



Andy Vincent

THE WINKING WORLD

The Official Journal of the English Tiddlywinks Association

NUMBER 34

JANUARY 1980

SILVER JUBILEE YEAR

On January 16th 1955 the first meeting of Cambridge University Tiddlywinks Club took place, on the initiative of Bill Steen and R.C. Martin. So the modern game was born, but in fact the Rules used were those of Marchant Games and the difference, as the "Guinness Book" points out, is that the game was first espoused by adults at this stage. (Can anyone tell me what this means?)

It was not all plain sailing in those early days. After a promising start the club went eighteen months without a match. Undaunted, they kept their enthusiasm and were rewarded in 1958 with the Goons match and a blaze of publicity. In 1961 E.T.W.A. recorded over sixty clubs.

As we go into our jubilee year perhaps we can take heart from that enthusiasm and try to awaken more interest in the game (this is beginning to sound like the Queen's Christmas message).

We start the year, appropriately enough, at Cambridge, with an All-Star Spectacular.

CAMBRIDGE JAMBOREE

February 2nd (& 3rd?)

Events: Cambridge Past v Cambridge Present
Dinner (About £7-£8)
World Singles Match
Possibly, World Pairs Match
Probably, World Teams Match,
between Newts & Quesh
and supporting attractions to amuse and entertain all! Every-one is invited to attend. Contact Harold Snow or Colin Hardman at Queen's College, Cambridge.

!!*!*!*!

While you have your diary out take note of these events, which were agreed at Congress:

MAITS OPEN 23rd Feb.

The Secretary, The Tiddlywinks Club
Students Union, University,
Highfield, Southampton.

LONDON OPEN 15th March. Goldsmiths'
College. - Cyril Edwards.

NATIONAL PAIRS 26th-27th April.
Cambridge. - Harold Snow.

TEAMS OF FOUR 1st-2nd Nov. London.
Cyril again.

NATIONAL SINGLES 22nd-23rd Nov.
Southampton. Alan Dean.

CONGRESS 1979

Congress was held in Southampton over the weekend of the 13th November last. Once again the teams of four event proved popular and various other games were also fitted in (some of them were even of Tiddlywinks!). Alan and Barbie excelled themselves as hostpersons, including allowing their lounge to be taken over for the A.G.M.

The Minutes

The probably twentieth A.G.M. of E.T.W.A. was called to order at 7.52 p.m. Laced by Dean supplied wine and Newky Brown, we proceeded to work through a hastily assembled agenda.

Joe Sachs of American Winks being present the problem of voting rights naturally occurred to some suspicious minds, but was sensibly declared a non-problem. To quote our beloved chairperson: "Anyone who bothers turning up deserves to have a vote." The minutes of the probably 19th meeting were taken as having been read in WWS2, although so heavily censored (censored?? - ed.) that they bore little resemblance to the truth.

Chairperson's Report:

Jon Mapley's run-through of the winking year had to make less exciting listening

than last year, because there was no American tour, despite the frequent transmigrations of Dave Lockwood and Joe Sachs, and Jon's own trip in the other direction (and back). The Teams of Four event at Brunel in November 1978 raised nine teams, and was remarkable for its good atmosphere, people playing for fun rather than to win. The Hants Open was notable for the success of a one-off partnership, Mick Mooney and Peter Toye, resulting in two new names on the trophy. (Mick asked where it was.) The London Open of March '79 was boringly won for the second consecutive year by Jon Mapley and Charles Relle, and equally boringly Alan Dean and Keith Seaman won the National Pairs at Cambridge in April; surprisingly this second consecutive win was a record for this event. Summer was the usual lull, the previous year having been the exception to the rule. Nigel Knowles' attempt to organise a Manchester Open foundered on the icebergs of apathy. October saw the second NEWTS dinner, another triumph for the hospitality and culinary powers of the Relles (with Mapley assistance this time). Would an ETWA dinner be in order at some stage? (Doesn't the Dean household give us a good one anyway - Sec. - And don't forget the Cambridge one - Ed.) Sadly the Chairman was reminded of his success in the National Singles in October at Goldsmiths' - another new name on the trophy - and, sadder still, of the Marchant Trophy game at Charles Relle's house that same weekend. In this match QUESH, boasting no less than three NEWTS members in their team, defeated NEWTS by a narrow margin in a match that was hard fought to the last round. This QUESH victory entitles them to challenge for the World Club trophy won by NEWTS from Renaissance of America in 1973. The National Singles had a turnout of 15 players, with no novices, a point which became one of the 'leitmotifs' of the evening's discussion. (Translations from the old German available from Cyril under plain cover).

On the publicity front, several leading members of ETWA are fast becoming media personalities. Jon, Nigel and Alan were involved in a pilot film on winks made by Mike Moss of 'Match of the Day'. Charles made two radio broadcasts concerning the Wink's contribution to National Games day. BBC East interviewed Jon after his National Singles victory, and the pot appeared on the box. In none of these instances did the broadcast lead to any noticeable

follow-up in terms of recruiting new people to the game. Nigel commented on the failure of the U/c Open to materialise and advocated the computerisation of tournament organisation which was welcomed by many.

Treasurer's Report:

ETWA's income over 1978-79 amounted, Alan Dean informed us, to some £70. This stemmed from the sale of 20 T-shirts, a small profit from the London Open, record low sales of mats and sets, some donations and fees from TV appearances - this last being the biggest single item. There were only 3 individual memberships paid, and very few affiliation fees. On the debit side, there was the cost of the ETWA T-shirts; postage and phone costs (though Alan pointed out that the officers only recover a fraction of actual expenses) and the arrival of two packets of mats which turn the balance of £100.89 into a negative amount. The price of mats would have to be raised to a fiver each, but other steps would have to be taken to get money in quickly. This was shelved for discussion later in the meeting.

Secretary's Report:

Cyril Edwards said that he had answered various enquiries from ancient winkers about the rules and from novices expressing interest. He thanked Charles Relle for his assistance in many ways, especially at the National Games Day in the Horticultural Hall. This event was probably the most exhausting of the winks year for the pitiful few involved. Charles, Cyril and Malcolm Fraser had three tables on which they inculcated newcomers from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., with bursts of assistance from Keith Seaman and Andy Davidson. A tremendous number of people were inveigled into playing the game, but, apart from a circular about NEWTS, there was, again lamently, no follow-up. We were not permitted to sell any equipment, and the ages of the people there varied so much that it was difficult to suggest any way in which we may be able to organise better contacts. We really felt the lack of any school or university club in London we could refer them to, and at that time NEWTS was meeting in Gatford, not the most accessible of venues. All in all a most frustrating as well as exhausting day. One important lesson: three people aren't enough for three tables.

Election of Officers

CHAIRMAN - Jon Mapley re-elected non con
TREASURER/EQUIPMENT SECRETARY - Alan Dean re-elected non con.

SECRETARY - Cyril Edwards re-elected non con.

WINKING WORLD EDITOR - Geoff Cornell had expressed reluctance to continue because of his isolation from the mainstream of Winks. Ensuing upon a general discussion as to whether there should be more in WW for the beginner, Nigel Knowles volunteered his services as editor. Charles Relle, Dennis Opposs, Alan Dean and Cyril Edwards offered their assistance, and it was stressed that a new issue should come out soon. Nigel elected non con.

Jon moved a vote of thanks to Geoff for his excellent services as editor over a span of years beyond the by now befuddled memories of those present.

PUBLICITY OFFICER - Tom Gardner was elected to the committee with responsibility for publicity. His access to computers will there will soon be a computerised address list available to tournament organisers and others.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS - There was some discussion as to whether there was any point in having committee members who had no visible function, but ultimately a vote was taken, as a result of which the Presidents of the Southampton and Cambridge clubs are for the time being to be ex-officio members of the ETWA committee. Next year these will be Harold Snow of CUTWC and Graham Josland of SUTWC.

The existence of an American liason officer was doubted.

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

So, we are going to have more for beginners in WW which I think is a good idea. There are a number of ways to do this and I would like your help. Many of you have probably written things of your own for teaching new players, as I have, and if you send them to me I will produce a series of articles to be published in WW and as handouts for demonstrations etc.

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Meanwhile, back at the A.G.M. we have reached Any Other Business.

Finance - The state of ETWA:

The Treasurer outlined the present dire

situation, pointing out that we are living on donated equipment, including outdated rules. These ought to be revised, perhaps following the American precedent described by Joe Sachs. About £100 was urgently needed. A general discussion ensued. It was strongly recommended that members buy new mats to replace old ones. The problems of Life v Annual membership was discussed, and the following motions were put to the meeting and accepted with only minor dissension:

1. Life membership to be abolished forthwith.
2. ETWA will default on its obligations to existing life members. (There would obviously have to be some compromise for anyone who has recently paid for life membership. - Ed.)
3. Club membership will be retained on an academic year basis and individual membership will be by calendar year but payment after October 1st will also cover the following year. This considerably confused the Secretary, but he was later enlightened when he paid his annual fee for the first time ever. ('Best value I ever had, Life membership for half-a-crown!')
4. The rights and privileges of ETWA membership were redefined as the right to play in official ETWA tournaments; to receive Winking World; to vote at Congress but perhaps the real reason to join is to support Winks.
5. The fees for Students and Novices is £1 per year and £3 for others. Other financial decisions were left in the capable hands of the Treasurer. ('capable' in its etymologically correct sense of 'able to grab hold').

Continued somewhere later. (Yes, there is more of this epic saga).

~~~~~

Gazing into my crystal ball I spotted a couple of notes in the Golden Jubilee issue of WW.....

The Marchant Trophy has again been won by NEWTS Over-Sixties Club, lead as always by Professor Edwards. (It is reported that the sprightly professor is still determined to win his first National Singles title)!

Four Irish players are still arguing over a game played back in 1980. It seems they cannot decide whose green wink won!

So that everyone can get in good voice for Jubilee celebrations here again is the Winks anthem, written by the late Reverend E.A. Willis, who was the first Secretary General of ETWA and a prime mover in establishing Winks.

Tune: Men of Harlech.

Other nations are before us  
With their Sputniks and Explorers.  
What can confidence restore us?

NAUGHT BUT TIDDLYWINKS.

On the fields of Eton  
Former foes were beaten  
But today  
All patriots play  
This sport which needs such grit and  
concentration.

Through this game of skill and power  
England knows her finest hour,  
And her stronghold, shield and tower  
MUST BE TIDDLYWINKS!!

## JUBILEE TROPHY

(The Queen's Jubilee that is.)

Again this trophy has been actively contended.

The last WW had your editor as holder with Alan waiting for his third attempt to win it. The challenge took place at Keith's house on his patent surface of a piece of hardboard on top of the carpet (quite good actually). I don't seem to recall the final score.....and I won't be too pleased with anyone who reminds me of it! Since then Alan has successfully defended the trophy against Pam Knowles, who never really got into the match, and against Jon Mapley who gave Alan a very tough fight.

There is now a challenge fee for the trophy of £2 to ETWA. Please send any challenges to the Secretary as Alan is running out of opponents!

## THE NATIONAL SINGLES

by Jon Mapley

The National Singles Championships took place at Goldsmiths' College over the weekend of 13/14th October. It always looked like being a busy two days, with a Novices' tournament running parallel, and NEWTS v QUESH Marchant Trophy match on the Saturday evening. However, despite publicity in local schools, bullying of NEWTS players and an article in 'Computer Weekly', as well as the Chairman's now customary rude phone calls to the Beeb, not one single Novice came out of the woodwork to play.

The main tournament, for the fourth year in succession, tried a new format - the trusty all-play-all, with the top four playing an additional game against each other, all scores being totalled.

There were a number of illustrious spectators - Geoff made a rare departure from the hills and valleys to play in the Marchant, and added much wit and pungent comment on the games during Saturday. It's a great pity he couldn't take part but his ecclesiastical duties took him back to Wales on Sunday. Similarly, Nigel only arrived from slaving over a hot Yugoslavian computer on Saturday evening and Peter played through the first day with his opponents scores not counting as he had to dash off to a Bulgarian computer (we must investigate the party membership of these digital freaks!). Unfortunately, Steve was not able to get away from Scotland (visa problems I believe.) The two Wicks and Dennis, being the mainstays of the NEWTS

team, didn't want to tire themselves by playing in the Singles, but the fifteen players left still looked a formidable bunch. It was good to see Andy Davidson and Dave Ackland back in the fold, especially to prove to the WW editor that the letters he kept getting from East Africa were more than a figment of Dennis's fevered imagination!

At the end of Saturday's play, some familiar trends were established. Alan and Dave were playing with their customary consistency and brilliance (steady on, Jon, they will get big-headed!) - or was Dave more vulnerable than previously? Pam was right back in form, and Jon was less prone to errors against players he ought to beat (in most cases). So with half of the fourteen games gone, Alan, Jon and Pam were locked together on 34 points and Dave was four points ahead from one more game. Charles and Keith were still well in contention. Alan was ruing a missed pot at the end of his game against Jon, which would have probably given him a 4-3 instead of a 2-5, saying it was one shot which would lose him the title.

Sunday saw a change of fortunes for some..... Pam went to pieces, scoring only 50% of her first day's score, eventually finishing eighth, Keith and Charles were losing too many games against their close contenders and everyone was looking over their shoulder at Cyril who was going like a train after a disastrous start.

|                     | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15   | TOT  |
|---------------------|----|----|----|----|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|------|------|
| 1. Malcolm Fraser   | -  | 1  | 5  | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4  | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4½ | 23½  |      |
| 2. Dave Lockwood    | 6  | -  | 7  | 2  | 3 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 6  | 5½ | 7  | 4  | 7  | *73½ |      |
| 3. Charles Jefferis | 2  | 0  | -  | 0  | 1 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 6  | 0  | 6  | 5  | 1  | 7    | 37   |
| 4. Alan Dean        | 6  | 5  | 7  | -  | 2 | 2 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 6  | 6  | 5½ | 6  | 3  | 6    | *71½ |
| 5. Jon Hapley       | 6  | 4  | 6  | 5  | - | 6 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 7  | 6  | 1  | 6  | 5  | 7    | *76  |
| 6. Cyril Edwards    | 6  | 6  | 6  | 5  | 1 | - | 1 | 6 | 4 | 7  | 6  | 6  | 6  | 2  | 4    | *66  |
| 7. Geoff Thorpe     | 6  | 0  | 1  | 1  | 1 | 6 | - | 1 | 2 | 6  | 1  | 5  | 6  | 6  | 6    | 45   |
| 8. Pam Knowles      | 6  | 1  | 3  | 1  | 0 | 1 | 6 | - | 4 | 7  | 5  | 2  | 5  | 1  | 5    | 51   |
| 9. Charles Relle    | 6  | 1  | 6  | 2  | 1 | 3 | 5 | 6 | - | 6  | 1  | 6  | 4  | 6  | 7    | 57   |
| 10. Tom Gardner     | 3  | 1  | 1  | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | -  | 5  | 1  | 1½ | 0  | 5    | 22½  |
| 11. Nick Hooney     | 6  | 1  | 7  | 1  | 1 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 6 | 2  | -  | 3  | 6  | 4½ | 6    | 52½  |
| 12. Andy Davidson   | ?  | 1½ | 1  | 1½ | 6 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 6  | 4  | -  | 3  | 1½ | 6    | 39½  |
| 13. Dave Richard    | 5  | 0  | 2  | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5½ | 1  | 4  | -  | 1½ | 6    | 34   |
| 14. Keith Seaman    | 4  | 3  | 6  | 4  | 2 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 7  | 2½ | 5½ | 5½ | -  | 6    | 61½  |
| 15. Dave Ackland    | 2½ | 0  | 10 | 1  | 0 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1  | 1  | 1  | 1  | 1  | -    | 14½  |

\* Indicates players who qualified for the final.

Cyril secured fourth place and outside chance of victory with his gallant charge.

At the front of the field, Alan and Dave were still playing well, giving little away except against Keith, scoring 3 and 4 respectively, but it was a day when they found that the sixes they were churning out with monotonous regularity were simply not good enough. Mr. Hapley seemed to have decided that he was long overdue for a victory in this tournament, and in seven games amassed 44 points, including six pot outs, with only the one against Keith being an early race. At the end of the league Jon was 4½ points clear (see above). Cyril was delighted to have achieved so much considering his swollen face and blossoming black eye (he told us it was his dentist wot dummit!), and in his heart of hearts he knew that even 18 points from his last three games would not be enough. As it turned out he was mercilessly crushed in each one, losing to Jon first, while Alan was making amends for his massacre in World Singles by coming strongly from behind to take six points off Dave. Alan next played Cyril, and was very happy to see Jon make his first real cock-up of the whole tournament against Dave. With green all squopped up Jon used the controversial "plan 47" by potting his three free yellows, giving Dave free turns with about eight minutes to rounds. Dave controlled the game well, and should have scored 7, a score he had to achieve to stand a chance of first place. He missed the sixth, Jon squopped it, and for the moment saw the outside chance of a 3-4 looming. Dave recovered well, and scored 6, which was only just and fair in the circumstances.

Seven points for Dave in the last round

against Cyril would give him a total of 67½, and with Jon and Alan now on 85 and 83, one of them had to emerge as clear winner.

No doubt some readers have been bored in the past by wading through blow by blow accounts of the latest success of these superstars (! - ed.). The bare facts of the encounter are that Jon beat Alan 6-1, having repulsed all attacks on a large pile with some inspired, some good and some downright outrageous play, to become the first person outside the Southampton hierarchy to carry off the Singles title.

#### THE FINAL

|       | JON | DAVE | ALAN | CYRIL | TOTAL |
|-------|-----|------|------|-------|-------|
| JON   | -   | 1    | 6    | 6     | 91    |
| DAVE  | 6   | -    | 1    | 6     | 66½   |
| ALAN  | 1   | 6    | -    | 6     | 64½   |
| CYRIL | 1   | 1    | 1    | -     | 69    |

With no disrespect to any player, past or present it was probably the best game of Winks ever played, and it was won with a score of 3,2,0,0 in time-limit points with no winks in the pot.

So, all the finalists maintained their league positions and in the first ETWA championship where he would have been allowed to come first, Dave had to be content with second place. At the other end of the scale, it must be placed on record that Dave Ackland played with remarkable sportsmanship and good humour in averaging approximately 1.02 points per game.

Many Thanks to Cyril for finding and arranging the excellent playing conditions at Goldsmiths'.

"Tiddlywinks develops delicacy of touch; corrects colour blindness; is a soothing influence on the nerves; and is conducive to restful sleep."

(Rev. Willis)

\*\*\*\*\*

No, I haven't managed to forget the A.C.H. You are going to have to read all the minutes.....

#### 25th Anniversary of the Cambridge Club

The various events, described elsewhere, for this momentous occasion were discussed causing Dennis Opposs (yes, he of the untypeable name), to start on well-oiled reminiscences "going back many years". Publicity was discussed. Prince Philip, Noel Edmonds, and the Minister for Sport were all criticised for their lack of interest.

The old chestnut of South African Winks was brought up and promptly dropped. (Sec.: "Jon, you are a Fascist!" Chairman: "Yes, I know I am, and I'm proud of it." F.B. This was after the election, of course!)

#### The Golden Squidger Regional Pairs

The Secretary offered to organise, or rather resuscitate, a pairs competition run on a regional basis, with the Golden Squidger donated by Dennis Oppossible-to-type as the trophy. Travelling will be kept to a minimum, with games possible on the occasion of other tournaments etc. Its time we had a knock-out tournament again. Entry form elsewhere in this issue.

It was suggested that mats and sets be on sale, preferably with a new set of rules and guidance to beginners, in the major games shops in London before Christmas. (I don't think this came about but it is a good aim for any time.)

We gather that the 'Guinness Book of Records' has replaced their picture of Alan Dean by one of the 'Silver Wink'. This can only bode well for the future of Winks.

It was agreed that time limits should be entirely subject to the discretion of individual tournament organisers.

The Winks Anthem was not sung and the meeting concluded about an hour before closing time. It rained all the way to the pub.

THE END.

Thanks very much, Cyril, for staying sober long enough to report all this.

#### TEAMS OF FOUR

About nine teams got themselves together for a light-hearted tournament at the Congress weekend. It had been intended that only one player who had finished in the top six in his last 'Singles' could be in any one team, but that gave us more seeds than teams. We came to a compromise that still meant that no particular team was overpoweringly strong, although one team did have five (or was it six or seven) members - Barbie Dean and Jo Wilde each managed to play some games while someone else was left holding the babies!

It was all in such good spirit and lack of interest in the scores that no-one has a copy of the results. Charles and Nigel are pleased about that as, playing together, they barely managed half marks! As far as can be recalled the winners were Jon Napley's team (not him again!) who rejoiced under the name of 'Gang of Four' and included June and Steve Welsh and Charles Jefferis. Second were 'CAT K' (Alan Dean, Mick Mooney, Tom Gardner, Ken Wilde).

The prizes of four bottles were not presented until Sunday afternoon so we didn't get a chance to sample them - what organisation!

O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O

Here are the addresses of the current committee members (see the Golden Squidger entry form for Cyril's). Tom has already produced the first version of the computerised address list which is currently being updated and corrected. If you have recently changed address or know the whereabouts of a long lost Winker please inform Tom.

Jon Napley  
2, Jarnead, Witham, Essex. CM8 2FN  
0376-516372

Alan Dean  
35, Hillside Avenue, Bitterne Park,  
Southampton.  
0703-553563

Tom Gardner  
46, Woodcote Green Road, Epsom, Surrey.  
037 27-22512

Nigel Knowles  
59, Victoria Road, Whalley Range,  
Manchester, 16.  
061-226-5694

## MERCHANT TROPHY

This is the first in an occasional series looking back over our major competitions.

The "All England Championship Cup" was presented to the winners of the 1950 Varsity Match by Merchant Games Ltd. This match was umpired by Danny Blainflower and Stirling Moss and was followed by a "lavish tiddlywinks ball". Cambridge, led by Peter Downer, were the first holders and thereafter it became a challenge trophy. The winners to date are:-

- 1950 CAMBRIDGE U.
- 1961 OXFORD U.
- 1962 CAMBRIDGE U.
- 1962 LONDON U.
- 1964 CAMBRIDGE U.
- 1965 BANCROFTS SCHOOL
- 1965 OXFORD U.
- 1967 CAMBRIDGE U.
- 1971 SOUTHAMPTON U.
- 1972 QUESH
- 1974 CAMBRIDGE U.
- 1976 11 MRS
- 1977 HEWES
- 1978 QUESH

In 1961 Oxford invented "double squop" strategy out of desperation and finally defeated Cambridge. After the trophy passed to London from CULWC it again came home with a "brilliant performance" from Relle and Breeze.

The trophy first passed out of the hands of the Universities when Bancrofts, holders of the London League title for two years, defeated Cambridge. Colin Joseph and John Heshor were the outstanding pair with Jon Wapley being unable to play. Bancrofts' superior technical skill bettered Cambridge over reliance on strategy.

When Bancrofts played Oxford the next term they had lost two players to Oxford and two to Cambridge. This time Heshor and Joseph brought victory to Oxford, but Wapley and Hogg scored well for their opponents.

When Cambridge regained their trophy in January 1967 they established a long lasting dominance. At this time their top pair was Hoare and Wells, until Dave Carrington replaced Jungy Wells. Also doing consistently well were the other Bancrofts pair, David Rose and Harvey Orrock.

Meanwhile down at Southampton things were starting to happen. With players coming from Ealing G.S. and Chadderton G.S. Alan Dean had built up a team which in 1970

defeated Cambridge in the Silver Wink. However, they could not repeat this feat in the "Merchant"

The following season only two of the Southampton players remained but with a team composed mainly of people in their first year of Winking, the Merchant was taken from Cambridge in three rounds.

This appears to be a turning point in modern Winks as the Southampton influence has been tremendous ever since, but also because it led on to the new development of the 'old Boys' team. In 1972 Quesh, the ex-Southampton players took the Merchant (Nigel Knowles and Pam Robinson being top pair.)

It is true to say that there hasn't been a strong University team since the Soton team of about 1978. Did Quesh/Southampton have anything to do with this? or are teams like Quesh the only way that standards can now be maintained?

(I know there were some good players at Cambridge a little after this but I don't think the team compared to earlier ones.)

After that controversial interlude lots return to the fate of the Merchant.

After Quesh had defeated all comers, including the Rest-of-England they relinquished the trophy in 1974 and it was awarded to the Silver Wink holder, which was.....Cambridge again.

A number of ex Southampton players formed themselves into a team whose qualification for membership was to be a former resident of 11, Khartoum Road, or be married to one. This team had little difficulty in holding the "Merchant" until HEWES came along. This, the New London Tiddlywinks Society, is a result of tremendous hard work by Cyril Edwards, Charles Relle and others and has been very successful.

Quesh were prompted to re-form (reform?) by HEWES' success and regained the trophy in a very tough match recently. Alan Dean and Pam Knowles were top pair for Quesh.

Two strong teams are better than one but shouldn't we have a few more?

\*\*\*\*\*

Did you know that in most foreign languages (with the exception of Hungarian and American) tiddlywinks is known by the local word for fleas?

EDITORIAL

The new subscription rates and philosophy might raise a few eyebrows, not to mention tempers, among our regular readers. The idea behind the moves I don't think can be questioned, and it was probably wise for the A.G.U. to sanction fairly drastic measures as this gives the Treasurer and Committee room to manoeuvre. It is quite impossible for WWA to continue to finance sending WW to life members of long standing but I think it unreasonable to expect non-active members to fork out three pounds a year. We do not wish to lose contact with our old supporters. I hope to announce a solution in the next issue. (Maybe a family membership as well?).

Many thanks to Lt Cdr Draig R.N. (otherwise known as Steve) who felt that what he had once paid for life membership had long since expired and sent a donation of a fiver. (You won't lose out Steve!). He promises to return to Winks as soon as Her Majesty permits.

Also many thanks to all who helped to produce my first Winking World, particularly to Alan who did all the duplicating.

If contributors find weird editing having taken place, it has nothing to do with me - my typewriter has a mind of its own! (Which is just as well because I can't spell half the words Cyril uses).

~~~~~

What about that final game? Was it "the best game ever played"? Unfortunately I was not able to see the game but most people agreed it was something special. Let me quote Alan's comments:

"I haven't played in every final (quite) but I'm certain it was the best final ever. I did not feel I could have played any better than I did in my last three games. I outplayed Dave from a losing position, absolutely crushed Cyril, and still can't believe how well Jon played to hold me off! Many Congratulations on a great victory!" So this time the best ever Final. What do you think was the best game (or match) ever? No doubt our American freinds have some ideas on this.

~~~~~

THE GOLDEN SQUIDGER

This is the new Pairs knock-out Competition, which should be an excellent chance to get more people playing. Why not play with someone in your area who doesn't usually play in tournaments, or even with a complete beginner.

Please complete the form below and return it to:

Cyril Edwards  
26, Whickam Road  
Brockley  
London SE4.

Tel. 01-892-3937

13

Entry fee is 50p to cover postage etc. Entries should be sent by Feb ~~2nd~~. I am sure Cyril will endeavour to find partners for anyone without one.

We .....

should like to enter the 1980 Regional Pairs Competition.

Addresses .....

Tel. ....