

# WINKING WORLD

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Berchtesgarden  
Ynysybwl  
Cymru

Dear Reader,

You may have supposed that my presence here is the result of the way in which the Methodist church combines marching with holy orders. You may suppose that this is why I am unable to get to winks matches. Alas not.

I have been forced by the winking establishment to come out on strike. I have withdrawn my services to tournaments, and if the smell of a match reaches my nose then I will pickit. My emergency service is only to provide this magaizine twice yearly to our geriatric readership. Soon Mapley will crawl down the M4 for mercy.

My quarrel with winks is simple. Winks does not discriminate on the grounds of race or sex, but it does so viciously on those of ability. I am denied equality of opportunity. What chance do I have whilst Dean and his lackeys clean up the tournaments and the 50p prize money? I have therefore formed myself into the National Union of the Plainly Incompetent (NUPI for short). These are our demands.

1. A minimum points score for us of 60 in any match played between my members and the establishment.
2. Positive discrimination in favour of the less able. Eleven of our opponents winks must be squopped before we countenance playing
3. A shorter winking week. Each match shall be of 25 seconds (20 seconds for singles).

I call others to our banner. Already the vast majority of the people of this land are staying away from winks tournaments in protest. Winkers of the World Unite, you have nothing to lose but your Games!

Adolf.

## Addresses

Peter Toye suggests that I print the addresses of Committee/officers:

Chairman: Jon Mapley; 2 Jansmead; Wickham; Essex (0376-516872)  
Secretary: Cyril Edwards; Top Flat; 26 Wickham Road; Brockley; London SE4  
Treasurer: Alan Dean; 35 Hillside Avenue; Bitterne Park; Soton. SO2 4LD  
(0703-558563)  
WWEa: Geoff Cornell; 19 The Grove; Merthyr Tydfil; Mid Glam. CF47 8YR  
(0685 - 2953)

and some other changes of address:

Peter Toye: 15a Ellington St. London N7 8PP (01-607-3380)  
Jeremy Shepherd: 23 Vines Ave; Finchley; London N3 2QD (00-346-4504)  
Bungy Wells: 'Bayford'; 20 Statuon Road; Ilminster, Somerset (IL. 3029)  
Stuart Clark: 14 Baddiley Close, Ravensmoor, Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 8PU  
and a new member  
Richard W. Tucker: 2701 Woodedge Road; Silver Spring; Maryland 20906.

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Having recently heard that both teams competing in the Tug of War at the Tipperary Games were disqualified for pushing, I assume there must be a winking equivalent. I would be glad to hear about it.

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It is hoped to return to printed letter-heads for the next edition.

## A Personal Retrospective of the American Tour of 1978.

by Cyril Edwards.

We were all impressed by the open-heartedness of our American invaders. They taught us new frisbee tricks, reimpresed upon us the importance of boondocking, even extended our vocabulary. In fact one might even say that they brought a little sunshine into our lives.<sup>1</sup>

One surprising aspect of their play was its sobriety (with one notable exception), but even this was explained to me on the grounds that they are used to playing with the aid of other stimulants. Clearly these were needed at opening time of the Saturday of the international, when Great Britain returned from the pub to take 21 out of 28 points.

The british team justified the nouse of the selectors (Alan Dean, Jon Mapley and myself). Jon & David, a partnership from the past, were justifiably top pair. Alan & Geoff always play well together; Charles & Steve had a relatkvly poor first half, but picked up, and their belief that they should stay together proved justified. We thought about switching at half time, but surely partnerships must be given time to grow. Even when the partners argue as much as Keith and I (K: I'm not taking any more notice of your tactics.<sup>2</sup>), it is worth persisting. Keith and I had an excellent first half in the international, then a very poor beginning to the second half, with Keith going through an awful crise de confidence<sup>3</sup> and me making one or two silly shots<sup>4</sup>. Towards the end we were specialising in 4-3s and 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ -2 $\frac{1}{2}$ s either way, an echo of Keith's usual singles results.<sup>5</sup>

The Renaissance v Newts match was even closer than GB v USA. Newts had selection problems in that neither Dennis Opposs nor Paul Light were available, so we made the two Micks pair one. Pairs two, Jon & Chrles picked itself, so Keith and I settled in for something like eighteen hours of continuous partnership.

Jon & Charles were their usual consistent selves, Keith and I played pretty well and finished up top pair, and the two Micks, as we knew they would, started picking up points well in the afternoon. Andy Vincent stood in for Charles, who had to disappear for lunch, and won his game with Jon 6-1. The younger generation of Newts, particularly Andy and Ian Emsley, are pushing hard for team places these days. It's a difficult business, picking the best team in the world!

Most memorable game of the winkend<sup>6</sup>: versus Dave and Joe in the Renaissance match. My memory of it doesn't match up with the score sheet in the last e. of WW, but the details are more or less correct.<sup>7</sup> Joe, playing yellow, brought in five, then six free winks. I was sweating with fear; Keith insisted we were right to ignore him. Yellow, quite correctly, goes for the pot, misses number 3, I think. For most of the game yellow has four in, later five. Keith is red, and the obvious candidate for a counter-pot, though we get Lockweed's green pretty well tied up, and long before rounds I have some of my blues in too. The standard of potting is not very good, but it makes for a very exciting game, going backwards and forwards like a yoyo<sup>8</sup> with some excellent long squopping. The situation in round four is: 5 yellow in pot, 4 red, 3 blue (3 green?). Around the middle of the pot there is Keith with one large red free 3 inches from the pot; one large yellow and one large red are in a pile with some greens, all squopped by one small blue. This pile is menaced by one small green lockweed. I have one large blue on the opposite side of the pot to this sole big pile,

### Editors Notes

1. This may be an allusion
2. These may be an illusion
3. This is French for crisis of confidence. Wonderful to be a linguist.
4. Such modesty. /results!
5. It could have been worse: they could have echoed Cyril's singles /
6. The editor includes this match report as submitted, if only to show what Keith had to cope with.
7. The scores tally.
8. Most yoyos have a vertical trajectory: not Cyril's.

close in, and pottable. In my shot to end round 4 I see that there is no point in my potting the blue, as I cannot do better than yellow, (Have I only got two in the pot after all?), and green is out of it.

Circumstances dictate that I try for the small green menacing the pile to prevent Lockweed getting on with his last shot of the 4th and freeing in the fifth. I play my big wink over the pot, and land a mere 1/8th inch behind the small green. Lockweed's choice is to play his small wink onto the big pile in a last ditch attempt to get his last yellow out though he knows I'm now close enough to squop him if he does so, or try to squop the red Keith has near the pot, a long way away, and thus prevent red tying for first place with yellow. He does neither, but squops my large blue near him, trying to get high enough to bristol them onto the pile in the fifth round and do some damage to it, hopefully freeing the yellow from it. It was a brave, sound decision but his shot doesn't place him well enough on the blue. Keith has an easy pot to win  $4\frac{1}{2} - 2\frac{1}{2}$ . He misses with his last shot, and Lockweed tokens to win  $4\frac{1}{2} - 2\frac{1}{2}$  (so green must have had some in the pot, to tie with blue at the end.) Keith, playing for Britain the previous day, had won two games for us in the 5th by potting small winks much further out; such is the luck of the Lockweeds. The game see-sawed like mad, and was never less than fascinating. Thanks, Dave and Joe.

The GB-USA international was, I think, for every Briton there the high point of four winking lives. There was tremendous euphoria approaching and during the last round. The Americans thoroughly deserved the World Pairs as a Consolation Prize. I'm only sorry that we were able to raise so few people for the second weekend of the tour, at Southampton. Our visitors were justifiably disappointed, and I can only apologise on Etwa's behalf. I hope it won't put them off making another invasion soon.

#### 1978 National Singles Championships. 14th-15th October.

by Alan Dean.

The Championship's first move outside of London or Mancsheter brought further variations in its format: to make the games more even there were two divisions, the first playing a six-round Swiss and the top six going forward, joining the top two from the second division in an all-play-all league. The strongest players entered division A, and Pan and Graham felt emboldened by their recent engagement to join them, much to the relief of the group B entrants. In the event only 8 entered group B, so that was held as an all-play-all, from which Geoff Thorpe and Ian Emsley qualified. Group A produced many excellent games, and as the closing stages arrived it became obvious that Dean, Welch and Lockwood would qualify, and they were joined by Mapley & Seaman, with Relle ousting Mooney & Edwards by  $\frac{1}{2}$  point to join the qualifiers.

A further innovation was the introduction of a beginner's tournament, Group C. A field of ten played a 6 round Swiss with the top two playing one more game to be added to the others. Andrew French, a fourth year pupil from Swannore School, won the £5 first prize, despite losing 4-3 to Fred Roberts of Videomaster in their final game. Fred collected £2.50.

The Challengers League followed the pattern of group C, with the top two British players playing one extra game to be added to the total of the other seven games. Players were allocated positions in the league table according to their placing in the preliminaries, with the top two group B players taking 7th and 8th places. The draw for the first four rounds ensured that all games were between a player from the top half of the table and one from the bottom half. The most impressive results were Alan's four 6-1s, but he admits that they were all closer than the score suggests...not surprising when the bottom 4 included Keith and Charles! After 4 rounds the leading scores were: Alan 24, Dave  $22\frac{1}{2}$ , Steve 22 and Jon  $13\frac{2}{3}$ , and with Dave ineligible to win the British title Alan and Steve seemed destined to meet each other for the final game. In round 5 Jon beat Steve 6-1, and Alan beat Dave 5-2. Dave only managed 5 at his pot-out, but fought right to the last shot of the match, freeing his last wink twice and forcing Alan to play

very well, but in the last round Alan got all his yellows free and potted out. This meant that Alan was now 6 points clear of his nearest rival Steve. In round 6 both Alan and Steve lost: Jon beat Alan in a quick pot-out 5 - 2, and would have scored 7 had he not missed the last wink of his second colour. Scores now showed Alan with 31, Dave 30½, Jon 24 2/3, Steve 24.

The final round saw Alan playing Steve and Jon meeting Dave. Dave won 6-1 to remove Jon's threat, and this meant that any win for Alan would put him so far ahead as to render the last round unnecessary, but Steve played well, and Alan got annoyed with himself, and Steve won 5½-1½. This made a final round necessary, and also meant that the Challenger's League was won by the NATWA representative by 4 clear points. Congrats to Dave on his run of results: he lost only two games the whole weekend, both to Alan, whereas no-one else lost less than four games.

The final began at 4.15.p.m., and Steve had goodbye to his chances of catching the 4.45 train. Alan's lead was only 3 points, and with him taking second and third places after Steve's swift pot-out it meant that the scores were dead level and another game needed to be played. Good bringing-out threatened a pot-out, and this time Alan went for it, but missing his fifth left him in a grave position with both his remaining blues threatened. Steve elected not to squop by breaking up a pile, and missed one blue, and Alan took a red off a pile a fair distance away to squop the yellow threatening the other blue. Blue then potted out, and Steve still had time to rush for his train. Alan thus scored his fifth singles triumph, and commiserations must go to Steve on ~~the~~ being the losing finalist for the second year running.

#### World Singles.

In the autumn Dave Lockwood met Severin Drix in Ithaca, N.Y. Witnesses report that although both played below their possible form it was a respectable and even series. The first three matches were pot-outs, there being little else left to do after excellent approach shots. After four games Severin was leading 17½-10½, but Dave fought back, and the match hinged on the final shot in the 7th and final game. Severin needed to pot three, one eight inches away, one twelve and squopping, and one eighteen, in order to force an unprecedented eighth game. The first two went in, but the third slipped by, and so Dave won 4-3, the series 25½-23½, and ended Severin's four year reign. Dave hopes to be over here in the New Year to play Alan, an exciting prospect given their encounters in the British national singles.

Scores: Dave 1 6(7) 2(9) 1½(10½) 6(16½) 6(22½) 3(25½)  
Sev. 6 1(7) 5(12) 5½(17½) 1(18½) 1(19½) 4(23½)

#### LONDON WEEKEND. Nov. 18th-19th 1978.

##### Teams of Four event:

by Cyril Edwards.

The most encouraging aspect of the weekend was the turnout - nine teams of four, even though many were arranged at the last minute, or, in Keith's case, later. It was sad so many players could not make it on the Sunday, and so there were lots of people who did not play each other. We decided to operate a Swiss, with two games per partnership per round, and limitless partner-switching opportunities. Since there was an odd number of fours, this meant rather long byes for some people (bye-byes?) and those who had byes were given an average of their scores in the other rounds to make up their final scores. The top two fours then played a final. The teams were:

GAMP: Alan Dean \* Mick Mooney Pam Jones Graham Budd

LONDONIS: Charles Relle \* Benedict Relle (aged 7) Cyril Edwards Peter Toye

QUEEN'S CAMBRIDGE Colin Brown, Colin Hardman Dave Taylor Dick Kirk

SADIE Andy Vincent Steve Goodall Ian Ensley Dave Byard

VIDEOMASTER Jon Mapley \* Marian Brown, Lynn Powell, James Copestake (Camb)

SOTON: Graham Josland, John Kingston, Chris Franklin, Anthony Hopkins

EGS: Mick Wiseman, Mick Still, Roger Kirby, Keith Seaman\*

FROGS: Steve Welch \*, June, Charles Jeffried, Geoff Thorpe

SAVAK: Pam Knowles, Dave Lockwood \*, Malcolm Fraser, John le Geyt.

\* Denotes seeded player

A seeding system was operated whereby no more than one player was allowed in each team who qualified for the last six from group A in the National Singles. SAVAK and EGS, both teams put together at the last minute, were clearly quite strong on paper, which in EGS case was a petal-soft. Adonis, with Benedict, and Frogs, with June, both fielded players competing in their first ever tournament.

Four rounds of Swiss were played. In the first round SAVAK were given a bye and Sadie & Gamp, each with 21 points from their four games, made the early running, with EGS third with 19½ points. In round 2 Queens had the bye, and Sadie went down to Gamp 7-21 not winning a single game. EGS defeated Frogs 20-8 and Savak opened their account by beating Soton 22-6. Meanwhile in this round Adonis played the Relle father and son combination, which meant that Benedict won his only game of the afternoon 4-3 against Jon & Marion, and they picked up a 3-4 against Video's other pair.

In round 3 frogs had the bye. The best result was EGS's 20-8 defeat of Videomaster, Lockweed and le Geyt getting a 7-0. This reduced EGS with a 19½-8½ victory. Queens beat Soton 17-11, while the closest match was between Adonis and Sadie. Benedict, visibly tiring, played with Cyril (the sublime going with the ridiculous?) and they lost 3-4 to Ian and Steve, and 0-7 to Andy and Dave. Nevertheless Adonis won the match 14½-13½.

In the last round Adonis had the bye and the two leaders Savak and Gamps were drawn against each other. Alan and Graham managed a 3½-3½ against Lockweed & le Geyt, but the consistency of Gamps play made them 16½-11½ winners in a tight match. EGS beat Sadie 18-10, and in the other matches Frogs and Video had convincing victories over Queens and Soton respectively. Savak and Gamps thus qualified for the play-off final, a repeat of their match in the last round of the Swiss.

<u>Swiss Positions</u> (No. 18 only to be attempted by experts or masochists)	<u>Position</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Score.</u>
	1st	Gamps	78
	2nd	Savak	71½
	3rd	Egs	66
	4th	Adonis	61½
	5th	Frogs	58
	6th	Sadie	51½
	7th	Queens	46
	8th	Videomaster	45½
	9th	Southampton	30½

The final reversed the result of the previous Gamps-Savak match, although unfortunately only two games were played. This was at Keith's house some time late in the evening. I am reliably informed that Lockweed and le Geyt beat Doan and Mooney 6-1 and Pam Knowled and Malcolm beat Pam and Graham 5-2, giving Savak an 11-3 victory. The Brunel trophy, a bottle of whisky, was drunk mainly during the Marchant and friendly games on the following day.

#### The Marchant Trophy.

On Sunday 19th Nov Newts defended the Marchant Trophy in a six a side match against Cambridge. After mishaps the teams were:

Cambridge: Colins Hardman and Brown, Dave Taylor, Dick Kirk, John le Geyt and James Copestake

NEWTS: Ian Mesley & Keith Seaman, Charles Jeffried & Cyril Edwards, Peter Toye & Malcolm Fraser.

Cyril confesses that he seems to have lost the score sheet. It was played over 18 games, and NEWTS won by a handsome margin. Newts have now held the trophy for over a year and new challengers are welcomed.

#### Jubilee Singles

Jon defeated Cyril by some ridiculous score in October. Challengers should submit their names to Cyril, Etwa Secretary. There is now a very short waiting list.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the English Tiddlywinks Association. Held at 6 Elm Grove, Harrow, 18.11.1978.

The probably nineteenth EtWA A.G.M. was called to order (for want of a better phrase) at 9.p.m. Understandably, as it was his house, Keith was amongst the last to arrive. How the rest of us got in is still a mystery.

Apologies were received from Dennis for the absence of both himself and the minutes of the previous meeting. These were taken as best forgotten. It was agreed that Cyril should actually write some minutes for this meeting, to be published in WW.

#### Chairman's Report.

Jon made a resume of the previous year's events, a year which had seen a comparative revival in activity, despite the publication of an 'action' photo of him in the Daily Express.

The year started with the Hants Open in February, won for the umpteenth time by Alan, this time with Steve. The inaugural London Open was won by Jon and Charles at Goldsmiths in March, who also finished runners-up to Alan and Keith in April at Cambridge for the National Pairs Title.

The highlight of everyone's year came in July when eight winkers from the other side of the big pond in the West came to attempt a repeat of the 1950 World Cup. History has now recorded that they were firmly put in their place, Alan and Keith giving them some consolation in the World Pairs.

The Singles Championship was commendably organised by Alan and held in Southampton in October. The format, including a novices section, gave great encouragement for the future. Alan completed his most successful year to date by narrowly beating Steve into second place. It was finally agreed that due to the situation in Tehran, Alan would play Dave for the World Singles.

On the publicity front Jon reported that despite advance press release and promises broken by the London Evening News, the Sunday Times was the only newspaper to turn up for the GB v USA match. Although two reels of pictures were shot, nothing was subsequently published, and Mapley's rude telexes to the management caused them to close the paper down. Contact had also been made with Southern TV (Whom we let down badly with a timing cock-up) and LWT, who would be delighted to show a film on winks provided we make it, at a cost of £5000.

Jon closed by asking that everyone make an attempt to encourage more people into the game, so that more clubs would be formed.

#### Treasurer's Report.

Alan circulated copies of the current year's financial statement, discussion of which then took some time, due to Alan's opening remarks that we need more money as we are ever going to expand our activities.

Mats have become more expensive and of poorer quality, but better things are promised.

The discussion then centred on how best to improve EtWA's cash flow. Income from both club and individual membership has been very disappointing in recent years. First it was decided to abolish life membership due to increasing costs of providing WW's. This is not to apply to existing life members, although a plea is hereby entered to some of the longer-standing people in this category to search their souls, and if they decide that they got a bargain at the time, to then search their pockets for a donation to EtWA.

It was then agreed to increase individual membership to £1 per annum. Discussion on preferential entry fees to tournaments was shelved, as it was left to the tournament organiser to decide for himself according to the circumstances.

Alan suggested that we might update the EtWA (/England?) Ties as fashions have got broader, but a startling new suggestion was adopted instead that an order be placed for EtWA T-shirts. Alan could hardly cope with the pund notes /dollars/ monopoly money thrust upon him, and Jon agreed to purchase the said garments, hopefully in time for the Hants Open.

### Secretary's Report.

Cyril thanked everyone who had made the 4-a-side team championship the best attended tournament of the year, and echoed the optimism that at last winks might be entering a period of growth again. He stressed the need for closer liaison so that everyone with any interest in the game is kept well informed to give more people the opportunity of participating.

ETWA has been appointed by the Shell Guide to Weekend Pastimes to provide an entry for the edition to be published in the New Year. More will be known about this after Christmas.

### Dates of 1979 Tournaments.

Feb 10-11	Hants Open	Southampton
Mar 10	London Open	Goldsmith's College, London
April 28-9	National Pairs	Cambridge
Summer	Manchester Open	Geoff Thrope to arrange venue: either Old Trafford or Pam Knowles' house)
13-14 Oct	National Singles	London: to include lots of schols/novices participants
17-18 Nov	Congress & Teams of 4	Southampton

### Election of Officers.

After very little discussion the Chairman, Treasurer/Equipment Sec & Secretary were all re-elected nem con. Geoff Cornell's individual style as WW editor was praised and it was generally agreed in his absence that he should continue (God willing). Two English Committee members were elected as representing the two active University teams, namely Colin Hardmas from Cambridge, and Graham Josland of Soton. Dave Lockwood was elected ETWA's foreign correspondent.

Alan then read out a letter from Stuart Clark, wishing everyone well who still remembered him. It was also stated that Jeremy Shepherd was back in the fold. (see WW approx 9).

### Jubilee Singles

The following rules were agreed upon:

1. Challenges to be submitted to the Etwa secretary, who shall be arbiter in case of any dispute.
2. The trophy is open to anyone, but matches must take place in Britain.
3. A previous holder or defeated challenger may not re-challenge within 12 months, unless there is no-one else available.
4. Matches shall be of 5 games, aggregate points, unless otherwise agreed between both challenger and defender.
5. The holder is not obliged to defend the trophy more than once a month

At present Jon is the holder, and the list of challengers reads:  
~~many~~ Cyril, Keith, Dave L, Steve, Alan Cyril. Cyril went home at this point.

### A.O.B.

1. It was agreed that all tournaments in the coming year will be played to the following time limits: pairs 25 mins, singles 20.
2. There will be no time limit per shot unless at the discretion / imposition of the tournament organiser
3. Everyone proposed a vote of thanks to Keith for the use of his house and the food.

At the National Singles.... it's Charles' round....

Cyril: Cheers, Charles

Charles: God bless you Cyril

Cyril looks up quizzically

Charles: He does exist, you know

Cyril (growls into beer): I suppose someone must have invented the hop.

Earlier....

Charles: I wish we could play on our knees more often. It's much more comfortable

Cyril: It's all right for you. You're used to that position.