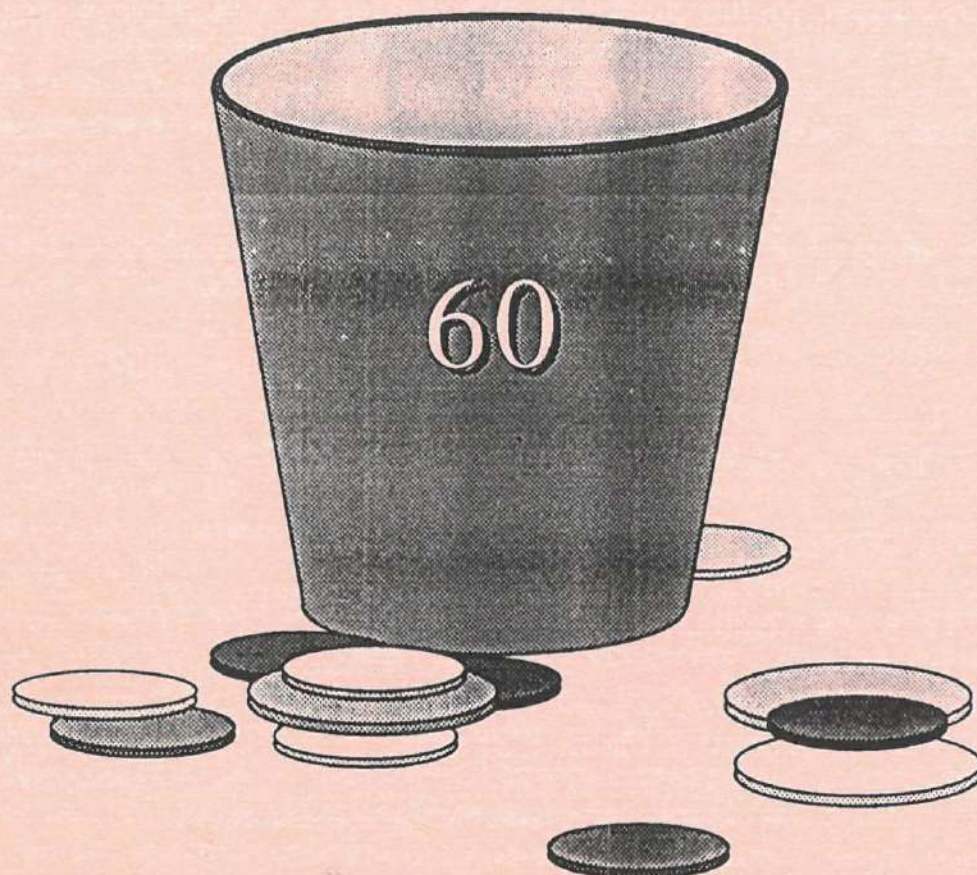


WINKING



WORLD

The Official Journal of the
English Tiddlywinks Association

March 1993

Contents

Editorial Rabbitings.....	<i>El Ed.</i>	3
Squeal squeal		
The National Teams of Four	<i>Dave Clarkson</i>	4
The spelling of "squop" has been corrected by the Editor		
Winks in Scotland	<i>Graham Turnbull</i>	7
Far far away, in another land, lives a winks club...		
Simultaneous Winks: Myers & Kahn vs. OUTS	<i>Andy Purvis</i>	8
Geoff & Larry pretend to be grandmasters		
Auntie Gertie's Problem Corner.....	<i>Auntie Gertie</i>	10
What happens if an irresistible force hits an immovable object?		
World Singles 37.....	<i>Andy Purvis</i>	10
Myers pots his way to victory		
The Clicking of Cuthbert	<i>Katherine Woolfitt</i>	13
The 1992 National Singles		
<i>Blue Division</i>	<i>Geoff Myers</i>	14
<i>Green Division</i>	<i>Geoff Thorpe</i>	15
<i>Red Division</i>	<i>Andy Purvis</i>	16
<i>Yellow Division</i>	<i>Jon Mapley</i>	17
<i>Brown Division</i>	<i>Rob Cartwright</i>	18
<i>The Final</i>	<i>Patrick Barrie</i>	19
Last round drama gives Purvis the championship		
The 6th Somerset Invitation.....	<i>Patrick Barrie</i>	22
The world's first three day tournament		
Letters to the Editor.....	<i>Correspondents</i>	23
The 1993 Cambridge Open.....	<i>Alasdair Grant</i>	25
Featuring the usual random business		
More Rules Rants OK	<i>Not the Rules Sub-Committee</i>	28
Nick Inglis' World Ratings	<i>A. Programme</i>	30
More seasonally adjusted figures from the Bearded Wonder		

Editorial Rabbitings

by El Ed. (Patrick Barrie)

Yes, *Winking World* is alive, kicking and raring to go in this, its 60th edition. Who would have thought when *Winking World* first started that it would eventually become the standard vehicle for punishment and retribution in the winks world? I certainly didn't, but then I wasn't even alive at the time.

Tiddlywinks is still successfully climbing out of recession in this country, despite no new taxes on ETwA membership. Interest rates have rarely been higher: I played with no less than 7 different partners in 7 rounds in the Teams of "Four", while there were 245 games of winks on the first day of the National Singles alone (a seasonally adjusted increase of 17%). The sterling efforts of Cambridge, Oxford and St Andrews have produced an upturn in the production of novices which can only bode well for the future of the industry. Winks now shares more than one thing in common with equestrianism, and its first three day event took place in Somerset. There's even been a Marchant match this year with the promise of more to come. Those winkers with access to USENET, the international computer bulletin board, have been giving the game useful publicity in the newsgroup alt.games.tiddlywinks. Apart from all this, it's obvious that the whole administration of winks has have gone completely to pot and should be instantly devalued.

Geoff Myers kept the World Singles title in British hands by beating Dave Lockwood in WS37. Geoff had been concerned that the evening start would mean the match going on into the early hours of the next morning, but in the event he ran six in three consecutive games in order to win not only the match, but also to retire to the bar well before closing time. There was also a British winner of the National Singles in a sensational finish: two 7-0's (one from a squop-up, the other amidst chaos in round five) meant that Andy Purvis' miniscule mathematical chance of the title became reality. Charles Relle demonstrated that age is no concern when there's ice on the Cam by winning the Cambridge Open.

I can now reveal that ETwA members come in two categories. There are those who go on stomach-lurching fairground rides in Leicester Square after 6 pints of beer (singing the tiddlywinks anthem during the process), and there are those who are eventually shamed into summoning up the courage to try out the merry-go-round. There are also those winkers who know their American states and those who don't. Stars of the latter category include Anthony Heading, who I gather is still trying to confirm that Rhode Island is indeed a state after several months, and Rick Tucker, who could only think of California when given a choice of fifty or so.

Thanks as ever to all contributors to this issue. It remains most pleasing that so many different people are prepared to write reports and articles for *Winking World*, and I sincerely hope that this continues. Sadly, one or two promised articles have yet to reach me but that's not my fault, honest. Finally, Auntie Gertie would like to thank the well-wisher who sent her an anonymous Christmas card.

The National Teams of Four

Lincoln College, Oxford, 31st October & 1st November 1992

by the most obnoxious wittering winker (alias Dave Clarkson)

Mercifully unaccustomed as I am to writing for, nay reading, *Winking World*, I will be unable to present herein an unexpurgated catalogue of squop and countersquop. The more pertinent details of the winking intrigue that took place must be left to evanesce from the memories of those present.

Indeed so many times has the tiddlywink pot of life been filled with winks, upturned and filled again, so many lectures on phosphatidylinositol phosphates now cram the few non-cirrrosed recesses of my brain that if it were not for the great saffron clad guru this account would be yet more vacuous than it is. How otherwise could I inform you that "We Want A Bye After Lunch" won their immediate post-lunch game both days? For all you acolytes of said educated uakari¹ the results are shown in the table (and wasn't it close).

Round one gave a foretaste of things to come; fully five out of twelve teams could have spent the next two days in the pub and ended in their final positions. "Ratings, Schmatings, Go For The Jaffa" led for the whole tournament; "Betty's Boys", second after the first round slipped to eighth by the end of day 1, overtaken by "Panasonic The Hedgehog" and "Hungover And Nephew" amongst others. Whatever shenanigans occurred that night, "Betty's Boys" came back, winning their last two rounds $22\frac{1}{2}$ - $5\frac{1}{2}$ and $23\frac{1}{2}$ - $4\frac{1}{2}$ on their way to earning second place. No other side scored over 20 points in any round.

Meanwhile my novice partner Ben Deane was getting a touch hopeful of replacing me in the Varsity team as in a single attempt at pile-razing I first potted when trying to bomb from behind the pot, then a squop onto the pile took a horrendous sideways leap into the pot. Finally I attacked the pile from the baseline only to Carnovsky my final free wink. It was at some similar point of reduced tolerance (there were many) that the same novice, enquiring after my face and its similarity to something, discovered that we went to the same school. Beware oiks! Exeter schools takeover of tiddlywinks proceeds apace.

What fun I thought, as I left the roomful of typically light-hearted, cheery and well-oiled winkers, my cockles warm in the knowledge of a Cambridge 1 and 2. A traditional bump-starting of the veritable Pantagruel² of Tiddlywink's car later and I drove into the setting sun. As I trust we all did.

¹ A tree dwelling primate of Amazonia, with a distinctive long orange-red coat. According to one eminent zoologist: "This peculiar monkey's ruddy and drunkard's face would not win it any beauty prizes."

² For the incognisant- Pantagruel is the protagonist of Rabelais' famous satire "The History of Gargantua and Pantagruel". The last of the giants, his name comes from the Gr. panta- all and Arab gruel- thirsty.

- Team A 4 Pints With A Throbbing Head, 3rd=
Tim Jeffreys (6), Phil Scarrott (6), Phil Carmody (4), Tim Batham (2)
- Team B We Want A Bye After Lunch, 3rd=
Geoff Thorpe (6), Steve Phillips (3), Julian Porter (2), Christine Wiggins (2)
- Team C The Retarded Tortoises, 7th=
Patrick Barrie (7), Alan Boyce (6), Joseph Goodman (0), Brian Yamasaki (0), Han Kim (0), Katherine Woolfitt (0), Rob Cartwright (5), Jenny Hall (0)
- Team D Hungover And Nephew, 7th=
Andy Purvis (7), Cyril Edwards (5), Paul Roberts (0), Kevin Hall (0), Christine Hall (0)
- Team E Ratings, Schmatings, Go For The Jaffa, 1st
Simon Gandy (6), Julian Wiseman (5), David Gamez (0), Tom Allen (0)
- Team F Yes, You're Right, We Do, 12th
Jon Carlaw (4), Chris Wilson (4), Simon Julier (3), Elizabeth Whalley (2), Naveed Chaudhri (2)
- Team G That's A Bit Of A Bugger, Isn't It?, 11th
Jon Marchant (5), Dave Clarkson (4), Ben Deane (0), Barnaby Hoyal (0)
- Team H Panasonic The Hedgehog, 9th
Jon Mapley (7), Gavin Keyte(5), Katherine Woolfitt (0), Anthony Heading (5), Sophie Agrell (0)
- Team I Betty's Boys, 2nd
Richard Moore (7), Stew Sage (4), Jon Williams (2), Andrew Dominey (0)
- Team J Small White Teapot With A Rose On It, 5th
Nick Inglis (7), Helen Emes (0), Andrew Garrard (0), Ian Gameson (6), Geoff Myers (7)
- Team K She Gave Me A Kiss In The Torpedo Bay, 10th
Matthew Rose (6), Rupert Thompson (4), David Carslake (0), Andrew Young (0)
- Team L Hamlynians, 6th
James Cullingham (4), Paul Lewis (2), Andy Milligan (2), Chris Goddard (2)

Forthcoming tournaments:
(confirmation by newsletter)

Scottish Pairs	17/18 April	St. Andrews
National Pairs	1/2 May	Cambridge
London Open	3 July (provisional)	London
Teams of Four	30/31 October	Oxford
National Singles	20/21 November	Cambridge
Wessex Cup	to be arranged, or not to be arranged, that is the question.	
Marchant Trophy	throughout the year until 1st October.	

1992 Teams of Four

Opponents	Score
Running Total	

Running Total														Ave.	Pos	
E	F	18½	I	18	D	15½	H	17	A	15½	B	18	K	16½	17.00	1
	18½		36½		52		69		84½		102½		119			
I	C	18	E	10	H	11	G	16	K	12½	F	22½	D	23½	16.21	2
	18		28		39		55		67½		90		113½			
A	D	14	L	13	B	16½	F	17	E	12½	H	14½	J	11	14.07	3=
	14		27		43½		60½		73		87½		98½			
B	H	11½	K	14½	A	11½	C	18½	L	16½	E	10	G	16	14.07	3=
	11½		26		37½		56		72½		82½		98½			
J	L	15	D	8½	C	14½	K	12½	F	14½	G	15½	A	17	13.93	5
	15		23½		38		50½		65		80½		97½			
L	J	13	A	15	G	18½	D	11¼	B	11½	C	9½	F	18½	13.89	6
	13		28		46½		57¾		69¼		78¾		97¼			
C	I	10	F	12	J	13½	B	9½	G	14½	L	18½	H	18	13.71	7=
	10		22		35½		45		59½		78		96			
D	A	14	J	19½	E	12½	L	16¾	H	15	K	13¾	I	4½	13.71	7=
	14		33½		46		62¾		77¾		91½		96			
H	B	16½	G	14	I	17	E	11	D	13	A	13½	C	10	13.57	9
	16½		30½		47½		58½		71½		85		95			
K	G	11½	B	13½	F	13	J	15½	I	15½	D	14¼	E	11½	13.54	10
	11½		25		38		53½		69		83¼		94¾			
G	K	16½	H	14	L	9½	I	12	C	13½	J	12½	B	12	12.86	11
	16½		30½		40		52		65½		78		90			
F	E	9½	C	16	K	15	A	11	J	13½	I	5½	L	9½	11.43	12
	9½		25½		40½		51½		65		70½		80			

EDITORIAL PAGE-FILLER

Dear Sir,

What, if anything, happened before 1320?

Yours squoppily,

El Ed.

Winks in Scotland

by Graham Turnbull

(Secretary StATS, Chairman ScotTWA)

The cold October light shone through the foyer windows of Andrew Melville Hall. All afternoon, a stream of bejants had been arriving at the 60's prefab carbuncle. St. Andrews University was prepared for the new intake. But in the foyer sat Ben Soares, Bruce and Graham Turnbull (twins) and Andrew Akeroyd, senior student. Ben joked "I'm from Manchester, it's a nice dump"; Bruce and Graham laughed. Andrew did his renowned impression of Rowan Atkinson. The seeds of Scottish tiddlywinks were resown.

Now Ben came to Scotland to spread the good word of winks which he'd studied at OUTS. After months of the usual unenlightened reactions: "Jings! Crivvens! Help ma boob!", he made the breakthrough. At the end of January, in B53 Melville, the inaugural match of the St Andrews Tiddlywinks Society was played. Bruce and Graham beat Ben and David Sterratt 4-3.

The winter passed, and the late spring brought with it the resurgence of tiddlywinks. We had to be prepared for October; we had to affiliate to the Students Association now. This required an acceptable constitution, a committee, and signatures of twenty 'interested' winkers. Ben and Jo Mitchell sorted out the first two. Gentle persuasion over the Melville 'Chicken a la King in Vol-au-vents' assured the last. Three days before the end of the Whitsunday term, StATS was official.

Societies Fayre takes place at the end of Freshers' Week. It's a glorious opportunity for clubs and societies to swindle as much cash from other students as possible. From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. treasurers, greedy for Union grant cheques, amass as many signatures as they can on their membership forms. StATS had the prime location in the building. Sandwiched between the Russian and Islamic Societies, we were within boondocking range of the free condom stall. Only the Real Ale Soc out did us with the "come and have a shot" sales pitch. We finished the day with 35 members and the satisfaction that tiddlywinks was on the map...

Since the beginning of term most of our members (and a few others) have turned up to meetings. We meet weekly and regularly have attendances of around a dozen, battling away in the Guinness Shandy League. The StATS style of play is gradually developing, though has a heavy reliance on potting and crudding. The current philosophy is "lets get a couple in the pot early on to get a cushion of tiddlies" and we've often seen the match saving crud in round 5. The squopping is getting more and more consistent, though anything apart from the very basic shots is either looked upon as a trick shot or a total fluke! But for a society which claims only to have two B-teams plus reserves, we're steadily improving.

So far only Ben and Jo have participated in national tournaments, but we hope to remedy that soon. StATS, itself, will be hosting the Scottish Pairs in St. Andrews Students' Union on 17th and 18th April. This will be run by the Scottish Tiddlywinks Association (ScotTWA) and everyone is very

welcome to come (scenic seaside location, food and drink on site, possibly full size tables, opportunity for tiddlywinks on the pier or beach). Anyone wishing to enter the Scottish Pairs should contact:

Jo Mitchell,
7 Fife Park,
Strathkinness High Road,
St Andrews,
Fife. (or E-mail jvm@uk.ac.st-andrews)

Names are needed for Union guest cards and you also need to bring ID. If you would like to partner a StATS member, we will act as a clearing house for single names. Please bring mats, pots, winks etc. since we've only enough for normal club use. Getting to St. Andrews is not terribly difficult. Although the town has no station itself, Leuchars (5 miles away) is on the main east coast line from King's Cross to Aberdeen, one hour north of Edinburgh. There are regular buses running into St. Andrews, and normally a string of taxis at the station. Alternatively you could take National Express/ Scottish Citylink coaches to Dundee (12 miles away) then a bus back to St. Andrews. With regard to accommodation, floor space is fairly limited but all the B&B's are VERY comfortable.

ScotTWA was formed in November to run the Scottish Pairs, support winks in Scotland, and to look important on the world scene. As ScotTWA, we are currently looking outwards to the other Scottish Universities, amassing information on other clubs or potential clubs. Napier University (Edinburgh's third) has shown some interest and we have received leads on existing clubs in Aberdeen and Glasgow. The search continues... Anyway, membership only costs £3, or £1.50 for the unwaged, and is open to all. Neither owning a sporran, nor having a penchant for haggis is a prerequisite. Prospective members should contact Bruce Turnbull, at the same address as Jo (or E-mail to wbt@uk.ac.st-andrews).

More details of the Scottish Open will be available as soon as we've got them. Ah'll see yous in April...

Simultaneous Winks: Myers & Kahn vs. OUTS

Oxford, 18th November 1992

by Andy Purvis

Geoff and Larry have both often said they'd like to play as a pair. Here was their chance. They'd agreed to take on the whole of OUTS (and the visiting Dave) at once. Our lower-rated players (or those with no rating at all) chose their partners first, as that seemed the best bet if we were to win overall. Some slight modifications were necessary to the rules for Larry and Geoff to cope with nine games at once. Larry started all the games, and he and Geoff stuck to the same colours throughout. The games were 35 minutes, with no stoppages, plus five rounds. Our job was not to keep them waiting, not to cheat when they weren't looking, to let them know if they were about to

play out of turn and, before many minutes had elapsed, to count their free turns for them. I put up a bottle of wine as a prize to the first pair to beat them, the pair to score the most against them, or the last pair to lose to them, delete as applicable. We unrolled our hugely diverse collection of assorted mats 1986 to 1992, noted with satisfaction the looks of horror they elicited from our guests, and hoped for the best.

Geoff and Larry were doing the lap of the room in about a minute, suggesting that 25 minutes would in fact have been perfectly adequate. They kept this pace up throughout; although some games became involved, they had free turns in seven of the games at various stages and Larry blitzed Ed and me pretty early on. For quite a while it looked like Julian & Rupert and Elizabeth & Chris had chances of winning, and Paul and Robin seemed in with a shout of some points. However, as the results table shows, Geoff and Larry rather ran away with the tournament in the end, notching up a record p.p.m. (points per minute). For once, the losers have written the history:

Pair	Pts.	
Geoff Myers & Larry Kahn	55	
Julian Porter & Rupert Wilson	2	"Well, at least they didn't/couldn't pot out, did they?"; "We had the cunning plan..." (Top nationals?)
Poss Ellis & Phil Scarrott	1	"Victory was snatched from our grasp at the end of round 5 -- NOT."; "At least it took more than ten minutes..."
Katherine Woolfitt & Dave Lockwood	1	"We were Number One. But they were Number Six."
Sophie Agrell & Tim Jeffreys	1	"After only 25 minutes, we actually made Geoff break sweat!"
Christine Wiggins and James Orwell	1	"They missed all their two-inch pots."
Simon Braidman & Phil Carmody	1	"We ensured they got no excitement from their win, and did a great bristol."
Elizabeth Whalley and Chris Wilson	1	"Hmmm..."
Ed Porter & Andy Purvis	0	"Only <i>seven</i> -nil."
Paul Roberts & Robin Smale	0	"We bravely went for the pot. Then they stole our idea, learnt our lesson, and stuffed us."

A bit one-sided perhaps; what would they be like if they discussed tactics? It was all over inside 50 minutes, and was wonderful fun as well as getting everyone mentally adjusted to their possible p.p.g. for the Singles. It also casts doubt on the need for strong players to play slowly against weaker opposition. The visitors stayed for a few more (consecutive) games before heading back to London. Thanks to them all for coming; hopefully they'll be able to do it again sometime.

Auntie Gertie's Problem Corner

by Auntie Gertie (who else?)

Dear Auntie Gertie,

The editor of *Winking World* asked me to write an article on my greatest moments in tiddlywinks. It occurred to me at that point that I haven't had any great, greater or even greatest moments, whether in life or in tiddlywinks itself. What do you suggest I do about it? And will the editor of *Winking World* let me off the hook for writing this letter instead?

Yours miserably,
A Novice Named Andrew

Dear Novice Named Andrew,

Well I think it's absolutely disgraceful that the editor put you under such pressure at such a tender age, and you should never speak to him again. As far as having great moments goes, have you considered changing your name by Deed Poll from Andrew to, say, Richard? There is a precedent for such a name change among the winking fraternity, though whether it did any good, who can tell? A.G.

World Singles 37

(Or Geoff Myers Winks on Water¹)

Armitage Room, Queens' College, Cambridge, 20th November 1992

by Andy Purvis

A keen crowd had assembled for the 6 o'clock start of this, Geoff's first defence. Dave has had many tries to regain the world title, but this was his first against anyone but Larry Kahn. Jon Mapley umpired the match. Disappointingly, only corners were alternated (with Dave having the "dominant" corners in odd games); Dave played blue and red throughout, and they stuck with the same pot, mat, winks, lighting, and even failure to free interpretation. I mean, what's the point of having rules if they're not going to be argued about?

Game 1 Squidge off: Blue (Dave).

Early indicators point to a close match, as Jon is asked to adjudicate the squidge off. Each colour's first shot is a bring-in (proof my shorthand system works...). Nerves are evident as Dave misses the first attempted squop of the match from an inch. Geoff soon has a couple of blues but Dave keeps his reds out of harm's way, giving him an excellent pot-out threat with good blue support. Geoff has to dive in with both colours. As a rule you only get away with playing in your opponent's area if you play really well, are really lucky,

¹ I'd always understood that only Charles Relle had this distinction! (Ed.)

or your opponent makes mistakes. None of those things happens for Geoff. Dave, without doing anything spectacular, misses nothing and takes firm control. Dave gets four free turns in turn 15, still with eight minutes left. Several free turn sequences follow but Dave has the problem that red (on several yellows) looks better for the pot-out whereas blue ends, so he does not risk a pot-out attempt. An obvious game, with Dave playing much better than Geoff. Game score: Geoff 1 - 6 Dave

Game 2 Squidge-off: green (Geoff).

Dave sends a red off and rolls a few blues around, so this time he must dive in to stop Geoff's blitz threat. A tight tactical squopping game develops. Geoff has the upper hand but keeps things interesting by missing a few eminently gettable shots that might have settled it. Dave keeps playing solidly, though, and typically niggles his way back in as Geoff misses a few shots early in rounds. Starting round 4, the only flat winks are a blue in the pot and a red at the end of the mat. Dave has more squops but colour order prevents him potting off any of them, whereas Geoff can pot all his in round 5. Worse still for Dave, he has miscounted rounds. While he firms up squops to consolidate a 6-1 win (rather than, say, bringing in the red to pot), Geoff makes two big yellows pottable. Dave moves to shake hands and, when the truth is explained, misses the boondocked red leaving red on 4 tiddlies. Geoff, under terrific pressure, pots a big yellow from 5 inches and another from 11 inches for first place. Dave subs a bristol attempt and Geoff pots a green off a blue and frees a green to leave both green and blue on five. Quite a slow game, but a complex and interesting one, which is followed by a quick break for food in the bar. Game score: Geoff $5\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$ Dave.

Game 3 Squidge-off: green (Geoff)

Geoff starts disastrously, sending two greens off, so is more or less forced to play pot-squop: he lines up yellows while sacrificing three greens to keep blue busy. Red takes a yellow, but Geoff moves a yellow-red pile onto this and looks like going for the pot very soon. Dave sends a big red at this pile. It's a nightmare on a stick, as he frees the squopped yellow. Most of the yellows are threatened by both blue and red, three are non-trivial, and three greens are already squopped. No problem. Geoff runs the yellows leaving a blue and a green at the edge. Dave pots two reds before anybody notices it's blue's go. Not surprisingly, Geoff chooses to retract the fouls but he still only gets 5-2.

Game 4 Squidge-off: yellow (Geoff)

Blue starts out with a two-bounce Carnovsky and starts lining up a pot-out. Geoff is in less of a hurry but as early as the fourth turn is clearly playing for a green blitz. The last green bring-in rolls a good 16 inches from the pot, apparently giving Dave the time to gain control of the only noticeable pile with a good blue squop. Wrong! Geoff casually pots the long one and follows it up with the other five! There are still two yellows at the edge and, although Geoff has a chance of a long pot for 6-1, Dave notches up another 2.

Game 5 Squidge-off: green (Geoff) after another umpiring decision.

Geoff's yellows somehow manage to look threatening even when three of them are still at the line. He's seriously tempted to start potting in the fifth turn but puts two yellows on a blue before potting them all in turn 8. The first pot is a peach: a small yellow from just on the back of a big blue, played with sufficient force to knock the blue out from under the other yellow (otherwise a difficult pot). Had it missed, Geoff's position would have been lousy. As it is, it is Dave's position that is looking desperate. Geoff 5* - 2* Dave.

Game 6 Squidge-off: red (Dave, with a Carnovsky)

Geoff is hampered by the fact that four pot-outs in a row gets a fine. Blue and green start to line up blitz threats but red takes a difficult green doubleton and a squopping game begins. Dave starts strongly but twice fails to squop the only free green and is made to pay: Geoff gradually turns it round and, despite some excellent shots (particularly a blue squop onto two winks both controlling piles), Dave looks to have no chance of winning the game as rounds begin. But red gets an excellent knock-off, blue squops a vital green that was about to eat everything, and green subs taking a yellow with it. Now Dave blows a pile leaving plenty of everything. Round 3 and all to play for...

Both players pot solidly despite the pressure, but Dave plays two illegal shots which don't work nearly so well when replayed. Green looks like winning so Dave has to try to squop one over the pot ending round 4. He hits the target, but it doesn't stick. Green has three in, one flat and one on a pile. Blue has three in, but no easy pots, red has one in and three pottable, and yellow doesn't. Dave's head drops when he misses a long blue pot. Geoff towels his hands dry and, despite an impressive hand tremor, pots the flat green. To stay in the match, Dave just has to pot three reds and work a miracle. He pots two, but can't wink on water. Geoff 4 - 3 Dave.

This was a truly stunning display of pressure potting, all the more remarkable in that this used to be the nearest thing to a weakness in Geoff's game. Discounting the undistinguished attempts to follow in, Geoff potted 25 winks in 26 attempts. His only miss was in round 4 of the last game. It can't be easy to play against that. It was hard on Dave, who squopped more solidly throughout the match and didn't pot at all badly. He'd probably rather face Larry again. The match was generally easy to follow, with most games revolving around the pot threat of the colour or colours with the best bring-in. Good bringing-in isn't everything, but it certainly helps.

World Singles 37	Game Scores						Total
Geoff Myers	1	5½	5*	5*	5*	4	25½
Dave Lockwood	6	1½	2*	2*	2*	3	16½

The Clicking of Cuthbert

by Katherine Woolfitt (before adaptation by P. G. Wodehouse)

This was posted on the tiddlywinks bulletin board by Julian Porter, but originated from Katherine Woolfitt, famed in winking circles as THE American novice (though I understand OUTS now have more than one...). She appears to have discovered a hitherto unknown first draught of what later became one of the Master's golfing stories.

The young man came into the back room of the pub near the college and flung his box with a clatter on the table. He sank moodily into an arm-chair and pressed the bell.

"Waiter!"

"Sir?"

The young man pointed at the box with every evidence of distaste.

"You may have these squidgers," he said. "Take them away. If you don't want them yourself, give them to one of the freshers."

Across the room the Oldest Member gazed at him with a grave sadness over the rim of his pint glass. His eye was deep and dreamy; the eye of a man who, as the poet says, has seen winks steadily and seen it whole.

"You are giving up winks?" he said.

He was not altogether unprepared for such an attitude on the young man's part: for from his spot against the wall near the corner tables he had observed him start out on the afternoon's round and had seen him Poss¹ a couple of winks in the second round after sending three winks off the table in the bringing in.

"Yes!" cried the young man fiercely. "For ever, dammit! Footling game! Blanked infernal fat-headed silly ass of a game! Nothing but a waste of time."

The sage winced.

"Don't say that, my boy."

"But I do say it. What earthly good is winks? Life is stern and life is earnest. We live in a practical age. All round us we see foreign competition making itself unpleasant. And we spend our time playing winks! What do we get out of it? Is winks any use? That's what I'm asking you. Can you name me a single case where devotion to this pestilential pastime has done a man any practical good?"

The sage smiled gently.

"I could name a thousand."

¹ Poss is not only the name of a winker, but also the recognised OUTS terminology for a squop attempt which fails to go even a quarter of the distance towards the target wink.

The 1992 National Singles

Lots of Rooms, Queens' College, Cambridge, 21st & 22nd November 1992

It had threatened to be the biggest winks tournament ever, and so it turned out. ETWA's new tournament organiser, Simon Gandy, certainly took to his new job well, walking into the Armitage Room and saying immediately "Right, I declare this tournament organised." The draw for the tournament was in fact delayed somewhat as it was unclear whether latecomers would drag the tournament to the 54 entrant mark at which point 6 qualifying divisions would have been used. In the end there were 52 entrants, which made for five all-play-all divisions with the top two in each league automatically qualifying for the final on the second day, together with two "fastest losers" (on a p.p.g. basis).

Blue Division *by Geoff Myers*

In Blue Division there was an excess supply of old and dead Cambridge winkers. Apart from Stewart Sage, who has been dead for years, and Rupert Thompson, who is merely old (and cantankerous) before his time, the group also contained Patrick Barrie, Geoffrey Myers, Julian Wiseman and Anthony "best potter in CUTwC"?! Heading. Andy Milligan is technically still alive although it is hard to tell under all that hair. The non-Cambridge contingent comprised the token American, Brad Schaefer, Simon Dean and two Oxford novices, Paul Roberts and Ed Porter.

The first surprise of few was in round three when Rupert beat Brad 5-2 (Rupert went on to finish a creditable fifth in the group by scoring 26 points in his last four games). Round five saw the mighty Sage humbled when Paul Roberts potted out against him for a 6-1. By this stage the top five seeds were

	<i>Blue Division</i>	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	Tot.	Pos.
A	Geoff Myers	-	6	6	6*	7*	6	5	6	7*	7*	7*	63	1
B	Patrick Barrie	1	-	3	5½	6	6	6	7*	7*	7*	7*	55½	2
C	Brad Schaefer	1	4	-	6	5½	6*	2	6	6	6	7*	49½	3
D	Julian Wiseman	1*	1½	1	-	7*	2	5	6	7*	6	6	42½	4
E	Anthony Heading	0*	1	1½	0*	-	5	6	6	6	6	7*	38½	6
F	Stew Sage	1	1	1*	5	2	-	4	5	6	1*	7*	33	7
G	Rupert Thompson	2	1	5	2	1	3	-	5*	7*	7*	7*	40	5
H	Andy Milligan	1	0*	1	1	1	2	2*	-	7*	3	7*	25	8
I	Simon Dean	0*	0*	1	0*	1	1	0*	0*	-	2	1	6	11
J	Paul Roberts	0*	0*	1	1	1	6*	0*	4	5	-	1	19	9
K	Ed Porter	0*	0*	0*	1	0*	0*	0*	0*	6	6	-	13	10

pulling clear of the rest and even Tony was doing well; he had comfortably defeated everyone below him, but normal service was resumed as he took just $2\frac{1}{2}$ points off the four seeds above him. Julian had a similar problem, though he did not improve his prospects by missing his sixth wink against Geoff. Even so, Julian was only two points behind Brad when they played in the final round- Patrick and Geoff had already taken the guaranteed qualification places. The record shows Brad won 6-1 and so qualified as a fastest loser, but details are sparse since any self-respecting winker was in the pub by then.

Green Division *by Geoff Thorpe*

The early rounds went according to the seeding exceed for Nipper's 4-3 win over Stu Collins. However, because of the usual slow service in the Mill at lunchtime and the consequent late return of those fed last, the game between the top two seeds was played early. Richard Moore's 4-3 win over Dave Lockwood was inconclusive and left them both still favourites to qualify. From there on the order of play drifted further and further away from the schedule with Richard having to be away for 1900. Thus he completed his games before any of the other three top players had met. Having already lost to Matthew Rose, a loss in his final game to Stu Collins left the qualifying positions wide open. Dave then secured a qualifying position with a 4-3 loss to Matthew. This result, together with Geoff Thorpe's second blitz, eliminated Richard, with Geoff's games against Dave and Matthew still to play. A seven for Dave secured first place in the group and set up a final head-to-head game between Matthew and Geoff to qualify, with Matthew starting with a $2\frac{1}{2}$ point advantage. Sadly the game did not live up to the situation and a few critical early mistakes gave Geoff control which quickly became a squo-up. This he held solidly to the end.

	<i>Green Division</i>	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	Tot.	Pos.
A	Dave Lockwood	-	3	3	7*	$5\frac{1}{2}$	6	6	7*	7*	7*	7*	$58\frac{1}{2}$	1
B	Richard Moore	4	-	2*	$5\frac{1}{2}$	1	6	6	6	6	6	6	$48\frac{1}{2}$	3
C	Matthew Rose	4	5*	-	1	3	4	6	7*	6	5	7*	48	4
D	Geoff Thorpe	0*	$1\frac{1}{2}$	6	-	5	7*	6	6	6	7*	6	$50\frac{1}{2}$	2
E	Stu Collins	$1\frac{1}{2}$	6	4	2	-	4	6	3	6	6	6	$44\frac{1}{2}$	5
F	Jon Marchant	1	1	3	0*	3	-	6	6	7*	6*	6	39	6
G	Jon Carlaw	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	6*	6	$5\frac{1}{2}$	6	$29\frac{1}{2}$	7
H	Jon Williams	0*	1	0*	1	4	1	1*	-	7*	$5\frac{1}{2}$	3	$23\frac{1}{2}$	8
I	Andrew Young	0*	1	1	1	1	0*	1	0*	-	1*	3	9	11
J	Andrew Dominey	0*	1	2	0*	1	1*	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	6*	-	1	15	10
K	Poss Ellis	0*	1	0*	1	1	1	1	4	4	6	-	19	9

Meanwhile Stu Collins had been quietly amassing points to finish only 6 points behind the qualifiers. His 7 and 3 record compares well with the 8 and 2 achieved by all four of the top players, and his wins against Matthew and Richard were critical in determining the qualifiers (thanks Stu). The three Jon's (Marchant, Carlaw and Williams) matched their seedings, and Poss Ellis led the novices.

Red Division *by Andy Purvis*

With only ten players and only one novice (more about him later), it looked from the outset as though only two would qualify, which concentrates the mind wonderfully. Dave Rickard (Wales and Aberwystwyth) was making a comeback after twenty-odd years. During his first game, he needed to ask Rick Tucker whether potted winks counted as two or three. The reply prompted Dave to steal a win with a few late pots, followed up by beating Gavin Keyte in the next round. Gavin finished Rick's chances in Round 5, while Alan Boyce beat Charles Relle to go second behind Andy Purvis, who was potting out all over the place. Then Charles was squopped up by Gavin but escaped to win 6-1, while Andy didn't give Alan any second chances. Alan fell three points behind when he then lost a very tight game to Gavin, who saw sooner that the main pile had ceased to be worth attacking. Charles was soon squopped up by Andy, but Alan could only manage $1\frac{1}{2}$ against Rick. Andy then cocked up his fifth round pot-out attempt and Charles almost sneaked a win.

Commiserations to Alan, who maintained his unenviable record of finishing third whenever two qualify. Phil Carmody finished strongly to come fifth and Dave seemed to enjoy his comeback thoroughly. Gavin has more hope of beers from Charles than from Alan or Rick. Chris Goddard improved greatly on his first singles (the Pairs), and Julian Porter had some

	Red Division	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	Tot.	Pos.
A	Andy Purvis	-	4	5*	6	7*	7*	7*	7*	7*	6	56	1
B	Charles Relle	3	-	6	2	6	6	5	6	6	6	46	2
C	Rick Tucker	2*	1	-	$5\frac{1}{2}$	1	$5\frac{1}{2}$	3	6	6	6	36	4
D	Alan Boyce	1	5	$1\frac{1}{2}$	-	3	6	6	6	7*	6	$41\frac{1}{2}$	3
E	Gavin Keyte	0*	1	6	4	-	1	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	4	2*	24	7
F	Phil Carmody	0*	1	$1\frac{1}{2}$	1	6	-	4	6	7*	3	$29\frac{1}{2}$	5
G	Dave Rickard	0*	2	4	1	$5\frac{1}{2}$	3	-	$1\frac{1}{2}$	4	2*	23	8
H	Chris Goddard	0*	1	1	1	$2\frac{1}{2}$	1	$5\frac{1}{2}$	-	1	6	19	9
I	Julian Porter	0*	1	1	0*	3	0*	3	6	-	0*	14	10
J	Ben Deane	1	1	1	1	5*	4	5*	1	7*	-	26	6

good scores too. And what of Ben Deane, the sole novice in a group of over 100 years' experience? After squopping defeats against the top four, he decided that potting lots of winks must be a better game of soldiers. Good move- over the last four rounds he came second in the group, with three pot-outs (more than eight players in the group got between them all day!), to finish an auspicious sixth overall.

Yellow Division by Jon Mapley

(or "how Nick became a 'fastest' loser")

The dreaded five divisions again- it should make qualification a bit tricky, but this division looked easier than some. It did contain that well-known giant killer and blank limericist, Cullingham, who put Gandy to the sword in Round 2. Simon just rolled up his sleeves for the perfect pontoon hand, three 7's, to regain lost ground and lie just one point behind Inglis and two adrift of Mapley. Jon would have been further clear but for an 18" squop by Andrew Busby in Round 1 after the famous "pot 5, dock 1, miss the 6th" sequence.

Cyril, James and Ed all tried, but made no real impression, and by the start of round 7 it was definitely a three horse race. The crunch game now saw a repeat of one of the problems from the World Singles the night before. A potting attempt from distance, towards the player, went long and hit the player's body. Simon and Nick both ranted a bit, and Jon repeated his umpiring trick of tossing the wink over the pot to mimic its trajectory, and it came to rest three inches from the edge of the mat, mumble, grumble. Simon went on to a 5-2 win. In the same round, James Orwell managed the "once in a lifetime" and seemed surprised to be told "Yes, you really can just pick it up and drop it in the pot." It didn't stop Naveed Chaudhri from recording his only win.

<i>Yellow Division</i>		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	Tot.	Pos.
A	Jon Mapley	-	6	4	6	5*	6	6	7*	6	5	51	1
B	Nick Inglis	1	-	2	6	6	6	6	6	5	6	44	3
C	Simon Gandy	3	5	-	3	7*	1	6	6	7*	7*	45	2
D	Cyril Edwards	1	1	4	-	2	6*	0*	6	6	3	29	6
E	Ed Wynn	2*	1	0*	5	-	1	5½	6	6	4½	31	5
F	James Cullingham	1	1	6	1*	6	-	1	6	5	7*	34	4
G	James Orwell	1	1	1	7*	1½	6	-	3	3	4	27½	7
H	Naveed Chaudhri	0*	1	1	1	1	1	4	-	1*	3	13	10
I	Jason Westley	1	2	0*	1	1	2	4	6*	-	7*	24	8
J	Andrew Busby	2	1	0*	4	2½	0*	3	4	0*	-	16½	9

Jon squeezed out a 4 against Simon to stay ahead after 8 rounds, and 6 by Nick put him back into second (45,43,42). Cyril inflicted a second consecutive 3 on Simon, who thus finished on 45, making Jon safe as he had Nick pretty well tied down. One mistake, a break up, but a good recovery gave Jon a certain 5-2. The two points, and tie for second which would result, depended on Nick potting two from 3 inches, but the first went long, and an agonising hour and a half went by before Geoff Thorpe stuffed Matthew Rose in another group to let Nick into the final. In eighth place, Jason Westley scored a commendable 24 points.

Brown Division *by Rob Cartwright*
(or "yet more tedious old tosh")

The idiot reading it out cheerfully proclaimed it the "Easy Group", but then he didn't have to play in it, did he? I had tentatively suggested that Ian Gameson was the man to watch, but he was suffering from a forced absence (haven't we all?) and was the only seed to lose his first game. Phil Scarrott took 7 off Chris Wilson which proved significant- it must have made him angry...

Nick Reid got the first upset with $5\frac{1}{2}$ off Alan Dean, while Chris outplayed me completely and, but for a missed pot and easy squop in round 5, would have had a good win; the final score was 4-3 to me. Chris then went on to take 5 off Larry and Ian, and 6 off Alan, but surprisingly lost to novice David Carslake which cost him a shot at the final stages. A terrific performance though- well done!

Ian had rather lost the thread of it all and never really threatened. I had good chances against both Alan and Larry, but a missed pot against Alan blew the p.o. and left me facing 0 points (which Alan tried very hard not to let me have). Bad defence against Larry led him to say "I think your strategy's a little rusty" which was probably the charitable way of putting it! Phil was

<i>Brown Division</i>		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	Tot.	Pos.
A	Larry Kahn	-	4	6	7*	6	7*	2	7*	6	6	51	1
B	Alan Dean	3	-	5	6	7*	6	1	$1\frac{1}{2}$	6	7*	$42\frac{1}{2}$	2
C	Phil Scarrott	1	2	-	4	6	1	7*	6	6	6	39	3
D	Ian Gameson	0*	1	3	-	5	2*	2*	5	6	6	30	8
E	Rob Cartwright	1	0*	1	2	-	6	4	6	$5\frac{1}{2}$	7*	$32\frac{1}{2}$	5
F	Alasdair Grant	0*	1	6	5*	1	-	4	1	7*	7*	32	6
G	Chris Wilson	5	6	0*	5*	3	3	-	5*	2	$5\frac{1}{2}$	$34\frac{1}{2}$	4
H	Nick Reid	0*	$5\frac{1}{2}$	1	2	1	6	2*	-	6	7*	$30\frac{1}{2}$	7
I	David Carslake	1	1	1	1	$1\frac{1}{2}$	0*	5	1	-	3	$14\frac{1}{2}$	9
J	Andrew Garrard	1	0*	1	1	0*	0*	$1\frac{1}{2}$	0*	4	-	$8\frac{1}{2}$	10

pushing Alan hard for second place but Alan held on, leaving Phil knowing he hadn't enough for a fastest loser spot. Larry was clear winner despite a general consensus that he wasn't his usual clinical self.

Finally it's again very good to say what a cheerful pleasant group to play in- the play was of variable standard but the general demeanour was first class. Thank you all.

The Final *by Patrick Barrie*

Those winkers deemed by the system to be the best 12 players in the land gathered at 9.30 a.m. on the Sunday to commence battle. The vagaries of the qualification process frequently mean that the seeding for the second day (based on first day p.p.g.) is comparatively random. Not so this year, as the top five looked ominously strong suggesting that there would be the odd crucial game in the last round or two.

The final of the National Singles is a serious tournament, and the tension can be palpable. Before Patrick Barrie had time to blink in the first round, Geoff Thorpe had potted 5 greens against him (one a Carnovsky), and then sent his sixth wink off the mat from the baseline. Patrick duly made the squop (taking two turns to get it), but was a trifle perturbed when Geoff immediately started potting yellows: while one yellow was squopped, if the other five yellows had gone in Patrick would only have had six free turns before being obliged to free the sixth of one of Geoff's colours! In the event Geoff potted badly with yellow, and Patrick had time to control the position. Jon Mapley chose this moment to lose his first game of the weekend, going down 1-6 to Simon Gandy, while Dave Lockwood was held to a 4-3 win by fellow American Brad Schaefer.

Rounds 2 and 3 went roughly according to form, though Andy Purvis encountered problems. Alan Dean failed to make the two awkward pots he needed against Andy for a win, and then Andy lost 3-4 to Simon in what must have been an entertaining game. Andy started by potting 2 yellows and then scrunged his third into Simon's area. As Andy's greens were widely scattered he deliberately tempted Simon into the pot-out attempt (simply by not squopping him); Simon missed the 6th blue, got it squopped, and then rescued it; Andy resquopped the 6th blue from over a foot away and tried a green pot-out; he got a couple in before missing, and the scene was by now nicely set for the end-game. In the end Simon's five blues in the pot were good enough for first place, and Simon didn't quite manage to pot enough reds ending round 5 for more than 4 points.

Lunch was now taken with Geoff Myers and Larry Kahn ominously on 19 and 18 points respectively, and with Patrick Barrie and Dave Lockwood still unbeaten. Charles Relle was clearly in need of liquid sustenance having only got 4 points from his first three games. Three pints of Abbott seemed to do the trick as he took 7 points in the next game off Jon Mapley. One wonders what Jon had been drinking, as he'd rather playfully potted five of both his colours first. Larry also potted out in this round after converting a

squop-up against Nick Inglis, but only emerged with 5 points after missing his sixth wink of his second colour several times. Andy Purvis came completely unstuck in his game against Brad Schaefer, getting squopped up early on, and while he did have chances of stealing the odd point, he didn't quite manage to take them.

Geoff Thorpe showed that, while a surprise qualifier, he was certainly no rabbit, by beating Dave $4\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$, and then following it up with a 4-3 win over Geoff Myers. Patrick rashly commented to Simon at the start of round 5 that he'd had a pot-out and three squop-ups in his games so far; sure enough, the result was another convincing squop-up, but this time to his opponent. After round 6 the top half had played all their games against the bottom half and Larry had a one point lead over Geoff M., with Patrick, Andy and Dave still in touch.

Things slowed down a bit in the next round as the game between Jon and Andy involved identical reconstructions of a complicated pile for two consecutive shots! Geoff M. and Patrick's game always looked like it would be a potting race. Soon four of Patrick's reds were in the pot, while the other two found their way under a doubleton, while Geoff had five yellows in and the sixth well squopped. There were a few thoughts of blue and green pot-outs, before Patrick got onto the doubleton from some distance; red eventually potted out, but not before Geoff had missed a difficult lunch of his sixth yellow. Geoff M. suffered the double whammy next round, going down 1-6 to Jon. Larry beat Andy 5-2, while Patrick went down 6-1 to Dave after choosing to go for a win in rounds rather than playing for an eminently gettable 2 points. The combination of these results meant that Larry, still unbeaten, was threatening to run away with the tournament completely; he was 9 points clear at the top of the table with only three rounds to go. Patrick was second, just ahead of Geoff M. and Andy.

Geoff M. did the necessary to keep the tournament alive in round 9 against Larry, running six of both his colours for 7-0. Patrick got $5\frac{1}{2}$ off Jon after squopping him up; Jon attacked well, and got a couple of yellows in the bucket in rounds, and Patrick chose to take the $5\frac{1}{2}$ rather than risk Jon potting difficult winks out of the pile ending round 5. Andy was in trouble in probably the longest game of the day against Dave. Dave took ages deciding which shot to play in what looked to me a straightforward situation. This enabled Andy to take advantage of the new liberty to practise rule if the opponents take more than 30 seconds over a shot. Andy needed to pot two big yellows from about 6 inches in round five for a chance of a win; they went straight in, and one wonders what would have happened if Dave had been playing at a respectable speed (which would have meant that Andy wouldn't have got about 60 practise pots from that distance on a nearby mat). The game ended up 4-3 to Andy.

Larry immediately returned to winning ways with a 6 off Jon; Geoff M. kept in touch with a 6 off Dave, while Patrick was outplayed in the second half of his game against Andy. Andy was good enough to tell me that it was the best he'd ever played in an important game of singles, but he's told me (and I daresay countless other people) similar things before.

This meant that going into the last round Larry (51 points) had a three point lead over Geoff M. (48 points), with Andy in 3rd ($44\frac{1}{2}$ points) commenting on his outside mathematical chance. Larry needed only a small win off Patrick (4th and out of it on $42\frac{1}{2}$) to guarantee the tournament, while Geoff M. was to play Andy, which would determine the top British finisher.

The early squopping skirmish between Larry and Patrick ended to Patrick's advantage when his big red squopped a green/yellow doubleton on the main pile from about 6 inches. From that point on Patrick always had one more close guard than Larry had attackers. Larry didn't attack very well and soon Patrick had a collection of doubletons around the main pile with support, giving a safe-looking squop-up with plenty of time to go. Out of surprise, as much as anything, Patrick brundled around harmlessly for a few minutes, before choosing to work the reds free and potting out without any undue alarms. Patrick hadn't had convenient colour order on the piles to boondock any of Larry's yellows, but was hoping that a couple of yellows (and a couple of greens) were a bit too close to the cup (in semi-nurdled positions) to be potted easily, while all his blues were perfectly placed. Larry potted five yellows before missing one of the semi-nurdled ones, and Patrick duly potted his six blues for a 7-0 scoreline.

Geoff M. and Andy had been having a fairly tense game, with Andy having rather the better of it. Towards the start of rounds news of the Larry-Patrick result reached the players, meaning that Geoff knew he needed $3\frac{1}{2}$ for the title (or 2 for top Brit), while Andy knew he needed 7 for the title (or $5\frac{1}{2}$ for top Brit). Andy, only half-jokingly, said "It's got to be red for the seven then" as he potted two flat but distant reds to join an earlier Carnovsky. His other reds were involved in piles, but one looked easily freeable through a knock-off, and another was in a pile full of greens and yellows that Geoff was committed to breaking to stand any chance of a win. Anarchy now broke out as Geoff tried to free sufficient of his winks to catch up with red, while Andy kept trying to free and pot reds whenever he had the chance. In round 4 the last two remaining reds were flat on the mat, and Geoff missed a crucial 2 inch squop with green onto the nearest. Andy potted this wink, but missed the sixth from a medium distance landing safe. Yellow broke up the last significant pile in an attempt to free all six greens for a counter-pot threat (though with one on the edge of the mat), but one stayed under a blue; yellow was unlucky/careless to go off the mat with this shot. Ending round 4, Andy observed all his blues were free (though 3 or 4 were on singletons) and started potting them. He deliberately came off the 6th green fairly early in order to ensure Geoff tried the tricky green pot-out for the tournament rather than the tricky long red squop for who knows what. He potted five in a row before missing the 6th some way long. Green went for the pot, but only got 1 or 2 in (I think) before missing, and Andy finally potted out with red in round 5. Yellow now missed his turn for going off the previous shot; blue missed the pot (rather short so that it remained pottable); and Geoff potted the near greens before missing the 6th one from the edge. Andy potted the last blue to wrap up the tournament with the required 7-0.

	<i>The Final</i>	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	Tot.	Pos.
A	Geoff Myers	-	0*	6	1	7*	1*	5	3	6	6	7*	6	48	4
B	Andy Purvis	7*	-	4	6	2	6	4	7*	3	1	6	5½	51½	1
C	Dave Lockwood	1	3	-	1	1	6	5	2½	6	4	6	2	37½	7=
D	Jon Mapley	6	1	6	-	1	1½	0*	5	1	6	5	3	35½	9
E	Larry Kahn	0*	5	6	6	-	0*	6	6	6	5	5*	6	51	2
F	Patrick Barrie	6*	1	1	5½	7*	-	6	5*	1	5	6	6	49½	3
G	Charles Relle	2	3	2	7*	1	1	-	6*	6	6	6	1	41	5
H	Geoff Thorpe	4	0*	4½	2	1	2*	1*	-	1	2½	1	1	20	11
I	Simon Gandy	1	4	1	6	1	6	1	6	-	2	6*	6	40	6
J	Brad Schaefer	1	6	3	1	2	2	1	4½	5	-	6	6	37½	7=
K	Nick Inglis	0*	1	1	2	2*	1	1	6	1*	1	-	1*	17	12
L	Alan Dean	1	1½	5	4	1	1	6	6	1	1	6*	-	33½	10

In *Winking World 49*, Jon Mapley quoted Tony Brennan as saying after the final of the Singles that "there's no sport that could match that for tension", and I would echo those sentiments here. It really was an amazing finish to a great tournament, and I hope all those present (spectators as well as players) felt a part of it. Lower down the table, Charles' afternoon recovery brought him up to 5th place, Simon showed his last year's result was no flash-in-the-pan with 6th, while Brad finished a creditable 7th equal in his first ETwA Singles.

Elsewhere in Queens', Phil Scarrott just pipped Stu Collins for the Singles Plate trophy. This was run on the now-established adjustable handicapped random individual pairs basis (which probably only makes sense if you've ever played in it). The ratings programme tells me that there must also have been commendable sets of results from Nick Reid and Ben Deane.

The 6th Somerset Invitation

The Somerset Wagon, Chilcompton, 2nd, 3rd & 4th January 1993

by Patrick Barrie

Ed Wynn volunteered to write this tournament up, but he was very confused at the time. The event was a 20 player individual spread over three days (and nights) with a fairly predictable finishing order. However, my memory is principally of flashing red noses, broken down cars and wondering which tortoise had been sleeping in whose sleeping bag. Thanks to the Sage family for their magnificent hospitality.

Letters to the Editor

THUS SAYS THE TOURNAMENT ORGANISER

Dear Sir,

The exact format of this year's National Pairs is critically dependent on the exact number of players turning up. This is a special plea for everyone to arrive on time- both the teams of four and national singles got off to delayed starts due to the late arrivals of carloads of winkers. While ETwA makes every effort to include latecomers into tournaments (I don't think it's ever failed), it may not be possible to do this at this year's Pairs.

Yours sincerely,
Simon Gandy's personal assistant

ON MATTHEW ROSE'S SENTENCE CONSTRUCTION

Dear Sir,

I wish to outline my outrage at the way Dave Lockwood, during his weekend in Cambridge over the Singles, managed to play havoc with the probability laws.

On no less than three occasions did I witness him, when in a contested colour preference match, resort to the ultimate method of settling such crucial matters via a toss of the coin (rather than traditional amigos races).

Furthermore, on each occasion did he offer his opponent head or tail (upon which head was selected each time), flip the coin himself and find it was head each time, forcing Mr. Lockwood to seek solace in claiming dominant corners in an attempt to soothe the pain of having to play with green and yellow rather than the favoured red and blue.

Even on a resort to a 'best out of three' did the same result emerge, suggesting that statistical laws of averages have little hope of survival with the Dragon present.

I believe action should be taken to prevent such flouting of such fundamental laws be allowed to prevail.

Yours,
' The Probability Monitor

ON TENSE NERVOUS HEADACHES

Dear Sir,

I am concerned by the emergence of tension between some of the major institutions in the world of winks. The friendly rivalry that has existed between CUTwC and OUTS seems to have become rather sour and now ETwA seems to have been dragged into the fray. OUTS is characterised by a Purvisian anti-Cambridge paranoia, and CUTwC, particularly some of the younger members, seems to have decided that a pigheaded obstinacy is an acceptable mode of behaviour (I wonder where they could have got this from).

The latest argument is in the area of travel to tournaments with both sides claiming it has become very difficult to transport themselves to the other. My worry is that one side, probably Cambridge, will refuse to attend a tournament. The other side will retaliate. The inevitable outcome of this is the rapid demise of OUTS as experienced players leave and the newer players get little exposure to the mainstream of winks. CUTwC has a firmer base and could survive by itself though it would be a poorer game for all. However, a major upheaval caused, for instance, by a couple of bad recruiting years or if Stew and Nick leave Cambridge or perhaps drift from the game, would sink CUTwC and much of what we take for granted in winks today would be gone with it. How could we stage a National Singles with 52 players if Queens' was not available? Tournaments would be reduced to 20 or less hard-core players and that would be it.

This letter is a plea for reason on the part of the powers that be, and an appeal for them to recognise their responsibility to the game.

I also would like to propose an idea that may help to sort out some of the situation. When I was CUTwC president I had a strong feeling of being "out" of ETwA, which as the representative of the largest component body of the game struck me as non-ideal. The feeling was of "them and us" and to "fight for your own corner". My suspicion is that this same tendency exists even more strongly today.*

My solution is that the presidents of CUTwC and OUTS and any other club that the ETwA committee chooses to recognise should be automatically members of the ETwA committee. This would bring ETwA to the people, as presidents could report to their members and take back to ETwA the results of ensuing discussion. The other side of the coin is the bringing together of the major representatives of winkers and giving them all a sense of the greater game; getting together the people with the position actually to do things for the game, and hopefully increasing rapport and so defusing ill-feeling.

Yours hopefully,
Stu Collins

* Editorial comment: I'm a bit disappointed at the feeling of "them and us" described here. It is obviously very much the job of ETwA to keep in touch with the active clubs about what everyone is up to (hence *Winking World*, newsletters etc.). Certainly during the years when Stu was secretary and president of CUTwC he should have felt in touch: Stew Sage and Patrick Barrie (89-90) and Ian Gameson (90-91) were all active CUTwC members serving on the ETwA committee (Andy Purvis of OUTS was also serving in this period).

Stu's suggestion for automatic representation of clubs within ETwA Council was in fact the way ETwA used to be run once upon a time. I don't know when it died out, but it was before my time.

The 1993 Cambridge Open

Queens' College, Cambridge, 16th-17th January

by Alasdair Grant

45 people played at least one game in this year's Cambridge Open, equalling 1990's record. Confusingly, most of them had the same name, such as Jon, Julian, Chris, or Andrew, or even Chris *and* Andrew. Why can't British winkers have names like "Sunshine", "Indian", or "Poss"?

The tournament started with losses for Jon Mapley, Alan Dean and Patrick Barrie, but Charles Relle and Richard Moore ended up with 18 points each after their first three games. They met in the next round, Charles and Chris Andrew (one of a disappointingly small number of players to take the post-lunch bye this year) defeating Richard and Nick Reid 5-2.

Round 5 saw Chris Andrew and Heather Dean inflict a 6-1 on Charles and Nick Reid, which was to prove Charles' only loss. Next round, Charles was back to 6-1's, but Chris went one better, getting a 7 with Patrick off Steve Harbron and Dave Clarkson. Andy Purvis and Alasdair Grant also got 7; this time (not the first...) it was against Heather and Stu Collins. But by the end of the day Matthew Rose hadn't lost a game, and led the field with Richard one point behind.

Next morning, with half of CUTwC otherwise engaged, Charles continued to get 6's; but Richard struggled to 4½ partnering Geoff Myers (who had spent Saturday watching football) against Stew Sage and Poss, and Matthew and Simon Dean went down 1-6 to James Cullingham and Andy. This was Matthew's only defeat; perhaps next time he'll take the Sunday morning bye. After lunch, round 10 saw Geoff Myers and Chris Andrew take 6-1 off the holder, Geoff Thorpe, and Jon Mapley. Alan and Simon Dean also went down 1-6, to Alasdair and Ed Porter; Alan's only other loss (partnering Andrew Garrard) was to Simon Gandy and Alasdair.

In round 12, Geoff Myers and Ben Deane scored a 7 off Steve Harbron and Phil Scarrott; David Carslake, another new player, partnered Alan Dean to 5-2 over Chris Andrew and Nick Inglis.

Going into the last three rounds, Charles was narrowly ahead of Richard, with Matthew, Patrick and Alan also above 5 p.p.g. But Charles, partnering Poss, James C. and Jon Williams, won the rest of his games, and so did Matthew and Alan, to push Patrick into fourth. According to the computer, Andy and Richard had the toughest draw out of the top-placed players, but Andy now got two 6's (with Geoff T. and Tony) and finally a solo 7 to storm into fifth place, while Richard's luck ran out and he fell to level sixth with the impressive Chris Andrew.

So, Charles Relle is the new champion, narrowly ahead of Matthew Rose and Alan Dean. Looking back on some previous Opens, this one was more than usually dominated by experienced players, though Ben Deane (in his first year) finished well up in the field, and Jon "Nipper" Williams won five of his six games.

Round 1

Moore & Cullingham 5 - 2 Mapley & Phillips
 Carlaw & Collins 6 - 1 Thompson & Reid
 Purvis & Relle 6 - 1 Sage & Deane
 Harbron & Barrie 1 - 6 Heading & Andrew

A. Dean & Garrard 2.5 - 4.5 S. Dean & Grant
 Clarkson & Orwell 2 - 5 Gandy
 Wiseman & Inglis 1 - 6 Rose

Round 2

Inglis & Purvis 3 - 4 Grant & Orwell
 A. Dean & Wilson 6 - 1 Andrew & S. Dean
 Clarkson & Relle 6 - 1 Wiseman & Sage
 Phillips & Whalley 1 - 6 Collins & Harbron

Cullingham & Heading 0 - 7 Thompson & Moore
 Thorpe & Woolfitt 4.67 - 2.33 Deane & Mapley
 Rose & Reid 6 - 1 Carlaw & Garrard
 Dominey & J. Porter 1 - 6 Gandy & Barrie

Round 3

Reid & Grant 1 - 6 E. Porter & Relle
 Woolfitt & Whalley 1 - 6 Orwell & Wiseman
 Collins & Wilson 2 - 5 Harbron & Dominey
 Keyte & Purvis 3 - 4 Carlaw & Rose

Moore & Thorpe 6 - 1 Phillips & Poss
 A. Dean & Barrie 6 - 1 Clarkson & J. Porter
 Deane & Heading 6 - 1 S. Dean
 Mapley & Inglis 7 - 0 Cullingham

Round 4

S. Dean & Woolfitt 1 - 6 Carlaw & A. Dean
 Andrew & Relle 5 - 2 Moore & Reid
 Garrard & Poss 3 - 4 Whalley & Dominey
 E. Porter & H. Dean 1 - 6 J. Porter & Purvis
 Gandy & Keyte 1.5 - 5.5 Wiseman & Cullingham

Barrie & Rose 5 - 2 Collins & Inglis
 Wynn & Heading 3 - 4 Phillips & Grant
 Deane & Harbron 5 - 2 Orwell
 Mapley & Clarkson 5 - 2 Wilson

Round 5

Dominey & Thorpe 6 - 1 S. Dean & Sage
 Clarkson & Rose 6 - 1 Wynn & Whalley
 Purvis & Carlaw 3 - 4 Inglis & Williams
 Heading & Wiseman 5 - 2 Deane & E. Porter
 Andrew & H. Dean 6 - 1 Reid & Relle

Gandy & A. Dean 7 - 0 Keyte & Poss
 J. Porter & Woolfitt 1 - 6 Garrard & Collins
 Mapley & Harbron 6 - 1 Phillips & Cullingham
 Moore & Barrie 6 - 1 Grant & Wilson

Round 6

Poss & Reid 6 - 1 Deane & J. Porter
 Harbron & Clarkson 0 - 7 Barrie & Andrew
 Purvis & Grant 7 - 0 H. Dean & Collin
 Inglis & Wynn 1 - 6 Rose & Mapley
 Whalley & Cullingham 1 - 6 Phillips & Sage

Garrard & Gandy 1 - 6 Relle & Heading
 Milligan & Dominey 2.5 - 4.5 Thorpe & A. Dean
 Carlaw & Wiseman 5 - 2 Woolfitt
 Wilson & Keyte 1 - 6 Moore
 S. Dean & Orwell 1 - 6 Williams

Round 7

Collins & Dominey 2 - 5 Deane & Whalley
 Moore & Andrew 6 - 1 Heading & Sage
 J. Porter & Inglis 6 - 1 Clarkson & Garrard
 Grant & Poss 6 - 1 Cullingham & E. Porter

Purvis & Reid 4.5 - 2.5 Carlaw & Thorpe
 Keyte & Woolfitt 1 - 6 Phillips & Rose
 Relle & Mapley 6 - 1 Harbron
 Wilson & Milligan 2 - 5 Barrie

Round 8

Rose & S. Dean 1 - 6 Cullingham & Purvis
 Clarkson & Andrew 3 - 4 Harbron & Sage
 Myers & Wilson 1 - 6 A. Dean & Relle

Keyte & Mapley 6 - 1 Deane & Inglis
 Phillips & Thorpe 4 - 3 Reid
 Grant & Dominey 3 - 4 Carlaw

Round 9

Reid & Clarkson 5.5 - 1.5 Thorpe & Harbron
 Wilson & Relle 6 - 1 E. Porter & Carlaw
 Inglis & Dominey 2 - 5 A. Dean & Rose
 Grant & Scarrott 3 - 4 Purvis & Barrie

Sage & Poss 2.5 - 4.5 Myers & Moore
 Deane & Cullingham 6 - 1 S. Dean & Keyte
 Andrew & Mapley 5.5 - 1.5 Phillips

Round 10

Keyte & Phillips 4 - 3 Purvis & Dominey
 Poss & Scarrott 3 - 4 Wilson & Thompson
 Clarkson & Inglis 1 - 6 Cullingham & Barrie
 Rose & Moore 5.5 - 1.5 Reid & Deane

Carslake & Sage 1.5 - 5.5 Harbron & Relle
 Thorpe & Mapley 1 - 6 Myers & Andrew
 Grant & E. Porter 6 - 1 A. Dean & S. Dean
 Goddard & Carlaw 6 - 1 Young

Round 11

A. Dean & E. Porter 7 - 0 Grant & Deane
 Reid & Inglis 6 - 1 Heading & Phillips
 Rose & Relle 7 - 0 Thorpe & Williams
 Moore & Harbron 6 - 1 Carlaw & Young
 Collins & Poss 1 - 6 S. Dean & Barrie

Mapley & Carslake 6 - 1 Keyte & Andrew
 Clarkson & Sage 5 - 2 Dominey & Goddard
 Thompson & Scarrott 5 - 2 Wilson & Garrard
 Purvis & Emes 1 - 6 Cullingham & Myers

Round 12

E. Porter & Reid 1 - 6 Relle & Poss

Mapley & S. Dean 4 - 3 Barrie & Heading

Purvis & Thorpe 6 - 1 Keyte & Sage

Andrew & Inglis 2 - 5 Carslake & A. Dean

Dominey & Clarkson 3.5 - 3.5 Cullingham & Wilson

Moore & Young 1.5 - 5.5 Grant & Williams

Harbron & Scarrott 0 - 7 Myers & Deane

Phillips & Carlaw 1 - 6 Wiseman

Rose & Wynn 6 - 1 Collins

Round 13

Orwell & Carslake 1 - 6 Milligan & A. Dean

Myers & Barrie 4 - 3 Keyte & Moore

Clarkson & Collins 3 - 4 Carlaw & Dominey

Purvis & Heading 6 - 1 Harbron & Reid

Phillips & S. Dean 2 - 5 Relle & Cullingham

Rose & Scarrott 6 - 1 Grant & Mapley

Deane & Wynn 2 - 5 Williams & Wilson

Sage & Andrew 6 - 1 Inglis & Thompson

Round 14

Garrard & Phillips 1 - 6 Wilson & Deane

Heading & Thompson 2 - 5 Williams & Relle

Dominey & Moore 1 - 6 A. Dean & Collins

Harbron & Carslake 1 - 6 S. Dean & Clarkson

Inglis & Scarrott 2 - 5 Carlaw & Andrew

Orwell & Rose 5 - 2 Grant & Barrie

Milligan & Sage 2 - 5 Wynn

Reid & Cullingham 0 - 7 Purvis

Pos	Player	p.p.g.	Total	Pl.	W	L	Pars.	Opps	Diff.	Adj.
1	Charles Relle	5.464	76 $\frac{1}{2}$	14	13	1	3.890	3.508	0.373	5.278
2	Matthew Rose	5.321	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	14	13	1	3.769	3.486	0.298	5.172
3	Alan Dean	5.231	68	13	11	2	3.320	3.293	0.234	5.114
4	Patrick Barrie	4.692	61	13	10	3	4.067	3.561	0.445	4.470
5	Andy Purvis	4.679	65 $\frac{1}{2}$	14	9	5	3.380	3.517	-0.154	4.756
6=	Chris Andrew	4.577	59 $\frac{1}{2}$	13	9	4	3.513	3.501	0.010	4.572
6=	Richard Moore	4.577	59 $\frac{1}{2}$	13	9	4	3.481	3.603	-0.226	4.690
8	Jon Mapley	4.449	57 $\frac{5}{6}$	13	9	4	3.401	3.438	0.024	4.437
9	Geoff Thorpe	3.617	36 $\frac{1}{6}$	10	6	4	3.771	3.399	0.473	3.380
10	Jon Carlaw	3.536	49 $\frac{1}{2}$	14	8	6	3.472	3.178	0.617	3.227
11=	Dave Clarkson	3.429	48	14	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	3.353	3.566	-0.280	3.568
11=	Alasdair Grant	3.429	48	14	7	7	3.203	3.670	-0.638	3.748
13	James Cullingham	3.286	46	14	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	3.776	3.360	0.555	3.008
14	Ben Deane	3.274	45 $\frac{5}{6}$	14	6	8	3.107	3.293	0.020	3.264
15	Chris Wilson	3.192	41 $\frac{1}{2}$	13	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	3.682	3.610	-0.038	3.211
16	Steve Harbron	3.071	43	14	7	7	3.643	3.418	0.308	2.918
17	Andrew Dominey	3.000	39	13	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	3.490	3.332	0.326	2.837
18	Nick Reid	2.821	39 $\frac{1}{2}$	14	5	9	3.738	3.775	-0.312	2.978
19	Nick Inglis	2.786	39	14	4	10	3.670	3.931	-0.692	3.132
20	Stew Sage	2.667	32	12	4	8	3.267	3.836	-0.904	3.118
21	Steve Phillips	2.536	35 $\frac{1}{2}$	14	5	9	3.232	3.377	-0.023	2.547
22	Simon Dean	2.346	30 $\frac{1}{2}$	13	4	9	3.641	3.621	-0.101	2.397

Pos	Player	p.p.g.	Total	Pl.	W	L	Pars.	Opps	Diff.	Adj.
	Geoffrey Myers	4.750	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	5	1	3.896	3.951	-0.506	5.003
	Jon Williams	4.250	25 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	5	1	3.716	3.704	-0.192	4.346
	Julian Wiseman	4.214	29 $\frac{1}{2}$	7	5	2	3.251	3.366	0.018	4.205
	Simon Gandy	4.100	20 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	3	2	3.646	3.461	0.225	3.987
	Chris Goddard	4.000	8	2	1	1	3.215	2.066	2.584	2.708
	Anthony Heading	3.545	39	11	5	6	3.765	3.459	0.348	3.371
	Rupert Thompson	3.333	20	6	3	3	3.391	3.475	-0.058	3.362
	Stu Collins	3.182	35	11	4	7	3.246	3.300	0.147	3.109
	Poss Ellis	3.167	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	9	3	6	3.069	3.526	-0.484	3.408
	Phil Scarrott	3.167	19	6	2	4	3.505	3.713	-0.421	3.377
	Andy Milligan	3.125	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	1	3	3.572	3.748	-0.425	3.337
	Ed Porter	3.125	25	8	3	5	3.905	3.597	0.210	3.020
	James Orwell	3.000	21	7	3	4	3.734	3.520	0.194	2.903
	Ed Wynn	3.000	18	6	2	4	3.197	3.650	-0.603	3.302
	David Carslake	2.900	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	2	3	3.730	3.639	-0.049	2.924
	Julian Porter	2.667	16	6	2	4	3.250	3.313	0.124	2.605
	Heather Dean	2.333	7	3	1	2	3.796	3.779	-0.262	2.464
	Andrew Garrard	2.187	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	1	7	3.683	2.980	1.223	1.576
	Elizabeth Whalley	2.167	13	6	2	4	2.885	3.063	0.258	2.037
	Gavin Keyte	2.045	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	11	2	9	3.524	3.900	-0.776	2.434
	Kate Woolfitt	1.778	10 $\frac{2}{3}$	6	1	5	2.540	3.461	-0.882	2.219
	Andrew Young	1.167	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	0	3	3.173	3.397	-0.122	1.228
	Helen Emes	1.000	1	1	0	1	4.962	3.788	0.885	0.558

More Rules Rants OK

by Not The Rules Sub-Committee

At the time of writing (*i.e.* one day before production), I have yet to hear from the rules sub-committee of any proposed changes to the rules. In their place I offer two of my own proposals. These should be considered at the next rules meeting (Saturday evening of the National Pairs), along with any others that the rules sub-committee come up with. If there are any other proposed rules changes, these will (hopefully) be notified to members in advance by newsletter.

POTTING AT RISK AT THE END OF FREE TURNS?

After a squop-up, the current ETwA rules insist that a player frees an enemy wink on their first shot following completion of free turns; *i.e.* a player is not allowed to pot a wink or two first, but has to free immediately. There are good historical reasons for this rule, but they are by and large no longer valid following the invention of the nominated wink rule. I propose here the change that the player must free during the turn following completion of free turns; *i.e.* a player is at liberty to attempt to pot a wink (or more than one) prior to the freeing shot. This has the advantages that:

1. It is more "obvious". Indeed many players (particularly the younger ones) think that it is already the rule. At all other stages of the game a player may choose to attempt to pot before playing, say, a crucial squop, knowing the consequences if they miss the pot. In the case under consideration a missed pot would be a "failure-to-free" resulting in a nominated wink being awarded to the next colour to play.
2. With the current version of the rules a successful pot in this situation constitutes a failure-to-free and the immediate award of a nominated wink. This is not at all "obvious", and if the failure-to-free isn't challenged immediately, and the player concerned continues his turn, we then have a complicated out-of-sequence/foul shot scenario (that could go on for several turns); I certainly wouldn't want to adjudicate upon the resulting mess.
3. The amendment would continue the gradual reconciliation between the ETwA rules and NATwA practise.

The proposed change to rule 11(b) is given below (new wording in bold, old wording struck through):

"(b) A freeing shot is a shot which leaves an opponent's wink unsquopped, one which pots the sixth wink of any colour (after which Rule 8 applies) or a shot which terminates the game according to Rule 6(b). One must be played no later than the ~~first shot of the~~ turn following completion of free turns, except when the number of free turns is zero and the first of the squopping partnership has no playable winks. In this case his partner must free ~~on his first shot~~ **during his first turn**. N.B. A shot which is forfeited owing to Rule 7(a) is always counted in the timing of a freeing shot, and the playability of a free wink."

OUT OF SEQUENCE CLARIFICATION

A number of players (including myself up until about a month ago) seem to be unfamiliar with the out of sequence rule (12(d)). This states:

"If a colour is played out of sequence, the opponents may require the shot or shots played in the turn out of sequence to be retracted, or they may allow the turn, if necessary, to be completed, and continue as if the correct colour had been played in sequence, so that their own sequence of colours is not disturbed..."

I understand this wording dates from ca. 1987. The merits of the rule are:

1. For every winker who sees yellow play (out of sequence) and so plays blue there seems to be a winker who realizes he played blue last time and so plays red.
2. It treats the out-of-turn scenario in the same way as a foul shot. This is sensible in that it keeps the game simple and more comprehensible to beginners.
3. It deals with out-of-turn occurrences in rounds rather better than the former rule. For example, consider the case in round 5 (with yellow ending) if yellow plays when it's green's turn. In the current version of the rules, if this is accepted it's red to play and then yellow to end (straightforward); in the former rule, however, if accepted it was the end of the game (and half of round 5 was "lost").
4. It ensures that the rules are identical in all respects for Singles and Pairs games.

One other advantage of treating foul shots and out-of-sequence scenarios in an identical fashion is that it is probably possible to simplify the rules by abolishing the concept of "out of sequence". This would mean that rule 12(d) could be deleted in its entirety, at the cost of a small change to rule 12(c). A suitable wording might be:

"(c) If a player plays a wink other than his rightful colour (apart from the case of playing a nominated wink, see Rule 11(d)), or plays his colour when it is not his turn, this is a foul shot. The opponents may have the shot, and any shots subsequent to it in the same turn, retracted, or they may accept the shot or shots. If the opponents accept such a turn, play continues as if the correct colour had been played, so that their own sequence of colours is not disturbed."

[Optional extras: "If the opponents play a shot subsequent to a foul shot, this is equivalent to accepting it. Any time taken to correct a foul shot is not counted as part of the game."]

I think that this wording shortens the rules while dealing with all situations in the same way as the current version. I should point out that it's generally recognised that whatever rule is used, out-of-turn occurrences can create mayhem, and players are encouraged to point out if they notice a player is about to play out of turn.

Nick Inglis' World Ratings

(at the time of going to press)

Here are the latest ratings, made possible once again by Nick's efforts. It is worth congratulating James Cullingham on achieving one of his lifetime ambitions, as he played more rated games in the past year than anyone else. In the summary below, players with less than 30 rated games in the past year have been italicised (sounds painful) and their ratings bracketed (sounds even more painful), while those with less than 15 rated games have been omitted.

One side-effect of this is that no-one will notice that Jenny Hall has a rating of 2115 after two games, somewhat higher than her more well-established brother, unless I specifically go out of my way to mention it...

Current Rating	Player	Rating in past year:		Games in past year:		
		High	Low	Rated	Total	p.p.g.
2620	Larry Kahn (U.S.)	2620	2539	49	61	4.861
2606	Geoff Myers	2644	2606	76	86	4.634
2543	Andy Purvis	2556	2422	73	85	4.657
2471	Jon Mapley	2532	2463	61	72	4.470
2457	Charles Relle	2457	2369	56	64	4.781
(2445)	Mike Surridge	2445	2333	22	22	5.068
2443	Dave Lockwood (U.S.)	2553	2443	62	62	4.411
2416	Patrick Barrie	2419	2252	77	97	4.167
2365	Richard Moore	2367	2282	60	67	4.522
(2365)	Bob Henninge (U.S.)	(2365)	(2288)	26	26	4.115
2359	Alan Dean	2359	2312	56	56	4.634
2351	Matthew Rose	2368	2265	59	70	4.314
2322	Simon Gandy	2322	2179	48	62	4.129
2295	Brad Schaefer (U.S.)	2295	2223	44	44	3.602
2259	Phil Scarrott	2259	2120	68	69	4.413
2200	Nick Inglis	2386	2200	79	93	3.740
2191	Julian Wiseman	2191	2016	49	63	4.087
2185	Alan Boyce	2185	2057	42	51	3.971
2166	Rick Tucker (U.S.)	2212	2155	46	46	3.674
2157	Geoff Thorpe	2196	2114	65	74	3.374
(2132)	Alex Satchell	2160	2132	15	15	4.267
(2128)	Jim Marlin (U.S.)	(2153)	(2128)	24	24	3.312
(2106)	Jim Carrington	2106	2053	15	15	4.800
2086	Rob Cartwright	2132	2086	35	35	4.000
2073	Stu Collins	2176	2073	32	34	3.838
2071	Cyril Edwards	2152	2067	39	51	3.422
(2014)	Jon Marchant	2014	1890	28	38	3.715
2012	Tim Jeffreys	2038	2001	48	48	3.500
2009	Alasdair Grant	2009	1946	37	37	3.622
2005	Ed Wynn	2120	2005	46	46	3.467
2001	Anthony Heading	2042	2000	62	64	3.891
1990	Phil Carmody	1990	1910	47	47	4.106
(1987)	Steve Phillips	(2087)	(1987)	28	28	3.125
(1970)	Ian Gameson	2172	(1970)	18	28	3.232
(1950)	David Clarkson	1950	1904	29	40	2.900
1918	Gavin Keyte	2018	1918	70	72	3.062
1918	Chris Wilson	1946	1806	65	65	2.908
1915	Nick Reid	1933	1708	55	56	3.223
1912	Jon Carlaw	1912	1859	38	38	3.368
1910	Rupert Thompson	2021	1849	57	68	2.892

Current	Player	High	Low	Rated	Total	p.p.g.
1903	Stew Sage	1940	1846	69	78	3.109
1900	James Orwell	1900	1731	37	37	3.486
1866	James Cullingham	1924	1782	83	83	2.970
1832	Ben Deane	1832	1832	42	43	3.043
(1807)	<i>Robin Smale</i>	1872	1807	19	19	2.895
(1798)	<i>Dave Rickard</i>	(1798)	(1798)	15	15	2.867
1794	Simon Julier	1794	1690	37	37	3.162
1785	Jon Williams	1785	1559	62	62	2.919
(1778)	<i>Tim Batham</i>	(1826)	(1778)	26	26	3.346
(1764)	<i>Christine Wiggins</i>	(1764)	(1764)	15	29	2.328
1737	Andy Milligan	1737	1573	63	63	2.746
(1711)	<i>Elizabeth Whalley</i>	(1804)	(1616)	23	23	2.478
1687	Chris Goddard	1739	1683	50	50	2.347
(1687)	<i>Poss Ellis</i>	(1687)	(1687)	19	19	2.500
(1658)	<i>Paul Roberts</i>	(1658)	(1658)	17	17	2.882
(1633)	<i>David Carslake</i>	(1633)	(1522)	28	29	2.362
(1620)	<i>Ed Porter</i>	(1620)	(1620)	17	18	2.111
1610	Andrew Dominey	1610	1610	37	38	2.750
(1591)	<i>Katherine Woolfitt</i>	(1591)	(1591)	15	15	3.011
1542	Naveed Chaudhri	1542	1542	38	38	2.066
1489	Julian Porter	1489	1327	62	62	2.081
(1458)	<i>Helen Emes</i>	(1458)	(1458)	15	15	3.233
1422	Andrew Garrard	1422	1422	31	31	2.548
(1382)	<i>Andrew Young</i>	(1473)	(1382)	26	26	1.865
(1361)	<i>Simon Dean</i>	(1361)	(1268)	29	29	1.810

Winking World is the official journal of the English Tiddlywinks Association. Material published in *Winking World* is not copyright, but anyone who quotes from *Winking World* is asked to acknowledge the source. It is issued free of charge to E.Tw.A. members and costs 75p to non-members. Membership of E.Tw.A. costs £5 (or £2.50 to students and the unwaged) and entitles the member to rant about E.Tw.A. from a position of authority. Cheques (payable to the English Tiddlywinks Association) should be sent to the treasurer. Articles for inclusion in the next edition of *Winking World* should be sent to the editor at the above address (or via E-mail to ucca61b@uk.ac.ucl).

The ETwA Committee consists of:

Chairman: Charles Relle, 26 Canadian Avenue, London SE6 3AS (081 690 2885)

Treasurer: Matthew Rose, 68 The Ridgeway, Stanmore, Middlesex HA7 4BD (081 954 4321)

Secretary: Julian Porter, Lincoln College, Oxford OX1 3DR (0865 57867)

Publicity Officer: Jonathan Mapley, 2 Janmead, Witham, Essex CM8 2EN (0376 516872)

WW Editor: Patrick Barrie, 123 Clare Court, Judd Street, London WC1H 9QR
(071 278 0476)

Tournament Organiser: Simon Gandy, 10 Band Lane, Egham, Surrey TW20 9LN
(0784 472637)