

WINKING WORLD

83

**GOLDEN JUBILEE
COMMEMORATIVE
EDITION**



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Winking World is edited by Andrew Garrard. The next edition of Winking World will be out when all the fuss over the 50th has died down.

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Those wishing to join ETwA should contact the Treasurer, Stew Sage. Membership costs £10 for people in the real world, and £3 for students.

Tiddlywinks Equipment may be purchased from the Treasurer, Stew Sage (address inside the back cover).

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Editorial

Who'd have thought it? Fifty years of the Noble Sport, and D.E.W. point has not yet been reached. Here's to many more.

The lag between Winking World editions 81 and 82 means that a few tournaments from the intervening period are still missing write-ups. If anybody attended and had a recollection of them (some scores are available), this is their opportunity to have their names recorded for posterity in this learned journal (and to earn a sense of enormous well-being, of course).

It has been suggested to me that current events would provide a good opportunity to collate people's memories of the game, information about what people are doing now (in a "winkers reunited" stylee), and so on. Doccy Wynn was even kind enough to send me a message entitled "My memories of CUTwC, 1988 – 1996". There was no attachment with the message, so I'm not sure whether that says something about Ed's alcohol consumption for the relevant period. Please send any thoughts, reminiscences, rants or the like to the editor (address on page 17).

As announced in the last Winking World, I'm compiling an electronic copy of all the issues of Winking World, which I'll be producing on CD-ROM or (more likely) DVD-ROM. Pricing is yet to be decided, although it won't be very expensive, but if you would be interested in a copy please contact me (but don't just tell me, because I'll forget). If you have produced Winking World in the past and have any issues in source form, it would be very helpful to receive a copy rather than relying on the scanner.

Finally, as most of you know, ETwA's web site, www.etwa.org, is the fount of knowledge outside this journal. Given the current celebrations, I would also like to draw people's attention to Doccy T's new CUTwC site at www.cutwc.net (amongst other places), which is a bustling portal for all things CUTwC.

As always, I would like to thank those who have contributed to this journal (especially those harangued over the last week), and apologies for the indubitably large number of errors which are present herein. This is an express edition of Winking World, produced specifically to cover the last week's events (plus a few extras), so please bear with me if it's not up to usual editorial standards.

Andrew Garrard



The ETwA National Pairs

Silwood Park 8th-9th January 2005

Andrew Garrard

This year's National Pairs was held out of sync with its usual timing, to accommodate the celebrations for the 50th. Andy Purvis kindly arranged for Silwood Park to host the event, as a change from Cambridge hosting everything. Here follows a report based on my hazy recollection and illegible notes from the flaky memories of those involved. In case of any disagreement between this report and the facts of what happened, the universe is wrong... This report is also highly biased in favour of the games for which I have reports, as opposed to the ones which were actually interesting.

Day dawned bright and early. Except for myself, who was, as usual, late.

In their first game, Patrick, Andy and Stew all had a pot-out threat looming, Andy's better than Stew's, and he didn't waste a shot in converting threat to fact, for a 7. James (partnering me in my absence) tried to dominate Geoff and Matthew from underneath; "I" was squopped up by the time I arrived. Hassling a large pile was to no avail, and a 6-1 ensued. Sick boy and Hotdog acquired a 2 from Matt and Larry, stating that they were aiming for a 2ppg average over the weekend and they were on track.

Once involved in a game in the second round, I proceeded to be slightly less effective than I had been from a squopped-up position in the first round. James deliberately decided we should concentrate on "not throwing away the game" – but while it never looked disastrous, it never looked recoverable either, leaving Dave and Jon with the 6-1. A clash of the Patricks saw both with pot-out threats, but the doctored one's first attempt, on the bottom of a three-wink pile, missed into Sick Boy's area. Andy and Patrick were glad to escape with a win.

At this point, lunch, with pigs, intervened, and we discovered that a long walk to a pub could build up an appetite. Which was fortunate, because the pub took a long time to deliver food, and the restart time was declared which required people to head off pretty much as soon as their food arrived, so faces had to be stuffed. Drivers to the rescue.

In round three I concentrated on the skill of "rolloffability", while Doccy B. proved that he's learnt something from all the CUTwC novices he's partnered throughout the years: he's often warned that "novices can't dock", and sure enough in trying to



dock near the pile he sent himself off instead, leaving two rampant attackers and no guards. James almost provided relief by subbing both into the pile, but to the disappointment of all an umpire decreed them to be free. A squop up was eventually converted into a 7* for our opponents.

Dave and Jon started with two handicaps: Dave left his squidgers in the USA, and Jon couldn't squop to save his life. Fortunately, Larry and Keith provided adequate plastic sustenance and Jon's potting was sufficiently good that they contrived to win their first two games after monumental struggles.

With the thinking processes unaffected, the skills improved, and they were the only undefeated pair after 6 rounds, 5/6 off the lead.

Andy, meanwhile, observed that the only games he'd lost had been on his own mat, and that he'd accumulated a long streak of successful pots. This form continued to the Masters – see separate report.

Saturday evening, for which most of us relocated a few feet to Silwood's bar, brought a few highlights. There was the minor business of the last game of World Pairs 27 (which was very tense, or at least very long, on my observation – see separate report). This induced just enough excitement that a collection of Silwood students turned up, hoping to see some winks but too late so to do; they had some shots demonstrated to them, and were left to their own devices with the kit. They still seemed to be playing some time later, so perhaps there's hope for a resurgence of WASP.

By far the most significant occurrence, of course, was Stew "Schweinmeister" Sage's setting of yet another new record in Pigs - this time, 254 for 24 (it was pointed out to him that 257 would have been another fining level, but he decreed it to be "a bit risky" to keep going). Patrick B. managed to get to 55 before qwxcelling, so Hotdog still retains the shortfall record he acquired at the Somerset. We celebrated with pizza (it was going to be curry, but a team decision was made once it was discovered that there was no cutlery), and many people looked off their beer. SLU's illness from the Somerset was blamed.

Sunday dawned, as days are prone to do. The Tournament Organizer ensured that I was actually on time for the start of the second day's play, and what's more had some Winking Worlds with me for distribution. Big hand for his assistance.

Geoff and Matthew started off my day, with a fairly quiet game in which nobody



got very involved. I had an attempt at potting and missed my 6th over the pot, landing on a yellow-on-yellow, flattening it, and ending up next to it (instant squop-up and guard for me). James, short of winks, hassled while Geoff worked greens free. Matthew ended with all his winks on singletons, and James' only remaining blue, missing it's second pot attempt ending round four, squopped Geoff's last green, leaving them with a 4–3.

Round three on Sunday saw James and myself hassling Doccy B. very effectively – which unfortunately didn't stop him talking Andy into potting out. Our attempts to distract him had left us far from the pot, so we stared another 7 in the face.

Sick Boy's notes for round 4 consist of this: “Can we go home now?” Clearly he thinks we were there to enjoy ourselves.

Another clash of the Patricks saw a squop-up after a battle; Patrick D.'s reds mostly went under quickly, but he and Anthony formed and attacked a large pile. An excellent squop with a small red onto the very middle of the top of the pile left Patrick D. with a chance, but the other Patrick immediately totalled it with another small wink. 6–1, and the note from Sick Boy now says “Can we go for lunch again, please?”

Meanwhile, much hassling from James and myself in a game against Dave and Jon was still leaving us looking a bit behind. Some very unlucky shots by our opponents gave us a chance. Much thinking in rounds left Jon with enough potted winks to win, but both James and I worked enough free winks to beat Dave; 4–3.

Round six saw James and myself in a tight game against Sick Boy and Hotdog. This turned rapidly once they noticed that all my winks were occupied – and shortly thereafter squopped up. They were then free to oppress James and obtain a 5½.

Buoyed by that success, Patrick and Anthony took on Charles and Alan. Patrick reports that he doesn't need to write up the game, “the stars tell the whole story”. Charles was too depressed at the result to comment. (I didn't find out why he was depressed until later, I hasten to add.)

In the last round, James and myself took on Stew and Alan, in a game in which Stew was mostly under, but Alan looking threatening. Everyone missed pots in rounds, but James got enough for the win, and a missed pot from Stew finishing round 5 left us with a 5–2 for our first win of the tournament. Winks fatigue had well and truly set in, and we sat around to wait for the other games to finish; this



tournament had introduced the convention that those players who are ready first get to pick which mat to play on, allowing some games to get an entire round ahead of others. I bring people's attention to the fact that I was an early finisher, as it were. Think of it as a new year's resolution.

The last games of the tournament saw first place being decided in one match, and third place in another. Andy and Patrick were playing Matt and Larry for the trophy, and a big pile by the pot with a lot of hassling ensued. Andy reported that "three people played like drains, Matt played well."

Big hand to Andy for arranging the event (and consistent mats, if not tables), and to Matt for his T.O. role.

FINAL TABLE

			Points	PPG
1	Matt Fayers	Larry Kahn	74	5.286
2	Patrick Barrie	Andy Purvis	70 $\frac{1}{3}$	5.024
3	Jon Mapley	Dave Lockwood	58 $\frac{1}{6}$	4.155
4	Geoff Myers	Matthew Rose	55 $\frac{1}{2}$	3.964
5	Alan Dean	Charles Relle	43	3.071
6	Patrick Driscoll	Anthony Horton	38 $\frac{1}{2}$	2.750
7	Alan Harper	Stew Sage	30	2.143
8	James Cullingham	Andrew Garrard	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	1.607



The International Match

14th January 2005, Bowett Room, Queens' College

Andrew Garrard et al.

The format decreed for this tournament meant that play started with a singles round...

Patrick displayed the first excitement of the match with five greens pottable and one further away. Larry rolled off; Patrick potted five and brought in, but missed with the 6th. Larry had the chance to punish him, and converted to a 5*. Meanwhile, an unlucky inversion by Ferd into a big pile left Alan ahead. Andy was well up on piles owned, and Severin's chasing was to no avail. Moo had a tight game against Yan (after both Carnovskied in the squidge-off); a potted red in the last round gave him the 6-1 (a miss would have made it 5-2), a good showing from the newcomer. Moo reports that his shot play was very good, but maybe he needs more tactical experience (which would be expected).

Charles accused himself of being tentative, having potted four in a row with two squopped. Rick had Carnovskied two, but Charles never dominated (partly due to an unlucky sub), and the game always looked like either a 4-3 or a 5-2. Matt reports that, since Tim was a new opponent to him, the game consisted of "gritty" squopping and pile play (although he was smug to have got two pile flips). Apparently it was "winks in its meanest and dirtiest form". Scary.

Alan's game against Ferd looked like being a 6-1 in round 4, but having got it to 4-3 Ferd's attempt to pot landed long and freed one of Alan's winks, losing him the fractions. Matty's game against Dave saw him pot well with one colour, and Dave potting badly in rounds with both. Geoff's game against Bob saw him with many blues in, but reds mostly under. Bob missed a green in round five, leaving Geoff with the 4; potting off some critical piles was involved.

Although the singles round took a while, a pairs round was squeezed in before lunch. Charles and Alan took on Larry and Severin; Larry and Alan brought in well until Larry went off, and Alan's threat caused his opponents to chase him into his area. Alan potted well in rounds, and Larry didn't, leaving him behind. Larry reported "Fucking asshole, eat my cock. Not you Charles." Apparently this is a quaint American term meaning "Oh bother, I just missed a pot."

Meanwhile, Patrick and Moo took on Tim and Rick; Patrick potted out – missing his sixth in round four, having it squopped by blue in round five, freed by green,



and the potting out with the last shot of the game. The pot-out had included a number of distant winks and pots off piles; Richard ran six to follow, having squopped badly earlier in the game. Geoff and Matty took on Bob and Yan, squopping up Yan quickly. Bob tried to pot two at the start of rounds, but Yan was unable to free more of Bob's winks, and Geoff and Matty potted enough in rounds four and five.

Matt and Andy took on Dave and Ferd, on a dead mat. Dave was three singletons down, but his opponents were constrained for winks, with some still on the baseline and an abortive pot attempt. Andy missed twice (including a scrunge), and Dave missed in round five, which would have given him 5½. Lunch ensued, and was eaten (and, at least for the England team, drunk). A healthy start for the favourites.

Round three saw Matt and Andy against Bob and Yan, with Matt counter-potting against an attempt by Bob. Matt finished it in round five. Meanwhile, Richard and Patrick took on Larry and Severin; Richard had an "obvious" blitz on, got the difficult winks, and missed the easy sixth. Patrick got on the pile twice, eventually with two separate winks, and was able to free – but not wasn't good at following in.

In round four, Matt brought in well against Tim and Scott. He missed a pot in the seventh turn, but ran six in the eighth. Richard and Patrick took on Dave and Max, and always looked ahead, giving Max long shots to attempt with four of Dave's winks under one of Richard's.

Round five saw Richard and Patrick against Bob and Yan; this was a close (and therefore slow) game throughout, with Bob and Yan ahead after Yan potted four uninvolved greens. Richard tried for first but missed next to Yan; Patrick dug out four of his own winks, and Richard was ahead of Bob. Yan had a squop for 3½–3½ or a pot for 4–3 ending round five, but needed 5–2 if the USA were going to stay in the match! This was the last game of the round to finish: he tried for the pot and missed, having played very well up until then. Meanwhile Matt and Andy were well on top in an Ingles game, but threw their position in order to have a fight in a more interesting area (and still won 6–1). Alan squopped well in his last game partnering Charles, but missed a pot in round five which would have got him 5–2, and lost 4–3 instead (partly due to Charles squopping onto and under a pile simultaneously).



Since the match had been decided at this point, there was a brief hiatus for photographs, singing, etc. Then the final singles round got under way.

Richard quickly showed he had no intention of being kind to the defeated side by blitzing against Max Lockwood. He managed to pot no winks to follow himself in, however, so Max can take something from the situation.

Charles played Bob, who squopped two doubletons from the baseline and played very well thereafter too, leaving Charles on the wrong end of a 6–1.

Alan went for a difficult pot-out with blue (and potted four), but Larry attacked the two remaining blues, each at about 9” – missing one, but getting the other. Alan potted the 5th blue, and lurked with red until Larry tried to pot out with yellow. After there were five in, he bombed the pile, freeing the last blue about 6” from the pot, but Larry got his 6th in first; after some poor potting, Alan scraped a 2*.

Severin got an excellent knock-off and squop to have early control, with Matt’s winks scattered. Matt played lots of nice pile shots, and Severin played Santa Claus. Matt potted one of each colour in round 5 to complete the 6–1.

Geoff was ahead most of the time in his game against Ferd, but the American hung in there, nibbling at edges. Geoff was forced to play a couple of good pile shots and a squop from four inches, small on small on the pile. Ferd managed to nudge a wink on a doubleton onto the edge of the pile late on, but Geoff got the knock off. When Ferd tried to play his next miracle shot, he subbed in the pile for the squop-up, and Geoff could pass out rounds four and five for the 6–1.

Matthew took on Tim S., and all the colours brought in randomly. Matty had two goes at a long pot and missed safe, but Tim squopped one and a big rolling pile developed. Matthew gradually got control, but Tim kept getting knock-offs until rounds, when three reds were free along with a couple of yellows and greens. Tim potted all three, and Matthew beat this with one colour only after scrunging a long wink with three small ones already in, to leave 5–2 to Matthew. Well played Tim for constantly hassling when squopped up! Tim potted two bigs in the fifth after squopped out at the end of time.

Patrick played Yan, who potted five but had his last squopped by the Cambridge player. Patrick was working his greens free when Yan lunched a yellow, so he potted out with that instead.

Finally, Dave stopped Andy from potting out with blue, and threatened a yellow

pot-out: the sixth yellow rolled round the pot and landed on two blues near neither player's other winks - so it turned into a squopping game, which Andy won 5–2.

At this point, Patrick broke out some team trophies which he'd provided for the England Team. These were decreed to be collectors' pieces, since they were dated 2004 instead of 2005...

	Round score		Cumulative score	
	England	USA	England	USA
Singles: first round	34½	21½	34½	21½
Pairs round 1	22	6	56½	27½
Pairs round 2	18	10	74½	37½
Pairs round 3	20	8	94½	45½
Pairs round 4	19	9	113½	54½
Singles: final round	36	20	149½	74½



Winks can be a very stressful game!

World Singles 59 – Larry Kahn vs Andy Purvis

22nd October 2004, Erasmus Room, Queens'

Andy Purvis

This was our fifth meeting. In most of our earlier matches, whoever was ahead after two games rather ran away with it, so I was anxious to make a good start. I couldn't believe my luck at the start of game 1, as Larry's very poor bring in gave me a decent sniff of a pot out. But I missed the long first wink into Larry's area, and he gradually turned it round with much more precise squopping and sounder strategy (he had one). By round 5, he seemed to have a safe 6–1, but had miscounted rounds and so didn't pot to completely nail it. Before the last shot, the tiddly count was 7–5–3–1, with my only wink able to lurch my better colour and free Larry's worse colour, leaving them both on 6. I played it with enough force to move the top two winks towards a pile, and got very lucky – I got the pot and subbed Larry's better colour, leaving a three-way tie for first place.

The first game had been all about squopping, but game two was more to my taste: Larry had a very strong pot threat with yellow and I had a rather weaker one. As there were two greens still at the baseline, I lined up my own threat rather than squop yellow. Larry went for the pot but missed the fourth into my area, and I converted a bit clumsily before running my second colour for 7*–0*. Larry, annoyed with himself, didn't squop very well in the next game and I squopped him up for 6–1 and a handy lead.

Larry started stronger in game 4, absorbing lots of my winks under few of his, but the pile didn't look stable and its breakup led to an even game. Larry regained the edge, but I was able to play for a 3–4 loss by nailing his worse colour, rather than try for anything more ambitious. We'd each won two games, but I was nearly nine points ahead. I squopped Larry up in rounds in game 5, with probably the best sequence of the match – a longish squop off a fragile pile to take out Larry's last flat blue, a doubleton to take his last flat red and then, when his last wink came nicely off a small yellow onto the pile, the yellow followed it solidly. Larry now needed two 7–0's for the match, but only brought in well with one colour. We both had quite easy pot-outs, but all he could do was to hope I missed, even though I'd potted solidly all match. Of course, I did miss the sixth; luckily for me, I contrived to land it on the only square inch of the mat where none of Larry's winks could see it (he still got worryingly close). It went in at the second attempt, but Larry ran his six to prevent me getting a record points total.



The overall scoreline flatters me rather. It's true that, by the end of the match, I was playing very well and a fair bit better than Larry, who was below his usual standard. But, had Larry started out 6-1, 5*-2*, as he very nearly did, he could well have beaten me by as large a margin.

Game scores (Larry first): 4²/₃-2¹/₃, 0*-7*, 1-6, 4-3, 1-6, 1*-6*.

Jubilee

Alan Deane has reported that he played a Jubilee game against Geoff Thorpe, the result of which was 18-10 in Alan's favour. Neither player can remember much else about the match.

World Masters

A full report on the World Master should, hopefully, appear in the next Winking World. The attendees seem to be suffering from amnesia when it comes to giving me details so far... I can report that the final of the World Masters, between Andy Purvis and Dave Lockwood, has yet to be played. Andy reports that about half way through the Masters his run of successful pots in tournament play came to an end, with a total number of non-missed pots of 62.



World Pairs 27

5th December 2004 (6 games in Hendon) and

8th January 2005 (1 game at Silwood Park)

Patrick Barrie

The players had allowed 6 hours for this World Pairs match. Despite only 20 minutes for lunch, this proved insufficient and Andy had to rush off after 6 close games to catch a plane to France. It was a high-quality match, at least for the first 6 games, with some particularly astonishing knock-offs and squops from distance. All players were squopping and potting well, at least from standard distances.

Game 1 was close all the way into rounds, with some very good squops by all players. First place was decided when Patrick potted three winks (2 off singletons) in round 5.

Game 2 was also close all the way through. Andy managed to tie up most of Geoff's winks, but all Matthew's winks became free in rounds with two distant from the pot. Matthew potted 4 of them before Patrick got a 6-inch squop on to him.

Game 3. After a period of positional play, Matthew was "forced" into a difficult pot-out attempt with 2 long winks rather than fight in the enemy area. He missed two pot attempts, but Andy & Patrick missed the squops on to him. Matthew got his final pot from 18 inches.

Game 4: Patrick brought in badly giving Andy far too much to do. The game became fairly one-sided though not without interest. Patrick did manage to break the largest pile in round 4 (sending 4 winks off the mat, 1 of which became lost), which allowed Andy to put some potting pressure on his opponents. Geoff & Matthew were up to it, and sound potting gave them an 18–10 lead in the match.

Game 5: Patrick brought in well and got a nice early tripleton that he wasn't quite able to hold for the whole game. By rounds, Andy's winks became free with 3 distant from the pot. He got 5 winks in before Matthew got a 6 inch little-on-little squop to stop him. Geoff potted 4 winks and had chance of potting the 5th but elected (wisely as it turned out) to leave it guarding Andy's final wink. In round 5, Patrick sneaked 3rd place ahead of Matthew.

Game 6: Patrick got a doubleton early on in their area before a period of positional play ensued with Andy & Patrick having an advantage. While trying for a much-needed big win, one of Andy's knock-offs went wrong leaving him with no mobile

winks. At the start of rounds, it looked like Patrick had a reasonably clear first place and a 4–3 win would result. However, Andy suggested that Patrick play a jaffa turn: pot 3 winks, then play a Bristol using an underneath wink to take out an enemy. It worked. Visions of a 5–2 win. However, Matthew then played an equally good shot - a squop that simultaneously freed 2 winks. Visions of a 2–5 loss. In round 5, Matthew potted 2 winks, but then missed a difficult pot off a singleton. Visions of a 4–3 win. However, with the final shot of the game, Patrick got a simultaneous squop and knock-out from 2 feet away to get a 5–2 win, leaving the score at Geoff & Matthew 22; Andy & Patrick 20.

Game 7 took place one month later on the Saturday evening of the National Pairs. It was a tense and fascinating game, if not always high quality, due to the match situation. After a slow opening, Patrick went for a difficult pot-out. He missed the 5th wink, possibly distracted by the pile immediately behind it needing an umpiring decision. He later missed the 6th wink which was awkwardly placed on a singleton. Choices abounded for both partnerships: should Andy rescue Patrick's two last winks as these were in the same pile and a pot-out would give them the world title? Or should Andy concentrate on Geoff & Matthew's winks, as his colour had a fair chance of 3rd place which might well be enough to give Andy & Patrick ultimate victory? Should Geoff & Matthew try to pot enough of one colour to get ahead of Patrick? This would win the world title if successful, but at the risk of giving Andy 3rd place (which would lose it if they didn't get first place).

As the winks lay at the start of round 5, the game score was 5½-1½ to Patrick & Andy. Matthew needed a single pot from 3 inches to get 2½ points from the game (which would result in a 24½-24½ tie). He got it. Geoff then needed a single pot from 3 inches to get 3 points from the game. He got it, and so Geoff & Matthew retained the World Pairs title by the scoreline 25–24.

Game scores:

Geoff Myers & Matthew Rose (champions)	2	4	6*	6	2	2	3
Patrick Barrie & Andy Purvis (challengers)	5	3	1*	1	5	5	4



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