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EDITORIAL JOTTINGS.

This issue of Winking World experiments with a new format. The cover design is by Eleanor Relle and printing has been organised by Steve Drain. We hope it meets with your approval: in any case, if subscriptions continue to trickle in at their present rate - see below for details - the next issue will have a smaller circulation.

We thank Rick Tucker for No. 14 of our contemporary Newswink. Naturally it is a triumphant issue, full of the success of the 1981 tour. But there are also indications reflected in Jon Mapley's article 'Winx in the U.S.A.' in this journal, that Natwa is finding it hard to maintain its momentum and find new recruits. On its front cover Newswink has a photograph of some of the participants in the U.S.A.Lusts match. It makes them, particularly Paul Ireson, look as if they came from outer space and ought to be sent back there.

The tournament scene is as busy as ever: in fact, perhaps it is too full. Informal matches between clubs are at least as much fun, but hard to arrange in a crowded tournament season. The Newts-Southampton match last autumn was most enjoyable, and there was time after it for some social Tiddlywinks too. An interesting idea was mooted at the Cambridge Open when Roger Long proposed that there should be a random draw for partners. This was not carried into effect as some players had travelled some distance to play together, but perhaps if adequate notice were given it could be tried at the next Cambridge Open.

We are now having to pay for accommodation at nearly all tournaments, and to charge table money to players. Recently there has been a suggestion that we charge higher table money to those who are non-members and not beginners. Looking at the subscription list for 1982, I can see some point in this. Membership also entitles you to a free copy of each issue of Winking World. At the end of

February the following had paid subscriptions for 1982: J. Mach, D. Hull, D. Byard, C. Edwards, K. Seaman M. Mooney, K. Lees. G. Thorpe, P. Knowles, C. Relle, A. Dean, S. Drain, A. Duncan, J. Mapley, A. Brennan, D. Burdd, P. Ireson, S. Edwards, R. Long, E. Bertoya, M. Surridge, B. Cartwright, T. Corden.

Defaulters include: N.KNOWLES S.WELCH M.STILL M. WISEMAN M. CONNAUGHTON AND EVERYONE ELSE IN OXFORD G.& P.BUDD G.CORNELL A.DAVIDSON M.FRASER T.GARDNER S.GOODALL C. HARDMAN P. HOFFMAN A. JAMES C. @T. JEFFRIES G.JOSLAND D.OPPOSS D.PENTELOW M.PROUDLOVE D.RICKARD D.ROSE H.SNOW P.TOYE E. WELLS A. VINCENT K. WILD R. WILKINSON AND VARIOUS MEMBERS OF CAMERIDGE AND SOUTHAMPTON. This Winking World will be your last if you do not pay your subscription. I apologise to anyone wrongly on the defaulters' list, and remind everyone that Etwa abolished life membership at the Congress of 1980. Cyril and I agreed in opposing this, but found ourselves in a small minority. Subscription - £3 for ordinary members and £1 for students - should be sent to Alan Dean at 6 Birkland Drive, Edwinstowe, Nottinghamshire.

Forthcoming events:

May 1-2; National Pairs at Queens' College Cambridge. July 17 th; Manchester Open. October 23 and 24; National Singles, probably at

October 25 and 24; national singles, probably at Oxford.

November 27 and 28; A.G.M. and Teams of Four, probably in London.

The Hampshire Open was won by Cyril Edwards and Mick Still. Ihope a report on it will reach me intime for the next WW, to which any contributions will be very welcome.

Oxford has a new Secretary, D.G. Tew of New College.

Can anyone spare me copies or photostats of WWs 11&25?

THE CAMBRIDGE OPEN 1982, by Liz Bertoya

Owing to the success of C.U.Tw.C. this year, the committee felt inspired to arrange a new tournament, the Cambridge Open, to coincide with its annual dinner, this being a somewhat underhand method of pulling the crowds in for both events.

People arrived on the Saturday in larger numbers than expected, and this caused definite format problems. However, they were soon sorted out to the satisfaction of most people present. Owing mostly to the warped brain of Nick Inglis, we scored the tournament by taking the match scores, adding one, and keeping a running product instead of a running total.

The ensuing games were light-hearted and provided the highest scores ever witnessed at a winks tournament, causing amusement to the participants, and even more incomprehension than usual to the tourists who wandered in. What was this game where some people had scored 3 and some over 100,000?

This rather questionable scoring system led to the following pairs qualifying for the final: Mapley & Thorpe, Relle & Toye, Bertoya & Long, Josland & Surridge. All except Mapley had attended the winks dinner: was this some plan of his to be in a better state than the rest and hence cruise easily to victory? But it was not to be, the title and trophies going to Messrs Relle and Toye, whose practised digestions had survived the dinner best, and who are now the proud (**!!??Ed!) owners of a pair of furry gorillas who suck their thumbs and toes and stick their ears.

Along with the success of the Dinner, it was an enjoyable weekend.

Here is description of the decisive game, history being written by one of the winners.

The last round of the final brought together the two highest scoring pairs, Mapley and Thorpe and Relle and Toye. Mapley and Thorpe needed at least a 5-2 to prevent their opponents, who had carried on their work of the previous day by scoring two 6-ls, from winning. Mapley Carnovskied a green, and.

having the rest of his winks in a fair position not easily attacked, attempted a pot-out. This failed when his fifth, a large one, ran 90 degrees round the rim of the pot and landed among the reds. Relle made the squop, the final green was also seized, and Thorpe was left with an insurmountable problem. Toye and Relle defended their position doggedly until near time, Toye warning his partner at every turn against any show of enterprise with the catch-phrase "no heroics". Thorpe found himself repeatedly boondocked, and turned to plan 47. His opponents, however, were able to counter this by further boondocks and by potting enough of their own winks to win 5-2, getting thereby a score other than 6-1 for the first time in the tournament.

THE SILVER WINK, 1981, by Liz Bertoya.

For the first time in some years, the Silver Wink was not just a contest between Cambridge and South-ampton; Oxford had got themselves a club and brought a team over. Sadly, owing to transport problems, they could not stay to the end; however the tournament experience was valuable to them.

Cambridge and Southampton were very evenly matched, with things going first one way then the other, leaving Southampton a few points ahead going into the last round of the all-play-all tournament.

The tension, which had been noticeable from the start, increased as the final matches got under way, with both sides very determined to win. Cambridge played well to leave the outcome more or less decided with one game still continuing — short of total disaster for Roger and Andy, Cambridge had won. A superb pot under pressure with everyone else watching settled things, and Cambridge regained the Silver Wink, winning it for a record seventh time.

The scores are printed on the next page.

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THE LUSTS TRIP TO CAMBRIDGE by Tony Brennan.

The morning of Saturday February 6th started with a distinctly inauspicious omen for the L.U.S.T.S. team, with the news that Derek Wheeler had managed to have a coughing fit on a bus (or something) and would be laid up in bed all weekend. As it was too late to arrange a replacement, the team was hurriedly re-arranged in time for our match against Robinson College.

This was R.A.T.S.' first match as a team, so it was not very surprising that the L.U.S.T.S. team of comparative veterans (some of whom have been in the game long enough to be making comebacks) beat them. It was too early in their careers to say which of their players will be the best, but ex-L.U.S.T. Mike Lampkin and his partner Jeremy Godfrey impressed as top pair. Tony Brennan was L.U.S.T.S. top scorer with 22 points, before, by electing to play partnerless, he lost half his points, and of the rest of the school team, Duncan Budd and Paul Ireson scored 21 points, Robert Baldwin and James Wyllie 19½ and Mark Holmes and Crispin Jarman 18. The score was $80\frac{1}{2}-31\frac{1}{2}$, which, after the seven player forfeiture, became $69\frac{1}{2}-42\frac{1}{2}$.

Glossing over the evening's proceedings, next day LeU.S.T.S. played Cambridge University, for (to us) the unofficial title of Nation's Leading Winking Educational Establishment. Cambridge were without their R.A.T.S. pair and their secretary, but this should not detract from L.U.S.T.S.' achievement in latting only one of their pairs, Roger Long and Mary Davies, score more than half points at the table. This time Budd and Ireson top-scored, and although Holmes and Jarman were slightly disappointing, L.U.S.T.S. achieved a 72-40 victory which after forfeiture became 61\$\frac{1}{4}\$- 50\$\frac{1}{4}\$. So a successful winkend ended for L.U.S.T.S., who are now looking forward to a run in the Marchant Trophy.

THE GOLDEN SQUIDGER1981.

Once again this competition attracted only four entries, which suggests that the calendar is overloaded with knockout events. Be that as it may, the hopeful pairs were Jon Mapley and Charles Relle playing against Robert Baldwin and Mark Ford, and the Edwards - Opposs axis confronting Tony Brennan and Duncan Budd. Jon and Charles snatched some time during the National Pairs to play Robert and Mark, who put up stout resistance, eventually succumbing $4\frac{1}{2}-2\frac{1}{2}$. It was not possible to fix a second game, so Jon and Charles went through to the final. Cyril and Dennis met and beat Tony and Duncan, so the final took place in January 1982 at 26 Canadian Avenue during a regular Newts meeting. It went to three games . In the first Jon and Charles took a 5-2. In the second Jon decided on an early and somewhat speculative pot-out: he missed his last wink and was instantly squopped by Cyril. Charles, however, had six free winks too, and potted four of them before being very well squopped by Dennis. Inevitably his last wink was involved and squopped, and this gave his opponents nine free turns, during which they managed to pot out. The result was a 6-1 to Gyril and Dennis. In the third game Charles and Jon squopped up their adversaries within ten minutes and held the position, taking no risks. They thus won the game 6-1 and the match 12-9.

THE LONDON OPEN PAIRS 1982, by Jonathan Mapley.
The fifth London Open saw a change of venue. We deserted beautiful trendy uptown New Cross for sleazy unfashionable downtown Hampstead. It is many years since Westfield College boasted a winks team, but they welcomed us with open arms.

For once, the pre-tournament information service actually succeeded in getting everyone there at the appointed hour, whereupon a new problem presented itself. Each pair was required to select a computer

mnemonic of fewer than ten characters in order to accommodate the electronic brain that was going to run the tournament. So it was that WORLDWAR3, MEGASTARS, WEHATECND and eleven other less militant, ambitious er simply more informative teams squidged off in the usual London Open format of seven rounds of Swiss, one game semi-final and two game final.

Some of the leading players had teamed up with other not quite so eminent junior stars, and the early rounds saw a lead taken by Dunc Njon, who perhaps surprisingly had defeated PAK 6-1. This was a team which permutated any two from Keith Seaman, Pam Knowles, Rebecca Knowles, a half-grown golden Labrador , an American cable TV executive who was supposed to be filming, and oh, yes ... Alan Dean. The TV company paid us two visits - the first at the start of the tournament, when they concentrated on things like Paul Ireson's Trilby, Crispen Jarman's General Custer and Tony Brennan's tastefully understated Union Jack T-shirt. Having filmed the computer calculating the pairings for the second round, they departed for the muddier corners of Upton Park, intent on convincing the avid American viewer that soccer is in a state of financial bankruptcy while cash is pouring through the winking turnstiles as never before. They returned during the semi-finals andrecorded large chunks of both final games.

Meanwhile, back at the mat, things were changing slightly. Pak forged ahead, and two defeats for Dunc Njon meant that there was a cluster of teams vying for the remaining three qualifying places. Two strongly tipped contenders, micknmick and Cyril +Den, fell by the wayside, and a remarkable win for Chas/Paul over Pak in round seven (well it wasn't that remarkable, just another yawn-provoking Relle pot-out) saw them qualify in third place. Fourth was Tonypandy, a scratch pairing of Brennan and Vincent, who quickly succumbed in the sudden death to whichever two of the Pak team happened to be around at the time. In the other match, it was

combined experience which got the upper hand. Paul Anand played some excellent shots, but Jon and Duncan had Charles tied up for most of the game. It was still a good performance to reach the semis - well done Paul.

The first game of the final was close and well played, resultingin a 5-2 win for Jon and Duncan against Pam and Keith. The second game was more scrappy but just as close, though it always looked like being a victory for Alan and Keith, somewhere between 53-13 and 4-3. When Duncan potted a green in the final shot of round three, it was three free turns to Keith (red) and Alan (blue). Keith had five free winks and Alan two, witha potted wink each being the only scores Jon and Duncan had. Keith improved his tally to six, and released a third of Alan's, pottable, when he played the last free turn in round five, and it was up to Alan to release a wink with his final turn. Without potting he would be tying Jon and would put Dungan one point up by releasing him and hoping he would not pot $(4\frac{1}{2}-2\frac{1}{4})$. losing the match). So his intention was to not the free wink first, then release (52-12, winning). Jon had been waiting with bated breath for this moment. pointing out that Rule 12 compels a player to release With the first shot of the turn following free turns. Alan, visibly shaken, reassessed the situation, and with nerves of steel potted off Duncan's wink, then also potted the free one (seven points), leaving Duncan with the famous "bounce off the pile into the pot" shot to win the match. Have you ever seen it done?

Without wishing to inject a note of sour grapes into a happy enjoyable tournament, we must give some thought to a team whose members play only two thirds as many games as everyone else. (Personally I'd find sitting out and watching the mistakes of my confrères the most exhausting part. Ed.). It was great to see Pam again, and the demands of meant that she could not guarantee freedom from interruption, but where do we draw the line in a Pairs tournament? It doesn't matter too much in the London Open (whose names go

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on the trophy?) but such a combination would have to be banned in, say, the National Pairs.

Many thanks are due to Alan, whose Swiss program worked faultlessly throughout, never taking longer than eight seconds to calculate the draw. The timer and umpire's aid wasn't bug-free, but it was only used in the final, and we coped with out of date digital watches and unfashionable human memory.

SHOT OF THE YEAR, ETC., by Cyril Edwards.

Every year seems to bring with it a new technical or tactical innovation. This is only right if the game of winks is not to petrify, though keeping abreast is difficult for those who do not practise regularly. or who have only recently come back to the game after long lay-offs. To take one example, the Bristol was a relative unknown to many of us until recently, and technically brilliant players such as NEWTS' Geoff Allen and Dave Hull have yet to make it an integral part of their repertoire; that this need not be an insuperable obstacle is shown by the example of Charles Relle, who after a longer lay-off than most is now the most inventive exponent of the Bristol shot, with all its variations up to and including the John o' Groats, in Britain. In our game in the National Singles of 1980, Charles made his first win over me in serious competition the more convincing by his last shot, separating by a Bristol two large greens of his, which to me seemed impossibly square, and both of which had winks under them in a complex pile, thus gaining himself an extra wink and an extra 12 points.

But the five years or so in which the Bristol was developed were also five year in which there were immense tactical advances, particularly with regard to reshuffling the position in the rounds to gain extra points even in defeat. It was frustrating in the Teams of Four to watch Allen and Hull a couple of times in the rounds, being content with fewer points than they should have had from interesting end-games. Perhaps in teams of four advice from the other pair

in a team, should they be idle, ought to be standard practice. It would create more team spirit, and encourage the more experienced players to play faster, so that they could get over to the other table and offer advice. No bad thing this.

This year seems to have brought with it one tactical and technical advance of great potential. The boondock has long been familiar to us, though when the Americans brought it over, itwas greeted with amazement, even resentment. Now after a long time it seems to me that people are at last beginning to think seriously about useful things they can do with the wink of their own colour that remains behind after the boondock. Too often in the past we have been content to leave the wink stationary, or more or less so, but now a select half-dozen of players are working on placing it somewhere useful, like on top of an enemy wink that has been brought in to guard or attack a pile. Several times in the last few months I have seen the difficult shot of placing the boondocking wink, so to speak, on a free opponent, which sometimes has been brought in to attack the boondock couple. At its most difficult, this involves trying to squop the opponent's wink that has been brought in directly behind and in line with the boondock pair: angled shots are usually easier. There are many situations where this squop is more important than the boondock itself; it matters little to good opponents if their boundocked winks are off the table or 1' to 18" away, and yet too often we think only of the picturesque value of getting the opponent's wink off the mat. At the moment the boondock-cum -squop is in the development stage, with ideas way ahead of technical accomplishment, even where players like Mapley and Lockweed are concerned. But I'm sure that, as with the Bristol. The technical advance will come. The boondock-cum-squop deserves a decent name. How about the John Lennon Memorial Shot?

A NOTE ON NOMENCLATURE by Charles Relle.

In the above article Cyril flatters my skill both as a player and as a geographer. A Bristol shot is played when the top wink of two is behind the bottom one and the winks are pointing in the direction of flight. I suggested that variations on this shot be called after places on the Somerset and North Devon coast: the Minehead is when the top wink is slightly off the line of flight but still behind the bottom one; the Weston-super-Mare when a line drawn through the centres of the two winks would be at right angles to the line of flight; the Ilfracombe is when the top wink is slighly in front of but to the side ofthe bottom one. Any Bristol-type shot on to a high pile could be named a Clovelly, or perhaps a Porlock. A shot in which the top wink overhangs the front of the bottom one on the line of flight leaves me at least all at sea, so possibly shot be called the Lundy Island.

As to the John Lennon Memorial Shot, I have no objection to the name, but I notice there is a tendency to call shots after places. In the sixties there was a shot called the Oxford Underhand. So I suggest that, since Cyril Edwards has described and to an extent developed this shot, we call it the Wirral.

WINX IN THE U.S.A. by Jonathan Mapley.

At the same time as British winking is going through a period of rebirth, our transatlantic friends are suffering a severe decline in the number of people playing the game. In acouple of recent letters, Larry Kahn has both congratulated us on our success and bemoaned their failure. "We wouldn't know how to cope if 26 people turned up for the singles" and "1982 may see only six pairs in the pairs" speak volumes.

Paradoxically, these are precisely the same problems that Etwa faced in the mid-seventies: a dramatic reduction in the number of clubs; a lack of incentive for new players; the same people winning tournaments year in, year out, with the only major difference being the vast distances necessary for some players to travel to any gathering of the faithful.

The 1981 tour, while being on the surface a resounding success for the Americans, served to emphasise to them the change in attitudes which has encouraged the growth in the game in this country since their last visit in 1978. I have attempted to explain how this has been achieved, and I hope they take note. There does not seem to be number of "fun" tournaments in the States that we have here - they certainly have no equivalent of our Teams of 4.

The present top players in Britain may well continnue to win the Pairs and Singles for a while yet,
but the competition gets fiercer each year. The time
is fast approaching when one year's winner(s) could
be half the age of the previous year's, and that can
only be for the good. "Too tabid at twenty" (Tony
Herbert, WW8, October 1965) may well become the
watchword again.

It is the youthful influx that the U.S. hierarchy must try to cultivate. To my knowledge there has never been a school team of any standing, and this team element is another important factor that should be recognised. Playing in a team of mixed ability against similar teams is the best possible introduction to the game - you find out slowly what all the different skills and tactics are about without having them rammed down your throat in an endless stream of 7-0 defeats.

We must do all we can to encourage American winking. Hopefully, the film which was shot at the London Open might provide some interest, although we have no idea when it will be shown and on which network.

Any bright ideas? ********

A puzzle to fill the page: think of at least one winker whose first and last names can be spelled with the top row of letters on a typewriter.

THE MARCHANT TROPHY 1982.

The Draw for this competition is: Preliminary Round:

A. Old Bancroftians v. L.U.S.T.S.

B. Cambridge II v. Oxford II

First Round:

Newts v. Southampton Winner B v. Winner A Cambridge I v. Quesh Oxford I v. Oxford III

The first named team has the home draw. This is a team of six competition; conditions the same as last year's. Full details from Jonathan Mapley, Etwa chairman, 2 Janmead Witham Essex, telephone 0376 516872.

WHEN NOT TO POT OUT by Charles Relle.

Sometimes a pot-out will bring a possible 5-2 instead of a certain 6-1, so you decline the attempt. But how bad a result can a pot-out bring you? Discarding the situations in which you pot out only an opponent's last wink, and can lose by anything up to 7-0, I propose to look at situations in which you pot out your own winks and lose or tie. I am assuming you are blue (or red can do it all for you). The worst you can do is to end up with the last blue on the last green and the last yellow, with at least one red elsewhere on the mat. You pot the whole tripleton pile and your brilliant and possibly unique shot is shot is rewarded by a 53-13 loss! Oh, well, it is what the Americans call a rare score. Now for something not so bad. You are blue again, and your last wink is on the last yellow. A doubleton pot-out is no trouble to an expert at potting tripletons, so in go the blue and the yellow. Of course green pots out before red and you have lost 5-2: another one to avoid. Do not do this with blue-green either if yellow can pot faster than red!

Maybe there are other ways to pot out and lose, but I do not know what they are. If you know any more,

demonstrate them to me at the National pairs! Now for ways to pot out and tie: (i) You might pot out your last blue, bouncing simultaneously into the pot all the other winks on the mat, which must include one of each other colour. If you do this you should be made to stand drinks to all the other players in the world. (ii) You could have a pile containing at least one wink of each colour, blue on top, and at least one free blue. You pot all the winks, ending with the tetrad pile. (iii) As (ii) with no spare blue. You pot the tetrad at a stroke. But wait a moment: you must have made the pile with a squop on the previous turn, and, being in a 'no free turns' situation, should have freed an opponent! So the opponents can make you play the shot again. (iv) As (iii) but with one or more piles consisting of blue on another wink. You pot all winks in all piles, ending with the tetrad. Failure to free again: work out what the rules allow your opponents and when! Also work out all the possible all-colour tetrad piles with blue on top and practise potting selected winks from them to avoid this ending!

The secretary of Etwa is Geoff Thorpe of 9 Sussex Road, Cheadle Heath, Stockport, Cheshire. Telephone 061-477- 2640. National Pairs entries should have been sent to him by Easter.

The editor of Winking World is Charles Relle of 26 Canadian Avenue, London S.E.6.
