

# THE WINKING WORLD

The Official Journal of the English Tiddlywinks Association

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## BUMPER BIT TOUR EDITION

### EDITORIAL

Under new management- business as usual

This is the first WW to be produced since Phil Tepper was deposed by an overwhelming resignation at the last AGM of ETWA. That most of you probably knew nothing of that meeting is not my fault- you are stuck with me now.

As you can feel, this is a bumper issue, caused mainly by the throng of happenings and non-happenings of the last few months, retold (in great detail) by our secretary.

A word about the new editorial policy. I intend carrying on in much the same way as Phil did i.e. with no policy at all save that of putting in anything submitted that was not insulting to the editor unless it was funny. I hope there will be more articles from a few different authors in future. Do you or your club really have nothing to say- no opinions to air? Tell us about the trip to Chipping Norton to post a telegram when your ox threw a hoof in the wilds of Mayfair. Do you think some of the rules could be clarified? We really are dying to know.

The recent experiment with Technicolor headings will continue through the rainbow. After much thought, however, I decided to retain spring green for this autumn issue because I felt the experiment deserved an extended trial and green is the only colour I possess.

Perhaps a few words about the editor would be in order here. My name and address can be found elsewhere in the volume and the editorial staff has censored all the other words normally used about me.

A few innovations in this issue are worthy of mention. There is an index on the last page so that you can easily avoid all the tripe written by the secretary. There is also a crossword. When you have finished it, send your answers to me so that I can enter the competition too- there is no prize. There may be a special endurance prize for anyone who can prove that they read the entire issue at one sitting without going sane. Good Luck.

### THE FIRST NATIONAL PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP / ETWA AGM

To fill the hole left by the non-occurrence of the IFTWA Congress, a weekend pairs tournament was held in Manchester on July 22/23, and the ETWA AGM was held during the weekend. The event took place at Owens Park, one of the University Halls of Residence, where the food and accommodation were of a high standard, and an enjoyable time was had by all participants.

Jon Mapley and Harvey Orrock became the first English Pairs Champions, narrowly beating Mick Mooney and Julius Mach into second place. The finish of this (all play all) competition was most interesting, with both leading pairs losing their final games. Full results on the next page.

#### AGM

The AGM was held in the bar at Owens Park on the Saturday evening, Nigel Shepherd was in the chair. The meeting was opened at 9-10 pm, and 18 of the contestants from the Pairs Championship were present. Alan Dean read apologies for absence on behalf of Bungy and Helen Wells and Stuart Clark.

#### Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were taken as read.

#### Secretary's report

The secretary then gave his report, the facts of which are to be found in this, and the previous edition of WW.

Matters arising from the secretary's report

1. Alan proposed that the County Championship, which had stagnated through delay in getting matches played, and had suffered through several teams defaulting, should become a Challenge Trophy, once the first winners were decided. Seconded by Nigel Knowles and carried unanimously.

2. It was agreed that the Silver Wink Competition which had not been completed, should be finished as early as possible next season. It was proposed by Nigel Knowles and seconded by Pam Robinson, that new players, as well as those who left this summer, should be allowed to play in matches for the 1971-2 Silver Wink. This was carried unanimously.

3. It was unanimously agreed that ETWA should present an inscribed tankard to Mr. H.C. Rudd, on his retirement. Mr. Rudd has been in charge of the distribution of mats and sets since ETWA was founded, and his work has been greatly appreciated. Proposed by Nigel Knowles and seconded by Mick Still. (Nigel must have been the only one still awake -Ed)

Treasurer's report

Jon Mapley reported that ETWA finances were just in the black. Only 6 clubs and 2 individual subscriptions had been received, and it was hoped that very sad state of affairs would not continue.

Matters arising from the treasurer's report

Jon offered to take some of the weight off Alan's back by running the next Singles Championship. This offer was readily accepted. It was agreed to charge 20p entry fee.

PAIRS RESULTS.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Tot
1 Jon Mapley Harvey Orrock	*	4	6	6	6	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	3	3	6	4	6	52 $\frac{1}{2}$
2 Julius Mach Mick Mooney	3	*	6	6	1	6	1	7	6	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	3	50 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 Mick Still Mick Wiseman	1	1	*	6	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	6	6	4	6	4	6	47 $\frac{1}{2}$ &
4 Hugh Goyder Steve Welch	1	1	1	*	6	6	3	4	6	6	6	6	46
5 Pam Robinson Nigel Knowles	1	6	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1	*	6	6	6	1	4	6	6	45 $\frac{1}{2}$
6 Alan Dean Keith Seaman	4 $\frac{2}{3}$	1	4	1	1	*	3	6	7	6	6	5	44 $\frac{2}{3}$
7 Phil Pepper Bob Wilkinson	1	6	1	4	1	4	*	4	6	6	3	6	42
8 Nigel Shepherd Paul Taylor	4	0	1	3	1	1	3	*	6	5	5	6	35
9 Sue Harman John Harman	4	1	3	1	6	0	1	1	*	4	6	6	33
10 Pete Noble Alan Shearman	1	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	3	1	1	2	3	*	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	25
11 Vary Timmins Neville Martin	3	1	3	1	1	1	4	2	1	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	*	5	23 $\frac{1}{2}$
12 Andy Davidson Alistair Duncan	1	4	1	1	1	2	3	1	1	2	2	*	17

And now back to the AGM

'Winking World' Editor's Report

Phil remarked that very few clubs wrote to him with news for inclusion in the journal. He said there were plenty of back numbers if anyone wanted them. See also matters arising (Ed).

Matters arising

1. It was suggested that the Secretary should send copies of WW to the National Libraries, and this was agreed.
2. Jon Mapley offered to photocopy all back numbers and sell them off to interested members. A price of 50p was suggested for the complete set.

Elections

1. Everyone agreed to keep Spike Milligan as our Honorary President.
- 2.

Honorary Vice Presidents

Nigel Knowles proposed and Neville Martin seconded, that H. G. Rudd should be added to the select list of Honorary Vice Presidents. This was carried unanimously.

3.

Chairman

Nigel Shepherd decided not to accept re-nomination as Chairman, as he is now living in Edinburgh, so is rather out of touch with the English Tiddlywinks scene.

Nigel Knowles was nominated by Alan and seconded by Nigel Shepherd. Mick Still was nominated by Hugh Goyder and seconded by Mick Wiseman. Martin O'Shea was also nominated but declined.

When the vote was taken, Nigel won by 8 votes to 1 (only individual members and one representative from each club being allowed to vote).

4.

Secretary

Alan Dean was nominated by Jon Mapley and seconded by Mick Still. Mick Still was proposed by Keith Seaman and seconded by Hugh Goyder. The vote went 5-4 in Alan's favour, so he will continue as Secretary for his third year.

5.

Treasurer/Vice Chairman

Nigel Shepherd proposed and Alan Dean seconded that Jon Mapley should continue in this office. No other nominations were received, so Jon was re-elected unopposed.

6.

'Winking World' Editor

Phil Tepper was nominated by Alan, but stood down.

Mick Wiseman " " " Nigel K. " " "

Julius Mach " " " " ", seconded by Jon Mapley.

Mick Still " " " Hugh G, " " Alan Shearman.

The voting went Julius 1, Mick 8, Abstain 1. Thus Mick was elected as WW editor.

Any other business

Jon Mapley agreed to write to Sthphan Jefferis to suggest that the next Congress be held at his castle.

It is not recorded when (or if) the meeting closed - (Ed)

USEFULL ADDRESSES

Alan Dean, 11, Khartoum Road, Highfield, Southampton SO2 1NY.

Jon Mapley, 7, Hornbeams, Vigo Village, Meopham, Kent DA13 0TA.

Mick Still, 8, Church Road, Hanwell, London W7 1DH.

Alan will be pleased to receive your match records and also any nominations your club has for the England team (with their playing records). Jon would be delighted to receive your subscriptions. He also has some ETWA and England ties. I shall be astonished if I receive any articles for this magazine.

Copy for WW 22 should reach me (M. J. Still at the above address) by April 23 1973. It is hoped to include audited accounts for 1971-2 in that issue.

## AND NOW A WORD FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

### TIDDLYWINKS RANKINGS

That recently popularised game, chess, has a ranking system which might give some ideas for Winks to start rankings. In chess, every serious player has his own 'grade' e.g. the top ranked British player, W. Hartston, has a grade of 234, whereas my own grade, being a rabbit is 159. This grade is computed from the results of games against other graded players during a season. The requirement to be graded is to play 15 games per year - a total which should be practical in Winks, as this requires only 4 matches.

There are two problems which are thrown up immediately: firstly, these matches will not be against players who are already graded and successive approximation over a few years will be required, though this is complicated by the fact that many player's 'lives' are only two or three years. Secondly there is the point that matches are played by pairs of players. Ideally ranking would be for Individuals, though to start with, at least, the only practical system would be to grade fixed partnerships.

Bridge manages ranking of individuals, though on a different basis. Here points are gained from positions of partnerships in Tournaments etc. and are accumulated to give titles such as Regional Master and '5-star Master'. In Winks, where the emphasis is on matches rather than tournaments the best scheme may be to, in some way, average the performance of a pair over a season. A score above a certain level may lead to the awarding of an 'International Winksmaster-ship'!

I should be pleased to hear the views of anyone on this issue. Whether any system is adopted or not, I should still be grateful if club secretaries and individual players would send to me, or to Alan Dean, the results of all matches, club tournamentss etc. - in fact any games played under match conditions.

Nigel Knowles.

### THE SECOND ALL-ENGLAND SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP

By Alan Dean.

The preliminary and first rounds were reported in WW 20, so we shall begin here by giving the second round results.

					Tot	
<u>Idwal Jones</u> (Oxford)	v	<u>Hugh Goyder</u> (Southampton)	6-1	6-1	12-2	
<u>David Rose</u> (Bereham)	v	<u>Mick Wiseman</u> (Quesh)	6-1	6-1	12-2	
<u>Alan Dean</u> (Quesh)	v	<u>Steve Drain</u> (Helston)	6-1	6-1	12-2	
<u>John Harman</u> (Manchester)	v	<u>Phil Tepper</u> (Manchester)	6-1	2-5	7-0	15-6
<u>Jon Mapley</u> (Meopham)	v	<u>Steve Grant</u> (Sidcup)	6-1	2-5	5-2	13-8
<u>Alan Shearman</u> (Oxford)	v	<u>Mick Mooney</u> (Southampton)	4-3	3-4	1-6	8-13
<u>Ray Mears</u> (Aldershot)	v	<u>Julius Mach</u> ( " )	4½-2½	2-5	6-1	12½-8½
<u>Ian Hopkins</u> (Bristol)	v	<u>Nigel Knowles</u> (Quesh)	4½-2½	1½-5½	3-4	9-12

The two Oxford v Southampton games were played when the teams met, in December, for a Marchant Trophy match. Hugh Goyder was unable to repeat his fine performance of the previous round, when he defeated Mick Still by 16-5, and he was outclassed by the strong and steady play of the Oxford secretary. Revenge for Southampton came when Mick Mooney finally removed Alan Shearman with a 6-1, after two very close games.

This round saw another confrontation between the keen rivals John Harman and Phil Tepper, both from the Manchester area. It was John who put a stop to Phil's progress in this competition last year, and Phil was itching for revenge. However, this was not to come, for after a very close match the honours again went to John.

Ray Mears, who does not get much serious match practice these days since his club at Aldershot faded away, did well to beat Julius Mach, one of the stronger of the new generation of Southampton players, and thus destroyed Soton/Quesh hopes of providing half of the quarter finalists.

Nigel Knowles did not make a very convincing job of his removal of Ian Hopkins but David Rose eliminated Mick Wiseman in fine style. A score of 12-2 against Mick is something to be proud of in itself, but the remarkable thing was the manner in which it was done. Mick was most impressed, and we got the impression that he actually enjoyed seeing someone play so well against him! He later commented that Dave was a truly brilliant player who would probably knock Alan dean out of the competition. In the meantime, though, Alan was following up his 13-1 of the previous round with another convincing win, this time against Steve Drain, who had to travel all the way from Cornwall for the pleasure.

### Round Three

					Tot.	
Jon Mapley	v	Alan Dean	1-6	1-6	2-12	
Nigel Knowles	v	John Harman	6-1	3-4	1-6	10-11
Ray Mears	v	Idwal Jones	3-4	1-6	6-1	10-11
Mick Mooney	v	David Rose	6-1	3½-3½	6-1	15½-5½

Steve Grant and Alan Dean went together to Meopham to play the second and third round games against Jon Mapley. Early in the third game between Jon and Steve, with Jon leading 8-6, he found himself with six winks of one colour free. One was on an enemy wink and overhanging in a direction at right angles to the pot, and several were not all that close to the pot. Unperturbed by the possible consequences of failure, Jon coolly potted all six, and earned himself a match against Alan. Before this started, a friendly game was played between Steve and Alan, so that Jon could have a rest and Alan could get the feel of the mat. This ended about five minutes later, when Steve potted out to win 7-0. The match between Jon and Alan then got under way and Alan, who failed to make a squop in the friendly game, only missed three in the two serious ones.

Mick Mooney was sent out from Southampton to punish Dave Rose for his assassination of Mick Wisemanand, although no details are available, we can be sure that the games between these two were of a very high standard.

The match between Ray Mears and Idwal Jones was not quite as close as the result would indicate, as it was only necessary for Idwal to prevent Ray winning the third game 7-0. Again, few details are available except that Ray, who sent in the result, said that Idwal had played extremely well.

The game between Nigel and John was expected to be a really good and exciting one. John had established himself as the best of the Manchester Univ. players when Nigel joined the club after leaving Southampton. Nigel was one of the fastest improved players in the game. He only started playing in October 1970, when he shared a flat with a well known Soton player. In fact, the match turned out to be a big disappointment, and even something of a joke, with both players playing what they must consider the worst match of their lives. Nigel won the first game 6-1, and had five free turns as they entered rounds in the second. He needed to pot only two or three winks to win the match but kept missing and ended up losing 3-4! After that farce the play in the third game was a little better, but even that one oscillated wildly, and in the end John won 6-1, giving him the match 11-10, and Nigel was quite justified in kicking himself.

### Semi-Finals

John Harman	v	Mick Mooney	5-2	6-1	11-3	
Alan Dean	v	Idwal Jones	4½-2½	5-2	6-1	15½-5½

The first semi-final to be played was the one between Alan and Idwal. This was played on May 28th, when Oxford Univ. went to Southampton for a Silver Wink match. Time only permitted two rounds to be played before the squidge-off of the Silver Wink match, and they were both extremely tense and close games but Alan played very well in rounds, to emerge with two victories and a lead of 9½-4½. Needing to avoid defeat by 6-1 or 7-0, Alan had difficulty in taking the final game seriously until a 6-1 defeat seemed likely. Then he was able to get down to business, and in fact, won the third game 6-1.

The other semi-final was played in Manchester, just before the pairs tournament began. This was a rather one-sided affair as John was in dynamic form, playing really well and consistently, and Mick was below his best. Mick was soon demoralised, and this helped to speed his early end. Both games were straightforward squop-ups.

### The Final

Alan Dean	v	John Harman	6-1	1½-5½	5½-1½	13-8
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This had all the makings of a really exciting and interesting final, and it certainly lived up to expectations. There was an interesting clash of styles. John was known to be a very steady player, who did not miss much, but who did not take many too many chances. He had shown in the semi-final that he was a really good player, and on top form. In contrast, there was Alan, well known as a 'spectacular' player who liked to play exciting and hence usually

dangerous, shots. He too was not in the habit of missing too much but he had been having a period of poor form for several months, and so it was unlikely that he would take the title as easily as when winning the 1971 final.

The first game started with Jon Mapley giving a commentary for Radio Manchester. This was a difficult task to perform when the participants could hear what was being said, since a description of a shot must necessarily involve an explanation of the reason behind it, which had the possibility of giving the players ideas which they had not previously conceived. John started very strongly, by taking some early squops which most players would not have considered attempting. By the time Alan had all his red winks in play, John had safely captured three of his blues, so Alan decided that things were pretty serious and went for a dangerous pot-out. He was wise enough to try to pot the most difficult one first, but missed (more wisdom -Ed) and this was duly squopped. A further blow came on Alan's next turn, when he accidentally potted a large blue (after a bounce). He was visibly shaken by this disaster, but from this point until the end of the game he played superbly. Although John had four winks advantage at that stage, he was unable to prevent Alan from systematically grinding him down, and in the end John was virtually squopped up, and trailing by five points in the match.

When the second game started Alan was again playing steadily, if below his best, and it began to show that John was playing really well. It took John about ten minutes to squop up all Alan's loose winks, and it looked good for John. However, Alan was not prepared to stand for this. He potted four of John's winks which he was squopping (not all in the same shot) and used the free winks thus gained to catch John's free winks. John made this task rather more difficult by potting two of Alan's winks, but nevertheless it was eventually achieved, and the position was reached where all the winks outside the pot were involved in squabbles. John controlled the majority of the piles, and also had more in the pot, a factor increasing in importance as the time limit approached, but Alan had been careful to arrange that two of his piles were 'jumpable-together' and in the second round he succeeded in joining these and freeing a wink. A rather more spectacular shot was then played to get his free wink right on top of the pile which contained most of Alan's captured winks, close to the pot. After performing this shot, which delighted the audience, Alan breathed an enormous sigh of relief, indicative of the tension he had been under, and indicative of the ease with which he thought he would now win the game. With two rounds to go it was simply a matter of desquopping and potting four or five winks in the last round and a half. That was the theory of it, but what actually happened was that Alan completely muffed the desquop and John was quick to take advantage by resquopping some of the winks. This gave John a  $5\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{1}{2}$  victory, and brought the cumulative score to  $7\frac{1}{2}-6\frac{1}{2}$  in Alan's favour.

Inspired by this victory, John played even better in the third game. Again, he was quick to take the advantage, and it was not long before he had a clear advantage (clear, that is to the expert, as it was a remarkably complex situation which developed). John continued to play with great skill and was sensing victory as rounds approached. For most of the game, Alan had been carefully keeping one of John's colours in check, with the idea that, if the worst came to the worst, he could play to lose 4-3, making a fourth game necessary to split the tie. However, by round two it looked as if the result would be a win for John by at least 5-2, so another of Alan's famous escapes was needed. This was exactly what he provided. He played a long shot on to a pile containing three of his winks and one of John's, and controlled by another of John's. There was no risk of John doing anything about this in the next round, because it was a red wink on the pile and it had been played there from below a blue! This shot was followed by an even better one, which turned over the whole pile, freeing all Alan's winks and squopping both of John's. This was all too much for John. He had hardly missed a thing up to that stage, but from then on he could not even make simple potting shots, and what should have been a 4-3 to Alan became a  $5\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{1}{2}$ .

The Singles Trophy was presented to Alan by Nigel Knowles, a fellow member of Quesh and ETWA chairman of a few hours. A chorus of yawns accompanied the presentation.

As dreamed by the winner

I am sure you would all like to add to mine your congratulations for winning the Trophy every year since its inception—a truly average performance. As dictator of Quesh I can only say that when players of his ability come on to the market, I feel bound to try to sign them, even at today's inflated fees. The rumour that Alan is applying for the post of Darts correspondent to the BBC is untrue.

Ed.

### INTERNATIONAL MATCHES

A match has been arranged between Scoyland and England, to take place in Edinburgh on Saturday December 9th. Winking activity in Scotland has been rather low for some time, and the last match against England was played in 1965 when England won by 91½-20½. It is hoped that some interest will be revived by this match.

Invitations to represent England in this match have been sent out, but this article had to be submitted before the team was known.

It is also hoped to play an England v Wales match in the near future, but no details have been fixed yet. There is something on the US scene later.

### THE FOURTH HAMPSHIRE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

This year the competition was run as a Swiss tournament of five rounds. There were eleven pairs present and one (extremely) odd player. This was Rog Kirby, and it was agreed by everyone that he should be allowed to play solo, as no-one really thought that he was very good at Tiddlywinks. The winning partnership from all the previous Hampshire Opens, Geoff Cornell and Alan Dean, was not competing this time, so a new winner was inevitable, and the field was wide open. Geoff is in Kenya studying the effects of winking on banana leaves in tropical conditions, and Alan was having technical problems with his partner, Edna Chivers, which put them well out of contention. Still/Wiseman, Seaman/Mooney and Mach were generally considered the three most likely winners.

In the table below, the numbers in brackets are the numbers of the opposing pairs.

						Tot	Pos
1. Keith Seaman/Mick Mooney	(5)5	(2) 2;	(7) 6;	(3) 1½;	(8) 2;	16½	7=
2. Mick Still/Mick Wiseman	(10)5	;(1)5	;(9)5	;(12)3	;(6)6	24	2
3. Pam Robinson/Nigel Knowles	(6)3	;(9)1	;(8)6	;(1)5½	;(5)1	16½	7=
4. Steve Grant/Vince Brown	(7)1½	;(11)6	;(5)6	;(6)5	;(12)6	24½	1
5. Julius Mach/Dave Baker	(1)2	;(10)6	;(4)1	;(9)7	;(3)6	22	3
6. Les Want/Dave Hull	(3)4	;(8)6	;(12)3	;(4)2	;(2)1	16	9
7. Neville Martin/Steve Welch	(4)5½	;(12)1	;(1)1	;(10)1	;(11)6	14½	10
8. Edna Chivers/Alan Dean	(9)4½	;(6)1	;(3)1	;(11)7	;(1)5	18½	6
9. Hugh Goyder/Dave Howard	(8)2½	;(3)6	;(2)5	;(5)0	;(10)1	11½	11
10. Idwal Jones/Cyril Edwards	(2)2	;(5)1	;(11)4	;(7)6	;(9)6	19	5
11. Celia Braganza/Malcolm Frazer	(12)1	;(4)1	;(10)3	;(8)0	;(7)1	6	12
12. Roger Kirby	(11)6	;(7)6	;(6)4	;(2)4	;(4)1	21	4

Roger Kirby, the smallest pair ever to enter this competition, went into the outright lead position after the first round. He held this lead for the next three rounds, until he met Steve Grant and Vince Brown, the Manchester University pair, in the last round. Steve and Vince, after an unfortunate first round, had fought back well, and they completed their run with a 6-1 win over Roger, to give them the tournament by half a point over Mick Still and Wiseman.

A.J.D.

Fiddle—we demand a recount—and revenge—and blood! Seriously well done Steve and Vince but you won't stop us next time — Ed

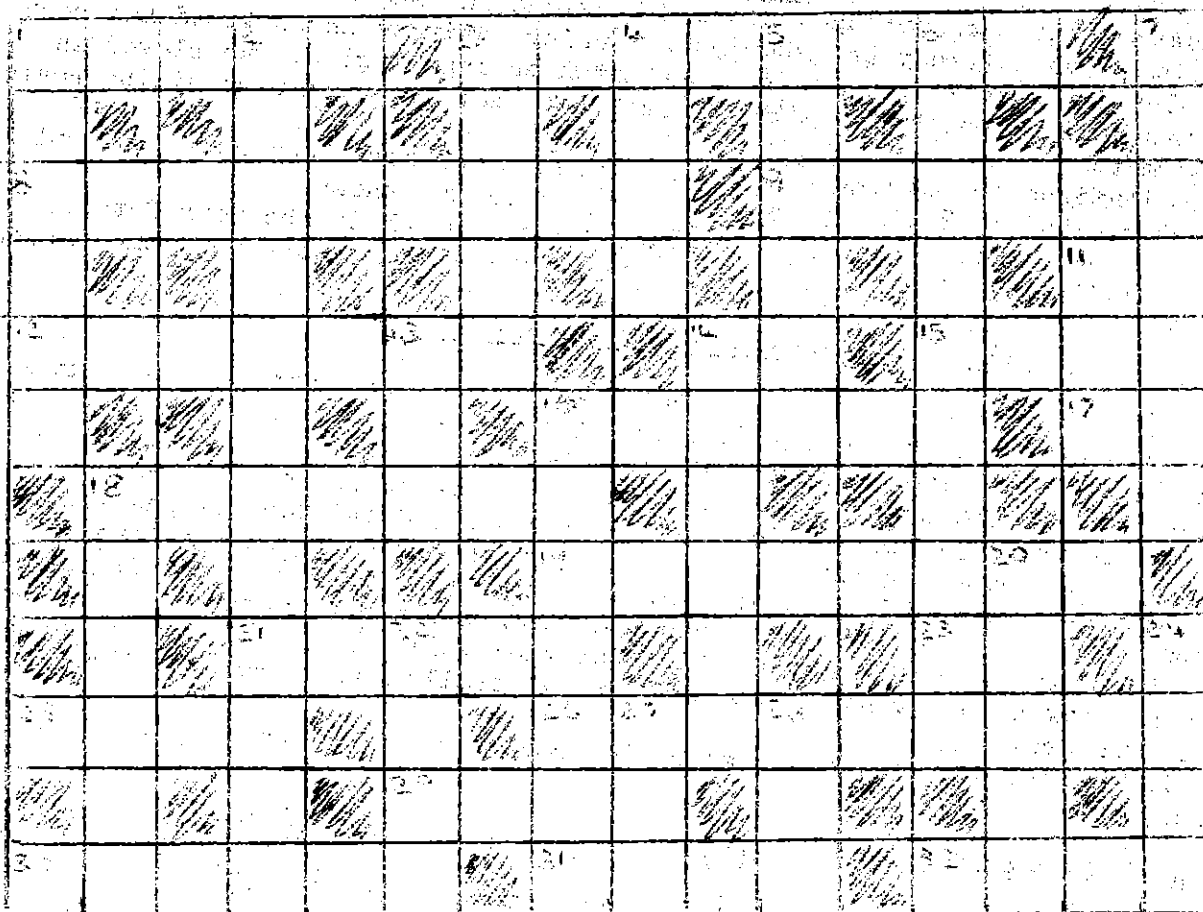
### THE MARCHANT TROPHY (ALL ENGLAND CLUB CHALLENGE TROPHY)

Since Southampton University broke the Cambridge stranglehold on this trophy, by beating them in three rounds in May 1971, it had been successfully defended three times before WW20. The next challengers were Manchester University, Altrincham Tiddlywinks Federation and Quesh (once the statutory year had elapsed since their previous challenge).

Manchester visited Southampton on March 11th. Even with their new signing from Southampton, Nigel Knowles, they were not a serious threat to the home team but Steve Grant and Vince Brown had a very good match, and helped to give their team a reasonable total.

(contd. on p.9)

WINKS CROSSWORD BY ATTABOY



CLUES

ACROSS

1. Come-ons for a game (5)
3. Greek letter with the French bound to make a winks manoeuvre (4-4)
8. Two's company, three(or more) are ... (9)
9. Denis and I are confused as to where to put the winks (6)
11. A half turn towards the port (1-1)
12. The last to go is dun rent asunder (3-4)
14. Exhausting effort in the gromp extravaganza! (1-1)
15. Erotic rudeness might have the solution to get you out of a difficult situation (4)
16. Sheltering, hiding or just the result of a too accurate squidge-off? (6)
17. Exist, like an insect, we hear (2)
18. A cuttle-fish for example moves backwards, which is at least a start (6)
19. Nom-de-plume for the winks dictator-and partner (3-5)
21. With one nought the wireless turns into these spokes (5)
23. Line-up after me if you are high enough in this listing (1-1)
25. The wrong game chaps; you four had better work round the clock after six to get home (4)
26. Where the Grecian mislaid his wink has unfortunate consequences (4,1,4)
29. First the last letter, then a London club to produce an African (4)
30. On form, the words can be poisonous (6)
31. This society is in and ne'er the twain shall meet (4)
32. Pots out to get this position (4)

DOWN

1. Imperfect. Prime Minister messed up his shot (6)
2. Our mark had to change to make our admin. headquarters (8,4)
3. Not quite what it sounds but it carries a high charge for those that get on top (5)
4. Put some change to the slot and you've had it (4)
5. Aconnection between the winks can be found by looking at the banjo in Ed's room (6)
6. Having to plant something in the game to finish it we hear (4,4,2)



CLUES DOWN (Contd.)

10. A decimal wash for a walk over (4)
13. A Communist among them (3)
14. Soft letters for breakfast (6)
16. He composes, evil Len Martin (7)
18. Confused part of London used to entice (6)
20. Covering up in hope of a return to the status quo perhaps (5)
22. You will have to make do with the last two letters in order to feel sleepy (4)
24. Some go to, others in, but how about, for a change .... (2,2)
27. For those that have potted (3)
28. One length of time of Dean's supremacy (YAWN!) (3)

Answers next time - if anyone can do it and sends me a solution.

+ + + + + + + + + + + +

Marchant Trophy Continued

Southampton University v Manchester University

Soton

|                               |    |    |   |    |     |
|-------------------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|
| 1. Dave Baker, Julius Mach    | 2½ | 4  | 6 | 1½ | 14  |
| 2. Alan Dean, Hugh Goyder     | 1  | 6  | 6 | 4  | 17  |
| 3. Mick Mooney, Steve Welch   | 3  | 4½ | 6 | 6  | 19½ |
| 4. Keith Seaman, Mary Timmins | 1  | 2  | 6 | 6  | 15  |

Manchester

|                               |    |   |    |   |     |
|-------------------------------|----|---|----|---|-----|
| 1. Vince Brown, Steve Grant   | 4½ | 6 | 4  | 6 | 20½ |
| 2. Nigel Knowles, Brian Mawby | 3  | 1 | 2½ | 5 | 11½ |
| 3. Dave Lowe, Dave Joughin    | 1  | 1 | 1  | 1 | 4   |
| 4. Sue & John Harman          | 5½ | 3 | 1  | 1 | 10½ |

Round scores: 20½-7½, 15-13, 13-15, 17-11.  
Total: Soton 65½, Manchester 46½.

The match against Altrincham was arranged for April 30th, and when the tie came Jeremy Shepherd was unable to play as he was ill. Altrincham thus fielded a team of schoolboys, who did extremely well to hold Southampton to a 28-28 half-time score. Southampton, however, broke away in the second half, and went on to win quite comfortably. Mick Mooney and Steve Welch produced an outstanding performance.

Southampton University v Altrincham Tw Federation

Soton.

|                                |    |   |    |   |     |
|--------------------------------|----|---|----|---|-----|
| 1. Mick Mooney, Steve Welch    | 6  | 6 | 6  | 6 | 24  |
| 2. Hugh Goyder, Dave Baker     | 2  | 1 | 2½ | 2 | 7½  |
| 3. Keith Seaman, Nigel Knowles | 3  | 5 | 2  | 6 | 16  |
| 4. Alan Dean, Julius Mach      | 5½ | 2 | 4  | 6 | 17½ |

Altrincham

|                                |   |    |   |    |     |
|--------------------------------|---|----|---|----|-----|
| 1. Colin Goodwin, Gareth Lewis | 1 | 5  | 4 | 1½ | 11½ |
| 2. R. Clarke, Nick Fenner      | 1 | 6  | 2 | 5  | 14  |
| 3. Alan Bolton, Simon Gould    | 1 | 4½ | 5 | 3  | 13½ |
| 4. C. Atkinson, J. Ulbrecht    | 1 | 5  | 1 | 1  | 8   |

Round scores: 15-13, 13-15, 19-9, 18-10.  
Total: Soton. 65, Altrincham 47.

On July 8th, Pam Robinson and Nigel Knowles held an engagement party in Southampton, for their winking friends in Quesh and Southampton. Pam was leaving Southampton after her first year to continue her studies in Manchester, where Nigel works. The Dictator was stuck for something different to give the couple, but finally decided that a do-it-yourself Marchant Trophy construction kit would be rather nice, and as a few of his better players would be in Southampton anyway, he arranged for them to collect it.

After the match a very enjoyable party was held, with plenty to drink, including home-made wine from the Chateau Seaman. At about 1-30am those remaining went to Boscombe beach and Mick S. Steve, Hugh and Alan went for a swim - probably the most sensible thing to do since it was raining. Areport appears elsewhere.

Marchant Trophy contd,

Southampton University v Quesh

Soton.

|                              |   |    |   |    |     |
|------------------------------|---|----|---|----|-----|
| 1. Julius Mach, Mary Timmins | 6 | 1½ | 2 | 6  | 15½ |
| 2. Hugh Goyder, Dave Howard  | 1 | 1  | 1 | 6  | 9   |
| 3. Dave Baker, Steve Welch   | 0 | 3  | 1 | 7  | 11  |
| 4. Mick Mooney, Edna Chivers | 3 | 3  | 1 | 3½ | 10½ |

Quesh

|                                |    |   |   |    |     |
|--------------------------------|----|---|---|----|-----|
| 1. Alan Dean, Keith Seaman     | 1  | 6 | 7 | 4  | 18  |
| 2. Mick Still, Mick Wiseman    | 5½ | 6 | 4 | 4  | 19½ |
| 3. Nigel Knowles, Pam Robinson | 5  | 6 | 6 | 6  | 23  |
| 4. Rog Kirby, Geoff Rawlings   | 1  | 1 | 0 | 3½ | 5½  |

Round scores: 13½-14½, 8½-19½, 11-17, 13-15  
 Total: Southampton 46, Quesh 66

Present position of the challengers

1. Cambridge University
2. Exeter University
3. Southampton University

These are the only teams who were, at the time of writing, waiting to make their challenges. Applications to be added to the list should be sent to the ETWA Secretary. The regulations governing the Marchant Trophy are:

1. Any English club which is affiliated to ETWA may challenge for the Trophy by writing to the Secretary of ETWA.
2. The Secretary has the right to refuse an application from a club on the grounds that its playing record is not good enough. Otherwise, the club is added to the bottom of the list, and notified by the Secretary when its turn comes round.
3. A defeated challenger may not play another Marchant Trophy match until twelve months have elapsed from the date of the unsuccessful challenge.
4. Subject to challengers being available, the holders of the Trophy are required to defend it at least every three months.

The Cambridge challenge was made before the Quesh one, but Cambridge were unable to visit Southampton during the Summer term so they asked to be moved one place down the list. They probably regret that now, since they have to play Quesh instead, but at least it saves them a journey since Quesh have agreed to meet them on their home ground. The match will take place in November.

Southampton challenged before losing the Trophy, anticipating defeat by Quesh, so that they would not get too far down the list of challengers! This certainly does not appear contrary to any of the Regulations, and as it happened nothing was gained by it, since there have been no further challenges. However, we do not wish to encourage this sort of thing, and so shall insist that any club which reaches the top of the list, while holding the Trophy, pays double the affiliation fee before playing the match against themselves.

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WINKS RAMPANT!

The twelve months from October 1957 to September 1958 were the most momentous in the history of modern tiddlywinks. They saw the first World Tiddlywinks Congress, the formation of ETWA, the experimental and controversial first Oxford-Cambridge match, and the first tiddlywinks tour. Above all, they saw the immortal match between the Cambridge University Tw Club and Prince Philip's Royal Champions, the Goons. This match caught the attention of the whole country, and stimulated a rapid and permanent growth in the number of people playing the game.

The story of those twelve months is now related in "Winks Rampant", a booklet just published by Guy Consterdine, a former Chairman and Secretary-General of ETWA.

Guy is also the author of an earlier booklet, "On The Mat", which tells how tiddlywinks was born as a serious game in 1954. It traces the game in its first three years - up to the point where "Winks Rampant" takes over. "On The Mat" was published in 1967 at the 4th World Tiddlywinks Congress, and copies are still available.

G.C.

### WHAT THE CRITICS SAY

Both of the booklets "On the Mat" and "Winks Rampant" are clearly and wittily written; they contain many amusing extracts from the C.U.Tw.C. records. They are a mine of information on the history of our game which most new (and many experienced) players will not know. Both are evidently labours of love and are well finished. Highly recommended.

M.J.S.

"Winks Rampant" and "On The Mat" cost 20p each (including postage). They may be obtained from:

Guy Consterdine, Midelney, Fairfield Lane, West End, Woking, Surrey.

Payment is acceptable in the form of unused 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>p or 3p postage stamps (not stamps of higher value) as well as postal orders or cheques.

### SOUTHAMPTON UNIVERSITY V QUESH

Marchant Trophy Challenge - July 8th 1972

By the Dictator

#### or IS SUPREMO INFALLIBLE?

Congratulations to Quesh on achieving their rightful status as holders of the All England Challenge Trophy. This memorable victory (66-46 I think) was due in part to some clever scouting leading to the recent free transfers of Alan Dean, Keith Seaman and Pam Robinson from Southampton.

The match itself was boringly predictable with Quesh winning every round. The first round was marked by Julius Mach potting out when Dean, noticing that Mach had five winks free promptly desquopped the last - see his recent article on strategy.

For the rest, the junior section of Quesh was generally outplayed, particularly by Pam and Nigel who scored 3x6-1 and 5-2 wins and the Dictator and his partner (the wise old man of the team) who managed to dispel all rumours of their potting brilliance by winning four matches without potting a wink in anger - except one in error from the baseline. A special mention to Roger and Geoff who did actually manage to draw one game and to Alan, Keith and Rog who have now won the trophy twice without losing it in between.

In the Soton team, there were several heartening performances with players showing that they may have what it takes to join Quesh in the future (if enough of us emigrate).

Incidentally, several people have asked me recently what Quesh means and why there is a "U" in it. The answer to the latter is simple. Grammatical rules demand that "E" is pruecuedued by "U" while others prefer to note the similarity in shape to a beer glass. The initials "Q.E.S.H." might stand (but don't) for "quite extraordinarily super-human". The club of course stands for anything. "What about the full stops?" you ask - well we knocked the spots off everything else in our path!

May Quesh hold the Trophy as long as Cambridge did - While defending it as often as Southampton did. M.I.T. watch out!

Mick Still (Hon Dictator I)

### MARTIN WALTER SOCIAL CLUB

This club, in Folkestone, is one of the few active clubs outside of education establishments. They do not get the chance to play many matches, as they are quite a long way from the nearest clubs, and most of their players are married. However, they welcome visits, and recently caused something of a sensation by defeating Southampton. Their top pair, Terry Sewell and R. Gannaway scored a fine 22 points, and this has been largely responsible for their selection for the England team to play Scotland later this year.

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### THE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

In the final, Cheshire have been drawn at home against the winners of the Essex v Kent match due to be played earlier this month.

The Trophy will then become a challenge trophy and will be administered in the same way as the Marchant Trophy.

## THE 1971-2 PRINCE PHILIP SILVER WINK COMPETITION

A late start, difficulty in getting some of the matches organised and the non-congress mean that this competition is not finished. It is hoped to complete it soon. The results so far:

|             |         |             |    |
|-------------|---------|-------------|----|
| Londonderry | } - ?   | Belfast     |    |
| Belfast     | } - ?   | Belfast     |    |
| Aberystwyth |         |             |    |
| Manchester  | } -     |             |    |
| Bath        | } - 24  | Southampton | 85 |
| Southampton | } - 88  | Southampton |    |
| Oxford      | } -     | wo Oxford   | 27 |
| Essex       |         |             |    |
| Westfield   | } - 18½ |             |    |
| Cambridge   | } - 93½ | Cambridge   | 52 |
| I.C.L.      | } - 39  | U.C.L.      | 60 |
| U.C.L.      | } - 73  |             |    |

Semi-finals (not yet played):

Belfast v M/c or Aberystwyth

Southampton v U.C.L.

Alan Dean is taking over the organisation, as well as running the competition for 1972-3.

### THE SILLY SECTION

#### A new marathon record

A team of six winkers from Southampton University shattered the world marathon record during February and March of this year. The players, Mary Timmins, Pam Robinson, Julius Mach, Steve Welch, Hugh Goyder and Andy Cruickshank performed the feat as one of the Rag Stunts. According to the rules for such competitions, they played in shifts with two people playing and one standing by at all times. The event was staged in various parts of the city with runners used to ensure fair take-overs. Other members of the club acted as invigilators and caterers, and ensured that there was an adequate supply of candles for use during the numerous power cuts.

The Southampton players became the new record holders at two minutes past three on the afternoon of March 1st, when they had played for six days and two minutes, but they did not stop there.... Julius and Steve decided to continue alone, to make a new record for two people playing non-stop, of 17 hours, and in doing so took the team effort to 7 days.

#### Squidging around Aylesbury Square

In May, fifteen members of the Buckinghamshire county branch of N.A.L.G.O. took part in a sponsored squidge around Friars Square in the centre of Aylesbury. The fastest time over the measured two miles (ten laps) was recorded by S. Morgan of the libraries department, with 2 hours 3 minutes. The event raised £150 for their welfare fund.

The 1st Bierton Scout Group followed this, on September 17th, with a similar effort, in which 16 of their boys took part. They raised £80 for their headquarters building fund, and shattered the N.A.L.G.O. best time. Two 14 year-olds, Steven Arnold and Keith Verlaque, both recorded times of 1 hour 11 minutes. This represents an average speed of 1.68 m.p.h. or to put it in terms more meaningful to the average winker, 165 standard winks mat perimeters per 20 minutes. No information is available on which of these two came in first; presumably the photo-finish equipment was not working properly. Mrs. King, the Group Secretary, who sent in the information did not explain why two people shared the fastest time. Presumably it was done by slip streaming!

#### ETWA Chairman marries

Nigel Knowles, the new ETWA Chairman and Pam Robinson were married in Bradford on August 26th. Alan Dean was the Best Man.

N.B. This item follows, and is not part of "The silly section" -Ed!

NATWA PAGE

Interest in the goings on across the Atlantic has been greatly increased by the MIT tour, which took place at Easter. Now some of the names we read in "Newswink" actually mean something to many of us, so here is a brief summary of the main events which have taken place recently in N. America.

The North American Team Championships

Held on the weekend of February 19/20, at Cornell University, the results of the championship division were:

|                    |         |
|--------------------|---------|
| MIT 'A'            | 119 1/6 |
| Cornell University | 105 5/6 |
| Somerville         | 92 1/6  |
| HYTHNLBTWOC 'A'    | 60 5/6  |

These teams had previously qualified in the regional tournaments. In the "consolation division" (anyone else who wished to turn up) the results were:

|                       |         |
|-----------------------|---------|
| MIT 'B'               | 156 3/4 |
| MIT 'C'               | 133 3/4 |
| University of Toronto | 129 3/4 |
| Case Western Reserve  | 109 1/2 |
| HYTHNLBTWOC 'B'       | 100 1/2 |

So clearly, MIT has most of the depth as well as the strength in NATWA.

The Pairs Championships

The 1971 pairs tournament was held in Ottawa in May and, as expected, Bob Henninge and Ferd T. Bull of Somerville once again emerged as champions. They played flawlessly and accumulated an amazing 62 points in 10 games.

Results

|                                     | 1 | 2     | 3 | 4     | 5     | 6     | 7     | 8     | 9     | 10 | 11 | Tot.   |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----|----|--------|
| 1. Ferd T. Bull<br>Bob Henninge     | * | 6     | 6 | 6     | 6     | 6     | 5     | 7     | 7     | 7  | 6  | 62     |
| 2. Severin Drix<br>Phil Villar      | 1 | *     | 6 | 6     | 5 1/2 | 4     | 5     | 6     | 6     | 5  | 6  | 50 1/2 |
| 3. Rosie Wain<br>Andy Tomazewski    | 1 | 1     | * | 6     | 6     | 6     | 6     | 6     | 3     | 6  | 6  | 47     |
| 4. Lee Cousins<br>Dave Barbano      | 1 | 1     | 1 | *     | 4 1/2 | 4 1/2 | 2 1/2 | 6     | 3     | 6  | 7  | 36 1/2 |
| 5. Bill Renke<br>Moishe             | 1 | 1 1/2 | 1 | 2 1/2 | *     | 4     | 6     | 6     | 6     | 2  | 6  | 36     |
| 6. Sunshine<br>Naomi Gusowski       | 1 | 3     | 1 | 2 1/2 | 3     | *     | 1     | 5     | 5 1/2 | 6  | 6  | 34     |
| 7. Bryon Alexandroff<br>Jolyon Bone | 2 | 2     | 1 | 4 1/2 | 1     | 6     | *     | 1 1/2 | 6     | 2  | 4  | 30     |
| 8. Debbie Tennenbaum<br>Marty Vine  | 0 | 1     | 1 | 1     | 1     | 2     | 5 1/2 | *     | 5     | 6  | 6  | 28 1/2 |
| 9. Barry Corbin<br>Glen Kezwer      | 0 | 1     | 4 | 4     | 1     | 1 1/2 | 1     | 2     | *     | 5  | 7  | 26 1/2 |
| 10. Wendy Horenblus<br>Lindsey "    | 0 | 2     | 1 | 1     | 5     | 1     | 5     | 1     | 2     | *  | 6  | 24     |
| 11. Chris Howard<br>Tom Berge       | 1 | 1     | 1 | 0     | 1     | 1     | 3     | 1     | 0     | 1  | *  | 10     |

Secretary of NATWA: Bill Renke, 23, Atherton Place, Newton, Mass. 02162. USA.

Forthcoming English Competitions

3rd English Singles Championships

Entries to Jon Mapley (20p) before November 20th. Address on P3.

2nd National Pairs Tournament

Entries to Nigel Knowles (40p a pair or 20p solo, partner will be found if possible but more travelling involved) Before November 20th. This will be a knockout tournament run on the same lines as the singles. The Manchester tournament will be known as the M/c Open in future.

Nigel Knowles, 138, Barlow Moor Road, West Didsbury, Manchester 20.

5th Hants. Open Championships

Sunday February 11th at Southampton University. Entries 40p per pair. Details: Edna Chivers, 45, Ripstone Gardens, Highfield, Southampton.

And now Alan Dean's report of the tour by MIT the American champions.

### THE DEATH OF AN IFTWA CONGRESS AND THE BIRTH OF AN HISTORIC TOUR

At the ETWA Congress of 1971 it was agreed that the next Congress, an IFTWA one, should be held in Northern Ireland. For a number of years our Irish friends had been coming to England for the Congresses and, despite the fact that they enjoyed the trip (not to mention the beer) it was felt that we should make the effort to get across to Ireland this year. Easter at the Queen's University of Belfast were provisionally fixed as the time and place for the 1972 Congress. From the beginning, feelings were mixed about visiting Northern Ireland, and as the time got nearer, and the political situation got worse, it became increasingly clear that not very many English players were prepared to go. The Silver Wink competition, being organised by Bristol University, the holders who could not even raise a team to enter the present competition, was running well behind schedule. It was rather late in getting under way but the main problem was that some of the competing teams had difficulty in arranging their matches for one reason or another. This meant that there was no hope of deciding the four semi-finalists in time for an Easter Congress. By the end of January, ETWA, having previously expressed the above fears in a letter to Martin O'Shea was still waiting to hear if, or when, the proposed Congress would materialise.

With the beginning of February came a letter from Martin. He explained that in Ireland too, feelings were mixed. He, personally, was in favour of calling off Congress for this year, and said that opinion in Coleraine was fairly similar, but Belfast generally still wanted to continue. An agreement had been reached that Dublin should be sounded out as a possible "neutral" venue, but Martin had heard no more since Christmas. In any case, the arrangements were being left to Ray Cashell, the IRTWA Secretary.

On 25th February, the ETWA Secretary received a letter from Ray Cashell, announcing that the IFTWA Congress would take place in Coleraine on March 25/6, and that details would follow when final arrangements had been made. Our Secretary's second reaction was to work out if it was possible to leave work on Friday and drive the 420 miles from Southampton to Stranraer in time for the first Larne ferry the next morning, and also be back in time for work the next Monday (if not exactly fit for it). He concluded that it was possible, and even found two people mad enough to go with him and share petrol costs. The next problem was to find an England team. Notes were quickly sent out to a number of strong players who had not already made it clear that they did not wish to visit Northern Ireland with only filed-down squidgers to protect themselves. A few even said that they would have gone if more notice had been given and they had not already made other plans.

Barely a week later, a letter arrived from Bill Renke, the recently elected Secretary of the North American Tiddlywinks Association, with the news that MIT, their national champions, may be arriving in England on ... March 25th!. The MIT winkers had put in a claim to their finance committee for a grant to cover their expenses for a trip over here to play, amongst others, Southampton University for the Club Championship of the World. What was more, they were fairly hopeful of getting the money, but would not know until a meeting of their finance committee on March 6th. A telegram was to be sent when the result was known.

Another letter was dispatched to Ray Cashell, explaining that very few of us could, or would visit Northern Ireland at such short notice, and the added complication of the possible arrival of the Americans in London on the very day when the congress was planned to begin. The next problem for our Secretary was to arrange a week long tour for the MIT team, which may or may not take place and, even if it did, would be during the university vacations. This called for a quick circular to be duplicated and sent around to the clubs to discover which teams could be got together to play the prospective visitors, which dates they could offer, and whether or not enough floorspace could be provided to lay out eight American sleeping bags.

Meanwhile, as March 6th approaches, everyone in Southampton (what - all 200,000? - Ed) waits with crossed breath and bated fingers. Alan swears - that if the whole thing falls through after all this trouble he will do something really vicious, like taking up chess again. March 6th arrives at last, but the telegram doesn't. March 6th recedes into the background, and still not a word. On the 10th a special delivery airmail letter is sent to Bill Renke to find out what is going on, and on the 14th a reply comes. They are coming.

contd.

A telegram had been sent to that effect, which to this day has still not arrived. Bill was very relieved to have heard from us, and was placing his entire team in the hands of our Secretary during the eight days they would be here.

Things are beginning to look easy from here on. A schedule has been worked out, starting with a game against Middlesex in London on the Monday evening then continuing with the big match in Southampton, before moving north. By special request the weekend had been left free of winking activity. Things are running a little too smoothly, but it cannot stay that way for long...

On March 16th a letter arrives from Ray Cashell with the not altogether unexpected news that the Congress has been called off. Ray adds that the Belfast team would like to come to "London or wherever" to play a match against the MIT team. Transport has been booked for the weekend of "March 24th-27th". No telephone number is given, and the address is the Belfast University one, so the ETWA Secretary writes back at once asking Ray to ring him to discuss the arrangements. In the meantime, a venue has to be found for the match. MIT had said that they definitely did not want a match on the day of their arrival, as they would be tired from travelling and the time change. Getting a room in London on the Sunday without actually paying for it looks difficult, as the places where we have our contacts are closed on Sundays. That only leaves Monday. Paul Lakra, of the University of London team, is contacted, and kindly agrees to to book a room there for us in the afternoon, as well as one in the evening so that the Southampton team can go up and play Belfast while Middlesex and MIT meet.

The call from Belfast came a few days before their visit. No, they could not play in London, or anywhere else on Monday as they had booked their return passage on Sunday evening! The only solution to this problem which came immediately to mind was to get both the Americans and the Irish to Southampton for the weekend. This would have been suggested earlier, as it meant that organisation of matches, sleeping accomodation etc. could be done on the spot much easier than from a distance. The big objection to this arrangement had been that it meant that our American friends would have to travel from London to Soton to London and back to Soton in their first few days here, not the most stimulating way to spend their time. However, that could not now be avoided if they were to play the winks matches which were the main reason for their visit. The arrangement was agrred, and the Belfast team were to be in Southampton on the Saturday afternoon to play a match against Soton. They would play MIT on Sunday.

The MIT winkers were due to land at Heathrow at 8.45am on Saturday March 25th, and Alan decided to go and meet them. After escaping from a parent teacher meeting at 10pm he collected two friends going home for the vac. They were to stay with Roger Kirby and after three hours of playing records (well over  $\frac{1}{2}$ % of his collection). Three hours sleep later three men arose. It then remained only to collect that master of English tiddlywinks, Michael Still, friend of Michael Aspel, and professional tiddlywinks commentator, to complete the reception committee (how was the author to know that M.S. would be editor of the journal in which his article appeared?).

Perhaps someone told him and this is where the story really starts - Ed. By 9-30 there was still no sign of the American team, and a check revealed that the flight had left Boston about three hours late. In fact, the plane had left on time but had returned after a bomb scare, we discovered later. Michael Halsey had very generously invited everyone to Farm Cottage in Windsor for lunch, and he invited the four round for coffee while they were waiting. This offer was gratefully accepted.

At last they arrived. Ther was no difficulty in recognising them as they emerged from Customs. Jim Marlin, who met Alan on a previous visit to this country, was in the squad, and even forgetting the small practice mats which they carried, they had that unmistakeable air of being tiddlywinks players about them (some people call it insanity). Some of the Americans expressed surprise when they saw Alan. After reading an article about him on the front page of their national journal, Newswink (entitled "Jim Marlin: The Search for the Supreme Dean (part 1)") they seemed to be expecting a blond-haired, seven foot tall he-man! They must have been equally disappointed by his winking performances, as he was well below par throughout their tour. However, the name "the supreme Dean" stuck amongst the Americans, until they shortened it to "Supremo".

The initial meeting had to be brief and to the point because Alan now had to rush back to Southampton to play against Belfast. Hugh Macdonald-Smith decided not to go home after all, and returned to Soton with Alan and his enormous trunk. Bill Renke and Jim Marlin went with them too, neither of them

contd.

can be described as small and the total weight was something quite unknown to Alan's Mini. The rest of the MIT team followed by train.

The race back to Southampton proved unnecessary. The Belfast team was about six hours late. They had hired a minibus to ship across to Stranraer and drive down in but, a few days before they were due to collect the bus, it was hijacked and burned! Instead they had travelled to London by train, from where they phoned to say they would be a few hours late. Meanwhile, friendly games were in progress between the Soton and MIT players and we began to realise that they were about the same standard as ourselves, something we had not really expected, but of course had had no way of previously assessing. The Belfast team was much later than their phone message had led us to expect, and three people who had come down from London to play them had to return without a game.

It was about 8.30pm before the match between Soton and Belfast finally got under way. Only seven of the Irish team showed up, and by then Soton were down to seven also. David Boyd, for Belfast and Alan Dean, for Soton played solo. The most noteworthy match was the 6-1 victory of David over the English singles champion. David played superbly throughout. Every other game in the match was won by Soton, and the final score was 70-21, a fairly unusual total as only one fourth round match was played.

The next day at 4.00pm MIT played their first match of the tour, against the Queens Belfast team. David Boyd again played solo, and showed himself to be in a class above the rest of his team. His results compare very favourably with those of the American players, considering how much stronger were his opponents than theirs.

Queens Belfast v MIT Southampton University 26/3/72

Belfast

|                                   |   |    |    |   |    |
|-----------------------------------|---|----|----|---|----|
| 1. Ray Cashell, Paul McAllister   | 1 | 1  | 1  | 1 | 4  |
| 2. Diarmaid Hanna, Malcolm Frazer | 1 | 1  | 1½ | 1 | 4½ |
| 3. Paul Anthony, Gerry Ennis      | 1 | 3½ | 0  | 1 | 5½ |
| David Boyd (solo)                 | 6 | 3  | 1  | 6 | 16 |

MIT

|                           |   |    |    |   |     |
|---------------------------|---|----|----|---|-----|
| 1. Tim, J. Christ         | 6 | 6  | 6  | 1 | 19  |
| 2. Bill, Jim              | 6 | 6  | 3½ | 4 | 19½ |
| 3. Moishe, Pete           | 6 | 5½ | 7  | 6 | 24½ |
| 4. Craig, Dave            | 6 | 6  | 6  | 1 | 19  |
| Total: Belfast 30, MIT 82 |   |    |    |   |     |

For the record, the real names of the MIT team are: Tim Schiller, Franz J. Christ, Bill Renke, Jim Marlin, Pete Copper, Craig Schweinhart, Michael Schwartz and Dave Lockwood.

After this match, a spontaneous pairs tournament was held with players from MIT, Belfast and Southampton taking part. Most took partners from their own clubs but there were exceptions, notably the Secretaries of NATWA and ETWA who played together. Mick Mooney, the Soton captain teamed up with Craig, and Malcolm Frazer, who played for the Irish but who is actually Scottish and plays for the Soton club, partnered Diarmaid Hanna. A four round Swiss tournament was held with the following result:

|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Schiller, Christ (MIT)          | 21½ points |
| 2. Dean, Renke (Soton, MIT)        | 21         |
| 3. Goyder, Baker (Soton)           | 18½        |
| 4. Marlin, Lockwood (MIT)          | 15½        |
| 5. Seaman, Welch (Soton)           | 14         |
| Mooney, Schweinhart (Soton, MIT)   | 14         |
| 7. Schwartz, Copper (MIT)          | 13½        |
| 8. Cashell, Boyd (Belfast)         | 12½        |
| 9. Mach, MacDonald-Smith (Soton)   | 12         |
| 10. Frazer, Hanna (Soton, Belfast) | 10         |
| 11. Anthony, McAllister (Belfast)  | 9½         |

Lack of time prevented the tournament from being completed in the Soton Univ. Union before it closed, so the final round was held in the Catholic Chaplaincy. This only had one decent table so the two vital games, Schiller & Christ v Goyder & Baker, and Dean & Renke v Mooney & Schweinhart were played one after the other in a locked room so the result of one could not affect the other. Before that round, Tim & Franz had 17, Hugh & Dave had 16 and Alan & Bill 15. In fact, Schiller & Christ won their game 4½-2½. Dean & Renke won 6-1 and so were beaten by just half a point by the MIT top pair. The two top pairs did not actually meet in this competition and afterwards Alan and Bill

contd.



challenged Tim and Franz to a match to prove their supremacy, but Tim kept finding reasons why such a match could not be played, until he disappeared to Scotland.

Early on Monday morning, the MIT team left for London by train to spend the day sightseeing before their next match that evening against Middlesex at the University of London Union. In the evening, six Soton players went to London, taking a car and the University minibus (which got lost and arrived late) with them, so they could bring the Americans back with them. A London League match against National Westminster Bank had been arranged to use the extra room which had been booked for the match against Belfast. Unfortunately the Bank team were unable to stay, as they had to rely on trains, which were also strikebound at that time, to get home. The Soton team would have been without a game had not the Belfast team, which had left for home the day before, turned up in the ULU bar! They had discovered when they reached London that they could not sail home because their British Rail ferry was on strike. The score in the Soton-Belfast match, which was played a little too near the bar to be taken very seriously is another interesting one, 40-9, and the scorecard for the main bout of the evening is given below:

| <u>Middlesex v MIT</u>        |    | ULU 27/3/72 |    |   |     |  |
|-------------------------------|----|-------------|----|---|-----|--|
| Middlesex                     |    |             |    |   |     |  |
| 1. Hugh Goyder, Keith Seaman  | 1  | -           | 5½ | 4 | 10½ |  |
| 2. Paul Lakra, Linda Cotton   | 2½ | 1           | -  | 2 | 5½  |  |
| 3. Roger Kirby, Dave Warman   | 1  | 3           | 1  | - | 5   |  |
| 4. Christine and Barry Pywell | -  | 1           | 1  | 1 | 3   |  |
| MIT                           |    |             |    |   |     |  |
| 1. Tim and Christ             | 6  | 4½          | 6  | - | 16½ |  |
| 2. Bill and Jim               | -  | 6           | 4  | 6 | 16  |  |
| 3. Moishe and Pete            | 1½ | -           | 6  | 6 | 13½ |  |
| 4. Craig and Dave             | 3  | 5           | -  | 6 | 14  |  |

Final scores: Middlesex 24, MIT 60

Tuesday March 28th saw the start of the match for the club championship of the world. It had been agreed by the captains, Tim and Mick, that a double length match should be played. The same eight were to play for each team in both halves of the match - no great hardship to the Americans, who had no reserves with them but pairings could be changed, if desired, for the second half of the match. The MIT team were unlikely to alter their well established pairings, which had been together for several years, but this was certainly not true of the Soton team. In the Soton team were two 'veterans', Dean and Seaman and four second years. Two freshers, with only six months playing experience made up the eight. These were Steve Welch and the attractive Edna Chivers, the only female to make either team.

The postgraduate common room was a hive of activity before the match. BBC TV cameras were being assembled, Radio Solent and the press were also present and the players were warming up on the mats. Notable among the audience and the only supporter for the MIT team was Rosie Wain, well known and very popular in American winking circles. She has now returned to the country of her birth where she is teaching in Nottingham. Mary Timmins, the first reserve for Soton and Christine Jones, the well known mascot and cause, directly or indirectly, of so many letters to Winking World were also present.

Tim Schiller and Alan Dean recorded TV interviews, and the match finally got under way at about 2.30pm. All the games were played to the American 25 minute time limit. Southampton got away to a good start, winning the first two rounds 16½-11½ and 17-11, but things started to go for MIT after that. The third round score was a convincing 21-7 in favour of the Americans. The match, which had gone on much longer than expected, had to be disrupted at this stage so that some of the players could dash across to the Southern TV studios to make a live broadcast which had been promised earlier, thinking the match would be finished by then. There were mixed feelings about this. Some players did not like the idea of breaking their concentration at such a vital stage of the match. The Soton captain, who was untypically playing a poor match decided to turn down the chance of possible TV fame so that he could stay with his troops. Instead, Franz Christ went along with Tim and Alan.

It was quite a dash to the studio and they arrived only minutes before they were due on the air. Alan was interviewed, and talked about winks in general and the World Championship match in particular, whilst the two Americans played a demonstration game of winks in the foreground. The reward for this effort was £3 each plus £2 travelling expenses, and the three decided that

contd.

the money should be given to the winning team to put towards a World Championship Trophy.

When the match resumed, the result was even more disastrous for the home side. MIT took the round by  $21\frac{1}{2}$ - $6\frac{1}{2}$ , giving them a very satisfactory 65-47 lead in the match at the half way stage. The Soton pairings, which had been changed in the last minutes before the start for personal reasons had certainly not paid off. The 15 points of Alan and Mick hardly justified the pairing of two of the last four in the English Championship, and the scores of the last two pairs were disappointing, particularly Keith and Steve. The scores:

World Club Championship - First Leg

|                         |                           | <u>Southampton University v MIT</u> |   | Soton 28/3/72  |                                |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Southampton             |                           |                                     |   |                |                                |
| 1.                      | Dave Baker, Julius Mach   | 6                                   | 1 | 6              | 2 15                           |
| 2.                      | Alan Dean, Mick Mooney    | 1                                   | 6 | 2              | 6 15                           |
| 3.                      | Keith Seaman, Steve Welch | 4                                   | 2 | 2              | 2 10                           |
| 4.                      | Edna Chivers, Hugh Goyder | 1                                   | 1 | $2\frac{1}{2}$ | $2\frac{1}{2}$ 7               |
| MIT                     |                           |                                     |   |                |                                |
| 1.                      | Tim, Christ               | 1                                   | 6 | 3              | 6 16                           |
| 2.                      | Bill, Jim                 | 6                                   | 1 | 5              | 6 18                           |
| 3.                      | Moishe, Pete              | 1                                   | 5 | 5              | $4\frac{1}{2}$ $15\frac{1}{2}$ |
| 4.                      | Craig, Dave               | 5                                   | 1 | 5              | $4\frac{1}{2}$ $15\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Total: Soton 47, MIT 65 |                           |                                     |   |                |                                |

After a short pause for breath, food and other trivia, the all conquering MIT squad started another match, this time against a team representing the South of England. This too went over the allotted time and had to be finished in the Catholic Chaplaincy. A fine display was given by Tim and Franz, who scored 22 points, and led their team to a victory by 61-51.

|                                     |   | <u>South of England v MIT</u> |   | Soton 28/3/72 |                                |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---|---------------|--------------------------------|
| South of England                    |   |                               |   |               |                                |
| 1.                                  | Mick Mooney (Ilford), Steve Grant (Sidcup)      | 0                             | 1 | 6             | $4\frac{1}{2}$ $11\frac{1}{2}$ |
| 2.                                  | Keith Seaman (Harrow), Jeremy Shepherd (London) | 1                             | 5 | 6             | 6 18                           |
| 3.                                  | David Rose (Dereham), Jon Mapley (Meopham)      | 2                             | 3 | 1             | 6 12                           |
| 4.                                  | Ray Mears (Aldershot), Bungy Wells (Fareham)    | 3                             | 1 | 4             | $1\frac{1}{2}$ $9\frac{1}{2}$  |
| MIT                                 |   |                               |   |               |                                |
| 1.                                  | Tim, Christ                                     | 7                             | 6 | 5             | 4 22                           |
| 2.                                  | Bill, Jim                                       | 6                             | 2 | 4             | 6 18                           |
| 3.                                  | Moishe, Pete                                    | 1                             | 1 | 6             | 3 11                           |
| 4.                                  | Craig, Dave                                     | $2\frac{1}{2}$                | 1 | 1             | $5\frac{1}{2}$ 10              |
| Total: South of England 51, MIT 61. |   |                               |   |               |                                |

The Southampton team was completely reshuffled before the second leg of the World Championship match, which was played on the Wednesday evening. MIT kept their team exactly the same, as they had done in every match of the tour so far. Mick was still off form and produced another low score, this time with Steve. Keith and Edna produced a useful 16, beating Alan and Julius for top score in the team, but we must remember that Julius had been up all the previous night playing bridge with the MIT squad. The match was hard and fierce but the strength of the MIT team was sufficient to carry them through. In fact the Americans were able to increase their lead slightly, to emerge as the worthy winners of the first ever World Championship match.

World Championship - Second Leg.

|   |              |                |                |                |                                |
|---|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Southampton   |              |                |                |                |                                |
| 1.  | Hugh, Dave   | 3              | 1              | 6              | 3 13                           |
| 2.  | Alan, Julius | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | 4              | 4              | 5 $14\frac{1}{2}$              |
| 3.  | Keith, Edna  | $5\frac{1}{2}$ | 3              | 3              | $4\frac{1}{2}$ 16              |
| 4.  | Mick, Steve  | 1              | 1              | 6              | $2\frac{1}{2}$ $10\frac{1}{2}$ |
| MIT   |              |                |                |                |                                |
| 1.  | Tim, Christ  | 4              | $5\frac{1}{2}$ | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | 6 18                           |
| 2.  | Bill, Jim    | 6              | 3              | 4              | 6 19                           |
| 3.  | Moishe, Pete | 1              | 3              | 4              | 1 9                            |
| 4.  | Craig, Dave  | 4              | 2              | $2\frac{1}{2}$ | $4\frac{1}{2}$ 13              |
| Total: Southampton 54, MIT 58 Two leg total: Soton 101, MIT 123 |              |                |                |                |                                |

After the match the Southampton players adjourned to a local hostelry with the Americans to help them celebrate their victory.

contd.

The next match of the tour was against a team representing the North of England, and was to be played at Manchester University Union the following evening. To transport the M.I.T. team, and all their luggage, a minibus was hired, and a free chauffeur was found, in the E.T.W.A. Secretary. The party was well behind schedule in getting under way on Thursday morning. Alan Dean was not out of bed quite as early as he should have been to collect the minibus, and, as the largest thing he had previously driven was his Mini, he felt a short drive around Southampton would be a good idea, to get the feel of the bus, before risking the lives of the M.I.T. players. When the Americans were finally collected it was found that there was not enough room in the van for all of them and their luggage so another trip into the town centre had to be made to buy rope to tie some of the bags on the roof rack. All this took time, and when it was discovered that the bus did not have the power to take its enormous load at much above 50 m.p.h. it became clear that reaching Manchester in time for the proposed 7.30 squidge-off was just not on. To make it absolutely certain, Alan took a wrong turning which took them through Birmingham, instead of round it, so a phone message was sent on to warn of the expected very late arrival.

It was almost 10 p.m. when the happy throng finally steamed into Manchester amid the traditional pouring rain. The opponents were waiting on the steps of the Union building. It was too late to start a match there, and one of the North of England players, Dave Beaman of Manchester Grammar, had left as he was unable to stay long enough to finish the match. John Harman suggested that the match be played at his flat, to which everyone then adjourned. The problem of the missing player was easily solved. Alan Dean, now playing the part of the Captain of the North of England, still had an ace to play. In his minibus, in case of emergencies, he was carrying a spare Jeremy Shepherd, which he now used to fill the hole. This did not entirely please the Americans, as Jeremy had played very well for the South, and was considered by some of them as the best English player they had seen.

By 11 p.m. the first squidges of the match were being made. All the games were being played on the floor, and the usual 1,2,3,4 numbering of the mats had been given up in favour of lounge, bedroom, kitchen, hall. The first round went to the North of England by a comfortable  $18\frac{1}{2}-9\frac{1}{2}$ . In the second, Alan Dean and Phil Tepper came up against Tim Schiller and Franz Christ. The Americans had been squopped up when during free turns one of Tim's winks was freed, leaving it on a critical pile. Alan, who played before Tim, tried to crud Tim's wink off the pile to prevent him from desquopping. In the event, Alan not only knocked the wink off, but also squopped it. He then moved his wink aside to allow Tim to play. Tim, however, insisted that he should decide which of Alan's winks be moved aside, and a fairly lengthy discussion ensued. The Rules were of no help. They simply say, "A squopped pair whose wink or winks have thus been freed, must be allowed at least one shot taken by the opponent next in turn before being squopped again." Nothing in the Rules explains what action should be taken if the previous rule is broken. The two National Secretaries had held a long discussion before the start of the tour, to try to reach mutual agreement on legal shots, and ambiguities in the Rules, but this one had not been raised. Eventually the difference was resolved. It was agreed to Take Tim's interpretation of the Rules, but Alan was allowed to take the shot again as it had been played in good faith. For the record, Alan attempted the same shot again, missed it by inches, and his play for the remainder of the game was largely responsible for the defeat of Phil and himself by 6-1.

No-One seems to remember much more about that match, except that it ended at about 3.30 a.m. and the North of England won 61-51, to break at last the unbeaten record of the powerful American team. The scorecard for the match is given below:

North of England v M.I.T. Played at John and Sue Harmans flat, M/c on 30-1/3/72

| <u>North of England</u>              |   |                |                |   |                 |
|--------------------------------------|---|----------------|----------------|---|-----------------|
| 1. John Harman and Nigel Knowles     | 2 | 6              | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | 3 | $12\frac{1}{2}$ |
| 2. Jeremy Shepherd and John Ormiston | 2 | $4\frac{1}{2}$ | 3              | 5 | $14\frac{1}{2}$ |
| 3. Alan Dean and Phil Tepper         | 1 | 6              | 6              | 3 | 16              |
| 4. Alan Bolton and Simon Gould       | 6 | 5              | 1              | 6 | 18              |

MIT

|                 |                |                |   |   |                 |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|---|---|-----------------|
| 1. Tim, Christ  | 5              | 5              | 6 | 1 | 17              |
| 2. Bill, Jim    | 1              | $2\frac{1}{2}$ | 1 | 2 | $6\frac{1}{2}$  |
| 3. Moishe, Pete | $5\frac{1}{2}$ | 4              | 1 | 6 | $16\frac{1}{2}$ |
| 4. Craig, Dave  | 4              | 2              | 4 | 1 | 11              |

Total: North of England 61, MIT 51

Some of the Americans slept at the Harman's flat, and the rest at Alan Dean's parents place. Next day which was Good Friday, a match was played against the Altrincham Grammar School side, the team who which had produced the top scoring pair in the previous match. MIT, however, made no mistake about it this time, and won their last match in convincing style. The Scorecard speaks for itself:

Altrincham Grammar v MIT  
Altrincham

Altrincham 31/3/72

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

MIT

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Total:

After this match, Tim Schiller went to catch an overnight train to Edinburgh (there is no truth in the rumour that the rest of his team had a whip round to persuade him to go) and Alan drove the rest of the MIT squad to London. The overnight stay was at the home of Keith Seaman's parents, which was reached just before lam, just in time for a quick game of winks before breakfast. It started when Alan challenged Bill to a singles match (for the National Tw Associations Secretary's Singles Championships of the World?). Bill accepted and was duly beaten 11-3, but then Craig and Dave joined in and the play just went on ... and on. At 5.45am Alan finally put down his squidger and took Franz to Heathrow Airport, where he caught a flight to Amsterdam to visit relatives. Alan proceeded to Southampton to return the minibus to the garage before it opened on Saturday morning, only to discover that one of the MIT crew had left all his money under one of the seats. A brisk walk across the Common brought Alan to Khartoum Road by 7.30 where the household was just rising and were a little confused about whether he was coming or going. In fact he was doing both. After a quick breakfast he jumped into his car, and was back in London before the Americans were awake. Shortly after his return, three more were found to make a four for winks!

In the afternoon, the Americans went sight seeing in London, and Rog Kirby came round to give Alan and Keith a game of winks. The Americans spent two more nights in London, before going to Heathrow on Monday morning where they met Tim and (we hope) Franz and caught their plane home.

There is no doubt that the tour was an enormous success. For MIT there was the thrill, not just of coming here (on MIT funds) but also of beating some of the best teams England could offer. It was perhaps a pity that it all had to happen during the university vacations, and so near to Easter, but this was unavoidable as the Americans had to come during their own vacation. This and the incredibly short notice of it all, meant that some clubs who would otherwise have wanted to play against the American champions were unable to do so. Even so, enough clubs were found to keep MIT busy, and at least the ETWA Secretary was spared the job of having to tell some clubs that they could not be fitted into the tour schedule through lack of time.

For us there was the pleasing discovery that intelligent life does exist outside the British Isles. Most of us had vainly thought that the Americans would not be up to the high tactical standards of some of our players, since they had fewer players and a much shorter history of playing winks than we have. It turned out that their game was much closer to ours than even that of the Irish. In America, thankfully, the established colour order is the alphabetical one used here, which really should find its way into the rules.

The tour proved useful in pinpointing some of the inadequacies of the International Rules, one example of which has already been given. Bill and Alan took advantage of the two long minibus journeys for a lengthy discussion on this subject, and a number of suggested improvements came out, which will be put before the next Congress. An excellent innovation, which NATWA has had for some time, and could well be introduced here concerns the use of umpires to judge if a wink is squopped or not. The present tendency is to ask someone and, if the person losing the decision does not agree, he may ask for a second opinion. This may go the other way, and then things may start to get out of hand. The American solution to this problem is to allow the first umpire three

contd.

possible choices: "yes", "no" or "don't know", and only in the event of a "don't know" is a second verdict permitted.

Possibly the only significant difference in tactics between the top English and American players is the greater tendency among Americans to shoot squopped enemy winks well away from the field of play; "boondocking" as they call it. This is probably partly due to the fact that they do not have our skill at delicately manoeuvring piles, but it could also be that we had underestimated the advantage of immediately obtaining one or two free winks in a vital area, even at the cost of losing an enemy wink. One of the reasons for our ability to play the delicate shots of the game must be the use of the superb "Southampton Squidger" which more and more of our best players are using. Keith Seaman developed the technique for making this squidger in the metalwork shop at Ealing Grammar School, and he and Mick Mooney perfected it at Soton. A number of these squidgers were taken back to America by the MIT players.

Finally, a few words about the individuals who made up the MIT team. They proved to be excellent ambassadors for their country, and for NATWA, making friends wherever they went, and it will be a long time before their visit is forgotten by those who had the pleasure of meeting them, on or off the mat.

Episode two next time? - Ed.

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#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir,

Recent issues of your publication have carried a series of letters under various noms-de-plume. While the first letter (WW18) may have been serious, though of dubious authorship, those contained in WW's 19 & 20 were far removed from the business of ETWA. They were probably written as jokes to be enjoyed by a small clique. We therefore appeal to future correspondents to consider the notoriety which their words could bring upon the magazine.

Yours etc.

Christine Jones (SUTwC)

Mikis von Quesh

-I trust that ends the matter - Ed.

Sir,

Recent issues of Winking World have been debased by derogatory references to certain members and ex-members of Southampton University Winks Club, presumably by winkers jealous of that club's success.

Firstly, in WW 19, a certain Mikis von Quesh described Miss Jones as an inadequate craftswoman, and brought her so-called frustrations to the notice of readers. In my experience of Miss Jones, whilst at Southampton, neither of these comments applies to her remotely, Christine being a normal, healthy young woman, whom we were proud to call our mascot (and other things at times).

Secondly, in WW 20, Messrs. Wiseman & Still described Rog Kirby's mind as 'devious'. Anyone who knows me is aware that Rog Kirby hasn't got a mind - or if he has, he conceals it very well. I believe I have come across the names Wiseman and Still before - possibly as managers of Alan Dean's sleazy strip club in darkest Soho - and I would warn them to watch for their safety should any more such comments be made.

Rog Kirby

Sir,

I should like to draw your attention again to the letter in WW 18, purporting to be from a Miss Christine Jones. I have been fortunate in obtaining a sample of this lady's handwriting, and on comparing this with the letter, I feel I must declare the latter to be a forgery, or at least written by someone else. Indeed the somewhat stilted phraseology would make any acquaintance of the said Miss Jones doubt the authenticity of the letter, since she is a very eloquent English student - and anyway she couldn't make that much sense if she tried.

So I put forward the proposition that the letter was invented by a member or members of the ETWA hierarchy in a pitiful attempt to fill the aching void of Winking World. I must admit, though, that they had a valid point to bring to the attention of the masses. Nevertheless, I must protest about the underhand dealing, and would request that all future letters come from real people - like me.

A. Gnome.

I thought these topics were now closed. I am not responsible for the last editor's actions.

LONDON LEAGUE 1971-2

by the organiser.

In furtherance of the the 1971 Congress' policy of 'more winks' the London League was reactivated last autumn for a trial season on an all play all once basis. All known clubs in the London area were circulated, and replies were received from 7 of them. No replies were received from Battersea Coll of Dom. Science, City University, St. Gabriels Coll. and Maria Assumpta, and it can only be assumed that these clubs have ceased to function. This all too common occurrence needs to be reversed before the game before the game dies out. The main intention of introducing the league was to give smaller clubs the incentive to participate more and thus gain match experience. I believe that some clubs have been discouraged to the point of giving up the game by the actions of some top clubs when playing so-called friendly matches against them. These should, of course be played in a much more light hearted manner than say Silver Wink matches, the purpose being to promote winks and the general conviviality of the game, rather than to show how good certain members of certain teams consider themselves to be. In future, I hope everyone concerned will be more concerned with the furtherance of the cause of winks than with their own inflated egos.

In addition to the seven clubs, Southampton University were allowed to enter a team - all their matches were to be played in London unless otherwise agreed. Southampton won the league comfortably, their closest game being with ULU, who finished fourth. It was very depressing to see so many matches unplayed, even though the teams were given complete freedom in arranging matches since only a rough timetable was provided as a guide. Royal Holloway College played no matches at all, although i personally saw them to be active just before the league commenced - perhaps another established club has now folded. If anyone has any information please let us know! In all the experiment seems to have been a failure, and it leaves one very depressed as to the future of the game.

R. Kirby

League Table

|                           | P | W | D | L | F       | A       | Pts. |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|---|---------|---------|------|
| Southampton               | 6 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 286½    | 91½     | 12   |
| UCL                       | 6 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 231     | 147     | 10   |
| Quesh                     | 5 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 160 1/6 | 154 5/6 | 4    |
| ULU                       | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 91 5/6  | 97 1/6  | 2    |
| Imperial College          | 4 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 90      | 162     | 2    |
| National Westminster Bank | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 64      | 188     | 0    |
| Westfield College         | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 21½     | 104½    | 0    |
| Royal Holloway College    | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0       | 0       | 0    |

The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the editor, who does not usually have any views. I should like to associate myself with Roger's article on this page though.

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