penult. He then managed to play the wrong ball and put the clips on the wrong hoops!

The Nottinghamshire team of Graham Fowler, Keith Aiton, Gordon Hopewell, Mark Roberts, Beatrice McGlen and Richard White played consistently well and won the second division with 9 wins, thus securing promotion to the first division next year. Essex and Yorkshire were also promoted. Their places in the lower division next year will be taken by the three relegated teams; Northamptonshire, Berkshire and Glamorgan.

At first sight the last matches on lawn 7 at Southwick on the Tuesday did not seem to be too significant. The third pairing for Avon (who had already won) were playing Cheshire, and this match was double banked with the third pairing for Glamorgan (already relegated) who were playing Gloucestershire. The matches were a little late starting after lunch, in our case because Andrew Cowing sat down to eat his pudding and totally demolished the chair in the tearoom! Both matches went to time, which meant they were virtually the last games in the tournament. Cheshire, who had been staring relegation in the face and had their last match against an undefeated Avon, found themselves 1-1 with two games completed. Suddenly everyone came to watch the outcome of the Cheshire-Avon clash, and yours truly found herself trying to hit a ball along the north boundary with a solid row of white shoes in her field of vision. I had been shepherded round by Ian Burrigge, ably assisted by some uncharacteristic hoop blobbing from Paul Smith of Gloucestershire, and we managed to win the game on time. (As a 20, am I the highest handicapped player ever to win a game at the Inter Counties?) A few minutes later Alan Linton hit the peg from corner 2 and secured the game for Cheshire, thus ensuring that Cheshire remained in the top division and denying Avon a clean sweep.

Thanks are due to Chris Williams for managing the event, and also to all the willing helpers at Southwick and Compton, who as usual did everyone proud.



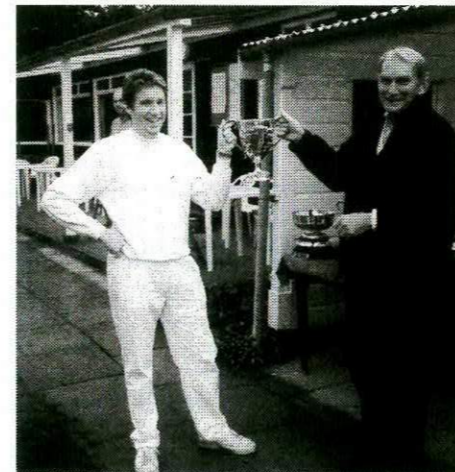
Expert catering from the Southwick Club always goes to help make the Inter-Counties an enjoyable event.

| DIVISION 1       |    |   |        |
|------------------|----|---|--------|
| COUNTY           | P  | W | GAMES  |
| Avon             | 10 | 9 | 24     |
| Surrey           | 10 | 8 | 21     |
| Dorset           | 10 | 7 | 18     |
| Gloucestershire  | 10 | 6 | 18     |
| Middlesex        | 10 | 5 | 17     |
| Lancashire       | 10 | 5 | 15     |
| Cheshire         | 10 | 4 | 16     |
| Sussex           | 10 | 4 | 10     |
| Northamptonshire | 10 | 4 | 10 (R) |
| Berkshire        | 10 | 2 | 10 (R) |
| Glamorgan        | 10 | 1 | 6 (R)  |

| DIVISION 2      |    |   |        |
|-----------------|----|---|--------|
| Nottinghamshire | 10 | 9 | 24 (P) |
| Essex           | 10 | 7 | 19 (P) |
| Yorkshire       | 10 | 7 | 19 (P) |
| Bedfordshire    | 10 | 6 | 20     |
| Warwickshire    | 10 | 6 | 15     |
| Kent            | 10 | 5 | 17     |
| CA Select       | 10 | 5 | 17     |
| Suffolk         | 10 | 4 | 11     |
| Dublin          | 10 | 3 | 10     |
| Hertfordshire   | 10 | 2 | 6      |
| Channel Islands | 10 | 1 | 7      |

**Home Internationals**  
**Southport 6-7 June 1998**

England v Wales (3 - 2)  
DB Maugham beat IJ Burrigge +6, +25; CJ Irwin beat LJ Palmer +5, +15; P Cordingley lost to CN Williams -12, +15, -17; PC Trimmer beat WdeB Prichard +, -, +5; T Burge lost to AJ Mrozinski -11, -40tp.  
Ireland v Scotland (4 - 1)  
S Williams lost to KMH Aiton -26tp, -13; RN McInerney beat J Surgenor +7, -13, +20; AE Cunningham beat M O'Connell -8, +9, +26; CS V Schmieder beat AB Hope +11, -20tp, +19; AE McInerney beat M Murray +25, +25  
England v Scotland (4 - 0)  
DB Maugham beat KMH Aiton -70tp, +11tpo, +26tp; CJ Irwin beat J Surgenor +25tp, +15; P Cordingley beat M O'Connell +10, +18; PC Trimmer unf AB Hope -3; T Burge beat M Murray +18, +26tp  
Wales v Ireland (3 - 1)  
IJ Burrigge beat S Williams +24tp, +7; LJ Palmer beat RN McInerney +19, -15, +24; CN Williams beat



Pete Trimmer accepts the Du Pre Cup from Bernard Neal after a thrilling final.

AE Cunningham +14, +21; WdeB Prichard unf CS V Schmieder +3; AJ Mrozinski lost to AE McInerney -15, -18.  
England v Ireland (3 - 2)  
DB Maugham beat S Williams +22tp, +26tp; CJ Irwin lost to RN McInerney -17, -17; P Cordingley beat AE Cunningham +4, +6; PC Trimmer beat CS V Schmieder +17, -17, +9tp; T Burge lost to AE McInerney -14, +26, -7.  
Wales v Scotland (4 - 1)  
IJ Burrigge lost to KMH Aiton -8, +15, -26tp; LJ Palmer beat J Surgenor +19, +15tp; CN Williams beat M O'Connell +17, +20; WdeB Prichard beat AB Hope +7, +26; AJ Mrozinski beat M Murray +13, +13.

1st England, 2nd Wales, 3rd Ireland, 4th Scotland.



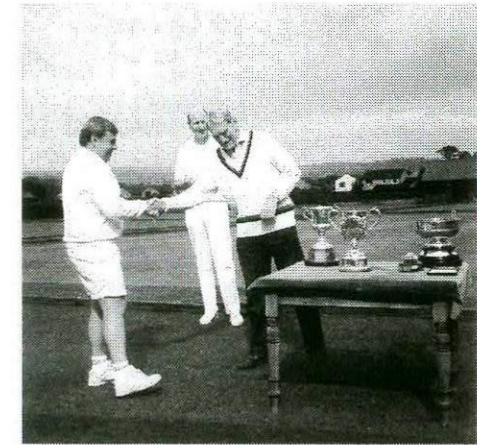
Frances Ransom & Beatrice McGlen, finalists in the 1998 Women's Championship.

**Harrow Oak Handicap Weekend**  
**13-14 June**  
report by Richard Hilditch

It didn't rain until 2pm on Sunday. However it did rain most of Saturday and some of Sunday afternoon and the players were left comparing notes on how much water was repelled or not (mostly the latter) by their clothing. Despite the rain the players present enjoyed the event (at least they told me so) and the winner was John Norris (who had travelled down from Middlesborough just for the tournament) with 6 wins from 8. John beat John Boardman (who had only travelled a couple of miles) in a close last game that was decided by a Rigall. Handicaps ranged from a half to 20 with everyone getting at least one win.

**Men's & Women's Championship**  
**1998, Cheltenham 8 - 14 June**  
report by Beatrice McGlen

The start of the championship this year was not auspicious - there was a vast sheet of drizzle, low cloud, a poor weather forecast and only 5



Robert Fulford receiving congratulations from Bernard Neal, with tournament manager David Magee looking on, following his win the 1998 Men's Championship.

players ready to start play in the mixed doubles at 9.30 on Monday morning. The only game possible was started between David Harrison-Wood and Beatrice McGlen versus the holders Don Gaunt and Kismet Whittall. The remaining players arrived in dribs and drabs with tales of woe from the roads. An unfortunate lorry driver had demolished a bridge on the M5 causing it to be completely closed and the repercussions spread to every road in the region. The last to arrive was one of the Teletubbies, Tinky Winky, who, despite a 6a.m. start from Liverpool, did not arrive in Cheltenham until 4p.m. by which time he was desperate to use the club's facilities! His partner Laa Laa (the other Teletubby making a guest appearance this year) was by this time fast asleep in her car. The assistant manager, Don Gaunt, was of a kindly disposition and decided telephone calls from cars stuck in traffic were acceptable as excuses. A bit of re-shuffling of the order of play meant that by Tuesday evening the competition was back on schedule. 8 pairs took part in the championship with Pauline Healy and Les Kershaw joining the consolation event after Pauline's original partner Andrew Gregory had to withdraw at the last minute.

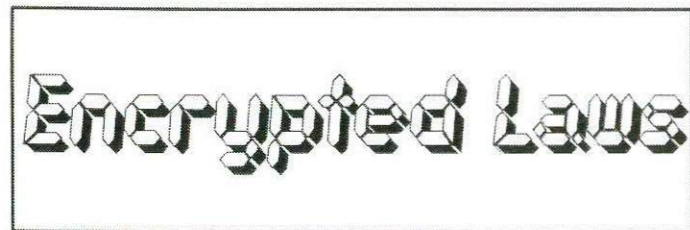
The Teletubby theme was evident throughout with a shiny windmill turning furiously in the stiff wind and some appropriate headgear constructed by one of the players with time on her hands, using 2 coat hangers and a yellow duster. Po (aka Eileen Magee) received complaints though because her Tubby Custard was yellow not pink.

After plenty of laughter, lots of nerves and some good croquet, the final was competed between last years winners Kismet Whittall and Don Gaunt and three times winners Rosemary Gugan and David Goacher. Rosemary and David made it a fourth time.

The most amusing moment (in the croquet) was when David Harrison-Wood started a break. He made hoop 1 and, before making the two-foot roquet, walked off the lawn to ask his partner if he should do a TPO on Frances Ransom's ball

Continued on page 18





**Answer to puzzle No.2**

17 Hoop and roquet in the same stroke  
If, before completing the running of a hoop in order, the striker's ball hits a ball that was clear of the hoop on the non-playing side before the commencement of the stroke and finally completes the running, as defined in Law 14(b)(2), it is deemed that a hoop point is scored and a roquet is then made. A ball is clear of a hoop if no part of it lies within the jaws of the hoop.

**Puzzle No.3**

(From 5th edition, 1992 reprint.)

In the following paragraph a part of one of the Laws has been encrypted by substituting letters. You are invited to unravel the paragraph, and then identify the number of the Law by reference to the book.  
(Clue: to start, think of words commonly used in Croquet and find possible substitutions.)

V TVYY VSRQVYYP VR ONMR LO KNNJNK RL TN VR ONMR RIVR  
JLHNM LO VGGVONFRYP MSLOM V GLEFR DLO ERMNYD TNRCNNF  
MROLBNM EM ONGYVSNK EJINKEVRNYP VFK VFP MQSI GLEFR EM FLR  
MSLONK.

(Answer and puzzle No.3 in the the next issue.)

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*Continued from page 9*

discrimination policy in favour of particular groups but reduced subscriptions are available for both young players and veterans.

Under its constitution the first object of the Association is to encourage, promote and develop the game. Accordingly, so far as is possible within its financial and human resources, it will seek the establishment of playing facilities throughout the country and the availability of information and coaching to as many as possible.

5) Council also considered alternative proposals from the Executive committee which were designed to meet a further requirement of the English Sports Council and agreed the following Statement on Conflicts of Interest:-  
CA Statement on Conflicts of Interest  
Council adopts the following policy  
"Recognition that Council and Committee members or their immediate families may conduct business with the Governing Body subject to the following procedures being put in place".

The following operational procedures will be established:

"A register of interests will be completed by all Council and Committee members, covering their own and family interests;

Committee standing orders will include directives on the conduct of Council and Committee members at meetings where the member has an interest in an item for discussion and/or decision;

Executive Committee members will not be allowed to represent their personal and/or commercial interests in discussion with the Governing Body;

Where contracts are let out on a regular basis, there may be a requirement for a commercial panel to undertake routine negotiations on behalf of the Council and its Committees. This panel will exclude members who may have a conflict of interest".

6)The final report of the Planning Group was received and action taken as recorded on pages 10 and 11 of The Croquet Gazette of May 1998.

7) Council agreed a recommendation from the Executive Committee that the award of a Council Medal should be instituted to enable outstanding services to the CA to be suitably recognized; and on the proposal of Roger Bray, seconded by Dennis Shaw, Council further agreed with acclamation that the first recipient of the medal should be Don Gaunt in recognition of his many years' work as compiler of the CA Fixtures Book.

8) The budget for 1998 and the Accounts for 1997 were adopted.

9) The increase in subscription rates and CRF for 1999 were approved.

10) Further points of interest arising from the routine reports of the Standing Committees:-

F&GP - Parsons Green Club having generously offered accommodation, many committee meetings will in future be held there instead of in the CA office.

Tournaments - Ian Plummer was authorized to place CA tournament details on the Oxford Croquet Web page until the CA's own web page was established.

Development - i) A grant of £500 will be available to each federation wishing to purchase a mini indoor carpet. ii) Grants have been made to Chester, Zeneca Huddersfield, Pendle, Bury and Medway clubs and funds have been made available to five federations to assist them in their development plans. iii) A ramp and ancillary equipment to measure court surface speed have been purchased.

Publicity - i) The CA now has an e-mail address, viz, CAOFFICE@CROQUET.ORG.UK ii) An information notice for club noticeboards will be circulated regularly to CA registered clubs. iii) A Public relations seminar will be held in November for all Federation and club press officers.

Equipment - The new Jaques 'solid state composition' balls, at their current state of development, have failed to meet the test criteria and cannot be recommended for championship use. Jaques are being encouraged to continue the development of these balls although this may

take some time to complete. For next year the only ball which can be recommended at present for championship play is the Barlow GT ball.

Coaching - i) Bruce Rannie is now the administrator of the Merit Award Scheme. ii) The "Coach of the Year Award" has been made to Tim Haste. iii) A Golf Croquet Coaching qualification is to be developed. iv) The coaching handbook is to be updated.

Handicap - The new style handicap card will be brought into use in the 1999 season.

Trophies - i) A wooden shield trophy has been purchased for the Junior championship handicap event. ii) A redundant trophy, the Council Challenge Cup, has been reallocated as a perpetual trophy for the winter indoor tournament. iii) Council decided to make no change in its policy of not insuring the CA's trophies.

International - The proposed 14 point WCF World Team Championship in South Africa will not now take place.

Golf Croquet - i) The trial Golf Croquet handicap system will be continued during 1998. ii) The Egyptian Rules of Golf Croquet will be published in a future issue of the Croquet Gazette.

11. A detailed proposal was made by Syd Jones that the CA should support the holding of a golf croquet world championship in England in late 1998 or early 1999. Council had doubts about the funding available for the event and agreed only to support the proposed plans in principle with no financial risk to the CA being involved.

12. The Secretary reported that 12 Associates had resigned and one had died since the last meeting. Council confirmed the election of 47 new Associates. As at 12th March the number of Associates was stated to be 1648, included in this figure are 97 who have not yet renewed their membership for 1998 and 64 overseas members.

13. The Secretary also reported that he had recently visited club events at Letchworth, Pendle and High Wycombe. Since the start of the year two new clubs have registered with the CA and one club has registered again after an interval of not being registered.

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David Harrison-Wood accepts the smallest trophy of the tournament, the 'Z', from Bernard Neal.

at 4-back. "Of course" says his partner, "what are you waiting for?" "OK" Bang - missed the two-foot roquet - walks back off the lawn. Partner says "I thought when you said a TPO you meant a triple peel on the opponent" "No" says witty bystander "He meant Totally Pee'd Off!"

The men's and women's singles championship started on Thursday with yet more rain and the ceaseless wind. The women's championship had an entry of 11 this year which is a great improvement on recent years. It did not go to form however, with both the first seed Laa Laa and the second seed Shona Vaissiere going out on the first day. Last year's winner Bo Harris fell at the second hurdle and the final was contested between Frances Ransom and Beatrice McGlen.

The final got off to an unusual start. After the toss Beatrice elected to start and Frances chose black and blue. As the clips were being placed on the first hoop it was noticed that the hoops had not been reset after mowing. The ROT was called and all the hoops reset. Beatrice then started the game but with the black ball. Frances intervened and the yellow ball was placed in corner 1. Frances put black in corner 3. Beatrice took croquet from yellow and attempted a speculative approach to hoop 1 sending yellow

south of hoop 2 but failing to get position. Frances took off from corner 3 but also failed to get in front of hoop 1 and retired to corner 3. Beatrice hit in and went to 4-back. Frances hit the lift shot and went to 4-back. A quick first game looked in prospect as Frances got a break together but broke down at hoop 3. There then followed a long period with slow progress before the sparring match was finally won by Beatrice and she took the first game +8.

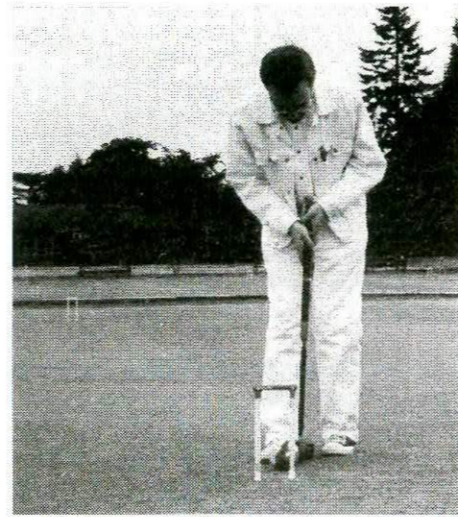
The second game started much more conventionally. Beatrice got going with a 3 hoop 2-ball break but broke down as soon as she picked up a third ball. Frances went to 4-back, the lift was missed and after a little to-ing and fro-ing, Frances went on to win the second game +21.

The final game was a much more protracted affair with both players showing signs of nerves and tiredness. Both had opportunities to make breaks early in the game but all failed after a few hoops. Eventually Beatrice got to peg and rover but failed to get position in front of rover. She took a risk and laid up by rover. Frances, with both balls on hoop 4, hit the lift shot and went to 4-back. Beatrice missed the lift and Frances took the other ball to 3-back before breaking down. 20 minutes later she made 4-back, missed the roquet and Beatrice played with her peg ball, completely forgetting the lift. She pegged out Frances' forward ball thus leaving peg and rover versus penult. The game finally finished in the last turn after time had been called with Frances making penult and shooting at Beatrice's balls (now both for peg) joined on the west boundary by hoop 1. She hit and finished a worthy but exhausted +2 winner.

26 competitors took part in the men's championship with the seeded players being Robert Fulford, Steven Mulliner, Phil Cordingley



Eventual winners of the Mixed Doubles Championship, Rosemary Guban & David Goacher, being 'yellow carded' for lateness by event manager Don Gaunt.



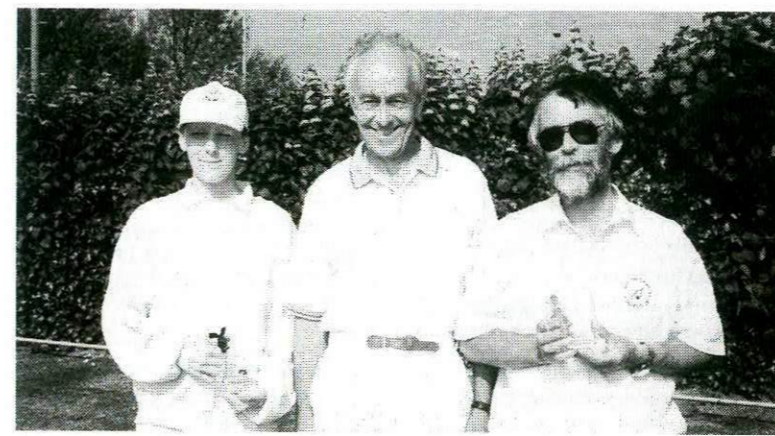
James Hawkins, aka 'Jim the giant killer', in play at the Men's & Women's.

and Colin Irwin. All negotiated the first two rounds successfully but then Steven Mulliner was defeated by James Hawkins in a high quality game -17tp, +17tp, +24tp. One of the best games in the early rounds was the second game between Robert Fulford and Peter Trimmer. Peter played first, Robert hit and split the balls to just in from corner 2 and corner 4. Peter roqueted the ball into corner 2, took off to corner 4, split the balls towards hoop 2 and in front of hoop 1 and then took the 3-ball break to 4-back. Robert hit with the fourth ball and went to 4-back, peeling Peter's ball from 1 to 3. Peter hit the lift and embarked on the triple. He completed all the peels with a straight at rover but couldn't make rover. Robert hit and won.

The men's final was a best of five between Robert Fulford and Phil Cordingley. Again there was an unusual start to the match. Robert laid the 'supershot' tice, Phil put a ball just outside corner two, Robert shot at this and missed, leaving a double. Phil shot at the double and missed. Robert then played the black attempting an open cannon to put yellow into the lawn and get the rush on red. Black however 'fell' off the lawn. Phil then stuck in hoop 1 and Robert went to 4-back. After the missed lift shot Robert embarked on a triple but came to grief at hoop 5, not before 'popping' Phil through 1 and 2. Phil went to 4-back and in his next turn took his other ball to peg. Robert missed but Phil failed to finish and Robert finally took the first game after 2 hours.

In the second game Robert went to 4-back on the fourth turn. Phil hit the lift but once again failed at hoop 1. Robert missed, then Phil failed at hoop 2. Robert missed, Phil ran hoop 2 and missed the return roquet and Robert finished with the obligatory triple peel. ("What makes the game so trivial to some and so difficult to others?" mused a spectator.)

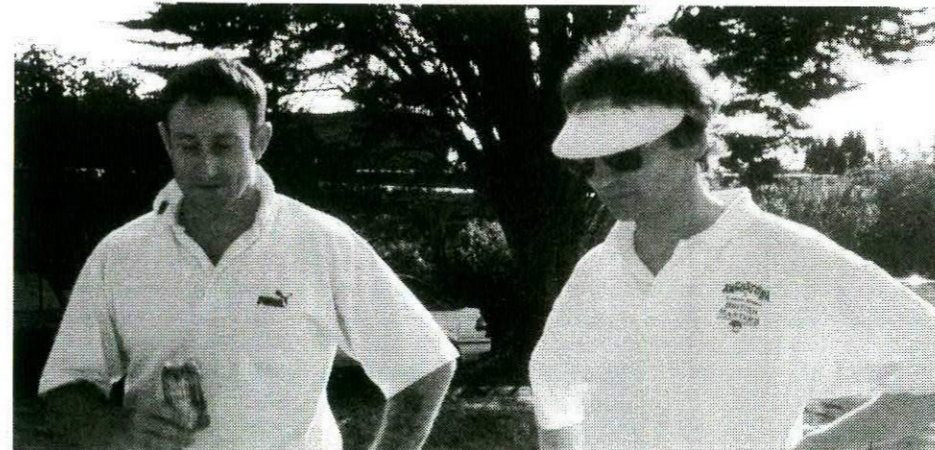
In the third game Robert had a 3rd turn 3-ball break to 4-back, leaving a 3-ball diagonal spread with the rush on the opponent's ball. Phil missed with the 4th ball and Robert started on his second break but ran into the 'pygmy trap' after hoop 1 and was forced to play away to the



Niall Carter, Alan Newman and Tony Treglown with their trophies from the Plymouth Handicap weekend

west boundary. In his next turn he found 'pygmy trap no. 2' after 3-back and was forced to play to corner 2. Phil laid up guarding corner 1, Robert shot at the guard and hit and made his remaining hoops in his next turn but missed his rush to the peg, giving Phil a final chance. Phil made hoop 1 but failed at hoop 2 again and at 2.45 Robert collected his second Men's Championship title.

The consolation event for the first and second round losers is the Du Pre Cup. At the start of play on the last day there were 8 players in contention and a manager's worst nightmare was looming. However all the 'right' people won, notably Andrew Cowing who, in putting paid to Roger Jenkins' hopes, gained his gold award. There were just two players left to compete for the trophy by the afternoon and the final was between David Harrison-Wood and Peter Trimmer. David looked to have it all sewn up at peg and 4-back versus 1 and 1 but accidentally pegged out his own ball. Peter was able to claw his way back into the game, not without giving David some chances, before he finally got to peg and peg. David took position at penult, by running hoop 6 from the south boundary! Peter attempted the long peg out and missed but managed to remove David from penult. David then hit the 30 yard shot and made penult but failed to get in front of rover. He laid up in a wired position with an angled shot at the hoop and, after Peter had missed, ran rover. He shot at the peg and missed by the narrowest of margins. Peter hit and, from approximately 10



Terry Burge & David Goacher, finalists in the Bristol advanced weekend.

yards, played a magnificent split peg-out going to David's ball and taking the Du Pre Cup by 1.

Despite the difficult climatic conditions there were some excellent performances and our thanks must go to David Magee, the manager; David Harrison-Wood, the ROT and hoop setter; and the catering team who kept us all extremely well fed.

### Surrey Championships, Surbiton 19-21 June 1998

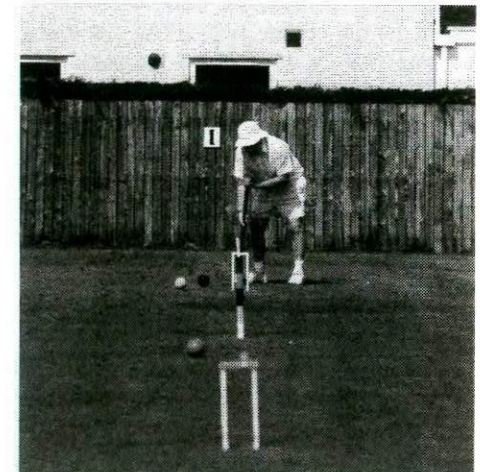
report by Richard Hilditch

This tournament proved so popular this year that we even had a sitting reserve (Samir Patel) who failed to get into the main event but did play in the plate (with some success). The weather was hot and sticky although quite often cloudy. The lawns were in good shape following the winter rain but could have done with being cut a bit closer.

The format of the event sees 8 seeds getting byes to allow them to work in the morning of the opening Friday while the rest of us fight with London traffic for the usual 9.30 start. It is not clear if getting a bye really proves a benefit as they meet a player fresh from a win. As it was, 3 of the seeds did fall at this hurdle with Ian Bond going out to Ian Plummer, Chris Farthing going out to Alex Leggate in a good 3 triple match and David Goacher going out to Jeremy Dyer. The key to this latter match was

the timed ending (2.5 hours) of the first Rigalled game which was narrowly won by Jeremy.

The third round saw the top seeds progress relatively easily with 3 former winners, Stephen Mulliner, Terry Burge and Jeff Dawson joined by first-timer Steve Comish. Each semi-final was determined by the first game. The first semi was a rematch of last year's final between Stephen and Terry (although only over 3 games). This was a scruffy match with several errors but the key mistake was made when Terry stuck in a very short 4-back when finishing in the first game. Stephen had the Rigall with his forward ball and elected to put his balls in corner 1 and 4 (he was for 1 and peg against 4-back alone) even though Terry only had a lift (no contact), what would you have done? Maybe an A tice and corner 4? Terry was able to make a couple of hoops but soon Stephen got a 3 ball break and won by 2. In the game between Jeff and Steve, Jeff missed a peg-out from about 4 yards and elected to peg his other ball out (Steve was for



Andrew Potter in play at Budleigh Salterton during the singles final in May.

something like 2-back and 4-back). Steve took one ball to the peg and left Jeff in corner 1 and his balls up in corner 3 (for 4-back). Jeff went to the side boundary and Steve was able to finish without Jeff taking a shot.

The final (and both of the semis) was played on the tricky lawn 2 in front of the hut. This made it difficult to hit in and the heat and humidity encouraged the players to make a few mistakes. Throughout Stephen Mulliner was making a few more mistakes (sticking in hoops etc), but Steve Comish was having trouble hitting in. When Steve managed to win the first two games (or more likely Stephen lost them) it looked like we were in for a quick finish. However Steve started making some errors himself and Stephen managed to get it back to 2 all. The final game saw 3 full errors from Comish and 2 from Mulliner before Steve managed to get Stephen to miss the last break down from near the peg to 3-back (I suspect Stephen may have missed out on a lift on this shot). Comish was thus able to prevent a come back from 0-2 and a new name will be added to the trophy.

In the Swiss Goacher went undefeated finally gaining revenge on Dyer in the deciding



Paul Whittall of Sidmouth CC who won his bronze and silver merit awards on the same day at Budleigh Salterton.

game. Some of the players got through 14 games but I spent an excellent weekend only playing 8 games but watching 8 world cup games on the TV in the hut (I managed to pick up a handy toe injury on the Friday night). This toe injury allowed me to get my wide feet measured by the ROT, I was surprised to find a width to length ration of 40% easily beaten by Celia who has a ratio of 50%.

**South East Federation Club Team Doubles**

report by Quiller Barrett

This year a record number of 17 teams of four players entered what has become the most popular of the SECF's annual tournaments. One of the aims is to give high-ish bisquers an opportunity to play in a relaxed way in perhaps their first outside tournament. Often their partners are more experienced club members who are available to give advice. Handicaps range from 0 to 20 and at the upper end of the scale some are obviously not quite right due to most games having been played with fellow club members. But it's the kind of event that doesn't make people too concerned about things like that.

The format was Swiss with each pair playing 5 games that on the first day were reduced to 22 or 18 points if total handicaps of the four players exceeded 30. Teams were

allowed to swap their members and to have substitutes.

On the weekend 20/21 June the Sussex County club at Southwick provided very decent lawns, some glorious sunshine and Bill Arliss (mostly in avuncular mood) as manager.

On Saturday evening Medway was sitting pretty: the only team to have won all their games. But on Sunday they did the opposite and registered only losses. Sussex County fielded 2 teams and both were on fine form, winning all their games on Sunday.

With 8 wins and a total of 47 points Sussex County A team (Bill Arliss, Chris Constable, Myra Gosney, Ken Mason and Michael Pullin) was acclaimed tournament winner to cries of 'Fix' from the back of the crowd. Sussex County's B team came 2<sup>nd</sup>: 8 wins and 26 points, Medway 3<sup>rd</sup>: 6 wins and 22 points and Caterham's B team was 4<sup>th</sup> with 6 wins and 10 points.

Everyone seemed to agree they had enjoyed themselves, win or lose, and the 2-day format was thought to be a great success. Same again next year I guess.

**John McCulloch Challenge Trophy, Bristol 16/17 May 1998**

report by Raymond Ransom

With a smaller cast than usual, the manager decided to run the weekend as a double elimination event. The quality of the entry should ensure that the extra games needed would not be a problem. And so it turned out although there was a minor panic when contestants who had been clubbing failed to turn up on time on day 2.

So who was in with a chance of winning? Don Gaunt, recently back from the US of A - so keep an eye out in the Gazette for the next instalment of Gaunt's Jaunts - had to be in the hunt. Unfortunately Don had brought more back from his travels than he had expected and the customs officers had failed to spot and confiscate it. As a result Don was suffering from its evil effects and was even more Zombie-like than usual. It was some time before Don remembered

how to run hoops by which time it was too late and he lost his first life to Roger Jenkins in a close game.

Ed Duckworth was another possibility. The strength of Ed's game is his roqueting and hoop running. Alas this part of his game had the consistency of a British Rail sandwich; distinctly curly at the edges. Although he did win his first 2 games he lost his first life against Rosemary Gugan who in the previous round had beaten Chris Patmore.

It was Terry Burge's first time at Bristol. He had come down for the night life rather than the croquet and judging by the speed of his first game, a win against Alex Leggate, he couldn't wait to get started on the main course.

David Goacher was a new man. No longer a Lada lout he had been taken over by the sisters of mercy who had introduced him to the joys of leather and black plastic bin liners. He was eagerly awaiting the next instalment which involved black lacy underwear. The change in him was startling. In the first game he disposed of Alan Pidcock with a triple. Alan is now working on plans for David's next mallet. It will have a remote control, enabling Alan to create havoc with David's game. Next it was Bill Arliss's turn to watch David from the sidelines. Another triple before moving on to Terry Burge. Not much different with a win from David following a TPO. He survived the first half with both lives intact after a win against Rosemary.

Don Gaunt and Chris Patmore quickly lost their second lives to David Coates and Alan Pidcock and later Ed lost to Terry. Terry then demolished Rosemary +26tp followed by Roger.

In the first game of the final, David failed a triple, cross-wiring himself after 1-back. Terry seized his opportunity and went on to win the game +9tp. The second game saw David progress to peg and 4-back but a poor leave gave Terry a chance. He did well to pick up the break which he took round, pegging out David's forward ball. David failed to get advantage from the contact and a tactical error gave Terry the chance to finish, which he did to win the event.

In the afterlife Alex managed most wins and finished top of the swiss.

**UK Rankings**

UK Rankings after Men's and Women's Championship.

Qualification 5 games since November 1997 (just before World Championship)

Recent events missing, because I have not had the results yet, are

- May 30-31 Harrow (apart from semis and final)
- June 2-7 Roehampton
- June 6-7 Bowdon
- June 6-7 Edgbaston
- June 6-7 Nailsea

Also I am missing a number of Mary Rose and Inter-Club matches.

I have not yet tracked down which Smith and Thompson played at Hurlingham in early May. I have assumed Brian Smith and Brian Thompson though I may be wrong. It would help if managers put players initials as well as surnames when they send results in.

Chris Williams

|                       | Grade | Gms | Wins | Index |
|-----------------------|-------|-----|------|-------|
| 1 Fulford RI          | 2806  | 93  | 79   | 2913  |
| 2 Maugham DB          | 2751  | 52  | 44   | 2812  |
| 3 Clarke CD           | 2688  | 43  | 30   | 2796  |
| 4 Mulliner SN         | 2677  | 35  | 24   | 2526  |
| 5 Comish S            | 2635  | 32  | 23   | 2609  |
| 6 Bamford RL [SA]*    | 2525  | 29  | 20   | 2512  |
| 7 Irwin CJ            | 2506  | 33  | 20   | 2470  |
| 8 Cordingley P        | 2500  | 61  | 38   | 2499  |
| 9 Trimmer PC          | 2493  | 36  | 23   | 2501  |
| 10 Cornelius D Miss   | 2486  | 11  | 7    | 2494  |
| 11 Avery MN           | 2485  | 18  | 10   | 2486  |
| 12 Openshaw DK        | 2470  | 28  | 18   | 2418  |
| 13 Dawson JP          | 2434  | 12  | 7    | 2418  |
| 14 Williams S [I]     | 2432  | 23  | 12   | 2364  |
| 15 Aiton KMH [S]      | 2427  | 44  | 26   | 2402  |
| 16 Burge TR           | 2396  | 36  | 22   | 2329  |
| 17 Gaunt DL           | 2385  | 19  | 11   | 2361  |
| 18 Goacher DJ         | 2382  | 30  | 14   | 2323  |
| 19 Johnson A [NZ]*    | 2357  | 22  | 13   | 2321  |
| 20 McInerney RN [I]   | 2342  | 24  | 13   | 2339  |
| 21 Duckworth ET       | 2332  | 20  | 11   | 2286  |
| 22 Prichard W [W]     | 2324  | 6   | 4    | 2402  |
| 23 Burrow M [Jer]     | 2302  | 12  | 6    | 2349  |
| 24 Farthing CN        | 2300  | 18  | 15   | 2413  |
| 25 Tibble LG          | 2278  | 23  | 18   | 2394  |
| 26 Bond ID [S]        | 2270  | 20  | 13   | 2310  |
| 27 Williams CN [W]    | 2265  | 57  | 31   | 2264  |
| 28 Burrige IJ [W]     | 2263  | 19  | 7    | 2302  |
| 29 Noble GW           | 2262  | 14  | 11   | 2331  |
| 30 Mrozinski AJ [W]   | 2260  | 11  | 6    | 2274  |
| 31 Cunningham A [I]   | 2257  | 21  | 8    | 2184  |
| 32 Symons AJ          | 2256  | 6   | 3    | 2266  |
| 33 Saurin MA          | 2252  | 11  | 4    | 2154  |
| 34 Hallam BG          | 2249  | 24  | 11   | 2184  |
| 35 Taylor HP          | 2247  | 6   | 5    | 2297  |
| 36 Harrison-Wood D    | 2232  | 25  | 15   | 2313  |
| 37 Kibble DJ          | 2229  | 45  | 28   | 2238  |
| 38 Palmer LJ [W]      | 2220  | 20  | 10   | 2239  |
| 39 Dyer JS            | 2203  | 32  | 21   | 2293  |
| 40 Evans MJ [W]       | 2200  | 17  | 5    | 2167  |
| 41 Guest JE           | 2199  | 49  | 35   | 2204  |
| 42 O'Connell MJ [S]   | 2195  | 41  | 26   | 2258  |
| 43 Magee DJ           | 2194  | 22  | 10   | 2040  |
| 44 Schmieder CS [I]   | 2190  | 7   | 3    | 2204  |
| 45 Linton AM          | 2184  | 7   | 4    | 2234  |
| 46 Saurin AT          | 2169  | 7   | 5    | 2194  |
| 47 Patmore CJ         | 2167  | 38  | 22   | 2142  |
| 48 Leggate ATR        | 2161  | 7   | 5    | 2181  |
| 49 Rogerson F [I]     | 2157  | 7   | 5    | 2171  |
| 50 Jenkins RS         | 2157  | 27  | 14   | 2203  |
| 51 Hawkins JD         | 2146  | 21  | 13   | 2240  |
| 52 Fowler GE          | 2146  | 17  | 9    | 2137  |
| 53 McInerney AE [I]   | 2141  | 35  | 19   | 2309  |
| 54 Morrow NW          | 2128  | 22  | 13   | 2102  |
| 55 Carlisle JWH       | 2126  | 5   | 3    | 2086  |
| 56 Vincent IG         | 2123  | 7   | 4    | 2094  |
| 57 Thompson BE        | 2122  | 7   | 0    | 1951  |
| 58 Nicholson DJ       | 2106  | 7   | 3    | 2083  |
| 59 Surgenor J [S]     | 2101  | 26  | 11   | 2050  |
| 60 Foulser DR         | 2097  | 28  | 14   | 2068  |
| 61 Cowing AJ          | 2075  | 40  | 23   | 2090  |
| 62 Browne TN [I]      | 2071  | 9   | 9    | 2156  |
| 63 Ormerod WP         | 2071  | 9   | 6    | 2040  |
| 64 Palmer AJ Mrs      | 2069  | 5   | 3    | 2008  |
| 65 Eardley P          | 2057  | 6   | 5    | 2120  |
| 66 Hope AB [S]        | 2056  | 17  | 4    | 2052  |
| 67 Curry GE Ms        | 2050  | 37  | 20   | 2036  |
| 68 Gale GK            | 2043  | 33  | 13   | 2033  |
| 69 Wadley AM          | 2027  | 10  | 2    | 2033  |
| 70 Williams RAW [S]   | 2027  | 6   | 3    | 1993  |
| 71 Neal BG            | 2017  | 17  | 8    | 1982  |
| 72 Bennett GJ         | 2009  | 18  | 9    | 2013  |
| 73 Gregory AK         | 2005  | 5   | 1    | 1941  |
| 74 Murray M [S]       | 2001  | 6   | 0    | 1917  |
| 75 Vaissiere S Ms     | 1990  | 42  | 22   | 1934  |
| 76 Carter SE [W]      | 1987  | 19  | 5    | 1954  |
| 77 Hopewell CG        | 1979  | 8   | 4    | 1939  |
| 78 Carter KJ          | 1972  | 16  | 7    | 1933  |
| 79 Southern C         | 1969  | 6   | 3    | 1929  |
| 80 Dymock E           | 1961  | 11  | 4    | 1938  |
| 81 Hyne NG            | 1957  | 7   | 4    | 1957  |
| 82 Shorten J Miss [I] | 1957  | 13  | 3    | 1949  |
| 83 Campbell A [S]     | 1954  | 13  | 11   | 2048  |
| 84 Coates DT          | 1949  | 6   | 3    | 1967  |
| 85 Gugan R Mrs        | 1946  | 28  | 13   | 1942  |
| 86 Arliss WH          | 1946  | 16  | 5    | 1914  |
| 87 Jackman RT         | 1946  | 15  | 10   | 1956  |
| 88 Maugham FI         | 1942  | 9   | 5    | 1911  |
| 89 Dent CJ            | 1939  | 7   | 3    | 1961  |
| 90 Pidcock A          | 1938  | 20  | 11   | 1985  |
| 91 Smith PL           | 1937  | 14  | 9    | 2039  |
| 92 Williamson JD      | 1936  | 5   | 2    | 1932  |
| 93 Evans NE           | 1935  | 17  | 8    | 1922  |
| 94 Stephens RT        | 1922  | 28  | 13   | 1865  |
| 95 Murdoch BRP [S]    | 1915  | 7   | 4    | 1931  |
| 96 Darby PA           | 1909  | 11  | 7    | 1954  |
| 97 Wheeler JA         | 1897  | 5   | 2    | 1830  |
| 98 Smith Br           | 1894  | 15  | 8    | 1894  |
| 99 Weston T [Jer]     | 1890  | 29  | 17   | 1914  |
| 100 Pullin PJ         | 1887  | 16  | 9    | 1927  |
| 101 Bennett CG        | 1885  | 23  | 10   | 1888  |
| 102 Payne PJ [CH]*    | 1884  | 29  | 12   | 1890  |
| 103 Jardine AW        | 1882  | 10  | 3    | 1848  |
| 104 Harris NR         | 1877  | 6   | 2    | 1809  |
| 105 Bottomley HJ      | 1870  | 8   | 5    | 1887  |
| 106 Rogers CJB [I]    | 1866  | 5   | 3    | 1898  |
| 107 Scott EE          | 1866  | 7   | 1    | 1775  |
| 108 Ransom FE Mrs     | 1862  | 34  | 16   | 1888  |
| 109 Wood R            | 1861  | 9   | 4    | 1821  |
| 110 Whittaker FL      | 1859  | 6   | 3    | 1917  |
| 111 Rangeley MW       | 1859  | 16  | 8    | 1876  |
| 112 Collin GK         | 1859  | 7   | 4    | 1874  |
| 113 Haslam JH         | 1858  | 13  | 5    | 1856  |
| 114 Morgan DT [W]     | 1853  | 9   | 9    | 1944  |
| 115 Harris B Mrs      | 1847  | 16  | 5    | 1776  |
| 116 Scott IW          | 1835  | 6   | 3    | 1803  |
| 117 Anderson TW       | 1831  | 7   | 3    | 1804  |
| 118 Castell P         | 1831  | 12  | 6    | 1895  |
| 119 Pristavec P [W]   | 1829  | 7   | 1    | 1836  |
| 120 Stephenson P      | 1829  | 5   | 3    | 1886  |
| 121 Waterfield CG     | 1818  | 7   | 3    | 1884  |
| 122 Bradforth L Miss  | 1814  | 26  | 12   | 1778  |
| 123 Hammelev MA       | 1808  | 22  | 10   | 1827  |
| 124 McGlen BA Mrs     | 1805  | 17  | 12   | 1903  |
| 125 Hilditch JR [W]   | 1801  | 38  | 14   | 1842  |
| 126 Bigg MD           | 1799  | 7   | 3    | 1794  |
| 127 Bradley JD        | 1795  | 14  | 8    | 1814  |
| 128 Sheraton-Davis J  | 1794  | 12  | 3    | 1748  |
| 129 Town MD           | 1793  | 23  | 10   | 1800  |
| 130 Walker MB         | 1793  | 15  | 11   | 1801  |
| 131 Grimshaw JE[W]    | 1787  | 8   | 3    | 1806  |
| 132 Gale NFC          | 1783  | 6   | 0    | 1723  |
| 133 Thomas AH [W]     | 1779  | 5   | 4    | 1840  |
| 134 Callingham RF     | 1777  | 6   | 3    | 1830  |
| 135 Potter JW         | 1776  | 6   | 1    | 1777  |
| 136 Stevens MJ        | 1776  | 8   | 3    | 1773  |
| 137 Porter G [A]*     | 1775  | 40  | 18   | 1732  |
| 138 Davis R           | 1774  | 10  | 4    | 1763  |
| 139 Bond GL           | 1768  | 21  | 10   | 1834  |
| 140 Healy PV Mrs      | 1767  | 34  | 14   | 1692  |
| 141 Cornelius DS      | 1764  | 23  | 12   | 1812  |
| 142 Jackson NG        | 1761  | 7   | 5    | 1838  |
| 143 Sidorbottom WJ    | 1749  | 8   | 5    | 1826  |
| 144 Smorfitt HW       | 1747  | 26  | 8    | 1733  |
| 145 Gray SNH          | 1742  | 5   | 2    | 1726  |
| 146 Watson PA         | 1730  | 5   | 2    | 1748  |
| 147 Snowdon CB        | 1729  | 7   | 4    | 1759  |
| 148 Townsend C Mrs    | 1726  | 6   | 4    | 1776  |
| 149 Durward B [S]     | 1725  | 7   | 3    | 1770  |
| 150 McInerney MJ [I]  | 1715  | 5   | 2    | 1764  |
| 151 Carlisle V Mrs    | 1711  | 10  | 6    | 1758  |
| 152 Pawson PR         | 1709  | 9   | 4    | 1702  |
| 153 Hoskyns RF        | 1709  | 7   | 4    | 1734  |
| 154 Harley DC         | 1704  | 9   | 5    | 1694  |

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## Tournament Results

**ROEHAMPTON SPRING WEEKEND 23 - 26 APRIL**  
 Manager - Nigel Aspinall Format - Swiss  
 1st R Knapp 6/7, 2nd A Fathers, J King,  
 T Moriarty, R Parkins 5/7

**COLCHESTER OVER 50 H'CAP 24 - 26 APRIL**  
 Manager - Pat Hetherington Format- Egyptian  
 1st D Haslam 2nd J Rolfe

**HIMLEY HANDICAP WEEKEND 2 - 3 MAY**  
 Manager - D Matthews Format - American  
 1st Sam Tudor 4/4

**SOUTHWICK SPRING HANDICAP 2 - 4 MAY**  
 Manager - Bill Arliss Format - Swiss  
 1st James Mackay 2nd John Scrase

Merit Awards:  
 Silver - John Scrase Bronze - Jack Davies

**ROBERT PRICHARD WKND HUNSTANTON 2-4 MAY**  
 Manager - George Noble Format - Egypt  
 1st George Noble, 2nd Ian Bond

**WESTERN CHAMPIONSHIP, PARKSTONE 2 - 4 MAY**  
 Manager - Ian Burridge Format - KO

Main Event Round 1: Burrow beat Fulford -26TP +1 +24; Aiton beat Liddiard +14 +26TP; Comish beat Trimmer +19TP +26TP; Maugham beat Burridge +25TP +23; Mulliner beat Harrison-Wood +9TPO +23; Burge beat Cordingley +16 -26 +26; Duckworth beat Williams +12 +13; Evans beat Gale +25 +24. Round 2: Johnson beat Burrow +17TP +24; Aiton beat Goacher +26TP +20; Comish beat Dyer +10 +25; Maugham beat Dawson +17TP +7; Avery beat Mulliner +17 +11; Burge beat Wadley +14 +17; Irwin beat Duckworth +17 +17; Clarke beat Evans +14 -17 +22TP.

Round 3: Aiton beat Johnson +22TP -26TP +26TP; Maugham beat Comish +15 +23TP; Avery beat Burge +25TP +5TP; Clarke beat Irwin +4TP +23TP. Semi-Finals: Maugham beat Aiton +13 -26TP +26; Avery beat Clarke +21TP +25TP. Final: Maugham beat Avery +7TPO +25 +8TPO.

Y Event Round 1: Fulford beat Liddiard +26TP +25TP; Trimmer beat Burridge +16 -25 +24TP; Harrison-Wood beat Cordingley +19 -26TP +2; Williams beat Gale -24 +26TP +20. Round 2: Fulford beat Goacher +24TP +26TP; Trimmer beat Dawson -24 +23 +26; Harrison-Wood beat Wadley +17TP +26; Dyer beat Williams +25TP +23. Semi-Finals: Fulford beat Trimmer +16TP +24TP; Harrison-Wood beat Dyer +17 -25 +9. Final: Fulford beat Harrison-Wood +18 +20SXP.

**THE COLES CUP, CHELTENHAM 2 - 4 MAY**

Manager - Ian Maugham Format - KO  
 Round 1: Miss D Cornelius bt P Smith +18 +1; B Neal bt B Hallam -13 +14 +6. Round 2: D Foulser bt Ms G Curry +26 -5 +10; I Maugham bt A Bogle +23 +8; N Evans bt A Cowing +5 +15; D Kibble bt Miss Cornelius +22TP +17; B Neal bt Ms S Vaissiere +13 +19; Mrs F Ransom bt G Porter +4 +9; L Tibble bt D Magee +5 +12;

M Saurin bt M Hammelev +14 +23. Q-final: Foulser bt Maugham +25 -5TP +19; Kibble bt Evans +21 +4; Neal bt Ransom +1 -20 +15; Tibble bt Saurin +13 +7. Semi-final: Kibble bt Foulser -17 +6 +5; Tibble bt Neal +26 +17. Final: Tibble bt Kibble +26 +15.

Consolation Swiss: David Magee  
 Merit Awards: Gold - Ian Maugham  
**PEEL MEMORIALS, SURBITON, 7 - 10 MAY**

Manager - J C Straw  
 Men's Singles: David Munday  
 Ladies' Singles: Sheila Watts

Mixed Doubles:  
 Mr & Mrs R Best bt Mr & Mrs D Watts  
**NAILSEA HANDICAP 9 - 10 MAY**

Manager - Hamish Hall Format: Swiss  
 1st K Chambers 2nd J Dixon, J Jeffrey, I Wilson,  
 Miss L Bradforth, Miss M Hilton.

**GUILDFORD & GODALMING OPEN 9-10 MAY**  
 Manager - R Stephens Format: Swiss  
 1st C Patmore 2nd C Farthing

**COLCHESTER OPEN WEEKEND 9 - 10 MAY**  
 Manager - R Hilditch Format: KO & Swiss  
 Q-Finals: R Fulford bt R Hilditch +18 +21; P Stephenson bt C Sheen +10 +3; Mrs A Palmer bt J Robinette +19 +10; G Bond bt J Sheraton-Davis +5(T) +5(T). Semi-finals: Fulford bt Stephenson +22 +9; Bond bt Palmer -15 +7 +18. Final: Fulford bt Bond +17 +26SXP.

Consolation Swiss: R Hilditch.  
**RAMSGATE HANDICAP WEEKEND 9 - 10 MAY**

Manager - Roy Ware Format: Swiss  
 1st Dave Mundy 2nd Robert Alexander  
 3rd Simon Miles, Ian Price.

**BUDLEIGH SALTERTON 11 - 16 MAY**  
 Manager - J McB Wood Format - American  
 Singles: D Purdon, Mrs V McClements,  
 R Bretherton.

Doubles: Mrs G D Harris & Mrs A Price  
**WREST PARK 15 - 17 MAY**

Manager - E Audsley Format - American  
 John Hall, Jack Davies, Brian Kennedy.

**NEWPORT OPEN WEEKEND 16 - 17 MAY**  
 Manager - Richard Hilditch Format: KO & Swiss  
 Q-finals: R Fulford bt G Bond +18; D Openshaw bt L Palmer +11; P Cordingley bt Hilditch +3; C Clarke bt M Najarian +26TP. Semi-final: Fulford bt Openshaw +26TP +4TP; Clarke bt Cordingley -10 +17TP +24TP. Final: Fulford bt Clarke +25 +13TPO +9TP.

**BRISTOL ADV WKND 16 - 17 MAY**  
 Manager - Ray Ransom Format - KO & Swiss  
 Terry Burge bt David Goacher +9TP +4.  
 Alex Leggate 5/7

**CHELTENHAM HCP WKND 23 - 25 MAY**  
 Manager - RF & DA Wheeler Format - Swiss  
 Winners: D Morgan, M Walker, B Hewitt, L Kershaw, Mrs R Gugan.

**PLYMOUTH 23 - 25 MAY**  
 Manager - S Orr Format - Egyptian  
 1st: A Treglown 2nd: N Carter 3rd: A Newman

**ROEHAMPTON 24 - 25 MAY**  
 Manager - Audrey East Format- American  
 Block winners: R Bretherton, M Pullin  
 Runners-up: Mrs P Quinn, Mrs M Knapp

**NORTHAMPTON 29 - 31 MAY**  
 Manager - Norman Hicks  
 Egyptian - 1st John Leader, 2nd Noel Davis, 3rd Joan Smith

Block winners - Derek Humphrey, Leslie Carrick  
 KO - Roger Schofield  
 Silver Award: Derek Humphrey  
 Bronze: Owen Bryce, Leslie Carrick, Jill Carrick

**CHELTENHAM 30 - 31 MAY**  
 Manager - D Foulser Format - Egypt  
 1st J Dwyer, 2nd P Smith, 3rd D Gaunt.  
 Gold Award: G Fowler.

**BUDLEIGH SALTERTON 30 - 31 MAY**  
 Manager - R Selmes Format - Egypt  
 Winner: L Toye Runner-up P Whittall.  
 Silver Award: Mrs A Price, Miss S Thussell.  
 Bronze Award: Mrs S Blenkinsopp

**HARROW OAK OPEN WKND 30 -31 MAY**  
 Manager G Bennett Format - KO & Swiss  
 C Farthing bt A Johnson.  
**ROEHAMPTON 2 - 7 JUNE**  
 Manager - P Macdonald  
 Ranelagh Gold Cup - P Salisbury  
 The Brooke Cup - A Fathers  
 The Thorpe Cup - Mrs P Davey  
 The Trevelyan Bowl - M Walker  
 The Creyke Cups - Mr & Mrs R Knapp

**EDGBASTON 6 - 7 JUNE**  
 Manager - A Gregory Format - KO & Swiss  
 KO : I Vincent bt D Coates +26TP +7  
 Swiss: D Kibble

**NOTTINGHAM H'CAP 6 - 7 JUNE**  
 Manager - Peter Death Format - Swiss  
 1st Niall Carter, 2nd Peter Stansfield

Silver Award: Niall Carter  
**SIDMOUTH 8 - 12 JUNE**  
 Manager - Vera Henderson Format - American  
 Block winners: Bryan Judson, Paul Whittall,  
 Russell Bretherton

**HUNSTANTON OVER 50's 12 - 14 JUNE**  
 Manager - Sarah Hampson Format - Egyptian  
 1st Colin Fletcher, 2nd John Christmas,  
 3rd Roger Ivill

**PARKSTONE 15 - 20 JUNE**  
 Manager - Roger Wheeler  
 Dorset Salver - Alan Linton  
 Weldon Trophy - P Pawson  
 Bronze Award: Mr E Butt, Mrs J Matthews

**SURBITON SENIORS' 16 - 18 JUNE**  
 Manager - Brian Rees Format - Swiss  
 1st Mrs J Pascall, 2nd Alan Burn

## Handicap Alterations

### Colchester over 50's 24 - 26 April

|             |     |    |   |
|-------------|-----|----|---|
| D Cornelius | 3.5 | to | 3 |
| J Rolfe     | 6   | to | 5 |
| A Chalmers  | 5   | to | 6 |
| D Haslam    | 10  | to | 9 |

### Southport Open Wknd 25 - 26 April

|            |    |    |      |
|------------|----|----|------|
| C Irwin    | -2 | to | -1.5 |
| J Hilditch | 2  | to | 2.5  |

### Hurlingham Club

|                 |    |    |    |
|-----------------|----|----|----|
| P Joseph        | 10 | to | 9  |
| Mrs I Macdonald | 11 | to | 10 |
| R Porter        | 12 | to | 11 |
| P Quinn         | 12 | to | 10 |
| R Spiller       | 14 | to | 12 |

### Chester Club

|              |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|
| R Croston    | 10 | to | 9  |
| Mrs J Davies | 16 | to | 18 |
| G Reynolds   | 14 | to | 16 |

### Wolsand H'cap 2 - 3 May

|            |     |    |   |
|------------|-----|----|---|
| D Matthews | 4.5 | to | 5 |
| G Tudor    | 1.5 | to | 1 |

### Hurlingham 2 - 4 May

|                 |     |    |     |
|-----------------|-----|----|-----|
| P Joseph        | 9   | to | 8   |
| R Pennant-Jones | 4.5 | to | 4   |
| R Porter        | 11  | to | 12  |
| P Thompson      | 3.5 | to | 4   |
| T Weston        | 3   | to | 2.5 |

### Southwick Spring Wknd 2 - 4 May

|                |    |    |     |
|----------------|----|----|-----|
| Mrs D Brothers | 7  | to | 8   |
| P Gosney       | 12 | to | 14  |
| J King         | 2  | to | 1.5 |
| J Mackay       | 11 | to | 10  |
| P Miles        | 8  | to | 7   |
| J Scrase       | 9  | to | 8   |
| J Toye         | 12 | to | 11  |

### Compton H'cap 2 - 4 May

|            |    |    |    |
|------------|----|----|----|
| Mrs M Boyd | 11 | to | 10 |
|------------|----|----|----|

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

### NEW ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

Classified advertising has now been introduced to the Gazette at very competitive rates, to both individual members and clubs as well as rates for non-members and trade/commercial. Details of how to place an advert should be available now at all clubs.

### FOR SALE

Sets of Jaques Eclipse and Barlow GT balls for sale, excellent condition, used once in WCF Championship only. £95 - £107 per set. Details from Chris Hudson (01270-820296)

|                |    |    |    |
|----------------|----|----|----|
| A Mayne        | 16 | to | 14 |
| Mrs C Heritage | 10 | to | 9  |

### Cheltenham Coles Cup 2 - 4 May

|              |     |    |     |
|--------------|-----|----|-----|
| A Bogle      | 4.5 | to | 5   |
| Mrs F Ransom | 3   | to | 2.5 |
| Ms G Curry   | 1   | to | 0   |
| A Cowing     | 1   | to | 0.5 |

### Parsons Green Club

|               |     |    |     |
|---------------|-----|----|-----|
| Mr P Callan   | 10  | to | 11  |
| A Thomas      | 3   | to | 2.5 |
| Mrs O Jackson | 12  | to | 14  |
| David Mumford | 14  | to | 12  |
| Bill Arliss   | 0.5 | to | 0   |

### Peel Memorials, Surbiton 7 - 10 May

|                   |    |    |     |
|-------------------|----|----|-----|
| Mrs A Whitaker    | 4  | to | 4.5 |
| Mrs G Stringer    | 22 | to | 20  |
| Mrs A Muir-Little | 16 | to | 18  |
| Mrs A Whitaker    | 4  | to | 4.5 |
| Ian Price         | 11 | to | 10  |
| Dave Mundy        | 14 | to | 12  |
| Robert Alexander  | 9  | to | 8   |

### Nailsea Handicap Weekend 9 - 10 May

|                   |     |    |     |
|-------------------|-----|----|-----|
| G Bond            | 4.5 | to | 3.5 |
| Mrs G Stringer    | 22  | to | 20  |
| Mrs A Muir-Little | 16  | to | 18  |
| Mrs A Whitaker    | 4   | to | 4.5 |

### Colchester Open Weekend

|                  |     |    |     |
|------------------|-----|----|-----|
| R Bretherton     | 18  | to | 16  |
| J Coombs         | 12  | to | 11  |
| Miss J Goodhart  | 10  | to | 11  |
| R Henderson      | 7   | to | 8   |
| Mrs V McClements | 12  | to | 11  |
| Mrs A Price      | 14  | to | 12  |
| D Purdon         | 3.5 | to | 2.5 |
| Mrs M Scaddan    | 14  | to | 16  |
| R Selmes         | 3.5 | to | 4   |
| Mrs A Thursfield | 8   | to | 7   |
| M Walker         | 5   | to | 4.5 |
| P Whittall       | 16  | to | 14  |

### Budleigh Salterton 11 - 16 May

|             |    |    |     |
|-------------|----|----|-----|
| T Mahoney   | 4  | to | 3.5 |
| P Salisbury | 5  | to | 4.5 |
| J Hall      | 10 | to | 9   |
| J Davies    | 12 | to | 11  |
| K Smith     | 16 | to | 18  |

### Wrest Park 15 - 17 May

|                  |     |    |     |
|------------------|-----|----|-----|
| M Najarian (USA) | 1   |    |     |
| D Cornelius      | 3   | to | 2.5 |
| G Bond           | 3.5 | to | 3   |
| Mrs R Gugan      | 1.5 | to | 1   |
| R Stevens        |     |    | 16  |

### Newport Open Weekend 16 - 17 May

|              |    |    |     |
|--------------|----|----|-----|
| N Carter     | 11 | to | 10  |
| A Treglown   | 8  | to | 6   |
| A Addis      | 5  | to | 6   |
| J Williamson | 0  | to | 0.5 |
| Miss P Lewis | 16 | to | 17  |
| R Burnett    | 7  | to | 6   |

### Bristol Adv Wknd 16 - 17 May

|               |     |    |     |
|---------------|-----|----|-----|
| Mrs S Edwards | 10  | to | 9   |
| Mrs M Godson  | 11  | to | 10  |
| D King        | 16  | to | 14  |
| T Goleworthy  | 5   | to | 4.5 |
| M Macbean     | 5   | to | 4.5 |
| Mrs M Evans   | 14  | to | 16  |
| D Gugan       | 6   | to | 7   |
| B Hewitt      | 2.5 | to | 2   |

### Plymouth 23 - 25 May

|              |     |    |     |
|--------------|-----|----|-----|
| Mrs R Gugan  | 1.5 | to | 1   |
| R Stevens    |     |    | 16  |
| N Carter     | 11  | to | 10  |
| A Treglown   | 8   | to | 6   |
| A Addis      | 5   | to | 6   |
| J Williamson | 0   | to | 0.5 |
| Miss P Lewis | 16  | to | 17  |
| R Burnett    | 7   | to | 6   |

### Southport H'cap Wknd 23 - 25 May

|               |     |    |     |
|---------------|-----|----|-----|
| Mrs S Edwards | 10  | to | 9   |
| Mrs M Godson  | 11  | to | 10  |
| D King        | 16  | to | 14  |
| T Goleworthy  | 5   | to | 4.5 |
| M Macbean     | 5   | to | 4.5 |
| Mrs M Evans   | 14  | to | 16  |
| D Gugan       | 6   | to | 7   |
| B Hewitt      | 2.5 | to | 2   |

### Cheltenham 23 - 25 May

|              |     |    |     |
|--------------|-----|----|-----|
| Mrs R Gugan  | 1.5 | to | 1   |
| R Stevens    |     |    | 16  |
| N Carter     | 11  | to | 10  |
| A Treglown   | 8   | to | 6   |
| A Addis      | 5   | to | 6   |
| J Williamson | 0   | to | 0.5 |
| Miss P Lewis | 16  | to | 17  |
| R Burnett    | 7   | to | 6   |

|               |     |    |     |
|---------------|-----|----|-----|
| Mrs D Latham  | 5   | to | 4.5 |
| L Latham      | 1.5 | to | 2   |
| Mrs P Quinlan | 20  | to | 22  |
| D Taylor      | 7   | to | 6   |

### Colchester 24 May

|           |    |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|----|
| P Stover  | 18 | to | 16 |
| C Hemming | 14 | to | 12 |

### Northampton 29 - 31 May

|              |     |    |    |
|--------------|-----|----|----|
| D Humphrey   | 3.5 | to | 3  |
| R Schofield  | 4.5 | to | 4  |
| Ms J Carrick | 20  | to | 18 |

### Budleigh Salterton 30 - 31 May

|                  |    |    |    |
|------------------|----|----|----|
| Mrs S Blenkinsop | 16 | to | 14 |
| R Clark          | 16 | to | 14 |
| Mrs P Crook      | 10 | to | 9  |
| Mrs E Owen       | 14 | to | 16 |
| W Rosser         | 16 | to | 14 |
| Mrs M Smith      | 14 | to | 16 |

### Cheltenham 30 - 31 May

|                 |     |    |      |
|-----------------|-----|----|------|
| Mrs K Singleton | 14  | to | 16   |
| B Weitz         | 6   | to | 7    |
| Ms L Bradforth  | 4   | to | 3.5  |
| M Ranshaw       | 3.5 | to | 4    |
| C Williams      | -1  | to | -0.5 |

### Harrow Oak Open Wknd 30 - 31 May

|             |      |    |    |
|-------------|------|----|----|
| C Farthing  | -0.5 | to | -1 |
| P Salisbury | 4.5  | to | 4  |

### Roehampton 2 - 7 June

|             |     |    |     |
|-------------|-----|----|-----|
| Mrs S Best  | 8   | to | 9   |
| Mrs P Davey | 14  | to | 12  |
| A Fathers   | 4.5 | to | 4   |
| S Gray      | 3.5 | to | 4   |
| I Macdonald | 4.5 | to | 5   |
| P Salisbury | 4   | to | 3.5 |
| M Walker    | 4   | to | 3.5 |

### Edgbaston 6 - 7 June

|         |     |    |   |
|---------|-----|----|---|
| N Evans | 1.5 | to | 1 |
|---------|-----|----|---|

### Sidmouth 5 day tournament June

|                  |    |    |    |
|------------------|----|----|----|
| I Birdseye       | 12 | to | 14 |
| Mrs J Birdseye   | 20 | to | 22 |
| R Bretherton     | 16 | to | 14 |
| Mrs S Blenkinsop | 14 | to | 12 |
| R Clark          | 14 | to | 12 |
| Miss S Rogers    | 14 | to | 12 |
| P Whittall       | 14 | to | 12 |
| M McF Davis      | 8  | to | 9  |
| D Clarke         | 16 | to | 14 |
| Mrs I Read       | 20 | to | 18 |

### Hunstanton 12 - 14 June

|               |    |    |     |
|---------------|----|----|-----|
| Dr F Fletcher | 5  | to | 4.5 |
| S Harris      | 16 | to | 14  |
| D Mattacks    |    |    |     |

# Handicap Alterations

## Men's & Women's Championships

|                 |      |    |     |
|-----------------|------|----|-----|
| A Cowing        | 0.5  | to | 0   |
| D Harrison-Wood | -0.5 | to | -1  |
| Mrs P Healy     | 3    | to | 3.5 |
| Ms G Curry      | 0    | to | 0.5 |

## Parkstone June tournament

|               |     |    |     |
|---------------|-----|----|-----|
| E Butt        | 14  | to | 11  |
| R Edwards     | 2.5 | to | 2   |
| T Weston      | 2.5 | to | 2   |
| P Pawson      | 5   | to | 4.5 |
| Mrs P Nutland | 7   | to | 8   |
| A Potter      | 5   | to | 7   |
| R Wheeler     | 12  | to | 14  |

## Newport 20 - 21 June

|                 |    |    |    |
|-----------------|----|----|----|
| N Chalmers      | 7  | to | 8  |
| R Ivill         | 9  | to | 8  |
| Mrs E Robinette | 18 | to | 16 |

## Colchester Club

|                    |    |    |    |
|--------------------|----|----|----|
| J Williams         | 9  | to | 8  |
| Mrs J Hetherington | 10 | to | 11 |
| D Haslam           | 9  | to | 8  |
| Mrs J Brazier      | 14 | to | 16 |

## Bristol Club

|              |     |    |     |
|--------------|-----|----|-----|
| P Willoughby | 6   | to | 5   |
| H Hall       | 4   | to | 4.5 |
| Mrs F Ransom | 3   | to | 1.5 |
| Mrs R Gugan  | 1.5 | to | 0.5 |
| D Gugan      | 6   | to | 7   |
| S Thorpe     | 10  | to | 9   |

## Surbiton 20 - 21 June

|                   |      |    |     |
|-------------------|------|----|-----|
| J Dyer            | -0.5 | to | -1  |
| J Hilditch        | 2.5  | to | 2   |
| B Smith           | 0.5  | to | 0   |
| A Leggate         | -0.5 | to | -1  |
| K Carter          | -0.5 | to | 0   |
| J Sheraton-Daivis | 2.5  | to | 3   |
| S Patel           | 5    | to | 4.5 |
| M Narajan         | 1    | to | 0.5 |

## Budleigh Salterton

|                 |     |    |    |
|-----------------|-----|----|----|
| Mrs J Babbage   | 11  | to | 10 |
| Mrs C Bagnall   | 12  | to | 14 |
| Miss J Goodhart | 10  | to | 11 |
| Miss M Goodhart | 10  | to | 11 |
| M Hamilton      | 6   | to | 5  |
| Miss J Horsley  | 18  | to | 16 |
| M Lester        | 16  | to | 14 |
| Mrs A Price     | 14  | to | 10 |
| D Purdon        | 3.5 | to | 2  |
| R Selmes        | 3   | to | 4  |
| Mrs B Porter    | 16  | to | 18 |

## Ryde 24-28 June

|                |     |    |     |
|----------------|-----|----|-----|
| D Harvey       | 4.5 | to | 4   |
| P Kennerley    | 1   | to | 1.5 |
| Mrs M Robinson | 11  | to | 12  |

## Cheltenham 24-28 June

|                |    |    |     |
|----------------|----|----|-----|
| G Eccles       | 12 | to | 10  |
| Mrs S Edwards  | 8  | to | 7   |
| Mrs M Evans    | 14 | to | 16  |
| Mrs E Grinwell | 20 | to | 18  |
| Mrs A Martin   | 18 | to | 16  |
| G Weir         | 12 | to | 11  |
| G Edgeler      | 10 | to | 11  |
| R Edwards      | 2  | to | 1.5 |
| Mrs J Powell   | 16 | to | 14  |
| Mrs M Godson   | 10 | to | 9   |

|                |    |    |    |
|----------------|----|----|----|
| P Leach        | 6  | to | 7  |
| L Kershaw      | 11 | to | 10 |
| M Kolbuszewski | 11 | to | 12 |

## Guildford & Godalming 27-28 June

|                                      |     |    |     |
|--------------------------------------|-----|----|-----|
| H Smorffitt                          | 2.5 | to | 3   |
| <b>Budleigh Salterton 27-28 June</b> |     |    |     |
| R Callingham                         | 3   | to | 2.5 |
| A Dustin-Smith                       | 2.5 | to | 2   |
| D Price                              | 2   | to | 1.5 |

## Colchester H'cap 27-28 June

|           |     |    |     |
|-----------|-----|----|-----|
| O Bryce   | 12  | to | 11  |
| N Jackson | 3.5 | to | 3   |
| G Bond    | 3   | to | 2.5 |
| C Hemming | 12  | to | 11  |

## Parsons Green 29 June

|              |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|
| Mrs S Davies | 6  | to | 7  |
| R Bretherton | 14 | to | 12 |

## Sidmouth June

|             |    |    |    |
|-------------|----|----|----|
| P Whittall  | 12 | to | 11 |
| E Owen      | 14 | to | 16 |
| Mrs G Simms | 16 | to | 18 |

## Southwick 2-5 July

|                 |    |    |     |
|-----------------|----|----|-----|
| Mrs C Constable | 5  | to | 4.5 |
| J Davies        | 11 | to | 8   |
| J Potter        | 5  | to | 4.5 |

## Ramsgate H'cap 3-4 July

|             |    |    |    |
|-------------|----|----|----|
| S Miles     | 14 | to | 12 |
| J Sanderson | 8  | to | 7  |

## Welsh Championship 3-5 July

|            |     |    |     |
|------------|-----|----|-----|
| J Grimshaw | 3   | to | 2.5 |
| C Tuthill  | 3.5 | to | 3   |

## Preston Club July

|          |    |    |    |
|----------|----|----|----|
| J Martin | 12 | to | 11 |
|----------|----|----|----|

## East Riding 4-5 July

|                 |    |    |    |
|-----------------|----|----|----|
| Mrs E Robinette | 16 | to | 14 |
|-----------------|----|----|----|

## Cheltenham 50+ 7-9 July

|               |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|
| C Bailey      | 12 | to | 11 |
| Mrs S Blenkin | 14 | to | 16 |
| D Clay        | 11 | to | 10 |
| G Eccles      | 10 | to | 9  |
| J Godson      | 6  | to | 5  |
| J Handy       | 12 | to | 11 |
| P Leach       | 7  | to | 8  |
| J Markham     | 8  | to | 7  |
| B Pacini      | 14 | to | 12 |
| A Potter      | 7  | to | 8  |
| Mrs J Powell  | 14 | to | 12 |
| B Shorney     | 14 | to | 12 |
| A Treglown    | 6  | to | 5  |

## Club changes

|              |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|
| Mrs P Crowe  | 14 | to | 12 |
| G Edgeler    | 10 | to | 11 |
| Mrs M Evans  | 16 | to | 18 |
| Mrs M Godson | 10 | to | 9  |

## Parsons Green 14 July

|              |   |    |   |
|--------------|---|----|---|
| E Brookfield | 6 | to | 5 |
|--------------|---|----|---|

# Tournament Results

## SURREY CHAMPIONSHIPS, SURBITON 19-21 JUNE 1998

Manager: Richard Hilditch Format - KO & Swiss  
 Round 1: Graham Gale bt Nelson Morrow +20 +25, Ian Plummer bt Richard Hilditch -25 +16 +25, Peter Payne bt Mark Najarian +16 +5, Kevin Carter bt Julian Sheraton-Davis +14 +20, Peter Pullin bt Pauline Healy +18 +16, Alex

Leggate bt Jerry Guest +13 -5 +23, Jeremy Dyer bt Celia Steward +23tp +16, Brian Smith bt Gary Bennett +23 +11.

Round 2: \*Stephen Mulliner bt Gale +23tp +16, Plummer bt \*Ian Bond -2 +26 +4, \*George Noble bt Payne +14tp +12, \*Terry Burge bt Carter +26tp +26, \*Jeff Dawson bt Pullin -26 +3 +8, Leggate bt \*Chris Farthing +13tp -17tp +9tp, Dyer bt \*David Goacher +2(t) -17 +17, \*Steve Comish bt Smith +6tp +26tp.

Round 3: Mulliner bt Plummer +5tp +26tp, Burge bt Noble -8 +22tp +24, Dawson bt Leggate +25tp -14 +26, Comish bt Dyer +16 +8tp  
 Semis: Mulliner bt Burge +2 +17, Comish bt Dawson +1 +13tp  
 Final: Comish bt Mulliner +7 +11tp -5 -18 +16  
 Swiss: 1st Goacher 8/10, 2nd Dyer 10/14

## BRISTOL H'CAP WKND 20 - 21 JUNE

Manager - George Green Format - KO  
 Semi-finals: Mills bt Gillett Backhouse bt Mrs Ransom. Final: Backhouse bt Mills.  
 Bronze Award: Richard Everett

## NEWPORT H'CAP WKND 20 - 21 JUNE

Manager - John Hobbs Format - Egyptian  
 1st Roger Ivill, 2nd Colin Hemming, 3rd Dan Windham

## IPSWICH SPEED DOUBLES 30-31 MAY

Manager - Celia Pearce Format - American  
 Winners: Ms C Heritage & P Stephenson

## RYDE H'CAP 24-28 JUNE

Manager - R Newnham Format-Egyptian  
 Winner: R Jenkins  
 Bronze Award: A Tizard, D Hoyle.

## GUILDFORD & GODALMING 27-28 JUNE

Manager - Michael Town  
 1st Tony Mrozinski, 2nd Chris Farthing, 3rd John Low.

## HIMLEY HALL ABNALLS B & C CLASS 27 JUNE

Manager - David Matthew Format- American  
 B class winner: F Smith  
 C class winner: M Cohen

## BUDLEIGH SALTERTON 27-28 JUNE

Manager - Ron Selmes Format - Egyptian  
 1st Peter Taylor, 2nd David Kibble, 3rd Mark Najarian.

Silver Award: Tony Dustin-Smith

Gold Award: Peter Taylor

## COLCHESTER H'CAP WKND 28-29 JUNE

Manager - Norman Hicks Format - Egyptian  
 1st Colin Hemming, 2nd Graham Bond, 3rd Owen Bryce.

## BRITISH SENIOR'S CHAMPIONSHIP,

## SOUTHWICK 2-5 JULY

Manager - Paul Macdonald  
 Seniors Championship:  
 Winner Alan Linton, Runner-up Bill Arliss  
 Advanced Play:  
 Winner Tom Weston, Runner-up Geoff Cuttle  
 Advanced Play:  
 Winner Jim Potter, Runner-up Christine Constable

*(Editorial apologies for the change in the back page, but this was due to circumstances beyond my control.)*