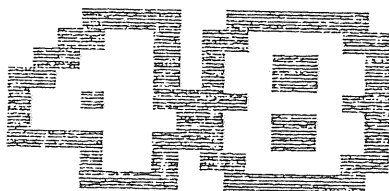


WORLD

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October 1986

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News

Nick Inglis

Since WW47 Southampton have rather greedily won both the Silver Wink and the Marchant Trophy, and Charles Relle and Mike Surridge have won the National Pairs. For the benefit of those of you who don't watch Grandstand, I'll also remind you that Cambridge won the Varsity Match.

This issue is being published at the Teams of Four and Congress on the 25th of October. Other tournaments in the offing are the National Singles on the 22nd and 23rd of November in Southampton, and the Cambridge Open on the 31st January and 1st February (with the CUTwC Annual Dinner on the Saturday night).

I'm sure you'll all be excited to hear that Tony Brennan, Jon Mapley, Stew Sage and I have, through great skill and finesse, established a World Record height for flicking a tiddlywink. The new record stands at 2.29 metres (about 7½ feet) so if you want to break it you'll need some nice long pieces of wood to measure the height.

Two of the articles in this issue (Charles Relle's "Out of Context" and Mike Surridge's hagiography of Alan Boyce) seem to have been inspired by remarks in previous *Winking Worlds* so in the same spirit I'll leave you with one of my favourite quotations, from WW45:

"I suppose you're going to put another dig at Cambridge..."

"No; it's not worth it. They are just not bothered about the game outside their own club."

Letters to the Editor

Sir,

Slow play is very boring and wrecks tournaments!

S. K. Harbron

Sir,

I was interested to read the account of the World Singles 23 in WW47, written by Nick Inglis. The report suggested that if Larry Kahn should lose to Jon Mapley in the only outstanding match then he would be able to re-challenge as ETWA singles champion.

For a number of years it was accepted that the right of challenge went to the highest placed Briton in the ETWA National Singles and to the highest placed American in the equivalent NATWA tournament, a fact which Dave Lockwood was often heard decrying. On this basis, Larry should certainly not be allowed to challenge for the title should he lose it.

On the other hand it seems that Larry's challenge to Alan Dean was due to his ETWA title of 1984, so the rule has already been circumvented. This seems to me a little unfair, since Jon Mapley had to give up a challenge in favour of Pam Knowles after her NATWA singles (I don't know whether he ever got a challenge out of this).

After some reflection I realize that I don't actually know an awful lot about the workings of IFTWA (or is it ITWA? - it's so long since anybody made reference to the international ruling body of Winks). I would like the answers to a few questions - perhaps Jon Mapley is able to answer them.

1. When was a National Singles champion (ETWA or NATWA) first granted a World Title challenge irrespective of his or her nationality? (Was it Larry against Alan or Pam against Dave?)
2. Did Jon Mapley really pass up a title bid in favour of Pam (or just threaten to do so)?
3. The challenge which Larry has "in the bank" seems somewhat confusing. How long can he keep it (the year

2000 springs to mind)?

4. Who are IFTWA (names), how often do they make decisions and on what aspects of the game would they expect to make the rulings.
5. Are there in fact any rules concerning World Singles challenges and if not can I have one?

Mike Surridge

The 1986 Cambridge Open

Tim Hedger

Queens' College, Cambridge, 8th/9th February 1986

The first players to turn up to Queens' Old Hall, found it looking as though a bomb had just hit it! But it was just the result of a lavish feast the night before. But it wasn't just the hall which was affected, James Robertson only just crawled into the hall in time to enter.

The first round saw few surprises and the first of the tournament's five 7-0s (to Inglis and Mayes). In the second round, tournament leader Mayes with Pennycook managed to defeat Charles Relle (playing with Beck) 4-3 whilst Benedict Relle teamed up with Carrington won 5-2 putting Relle Junior above Relle Senior after two rounds. After three rounds only 8 players (out of 37) had not lost a game.

Round four saw Surridge and Inglis clash, and it was the Soton man who walked away with a 6. Alan Boyce picked up his fifth consecutive 6 in round five, with Surridge close on his heels after four 6s and a 5. In round six Boyce drew Hedger against two Cambridge first years and suggested they went for a seven which we got (Boyce potting six in one go after I had eventually potted out), although I have never known anyone who could put more pressure on his partner in an easy situation (I probably played worse in this game than any other in the tournament). The round also saw Surridge lose his first game (with Wheatley against Thorpe and Rodgers). In round seven, Boyce and Wright teamed up to beat Surridge and Shrimpton, after which Boyce was heard to complain that the score (a 6) lowered his average. Hedger lost with Evers against Clark and Humble.

		Opponents							
		Partner				Score			
1	Alan Boyce	18,24	21,35	8,30	11,28	19,28	26,36	3,36	
		30 6	18 6	5 6	16 6	27 6	4 7	6 6	
2	Charles Relle	31,34	25,27	11,21	18,35	18,31	27,28	Bye	
		21 6	23 3	23 6	26 6	7 5½	24 6		
3	Mike Surridge	26,29	20,29	9,37	5,31	30,33	13,17	1,6	
		28 6	7 6	29 5	17 6	10 6	29 1	36 1	
4	Tim Hedger	16,19	24,36	10,35	24,25	32,34	26,36	19,21	
		8 6	11 7	25 3½	21 4½	6 4½	1 7	30 1	
5	Nick Inglis	17,27	30,32	8,30	3,17	21,22	9,20	23,32	
		25 7	22 4½	1 6	31 1	24 5	18 5	8 6	
6	Peter Wright	32,36	8,19	13,34	32,33	32,34	33,37	3,36	
		14 6	16 1½	12 4	10 6	4 4½	14 6	1 6	
7	David Salter	Bye	20,29	20,33	23,34	18,31	Bye	10,12	
			3 6	31 4	12 6	2 5½		27 1	
8	Patrick Barrie	16,19	6,16	1,5	13,14	26,36	23,34	23,32	
		4 6	19 5½	30 1	22 4	16 6	30 7	5 6	
9	Jim Carrington	Bye	14,37	3,29	19,30	Bye	5,18	11,26	
			9 5	37 2	36 6		20 2	22 2	
10	Andy Purvis	22,35	26,31	4,25	32,33	30,33	Bye	7,27	
		12 6	28 4	35 3½	6 6	3 6		12 6	
11	Alex Satchell	20,33	24,36	2,23	1,16	12,29	21,25	9,22	
		37 2½	4 7	21 1	28 1	17 4	22 6	26 5	
12	Stew Sage	22,35	13,34	13,34	23,34	11,17	16,31	7,27	
		10 6	17 6	6 4	7 6	29 3	32 6	10 6	
13	Geoff Thorpe	Bye	12,17	6,12	8,22	Bye	3,29	16,31	
			34 1	34 3	14 3		17 6	18 6	
14	Tom Drummond	32,36	9,33	16,24	8,22	20,23	33,37	33,37	
		6 6	37 2	18 5	13 3	25 1	6 6	24 6	
15	Phil Beardsmore	Bye	Bye	Bye	Bye	Bye	Bye	Bye	
16	Nigel Minchin	4,8	8,19	14,18	11,28	26,36	12,32	13,18	
		19 1	6 1½	24 2	1 6	8 6	31 1	31 1	
17	Phil Rodgers	5,25	13,34	19,27	5,31	12,29	3,29	25,29	
		27 0	12 6	26 2	3 6	11 4	13 6	34 3	
18	Chris Andrew	1,30	21,35	16,24	2,26	2,7	9,20	16,31	
		24 1	1 6	14 5	35 1	31 1½	5 5	13 6	
19	Phil Clark	4,8	6,16	17,26	9,36	1,27	Bye	4,30	
		16 1	8 5½	27 5	30 1	28 1		21 6	

							Tot	F1	Ave	Pars	Opps
									Diff		
9,10	5,19	11,12	5,25	12,24	12,36		71	13	5.46	3.34	3.39
32 3	31 4	16 4	36 6	26 6	18 5					+0.05	
3,13	34,36	10,34	10,17	18,29	8,24		59½	12	4.96	3.32	3.14
26 1	11 6	29 4	19 6	23 4	9 6					-0.18	
2,26	10,13	7,25	13,28	6,14	6,17		64	13	4.92	3.34	3.56
13 6	17 6	14 6	21 4	16 6	16 5					+0.22	
Bye	12,25	6,26	11,35	8,21	19,23		56¾	12	4.72	3.76	3.11
	24 5½	19 3	9 7	15 1½	11 6					-0.66	
15,17	1,31	Bye	1,36	17,30	Bye		50	11	4.55	3.38	3.41
24 5½	19 3		25 1	25 6						+0.03	
12,19	22,32	4,19	30,31	3,16	3,16		57¾	13	4.44	3.73	3.16
8 4½	28 6	26 4	34 6	14 1	17 2					-0.57	
14,23	21,23	3,14	8,32	34,36	14,25		47½	11	4.32	3.56	3.20
31 4	30 4	25 1	15 4	10 6	13 6					-0.36	
12,19	9,15	9,32	7,15	4,15	2,9		55	13	4.23	3.47	3.64
6 4½	18 1½	15 4	32 3	21 5½	24 1					+0.18	
1,32	8,18	8,15	11,35	19,31	8,24		44½	11	4.05	3.28	3.50
10 4	15 5½	32 3	4 7	13 2	2 6					+0.22	
1,32	3,17	2,29	2,19	34,36	15,28		48½	12	4.04	3.53	3.28
9 4	13 1	34 3	17 1	7 6	32 2					-0.25	
28,36	34,36	1,16	4,9	28,32	19,23		52½	13	4.04	3.28	3.32
30 5	2 6	12 3	35 0	35 6	4 6					+0.04	
6,8	4,24	1,16	23,24	1,26	1,18		51½	13	3.96	3.38	3.54
19 2½	25 1½	11 3	26 4½	24 1	36 2					+0.16	
2,26	3,17	Bye	3,21	19,31	14,25		37	10	3.70	3.51	3.72
3 6	10 1		28 3	9 2	7 6					+0.20	
7,31	26,29	7,25	16,29	3,16	7,13		48	13	3.69	3.54	3.16
23 3	16 5	3 6	18 3	6 1	25 1					-0.37	
5,24	8,18	9,32	8,32	8,21	10,32		21½	6	3.58	3.93	3.55
17 1½	9 5½	8 4	7 4	4 1½	28 5					-0.38	
Bye	26,29	11,12	14,18	6,14	6,17		42½	12	3.54	3.97	3.58
	14 5	1 4	29 4	3 6	3 5					-0.39	
5,24	10,13	21,24	2,19	5,25	3,16		44½	13	3.42	3.65	3.57
15 1½	3 6	23 6	10 1	30 1	6 2					-0.08	
Bye	9,15	30,36	16,29	2,23	12,36		41	12	3.42	3.67	3.48
	8 1½	31 3	14 3	29 3	1 5					-0.19	
6,8	1,31	6,26	10,17	9,13	4,11		40	12	3.33	3.62	3.89
12 2½	5 3	4 3	2 3	31 5	23 1					+0.27	

		Opponents							
		Partner				Score			
20	Duncan Budd	11,37	3,7	7,31	Bye	14,25	5,18	Bye	
		33 4½	29 1	33 3		23 6	9 2		
21	David Humble	31,34	1,18	2,23	24,25	5,24	11,22	4,30	
		2 6	35 1	11 1	4 4½	22 2	25 1	19 6	
22	Daniel Piponi	10,12	30,32	28,36	13,14	5,24	21,25	11,26	
		35 1	5 4½	32 6	8 4	21 2	11 6	9 2	
23	Kevin Beck	Bye	25,27	11,21	7,12	14,25	8,30	5,8	
			2 3	2 6	34 1	20 6	34 0	32 1	
24	Hugh Pumphrey	1,30	4,11	14,18	4,21	21,22	27,28	33,37	
		18 1	36 0	16 2	25 2½	5 5	2 6	14 6	
25	Sean Mayes	17,27	2,23	10,35	4,21	20,23	11,22	17,34	
		5 7	27 4	4 3½	24 2½	14 1	21 1	29 4	
26	Niall MacKay	3,28	10,28	19,27	18,35	8,16	1,4	9,22	
		29 1	31 3	17 2	2 6	36 1	36 0	11 5	
27	Frank Pennycook	5,25	2,23	17,26	Bye	19,28	2,24	10,12	
		17 0	25 4	19 5		1 6	28 1	7 1	
28	Matthew Johns	26,29	26,31	22,32	1,16	1,27	2,24	Bye	
		3 6	10 4	36 1	11 1	19 1	27 1		
29	Richard Wheatley	3,28	3,7	9,37	Bye	11,17	13,17	17,34	
		26 1	20 1	3 5		12 3	3 1	25 4	
30	David Evers	18,24	5,22	1,5	9,36	3,10	23,34	19,21	
		1 6	32 2½	8 1	19 1	33 1	8 7	4 1	
31	James Robertson	2,21	10,28	20,33	3,17	2,7	12,32	13,18	
		34 1	26 3	7 4	5 1	18 1½	16 1	16 1	
32	Trish Willink	6,14	5,22	28,36	6,10	4,6	16,31	5,8	
		36 1	30 2½	22 6	33 1	34 2½	12 6	23 1	
33	Benedict Relle	11,37	14,37	7,31	6,10	3,10	6,14	14,24	
		20 4½	9 5	20 3	32 1	30 1	37 1	37 1	
34	Richard Dunn	2,21	12,17	6,12	7,12	4,6	8,30	25,29	
		31 1	13 1	13 3	23 1	32 2½	23 0	17 3	
35	Liz Bertoya	10,12	1,18	4,25	2,26	Bye	Bye	Bye	
		22 1	21 1	10 3½	18 1				
36	Gary Shrimpton	6,14	4,11	22,32	19,30	8,16	1,4	1,6	
		32 1	24 0	28 1	9 6	26 1	26 0	3 1	
37	Simon Every	20,33	9,33	3,29	Bye	Bye	6,14	14,24	
		11 2½	14 2	9 2			33 1	33 1	

						Tot	P1	Ave	Pars	Opps
								Diff		
Bye	Bye	Bye	Bye	Bye	Bye	16½	5	3.30	2.92	3.66
									+0.74	
25,34	7,30	17,23	13,28	4,15	30,34	42½	13	3.27	3.56	3.41
22 2	23 3	24 1	3 4	8 5½	31 5½				-0.16	
25,34	6,28	Bye	Bye	Bye	Bye	28½	9	3.17	3.39	3.26
21 2	32 1								-0.13	
7,31	7,30	21,24	12,26	18,29	4,11	36½	12	3.04	3.49	3.59
14 3	21 3	17 6	24 2½	2 4	19 1				+0.10	
15,17	12,25	17,23	12,26	1,26	2,9	39	13	3.00	3.76	3.58
5 5½	4 5½	21 1	23 2½	12 1	8 1				-0.18	
21,22	4,24	3,14	1,36	17,30	7,13	38½	13	2.96	3.70	3.54
34 5	12 1½	7 1	5 1	5 6	14 1				-0.16	
3,13	14,16	4,19	23,24	12,24	Bye	35½	12	2.96	3.63	3.68
2 1	29 2	6 4	12 4½	1 6					+0.05	
Bye	Bye	Bye	Bye	Bye	Bye	17	6	2.83	3.72	3.67
									-0.05	
11,30	22,32	Bye	3,21	11,35	10,32	31	11	2.82	3.40	3.44
36 2	6 6		13 3	32 1	15 5				+0.04	
Bye	14,16	10,34	14,18	2,23	Bye	28	10	2.80	3.79	3.58
	26 2	2 4	16 4	18 3					-0.21	
28,36	21,23	18,31	6,34	5,25	21,31	36	13	2.77	3.50	3.40
11 5	7 4	36 4	31 1	17 1	34 1½				-0.11	
14,23	5,19	30,36	6,34	9,13	30,34	35	13	2.69	3.62	3.49
7 4	1 4	18 3	30 1	19 5	21 5½				-0.13	
9,10	6,28	8,15	7,15	11,35	15,28	32½	13	2.53	3.33	3.73
1 3	22 1	9 3	8 3	28 1	10 2				+0.40	
Bye	Bye	Bye	Bye	Bye	Bye	16½	7	2.36	2.76	3.60
									+0.84	
21,22	2,11	2,29	30,31	7,10	21,31	28½	13	2.22	3.10	3.74
25 5	36 1	10 3	6 6	36 1	30 1½				+0.64	
Bye	Bye	Bye	4,9	28,32	Bye	12½	6	2.08	3.66	3.88
			11 0	11 6					+0.22	
11,30	2,11	18,31	5,25	7,10	1,18	26	13	2.00	3.28	3.97
28 2	34 1	30 4	1 6	34 1	12 2				+0.69	
Bye	Bye	Bye	Bye	Bye	Bye	8½	5	1.70	3.30	3.46
									+0.16	

C.U.Tw.C.'s annual dinner held on the Saturday evening took its usual toll on the winkers and four players failed to turn up at all on the second day. However Beardsmore, not having turned up on the first day, went to the dinner and played on the second day! In round eight, Carrington and Purvis teamed up and defeated Boyce and Willink (Boyce's only loss in the tournament, leaving Purvis the only undefeated player at this stage. The next round saw Purvis meet Surridge and despite playing with Thorpe he could not avoid a 6-1 loss. Boyce then took two 4s off Inglis (Clark) and Sage (Satchell) before finding his earlier form finishing with two 6s and a 5.

Round eleven saw the unfortunate Miss Bertoya re-enter the tournament to play with Satchell against Hedger and Carrington. Despite being a player of only a few months, Satchell chose to ignore most of Liz's tactical suggestions leading to a pot out, where upon he calmly announced to Liz that they would have no trouble getting a 2 unless she "cocked it up!" (the result was 7-0) There's a moral here somewhere Alex...

The table is listed in finishing order, and gives in addition to each player's average, the average of that player's various partners' scores against those of their opponents. From this, it looks as though if all things were equal Mike Surridge would have come above Charles Relle, with Hedger, Wright, Salter and Purvis moving down and Barrie and Carrington moving up. Gary Shrimpton must be very pleased with the quality of the games he played, in that the average of his opponents scores was 3.97. (Only eleven players have higher scores than this) But maybe he doesn't see it that way! Commiserations to Benedict Relle whose difference of +0.84 gives him the worst draw.

This having been said, the draw was random (according to the BBC Micro's random number generator anyway) and it was up to people to do as well as they could in the circumstances. Congratulations to Alan Boyce for his consistent performance which left him a clear winner.

Out of Context

Charles Relle

In an article in WW46 I quoted Dave Lockwood's words in *Newsnink* 10: "Some of you newcomers may just be boring people generally". Later, I was taken to task by him for quoting him out of context. So, to make ammends to Dave, I now quote the whole paragraph in which these words were written. It runs: "Lastly, of course, some of you newcomers may just be boring people generally".

It may be as well that I am no longer editor of WW, for Dave's strictures made me aware of how useful a light-hearted out-of-context quotation can be. I might have written an article on inconsistency, using as its basis two quotes in WW45 from Mike Surridge on mats:

"(i) Unplayable - this covers all mats..."

"(ii) Playable - this includes all mats..."

I might have reinforced my arguments by a quote from Rob Cartwright in WW46: "Some of the best players have problems (such as Mike Surridge)." I am sure we all know what Rob means!

I might also have tried to prove that the Americans, however decorous their behaviour in England, get up to some surprising antics at home. Consider this out-of-context quotation from *Newsnink* 18: "Larry has a great early strip-off". Well! But perhaps this was more revelatory than Larry intended as evidenced by another out-of-context quotation from Dave this time in WW45: "Once again Larry failed to close the door!"

Equipment Failure

Dave "The Dragon" Lockwood

I don't like the new winks. I hate the mat. The new cup is worse than the old. The winks I can live with. The outer dimensions of the cup are the same as they were; since the edge is thicker, more winks bounce off it. Barring the sole advantage of longevity, the new mat is a disaster. Trajectory is so low that the phrase "Not able to get it up" takes on new meaning. What is immeasurably worse is my feeling that the weave of the mat pushes winks a few degrees off. I cannot prove this and it may only be an imagined nightmare associated with declining abilities. However, without a reasonable probability of running six, the finesse of the game is diminished and without finesse what are we at?

The combination of the thicker edge, the lower

trajectory, and the possibility of the tighter weave influencing shots is particularly significant for long pots. The section of arc represented by the cup is obviously less for long pots. A few degrees is therefore more likely to push the wink away from the optimal line - possibly out of the cup or into contact with the thick edges at the limits of the acceptable arc. Further, any deviation from the center line leaves less room for error in the pressure factor. The search for an optimal mat should not be halted and we should amend the mold for the cup.

NewTS versus Sotwink

Stefanie Norman and Mike Surridge
1st February 1986

It was with some trepidation that at the beginning of February a new look Southampton team set off to London to play Charles Relle's London (NewTS) side. (Whether we were so awestruck because of the experienced side we were up against or whether it was sheer panic at Alan Boyce's driving is another matter!)

Mr. Relle had secured a formidable team, with Tim Jeffries and Dave Rickard the least recognized pair. The holders of the illustrious Golden Squidger pairs title had even been induced to play for NewTS. Southampton on the other hand were fielding two players entirely lacking tournament experience in Jane Ridsley and Stefanie Norman, with Steve Chamberlin also making his first appearance for Sotwink.

The first round provided one of the great upsets in winking history. Faced with Charles Relle and Phil Clark, Alan Boyce decided that the only thing to do was pot out, and he did! The Sotwink team then gathered round to see if Chamberlin could achieve the immortal seven - Relle and Clark did have their chance, but Chamberlin was just too sharp for them. Mike Surridge and Stef Norman went back to an indifferent game against Jeffries and Rickard losing 4-3 to the London pair, whilst Steve Harbron and Jane Ridley went down unceremoniously 1-6 to Cyril Edwards and Mick Still (Steve's play could be attributed to the fact that he spent rather longer in the Catford Ram than the rest of us!). Thus at the end of the round Southampton were

unexpectedly holding a slight lead.

Charles Relle's misfortune continued in the second round, he and Clark losing 6-1 to an improving Surridge and Norman. Harbron and Ridley were consistent in their play, losing again 6-1 to Jeffries and Rickard. Boyce and Chamberlin, flushed after their momentous victory, stumbled a bit (well quite a lot!) losing 6-1 to Edwards and Still. There ended the second round, the London team having taken the lead 23-19.

SOTWINK

Alan Stef Steve
Boyce Norman Harbron
Steve Mike Jane
Chamberlin Surridge Ridley

N Charles Relle
E Phil Clark
W Cyril Edwards
T Mick Still
S Tim Jeffries
S Dave Rickard

<div>7</div> <div>0</div>	<div>6</div> <div>1</div>	<div>1</div> <div>6</div>	<div>7</div>
<div>1</div> <div>6</div>	<div>5</div> <div>2</div>	<div>1</div> <div>6</div>	<div>14</div>
<div>6</div> <div>1</div>	<div>3</div> <div>4</div>	<div>1</div> <div>6</div>	<div>11</div>
<div>14</div>	<div>14</div>	<div>3</div>	

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SOTWINK 31

It was then all on the last round. Harbron and Ridley kept up their consistent form, losing 6-1 to a relieved Clark and Relle, who thus ended the match with an impressive 7 points (later attributed by the NEWS team to excessive consumption of "loopy juice"). Meanwhile, Surridge and

Norman scored a 5-2 win after a protracted pot-out by Surridge in which his winks spent most of their time at the edges of the mat. Thus Boyce and Chamberlin were left in the unenviable position of needing to win 7-0 against Jeffries and Rickard to take the match. Instead, they decided to accept a narrow defeat and went for a 6-1 win (which they duly achieved). Jeffries and Rickard gratefully accepted the point by which NewTS gained a victory which on paper should have been an easy one.

At the end of the day the result will have been quite a shock for Charles Relle (despite being numbed by quantities of his cider), but for Southampton the match will be invaluable practice for their Silver Wink defence.

The 1986 Varsity Match

Nick Inglis

Wadham College, Oxford, 22nd February

This, the first Varsity match for four years was enlivened by the presence of film crews from BBC Grandstand and Australia's Channel 10, and for the first twenty minutes of the match it looked as if they might even have a sensational result to record. I found myself roped in to advise the BBC crew who were closely following the match between Tony Brennan & Richard Brownsword and James Robertson & Stew Sage. In the unaccustomed role of observer I watched with some trepidation as the Oxford pair began to dominate, while at the other end of the room Duncan Budd had decided to interrupt his pot-out attempt by subbing under a doubleton. The other two games seemed to be being tightly contested and so for a while it looked as if Oxford might win the first round. In the end James & Stew managed a slight recovery and might have scored more than 3 had James not spectacularly missed the pot in round 5. The remaining games must all have swung Cambridge's way fairly late on and so the Cambridge team were able to retire for a swift lunch with a respectable 21-7 lead. Oxford, with one win to their credit, could also feel reasonably pleased with themselves.

I gave an interview to the Australian Crew before setting off for lunch and, after partaking of some Antipodean hospitality in the pub, I returned to the match expecting to find the second round in progress. I was astonished to discover that Cambridge had in fact wrapped up the second round with a score of 26-2 and were close to securing the 9

and a bit points needed for victory. This rather set the pattern for the rest of the match with Cambridge scoring a succession of 7's to retain the Varsity Trophy by the impressive margin of 98-14. The Oxford performance was in fact a good deal better than this scoreline suggests, and the inevitably inexperienced Oxford side was unlucky to come up against a Cambridge team which is the most ruthlessly effective that I've seen at crushing novices.

OUTS

		Tony Brennan	Michael Coleman	Mark Conway	Barry Hilken	
		Richard Brownsword	Kath Henson	Steve Scruton	Steve Sneider	
C	James Robertson	4	1	0	1	22
	Stew Sage	3	6	7	6	
U	Tim Hedger	1	1	0	0	26
	Peter Wright	6	6	7	7	
T	Simon Every	2	0	2	0	24
	Dave Salter	5	7	5	7	
W	Patrick Barrie	2	0	0	0	26
	Duncan Budd	5	7	7	7	
C		9	2	2	1	

CUTWC 98

OUTS 14

The Emergence of a New Force

Mike Surridge

An Unofficial Biography of Alan Boyce

Hidden in the back streets of the old half of Southampton University is a small house called "Transportation Research Group". The casual visitor will immediately notice the piles of computer output, terminals, cups of very old coffee and the usual assortment of aging academics. To the trained eye, however, the strange round lumps of plastic, rolled blankets and red egg-cups provide compelling evidence that this is a major centre of Winking activity.

Further investigation yields the name of Dr. Alan Boyce. A man who until recently has been scant attention, but who now, inexplicably, has come to the fore of British Winks. A man on the very edge of World Domination.

But what is the Alan Boyce story? What can account for his meteoric rise to fame, and why was he for so long regarded as a man of limited winking means? Now at last the story can be told.

I first met Alan Boyce in October 1980 when he was in his final undergraduate year at Southampton University, and had been playing winks for some 2 years.

It is now extremely difficult to find any mention of those years as Dr. Boyce has taken extraordinary measures to destroy all records from the period. It is known that he was involved in a Silver Wink match during the 1978/79 season, when Southampton were crushed by a very strong Cambridge team. It seems that this spectacular failure is typical of the period, as the name Boyce is noticeably absent from every trophy contested at this time. A major effort in investigative journalism has revealed only one notable incident in the young Boyce's career. It appears that after an excess of beer he achieved the most promising throw-up of 1979, encompassing most of a Student Union coach. For this, Alan was awarded the title "Thrower" by a Dr. G. Josland and Mr. A. Hopkins, to whom I am indebted for telling me the story.

It was in November 1980 when Alan Boyce took his first steps towards stardom. This was in another Silver Wink match against the mighty Cambridge team. I was lucky enough to be involved in this match after only a month in winks, and can recall the major contribution Alan made to the magnificent Southampton victory. He partnered Mr. Nigel Parsons (later

to become renowned as the Megacrudder), but of far greater consequence than his play that day was his decision not to drive the minibus.

At that time Alan Boyce was regarded by Sotwink members as the man most likely to make a cock-up of an apparently straightforward shot (e.g. a squop). Novices were divided into two groups - those who could beat Alan and those who could not. However, even in those days he was reckoned to be a very astute tactician, and rarely did he miss a round 5 pot unless there was good reason to attempt it.

I first partnered Alan in the Hampshire Open in 1981. We probably missed more shots than any other pair before or since, and achieved a relatively low result. But during the tournament I first saw that flash of brilliance which Alan reserves for people who take the piss out of him - he unexpectedly failed to miss any shots in rounds to beat Hopkins and Josland, then the highest rated Sotwink pair.

Shortly after this I achieved my first 7-0 win over Alan (followed some ten minutes later by my second), and my own winking career entered a new phase. Qualification for the finals in the 1981 National Singles (when I finished seventh) placed me in a category above the likes of Boyce. My partner from this time was Graham Josland, and as the Megastars we began to show consistently good form in tournaments. In contrast to this, Alan had reached the Nadir of his career, and many people inside and outside of Sotwink began to write him off as a player.

Nobody could deny his contribution to the game of winks, however, because like the good team player he is, Alan took to driving the Sotwink minibus, taking years off all our lives with his creative pile-play. Individual success came his way when I carried him to second place in the 1982 Hants Open and to victory in 1983, whilst Phil Clark somehow managed to reach the final of the 1983 London Open in spite of him.

By the end of 1983 Alan Boyce was better known for his appalling winks than for his vomiting. He formed part of the 1984 Southampton Silver Wink team - possibly the most formidable University team since Alan Dean's devastating teams of the early seventies. The star-studded line-up included Carrington, Cartwright, Clark, Ferguson, Josland and Surridge, and it was no surprise when Southampton regained the Silver Wink with an easy win over Cambridge.

Alan put some effort into keeping his quota of awful shots to the minimum and performed quite well despite being paired with the weakest component of the team (Mark Eizzard). However, his reputation preceded him to the offices of the Winking World editor, who made some derogatory statements about the standard of his play.

It was then that Alan Boyce finally found his true vocation - beating the crap out of Charles Relle. A new element of determination entered his game, and the record shows a dramatic improvement. He was a 1984 National Fours winner, and followed this with the 1985 National Pairs and now the 1986 Cambridge Open. In each of these tournaments Charles Relle was beaten into second place. A less well publicized result is the 7-0 by which Alan beat Charles in a recent Sotwink versus London match. All the evidence suggests that it might be time for Charles to apologize for casting doubts over the 1984 Sotwink Captain's ability to play winks, although it seems unlikely that this would stop his tremendous run of success at all.

Proverb: those who take the piss out of Alan Boyce are advised to wear a yellow crash-hat.

The 1986 Hampshire Open

Phil Clark

Southampton University 1st March

A considerable amount of overnight snow would appear to be no deterrent to a determined winker for thirty-one arrived at the West Common Room for the 1986 Hants Open (when I reported the event in 1984 there were 11 competitors of whom 6 were at the University). The field was by and large an experienced one; however there were first tournament appearances for Stef Norman (Soton), Richard Brownsword (Oxford) and Jon Mapley's son Owen, the second father-son participation in as many tournaments.

Extra tables having been found and everyone squeezed in the tournament was played as a six round Swiss ably organized by Steve Harbron. Early results saw a surprise 5-2 defeat of the holders Relle & Thorpe at the hands of the aforementioned overseer and the much publicised Carlaw. After three rounds Dean & Cartwright, Mach & Ferguson, Sage

Hampshire Open Swiss Section

Opponents	Score
Running Total	

1	Mike Surridge & Stef Norman	11 5	7 4	12 3	16 1	9 0	3 0	15
2	Jim Carrington & Nick Inglis	5	9	12	13	13	13	5
3	Tim Hedger & Peter Wright	15 2	8 1	13 4	5 5½	11 6	16 6	10
4	Stew Sage & Dave Salter	2	3	7	12½	18½	26½	3
5	John Carlaw & Steve Harbron	6 4	12 1	9 3	11 2	13 3	1 7	11=
6	Sean Mayes & Andy Purvis	4	5	8	10	13	20	7=
7	Phil Rodgers	7 2½	11 6	14 5½	15 5	16 6	12 1½	14
8	Charles Relle & Geoff Thorpe	2½	8½	14	19	25	26½	6
9	Jon Mapley & Owen Mapley	8 5	15 1	17 2	2 1½	6 3	13 6	4
10	Alan Boyce & Phil Clark	5	6	8	9½	12½	18½	13
11	Julius Mach & Jon Ferguson	3 3	14 1	11 1	13 6	5 4	7 6	2
12	Nigel Parsons & Kev Beck	3	4	5	11	15	21	16
13	Graham Josland & Nigel Minchin	4 4½	1 3	8 6	12 1	17 2	6 1	11=
14	Rob Cartwright & Alan Dean	4½	7½	13½	14½	16½	17½	1
15	Tony Brennan & Richard Brownsword	5 2	2 6	7 1	9 5	14 7	15 2	7=
16	Nick May & Steve Chamberlin	16 1	13 5	3 4	8 2	1 7	17 6	7=
17		1	6	10	12	19	25	
		1 2	4 1	6 6	3 5	2 1	14 3	
		2	3	9	14	15	18	
		14 4	3 6	1 4	7 6	15 2	4 5½	
		4	10	14	20	22	27½	
		17 1	9 2	2 3	6 1	3 4	5 1	
		1	3	6	7	11	12	
		12 3	6 6	4 1½	17 4	8 0	11 4	
		3	9	10½	14½	14½	18½	
		2 5	5 6	16 6	4 2	12 5	8 5	
		5	11	17	19	24	29	
		9 6	17 6	15 1	1 6	4 1	2 1	
		6	12	13	19	20	21	
		13 6	16 1	5 5	14 3	7 5	9 1	
		6	7	12	15	20	21	

Play-off: Dean/Cartwright 5½(34½) - Mach/Ferguson 1½(29)

% Salter and (solo) Rodgers emerged from the pack as pacesetters, Rodgers' confidence no doubt boosted by 6 points from his round three game with Relle and Thorpe. It would certainly appear that top players can no longer rest on their laurels (I've always found a chair more comfortable) since there are numerous players quite capable of causing an upset. Charles anyway was to be observed staring disconsolately into his cider as if the answer to these upstarts lay somewhere within.

Losing only to the Mapley combo Dean and Cartwright always looked likely finalists and they made sure of their position by 5-2 wins over Mach and Ferguson then Relle and Thorpe. With other teams taking points off each other and bunched around a similar score which was never quite enough it was left to Mach and Ferguson and Sage and Salter to contest the final place. Meeting in a crucial round 6 match the Cambridge pair needed just 2½ points but in a long, tight battle they went down 5½-1½. Interestingly a 5-2 would have resulted in a tie for which Harbron was busily devising qualifying rules which made the administrators of Cricketing one-day competitions appear "absolute beginners".

So to the final, contested between players who had no idea who they were top partner when they arrived. With a 1½ point advantage carried forward from rounds Dean and Cartwright needed just 3 points for victory and set about securing this minimum requirement with businesslike efficiency. Mach and Ferguson were always struggling to score more than 4 and going for the win their risks did not pay off and eventually they succumbed 5½-1½ leaving Dean and Cartwright worthy victors with 34½ points. One should however applaud the effort of the runners-up especially considering that neither was in regular practice.

All in all the tournament must go down as a success and with only 9 points separating 3rd and 14th place there was sustained interest for most entrants. It is to be hoped that future tournaments can generate similar interest for such can only be beneficial for the game as a whole.

The Marchant Trophy

Nick Inglis

The Marchant Trophy has seen more activity this year than for many years. It was run as an all-play-all for teams of four, to finish on the 1st October regardless of whether any games remained to be played, and with the result to be decided on the total number of game points. The Varsity Match also doubled as CUTWC A & B versus OUTS A & B. These gave 48 points to CUTWC A and 50 to CUTWC B, leaving CUTWC in a strong position. The day after the Hampshire Open a series of five games (see below) were played by CUTWC, SOTWINK and WETS (Wessex Exiles). These put SOTWINK A in a very strong position, which has since been consolidated by a big victory over Oxford and a 17-11 victory over SOTWINK B. Therefore by my calculations SOTWINK A have won the Marchant Trophy and we offer them our warmest congratulations.

WETS

Jim Carrington Phil Clark

Rob Cartwright Jon Ferguson

S

O Steve Chamberlin

T Mike Surridge

W

I Alan Boyce

N Nick May

K

A

1 6	1 6	12
1½ 5½	5 2	7½
2½	6	

WETS 8½ SOTWINK A 19½

CUTWC A

Tim Hedger Nick Inglis
 Peter Wright Stew Sage

S

O Nick May

T Mike Surridge

W

I Alan Boyce

N Steve Chamberlin

K

A

1	6	1	7
6	1	6	7
12	2		

CUTWC A 14

SOTWINK A 14

CUTWC C

Phil Rodgers Sean Mayes
 David Salter Andy Purvis

W Jim Carrington

E Rob Cartwright

T

S Phil Clark

Jon Ferguson

5	2	1	11
2	5	3	6
7	4		

CUTWC C 11

WETS 17

CUTWC A

Tim Hedger Nick Inglis
Peter Wright Stew Sage

W Jim Carrington
E Rob Cartwright
T
S Phil Clark
Jon Ferguson

<div>2</div> <div>5</div>	<div>3½</div> <div>3½</div>	<div>8½</div>
<div>3</div> <div>4</div>	<div>2</div> <div>5</div>	<div>9</div>
<div>5</div>	<div>5½</div>	

CUTWC A 10½ WETS 17½

CUTWC C

Phil Rodgers Sean Mayes
David Salter Andy Purvis

S
O Graham Josland
T Mike Surridge
W
I Alan Boyce
N Steve Chamberlin
K
A

<div>0</div> <div>7</div>	<div>1</div> <div>6</div>	<div>13</div>
<div>0</div> <div>7</div>	<div>1</div> <div>6</div>	<div>13</div>
<div>0</div>	<div>2</div>	

CUTWC C 2 SOTWINK A 26

On Larry Kahn, Free Turns and Other Matters

Charles Relle

Larry's remarks on free turns, or go's, in WW47 are interesting, but seem not to take account of one important situation: what happens if a partnership is squopped up after the time limit?

Counting as Larry does, suppose you are playing green and yellow, and that yellow ends. In round one, with yellow and blue already covered, green squops the last red. There are three free greens, so green has a "go" in each of rounds two, three and four, and must free in round five. Now suppose that there is a yellow free at the start. Green squops the last red in round one (remember blue is already covered), and now there are four free turns, not three, as follows: yellow in round one, green and yellow in round two, green in round three. Yellow must free at the end of three. One more free turn; the opponents freed two rounds earlier: surely this is an anomaly. Further complications arise if green frees a yellow during free turns, or go's. This is why the ETWA rule is as it is, and why there has been much discussion of it in print and elsewhere.

It is worth quoting the wording I have evolved for the desquop rule. "These (the free) turns are shared between the two colours in normal rotation, even if one colour is unable to play on a particular turn or turns. The desquopping shot must occur no later than the first shot of the turn following the completion of the free turns. If the squopping partnership cannot free at this turn, they must free at an earlier turn. If, at the time when a squop-up occurs, the squopping partnership can play no turn until after a wink is due to be freed, it must free at the first available turn."

The last sentence I owe to Geoff Thorpe. There are unsolved problems. They relate to problems raised by Geoff in WW46.

Case 1. Yellow and blue squopped up: green squops last red and goes off with his only other wink. There is one free turn, but he cannot free until turn four. This may not matter during time, for the game is not advanced by three passed turns, but during rounds it may be vital.

Case 2. In rounds, yellow and blue are squopped up: green has one free wink and (say) attempts a pot from distance, and glances from the pot off the mat. Red now pots his only free winks. Once again the situation of Case 1 turns up,

though red can be said to have brought it upon himself. He is in a real dilemma, though: potting should not penalise him, but it does.

In fact, the simplest thing to do is to alter the rule on boundaries, either so that there is no penalty for sending a wink off the mat, or so that we adopt the suggestion of Joe Sachs described in WW47 by Larry Kahn.

The Silver Wink 1985-6

Nick Inglis

This year we saw three teams in the Silver Wink and it was agreed to play an all-play-all with the result decided by the number of wins by each team. The first match was the Varsity Match which went to form with Cambridge winning 99-14. The crucial match between Southampton and Cambridge was played in Cambridge on the 8th of March.

Southampton arrived late due to a series of misfortunes which Steve Harbron promised to chronicle in an article for Winking World (I'll believe that when I see it) and so we had lunch before starting play. The first round featured a confrontation between Steve Harbron and me which inevitably involved a complex pile reconstruction. We eventually managed to win this 6-1, but Alan Boyce and Mike Surridge had both led their pairs to 5-2 victories and, more surprisingly, Nick May & Steve Chamberlin had beaten Tim Hedger & Peter Wright 4½-2½, so Southampton took a 15½-12½ lead. In the second round Cambridge won three games by small margins, but Southampton still extended their lead by 2 points. The third round saw the rather overdue Cambridge fightback and Cambridge won the round 16½-11½ to pull back to within a half point of Southampton, reviving memories of the very close Silver Wink matches of 3 or 4 years ago. In the event, however, Southampton ran away with the last round and finally won by the comfortable margin of 62½-49½.

This was a most impressive achievement by Southampton, who went on to beat Oxford and take the Silver for the third successive year. On the other hand it was a ghastly performance by Cambridge and this result should be taken as a dire warning to future Cambridge teams.

SOTWINK

Steve Chamberlin	John Carlaw	Alan Boyce	Stef Norman
Nick May	Steve Harbron	Edward Harry	Mike Surridge

	Tim Hedger	4^2_3	3	3	2	
C	Peter Wright	2^1_3	4	4	5	15^1_3
	Simon Every	6	1	4	3	
U	Nick Inglis	1	6	3	4	14
	James Robertson	6	4^1_2	5	5	
T	Stew Sage	1	2^1_2	2	2	7^1_2
	Patrick Barrie	1	3	6	5	
W	Duncan Budd	6	4	1	2	13
C		17^2_3	11^1_2	18	15	

CUTWC 49⁵₆SOTWINK 62¹₆

Adventures of a Secretary - Part One

Phil Clark

Under normal circumstances not a great deal happens during the year, winks-wise, to the secretary of the English Tiddlywinks Association. I mean, a few newssheets, the odd 'phone call and just occasionally someone moves, remembers to send notification and so the mailing list changes. Great stuff. The present incumbent, for instance, was fairly certain that nothing whatsoever would happen between the Hants and the Pairs; the squidger would remain drawer-bound. Of course as soon as you tell yourself something like this, life seems to take pleasure in proving you wrong.

So into the tranquility of a day in the office comes a 'phone call from Charles Relle, "Would I like a few games one evening? Shall we say the day after tomorrow?" "Why certainly Charles, whyever not." So, off to Catford (rare excitement this) for five games over which I hope I made a reasonable fight then, armed with timetables many and various, it was time to find out whether or not I had worked out the last trains correctly. For once all ran smoothly.

Next day, back at work and recovered from Charles' hospitality, another 'phone call.

"I have a Tim Jeffreys on the line for you Phil," says Claire. Oh.

"Hello Tim"

"How about a few games of winks on Sunday?"

"Well, okay..." I'd actually promised myself a lazy weekend, curled up with a good book, the Test Match on, you know the sort of thing. Anyhow now I had a choice, Tim Jeffreys or Malcolm Marshall, tough decision.

Sunday morning at the crack of 8am onto the perils of British Rail once more. Somehow I managed to arrive at the right place, the Pinner Community Centre, at the appointed hour. A new venue this but a good one: sturdy tables of the correct size, good lighting and plenty of nearby pubs. What more could one ask? Well add in half a dozen or so keen new players and things are better still. No rabbits these players, Tim seems to have taught them well and the presence of Batham who played in the 1984 Pairs has helped. I left impressed with the efforts that had been made.

I write this retrospectively, the Pairs has now taken place, and this time I know that nothing will happen before the London Open.

The 1986 National Pairs

Nick Inglis

Queens' College, Cambridge, 26th/27th April

1986 saw the Pairs return to the Old Hall, Queens' College, with its restrained décor and subdued lighting. It also saw a large enough entry to allow a return to the traditional format of an all-play-all with the top four pairs playing a further three games against each other. It was particularly nice to see three members of the Pinner club taking part.

At the outset it looked as though Dean & Mapley and Relle & Surridge would qualify fairly easily with the remaining two places being contested by Carrington & Josland, Cartwright & Clark, Hedger & Wright, Inglis & Barrie, Sage & Salter and those perennial Pairs qualifiers, Thorpe & Hull. Dave Lockwood was unable to attend, and Alan Boyce was partnering the inexperienced Clive Gabriel, so the trophy seemed certain to change hands. In the event things worked out rather differently. After the eight rounds played on the first day Carrington & Josland lead on 43, with Relle & Surridge 1 point behind, and Thorpe & Hull on 41. Hedger & Wright were in fourth with 39 points, including 4 from their match against Relle & Surridge, while Jeffries & Scarrott had astonished most of the pundits by holding fifth place with 33½. Most surprising, Mapley and Dean had only 28 from 7 games (their match against Budd & Pennycook was played on the second day), including 0 from their encounter with the impertinent Cartwright & Clark!

On the Saturday evening the CUTWC members did their sporting best to improve(?) the chances of those staying overnight, by introducing everyone to the noble and ancient games of *Squop*, *Bristol*, *John Lennon Memorial Shot* and *Nurdle*, *Boondock*, *Gromp*. I don't have a crystal-clear recollection of the events of that evening, but I do remember that it was all made much worse by having to watch Geoff Thorpe consume five pints of Coke and Tomato Juice.

The second day was, unfortunately, marred by the withdrawal of Richard Silcock and Tom Drummond. It was decided to ignore all the scores involving this pair and in the event it made no difference to who qualified, but even though the scores were all 6's and 7's they might have been crucial; it would have been most unfortunate if a pair who had beaten Silcock & Drummond 6-1 had edged out, by ½ a point, a pair who had taken 7 off Silcock & Drummond. It

really cannot be overstated that anyone entering an all-play-all section of a tournament has a duty to play until the conclusion of the all-play-all section, no matter how badly they are doing. I find it rather sad that a run of poor results on the first day should make some players wish to give up. Most players begin their careers by coming bottom of the odd tournament, but it's possible to improve rapidly if you stick at it; David Salter and Sean Mayes both managed to score almost nothing in the National Singles, but a few months later both were featuring prominently in major tournaments.

On the Sunday Relle & Surridge imaginatively churned out a string of 6's against the top half of the draw to qualify easily. Their nearest rivals were Hedger & Wright whose score of 57½ included a 5-2 against Dean & Mapley which looked impossible going into rounds, and a quite ridiculous 6-1 against Inglis & Barrie when they'd been dead and buried until late in rounds. In fact Tim & Peter beat all their major rivals - quite a feat, especially as Tim had only been playing for eighteen months. The final two places went to Carrington & Josland and (yet again!) Thorpe & Hull after Dean & Mapley had only managed 4 points from their last game, playing Plan 49 against Boyce & Gabriel. This is the first time that either Alan or Jon has failed to reach the final stages of a National tournament and may mean that they'll be even more determined than usual when the Singles comes around.

Relle & Surridge went into the final section with a lead of 7½, and immediately increased it by beating Thorpe & Hull 6-1 while Hedger & Wright went down 4-3 to Carrington & Josland. Jim & Graham now needed 14 from two games to have any chance of taking the title and although they beat Charles & Mike 5-2, a 6-1 victory for Geoff & Dave over Tim & Peter was enough to give victory to Charles Relle & Mike Surridge. Congratulations to Mike for his first Pairs title, and to Charles for his nth (third?). The final stages were also something of a triumph for Jim Carrington & Graham Josland who, almost unnoticed, climbed to an impressive second place. Perhaps, though, the most encouraging performances came from Tim Jeffries & Phil Scarrott and Sean Mayes & Andy Purvis who finished sixth and seventh above a number of notable persons including the former champion and three ETWA committee members.

	National Pairs	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Tot	Pos
1	Geoff Thorpe Dave Hull	—	1	6	2	6	2	6	2	6	6	5	6	4	6	52	4
2	Charles Relle Mike Surridge	6	—	6	6	6	6	6	3	3	5	6	6	6	7	65	1
3	Stew Sage Dave Salter	1	1	—	1	5½	1	1	1	4	2	5	7	2½	6	32	10
4	Jim Carrington Graham Josland	5	1	6	—	5	5	3	1½	3½	6	6	5½	6	6	53½	2
5	Alan Boyce Clive Gabriel	1	1	1½	2	—	3	5½	1	2	5½	1	4	1	6	28½	11=
6	Alan Dean Jon Mapley	5	1	6	2	4	—	6	2	6	0	6	6	6	7	50	5
7	Nick Inglis Patrick Barrie	1	1	6	4	1½	1	—	1	1	5	6	5	1	6	33½	9
8	Tim Hedger Peter Wright	5	4	6	5½	6	5	6	—	2	3	3	6	6	7	57½	3
9	Tim Jeffries Phil Scarrott	1	4	3	3½	5	1	6	5	—	4	4	6	2	—	44½	6
10	Rob Cartwright Phil Clark	1	2	5	1	1½	7	2	4	3	—	6	5	1	—	38½	8
11	Duncan Budd Frank Pennycook	2	1	2	1	6	1	1	4	3	1	—	2	4½	—	28½	11=
12	Phil Taylor Alex Satchell	1	1	0	1½	3	1	2	1	1	2	5	—	4	—	22½	13
13	Sean Mayes Andy Purvis	3	1	4½	1	6	1	6	1	5	6	2½	3	—	—	40	7
14	Richard Silcock Tom Drummond	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	

Final Section

Relle & Surridge	65	4	2	6	77	1st
Hedger & Wright	57½	3		3	1	64½ 3rd
Carrington & Josland	53½	5	4		5	67½ 2nd
Thorpe & Hull	52	1	6	2		61 4th

Legalia

Charles Relle

I start with a problem put to me by Jon Mapley. "Imagine a blue", he says, "squopping the last green, with other blues free. If blue pots both the green and his own wink, then pots the remaining blues in the same turn, could he claim, under the existing Rules, that a tie for first place has occurred? Logic says not, but I wouldn't like to have to resolve the point in the heat of the moment, after the occurrence."

In this situation green has won and blue is second. There is no statement to this effect in the rules, but their intention is clear from Rule 9, which enjoins desquopping immediately after a colour has potted out. Rule 11, on scoring, supports this.

The distinction between shot and turn appears here. In this case Rick Tucker's valuable formulary applies: "The state of the game is sampled when each shot is completed". Now suppose blue plays his turn in reverse sequence, ending with the blue-green doubleton pot. This is a tie for first place; we do not have to watch to see which wink enters the pot first.

Here is another problem: I quote Jonathan again "In the London Open Final at Westfield... I suspected Alan (Dean) was going to break the rules, and I almost willed him to do it. Should I have pointed it out in advance? It would have given me no chance of winning if I had. Alan was playing free turns and needed to pot not only a wink which was covering one of mine (the shot was not trivial) but also a

free wink. After completion of the free turns, he potted the free wink, and before he could attempt the next shot, I stopped him and claimed a foul shot. We restored the situation by removing the wink from the pot and replacing it in its original position, whereupon he promptly replayed the turn by potting off me and subsequently potted the free wink as well, to win the game.

"Could I have claimed a free turn? Ideally, my recompense for the commission of the illegality would have been to leave the potted wink where it was, with the turn at an end, and invoke the "failure to free" principle. I could have potted something like three winks if the right wink had been moved aside!"

I hope Jon will not accuse me of quoting him out of context! He raises difficult questions. Should you warn the opponent if he is about to break the law? My answer is yes, though others may disagree. Should you, as umpire, warn a player if he is about to break the law? Surely, yes. If, as shot-judge, you see a player is going to commit a foul shot, you say so; you do not, masochistically, land yourself with a pile to rebuild. Most of the time an umpire is not present, and I would like to see in Tiddlywinks the principle used in Croquet: "In the absence of a referee, the players themselves are referees". This demands a high standard of sportsmanship, but why not?

Jon claimed a foul shot, and the correct remedy was applied. Could he have claimed a foul turn? No; there is no such thing. If you pot a wink and then play a foul desquop or boondock, the pot shot does not have to be retracted. The position restored is that before the commission of the foul. It is the shot that is foul, not the turn.

Could Jon have invoked the "failure to free" rule? As the rules stand, yes. However, I think the rule needs to be altered. In all other foul-shot situations we either go back to the beginning of the turn or allow it to be completed, and this ought to be the same. If a player persists in playing the wrong wink, he becomes liable under rule 13(c) (deliberate interference).

If Alan had potted the free wink, and followed by freeing Jon's wink, what would Jon's rights have been then? The same as in the actual case, for his side had not condoned the foul by itself playing (or acknowledging that the match was at an end). Does this invalidate my statement that there is

no such thing as a foul turn? No: the example I gave above is different in that the foul shot instanced there was the last of a sequence, not the first. Here the situation is analogous to that of one who pots several winks out of turn (Carrington's case WW45 pp 9 & 23).

I now turn to the discussing by Geoff Thorpe in WW46 of some of my proposals for out-of-turn situations. First this: red is squopped up, and this sequence occurs; blue, green, green, yellow. Geoff, contrary to me, thinks yellow and green can be made to retract. I have sympathy with this view, which seems to have natural justice on its side. What do others think?

Second, Geoff says it is impossible to play out of turn when you have free turns. So, if it is red's turn and blue plays (green and yellow being all squopped) red has passed. If blue pots six you cannot make him take them out and ask red to play! I disagree: if red does not play or indicate a pass, blue is out of turn and can be made to retract. This case is closely analogous to Geoff's other case, and both need discussion.

The 1986 London Open

Phil Clark

Pinner Community Centre 12th June

The London Open has always been somewhat nomadic in character and this year saw the tradition continue with the tournament held at another new venue - the Pinner Community Centre. That we came to be there was largely due to the efforts of Tim Jeffries and there was some anxiety that there should be a reasonable turnout. However no one should have worried, people came pouring in and by the time the tournament started (promptly) at 11 there were 16 pairs.

The format was settled as a six round swiss with the usual "sudden death" semi and best of three final. A two minute rule in rounds was announced and with games lasting only twenty minutes the schedule was by no means an impossible one to complete.

There was added interest in the form of TV cameras and a reporter from Channel 9 of Australia, coming no doubt to

reinforce their view of the eccentricities of the English. Anyhow while the innumerate tournament director was puzzling over the format lights were being erected around a table and with the draw for the first round made it transpired that Hull, Thorpe, Josland and myself had drawn the short straw. It certainly adds a new dimension to the game to play a shot while sweating under spotlights with a camera visible through one eye and a microphone through the other!

Meanwhile back to the tournament: in the two rounds before lunch there were no great shocks, all the "fancied" pairs were there or thereabouts with Dean and Relle and Brennan and Edwards having their noses in front. It was during lunch that the day's complication arose with four Cambridge players arriving late due to mechanical problems en route. One round to catch up was played during lunch with Purvis and Mayes, surprisingly to some perhaps, beating Inglis and Sage 6-1. The problem was, how to accommodate their missing round two with the tournament about to restart. For the purposes of the draw both pairs were allocated $3\frac{1}{2}$ points and since there was not going to be time to play the missing round three alternatives were presented:

(i) Both pairs forfeit their $3\frac{1}{2}$ points and score 0.

(ii) The $3\frac{1}{2}$ points stand as their score.

(iii) An average be taken of the five rounds they play to replace the $3\frac{1}{2}$ points at the end.

After discussion it was decided to adopt the latter course since at this time it was felt to be fairest to all concerned, however more of this anon.

During the afternoon Relle and Dean continued their winning ways to remain in front and with solid performances from several pairs just behind them the composition of the semi-finals was never clearcut. The current holders Thorpe and Hull, were unable to repeat their form of the previous year and at the end of round 6 Dean and Relle were clear on 32 points with Brennan and Edwards (28) and Boyce and Surridge (27) filling two of the remaining places. It appeared that Mapley and Cartwright had secured the final place with a score of 26 but then came the averaging adjustment for the latecomers. Purvis and Mayes had finished on $25\frac{1}{2}$ including the nominal $3\frac{1}{2}$ but with an average score of 4.4 over 5 rounds substituted they clinched the place with an adjusted score of 26.4 .

From an outside view this appears unfair however it should be noted that Purvis and Mayes had to play in the top half of the draw throughout, beating Mapley and Cartwright

London Open Swiss Section

Opponents	Score
Running Total	

1	Tim Hedger	7	2	3	2	14	6	13	4	16	7	12	1	6=
	Charles Jeffries	2		4		10		14		21		22		
2	Alan Dean	9	6	14	6	12	5	7	6	18	5	3	4	1
	Charles Relle	6		12		17		23		28		32		
3	Alan Boyce	15	4	1	5	11	6	18	3	7	6	2	3	3
	Mike Surridge	4		9		15		18		24		27		
4	Ken Zetie	8	1	6	4	16	1	14	5	9	3	10	4	12=
	Michael Coleman	1		5		6		11		14		18		
5	Dave Hull	11	3	8	7	7	1	12	5	15	3	18	2	9
	Geoff Thorpe	3		10		11		16		19		21		
6	Clive Gabriel	12	0	4	3	9	4	8	5	13	4½	11	3	11
	Roddy Stein	0		3		7		12		16½		19½		
7	Steve Harbron	1	5	16	6	5	6	2	1	3	1	15	1	10
	Jim Carrington	5		11		17		18		19		20		
8	Phil Rodgers	4	6	5	0	13	2½	6	2	14	3½	16	4	12=
	David Evers	6		6		8½		10½		14		18		
9	Tim Jeffries	2	1	12	2	6	3	10	1½	4	4	14	6	14
	Phil Scarrott	1		3		6		7½		11½		17½		
10	Zog	16	3	15	1	17	2½	9	5½	11	1	4	3	17
	Robert Baldwin	3		4		6½		11½		12½		15½		
11	Graham Josland	5	4	13	5	3	1	17	2	10	6	6	4	6=
	Phil Clark	4		9		10		12		18		22		
12	Tony Brennan	6	7	9	5	2	2	5	2	17	6	1	6	2
	Cyril Edwards	7		12		14		16		22		29		
13	Alex Satchell	14	4	11	2	8	4½	1	3	6	2½	17	1	15
	Rod Lees	4		6		10½		13½		16		17		
14	Dan Piponi	13	3	2	1	1	1	4	2	8	3½	9	1	18
	Andy Lomas	3		4		5		7		10½		11½		
15	Jon Mapley	3	3	10	6	18	2	16	5	5	4	7	6	5
	Rob Cartwright	3		9		11		16		20		26		
16	Gary Shrimpton	10	4	7	1	4	6	15	2	1	0	8	3	16
	Mike Shaw	4		5		11		13		13		16		
17	Nick Inglis	18	1	10	4½	11	5	12	1	13	6	Av	3½	8
	Stew Sage	1		5½		10½		11½		17½		21½		
18	Andy Purvis	17	6	15	5	3	4	2	2	5	5	Av	4½	4
	Sean Mayes	6		11		15		17		22		26½		

in round 3 and losing only to Dean and Relle. So ultimately they merited their place in the semi-final.

So to the semi-finals of which your reporter saw very little finding himself in the unaccustomed position of facing the TV cameras elsewhere. However I can report that Dean and Relle beat Purvis and Mayes 6-1 while in a much closer game Surridge and Boyce beat Edwards and Brennan 4-3. The latter pair appeared to have this game in their grasp but a spate of missed pots in rounds let it slip away.

By this stage of the day time was running short and there was little time left before we had to vacate the premises. It was unfortunate that slow play in the afternoon together with an unwillingness by players to enforce the two minute rule in rounds meant that the final could not possibly be completed. I hesitate to comment since I know I'm not exactly the fastest player around but surely it is time that players kept an eye on the needs of the tournament as a whole and speeded up their play where necessary to ensure that the programme can be completed. If a two minute rule in rounds is stipulated then it should be enforced, this would help cut out those protracted tactical discussions which take time, hold up a tournament, and make rounds drag on interminably.

In the one game of the final which was played Boyce and Surridge beat Dean and Relle 3-2 and it was agreed to finish the match at a later date, probably at the Fours.

Overall the day must go down as a successful one for winks. Media interest, a large turnout, the return of some "old faces" and several new players were welcome sights. However perhaps the overall winner was the venue itself which provided almost ideal playing conditions.

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