

Play-off: for 2nd place: Mrs Scarr bt Mrs Mann +18.

Event 3. Hutton Cup (9 bisques and over) 18 pts game

DRAW

First Round: Mrs C Parker (11) bt Mrs M G Tompkinson (10) +7.

Second Round: I Card (12) bt P H Mann (9) +6, F A Rowlands (9) bt Miss J Wraith (11) +5, Mrs C Abderhalden (9) bt Mrs L B Barnes (11) +6, S Thomas (11) bt Mrs Parker +12.

Semi-Final: Card bt Rowlands +7, Thomas bt Abderhalden +20.

Final: Card bt Thomas +6.

PROCESS

First Round: Mrs C Parker (11) bt P H Mann (9) +13.

Second Round: Mrs C Abderhalden (9) bt Mrs Parker +10, F A Rowlands (9) bt S Thomas (11) +11, I Card (12) bt Mrs L B Barnes (11) +8, Mrs M G Tompkinson (10) bt Miss J Wraith (11) +5.

Semi-Final: Rowlands bt Mrs Abderhalden +6, Card bt Tompkinson +1.

Final: Card bt Rowlands +7.

Event 4. X Handicap Singles The Dibley Cup

First Round: F A Rowlands (9) bt M G Tompkinson (3) w/o, Mrs M G Tompkinson (10) bt C Abderhalden (5½) +17, W A Scarr (6) bt S Thomas (11) +13, Dr C A Parker (3) bt Mrs C Abderhalden (9) +10.

Second Round: Miss J Wraith (11) bt P H Mann (9) +3, F H Newman (4½) bt I Card (12) +4, Mrs W A Scarr (6) bt C G Pountney (2) +12, Rowlands bt Mrs Tompkinson +6, Dr Parker bt Scarr +15, Mrs F H Newman (6) bt Mrs L B Barnes (11) +10, R W Newham (5) bt Mrs P H Mann (7½) w/o, L B Barnes (7) bt Mrs C A Parker (11) +15.

Third Round: Newman bt Wraith +11, Rowlands bt Mrs Scarr +8, Mrs Newman bt Dr Parker +14, Barnes bt Newham +14.

Semi-Final: Rowlands bt Newman +16, Barnes bt Mrs Newman +5.

Final: Rowlands bt Barnes +4.

Event 4. Y Benest Cup

First Round: M G Tompkinson (2½) bt C G Pountney (2) +13, S Thomas (11) bt C Abderhalden (5½) +6, Mrs C Abderhalden (9) bt Mrs L B Barnes (11) +9.

Second Round: I Card (12) bt P H Mann (9) +21, M Tompkinson bt Thomas +3, Mrs Abderhalden bt Mrs P H Mann (7½) +20, R W Newham (5) bt Mrs C A Parker (11) +12.

Semi-Final: Tompkinson bt Card +10, Newham bt Mrs Abderhalden +10.

Final: Newham bt Tompkinson +23.

Event 5. Birch Cups Handicap Doubles

First Round: Dr/Mrs C A Parker (14) bt Mr/Mrs F H Newman (10½) +3 (t), Mr/Mrs Abderhalden (14½) bt Miss J Wraith/Mrs Death (25) +8.

Second Round: Mr/Mrs Scarr (12) bt C G Pountney/F A Rowland (11) +10, Mr/Mrs Abderhalden bt Dr/Mrs Parker +7, Newham/Card bt Mr/Mrs M G Tompkinson +8, Mr/Mrs Barnes (18) bt Mr/Mrs P Mann (16½) +11.

Semi-Final: Mr/Mrs Abderhalden bt Mr/Mrs Scarr +3, Newham/Card bt Mr/Mrs Barnes +10.

Final: Newham/Card bt Mr/Mrs Abderhalden +11.

LONGMAN CUP — 1st Round.

Cheltenham bt Bristol 5 — 0.

Wolverhampton bt Ellesmere 3 — 2.

Bath bt Chester 4 — 1.

Bowdon bt Walsall 4 — 1.

Bretby bt Edgbaston 4 — 1.

2nd Round:

Wolverhampton	beat	Cheltenham	4 — 1
Bath	beat	Coal Research	5 — 0
Bowdon	beat	Bretby	5 — 0
Bentley	beat	Wrest Park	3 — 2
Hunstanton	beat	East Riding	3 — 2
Woking	beat	Compton	3 — 2
Roehampton	beat	Southwick	W/O
Parsons Green	beat	Reigate Priory	4 — 1
British Airways	beat	Phyllis Court	4 — 1

Aldermaston	beat	Hurlingham	3 — 2
Oxford University	beat	Harwell	3 — 1 (1 unfinished)
Harrow Oak	beat	Maidenhead	W/O

Stourbridge bt Southport 5 — 0.

Parkstone bt Ryde 3 — 2.

INTER-CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP — 1st Round.

Hurlingham 1 bt Southport 4 — 3.

Reckitt Club bt Wrest Park 5 — 2.

2nd Round.

Nottingham w.o. Hurlingham 2 opp. scratched.

Cheltenham 2 bt Colchester 5 — 2.

Cheltenham 1 bt Bath 4 — 3.

Harrow Oak	beat	Hunstanton	W/O
Southwick	beat	Compton	5 — 1 (1 unfinished)
Roehampton	beat	Hurlingham 1	4 — 3
Reckitt Club	beat	British Airways	W/O
Bowdon	beat	Colworth	5 — 1 (1 unfinished)

3rd Round:

Roehampton beat Cheltenham 1 4 — 3

Cheltenham 2 beat Bowdon 4 — 3

Harrow Oak beat Southwick 7 — 0

Sir,

We, the undersigned, successfully organised a "progressive Swiss" tournament on the lines of that described on page 6 of the Summer 1980 Gazette as an alternative to our normal consolation event at Compton. Look. No Hands!

R. E. Wallis & R. Wood

Bicester Doubles Championship. February 2nd

The weather was cold with a strong west wind, which heaped the clouds up like chaff for miles around. There was some slack in the wind by Thursday however, and players shed their coats and spectators were drawn forth by the tapp of mallet on ball. In fact, by Saturday morning, the number of visitors had reached two figures lined up in a row in fine style. This, compared with only one man on the Monday morning, had a healing effect on the young players, and, although the play was rather bland, some of the more doughty players did excell later in the tournament.

There was a large entry (32) and the first round yielded some interesting results. Birch & Elmes seemed to have a deep-rooted desire to lose to their opponents, Spear & Jackson, who dug in early, but after two hours play, the former pair were out of the wood and went on to win.

A colourful game took place between Brown & Green and Black & White, and that between English & French and Scott & Welch developed into a real battle, characterised by Scott & Welch taking advantage of their opponents' disagreements to make piercing attacks and then retire to the corners. Duck & Drake bounced around the court in buoyant manner to beat the close partnership of Holding & Hands. Day & Knight, a slow pair, took a long time to beat Bell & Benn, who were playing like puppets.

Read & Wright communicated well, but were no match for the excellent finishing of Roe & Dean. Hay & Straw were a weak combination, and quickly succumbed to the much stronger partnership of Good & Sturdy. Fox & Hunt were galloping to victory until Hunt took ill and could not be found. Wylie then stepped in to join Fox, and the partnership became more cautious and cunning. However, Stone & Mason chipped away at their lead to achieve a monumental victory.

Wood & Cross played a rugged game to beat Bull & Bushnell, a local pair, while the rich play of Diamond & Gould should have beaten Oliver & Twiss, but the latter pair kept coming back for more (having been coached by Sykes, of course), and finally won with a novel peg-out.

Snowdon & Everest showed a wide range of skills, but reached their peak halfway through the game, and Neal & Hope, who relied heavily on luck, just managed to scrape through. Gould & Honey played a viscous (sic) game and were easily beaten by Russell & Hobbs, an electric pair who managed to keep on the boil throughout the game. Newton & Abbott went west to Shine & Sheen who played a very polished game.

The match between Bishop & Dean and Fryer & Abbott was frequently disturbed by the pair on the adjoining court, Gordon & Bennett, whose McEnroe-like expletives did not upset the composure of the opposing pair, Noble & Rankin, who retained their dignified bearing throughout.

Grant & Lee played generally well against the Irish pair, Porter & Pickles, who went on to repeat their performance of last year, and so retained the Du Plicité Vases.

R. E. Wallis & R. Wood

THE CROQUET GAZETTE

ISSUE No. 162

AUGUST 1981

The Secretary & Editor.

The Secretary of the Croquet Association is Mr. R.F. Rothwell. The Hurlingham Club, London, SW6 3PR. Tel. 01-736 3148.

The Editor of the Croquet Gazette is Mr. D.R. Foulser. 61 Hales Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. GL52 6SL Tel: Cheltenham (0242) 580295 (Home).

All Contributions other than tournament results should be sent to the Editor. They are not acknowledged but are most welcome.

All Tournament results to be sent to the Secretary C.A., but all tournament reports to the Editor.

All Correspondence concerning non-delivery of Gazettes or incorrect addresses must be sent to the SECRETARY C.A. and NOT to the EDITOR.

The Mens' and Womens' Championships. 15th — 20th June.

This ever popular event held at Cheltenham attracted an even larger entry this year — in fact the greatest number of men since Humphrey Hick's victory in 1932 — skilfully managed in the capable hands of Edgar Jackson. The Lawns were in fair condition, and playing fast, in spite of the wettest and coldest season for years.

On Monday morning giants fell, thus the "DU PRE" (consolation event?) presented as stiff a challenge as the Caskets, Graeme Roberts being a notable exception. It was not until half way through his fourth game that he conceded a hoop. In the Men's Championship Paul Hands twice laid up for the sextuple, Roger Murfitt achieved a triple in each of the first three rounds, and David Foulser despatched the holder, Martin Murray in straight games. The final between Graeme and David Openshaw went to three games, the first of which took longer than the first game of the Women's final! The ultimate winner was David, whose general play was immaculate, combined with superb shooting, which saw him concede only two games to Roberts and Foulser.

Bernard Neal battled valiantly all week in an attempt to retain the "DU PRE" trophy, reaching the final in both halves; Martin Murray beating him in the Draw and losing to him in the process. The ultimate winner was Martin. In this event, Martin completed three peels of a sextuple and John McCullough executed a straight triple — the first he had attempted in a match.

The Doubles were played as X and Y, a bonus from the Manager. Ian Bond and Veronica Carlisle and Robert and Betty Prichard winning their first round game by 26, only two games being won on time in the whole event. However, in the true spirit of Doubles drama erupted, Jocelyn having triumphantly run over rushes the enemy to the fourth corner (Daddy being in the second), in a spectacular fine take-off inadvertently hits the peg — it was the longest bisquer of the quarter that first realised the "Peg Out" did count. Kay Yeoman handicap 5 and her partner John McCullough faced the much more experienced Barbara Meachem and Martin Murray in the final. Experience told rather convincingly on this occasion.

In the Y event, Bryan Sykes completed a triple in the second round. Unfortunately, he and his wife were scratched, so the finalists were Dab Wheeler and Edgar Jackson against Liz Neal and Roger Murfitt, the latter being the winners.

In the Women's Championship, over half the matches were won in two games only four being won on time. Inevitably, Veronica Carlisle having obtained the innings, switched on to "automatic pilot" and played accurate and tidy breaks. Sarah Hampson was the only victim able to take a game off her and, in fact, gave her a fright losing by 2 in the final game. Congratulations to Sue in winning her silver medal.

The final between Sue and Veronica had not only the lowest combined age total for many years, but was also remarkable for its positive play; in the end Veronica triumphed.

Amongst the spectators, an epidemic arose in the form of Rubik cubes. Violent wrist twisting and mathematical theories gave hushed huddles of muted mutters an interest almost greater than the Croquet.

The catering was superb — Mrs. Bawden, Miss Barber, Miss Bishop and Mrs. Spencer being responsible for the delicious gourmet lunches; Betty Wiseman, Doreen Exell and Mrs. Hoole provided the lavish teas. The poor Manager was continually pleading with the players to linger less over these sumptuous feasts.

Not exactly flaming June, but the sun did infrequently peep out between the clouds. However, a most memorable week thoroughly enjoyed by all the players. Thank you Cheltenham.

S & J

Event 1: The Men's Championship. 28 entries.

First round: Dr. G.J. Roberts bt J.H.J. Soutter +26 +26. B.C. Sykes bt Prof. B.G. Neal +8 +16. L.S. Butler bt H.G.T. Bolton +2 +17. P.M. Johnson bt L. Wharrad +23 +22. J. Haigh bt P.L. Alvey +14 +11. P.W. Hands bt R.M. Hobbs +17 +21. Dr. S.G. Jones bt Dr. B.G. Weitz +20 +11. Lt. Col. D.M.C. Prichard bt F.J.R. Landor —12 +10 +17. R.J. Murfitt bt J. McCullough +22 +17TP. I.D. Bond bt G.W. Sisum +22 +23. Dr. M. Murray bt R.D.C. Prichard +17 +15. D.R. Foulser bt R.A. Godby +15 +25.

Second round: L.V. Latham bt G.E.P. Jackson +25 —14 W.O. opp scr. Roberts bt Sykes +26TP +17. Butler bt Johnson +2 +6. Hands bt Haigh +16 +12. Jones bt Lt. Col. Prichard —6 +21 +24. Murfitt bt Bond +26TP +16. Foulser bt Murray +7 +25. D.K. Openshaw bt A.B. Hope +11 +3.

Third round: Roberts bt Latham —4 +16 +2. Hands bt Butler +19 +16. Murfitt bt Jones +17 —7 +23TP. Openshaw bt Foulser —16 +16 +25.

Semi finals: Roberts bt Hands +16 —9 +22. Openshaw bt Murfitt +16 +25.

Final: Openshaw bt Roberts +10 —18 +17.

Event 2: The Women's Championship. 19 entries.

First round: Mrs. H. Handley bt Mrs. S. Soutter +9 +15. Mrs. H.B.H. Carlisle bt Mrs. J. Povey +16 +15. Mrs. E. Asa Thomas bt Mrs. C. Chard +4T +11T.

Second round: Mrs. J. Neville-Rolfe bt Mrs. B. Meachem +8 —12 +5T. Mrs. D.M.C. Prichard bt Mrs. K.M.O. Wheeler +8 +13. Miss S. Hampson bt Miss E.H. Arkell +12 +12. Mrs. Carlisle bt Mrs. Handley +16 +15. Mrs. B.L. Sundius-Smith bt Mrs. Asa Thomas +10 +3. Mrs. B.C. Sykes bt Mrs. R.F. Wheeler —12 +14 +18. Miss F. Joly bt Mrs. K. Yeoman —14 +9 +8. Mrs. B.G. Neal bt Lady Bazley +1T +4T.

Third round: Mrs. Neville-Rolfe bt Mrs. Prichard +14 +4. Mrs. Carlisle bt Miss S. Hampson +25 —9 +2. Mrs. Sykes bt Mrs. Sundius-Smith +6 +7. Miss Joly bt Mrs. Neal +19 +10T.

Semi-finals: Mrs. Carlisle bt Mrs. Neville-Rolfe +22 +23. Mrs. Sykes bt Miss Joly +6 —7 +4.

Final: Mrs. Carlisle bt Mrs. Sykes +10 +4.

Event 3: The Mixed Doubles Championship. 17 pairs.

First round: Dr. Weitz & Mrs. Asa Thomas bt Murfitt & Mrs. Neal +16.

Second round: Sisum & Mrs. Handley bt Godby & Mrs. Sundius-Smith +5. McCullough & Mrs. Yeoman bt Hope & Mrs. Chard +9. Bond & Mrs. Carlisle bt Haigh & Miss Hampson +26. Weitz & Mrs. Asa Thomas bt Jackson & Mrs. R.F. Wheeler +14. Murray & Mrs. Meachem bt Sykes & Mrs. Sykes +17. Col. & Mrs. G.T. Wheeler bt Mr. & Mrs. Soutter. Latham & Lady Bazley bt Wharrad & Mrs. Povey +1T. R.D.C. & Mrs. Prichard bt Butler & Miss Arkell +26.

Third round: McCullough & Mrs. Yeoman bt Sisum & Mrs. Handley +18. Bond & Mrs. Carlisle bt Weitz & Mrs. Asa Thomas +18. Murray & Mrs. Meachem bt Col. & Mrs. G.T. Wheeler +21. Prichard & Mrs. Prichard bt Latham & Lady Bazley +6T.

Semi-finals: McCullough & Mrs. Yeoman bt Bond & Mrs. Carlisle +17. Murray & Mrs. Meachem bt Prichard & Mrs. Prichard +18.

Final: Murray & Mrs. Meachem bt McCullough & Mrs. Yeoman +18.

Event 3a: 'Y' Mixed Doubles. 9 pairs.

First round: Sykes & Mrs. Sykes bt Haigh & Miss Hampson +11.

Second round: Jackson & Mrs. R.F. Wheeler bt Wharrad & Mrs. Povey +4. Sykes & Mrs. Sykes bt Godby & Mrs. Sundius-Smith +22TP. Butler & Miss Arkell bt Hope & Mrs. Chard +3. Murfitt & Mrs. Neal bt Col. & Mrs. G.T. Wheeler +4.

Semi-finals: Jackson & Mrs. R.F. Wheeler bt Sykes & Mrs. Sykes W.O. Murfitt & Mrs. Neal bt Butler & Miss Arkell +12.

Final: Murfitt & Mrs. Neal bt Jackson & Mrs. R.F. Wheeler +11.

Event 4: The "Du Pre" Cup

DRAW

First round: Sisum bt Mrs. Neal +7. Murray bt Mrs. Yeoman +25. Mrs. Meachem bt Haigh +5. McCullough bt Bond +26. Mrs. G.T. Wheeler bt Bolton +5. Landor bt Sykes +25. Wharrad bt Lady Bazley +1T. Godby bt Johnson +9. Prof. Neal bt Weitz +10.

Second round: Mrs. Chard bt Mrs. Povey +8. Sisum bt Lt. Col. Prichard +4. Murray bt Mrs. Meachem +13. McCullough bt Jackson +17. R.D.C. Prichard bt Mrs. G.T. Wheeler +7. Landor bt Wharrad +18. Prof. Neal bt Godby +26. Hope bt Hobbs +25.

Third round: Sisum bt Mrs. Chard +3. Murray bt McCullough +26. R.D.C. Prichard bt Landor +13. Prof. Neal bt Hope +17.

Semi-finals: Murray bt Sisum +23. Neal bt Prichard +6.

Final: Murray bt Neal +16.

PROCESS

First round: R.D.C. Prichard bt Latham +3. Lady Bazley bt Mrs. Yeoman +1T. Landor bt Mrs. Neal +15. Prof. Neal bt Haigh +17. Mrs. Prichard bt Mrs. Chard +19. Murray bt Godby +25. Sykes bt Sisum +23. Mrs. G.T. Wheeler bt Mrs. Povey +18. Mrs. Meachem bt Weitz +13. McCullough bt Hobbs +23

Second round: R.D.C. Prichard bt Lady Bazley +25. Hope bt Landor +24. Neal bt Bolton +17. Johnson bt Bond +3. Murray bt Mrs. Prichard +12. Sykes bt Miss Hampson +19. Mrs. G.T. Wheeler bt Mrs. Meachem +11. McCullough bt Wharrad +18.

Third round: Hope bt Prichard +16. Neal bt Johnson +17. Murray bt Sykes +14. McCullough bt Mrs. G.T. Wheeler +21.

Semi-finals: Neal bt Hope +24. Murray bt McCullough +4.

Final: Neal bt Murray +11.

PLAY-OFF: Murray bt Neal +23.

Compton Club Tournament. Eastbourne 25th – 30th May.

Monday morning saw a mild and dry start to the week and in Eastbourne, unlike most of England, the fair weather continued throughout the week. Finally, on Saturday the rain arrived, but only those players who had the temerity to reach the finals were soaked (a great compensation to the players who had sensibly allowed themselves to be removed from the lawns by this stage).

In addition to the Compton members and others from the South of England three new faces to the area, a small invading party from the Scottish Croquet Association, were playing. By Tuesday evening the

three Scots — Rod Williams (2½), Malcom Smith (5½) and Phillip Simpson (8) were undefeated after over a dozen games. By this time the semi-finalists' places in the unrestricted Handicap, Doubles and Open were beginning to be awash with tartan.

In an effort to turn back the "tartan-tide" the managers instituted a novel event. This was a sweepstake which offered considerable financial benefits for anyone beating a Scot.

Stimulated by this incentive, Eric Knight (4) played with great determination on Wednesday to narrowly defeat Malcolm Smith in the Handicap Semi-final. The tension of the end game proved too much for Malcolm, who stuck in one hoop too many. In the other semi-final a Scot defeated a Scot; Phillip Simpson showing good tactical use of his bisques and never giving Rod Williams a chance to get going.

By the end of the week Rod and Roger Wood were in both the Open Draw and Process finals. They played two exciting games watched by a large number of spectators. Both players were playing well as befits Open Finals, but Rod in particular, after the week of playing on the fine Compton Lawns was playing as well as he ever has. Roger perhaps made a couple of risky tactical decisions which contributed to his two close defeats. The Doubles final between the Rod Williams and Dennis Brown partnership and Giles Borrett and Alan Hutcheson was very closely contested. Dennis Brown however was playing well by this stage of the week and this "edge" was enough for his partnership to gain a narrow victory. Rod's third final, which he won by beating Ralph Chappell was in the Swiss event. This was an interesting and successful way of playing the "Y" event with players gaining entry to the appropriate round of the Swiss if they were defeated in the "Big Handicap" before the final.

Other successes of the week were: Roy Wallis and Roger Wood for their excellent and innovative management, Phillip Simpson with victories in the Handicap and "C" class event, Mrs. Edna Cox who won the "B" class level singles and also Ralph Chappell, Eric Knight, John Bettley and Blanche Dennant, all of whom were still playing on Saturday.

Despite the sweepstake, the Scottish contingent grossed five of the seven trophies and a return visit will surely be necessary to carry the silverware south. To the author, one of the pleasures of a very enjoyable tournament was to see such "Croquet Characters" as (Tiny) Tyrwhitt Drake and Giles Borrett so enjoying their croquet.

ROEHAMPTON EVENING TOURNAMENT

30 May – 6 June 1981

The evening tournament this year differed in two important ways from last year's: it was played three weeks earlier than usual, and started and finished on the Saturdays rather than — as previously — on the Sundays of the weekends at beginning and end. The importance of the first change was not what one might immediately think: the three weeks in fact made little difference to the time available for play in the evenings; rather, the problem was that both weekends clashed with the pre-qualifying (or are they simply 'qualifying?') tournaments for the Opens, necessitating all sorts of last minute rearrangement. The second change somehow interfered with the tournament's continuity, the first weekend almost being a tournament by itself. The rest of the week, with so much of the first two classes already played, lacked the usual atmosphere; and with only three lawns throughout the week (four had been expected) it was not possible to 'paper over the cracks' with a Y to maintain everyone's interest. A careful rethink will surely be needed before next year, now that the novelty of the tournament has worn off and the organisational problems are more fully appreciated.

Enough of managerial apologia — the play's the thing! And what play we saw; a quality field in the A produced triples by the handful (9 in 29 games) and some newcomers in the Cs showed genuine initiative which bodes well for the future. The lawns were kind; very green, and particularly slow — even by Roehampton standards — at the start of the week, though they had recovered their normal pace by the end.

To start with C: this provided the debut of two promising new players, Palmer and Mrs. Mulliner. Both showed commendable enterprise; though attempting some shots beyond their present capabilities, this is a tendency to be welcomed. However, neither showed sufficient consistency to reach the playoff, which was between Mrs. Glover and Mrs. Townsend. Both had played well to reach this stage; Mrs. Glover emerged the victor.

The B (played level advanced) sprung no great surprises; Goulding was the overall winner after a close game against MacDonald in the playoff, which provided much excitement for — and comment from — the spectators (how much easier it is to play from the comfort of a chair in the pavilion.) It was their second meeting of the day, having previously done battle in a semi-final of the X with precisely the same result.

Roberts was in fine form winning the A, and had a sequence of four triples in five games in the Draw and playoff; wins over Murfitt and Mulliner were particularly noteworthy. Cordingley also played some enterprising croquet, amongst which was an excellent win +3 TP against your correspondent, who had rashly been anticipating +26 TP to himself until the peelee stuck irretrievably in rover. If he can achieve greater consistency, his prospects look bright. Though it might seem churlish to say so, more testing conditions would probably have benefitted the event: fewer triples, no doubt, but the excellent play would have shone that more brightly.

The X again found Goulding collecting the first prize: he gave Battison no chances in the final, and did not even need all his bisques. The doubles, played — as last year — to the 'alternate stroke' format, produced a little interesting play, but too much of it was excessively defensive. Robert Prichard partnered Palmer to success, the MacDonalds contesting the final.

An extra handicap event was organised on the final day. It was played as a Swiss, with a 1½ hour time limit for a 1 and 4-back variation. This ensured plenty of play, and gave the better players the carrot of going out in one turn — which two achieved, one in the fourth turn. It also produced one of the most unlucky losses of the week: Mrs. MacDonald, with scores level after time had expired, peeling an opponent ball through its hoop. Roberts won the deciding game against Prichard, to complete the tournament on schedule.

Event 1: Hussars Challenge Cup Open Singles

IB

DRAW

First round: G.J. Roberts bt J.D. Greenwood +26TP, M.J. Stevens bt J.S. Maude +14, I.D. Bond bt L. Wharrad +17, B.G. Neal bt R.M. Hobbs w/o., J.G.C. Phillips bt S.S. Townsend +21, R.J. Murfitt bt R.D.C. Prichard +26TP, P. Cordingley bt J.H.S. Battinson w/o., G.W. Noble bt P. Alvey +21TP.

Second round: Roberts bt Stevens +25, Bond bt Neal +15, Murfitt bt Phillips +22, Cordingley bt Noble +8.

Semi-final: Roberts bt Bond +25TP, Murfitt bt Cordingley +15.

Final: Roberts bt Murfitt +23TP.

PROCESS

First round: Greenwood bt Townsend +14, Cordingley bt Bond +3TP, Maude bt Prichard +12, Alvey bt Hobbs +6, Mulliner bt Roberts +24TP, Wharrad bt Battison +10, Murfitt bt Stevens +3, Noble bt Neal +23.

Second round: Greenwood bt Cordingley +8, Maude bt Alvey +14, Mulliner bt Wharrad +18, Murfitt bt Noble +14TP.

Semi-final: Greenwood bt Maude +10, Mulliner bt Murfitt +13.

Final: Mulliner bt Greenwood +23.

PLAY-OFF: Roberts bt Mulliner +26TP.

Event 2: Philpot Cup

DRAW

First Round: R.J. Smith bt I.P.M. McDonald +8 OT, P.G. Gunn bt Mrs. W.J. Browne +3 OT, Mrs B. Mansfield bt C.B. Sanford w/o, D. Goulding bt Mrs. E. Neal +7.

Second Round: G. Roy bt P.E. Callan +14, Gunn bt Smith +12, Goulding bt Mrs. Mansfield +10, D.C. Caporn bt J.H. Betts +26.

Semi-final: Roy bt Gunn +23, Goulding bt Caporn +25.

Final: Goulding bt Roy +17.

PROCESS

First Round: Goulding bt Roy +16, McDonald bt Caporn +14, Callan bt Neal +2 OT, Smith bt Betts w/o opp scr.

Second Round: Gunn bt Goulding +3, McDonald bt Sanford w/o opp scr, Mrs. Browne bt Callan +10 OT, Mrs. Mansfield bt Smith +10 OT.

Semi-Final: MacDonald bt Gunn +23, Mrs. Mansfield bt Mrs. Browne + 1 OT.

Final: MacDonald bt Mrs. Mansfield +13.

PLAY-OFF: Goulding bt MacDonald +3.

Event 3. C Class. 9 Bisques & over. Handicap Singles.

DRAW

First round: Mrs. W. Jones (9) bt Mrs. E. Glover (16) w/o, Mrs. S.L. Mulliner (16) bt E.C. Matthews (12) +9.

Second round: Mrs. M. Wharrad (12) bt Miss J. Wraith (9) +7, Mrs. S.S. Townsend (13) bt Mrs. Jones +11, T. Wolfe (12) bt Mrs. Mulliner +5, A. Palmer (16) bt Mrs. P. MacDonald (9) +10.

Semi-final: Mrs. Townsend bt Mrs. Wharrad +6, Palmer bt Wolfe w/o.

Final: Mrs. Townsend bt Palmer +6.

PROCESS

First round: Mrs. MacDonald bt Mrs. Wharrad +11, Miss Wraith bt Palmer +8.

Second round: Mrs. MacDonald bt Mrs. Jones +1 OT, Mrs. Mulliner bt Mrs. Townsend +13, Matthews bt Miss Wraith +5, Mrs. Glover bt Wolfe +11.

Semi-final: Mrs. Mulliner bt Mrs. MacDonald +2 OT, Mrs. Glover bt Matthews +5 OT.

Final: Mrs. Glover bt Mrs. Mulliner +9.

PLAY-OFF: Mrs. Glover bt Mrs. Townsend +4.

Event 4. X Handicap Singles.

First round: J.S. Maude (2½) bt P.G. Gunn (8) +17, J.H. Battison (2) bt E.C. Matthews (12) +18, G.W. Noble (0) bt R.J. Smith (6½) +17, J. Wolfe (12) bt R.D.C. Prichard (1½) +9, S.S. Townsend (1½) bt A. Palmer (16) +11, Mrs. E. Neal (6) bt G. Roy (5) +23, Mrs. Browne (7) bt Mrs. S.L. Mulliner (16) +1 OT, D.C. Caporn (3½) bt Mrs. Mansfield (7) +10, D. Goulding bt M.E. Pearson (3½) w/o opp scr, P. Cordingley (3½) bt Mrs. MacDonald (9) +18, J.D. Greenwood (3) bt Mrs. Wharrad (12) +21, G.J. Roberts (-½) bt P.E. Callan +17, I.P.M. MacDonald (6½) bt Miss J. Wraith (9) +15, Mrs. W. Jones (9) bt J.G.C. Phillips (-½) w/o, M.J. Stevens (1) bt L. Wharrad (3) +14, R.J. Murfitt (-1½) bt I.D. Bond (0) +12.

Second round: Battison bt Maude +14, Noble bt Wolfe +17, Mrs. Neal bt Townsend +13, Mrs. Browne bt Caporn +3, Goulding bt Cordingley +11, Greenwood bt Roberts +26, MacDonald bt Jones +1, Murfitt bt Stevens w/o.

Third round: Battison bt Wolfe +13, Mrs. Neal bt Mrs. Browne +2 OT, Goulding bt Greenwood +26, MacDonald bt Murfitt w/o.

Semi-final: Battison bt Mrs. Neal +13, Goulding bt MacDonald +3.

Final: Goulding bt Battison +26.

Event 5. Handicap Doubles. Alternate Strokes. 3rd Hoop Start.

First round: J.S. Maude & R.J. Smith (3½) bt P.E. Callan & Miss J. Wraith (9) +11, J.D. Greenwood & Mrs. J. Bonser (5) bt J.S.H. Battison & Mrs. S.S. Townsend (5½) +17, Mr. & Mrs. I.P.M. MacDonald (6½) bt D.C. Caporn & J. Wolf (5½) +4 OT, P.G. Gunn & C.J. Hughes (8½) bt Mr. & Mrs. L. Wharrad (5) +12, R.D.C. Prichard & A. Palmer (5) bt D. Goulding & E.C. Matthews (8) +5, G. Roy & Mrs. W. Jones (6½) bt A. Palmer

& M.J. Stevens (5 $\frac{1}{2}$) +2 OT.

Second round: Maude & Smith bt J. Haigh & Mrs. W. Browne (2 $\frac{1}{2}$) +4 OT, Mr. & Mrs. MacDonald bt Greenwood & Mrs. Bonser +9, Prichard & Palmer bt Gunn & Hughes +11, Roy & Mrs. Jones bt P.L. Avery & Mrs. B. Mansfield (3 $\frac{1}{2}$) +1 OT.

Semi-final: Mr. & Mrs. MacDonald bt Maude & Smith +18, Prichard & Palmer bt Roy & Mrs. Jones +1 OT.

Final: Prichard & Palmer bt Mr. & Mrs. MacDonald +8 OT.

PARKSTONE 1 — 6 JUNE

The tournament marked a change in the weather pattern by providing an almost rain-free week of play, only one afternoon being marred by heavy rain characteristic of the previous weeks. However, a violent thunderstorm on Monday night which caused extensive damage elsewhere left two courts unplayable until midday Tuesday. Most of the credit for only this little effect must go to the groundsman who was up at the crack of dawn spiking the lawns to improve the drainage.

The first three days play saw little remarkable croquet but the Club did a good job in organising television and local press coverage. Southern Television featured a five minute article on the tournament which was considered by all those who saw it to be a good presentation of the game. The local press devoted a full page to the tournament in one of their evening editions giving an outline of the game and its players. During the television filming, one player was surprised that no referee arrived to deal with the sound recordist holding a boom microphone above his head.

Thursday saw a most exciting doubles match with Eades and Marshall versus Dawson and Wood. When time was called Eades ran rover with all the remaining clips themselves on rover and then laid up leaving his side one point ahead. Dawson took the shortest shot of some 15 yards which he hit plum in the middle taking it off the west boundary level with rover. He took off from this to land one foot dead in front of rover which he subsequently ran making the score level. There then followed an episode during which the innings changed hands several times. Marshall was never left with a good rush to rover and Wood went off twice having lost the pace of the lawn. Finally, 20 minutes after time had been called, Wood made the last hoop after a succession of under-hit take offs and over-hit rushes.

Finals day saw Pollard in all his events, not the first time that a newcomer to the game has done this. However, his fluent style of the rest of the week largely eluded him and having to play three finals in one day meant that he succeeded in winning only the doubles with Barnes (playing Mrs. Barnes and Shepard). He was beaten in the X by McMordie after a prolonged game and by Dawson in the B event after an equally long game which belies the score.

The C event was won by Mrs. Marshall in a very close game with many changes of lead. Mrs. Marshall had to wait a long time on the peg due to the excellent shooting of her opponent, Miss Robertson. Mrs. Marshall was runner-up in the event last year and has clearly been aiming for a win this year.

The Open final between Ormerod and Wood looked like being a one-sided match when Ormerod approached 4-back for a straight triple with Wood having only one hoop. Ormerod did a splendid peel from a long distance at an angle but stuck in the hoop with his own ball. Wood then made a come-back and ended on the peg and 4-back when Ormerod regained the innings and pegged the forward ball out. Wood managed to make one more hoop before falling to Ormerod making the score an exciting +3.

Much credit for a highly enjoyable week is due to the very able management team and the skill of the local catering corps (especially the pudding makers!).

T. Wood

Event 1: Dorset Salver 'A' Open Singles

DRAW

First round: Col. E.L.L. Vulliamy bt Air Commdr. J.H. Greswell +7. L.S. Butler bt R.S. Eades +9. Dr. W.P. Ormerod bt Dr. C.A. Parker +25. T.I. Wood bt Mrs. N.A.C. McMillan +19.

Second round: Butler bt Vulliamy +18. Ormerod bt Wood +9.

Final: Ormerod bt Butler +10.

PROCESS

First round: Vulliamy bt Ormerod W.O. Wood bt Eades +21. Greswell bt Parker +6. Butler bt McMillan +3.

Second round: Wood bt Vulliamy +13. Butler bt Greswell +16.

Final: Wood bt Butler +26.

PLAY-OFF: Ormerod bt Wood +3.

Event 2: Evans Trophy 'B' Level Singles

First round: Mrs. S.S. Cruden bt R.H.F. Carder +13. J.F. Pollard bt Mrs. F.H.N. Davidson +17. J.P. Dawson bt Mrs. P.H. Mann +14. A.A. Rushbrooke bt L.B. Barnes +5T.

Second round: P.J. Sheppard bt Miss P.E. Parker +19. Pollard bt Mrs. Cruden +11. Dawson bt Rushbrooke +18. F.L. Shergold bt Dr. J.A. McMordie +18.

Semi-finals: Pollard bt Sheppard +2. Dawson bt Shergold +9.

Final: Dawson bt Pollard +17.

Event 3: Cope Cup Handicap Singles. 9 bisques & over. 3rd Hoop start.

First round: Mrs. C.W. Marshall bt Mrs. G.L. Ormerod +11.

Second round: P.H. Mann bt Mrs. C.A. Parker +6. Mrs. Marshall bt Mrs. L.B. Barnes +8. Mrs. D. Mitchell bt Dr. C.W. Marshall +4. Miss A.R. Robertson bt Mrs. H.R. Mortimer +17.

Semi-finals: Mrs. Marshall bt Mann +8. Miss Robertson bt Mrs. Mitchell +16.

Final: Mrs. Marshall bt Miss Robertson +5.

Event 4: Cripps Memorial Trophy 'X' Handicap Singles.

First round: Dawson (5 $\frac{1}{2}$) bt Mrs. McMillan (3) +21. Mrs. Marshall (9) bt Rushbrooke (5 $\frac{1}{2}$) +21. Pollard (*8) bt Mrs. Barnes +12. Mrs. Cruden (7 $\frac{1}{2}$) bt Mrs. Mitchell (11) +11. Wood (1) bt Vulliamy (2) +26. Dr. Marshall (10) bt Mrs. Ormerod (9) +8T. Miss Robertson (10) bt Sheppard (6) +4T. Shergold (5) bt Barnes (7) +16. McMordie (5 $\frac{1}{2}$) bt Carder (4) +8. Eades (2 $\frac{1}{2}$) bt Mrs. C.A. Parker +14. Butler (1/2) bt Mann (9) +14.

Second round: Miss Parker (7) bt Mrs. Davidson (6 $\frac{1}{2}$) +18. Dawson bt Mrs. Marshall +17. Pollard bt Mrs. Cruden +17. Wood bt Dr. Marshall +17. Shergold bt Miss Robertson +19. McMordie bt Eades +12. Butler bt Mrs. Mann (7 $\frac{1}{2}$) +11. Greswell (3) bt Dr. Parker (3) +11.

Third round: Dawson bt Miss Parker +13. Pollard bt Wood +26. McMordie bt Shergold +9. Butler bt Greswell +12.

Semi-finals: Pollard bt Dawson +20. McMordie bt Butler +17.

Final: McMordie bt Pollard +12.

Event 4a: Evans Rose Bowl 'Y' Handicap Singles

First round: Rushbrooke bt Mrs. McMillan Opp Rtd Peg. Mrs. Barnes bt Mrs. Mitchell +5T. Vulliamy bt Mrs. Ormerod +1T. Barnes bt Sheppard +16. Carder bt Mrs. Parker +16. Mann bt Mrs. Mann +6.

Second round: Rushbrooke bt Davidson +14. Mrs. Barnes bt Vulliamy W.O. Barnes bt Carder +14. Mann bt Dr. Parker +3.

Semi-finals: Rushbrooke bt Mrs. Barnes +7. Barnes bt Mann +6.

Final: Barnes bt Rushbrooke +4.

Event 5: Summer Doubles Cup — Handicap Doubles.

First round: Dr. & Mrs. Parker (14) bt Mrs. Cruden & Mrs. Ormerod (16 $\frac{1}{2}$) +13. Eades & Dr. Marshall (12 $\frac{1}{2}$) bt Mr. & Mrs. Mann (16 $\frac{1}{2}$) +13. Wood & Dawson (6 $\frac{1}{2}$) bt Butler & Mrs. Mitchell (9 $\frac{1}{2}$) +10. Mrs. McMillan & Mrs. Mortimer (16) bt Greswell & Mrs. Davidson (9 $\frac{1}{2}$) +9. Barnes & Pollard (15) bt Carder & Mrs. Marshall +2T.

Second round: Sheppard & Mrs. Barnes (17) bt Dr. & Mrs. Parker +10. Wood & Dawson bt Eades & Dr. Marshall +1T. Barnes & Pollard bt Mrs. McMillan & Mortimer +9T. Shergold & Miss Robertson (13) bt McMordie & Miss Parker (12 $\frac{1}{2}$) +6.

Semi-finals: Sheppard & Mrs. Barnes bt Wood & Dawson +10. Barnes & Pollard bt Shergold & Miss Robertson +7.

Final: Barnes & Pollard bt Sheppard & Mrs. Barnes +13.

2nd Pimms International — 1981. Cheltenham 6th June England v Wales

It is not quite true to say that England always looked likely to win this match, but very nearly so. During the first hour William Prichard had a good chance of taking the first game off Nigel Aspinall, Colin Prichard looked likely to do the same against Keith Wylie and David Croker in fact did so against Eric Solomon. But early promises faded and England's superiority gradually asserted itself more and more.

In the top match Nigel Aspinall seemed to be having trouble getting the pace. His first break presented several problems including getting wired from the pioneer at the 6th but hitting it through the hoop (fairly hard necessarily) and failing the approach, William went to 4-back off this. Although Nigel hit the lift William got in again but unaccountably missed a short roquet at 2-back from which Nigel went to the peg, including two peels of a straight triple, and attempted to leave an opponents ball on the wire of the rover but it came off to the side leaving a shortish lift shot which William hit. However he failed position for 2-back and Nigel won +10.

In the second game William did not take croquet and Nigel finished, not in a standard 2 or 3 turns, but with sufficient control to be in charge throughout.

In the second match Colin hit Keith's fourth corner opening (3 of the matches started this way, in two of them the shot being hit) and was the first to 4-back. From then on the game was something of a muddle, with Keith trying a triple without any success and having to retire to a corner after 1-back. Later Colin tried a quadruple. Eventually Keith's pegged out Colin whose other ball was for 4-back, Keith's partner being for 1-back. After 2-back he failed to get a wired position and Colin made 4-back and penultimate but then Keith played an accurate finish to win +2.

In the second game Keith was first in and laid for a sextuple with his own in the 3rd corner. This came to nothing and he missed a roquet after the fourth hoop. Colin got a ball to 3-back. A good deal of in and out play followed before Keith won +17 with a deceptively perfect score.

In the third match Steven Mulliner always dominated the play. In the first game he finished with a triple in which the final peel was done at the rover and in making the hoop himself he roqueted his partner. He rolled it to within a few inches of the peg, separated the opponent's and did a perfect half jump to complete the game.

In the second game Vic Rees had a chance when he hit the lift after Steven had gone to 4-back but stuck in the first hoop. He eventually got in again when Steven was both for the rover and went to 4-back but Steven hit the lift to win +17.

David Croker notched up Wales' only game by taking the first off Eric Solomon although Eric had the first ball round and had reached 4-back with his second ball before David took croquet. From then on he immediately established control until all the clips were on rover or peg, David eventually winning +3.

Eric got the best of the play in the second and third games making some good breaks but failing to bring off his attempted peels, winning +22 +25.

The Cheltenham Club laid on excellent refreshments and Pimms provided their beverage for the players, who imbibed more freely after the matches than at lunch time.

England		Wales	
G. N. Aspinall	bt	W. de B. Prichard	+10 +26
K. F. Wylie	bt	C. H. L. Prichard	+2 +17
S. N. Mulliner	bt	D. V. H. Rees	+23 +17
Dr. E. W. Solomon	bt	D. J. Croker	-3 +22 +25

THE CHALLENGE AND GILBEY TROPHIES 8 — 15 JUNE

These events were held again at Budleigh Salterton, and for once there was a touch of real summer weather. It was very disappointing that there were only 4 entries for the major event, and only 4 for the Stevenson Cup. To give players a few more games, the Manager, Ken Schofield, put on a "Y" Doubles, which was much enjoyed.

Bill Perry won the Roehampton Cup again, in great style, while Ray Stevens beat John Cooper in the second-place play-off.

Francis Landor won the Council Cup, beating Ralph Lee convincingly in the final, although he had previously succumbed to Ralph twice in earlier games. He had had a narrow escape when playing Pat Asa-Thomas, who was lined up to peg out, but he managed to hit in from a distance and won by +2.

There was an exciting finish in the game between Bucknall and Hoole, when after a neck and neck struggle, time was called with both players having clips on Penultimate and Rover. Hoole managed to run Penultimate, and sent his ball into the 4th Corner, leaving his other ball in Corner 1, with Bucknall's balls' near Corner 2. With a rush to the centre of the North boundary, and a long roll up to the hoop, Bucknall managed also to run Penultimate. Then began a long struggle to run another hoop, each player trying to make things difficult for the other. However, ultimately, Bucknall managed to get a decent rush to the Rover, and that was that.

Philip and Iris Dwerryhouse continued to be prominent in spite of previous handicap reductions, both reaching the final of the Reckitt Cup, which Iris won. Together they also won the "Y" Doubles, of which the runners-up were Francis Landor and Maurice Hawthorn.

Martin Granger Brown beat Reg Pierce in the Gilbey Cup final, after some anxious moments. Reg was playing well and using his bisques to advantage, until his progress was stopped by the taking of a half-bisque to run a hoop! No fewer than four previous holders took part in this event, and 4 of the 26 games ended with only a one point difference.

The Gilbey "Y" Cup was won by a senior Budleigh member, Helga Cruden, who beat Maurice Hawthorn in the final. The latter had a good tournament, reaching three finals, and winning the Stevenson Cup from Charles Marshall, thus reversing last year's placings.

In the Doubles, there were plenty of close and exciting contests. Bill and Diana Perry made their debut as a partnership, and after a good win in the first round, it looked as though there would be no stopping them. However, in the next round, Ken Schofield and Enid Pursey, last year's winners, managed to beat them by +1 on time. There was an all-Cheltenham final, with S. Hoole and P. Shepard beating the Asa-Thomas combination.

Event 1: Roehampton Challenge Cup (Open Singles — Advanced Play) (4 entries)

DRAW

Winner: B.G. Perry bt (SF) R.S. Stevens +15, (F) A.J. Cooper +7. A.J. Cooper bt (SF) R.A. Simpson +4.

PROCESS

Winner: B.G. Perry bt (SF) R.A. Simpson +16, (F) R.S. Stevens +18. R.S. Stevens beat (SF) A.J. Cooper +3.

PLAY-OFF for 2nd Place: R.S. Stevens bt A.J. Cooper +6.

Event 2: The Council Cup (Handicaps 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ — 6) (Advanced Play) 16 entries.

DRAW

Winner: F.J.R. Landor bt (1) Mrs. E. Asa Thomas +2, (2) R.A. Pierce +13, (SF) Dr. W.R. Bucknall +18, (F) Mrs. R.A. Simp-

son +17. **Mrs. R.A. Simpson** bt (1) Miss F. Joly +1(T), (2) P.J. Shepard +7, (SF) P.K. Devitt +17). **Dr. W.R. Bucknall** bt (1) Mrs. G.H. Mapstone +1(T), (2) S.J.W. Hoole +1(T). **P.K. Devitt** bt (1) R.H. Lee +2(T), (2) M. Granger Brown +6. **S.J.W. Hoole** bt (1) C.J. Waller +13. **R.A. Pierce** bt (1) Mrs. C. Bagnall +22. **P.J. Shepard** bt (1) C. Edwards +21. **M. Granger Brown** bt (1) K.S. Schofield W.O.

PROCESS

Winner: R.H. Lee bt (1) F.J.R. Landor +15, (2) Dr. W.R. Bucknall +16, (SF) C.J. Waller +5(T), (F) Miss F. Joly +23. **Miss F. Joly** bt (1) S.J.W. Hoole +5, (2) M. Granger Brown +7, (SF) Mrs. E. Asa Thomas +8. **C.J. Waller** bt (1) Mrs. R.A. Simpson +8, (2) R.A. Pierce +3. **Mrs. E. Asa Thomas** bt (1) P.K. Devitt +20, (2) P.J. Shepard +7. **R.A. Pierce** bt (1) K.S. Schofield +18. **Dr. W.R. Bucknall** bt (1) C. Edwards +11. **M. Granger Brown** bt (1) Mrs. C. Bagnall +7. **P.J. Shepard** bt (1) Mrs. G. H. Mapstone +12.

PLAY-OFF: **F.J.R. Landor** bt R.H. Lee +24.

Event 3. The Reckitt Cup (Handicaps 6½ - 9) (Level play) 9 entries.

DRAW

Winner: Mrs. P.A. Dwerryhouse bt (2) Mrs. H. Cruden +16, (SF) P.A. Dwerryhouse +14, (F) Mrs. J.M. Goode +8. **Mrs. J.M. Goode** bt (2) Mrs. E.M. Pursey +11, (SF) Mrs. C.W. Marshall +6. **Mrs. C.W. Marshall** bt (2) Mrs. R.S. Stevens +4(T). **P.A. Dwerryhouse** bt (1) Mrs. D.C. Wallace +9, (2) E. Asa Thomas +6.

PROCESS

Winner: P.A. Dwerryhouse bt (2) Mrs. E.M. Pursey +4, (SF) Mrs. C.W. Marshall +14, (F) Mrs. J.M. Goode +12. **Mrs. J.M. Goode** bt (2) Mrs. D.C. Wallace +21, (SF) Mrs. P.A. Dwerryhouse W.O. **Mrs. P.A. Dwerryhouse** bt (2) E. Asa Thomas +17. **Mrs. C.W. Marshall** bt (2) Mrs. H. Cruden +4. **E. Asa Thomas** bt (1) Mrs. R.S. Stevens +6.

PLAY-OFF: **Mrs. P.A. Dwerryhouse** bt P.A. Dwerryhouse +13.

Event 4: The Stephenson Cup (Handicaps 10 and over) (Level Play) 3 entries.

DRAW

Winner: M. Hawthorn bt (SF) Dr. C.W. Marshall +17, (F) Dr. C.W. Evans W.O.

PROCESS

Winner: M. Hawthorn bt (F) Dr. C.W. Marshall +1(T). **Dr. C.W. Marshall** bt (SF) Dr. C.W. Evans +16.

Event 5: Handicap Doubles (X) 15 pairs.

Winners: S.J.W. Hoole & P.J. Shepard (9½) bt (1) R.A. Pierce & Mrs. M. Hawthorn (18) +4(T), (2) Dr. C.W. Marshall & Mrs. R.A. Simpson (13) +5, (SF) Mr. & Mrs. D.C. Wallace (13½) +21, (F) Mr. & Mrs. E. Asa Thomas (10) +19. **Mr. & Mrs. E. Asa Thomas** (10) bt (1) F.J.R. Landor & M. Hawthorn (14) +25, (2) R.S. Stevens & Mrs. J.M. Goode (8½) +2, (SF) K.S. Schofield & Mrs. E.M. Pursey (11½) +14. **K.S. Schofield & Mrs. E.M. Pursey** (11½) bt (1) R.A. Simpson & Mrs. R.S. Stevens (9) +4, (2) Mr. & Mrs. B.G. Perry (13½) +1(T). **Mr. & Mrs. D.C. Wallace** (13½) bt (2) Mrs. H. Cruden & Mrs. B. Ormerod (19½) +15. **R.S. Stevens & Mrs. J.M. Goode** (8½) bt (1) R.H. Lee & Mrs. C. Bagnall (7½) +12. **Mr. & Mrs. B.G. Perry** (13½) bt (1) M. Granger Brown & Mrs. C.W. Marshall (10½) +12. **Dr. C.W. Marshall & Mrs. R.A. Simpson** (13) bt (1) Dr. W.R. Bucknall & C. Edwards (9) +4. **Mrs. H. Cruden & Mrs. B. Ormerod** (19½) bt (1) Mr. & Mrs. P.A. Dwerryhouse (17) +6(T).

Event 5: Handicap Doubles (Y) 8 pairs.

Winners: Mr. & Mrs. P.A. Dwerryhouse (17) bt (1) Mr. & Mrs. D.C. Wallace (13½) W.O., (SF) R.A. Pierce & Mrs. M. Hawthorn (18) +2, (F) F.J.R. Landor & M. Hawthorn (14) +2(T).

F.J.R. Landor & M. Hawthorn (14) bt (1) R.H. Lee & Mrs. C. Bagnall (7½) +12, (SF) M. Granger Brown & Mrs. C.W. Marshall (10½) +2. **M. Granger Brown & Mrs. C.W. Marshall** (10½) bt (1) R.A. Simpson & Mrs. R.S. Stevens (9) +2. **R.A. Pierce & Mrs. M. Hawthorn** (18) bt (1) Dr. W.R. Bucknall & C. Edwards (9) +2(T).

EVENT 6: The Gilbey Goblet (Handicap Singles) (X) 27 entries.

Winner: M. Granger Brown (2½) bt (1) Mrs. R.A. Simpson (3) +19, (2) P.J. Shepard (6) +20, (3) R.H. Lee (4) +13, (SF) R.S. Stevens (1½) +20, (F) R.A. Pierce (6) +10. **R.A. Pierce** (6) bt (1) Mrs. E. Asa Thomas (3) +25, (2) Mrs. E.M. Pursey (7½) +11, (3) Mrs. P.A. Dwerryhouse (9) +7, (SF) Miss F. Joly (3) +1. **R.S. Stevens** (1½) bt (1) Mrs. H. Cruden (7½) +1, (2) Dr. W.R. Bucknall (4) +12, (3) P.A. Dwerryhouse (8) +1. **Miss F.I. Joly** (3) bt (2) Mrs. D.C. Wallace (8) +3, (3) S.J.W. Hoole (3½) +15. **P.A. Dwerryhouse** (8) bt (2) Mrs. C.W. Marshall (9) +18. **R.H. Lee** (4) bt (1) E. Asa Thomas (7) +17, (2) F.J.R. Landor (3) +6. **Mrs. P.A. Dwerryhouse** (9) bt (1) M. Hawthorn (11) +16, (2) Dr. C.W. Marshall (10) +8. **S.J.W. Hoole** (3½) bt (1) Mrs. C. Bagnall (3½) +9, (2) R.A. Simpson (2) +21. **Dr. W.R. Bucknall** (4) bt (1) K.S. Schofield (4) +1. **F.J.R. Landor** (3) bt (1) Mrs. B. Ormerod (13) +16. **P.J. Shepard** (6) bt (1) Mrs. M. Hawthorn (14) +13. **Dr. C.W. Marshall** (10) bt (1) Mrs. R.S. Stevens (7) +15. **Mrs. E.M. Pursey** (7½) bt (1) Mrs. G.H. Mapstone (6) +12.

Event 6: The Gilbey Goblet (Handicap Singles) (Y) 14 entries.

Winner: Mrs. H. Cruden (7½) bt (1) E. Asa Thomas (7) +4, (2) Mrs. C.W. Marshall (8) W.O., (SF) Mrs. B. Ormerod (13) +5(T), (F) M. Hawthorn (11) +6. **M. Hawthorn** (11) bt (1) Mrs. E. Asa Thomas (3) W.O., (2) Mrs. G.H. Mapstone (6) +19, (SF) R.A. Simpson (2) +15. **Mrs. B. Ormerod** (13) bt (1) Mrs. M. Hawthorn (14) +17, (2) Mrs. R.S. Stevens (7) +1(T). **R.A. Simpson** (2) bt (2) Mrs. D.C. Wallace (8) +13. **Mrs. C.W. Marshall** (8) bt (1) K.S. Schofield (4) W.O. **Mrs. R.S. Stevens** (7) bt (1) Mrs. R.A. Simpson (3) +1(T). **Mrs. G.H. Mapstone** (6) bt (1) Mrs. C. Bagnall (3½) +6.

3rd Pimms International - 1981. Compton 13th June.

The final round in this years Pimms International was the first, in this writer's opinion, (and he has seen all the matches since the start except, regrettably, that at Southport) to justify the implication that "International" gives to any event - namely that the standard of play is of a consistently high standard, and that some at least is of exceptional quality.

In three of the matches at least this was the case and it made this reporter realise what had seemed to be lacking in the other matches which have taken place in the two years this event has been held - that the standard of play until now from the players who are representative of their country has really not been good enough.

All was now redeemed and for what reason who can tell? Was it that indefinable metabolism which somehow came right at the *moment juste*; the very pleasant surface of the Compton Club lawns (this is no reflection on other clubs); the beautifully warm and sunny day; the considerable number of spectators who came as a result of the local publicity; or perhaps the knowledge that the final outcome of the competition would be decided by this match?

Hardly the latter, perhaps, for there is no doubt that in the earlier rounds all were playing to win every game, and yet something had been lacking. All this was now redeemed and those who understood something of the niceties of the game really had a treat. It was only a pity that few of them perhaps had the ability to absorb the details of four matches at once for much must have been missed. Indeed this reporter would normally have been in the same situation himself had he not, on account of his reporting obligations, be required to observe the eventualities of each match, a task he found more enjoyable and easier to record than usual mainly because there was so much going on.

Before the match began the state of play was that Scotland had drawn with Wales and each therefore had a half; England had soundly trounced Wales and therefore had a win; England needed only to draw against Scotland to have 1½ against a maximum 1 by Scotland and ½ by Wales.

The reader, if he does not already know the result, must now be let out

of his misery by being informed that England did indeed win the match convincingly to wrest the Bowl from the holders, Scotland.

This eulogy must now be justified by some description of the feats achieved and this will for the most part seem tame by the cold narration of triple peels and such like feats. But it was the manner of their execution which commanded respect and this is extremely hard to convey in print but nevertheless we will do our best.

The second match between Steven Mulliner for England and Andrew Hope for Scotland attracted immediate attention because it reached its conclusion first. The first game went to Steven +26 with only a tiny chance for Andrew. Steven's rapid vitality in play (is he perhaps too intense, too keen to get it over?) seemed to indicate that this was to be a very likely win for England. But Andrew was undeterred and finding himself in the position of attempting a straight triple did just that with such effect that his peel at the penultimate was so perfect that his partner ball ended up two feet in front of rover making the finish look simple. The third game did not start auspiciously but finally Andrew achieved a fine triple completing the rover peel going to 3 back (so nice to get it over by then, but what a fool one feels if the simple break from then on comes to grief). Andrew's style is not the most convincing one has seen but on this occasion he certainly produced some fine croquet and the first straight triple he has done in a match.

The third match between Eric Solomon and the Scottish Captain Stephen Wright never produced quite the sparkle that was an almost regular feature of the other matches. Good breaks were made by both players throughout the three games and Stephen deserved to win the first game. Eric fought back in the second but both players made mistakes and the score could have been very different if Stephen had made more of his chances. In the final game Eric recovered extremely well from a hesitation in his first break at 2-back (approaching eventually from the west boundary) and eventually completed a fine delayed triple, doing the 4-back peel going to the 6th, penultimate going to 1-back and the final peel at the rover itself.

In the fourth match David Openshaw confounded his low placing (though admittedly he had not sparkled in the previous round) by producing some very fine play against Ian Wright. He started his triple going to the 6th and achieved a very fine cut into the 3rd corner after making the hoop. His attempt to peel penultimate going to 1-back failed and he eventually finished with a straight double, the Irish peel at penultimate going well, and after the rover did an extremely accurate cannon to send his partner from well behind the rover to within a couple of feet of the peg.

In the second game Ian Wright had more opportunity and got both balls to 4-back where he unfortunately came to grief on his second break. David seized his opportunity and played extremely well to win with a straight triple which almost looked easy.

In the top match there was consternation amongst spectators when Nigel Aspinall lost by 26 to Martin Murray in the first game. Martin played well but had problems when attempting to get his partner, which had only just been peeled through 4-back, over to the 6th. One wonders why he didn't attempt to rush it back through the 3rd, as the pioneer at the 6th was well in front of the hoop. However he achieved the penultimate peel going to 1-back and considering he got his partner in the middle of the rover going to 3-back had a rather complicated finish which happily came right in the end.

In the second game Martin had only one chance and Nigel took advantage of his missed return roquet after the first hoop to finish with a double peel.

The third game produced some excellent play but also a few errors which gave opportunities. Martin's attempt at a straight triple failed, leaving his partner for penultimate. His leave was an attempt to put Nigel's forward ball on the wire of the 6th which did not come off and he himself ended up wired from his partner and had to retire. Had he been content to leave the ball anywhere between the peg and penultimate it would have still forced that ball to play without running the risk of the complications which actually happened.

Nigel took advantage of this to play one of the finest breaks he has made in terms of accuracy and touch. A marvellous take-off to get a rush behind Martin's ball in the first corner; very accurate rushing to make his hoops and back to boundary balls, only getting them in a foot or so; and eventually establishing a break. Unable to achieve a peel at 4-back he pegged out Martins ball (the other being for penultimate), and Martin having missed two long shots, played a finely controlled finish.

In the eleven games played there were six triple peels, of which two were straight triples. There were perhaps too many errors (it used to be thought one did not deserve to win if one made more than two mistakes), but these certainly opened up opportunities which were usually taken.

The encouraging turn out of spectators was due entirely to the hard work done by Ed Strickland in a very wide distribution of leaflets and his concern for the comfort of the players and officials in the catering arrangements he made ensured the days success. Our thanks are due to him and his colleagues for their hard work.

England		Scotland	
G. N. Aspinall	beat	M. Murray	-26 +25 +3
S. N. Mulliner	lost to	A. B. Hope	+26 -26 -22
E. W. Solomon	beat	S. J. H. Wright	-14 +23 +17
D. K. Openshaw	beat	I. H. Wright	+25 +7

Final Result	England	2 wins
	Scotland	½
	Wales	½

Ryde 15 - 20 June

This was an excellent week for playing croquet, no rain and a fair amount of sunshine, but not quite so good for the spectator because of a persistent northerly wind. Due to the very hot day preceding the tournament, some of the visitors, thinking summer had arrived, came to Ryde ill-equipped for the subsequent cold wind.

We were disappointed on the first morning to discover that two players were unwell, and this naturally upset the programme to some extent, but by Wednesday they were both able to play. Mike Tompkinson returned threatening to infect his rivals by breathing on them, but he did not have to resort to this in order to win the Isle of Wight Championship Trophy (Class A).

The Chapman Cup (Class B level singles) was won decisively by Margaret Newman who beat Gwyneth Mann in the Draw final and Sheila Scarr in the Process.

The "X" Handicap Singles final between Arthur Rowlands and Bertram Barnes was great fun. Each player managed to get one clip on the peg before the other two balls had made very much progress, and the natural consequence was a battle to see who could peg out the opponent's rover ball. This went on amid great excitement for over half an hour with about seven attempts at pegging out until Arthur Rowlands at last managed it, and he went on to win the game.

The doubles partners Roy Newnham and Ian Card seemed to have little difficulty in winning all their games and well deserved to win the Birch Cups. The Hutton (Class C) Cup was won by Ian Card.

Although more than half the entrants were visitors to Ryde all the cups, except the Class A Isle of Wight Trophy, were won by Club members. This brought great joy to Joe Orchard, club president, whose handling of the social arrangements coupled with Edith Tucker's management of the tournament itself, gave everyone a most enjoyable week.

Ryde June 15 - 20

Event 1. Isle of Wight Championship - The Challenge Trophy (played as American) (4 entries)

Summary: M G Tompkinson 2 wins +34pts, G Birch 2 wins +19 pts, Dr C A Parker 1 win -27 pts, C G Pountney 1 win -26 pts.

Event 2. Chapman Cup (Level) (3rd hoop start) Law 36 Operates (8 entries)

DRAW

First Round: Mrs P Mann bt F H Newman +3, **L B Barnes** bt W A Scarr +9, **Mrs F H Newman** bt Mrs W A Scarr +16, **R W Newnham** bt C Abderhalden +2.

Semi-Final: Mrs Mann bt Barnes +3, **Mrs Newman** bt Newnham +4.

Final: Mrs Newman bt Mrs Mann +7.

Play off for 2nd place: Mrs Scarr bt Mrs Mann +18.

PROCESS

First Round: Mrs W A Scarr bt Mrs P Mann +20, **L B Barnes** bt R W Newnham +13, **Mrs Newman** bt F H Newman +2, **Abderhalden** bt W A Scarr +13.

Semi-Final: Mrs Scarr bt Barnes +5, **Mrs Newman** bt Abderhalden +3.

Final: Mrs Newman bt Mrs Scarr +9.