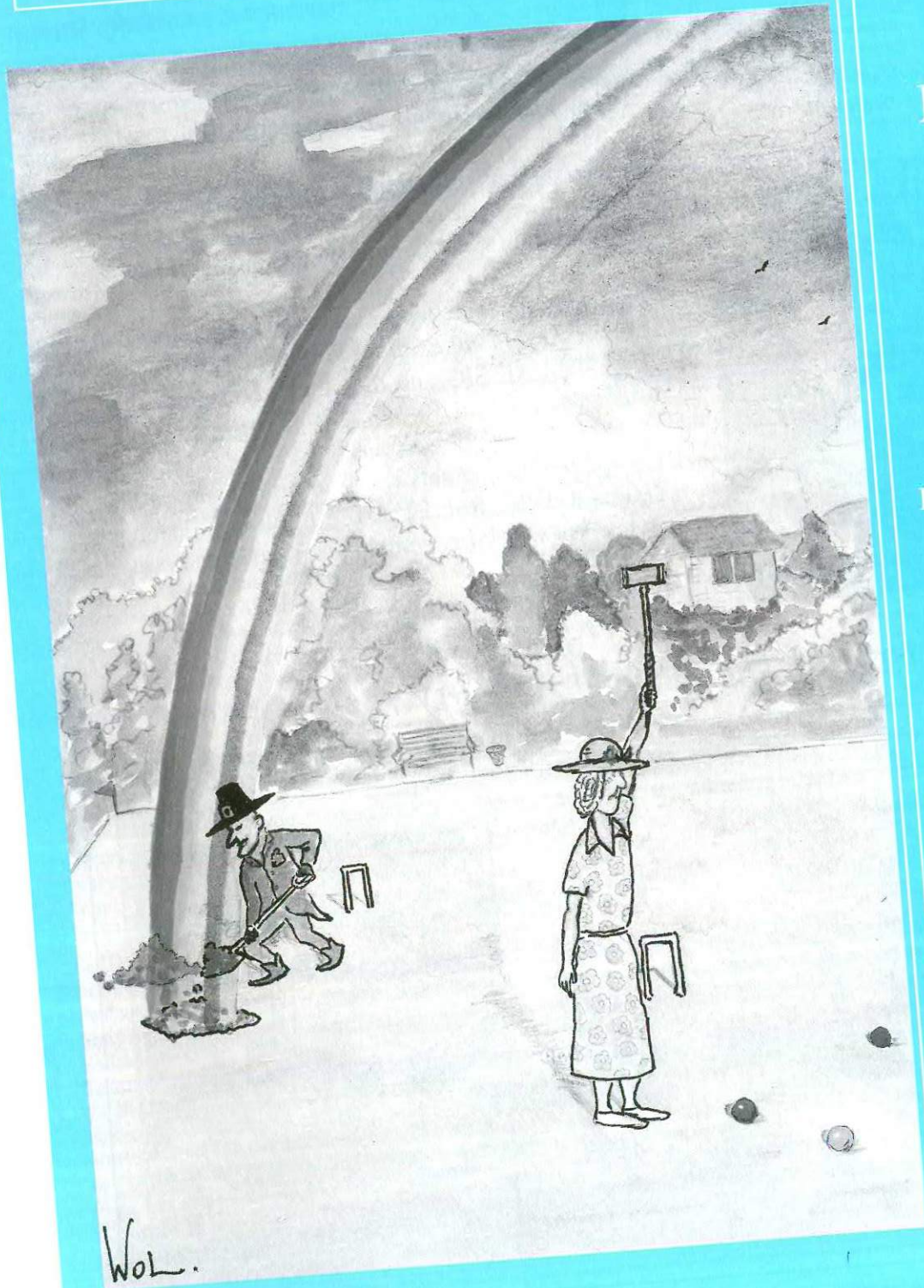


The Croquet Gazette

Issue 260

March 1999



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1999**



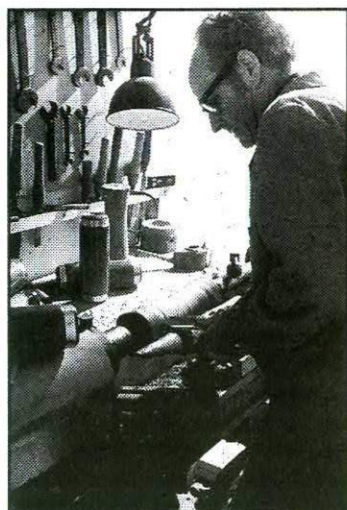
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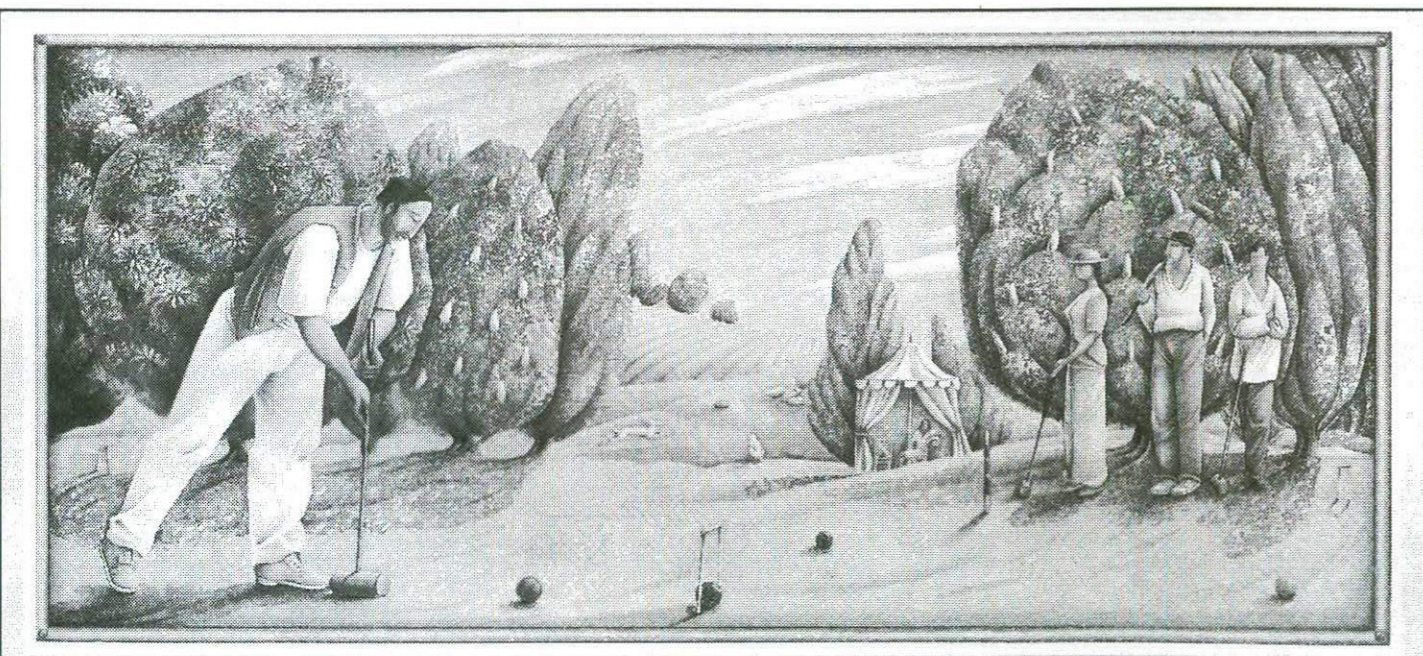


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PUBLICATION DETAILS

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

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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 sheets. 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

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Production Team

Editor Gail Curry
 Printing The Print House, Prospect Terrace, North Shields, Tyne & Wear
 Tel 0191- 2587027

CROQUET ASSOCIATION CONTACTS

Secretary
 Paul Campion
 The Croquet Association, The Hurlingham Club, Ranelagh Gardens, London SW6 3PR
 Tel: 0171 - 7363148 caoffice@croquet.org.uk

Chairman of Council
 Bill Arliss
 30 Hove Park Villas, Hove, West Sussex BN3 6HG. Tel: 01273 728204
 E-mail arliss@mistral.co.uk

Gazette Editor
 Gail Curry
 33 Percy Gardens, Tynemouth, Tyne & Wear NE30 4HQ. Tel: 0191 - 2579045
 E-mail gail@cgazette.demon.co.uk

Tournament Committee

Derek Trotman
 3 High Stobhill, Morpeth, Northumberland NE61 2TT. Tel: 01670 - 518228

Laws Committee

Bill Lamb
 5 Bondyke Close, Cottingham, North Humberside HU16 5ND. Tel: 01482 - 840739
 E-mail bill.lamb@bondyke.demon.co.uk

Handicap Coordination Committee

Bill Lamb
Coaching Committee
 Bruce Rannie
 7 Keswick Drive, Cullercoats, North Shields, Tyne & Wear NE30 3EW Tel: 0191 - 2529739

International Committee

Colin Irwin
 5 Hawthorn Road, Plumley, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 0UH
 Tel: 01565 - 722556

Finance & General Purposes Committee

David Magee
 Hurstwood, Moorend, Hartpury, Gloucester GL19 3DG. Tel: 01452 - 700353

Development Committee

Bill Sidebottom
 Malthouse, 6 Malthouse Lane, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 1AB
 Tel: 01926 - 852638 bill@sidemalt.demon.co.uk

Golf Croquet Committee

James Wankling
 162 Reading Road, Wokingham, Berkshire RG11 1LH
 Tel: 01189 - 788963 JLOMEGA@aol.com

Publicity Committee

Anthony Fathers
 613 Upper Richmond Road W, Richmond, Surrey TW10 5DU
 Tel: 0181 - 8769923

Editorial Board

Bruce Rannie
 7 Keswick Drive, Cullercoats, North Shields, Tyne & Wear NE30 3EW Tel: 0191 - 2529739

Equipment Committee

Alan Pidcock
 The Manor House, 1 Barn Croft, Penwortham,

Preston PR1 0SX
 Tel: 01772 743859

E-mail pidcock@manorh.u-net.com

FEDERATION REPRESENTATIVES ON COUNCIL

EAST MIDLANDS
 Jean Ackermann
 The Dovecot, Middle Lane, Morton-cum-Fiskerton, Southwell, Notts NG25 0VY
 Tel: 01636 - 830275

EAST ANGLIA
 Nigel Gray
 7 Firs Close, Hitchin, Hertfordshire SG5 2TX
 Tel: 01462-436430

LONDON & SOUTH EAST
 Quiller Barrett
 16 Frinton Court, Hardwick Green, London W13 8DW Tel: 0181 - 9985453

NORTH WEST
 Colin Irwin
 5 Hawthorn Road, Plumley, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 0UH
 Tel: 01565 - 722556

CROQUET NORTH
 Bruce Rannie
 7 Keswick Drive, Cullercoats, North Shields, Tyne & Wear NE30 3EW Tel: 0191 - 2529739

SOUTH WEST
 David Magee
 Hurstwood, Moorend, Hartpury, Gloucester GL19 3DG. Tel: 01452 - 700353

SOUTHERN
 Bob Smith
 33 Donegal Close, Caversham, Reading, Berks RG4 5DT. Tel: 01734 - 478802

WEST MIDLANDS
 Bill Sidebottom
 Malthouse, 6 Malthouse Lane, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 1AB
 Tel: 01926 - 852638

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 12 Middlehowe Green, Walkington, Beverley HU17 8TE Tel: 01482 - 882936

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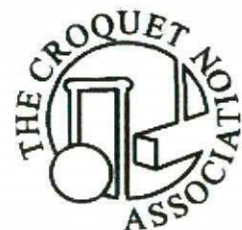
To Golf Croquet Players & Tournament Secretaries

Help us to help you to make 1999 a record year by sending in your entries now and avoiding the disappointment of not getting into the events by your late entry.

See the Fixture Book for events and costs.

Encourage your friends to play. The Golf Committee are doing their best to increase Tournaments and interest in the game - We want your support.

THE CROQUET GAZETTE



Issue 260 March 1999 £3.00

Front Cover: Anything can happen by Wol.

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Disclaimer

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CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

Only a few more weeks before we are back into our tournament season again and one starts to regret all those jobs that had been planned for the winter but are still not done. There should have been time: where's it all gone?

I suppose many of you will have seen various articles in the national press about our politicians getting involved in sport. Well it has not passed croquet by. Out of the blue I suddenly have an invitation to have a personal talk to Richard Spring MP, Shadow deputy spokesman for Culture, Media and Sport, about current croquet issues and also to partake in a forum run by Seb Coe on sport in Britain. It may not be the party in power at present but it will give us a chance to raise the profile of our sport.

Our winter round of planning meetings has been augmented this year with the constitutional review and the last issue of the Gazette explained what it was all about. I do hope you all will let Quiller Barrett know what you think of the proposals. I am sure Quiller will be just as pleased to hear what you think is wrong as well as what you agree with about the proposals. The critical point is that we hear the views of all clubs around the country.

In the last issue David Kibble gave us all a small taster about croquet on the World Wide Web. In his article David concentrated on one aspect and that was the use of the web or Internet, as it is often known, for sending electronic mail and how this had been used by the Nottingham Board for croquet. I would like to talk briefly about what is known as a web site.

Effectively this is like a single small book in a massive library that is housed on literally thousands of computers around the world all of which are connected to the Internet and can be accessed by anyone who has a computer which itself can be connected to the Internet. Our web site or 'book' will describe the various games of croquet, the croquet clubs in our domain, the laws of the game, the organisations controlling croquet, the tournament programme, where to get equipment etc. On present progress the CA site will be ready for launch early in March and we hope that it can further assist in spreading the word about croquet and can thus help in club recruitment.

To date quite a number of clubs have seized the opportunity to have their own page on our web site. I am pleased to see that most of these individual pages have given quite a bit of detail about coaching, beginners' packages,

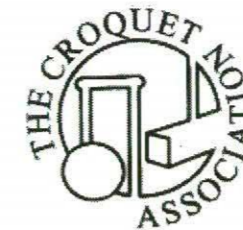


membership costs etc. This is just the kind of data that outsiders considering croquet want to know. I realise many of our readers do not have access to the Internet but I would urge all club committees to try to have a look at the CA web site on a friend's or on the local library computer. Improving our web site can only do good for our sport, so don't forget to let the office know of any changes for contacts in the clubs.

Most of you will have heard that the CA now has two mini-mats, one in the north and one down south, which can be borrowed by any registered club. The bookings to date have not been very large but I think this is because most players are not aware of the potential of these small mats. They are not a gimmick. You can make breaks and play every shot in the book and they can be used for either indoor competitions or basic coaching. Virtually everybody who has tried them wants to come back for more. The Yorkshire Federation is so keen that they have bought their own and I understand it is fully booked during the winter months. Mike Evans tells me that they have even used the mat to introduce absolute beginners to the game. Admittedly there will have to be some serious adjustment when the beginners first take to the open lawns but at least they will start knowing all the basic shots and simple tactics.

The CA is keen to promote all forms of croquet and whether you play Association, Golf, One ball, Short Croquet or even Pirates, have a good competitive season but more importantly, enjoy yourselves.

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To: All Associates and Club Secretaries
From: Bill Arliss, Chairman of Council

March 1999

Dear Associate/Club Secretary,

It could be YOU, provided you're quick!

You could be in line for a £25 voucher to spend in the CA shop. All you have to do is to be among the first 50 Associates (or clubs) to recruit a new Tournament Associate (including Junior, Veteran or Composite Categories) to the CA, the only requirement being that the new Associate pays his or her subscription annually by Direct Debit. It's as easy as that!

There is no limit to the number of £25 vouchers you can earn, subject to the proviso that only the first 50 applications will be rewarded with a voucher. You know the way; don't delay. If you need further forms, please photocopy those provided.

So, go to it please! The CA is very keen to increase the number of Associates and I hope this voucher scheme will provide a real incentive to action by both Associates and Clubs.

Remember, it could be YOU, provided you're quick!

Yours sincerely,

W.H. Arliss
Chairman of Council

P.S. The names of Associates and Clubs who are successful in recruiting the new associates will be published in The Croquet Gazette.

To: The Croquet Association, c/o The Hurlingham Club, Ranelagh Gardens, London SW6 3PR

From: Associate/Club Secretary

Name and Address

I wish to claim voucher/vouchers in respect of the following proposed Tournament Associates:

Signature of proposed Associate(s)

I enclose a completed membership application form and Direct Debit mandate

CROQUET ASSOCIATION - SUBSCRIPTIONS 1999

New membership taken out between 1 August 1998 and 31 July 1999 is valid until the end of 1999, and is payable at the following rates:

<u>Membership Category</u>	<u>Direct Debit Rate</u>	<u>Payment by other means</u>
TOURNAMENT		
STANDARD TOURNAMENT	£25.00	£30.00
VETERAN (over 65 on 31.12.1998)	£23.00	£28.00
JUNIOR (under 21 on 31.8.1998)	£12.00	£12.00
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NON-TOURNAMENT		
STANDARD NON-TOURNAMENT	£15.00	£20.00
HUSBAND & WIFE COMPOSITE	£22.00	£27.00

There is also a 3-year subscription for Overseas members of £60 if payment is by cheque in pounds sterling drawn on a UK clearing bank, or £65 otherwise.

So that we may update our records, please complete the form below, irrespective of your method of payment, and return it to the CA Office as soon as possible. Thank you.

1999 CA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Do not include payments for any other purpose if you pay by cheque please, & no post -dated cheques.

Surname	Membership Category required
Initials Title(s)	Club at which you are registered for CA purposes
D.O.B. if under 25	Other Croquet Clubs of which you are a member
Address inc post code
.....	Handicap
.....	PLEASE SEND THIS FORM TO:
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(Work)	Ranelagh Gardens, London SW6 3PR
Fax number	FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
E-mail address	Cheque list £
	Alloc Disp
	Category NMB

* I return a Direct Debit form/*I enclose a cheque payable to THE CROQUET ASSOCIATION for £.....

* I am a life member (*delete as appropriate)

NB Payment by Standing Order is no longer acceptable.

Letters...

Even more thoughts on handicapping

Dear Editor

As one of the two 'bandits' at Budleigh in August last year, I recognise Don Terrible's plight! I wonder if a simple solution for games against A class players, or open handicap events in general, is for them to be advanced handicap. Then, besides two balls being put on the lawn (and if you are Robert Fulford, getting best part of the way round to boot in the process) there would be a lift or contact instead of a 25+ yard shot, and the possibility of pegging out the Don if he were so imprudent as to take one ball all the way round. If he is cautious, then the A class player gets several chances for the innings.

I don't think there is such a simple solution for Aunt Emma since, as in any sport, there will always be those who try to win by conceding less than their opponent, rather than scoring more. The best is probably to play full bisque games off a base, determined by the players' relative handicaps, since then the Don will have the chance to miss his long distance shot, take a bisque and make hay off Aunt Emma. The system would work well for nearly all handicap matches.

The normal system whereby the difference in handicap is given in bisques to the higher handicapped player gives an undue benefit to that player. If the number of bisques is meant to represent the number of extra turns needed to take two balls round, then it is the handicap ratio rather than handicap difference that measures the difference in standard.

Thus if +3 plays +18, the +3 player should have one extra turn taken for every six taken by the +18 player to remain in parity, rather than the present method where the +18 player receives 15 extra turns. This would not address the fact that the +3 player is likely to be far more proficient in all aspects of play apart from 4 ball breaks, but, in the Don's case, he is relatively more proficient in such breaks which are more steadily set up via multiple bisques.

Graham Dodd

More taking a stance than getting a grip

Dear Editor

In the September issue of the Gazette John Hobbs was kind enough to mention me in his report of the Southwick autumn tournament. He made reference to what might become the Castell grip.

This is somewhat misleading as I use a Solomon grip but side style, which is the important part of the affair. The 'Castell stance'

or the 'Castell address' might be better terms, the left arm being held at right angles across the body. (It would be perfect for the carrying of a handbag!) However the main point of the stance is that the shoulders are not square to the line of aim.

This traditionally appears to be an essential part of the croquet player's stance and is held to be very important. Bill Lamb's reference to the stance in his book lays great emphasis on having the shoulders square and goes on to say side style players will have their grip and stance forced on them: standard grip and weight on one foot, the other flung out to the side to provide balance. But show me the golfer or snooker player who has shoulders square to the line of aim when making a stroke.

Aligning a shot is a question of judgement; assessment by eye, stalking the ball etc. are aids to this end but whether the shoulders are square or not matters not a jot in my opinion. What is important is whether the mallet is swung accurately on the line of aim, especially at the point of impact. I have noticed, more often than not, with players who swing their mallets between their legs, regardless of grip, the mallet does not keep to the line of aim on the backswing. Now the Castell stance allows a very free swing. Because I am not concerned with keeping the shoulders square you can assume a position with the weight equally distributed on the feet, one in front of the other, in my case, being right handed with the left foot forward. This stance is nicely balanced and allows a very free swing, up to shoulder height if necessary (very useful on long shots) with little risk of breaking an ankle or straining the wrists. I contend with this method it is much easier to swing on an accurate and consistent line.

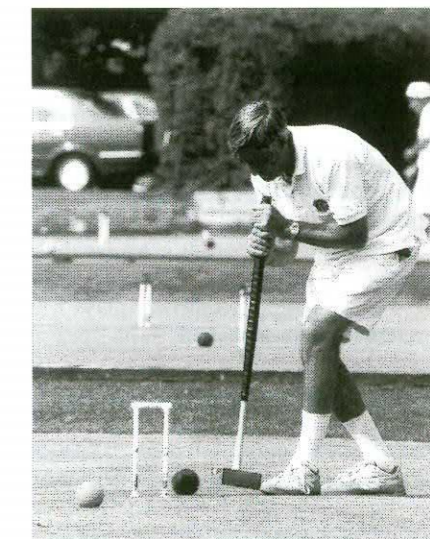
Paul (no handbag) Castell

Matters of no importance

Dear Editor

What is a 'bandit'? Is it a fast improver, or is it a cheat? Actually, it doesn't matter a jot, because whatever is done to modify the handicap system the 'bandit' will always exist. You can never stop players performing better, and worse, than their handicaps, and I doubt you can ever stop people cheating (if anyone does actually cheat). Having dealt out a few 26 wins in my higher handicap days, and now being on the receiving end of the same score my feelings are that it is not that important - annoying, yes, especially when the winner gloats about the wonderful win - but it is all part of the learning curve.

Nick Evans



Paul Castell in play at Southwick, demonstrating the 'Castell stance'.

Shared experiences?

Dear Editor

Has any club shared a lawn with a tennis court? Our tennis club would like to make our short lawn into a tennis court and put down a carpet. We wonder if it would be possible to put hoops in this without damaging it for tennis players. I would be most grateful for any suggestions.

Monica Catling, Lansdown CC

Keep it as it is

Dear Editor

I noted in the November issue a proliferation of letters wanting faster and less boring croquet. Why? What is wrong with croquet as it is?

I like it: I like being in play and I like watching others in play, aware that all players are different, some fast, others slow, some attacking and others defending. I like challenges brought about by differing techniques.

We could of course speed things up by allowing both players to play at the same time, by increasing the hoop size, by using a large soft ball and dispensing with mallets. And we could guarantee TV exposure by running round the lawns after making a hoop with arms outstretched before leaping upon partners or opponents.....Let's keep it as it is.

Owen Bryce

The missing points

Dear Editor

Is not the reason why there are more handicap reductions (recorded in the Gazette) than there are increases due substantially to the fact that, at any given time, whereas all players with a handicap of 0.5 or more would gain a reduction in handicap by having 50 points added to their points index, perhaps only approximately one half of them would suffer a handicap increase by having 50 points subtracted? For instance, none of those players with a handicap of 1, whose points index exceeded 1900, would revert to 1.5 by a subtraction of 50 points.

Ed Dymock

Offering variation

Dear Editor

We have all heard about 'A' class players not wanting to play in handicap tournaments because they don't relish the idea of sitting pulling out bisques while their opponent goes round prior to a cup of tea, having lost -26. I have devised a game whereby every competitor plays a full game, taking both their balls to the peg and pegging out. It means that the 'A' class player is going to get games where, win or lose, he or she is still going to get a full game. Also I think it can be a learning process for the 'B' and 'C' class players because they watch the way the better players play, and also use their bisques as they are meant to be used i.e. to continue the break. The one other bonus this version of the game offers is that players' handicaps are no longer measured by their opponents' performance, but only by the players' own performance against the court.

The object of the game is to allow every competitor to play a full game, getting both balls to the peg and pegging out. Each of the players will take a box of bisques and half bisques with him to the court. The game will start with the toss of a coin to determine who goes first. The first to play will then arrange the balls thus:- Partner ball will be placed on the west boundary 10.5 yds down from corner one. One of the opponent colours will then be placed on the east boundary, 10.5 yds from corner four. The remaining opponent ball is then placed on the west boundary 10.5 yds from corner two. The player then commences play by playing the striker's ball from either baulk line, establishing a break, taking it as far as he wishes using as many bisques and peeling his partner ball through as many hoops as he wishes. When he decides to end his break, the positions of the balls are marked, and the balls removed for the opponent to start his first turn. During his turn the opponent puts bisques in the ground each time one is signalled, and places a half bisque in the ground for each peel performed. The clips are placed on their corresponding hoops. The number of peels and hoops are recorded.

The second player now commences his first turn with the balls placed in their starting positions on the boundaries. When he decides to end his first break the positions are once again marked and the balls replaced in the finishing positions of the first player.

The first player now plays his second break, the turn in which the player must peg out, so if you have left the first ball with hoops still to run ou must peel them. Once finished, and bisques and peels recorded, the second player replaces the balls to where his first turn ended and he now plays his second turn to end the game, which when achieved the bisques and peels are again recorded. Two hours is about the average length of time for a game.

A player's score is equal to how many bisques used, less how many peels made, less

his handicap. (For a minus player it would be a plus handicap). So if for example a player of handicap 10 took 3 bisques on the first ball, with no peels, and 4 bisques on the second with one peel their score would be -4.

If anyone would like to run a friendly event using this format during the season you can contact me for further information.

Tom Weston, Tel/Fax 0191 3866539

Handicapping again, and again

Dear Editor,

I think Tal Golesworthy is confusing handicapping in general with the AHS in particular. The latter refers only to that part of handicapping that is automatic and adjusted by the players themselves. Outside intervention by handicappers is not part of the AHS but is complementary to it.

The HCC has already implemented Tal's first suggestion and taken steps to strengthen the procedure for ensuring high-bisquers that are correctly handicapped. (See Handicap Guidelines 1999.) However, there is a problem that the HCC has no way of policing handicappers in so many clubs. Federations can be of great help here in overseeing club handicapping in their region.

Most of the complaints that come to me directly concern handicappers in one club who have intervened in a player's handicap to the annoyance of his home club. It is very difficult to regulate the actions of handicappers - that is why the old system of handicapping broke down so often. Because of this, handicappers are discouraged from fiddling with handicaps, except in the case of rapid improvers, and Tal's second suggestion has been rejected by the HCC. Where there is sufficient evidence based on the results of at least ten games, handicappers can and do take action under the rapid improver provision. Of course, there is no way any system can keep up with the enthusiastic beginner who has an aptitude for the game and who practises as often as possible. Croquet players are not robots and higher-bisquers in particular are inconsistent. Without extended evidence it is impossible to distinguish between a player who is just having a good tournament (the cause of the breakdown of the old system) and the player who has genuinely improved. There is even a school of thought that improving players should win games and tournaments but handicapping is not designed to bring this about - it just happens that way.

When I was able to play, I expected to be 26'd quite frequently in handicap events and often was. No player should be made to feel embarrassed because he has beaten an A class player with bisques standing and it is quite easy for the A class player to deal with. You just say, "Well played!" and tell them how to improve their game even further. I recall that, in the mid-eighties, I was stuffed at Colchester by a local junior. I told him that if he could improve his

croquet strokes to the level of his shooting he would become a very good player. Robert did both!

Nevertheless, the HCC is trying to gather information to see whether there is any general bias in the AHS against A class players. I suspect, however, that their reluctance to play in handicap events has more to do with the much greater availability of advanced play events than was the case ten or twelve years ago.

I am grateful for Tal's thoughtful comments and, along with all other suggestions, the HCC does take notice.

Bill Lamb

Chairman, Handicap Co-ordination Committee

Recipe for success

Dear Editor

Colin Hemming's letter regarding food and drink for visitors to his, and other, clubs is well appreciated and I agree fully that we should use the facilities provided. However it is often difficult on a first visit to a club to know exactly what will be on offer. By the second day I know where I stand, what's on offer and as often as not use the facilities. It is sometimes made clear in event publicity, but this is not always so. Perhaps it should be.

Owen Bryce

Croquet club claim

Dear Editor

It has long been claimed that the first croquet club in England was founded in Worthing in 1865. In truth, the honour belongs to Eastbourne. An advertisement in the Eastbourne Gazette of 10 June 1863 invited visitors to the Eastbourne Cricket, Archery and Croquet Club. The Gazette of 9 December 1863 carried a report of a general meeting of the cricket club where references were made to the croquet club, its secretary and its balance sheet, indicating a separate existence.

It is probable that this club was the Eastbourne club mentioned in Col. Prichard's History as one of those invited to the club conference held on 27 October 1869 at the Charing Cross Hotel.

James Kellaway

Can you help ?

Dear Editor

I would be most grateful if any of your readers could give me any information about the following - Elmbridge Court, Gloucester; Haselour Hall, the seat of John Neville Esq. (Staffordshire?). The reason I ask is that I have paintings dated c 1850 of Elmbridge Court and c 1870 of Haselour Hall and I would like to know more about these places and the Neville family.

Richard Sowerby

Bouais'sie d'Orme, Le Hurel, Ste. Marie, Jersey, JE3 3AL.

C.A. COUNCIL MINUTES**Extracts from the unconfirmed Minutes of the Council Meeting on 17th October 1998**

1. WH Arliss (Chairman), AJ Oldham (Vice-President), RW Bray (Hon. Treasurer) and 18 other members of Council were present with PWP Campion (Secretary CA) in attendance.

2. The new members, AG Fathers, DK Openshaw, A Pidcock & IG Vincent were welcomed to the Council. As a result of the resignations of IJ Burridge and SO Jones two vacancies on Council had arisen. JL Wankling was co-opted to the Council for one year.

3. WH Arliss and DL Gaunt were re-elected Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively.

4. Arising from the Reports of Committees:-

(i) The dates of the MacRobertson Shield in New Zealand, scheduled to begin on 3rd January 2000, may have to be changed because the inflated prices likely to be charged for air tickets at that time will cause financial difficulties for us.

(ii) Council re-emphasized the importance which it attaches to ensuring that the September issues of *The Croquet Gazette* which contains notices of the AGM are published in time.

(iii) The International Laws Group has made considerable progress in clarifying some of the laws to make the wording consistent with the intent of the laws but where a change in principle has been involved there have been difficulties in reaching an agreement which will apply internationally. These are however only minor matters so far as the majority of players are concerned and no changes are contemplated which will affect the game as played by players generally.

(iv) Jaques have no plans to resume the manufacture of Eclipse balls but report good progress on the development of their new plastic balls and hope that these will be available for the start of the 1999 season.

(v) It is intended that any changes proposed by the Constitution Working Party which directly affect Associates will, after approval by council, be published in an early 1999 issue of *The Croquet Gazette* in the form of a consultation document.

(vi) 9 Gold, 28 silver, and 45 Bronze awards have been made by the coaching Committee so far this year. There is no intention to change the conditions for these awards.

(vii) Only the South East federation has so far made the commitment to a mini-mat, so only one mat will be purchased by the CA but it will be available to other Federations.

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(viii) Messrs CD Clarke, DL Gaunt, JR Hilditch, CJ Irwin and SN Mulliner were elected by Council to form the Selection Committee.

(ix) Messrs IJ Burridge, CD Clarke, RI Fulford, DL Gaunt and JR Hilditch were appointed by council to form the MacRobertson Selection Committee. Council confirmed that the initial selection of players should be made on the grounds of merit alone and further agreed that the International Committee would negotiate with any individuals who might require financial assistance.

5. Brian Macmillan reported that significantly increased sales of equipment had been achieved as a result of successful promotions with hotels and his attendance at the Chelsea Flower Show.

6. The deaths of two Associates were reported. Council confirmed the election of 30 new Associates. As at 6th October the number of paid-up Associates was stated to be 1665 including 66 overseas members. The Secretary expressed disappointment at the lower than usual numbers of new members joining at this time of the year despite a recent energetic promotion of the advantage of post-1st August applications.

7. The Secretary reported that he had recently visited Budleigh Salterton, Exeter, Hamptworth, Plymouth and Sidmouth clubs and that five clubs have newly registered with the CA since the last meeting.

8. The Secretary reported that in addition to the article in *Country Life* on 20th August an article had also appeared in *The Times Educational Supplement* on 21st August; that he had taken part in two radio interviews during British Opens week; and that three video broadcasting teams had visited Hurlingham during the same week.

9. On the motion by AJ Oldham, seconded by R Quiller Barrett, Council agreed that the name of the late Dr. GL Ormerod should be inserted in the Benefactors Book in belated recognition of his generosity many years ago in donating all the royalties in the booklet *Know The Game Croquet* of which he had been the original author.

AJ Oldham

10th Nov 1998.

Extracts from the unconfirmed Minutes of the Council Meeting on 12 December 1998

1. WH Arliss (Chairman), DL Gaunt (Vice-Chairman), BG Neal, AJ Oldham and L Wharrad (Vice Presidents), RW Bray (Hon Treasurer) and 14 other members of Council were present with PWP Campion (Secretary CA) in attendance.

2. It was reported that the dates for the MacRobertson Shield in the year 2000 would now be 24 January to 13 February.

3. Arising from the Reports of the Standing Committees:-

(i) The budget for 1999 envisaging a surplus of income over expenditure of 3% was agreed. Council also agreed to adopt an on-going finance policy which would aim to make a profit of 7-10% per year, so increasing the CA's reserves and enabling them to cater for any major funding initiatives that might arise in the future.

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(ii) Derek Trotman reported on his attendance at a recent English Sports Council meeting and emphasized the need for the Association to establish a definite future strategy involving coaching and international activities.

(iii) The Publicity committee has co-opted Liz Williams and Paul Castell as members and has drafted two new booklets viz, *Croquet Lawns* and *Anyone for Croquet* (a guide to the formation of a croquet club). Pages entitled "Croquet in Great Britain" will shortly be placed on the internet.

(iv) New Tournament regulations relating to Referees and Umpires were approved for publication in the Gazette prior to ratification. [These were published in issue 259 January 1999]

(v) The Coaching Committee issued 9 Gold, 28 Silver and 45 Bronze merit awards in 1998. 38 persons attended Improvers courses, 15 attended Bronze courses and 21 attended Silver courses in 1998. 2 Grade II coaches and 11 Grade I coaches were appointed in 1998. In 1999 2 Silver, 1 Silver-gilt (introduction to advanced play) and 1 Gold course will be organised by the committee with 1 Improvers and 3 Bronze courses left to be organised by the Federations.

(vi) Indoor tournaments are to be held at Innsworth [venue later changed to Bath University] on 17/18 January and 13/14 March 1999. Barlow GT balls are to be purchased for use in the Open Championships in 1999. Increases in entry fees for the Inter Counties, Opens, Ladies Invitation Event and the Indoor Tournament were agreed. Trophies for the 2nd division of the Inter Counties and for the Seniors Tournament are to be provided.

(vii) Council approved the Golf Croquet Committee's request to run competitions in 1999 under a new set of laws (temporary variation) and encouraged them to do so.

4 The report of the Constitution Working Party was received. The first part of the report which concerned CA Club Membership and the Federations was given broad approval and it was agreed that the recommendations should be published to clubs, federations and Associates for their comments before being further considered by Council. [They were published in the Gazette no.259 January 1999].

Arising out of the Report, Council agreed to rescind its earlier approval of the Planning Group proposals 15 & 16 and replace them with the following:-

PG 15: The Federations should continue, but have their operations reviewed periodically. There may be a case for some adjustments to the boundaries of the Federations.

PG 16: Federations should encourage any of their member clubs that have not registered with the CA to join the Association.

The recommendations in the Report, dismissing the need for the CA to form itself into a limited company, but recognizing the need to protect CA members from civil liability claims by adequate insurance and appropriate amendment to the Rules of the CA, were agreed.

Discussion of the recommendations in the Report dealing with the structure of Council and its Committees was deferred.

5 A working party, chaired by Don Gaunt, was formed to consider what events if any should be set up to celebrate the Millennium.

6 Brian Macmillan reported successful promotions in Surrey and Derbyshire in conjunction with Volvo cars: he also reported that orders for equipment, literature and other items are now being received as a result of our showing on the website.

7 The deaths of Cdr. Guy Borrett and Judge Alex Karmel, both formerly members of Council, and one other Associate were reported. Eleven Associates have resigned. Council confirmed the election of 15 new Associates. As at 3 December 1998 the number of paid-up Associates was stated to be 1657 including 62 overseas members.

8 Alan Oldham reported that the late Edgar Jackson had bequeathed archival material to the Association consisting largely of statistics of games played over a number of years. The papers would be deposited in the CA office.

9 The meeting was adjourned to 27 February 1999 for further consideration of the recommendations of the Constitution Working Party.

A.J. Oldham

1 Feb 1999

AS IT WAS - March 1949

The Gazette of March 1949 included the obituary of Jarvis Kenrick, who had died in January in his 97th year and to whom his obituarist ascribes responsibility for the birth of the CA Gazette. His is not a name which is at all widely known today, though he has this and a further - more obscure - claim to fame:

"We must not omit to mention that about 40 years ago he invented the winning peg as it is today. The 'Kenrick Posts' (for there were two in those days) had no projecting cross-bars on which to put the clips; previously the winning and turning pegs were so furnished."

Handel Elvey, reminiscing in the same issue about older players, includes the following glimpse of a crowd-pleaser who died young in 1919:

"A player, who created an extraordinary stir in the croquet world in the old days [before the Great War] was Keith Izard. Izard was young, even for those days when most first-class players were under 30. He was keen, enthusiastic, and extremely temperamental. He was a side-player with one foot forward, and one behind. He held his mallet terrifically tightly, and used to hit terrifically hard ... On one occasion when playing a long bisquer in a handicap, Izard wanted to finish his lunch sandwiches, which he had with him - so he took care to miss every shot until the sandwiches had been dispatched, then he calmly proceeded to win the game."

Alterations to the Laws also featured, as was traditional between seasons. The Editor hopefully commented that

"We are led to believe that it is not likely that there will be any necessity for such alterations to be made again. The Chairman of the Laws Committee, Mr G L Reckitt, and its members deserve the gratitude of Associates for the amount of care and skilled drafting (in order to leave no wording of the Laws vague or even misleading) that he and his Committee have devoted to this most important subject."

The lawyers' Winter work 25 years before had delivered to the croquet world the 'either baulk' start to the game. Sir Dunscombe Mann, introducing this and other minor changes in the Gazette of January 1924, observed that

"... I believe the Laws Committee carefully considered every suggestion that had been made, either for modifying the game or in the way of amendment. Some of the suggestions did not commend themselves to the Committee, either on their merits, or because the point sought to provide for or against was considered too trivial to call for legislation. The Laws are already sufficiently encumbered with provisions against all sorts of contingencies; and it seems highly undesirable to load them still further with regulations to cover minute details. De minimis non curat lex."

What, one wonders, would he make of today's debates?

Extracts from a bibliographer's casebook

By David Drazin

VIII. Lewis Carroll: A Tangled Tale

Our Carrollian croquet inheritance is a weird mix. We are all familiar enough with *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, but few of us are aware of its forbear *Alice's Adventures Under Ground*, or have taken the trouble to read *Croquet Castles: For Five Players*, *Castle Croquet: For Four Players* (a later version of the same game), *Numerical Croquet* (never published), or *Arithmetical Croquet* (first published posthumously). And only book people will have suspected the awful truth that the origins of all these works still present mysteries galore. Intuiting the worst, I put off dealing with these titles as long as I could. But, nearing the time I wanted to be in print, I had no choice but to act.

On joining the Lewis Carroll Society, which publishes its own learned journal, I soon discovered that the Carrollian bibliographical universe was so extensive that no one person could comprehend the whole, and that access to the leading edge was fraught because the original source material, much of it in manuscript, had long been widely dispersed. Mercifully, it turned out that most of Carroll's croquet works were reasonably well documented. The only

problematic title was *Castle Croquet: For Four Players*. I knew that it was first printed in (August) 1866 and first published in an 1867 issue of *Aunt Judy's Magazine*, but I was troubled to find variations in later reprints, notably in *The Lewis Carroll Picture Book* (1899) by Carroll's nephew and biographer, Stuart Dodgson Collingwood. How could this have come about? Which one, if either, was what Carroll ultimately intended? Had some of us who had tried this fun game, perhaps in period dress, been playing the *wrong* game?

Dr Selwyn Goodacre, one of our leading Carrollian scholars, to whom I was referred by the society secretary, kindly brought me up to speed. In the 1870s Carroll planned to publish a compilation of his games and puzzles under the title *Alice's Puzzle Book*. In connection with this project, or so the story went, he revised *Castle Croquet* once again, writing to Macmillans, his publisher, on 9 March 1875, 'I enclose the *Castle Croquet* rules to try the experiment on. Would you get a page of it set up in whatever style you think will look best.' Only two or three copies of the printer's output are known to have survived. On the basis of this scant evidence it has long since been supposed that the variations in Collingwood's 1899 reprint incorporate those revisions, and hence that his version represents the game's final state of development.

But not so. I got a copy of the supposed revisions from the Parrish Collection held by Princeton University Library and found to my astonishment that this document consisted merely of a verbatim excerpt from the original 1866 printing which later appeared in *Aunt Judy's Magazine*. Whereas it had been supposed that Carroll's enclosure to his cryptic letter to Macmillans consisted of revisions, it may simply have been a complete reprint of the 1866 version, so that Macmillans could reset a page of it in a style suitable for a new work to be targeted at a wider, perhaps younger, market.

So where did Collingwood's version come from, and did it originate before or after Carroll completed the 1866 version? The sad truth is that, after all this time, we shall probably never know. But I have a strong suspicion that it represents a missing link between *Croquet Castles: For Five Players* (1863) and *Castle Croquet: For Four Players* (1866). The circumstantial evidence is cogent. The clue lies in the croquet terminology. All early printings of the 1866 version include three technical expressions in quotes - 'take two [turns] off' (ie 'take off' in modern parlance), '[a ball] in hand', and '[a hoop] in order', but only one of these expressions ('in order') is to be found in Collingwood's reprint. Checking through the popular law books of the early and mid-1860s, I was not entirely surprised to find that the concept of the ball in hand dated from 1866 and that the first code of laws to include all three of these expressions was *The Field Code*, which first appeared in 'The Country Gentleman's Newspaper' of 7 April 1866. I hardly think that Carroll, writing *after* 1866, would deliberately have jettisoned accepted jargon from earlier work. Surely, much more plausible, writing before putting his August 1866 manuscript to bed, he would have been pleased to incorporate fresh ideas from the new *Field Code* and incidentally display his acquaintance with topical developments of the standard game, which was then highly fashionable in university circles. (And, if that is what happened, Collingwood's version could have been written at any time or times between 1863 and the early days of April 1866). Since hard evidence either way may not be forthcoming, let's put it to a straw poll.

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CROQUET ON THE 'MAT'

An account of the Southwick Club's experience of the 'mini-carpet', a player's experiences of indoor croquet and a report of the C.A. indoor tournament held at Innsworth

Indoor croquet or bananas on the mat

by Ken Mason

Shortly after the New Year the Croquet Association indoor mat arrived at the Southwick Club. After clearing and stacking all the tables and chairs, Bill Arliss and myself laid the mat in the clubhouse. It just fitted with a foot to spare down each side.

The whole package consists of a 24ft x 18ft foam backed green carpet which comes in three 6ft rolls each in a snappy fitted holdall. The hoops are full size allowing the use of

the facility. The feed-back from members was very positive and has proved to be a most useful asset in the "close season".

The mat does not play as fast as one would think, (possibly as we have laid it on top of other carpet) it being similar to playing on short wet grass. A fair degree of finesse is needed to play the short shots required on such a restricted area; timid strokes are punished by a failure to reach their destination. The hoops are very slightly flexible; running them straight requires a steady but not over enthusiastic stroke. The angle from which you can run a hoop from the side is not as great as in the outside game. The skills required seem to have been learned very quickly by members. One aspect which

the Bar - (sounds familiar -mine's a lager and lime). Here one plays the shot against the slope, some say the incline is about 1 in 4, and the ideal shot is the Southwick Banana enabling one to curve the ball gracefully out of a "wired" situation and run the hoop. Of course the number one shot is the Banana Split which has to be seen to be believed!

The club members are very enthusiastic about the indoor mat and were sorry to see it go. Playing indoors (in the Bar) and in the warm certainly beats the Sunday morning Chilblain matches in wellies, mud and frozen mitts !! We can't wait to see the mat back in the old clubhouse - thank you C.A.

Winter Croquet in East Anglia

by Colin Hemming

Imagine the scene. You are in a sports centre in Cambridgeshire looking down from the balcony into the main hall. A player hits his ball and scampers after it at a brisk trot. What are you watching? Squash? Tennis? Maybe indoor Hockey? No, because this is Soham, and you are watching one of the regular indoor Speed Croquet tournaments held each winter by the East Anglian Croquet Federation (EACF). Four times each year the carpet (owned by the CA, and stored at Soham) is unrolled, the hoops put in place and the sports hall is taken over for the weekend by croquet players from all over Eastern England.

So what is Speed Croquet and how does it differ from Association Croquet? Simply put, each side (the normal game is doubles) has a limited amount of time to get through all the hoops and to peg out, this amount of time being one hour for a full round of twelve hoops and half an hour for a six hoops. A full round is usually only played outdoors, the usual indoor game being 14 points. Note that the time limit is per side, and not overall, so that for the indoor game the time must be kept not just by counting off sixty minutes but by restricting the amount of time each side is actually in play to a maximum of thirty minutes. How is this done? Chess players can probably guess the answer: you simply connect two clocks together via a mechanism which turns off one clock at the same time that it turns on the other. This sort of arrangement has been used to control games of chess for probably a hundred years or more, and has been adapted for the game of Speed Croquet.

Actual Chess clocks are not used, since they would be too small to be seen across the court. Instead at the EACF tournaments we use clocks which have been custom made, consisting of pairs of dials about 30cm in diameter, with the usual sort of battery-driven clock mechanism found in the majority of household clocks these days. Instead of a battery in each mechanism, however, a single battery is connected via a switch so that stopping one clock starts the other. A third, central, switch position is provided which switches off power to both clocks. This is to cater for stoppages during a game for refereeing decisions, delays due to double banking, etc. A nice feature of the clocks is that they are colour-coded to the balls; one pair of clocks has one clock face in red and the other in blue, the other pair (of course) being pink and green. This makes it easy for players and spectators alike to assess the current state of play.

then lay up with either opponent ball with impunity and could easily complete their round. The ingenious solution is to allow a side whose time has expired to play a single shot each turn. The side may use this single shot to run a hoop or hit the peg, and any such points scored do count; no continuation shots are taken, however, and if another ball is hit no croquet shot is played, the balls simply ending up where they finish. This single-shot rule can lead to some very exciting finishes, with a player on one side taking successive shots at the peg from the boundary whilst the opposing side scramble to get through their remaining hoops and peg out in the few minutes they have left. So what else is different about the Indoor game? First and most noticeable is, of course, the playing surface. This is a smooth carpet, like an indoor bowling rink, as opposed to artificial grass like astroturf. It is fast. Very, very fast. Imagine a well-trimmed

based on Association handicaps, but reduced, and for scratch and minus players a system of compulsory peels is introduced (you can find all this in "The Red Book"). Suffice it to say that the system works well enough at Soham for players with Association handicaps from -2 to +24 to compete. The only adjustment which has been made to cater for the gap between the very best players and we mere mortals is to dock two minutes from a side containing a -2 player and add it to the other side's allowance. Nevertheless I can vouch that even with this handicap Robert Fulford and Chris Clarke are no pushovers!

You can imagine that the tight time restrictions and the huge disadvantage in running out of time mean that it is important for players to do everything possible to use their time on the court to best effect. When your partner is in play, your job should be to support him or her as much as possible, fielding balls as they go off the court, placing clips and so on; you need to try to develop a "feel" for what your partner is doing and position yourself on the boundary where you can be most use. And run, don't walk, to field the balls. This doesn't mean, though, that Speed croquet is just for the young; I have seen people of all ages from their early twenties to early eighties play and enjoy the game.

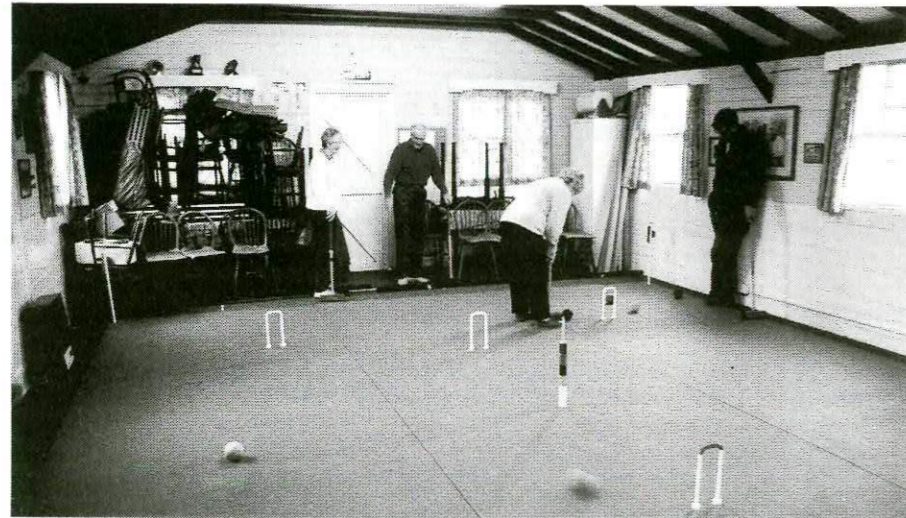
Speed Croquet is not to everyone's taste, of course. Many people simply don't like to hurry, and prefer the careful thought and sometimes stately progress of the outdoor game; they may consider the nail-biting finishes of one side to run a few hoops before their time runs out as "artificial". I have some sympathy with this point of view. I like to think of Speed Croquet in relation to Association Croquet in much the same way as One-day Cricket can be compared to Test Cricket: both games are played with (more or less) the same equipment, but to subtly different rules and they exercise different skills. In both cases the longer game is surely the ultimate test of a player's skill but the short game is fun to play and to watch.

I would advise anyone who gets a chance to play Speed Croquet, to give it a go, at least once. One undoubted plus that we have over One-day Cricket is that we wear whites and not pyjamas!

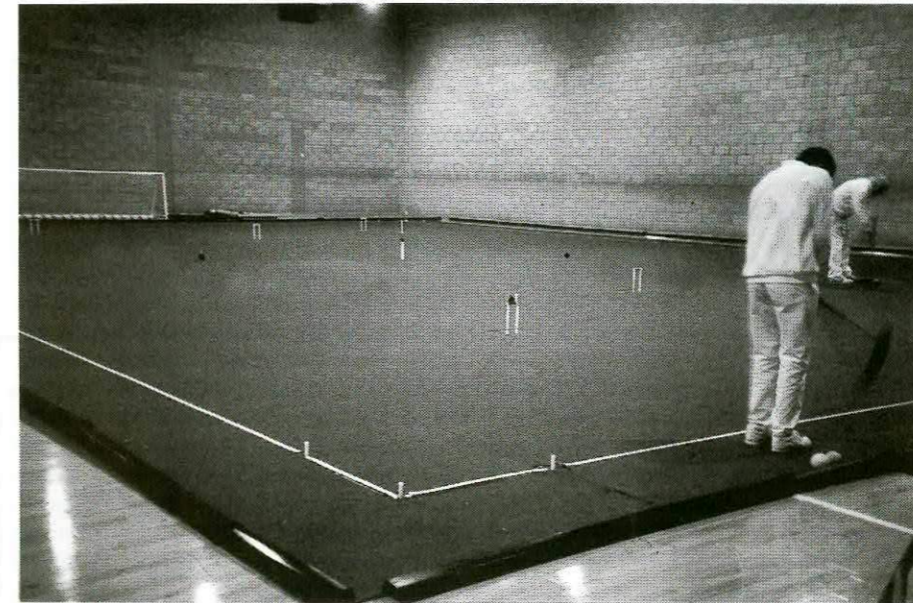
Indoor Speed Croquet at Gloucester 16 - 17 January 1999

report by Eileen Magee

I had heard about indoor speed croquet but never played it before. The court this weekend was some 17 yds x 23 yds and the carpet is very quick. Even hitting the ball gently means you spend precious minutes following the dratted thing waiting for it to go off the lawn



The Southwick clubhouse transformed from lunch room to lawn 1. (Photo by Bill Arliss)



The forerunner and bigger brother of the min-mat, in use at RAF Innsworth. (Photo by Eileen Magee).

Unlike in chess, where it is easy for each player to switch the clock by himself or herself, the clock is overseen by a third-party timekeeper. It is the timekeeper's job to switch the clock as soon as one side leaves the court, or as soon as their opponents step onto the court, whichever is sooner. (S)he should also be alert enough to be aware of breaks in play to switch the clock to the neutral position when necessary. The timekeeper also looks after the markers indicating bisques and peels.

A question that you are probably by now asking yourself is "What happens when a side runs out of time?" Let us imagine that one side has used all of its allotted thirty minutes and has just failed to peg out, having reached peg and rover (hoop 6). The opposing side has used its time frugally and is left with fifteen minutes but is only at hoops 4 and 2. What are we to do? Prohibit the first side from further play? That would hardly be fair, since the second side could

grass court after a few weeks' drought. And then some. Almost everyone playing for the first time sends the first croquet shot off the court. And you may think that a carpet laid on the floor of a sports hall would run true. I have no doubt that a carpet laid permanently in a sports hall would run true, but a carpet which is rolled out in three strips which are then stretched to fit certainly does not run true, especially at the end of two days' play. And the hoops? Together with the peg and the corner posts and pegs, these are bolted to heavy steel plates which are let into precisely-cut holes at the appropriate points in the carpet. There is no "give" to these hoops and most people find them very much more difficult to run than typical outdoor hoops.

The second big difference is that the carpet is a Short Croquet court. For those of you not familiar with this variation, a short court is half the size of a full Croquet Court, with the hoops, obviously, closer together. Handicaps are

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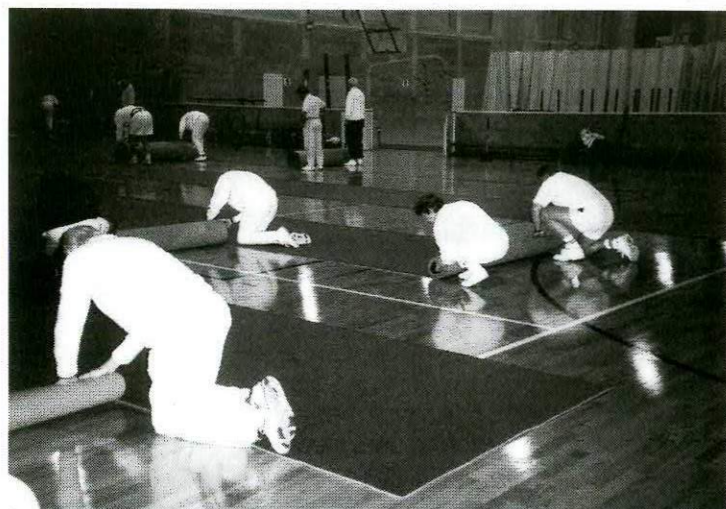
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minutes after you have struck it; or at best sidling after it continually retaking your stance for the next shot. The hoops are totally uncompromising being rigidly fixed to metal plates. There were several other novice pairs playing and rapid improvements could be seen throughout the weekend.

If you have already seen or read about this type of croquet, move forward a paragraph, otherwise read on. The rules are generally short croquet rules, but with an ordinary wiring law. Each side has 25 minutes playing time displayed on a large illuminated score board and updated by manually operated consoles. As well as showing the time remaining to each team the board also shows points scored and bisques remaining. Teams not in play are expected to act as scorers. Scoring takes a lot of concentration and it is easy to be distracted. A team's playing time is only halted at the end of a turn when clips are in place, balls in their legal position and both players have quit the lawn. So no-playing partner acts as the ball retriever, clip mover, adviser, etc. When a team's playing time has expired, single ball shots may be played, ten seconds being allowed for each shot. This is not a long time if you are inadvertently the wrong



The party's over: Players helping to pack away the larger of the mats, which can be quite a job. (Photo by Eileen Magee.)

side of the court to your ball and have put your mallet down somewhere. There was one game where both sides were out of time, blue and yellow were for peg, red and black for six. Blue was somewhere by corner 1, yellow was between the peg and hoop six, black and red were trading single shots to knock the other away from in front of hoop six. After several minutes with red some way from black, now in front of six, yellow decides he has a much closer shot to displace black, which he does, very neatly through hoop six. Great guffaws from spectators. We all learnt quite quickly, or not as the case may be. Should there be a hold-up due to the double-banking, players ask the scorer to stop their clock until play can be resumed. A new addition to the rules is the allowance of two 30 second time-out periods per team per game. These periods seemed to be used when partners were not in immediate agreement as to what the hell to do next.

There were ten pairs which manager Don Gaunt arranged into a Swiss format. Four rounds were played on the first day and concluded with both teams from Nailsea undefeated and the remaining eight pairs in some what of a lump. The two Nailsea pairs were drawn to play each other at dawn the next day, well 9.30 ish. Kris Chambers' shooting had gone off ever so slightly, allowing the other pair to use their bisques, get going and win the game. By the end of the second day's play, everyone had had some success, but the steady play of Ian Wilson and Roger Brooks had overcome all opposition. Both played very well, the non-playing partner quietly shadowing the other, whispering advice, deftly retrieving the rare errant ball, really skilful tactics, ideally suited to this type of game.

I was quite harassed for those players known to have dicky tickers and dodgy knees and hips, as the galloping about and shriekings of "stop the clock" could not be good for them. By day two dicky tickers seemed



Roger Brooks & Ian Wilson of Nailsea, the winners of the Gloucester event. (Photo by Eileen Magee.)

OK, but dodgy knees and hips were hobbling about quite painfully and for some reason one player had a blood-soaked toe.

On the whole I reckon it's all good fun with lots of involvement for both doubles players. No wind, no rain, and apart from one or two hoop surrounds, a very flat playing surface. Thanks to the few who helped to put the carpet down and the many who helped clear away at the close of play. Thanks to the non-playing manager, Don Gaunt.

The final placings were :

- 1st Roger Brooks and Ian Wilson (Nailsea)
- 2nd Bill Arliss and Peter Pullin (Southwick)
- 3rd Peter Dyke and Kris Chambers (Nailsea)
- 3rd Louise Bradforth and Dave Kibble (Bath/Bristol)

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Handicap Guidelines 1999

Mandatory Handicap Test for Novices

The guidelines for 1999 remain unchanged except in one important respect. It has been common practice for clubs to start all their novices at the same handicap but, unfortunately, this starting point differs widely amongst clubs. The practice is understandable because absolute beginners do not have the skills to have a realistic handicap and yet they need to be introduced to playing the game as opposed to practising. However, it does have unfortunate repercussions when novices are included in teams or play in local tournaments.

Within a club it does not matter too much what the starting point should be, as it is not going to be accurate for all beginners. Any coach will know that from a group of players starting together some will show much more aptitude for the game than others. The HCC does not wish to standardize starting handicaps in clubs, for fear that it should become an official point for all beginners regardless of ability.

Since the introduction of the AHS, the HCC has recommended that novices should be tested properly at some stage. The details of the test, based upon the restricted skills required by high-bisquers, are to be found in Principles of Handicapping, and have been published in previous issues of the Gazette. Those clubs that use this procedure have recognized that it is better than guesswork, but its use is not widespread. The test will now be mandatory for all novices to gain an official handicap before they can enter a Croquet Association tournament. We also recommend that it should be mandatory for play in Federation events, whether they be team or individual.

The test does not take long to carry out and it is a useful aid to coaching. The Coaching Committee will include it in some of its coaching courses for high-bisquers. If players start with a properly established handicap, many of the problems with the AHS at the top end will be considerably reduced.

A Class Players

Some concern has been expressed that A class players do not play in as many handicap events as was formerly the case and that this may be due to the AHS being biased against them. The HCC would like to investigate this possibility and would be grateful if players with handicaps from 2 downwards would provide results of their handicap games with the handicaps of their opponents. The information can be posted or e-mailed to me. Managers of tournaments could also help if they were to send similar details of games involving A class players to me.

Bill Lamb, Chairman, Handicap Co-ordination Committee

CA appointments

Our secretary, Paul Campion, has given notice that as he is leaving the London area, he wishes to terminate his contract with the CA.

If you feel the position of Secretary of the Croquet Association may be of interest to you, please contact Bill Arliss, Chairman of the CA on 01273 728204 or write to him at his home address.

An editorial assistant is required to be responsible for the editing and reproduction of tournament reports initially, but with a view to further responsibility in the future. If you have some spare time, access to a computer, and an interest in more than just playing croquet please contact Bruce Rannie, Chairman of the Editorial Board on 0191 252 9739 to discuss the role further.

Hogan Mallets - important Notice

Since the CA started stocking Hogan mallets six years ago they have managed to retain the price of £56. Unfortunately they are now having to make a small increase of £3 a mallet making it £59 plus £4 postage. Even at this price it is excellent value for money.

The good news is that the old price will be retained until current stocks run out. It is also intended to give reductions as follows:-

Ordinary:	one mallet	£59
	two mallets	£57
	three mallets	£55
	four mallets	£52
Fibre Glass:	one mallet	£68
	two mallets	£66
	three mallets	£64
	four mallets	£62

Larger head mallets of 10, 11 & 12 inch heads are also available. Please contact the office for prices.

NEWS & INFORMATION

Developments on the Isle of Man

The Isle of Man Croquet Association will be holding their first ever Tournament, a handicap singles competition, over the weekend of 14/15th May. The IOMCA have hired an area of the National Sports Centre in Douglas, large enough for 3 Lawns.

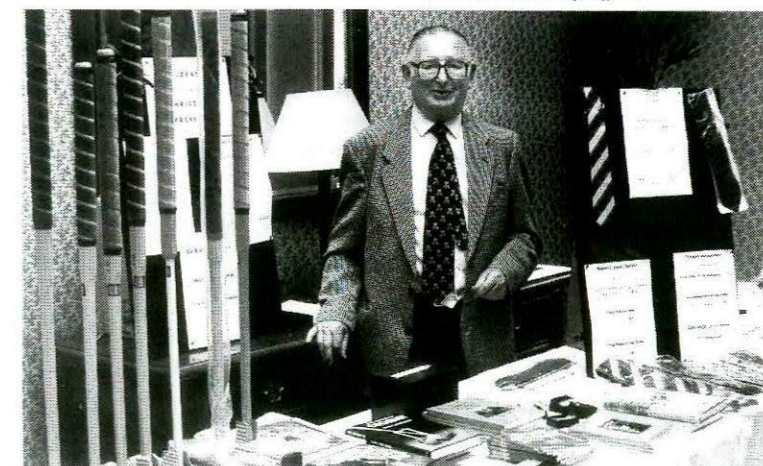
Over the last few years croquet has slowly developed on the Island (they entered the European championships for the first time last year). The first permanent, purpose built, full-size court will come into play at the Port St Mary club later this year. Currently there are three clubs on the Island all with short lawns. They are hoping this tournament will be a success and help them in their struggle to convince the local commissioners to provide more land for full size lawns. If it is well supported, they hope to make it an annual event.

Local club members will, if required, provide accommodation over the weekend for any one who wishes to enter and the IOMCA are trying to negotiate a discount with Manx Airlines to help encourage people to attend. Entries for the tournament will be 12. For further information or to submit an entry please contact Kevin Wells, 4 Ballasteen Drive, Andreas, Isle of Man, IM7 4HQ (Do not enclose SAEs as they can't use UK stamps over there), Tel 01624 880551 after 6:30pm or email kpwells@hotmail.com.

Calling all Civil Servants!

In Chiswick, west London, the Civil Service Sports Club has its spacious headquarters. Currently it is a principal centre for rugby, football, cricket, tennis and bowls, but after discussions with David Collins, SE Federation Development Officer and Paul Campion, CA Secretary, the management are giving serious

Continued on page 17



Brian Macmillan sets out his stall of CA merchandise and equipment. (Photo by Quiller Barrett.)

Talking Croquet...

By Neil Williams

This is the first of a series of conversations with prominent figures in croquet. Many readers of the Gazette may not know any details about the careers or views of some of the masters of the game. I believe we can learn a lot from their experience and advice. Our chances of seeing them, let alone talking to them, are necessarily few. I hope these conversations will bring them a little closer.

I should add finally that everyone has spoken as an individual; the views expressed are not those of the CA or any other group.

No.1 JOHN SOLOMON

You can be sure of one thing at least: that every croquet player has heard of John Solomon. For he stands in relation to croquet as Don Bradman to cricket or Jack Nicklaus to golf: the touchstone of all that is best in the game.

John Solomon's dominance of the court lasted for 25 years and his achievements then have now become the stuff of legend, so much so that we begin to wonder whether it all really happened. That winning jump shot, in the Champion of Champions Tournament - did Solomon, against the finest opposition in the land, Nigel Aspinall, really hit a shot of 24ft 3 inches which went over the Rover, landed, ran on and hit the peg dead centre to win the match?

And can anyone really have won an open doubles match in two straight games when his partner was not even present? Common sense says no, but John Solomon did.

It is typical of a man who describes his own temperament as "equable" that when I ask about the second game of that "single doubles", he gives part of the credit for the victory to a spectator, the then President of the CA, the ineffable Maurice Reckitt. John told me:

"I was winning the second game on court 2, and Maurice walked down from court 4. As he passed me he said, 'Let's see how this exhibition game is going'. Well, at that point I had begun to think that maybe I ought to retire on the peg. Now I thought, if I do retire then it is an exhibition game. So I'm not going to. And, of course, I went on to win. It was the only remark of Maurice's that I didn't like."

Perhaps we should, for the informing of newcomers to the game and the re-inspiring of old hands, briefly set down the facts of Solomon's achievement as a player. I quote from his recent croquet autobiography, *From The Beginning To The End* (1998; available in typescript from the CA). It is this autobiography that made the basis of our conversation.

"From 1952 on I was involved in a final in Open Championship week in every year except 1957, when I did not enter, until 1971. Starting with the President's Cup in 1957 I won 9 consecutive championships up to and including the Men's in 1960. Starting with the Open Championships in 1963 I won 10 consecutive championships up to and

including the Open Singles and Doubles in 1965."

In total, John Solomon has won 48 championships, an unequalled record.

We met to talk at Hurlingham (where else?) in February, 1999. To begin with we talked about what I see as the three separate stages of his career at the top. The first lasted two or three years, he says.

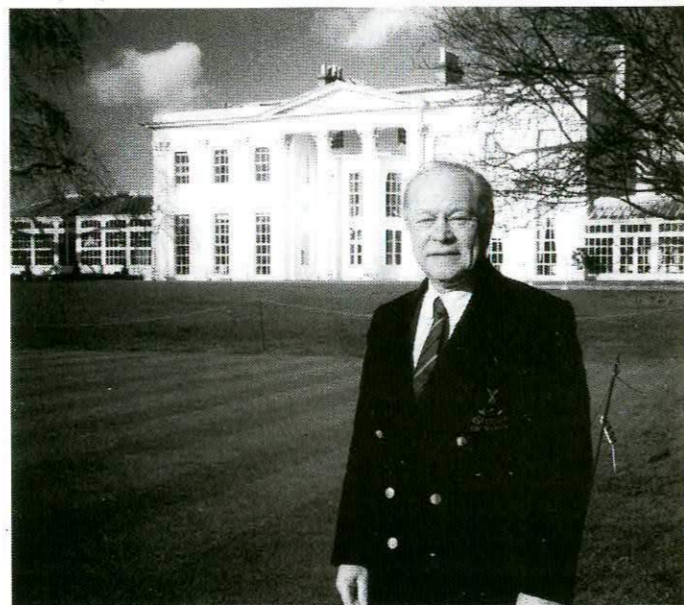
"In the school holidays, from Charterhouse, I used to cycle over from our house in Putney to Roehampton two or three afternoons a week to practise. At the end of that time my game was there. I'd got it."

What he'd got, of course, was the foundation of everything else, the rhythm of his entirely natural swing.

The next stage, after the "schooling" at Roehampton and in early tournaments, was that astonishing Test tour of New Zealand and the subsequent private tour of Australia in the period from late 1950 to May, 1951.

"I had a wonderful time. We were there for 90 days and we played croquet on 85 of them. All the women adored me. I was terribly spoilt. I just loved it. When I got back I began to get quite good."

One of the "we" was, of course, the then master of croquet, Humphrey Hicks, of whom John said:



John Solomon pictured at Hurlingham, the site of so many of his famous victories. (Photo by Neil Williams)

"Oh he was God. He was the best player there's ever been. His control was quite incredible."

When he and Hicks went on from New Zealand after the Tests to Australia to tour the clubs and play exhibition matches, the young Solomon had the great Hicks to learn from. He was the Merlin to Solomon's Arthur. It says everything about Humphrey Hicks that he was willing to share so much with the young player most likely to topple him from the tree.

"What I learned from Hicks above all was control and accuracy. We were always good friends. In fact he was godfather to one of my children."

I express my regret that players now can only imagine the play and players in the 50's and earlier. Not for the last time in this conversation I am pulled up sharp by what John says next:

"When I was in Australia for the World Championships last year, the referee came over and gave me a video made from film shot during that 50/51 tour. It includes film of pre-war players, too. I myself have an enormous amount of 16mm film that I shot in later years of Cotter and others. I've turned that into video too. When I can find time I want to put the two together and produce a tape of about two hours which I'd be willing to put on sale for a fiver or so."

All this material is irreplaceable, of course. We must hope that

John will be able to complete the project very soon and let us see what must be unique archive film.

Back in England, John now with a handicap of -2.5 (it had been +1 when he had played D.D. Steel - yes, that D.D. Steel - in 1950 before the tour), won his first championship, the Men's. The sequence of victories was launched.

Without wishing to strain the analogy too far, if Roehampton had been John's croquet "school", that tour had been his degree course. Now he was ready for his Doctorate. Again, a single person looms large at this stage: Patrick Cotter, the intellectual, the innovator, and Solomon's Doubles partner for over 20 years.

"I was always more frightened of playing Humphrey than ever I was of Pat Cotter. We knew each other's game terribly well. We had a little rule in Doubles that we would try never to be on the court at the same time. We were fed up with people who would go on and have a five minute consultation when it was perfectly obvious what shot to take."

Clearly, the partnership with Cotter was one of equals - perhaps confirmed by the fact that they never had a cross word, even though Cotter had the reputation of having a short fuse. It was certainly confirmed in the mind of the croquet world, who called the three (Hicks, Cotter & Solomon) "The Triumvirate".

Yet somewhere around this time one of the three - Solomon - became more equal than the others as he moved into his finest years. He says that 1959 was probably the best, but connoisseurs of fine vintages might like to sample 1961; or 64; the year of the 3-ball triple; or 69, the year of That Shot. Now, in the 1990's, he is enjoying an Indian summer at Southwick, playing in the Veterans' and, of course, in the Hurlingham August tournament.

Time is running out for our conversation and I want to turn to the other side of his career, his nearly 50 years as policy maker on the CA Council, as a promoter of the game, coach and ambassador. Fortunately, John himself covered much ground in his 1997 Solomon Lecture, reproduced in the Gazette, so I can afford to be selective here and avoid repetition.

What, I ask, does he think is the best way to improve one's play? His advice is clear: do not spend so much time playing friendly games, but "practise, practise, practise"; and what should we practise? The rhythm of the swing. "You know instinctively when you've got it."

I ask if there is anything about croquet he would wish to change. Although not a fan of the USA version of croquet, he told me that there is one aspect of their game he might like to introduce here. Because shooting has now assumed such an importance, and also as a way of discouraging the relatively new habit of swinging the mallet endlessly over the ball before striking, it would be worthwhile to try the USA rule whereby you cannot roquet a ball off the court on the first stroke of your turn.

"Now that might stop all this shooting and make tactics much more important in the game."

At the end of the session, as we are packing up, John tells me of another jump shot he did to win a game. It was at Cheltenham "many years ago":

"I'd missed a peg-out, I think. My opponent, Denis Wiggins, got in and he wired me behind the second hoop. He said, 'Well you won't finish the game this turn.' Then as he crossed the line of the shot, he said, 'well, unless you jump the hoop.' And I'd already decided to try it. And I did."

Walking back over the Chinese bridge to the Hurlingham gate, I suddenly stop and say to myself out loud, "Good Lord, did he say the second hoop?"

Yes, that's what the man said.

Talking Croquet continues in the May issue with Bernard Neal

Continued from page 15

consideration to adapting three top grass tennis courts for use as croquet lawns.

Clearly, these sporting facilities are mainly intended for the use of Civil Servants, current, former or retired, and it would give the whole project great impetus if any such who are interested in helping to make a success of this initiative, as coaches or voluntary organisers, would contact David Collins or Paul Campion at the CA office for more information.

This is a great opportunity for launching croquet within the Civil Service; if it is the success that we hope, it might be possible to create this facility elsewhere in the country. So, come on down, please all you Civil Servants, and lend your support to this exciting start; just speak to David or Paul, who will pass on all information to the Civil Service Sports Club administrator, or contact Louise Stephens, the C.S.'s Sports and Leisure Executive, direct on 0171-976 7649.

President's Cup Corrections

2 games in round 13 of the 1998 President's Cup competition were reported incorrectly. They should have read: Clarke bt Fulford 26tp
Comish bt Mulliner 14otp

The final totals therefore were:

	Wins
Fulford	11
Mulliner	10
Maugham	8
Clarke	8
Comish	7
Irwin	5
Avery	4
Openshaw	3

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CROQUET BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, AND SERIALS

Good prices paid, especially for old books and pamphlets, back-numbers of the CA Gazette (1904-38, 1954-86), CA Laws (pre-1972), Year Book/Directory (pre 1993), Official Handicap Book, and Fixtures List (pre-1992).

Apply for catalogue of mixed bag for sale - old swaps, some very scarce, and new books by HF Crowther Smith and Australian writers John Riches, Max Hooper, and Peter Rudge.

David Drazin, Roefield, The Green,
Croxley Green, Herts WD3 3HJ
Telephone 01923 774048, email d.drazin@dial.pipex.com

COMMITTEE NEWS

Publicity

Getting the message across

The main objectives of the Publicity Committee are three:-

i) *Help to develop croquet as a serious sport*

The Lewis Carroll/vicarage tea party and croquet image is not conducive to our sport's development. "I'm getting too old for tennis", some of my injury prone friends say to me, "it will have to be bowls or golf soon". And when I reply "and why not croquet?" I am too often given a look of simple amazement.

So we have to carry on with our policy of editorials in the national press and magazines. 1998 was an excellent year for these, headed by the Daily Express, Sunday Express, Times and Country Life. We must try to ensure that 1999 is as good or better.

ii) *Help clubs increase membership*

The establishment of 11 new clubs last year, an increase of almost 10%, is a welcome sign of croquet's appeal. However the total estimated membership of 5,200 cannot be described as healthy, with most clubs acknowledging that they would like more members. To recruit these is not easy. One potential help is the local press. In this area some clubs are much more successful than others in enlisting their interest. With the objective of spreading best practice, getting those clubs who know how to do it to pass on their expertise, it is planned to hold a publicity workshop in October. Details of this will be sent to clubs in due course.

iii) *Increase CA membership*

From an estimated 5,200 members of clubs we have 1575 Associate members of the CA. One of our objectives is to increase this number and do it as a matter of some urgency in view of the loss of revenue caused by the cessation of the Sports Council grant. In rough round numbers an additional net 100 Associates would equal the Sports Council Grant.

I am often asked "why should I join the CA?" The standard answer: to get the Gazette, to have the right to play in tournaments perhaps sounds a little inadequate. I believe the true answer is a non-selfish one: to help croquet survive and prosper. Without the CA it is generally acknowledged that the game of croquet would disappear as a serious sport at national and international level. (It would of course continue as a garden pastime, and as a semi-serious game played locally at clubs with rules which differed from one club to another.)

So we need more Associates. In the hope that a small inducement will urge existing Associates (and clubs) to get your recruiting shoes on the Chairman of Council has written to you all in a letter enclosed in this month's Gazette. As he says it could be you so long as you're quick!

Anthony Fathers, Chairman Publicity Committee

Tournament

Sorry for the delay & looking for your comments

I regret that my first communication with the membership as chairman of the Tournament committee is an apology for the late arrival of the Fixture Book. We are very grateful to Graham Gale for volunteering to produce this document in succession to Don Gaunt but unfortunately unforeseen problems have been experienced in the handover which have caused this delay. The committee are addressing these problems and are confident we will not have a recurrence of the situation next year.

There are some new faces on the committee this year and now that we have completed the arrangements for the 1999 season we intend to review the whole CA tournament scene to see whether any changes in

the type and format of events will benefit the membership and increase their popularity. I am therefore asking for comments and suggestions from both clubs and players. Please send any contribution you may care to make to the CA office marked for my attention. The areas which are of most concern are the club events (Mary Rose, Longman and Short Croquet) and the All England Hanicap. The entries for all these competitions appear to have decreased over the years and we are looking for ways to rekindle interest. May I remind club secretaries that entries for the 1999 club events have to reach the CA office by Monday 22 March.

Another series of matches I would draw your attention to are those played under the heading CA v Other Associations. These are arranged by appointed organisers/managers and are played annually on a fairly informal basis. All of those involved in the organising of these matches are united in a desire to ensure these fixtures are continued but an increase in the number of players indicating that they are available for selection would be most welcomed. Details in the fixture Book.

It may be of interest to members that the CA no longer have sufficient Jaques balls for the Open Championship and that we have purchased Barlow GT for the 1999 event. However some clubs running other CA events still have a stock of Jaques balls which satisfy championship standard and will continue to use them during the 1999 season.

Derek Trotman, Chairman Tournament Committee

Development

Improved Facilities

With 1998 as one of the most successful development years, 7 clubs received £500 for improvements to their playing facilities.

Bury St Edmunds Completion of the new, all-weather synthetic surface lawn has been eagerly awaited. Unfortunately the club has been waiting for the three dry days needed to complete the lawn. When it is ready, Derek Trotman and Alan Pidcock will check its speed and characteristics. Assuming all goes well, the lawn specification and construction techniques used will be the basis for any future artificial surfaces. Bury are to be congratulated on their pioneering efforts.

Medway The project to develop a second lawn has been completed. The next objective is to construct a third lawn and a clubhouse.

Pendle Having redeveloped on the existing site the club now has 5 full size lawns. The new facilities have been put to good use, the club having run two over-subscribed CA tournaments.

Bury The club has relocated to Radcliffe, taking over a derelict bowling club. Two full size lawns have been created and a brick pavilion rebuilt. The opening ceremony performed by the Mayor of Bury and attended by Paul Campion led to the recruitment of a dozen keen new members.

Kendal Kendal, the third North West Federation club to get a grant, is a small new club, playing in the grounds of Abbot Hall. They have started with one lawn, playing short and golf croquet, but there is the potential for two high quality lawns and a modern pavilion.

Fittleworth The club have received a grant and a loan from the CA to move from their existing site to Duncton. The new site has the potential for two high quality lawns and has a modern pavilion.

Middlesborough Middlesborough will be established by the move of Ormesby Hall CC to Prissick Sports Centre. The move will give the club better scope for expansion. Initially, one full size and two smaller lawns will be available, but longer term, the potential exists for a 4-lawn club.

Application for grants should be made through the Federation Development Officer for decision by the Development Committee.

Focus on Schools

To encourage schoolchildren to play croquet has long been an objective of the CA, of the Federations, of clubs, and occasionally, of enthusiastic schoolmasters. Circumstances have always made it difficult to achieve success and today it is perhaps a bigger challenge than it has ever been. Recently, Peter Dyke, and before him, David Haslam, tried to organise a nationally coordinated effort with Schools Officers, linking into the schools system at all levels. The CA backed this effort with money, but it proved to be impossible to gather sufficient people to put into effect the ambitious programme. For 1999, the focus of the CA's effort is through the Development Committee, and £1,025 has been allocated to support schools and schoolchildren initiatives.

At the end of 1998, Roger Bray, CA Treasurer, was able to allocate some grant money for schools development by clubs and clubs were invited to apply for a grant. Nine grants were made:-

£125	Bath
	Bowdon
	Medway
	Ramsgate
	Pendle
	Ripon Spa
	Woodhall Spa
£100	Nailsea
£50	Bury

With schools, we think we should encourage the widest possible range of projects, large and small; nothing has been ruled out. In time we hope to establish which are the most successful formats, but we already know that local circumstances are so varied that flexibility is essential.

The Development Committee has to consider and decide on the extent of support to be given to all of the applications for schools development finance. Any club or individual seeking support with an initiative in 1999 is invited to apply as soon as possible to the Development Committee through the committee chairman or the CA secretary. It is our hope that we get so many applications we would have to approach the treasurer for supplementary finance.

Bill Sidebottom, Chairman, Development Committee.

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.

CROQUET ON THE WEB

by Dave Kibble

This article summarises correspondence on the Nottingham email list.

Day-by-day tournament reports flooded in from around the world. The Belgian Indoor was announced on the net and only three weeks before taking place, but still attracted a good international entry. It was played in an exhibition centre as a 14 point advanced game on a virtually full sized court covered by a red carpet. The hoops were set in concrete (unforgiving, apparently) whereby a full wire causes the ball to bounce back past the striker who has to leap out of the way!

A question was posed on how one might compare handicaps between different countries and many countries responded by explaining their own systems. Most are automatic like ours but with different bases and maximum handicaps. Australia has the most complex arrangement where each state has a different system. Play is exclusively in handicap groups, without bisques, and on different days. Players can remain in one group for years and never see the better standard of play possible. The exchange rate is summarised so far as NZ 0 = UK 2 = Aus. 6 (NB. this is handicap equivalence not MacRobertson prediction.)

The WCF announced the new Golf Croquet rules - available on line at the excellent magazine site www.ontheweb.com/cwo. The WCF was criticised for failing to promote its objectives, activities and achievements. A committee member robustly sprang to the defence. A key concern was the absence of arrangements for a World Championship but the WCF cannot impose upon a CA because of the cost of staging it. There are insufficient funds to meet the full expenses of competitors so the WCF risks failing to dispel the myth of croquet being a rich man's sport. The debate widened to discuss the make-up of a WC: should it be a competition between the best in the world to create a true Champion or between representatives of each country to promote croquet as a truly international sport? Many see the WCF as secretive; it may come out of its shell through the net.

What is the meaning of "a mallet may not be changed during a turn"? Does it mean swapped (as most players would think) or altered, so creating the possibility of a mallet with moveable end faces that can slide across for

hampered shots? Most would consider this cheating. It was suggested that a mallet face could be shaped to correct a ball being hit off-centre: the twist in mallet direction would be exactly compensated by the angle of the face at the impact point; so can a mallet have a concave face? The law states that the faces must be parallel but not that they must be flat so the mathematicians enjoyed a debate on the definition of parallel surfaces but came to no conclusion. An 'I' shaped mallet is useful for hampered shots after a hoop but few consider its use as cheating. In other sports the rules are only changed to outlaw apparent cheating and material changes to the game but equipment development is encouraged.

Now, the 'ball at rest' question: Some players in the past have quickly played a hoop stroke as the ball rolled past the face of the hoop, or quickly played a roquet before a ball has chance to roll back into the hoop just made. This is cheating but subjectively so in some unusual situations. Most remarkable was a video demonstration of a 'push-peeel', where the croquet stroke begins with the peelee against the outside wire of its hoop. The striker gently taps the top of his ball and, without breaking contact, pushes the peelee around the leg of the hoop and through. This is technically legal but, unusually, all agreed it shouldn't be. This looked like +1(t) to those campaigning for laws revision but unfortunately for them it seems the push-peeel cannot be performed sufficiently reliably to be worth outlawing since it will rarely be played within the laws. There will probably never be agreement between these parties! A decision has yet to be made on law reform but many cling to 'the spirit of the law' to avoid this.

A most interesting series of notes appeared on how to write a press release and get it published in full. It's more to do with style and presentation than personal persuasion techniques. Also an unusual angle photograph improves your chances!

There isn't space here to publish the URLs but a most useful starting point is www.croquet.com/links. Take particular note of the on-line magazines available; by a little hunting around you will find croquet games and simulations as well as informative articles, news and rules. Happy surfing.

British Rankings

Compiled and provided by Chris Williams

UK and Ireland Rankings at end of 1998

	Grade	Gms	Wins								
1 Fulford RI	2830	148	122	65 Cowing AJ	2086	73	43	132 Ashwell R	1850	11	7
2 Maugham DB	2707	136	104	66 Patmore CJ	2073	86	41	133 Grimshaw JE [W]	1843	21	10
3 Clarke CD	2668	72	45	67 Smith PL	2071	49	29	134 Wood R	1842	12	4
4 Mulliner SN	2659	82	59	68 Surgenor J [S]	2067	64	36	135 Scott IW	1839	10	6
5 Comish S	2576	92	64	69 Hope AB [S]	2056	17	4	136 Blackwell MC	1838	19	10
6 Avery MN	2531	67	36	70 Ormerod WP	2055	12	8	137 Collin GK	1836	26	15
7 Bamford RL [SA]	2523	39	26	71 Audsley E	2055	13	9	138 Callingham RF	1833	16	9
8 Irwin CJ	2517	78	49	72 Southern C	2049	43	18	139 Waterfield CG	1832	12	4
9 Cornelius DA Miss	2486	11	7	73 Coates DT	2038	25	16	140 Stephens RT	1828	49	21
10 Openshaw DK	2482	83	50	74 Hayes MR	2035	11	7	141 Allnutt PC	1826	15	3
11 Burge TR	2454	88	57	75 Wadley AM	2027	10	2	142 MacGowan P	1821	10	5
12 Williams S [I]	2433	40	26	76 Tudor GSJ	2027	35	19	143 Mantle I	1818	17	9
13 Goacher DJ	2428	82	44	77 White RK	2023	23	12	144 Howell P	1817	31	18
14 Dawson JP	2407	56	34	78 Castell P	2022	63	35	145 Jardine AW	1817	25	7
15 Gaunt DL	2399	87	55	79 Hort PMG	2020	10	7	146 Tuthill CJ [W]	1810	11	5
16 Trimmer PC	2384	93	50	80 Schmieder C von [I]	2017	15	3	147 Barklie R [I]	1798	14	6
17 Cordingley P	2380	134	81	81 Dent CJ	2016	54	27	148 Hilditch JR [W]	1794	69	24
18 Farthing CN	2373	85	53	82 Payne PJ [CH]	2015	68	29	149 Elwell BA	1793	16	12
19 Harrison-Wood D	2362	92	59	83 Williams RAW [S]	2011	46	28	150 Hammelev MA	1790	47	19
20 Mrozinski AJ [W]	2352	52	33	84 Pidcock A	2009	41	22	151 Humphrey D	1790	15	8
21 Burrow M [Jer]	2352	64	36	85 Weston T [Jer]	2007	90	52	152 McGlen BA Mrs	1788	28	15
22 Prichard WdeB [W]	2349	18	13	86 Nicholson DJ	2006	36	14	153 Stansfield P	1783	15	9
23 Duckworth ET	2348	34	22	87 Morgan DT [W]	2005	42	29	154 Porter G	1781	40	18
24 McInerney RN [I]	2343	24	13	88 Neal BG	1999	32	16	155 Healy PV Mrs	1778	88	37
25 Aiton KMH [S]	2322	104	58	89 Wild CH	1990	11	5	156 Bond GL	1777	31	13
26 Heap MEW	2314	28	18	90 Smith Br	1988	76	41	157 Durward B [S]	1777	32	13
27 Bond ID [S]	2282	31	21	91 Best R	1986	31	16	158 Hobbs JA	1774	18	7
28 Linton AM	2279	52	36	92 Edwards RR	1981	32	17	159 Davis R	1774	10	4
29 Kibble DJ	2273	104	69	93 Evans NE	1979	45	26	160 Anderson TW	1773	21	7
30 McInerney AE [I]	2265	58	34	94 Bottomley HJ	1978	21	15	161 Town MD	1765	34	15
31 Leggate ATR	2245	51	30	95 Bennett GJ	1976	68	35	162 Shaw PJ	1763	20	5
32 Saurin AT	2238	23	15	96 Carter SE [W]	1971	55	23	163 Cornelius DS	1761	39	18
33 Taylor PM	2236	30	21	97 Gugan R Mrs	1970	36	18	164 Carter NB	1759	14	11
34 Evans MJ [W]	2236	35	18	98 Granger-Brown M	1967	36	20	165 Pawson PR	1759	21	12
35 Noble GW	2228	50	31	99 Wainman BR	1966	11	5	166 Bigg MD	1758	26	14
36 Palmer LJ [W]	2227	28	15	100 Price DO	1964	16	8	167 Jackson NG	1757	20	9
37 Le Moignan AS [Jer]	2226	27	16	101 Gregory AK	1964	10	2	168 Burrow S Mrs [Jer]	1754	20	12
38 Brown RJ	2224	17	11	102 Davis EJ	1957	12	5	169 Sidebottom WJ	1754	15	8
39 Dyer JS	2221	98	59	103 Carter KJ	1956	60	30	170 Watson PA	1751	11	6
40 Thompson BE	2221	18	13	104 Vaissiere S Ms	1949	59	29	171 Smorfitt HW	1750	37	13
41 Storey BJ	2215	11	8	105 Death PJ	1947	15	5	172 Priestley K Mrs	1748	23	15
42 Symons AJ	2215	30	15	106 Darby PA	1947	21	13	173 Bridges D	1746	15	5
43 Burrige IJ [W]	2213	44	18	107 Whittaker FL	1943	33	18	174 Newell E [I]	1745	14	5
44 Cunningham AE [I]	2209	40	18	108 Maugham FI	1941	26	11	175 Percival MC	1744	21	6
45 Saurin MA	2205	25	12	109 Shorten JA Miss [I]	1937	36	14	176 Patel SR	1743	17	7
46 Tibble LG	2200	91	63	110 Jones CS	1935	20	8	177 Anstey JSC	1740	22	9
47 Jenkins RS	2194	45	28	111 Pullin PJ	1931	42	20	178 Golesworthy T [W]	1737	18	13
48 Vincent IG	2176	45	27	112 Rogers CJB [I]	1931	15	9	179 Brydon DG	1737	13	7
49 Death JF	2166	23	14	113 Campbell A [S]	1929	28	16	180 Ross CJ	1736	32	13
50 O'Connell MJ [S]	2158	98	63	114 Jackman RT	1922	24	12	181 Ransom FE Mrs	1735	66	25
51 Eardley P	2157	28	17	115 Roberts MRI	1910	35	18	182 Bradley JD	1735	29	12
52 Fowler GE	2150	83	47	116 Bennett CG	1908	36	16	183 Gray SNH	1734	34	16
53 Browne TN [I]	2138	21	15	117 Nash P	1908	19	7	184 Carlisle V Mrs	1733	22	12
54 Magee DJ	2136	53	32	118 Low JG	1905	26	17	185 McElwain GdeS [W]	1729	13	2
55 Gale GK	2136	118	56	119 Rangeley MW	1894	44	20	186 Hicks N	1728	10	3
56 Curry GE Ms	2130	59	40	120 Arliss WH	1887	81	31	187 Murdoch BRP [S]	1728	38	12
57 Williams CN [W]	2124	108	53	121 Solomon JW	1887	15	4	188 Burger M	1723	10	8
58 Morrow NW	2123	75	46	122 McInerney MJ [I]	1886	24	14	189 Harris B Mrs	1722	35	10
59 Hawkins JD	2122	49	25	123 Haslam JH	1886	24	11	190 Swaffield P	1720	28	11
60 Guest JE	2107	109	67	124 Sandler MH	1881	13	4	191 Harley DC	1717	21	11
61 Plummer IR	2107	24	14	125 Hopewell CG	1876	47	18	192 Mumford DK	1716	13	8
62 Hallam BG	2097	50	21	126 Shaw DW	1875	25	8	193 Parkins D	1715	13	7
63 Foulser DR	2096	35	19	127 Cuttle G	1873	24	15	194 Snowdon CB	1714	13	5
64 Coles WT	2089	15	7	128 Dymock E	1871	34	14	195 Bradforth L Miss	1706	59	23
				129 Harris NR	1868	11	5	196 Hoskyns RF	1705	13	6
				130 Rogers RAG	1853	11	5	197 Wardle P	1705	10	3
				131 Pristavec P [W]	1852	34	14	198 Buxton DW	1704	10	4
								199 Thompson PW	1703	36	13
								200 Townsend C Mrs [S]	1703	29	11
								201 Whittall KM Mrs	1699	22	13
								202 Wilkins TW	1696	12	7
								203 Creasey JA	1694	20	9
								204 Wickham D	1691	10	6
								205 Collins D	1690	15	6
								206 Salisbury P	1682	36	14
								207 Williamson D Mrs	1679	10	5