

WINKING WORLD

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EDITORIAL JOTTINGS

from Charles Relle

News: I would like to have some. I have done my best in this issue, but everybody must make it a policy to send automatically by any means to the Editor any news, articles or illustrations that they have. If they do not have the editor's address, send it to someone else on the Council, who will surely pass it on. I have written nearly all of this issue myself, and while I do not mind doing this, it is less laborious for me and much more interesting for all other readers if there is variety of style and content.

Tiddlywinks is going through one of its less successful periods at the moment in terms of recruitment, and this has been reflected in the contents of this magazine. Please make an effort to let the editor have results of things like the Silver Wink. I do not want everyone to have the impression that nothing goes on.

As far as I know, no-one has completed a challenge for the Jubilee Cup, or for the Marchant Trpophy, or for the Golden Squider. Someone ought to take up the gauntlet and try to wrest these trophies from their present holders. I do not know what the situation with the Marchant Trophy is, but Andy Purvis holds the Jubilee cup, and Geoff Myers and Charles Relle hold the Golden Suidger.

Thank you again to anyone who contributed to the A-T tournament earlier in the year, and to the London Open. I had very appreciative letters from the organisers of the causes to which we have given.

THE SINGLES – FIRST DAY

from Charles Relle

First a word of apology to David Clarkson, who volunteered to write up his Division, but to whom I neglected to send the scores. I was in fact present on the Saturday, and walked round the rooms, gaining an impression of the play, but was in a state of total exhaustion, and was glad of my decision not to take part myself, since I could not have done myself justice or lasted out the day. As it was, I went home early, so most of these notes are deduced from the scoresheets.

The entry was slightly smaller than in recent years, with 31 players taking part, split into three divisions. There were therefore four qualifying places available in each division, a generous allowance.

The Azure Division contained Chris Andrew, making a return to the Singles after an interval, and newcomers in Chris Abram and Tim Hunt. Welcome to them all, and we hope they will continue to take part. Tim and Chris Andrew shared sixth position overall, and the game between them was close, going 4 – 3 to Chris. He in fact had several good results, including a 6 against Patrick Barrie. Chris Abram found the singles more of a struggle, his only win being the notable scalp of Stew Sage. He shared ninth place with Andrew Young, who, however, scored 5 1/2 in the game between them. Between these two tied placings was Stew himself, whose only win was a 6 against Chris Andrew.

Seeded in the middle of the draw was Geoff Thorpe, who won all his games except one, losing to Patrick Barrie, but succeeding in getting 4 points against

AZURE DIVISION

A. Andy Purvis
 B. Patrick Barrie
 C. Tim Hedger
 D. Phil Scarrott
 E. Chris Andrew
 F. Geoff Thorpe
 G. Stew Sage
 H. Chris Abram
 I. Tim Hunt
 J. Andrew Young

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	T.	Pos
A		2.5	6	6	6	3	6*	7*	6	6	48	1
B	4.5		6	2	1	5	6	6	5	6	41	3
C	1	1		6	6	2	6	6*	1	6*	35	4=
D	1	5	1		1	3	7*	5*	6	6*	35	4=
E	1	6	1	6		1	1	6	4	6	32	6=
F	4	2	5	4	6		6*	5*	6	6	44	2
G	1*	1	1	0*	6	1*		1	1	4	16	8
H	0*	1	1*	2*	1	2*	6		1	1.5	15	9=
I	1	2	6	1	3	1	6	6		6	32	6=
J	1	1	1*	1*	1	1	3	5.5		1	15	9=

the outright winner of the group, Andy Purvis. Every other player lost at least two games. It was an excellent day for Geoff, and provided further refutation of the notion that Geoff qualifies in odd years. Geoff came second overall, 4 1/2 points behind Andy and 2 1/2 in front of Patrick. The remaining two in the group were Phil Scarrott and Tim Hedger, seeded third and fourth. In fact their scores left them equal for fourth place, and, as readers may see from the account of the Final, Tim beat Phil in a tie-break.

The Sapphire Division was won by Geoff Myers, half a point ahead of Richard Moore, Geoff achieving the victory by a 5 - 2 potout win over Richard in the last round. Some way behind was Jon Mapley, who potted out against Geoff, but lost to Richard and to Andrew Dominey. Looking at the group at the beginning of the day, I thought these three were the most likely to go through, but I thought there would be a very close contest for the remaining place, with Alan Dean, Stu Collins (always in my view an impressive player), Andrew Dominey and Kilian Anheuser the contenders. However, Alan, it seemed, had declared his intention of playing for only one day. In the event Andrew won the fourth place, four points clear of his nearest rival, and helped by a 6 - 1 win over Jon. It was good to see the other three players, not all of whom attempt the Singles very often. Christine Wiggins was the only lady player in the tournament, and she scored two wins, one over Stu Collins 4 - 3, and the other over the other Oxonian in the group, Kilian. Harry Parkes managed three wins, including a 7 against Christine, to raise himself from his tenth seeded position to eighth in the division, and Paul Moss, who had journeyed from the North, scored an important 7

SAPPHIRE DIVISION

A. Geoff Myers
 B. Richard Moore
 C. Jon Mapley
 D. Alan Dean
 E. Stu Collins
 F. Andrew Dominey
 G. Kilian Anheuser
 H. Paul Moss
 I. Christine Wiggins
 J. Harry Parkes

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	T.	Pos
A		5*	2*	6	6*	6	6	6	7*	7*	51	1
B	2*		6	5.5	4	6*	7*	7*	7*	6	50	2
C	5*	1		7*	4	1	4	7*	5	6	40	3
D	1	1.5	0*		6*	2*	5	6	7*	3	31	5
E	1	3	3	1*		4	1	6	3	6	28	6
F	1	1*	6	5*	3		4	5.5	4	6	35	4
G	1	0*	3	2	6	3		5	1	5	26	7
H	1	0*	0*	1	1	1.5	2		7	2*	15	9
I	0*	0*	2	0*	4	3	6	0*		0*	15	10
J	0*	1	1	4	1	1	2	5*	7*		22	8

against Christine to beat her by half a point. It was close at the top and at the bottom, but there was a spread of scores in between.

The third division, named Topaz, but not, I think, after the French play of that name, was seeded fairly accurately, but, as in the Sapphire division, the top seed did not attain top place. That honour went to Matthew Rose, who won the group by one point. His last game was against Larry Kahn, and he achieved his placing by a 6 - 1 potout victory. Both the top seeds had two losses, for Nick also potted out against Larry for a 5, and Matthew was beaten 4 - 3 by Peter Wright. His other loss was a 2* - 5* against Matt Fayers, who did some giant-killing from the bottom half of the draw, beating Nick Inglis and Alasdair Grant as well. The seeding had underestimated Peter Wright, always a difficult competitor, and he came third in the group, losing only to Larry Kahn, whom at the end he trailed by one point. Nick took the other qualifying position, and these four finished more than ten points ahead of the rest of the field.

In the middle of the table, and of the seedings, were James Cullingham and David Clarkson. These two experienced players tied in fifth place, though David can perhaps claim a moral victory, having beaten James 6 - 1. New to the tournament were Matt Fayers and Pete Keevash, the former of whom has had good results over the year, which culminated in his victory in the London Open. Matt had an uneven set of results, but proved he could be a menace to the top players. Pete was less successful but brought off three wins, and found himself at the finish only half a point behind Alasdair Grant. Alasdair had a day that must have been disappointing to himself, for though seeded fourth he ended in eighth

TOPAZ DIVISION

A. Larry Kahn
 B. Matthew Rose
 C. Nick Inglis
 D. Alasdair Grant
 E. Peter Wright
 F. James Cullingham
 G. David Clarkson
 H. Pete Keevash
 I. Matt Fayers
 J. Chris Goddard
 K. Jon Williams

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	T.	Pos.
A		1*	2*	7	6	5*	6*	6	6	6	6	51	2
B	6*		5	6	3	6	5	7*	2*	6*	6	52	1
C	5*	2		6	1	6	6	6	2 1/3	6	7*	47 1/3	4
D	0*	1	1		1	1	1	6	2	5.5	6	24.5	8
E	1	4	6	6		5	6	6	6	6	4	50	3
F	2*	1	1	6	2		1	6	6	5*	6	36	5=
G	1*	2	1	6	1	6		2	5*	6	6	36	5=
H	1	0*	1	1	1	1	5		1	7*	6	24	9
I	1	5	4 2/3	5	1	1	2	6		0*	7*	32 2/3	7
J	1*	1	1	1.5	1	2*	1	0*	7*		1	16.5	10
K	1	1	0*	1	3	1	1	1	0*	6		15	11

place. His struggles must have been much like those of Chris Goddard and Jonathan Williams, who found the group a tough one. Their years will come.

THE NATIONAL SINGLES FINAL

from Charles Relle

I arrived in Queens' Old Kitchen, having tracked down the final to there. After I had left the day before, qualifying in the Azure Division had taken a dramatic turn. Tim Hedger had had to play Phil Scarrott in the last round, and had been trailing him by 5 points for the group's last place in the Final. He had squopped Phil up for the 6 - 1, forcing a tie-breaker, then, after Phil had potted five and missed the sixth from close, had himself potted out, thus qualifying by the narrowest margin. Notable also was the fact that Andrew Dominey had made the final for the first time.

The first round of the final was nearly over when I arrived. There had been two potouts already, Richard Moore against Andrew Dominey and Patrick Barrie against Matthew Rose, both games ending 6-1. I just saw the end of what must have been a really interesting game, shared 3 1/2 - 3 1/2 by Geoff Myers and Tim Hedger, and another tight contest in rounds that gave Larry Kahn a 4 - 3 against Geoff Thorpe. The last game to finish was Andy Purvis against Jonathan Mapley. Jon said in rounds "I'm glad to have kept in this game", and up to round five, with two greens and two reds in the pot, the position was fairly balanced. Now Jon (Green) had a pot from the edge to secure a 5, whereas Andy had a free red near

the pot. Jon missed, giving Andy a 4 - 3 if he potted. He failed, leaving Jon a 5 - 2.

Not long after Round 2 began I had a word with Andrew Dominey. I should have watched his match against Geoff Myers. Andrew had attempted a potout and missed the sixth, and Geoff had himself potted out for a 5* - 2*. As I passed another table I saw Nick, on a squop-up, have to free a big of Larry, and Larry clout the pile with it, all just before rounds. Later, Larry had some play, and Nick missed a close vital pot in round 5, which allowed Larry to win 5 1/2 - 1 1/2. Elsewhere Geoff Thorpe, I noticed, had momentary hope, but Peter Wright squopped him up, covering fours yellows in a pile for a 6 - 1 win.

Richard was complaining constantly at his position against Tim, but seemed to me to be in a good state. My analysis was confirmed when Richard squopped Tim up with the last shot of the game. Elsewhere Jonathan, now against Matthew, was fighting another rearguard action with some good potting in rounds, and came away with 3 points. Finally Patrick was playing Andy, who won 5 - 2, and pronounced it a dreadful game. Patrick thought it had been a good game! Richard was now leading then tournament with 12 points.

In the next round, as I circulated, I noticed that Nick had a squopup against Matthew and Andy against Geoff Thorpe, and that an indeterminate battle was being waged by Larry against Tim. Geoff Myers looked to be prevailing against Jon: when Jon exclaimed "Oh come on", we knew he had missed something. In fact Geoff seemed slightly ahead much of the time and his advantage was enough for a 6 - 1 win. Richard seemed slightly in the better position against Patrick, and this again

turned out to be a 6 - 1. As I walked round again I observed that Matthew had to some extent redeemed his position against Nick: later the game was unrecognisable from its former self, but Nick made two pots in round five for a 5 - 2 win. Andy continued to keep Geoff Thorpe squopped up, and the impression that he was heading for a potout was confirmed by the eventual 7* - 0* scoreline. Meanwhile Peter Wright beat Andrew 6 - 1, and Larry managed 4 against Tim after Tim had missed an important squop in rounds. Richard now had 18 points, and was 3 1/2 clear of Geoff Myers.

The quickest game in round 4 was Geoff Myers's 6 - 1 potout against Patrick. This should have turned my attention to the game between Richard and Jon, but my notes are not very helpful at this point. Jon produced a Good that helped his cause, but later missed two squops that would have been very useful. Richard then endeavoured to confine Jon to one colour, but that colour was enough to give Jon 4 points at the finish. Andrew made a good fight of his game against Larry, but succumbed 1 - 6 in the end. I missed the needle match of the round, between Hedger and Wright, in which Tim got 6. Now Richard had 21 points, with Geoff Myers on 20 1/2, and Larry a further point behind.

The most notable thing about round 5 was that all the games except one were won 6 - 1, and that all, except that one, went to the player in the upper part of the draw. The exception was Patrick's 7 against Peter Wright. The position at the top did not alter. This round was scarcely over before, in round 6, Patrick had scored his second successive 7, this time against Larry. Peter was less successful, getting his second successive 0, the winner being Jon, who squopped up his opponent and

fought off Peter's plan 47. The Good shot featured in Geoff Thorpe's struggle against Geoff Myers. I thought the shot was somewhat speculative, and in fact it did not disturb the pile at which it was aimed, and the wink went off the table. Myers scored 6. A tight game between Tim and Matthew swung at length towards Matthew, who got 6.

Now journalistic duty proved less strong in me than the desire for a cup of tea, so I sallied forth, and returned later to find that I had missed the whole of round 7, the most notable feature of which seemed to be a potout by Andy against Larry for a 7. In round 8, the first thing I saw was Richard potting out against Larry, and following with his second colour for a 7. Three successive zeros seemed to diminish Larry's chances of winning the championship. An interesting and very tight game was played by Jon and Nick, who were contesting a large pile, Jon in order to keep it, and Nick to free. When Nick managed to get on in two places, and when Jon squopped on, one of his winks slid off elsewhere. But he soon established control, except for Nick's last wink. When, however, Nick broke the pile, he went off the table, and the general fall of the winks favoured Jon, who reduced Nick to one wink of each colour and scored 6. Matthew scored a significant 6 against Geoff Myers. The leader at this stage was Andy on 39 points, a point ahead of Richard, but Jon, now in sixth place, was on 33, and between these were Patrick (36), Geoff Myers (35 1/2) and Matthew (35), so a hard contest was in prospect.

In the next two rounds, I seemed to be called upon to umpire quite frequently, so I did not write coherent notes on them. I recorded that Andrew and Nick seemed to be playing a fairly open game going into rounds, and

that Andrew potted four blues, enough to give him 4 points and his first win. Round 9 pitched Geoff Myers against Larry, Larry scoring 4, and Andy against Richard. Though Richard soon had a good position against Andy, Andy played a breakout in round 3, but the fall of the winks did not go his way, and Richard ended with 5 points. Meanwhile Jon was getting free turns against Tim, and though at one point he seemed to let his advantage slip, he was back in control in rounds for a 6. Another important result was Patrick's 6 against Geoff Thorpe. One of the most interesting games in round 10 was that between Jon and Andrew. Jon, needing a win to keep in contention, held a triplet, but Andrew had a doubleton and most of the other squops. Jon got a doubleton too, and each subbed at least once, Jon giving his opponent a doubleton. The outcome was 4 1/2 to Jon, who had had to fight hard all the way. It seemed to me that Andy had a good position against Geoff Myers until Geoff performed a knock-off which Andy failed to resquop. This allowed Geoff to break out. The lie of the winks seemed to favour Andy, but the game swung towards Geoff and back to Andy, who broke late in rounds. He suffered a pop-out in round 5, however, and Geoff won 4 1/2 - 2 1/2. Richard beat Peter 6 - 1, and in a fairly even battle, Nick scored 4 1/2 against Patrick by taking advantage of an unlucky sub, and, importantly, holding the central ground.

At the end of the penultimate round, the leading scores were: Richard 49, Patrick 44 1/2, Andy and Jon both 43 1/2, Geoff Myers 43 and Matthew 42. In the final round Richard had to play Geoff, Andy to play Matthew and Patrick to play Jon.

I began by watching Geoff Myers play Richard.

Three points or more would make the tournament secure for Richard, whereas Geoff needed seven to overhaul him. Geoff potted four blues with one still at the corner, and brought out his last. Richard put winks near to the remaining two. At his next Blue turn Geoff potted the fifth and sixth winks, both from about ten inches. With his second colour he got the seven. He now had 50 points, and Richard stayed on 49. This left Geoff in a strong position: however, both Andy and Jon could win the championship with a score of 7, but if Patrick were to score 6 or better against Jon, he could win. Andy's chance disappeared when Matthew potted out against him, scoring 5 points. This left the attention of the spectators and those who had finished the last round fixed on the game between Jon and Patrick. It cannot have been easy for either of them to play well in the circumstances, especially as both knew that only a big win would do. Jon in fact had a strong position, but could not hold it, as he had to go for a potout. Patrick lunched one of Jon's reds, and Jon potted three more, but went over the pot with the fifth, and was squopped. This was not the end of the story, for he managed to free and pot it, and was left with the problem of the sixth wink. Problem it was, since it was on two yellows, one of which was on a blue, and the whole position was such that not even Jon thought of potting the top wink. He boondocked one of the yellows, intending to remain on the other, but freed it next to his red, and was instantly squopped. Patrick needed 6 for the championship, and yellow was his only pottable colour. He potted five and boondocked the red. Jon could not pot it from three feet, and Patrick was left with an easy pot (if any pot was easy in this situation) of yellow. He succeeded, but for

him at least the minor placings were vital. In the description that follows I may not have accounted for all the winks, but readers will gain an idea of the sequence. Blue missed, Green potted and missed, Red potted his last. Blue then missed. Green got one more, then missed. Blue potted four from close, and tried a long one from 2 1/2 feet. It bounced next to the pot and nearly a foot away. Then Patrick potted two of his last three and missed. Jon next hit both rims of the pot and went long, and finally Patrick potted Green for the 6 and the championship. It was great to watch, but must have been an ordeal for the players. Congratulations to Patrick on his win, and to Jonathan too. He ended in sixth place, the position in which he had been at the end of round 8, but the journey had been immense.

THE FINAL

- A. Geoff Myers
- B. Richard Moore
- C. Andy Purvis
- D. Matthew Rose
- E. Larry Kahn
- F. Peter Wright
- G. Geoff Thorpe
- H. Nick Inglis
- I. Patrick Barrie
- J. Jon Mapley
- K. Andrew Dominey
- L. Tim Hedger

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	T.	Pos
A		7*	4.5	1	3	2	6	6	6*	6	5*	3.5	50	2
B	0*		5	3	7	6*	6	1	6	3	6*	6	49	3
C	2.5	2		2*	7*	1	7*	5	5	2	6	6	45	5
D	6	4	5*		3	4	6	2	1*	4	6	6	47	4
E	4	0*	0*	4		1	4	5.5	0*	6	6	4	34	9
F	5	1*	6	3	6		6	1	0*	0*	6	1	35	8
G	1	1	0*	1	3	1		2.5	1	1	5	5	21	11
H	1	6	2	5	1.5	6	4.5		4.5	1	3	6	40	7
I	1*	1	2	6*	7*	7*	6	2.5		6*	6	6	50	1
J	1	4	5	3	1	7*	6	6	1*		4.5	6	44	6
K	2*	1*	1	1	1	1	2	4	1	2.5		1	17	12
L	3.5	1	1	1	3	6	2	1	1	1	6		26	10

CONGRATULATIONS

We congratulate Peter Wright and Linda Wilde on the birth of a daughter, Tivoli.

THE RULES

Some changes in the rules have been made. The rules which have been altered are set out below.

11. Free Turns

(a) When all the unpotted winks of one partnership are squopped, the opposing partnership is obliged to free at least one of the squopped winks. Before doing so, the squopping partnership may play one turn per unpotted wink on the field of play which was neither squopping nor squopped after the shot which caused this Rule to be invoked. These are called "free turns" and are shared between the two colours in normal rotation, even if one of these colours cannot play at a particular turn (due to having no unsquopped winks or the forfeiture of a shot according to Rule 7(a)).

(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). A freeing shot must be played no later than the turn following completion of free turns, except when the number of free turns is zero. In this case, the first member of the squopping partnership able to play must play a freeing shot during that player's turn.

(c) Free turns cease whenever a freeing shot is played. Thereafter, until their opponents have a turn with an unsquopped wink, the squopping pair must leave an

opponent's wink free after each shot played. This wink must be of the same colour as the wink free prior to the shot, unless the other colour is given an opportunity to play first. If both squopped colours become free, the first to play must be left free after each shot.

(d) If a freeing shot is not played as required by section (b), or a wink is squopped contrary to section (c), the turn in which the offence occurs is terminated, and the offended partnership is awarded a "nominated wink". For the first shot of the turn immediately following the failure to free, the player due to play the next colour shall nominate an unsquopped wink of any colour and play it as if it were his own. If after the playing of a nominated wink no wink of the squopped partnership is free, free turns are recounted and start immediately. If in the playing of the nominated wink any of the nominated colour is potted, it will ultimately count for the normal player of that colour, but the player may continue the turn, playing any wink of his own colour freed by the previous shot. If a wink of the nominated colour leaves the field of play, the player forfeits the next shot due to be played with his own colour.

If the failure to free occurs on the final turn of the fifth round after expiry of the time limit, the next colour in sequence shall be entitled to one extra turn, commencing with a nominated wink.

(e) If the time limit expires during free turns, it is deemed to have expired at the moment before the first playable shot (including a nominated wink) of the squopped pair, and Rule 9(b) applies from then.

12. Foul Shots and Foul Play

(a) If a player squidges a wink contrary to Rule 5(b) or 11, it is a foul shot, and his opponents have two options:

(i) They may require him to replace all the winks disturbed by the foul shot, and play a further shot as part of the same turn. He need not attempt the same shot as caused the illegality.

(ii) They may accept the shot in its entirety. They cannot accept part and have part replayed.

(b) 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 also a foul shot. The opponents have two options:

(i) They may have the shot, and any shot subsequent to it in the same turn that was played before the foul shot was noticed, retracted.

(ii) They may accept the shot or shots. If the opponents accept such a turn, play continues with either of their own colours of their choice.

(c) If an opponent plays a shot subsequent to a foul shot, this is equivalent to accepting it; his shot must stand (unless it is a foul shot), and the sequence of colours must be continued from that turn.

(d) If a player deliberately interferes with any wink or winks, the pot or the mat, or deliberately impedes any other player, the penalty is that the game is declared

ended, and all seven points are awarded to the player's opponents. During his own turn, however, a player may turn or clean any of his own winks which is neither squopping nor squopped nor potted, and replace it in its correct position.

(e) In the event that a foul shot is played and winks have to be replaced, then the time taken to replace the winks is not counted as part of the game.

14. Umpire

If the players are unable to agree on any matter concerned with the play of the game, or are in doubt as to the meaning or interpretation of any rule, they must if possible call a competent person to act as an umpire. The time taken for an umpire to arrive at the table is not counted as part of the game. Similarly, time taken over the interpretation of any rule, over a judgement determining the status of winks (e.g. squopped or non-squopped), or for other discussions with the umpire, should not be counted as part of the game.

If a player is doubtful whether a proposed shot will be played legally, an umpire must be called before the shot is played. The umpire must decide whether the proposed shot is likely to be legal, and if it is played, whether it has been legally executed. Any time taken to correct the outcome of a foul shot is not counted as part of the game.

On all matters on which an umpire is consulted, the decision of the umpire is final.

CAMBRIDGE OPEN - DAY 2

With the computer continuing to insist on drawing retired players into the match, a manual drawing format was continued for the second day of the open. This got off to a bright and early start with the slight drop in numbers mostly attributable to the after effects of Saturday's club dinner.

Two rounds were played before an early lunch, with both going fairly much to form. The first saw Charles & Benedict take 6 from Harry & Christine, while Nic & Matty beat Killian & Nipper. The CUTwC Trinity novices, Pete & Mat met for the third time in four games, this time with Phil & Stu respectively. Pete & Phil took this one 4 - 3, breaking Matt's run of four wins. The second round required 2, 3 and 4 player games with Stew re-joining to pot out against Stephen, and Chris A. taking 4 from Paul & Harry. Charles & Nick provided the second pot-out of the morning, with 6* from Matty & Benedict and a very amusing game saw Stu & Chris G scrape 5.5 from Kilian & James. Meanwhile, Patrick continued his unbeaten run with another 6, this time with Nipper, to beat Pete & Geoff.

Lunch was taken after two rounds to reduce time spent waiting to be served, completely wrong-footing Rupert who, on getting up for lunch, found himself in the round after by mistake. This was soon remedied when a 0* with David put him rapidly in the pub, with a number of players who chose to cash in their spare rounds for an extra pint or two. Many were not to be seen until the last round !

The afternoon continued with few dramatic upsets. Hallucinatory appearances were made by Julian in round 10 and Honey in round 11, with the latter made especially memorable by the need for her to climb onto the table at regular intervals. Patrick continued to win every game and Christine to lose, with others filling in the gaps in the middle. Matt continued to play very well, winning many more games than he lost, but notably losing

with Simon to the first of Tony's two games for the day.

The final round saw a number of changes. Anne and Spike played their first games of the day, appearing moments after the draw, and so being forced to play Stew and Rupert, in their "round after lunch". The inevitable pot-out ensued. A number of those who had played for the earlier part of the day bowed out, including Stu, despite being in second place. The victory was hardly in doubt for Patrick, however, who with 1ppg more than his closest eligible opponent after 12 games was relatively safe! The draw had a final surprise however, as with poetic timing, he was drawn with Christine. Would he lose his first game? or would she win hers? One of them had to crack! In the end a pot-out against Harry & Benedict saw Christine's record shattered & Patrick the runaway winner. Matt finished with a 4 to sneak 3rd place from Nic with Paul the 5th highest eligible player.

Overall, an interesting day with the occasional novelty enlivening steady performances from the majority of players.

[Many thanks for this article, which in courtesy I am pleased to publish following my appeal for contributions to this journal. *Editor.*]

A NOTE

Readers may have heard that Townsend Croquet were making Tiddlywinks, and that we decided, after examining their winks, not to endorse their product. We may derive something from the acquaintance, for I was recently telephoned by somebody who had bought the Townsend product and wanted a mat!

Charles Relle

BOWETTIAN RHAPSODY

(with apologies to Queen, to Queens', and to everybody else)

Is this the real life? Is this just fantasy?
Call it the Singles, an escape from reality
Look at the draw, fall to the floor and say:
"I'm just an old fart. I need some sympathy
Because I cannot squop, cannot pot. I can miss any
shot.
Any way the pile blows, doesn't really matter
To me, to me."

Bugger! Just lost to Kahn.
I had his blues all dead, but he potted out with red.

Mapley - I had him squopped up.
But now I've gone and thrown it all away.

Bugger! Ooh ooh-ooh ooh!
Didn't mean to bomb my pile
I won't be back again this time tomorrow.
Carry on, lose 6-1, doesn't really matter.

Too late, lunchtime has come.
Sends shivers down my spine: they're enforcing double fines.

Restart, everybody. I've got to go.
It's Sage after lunch, I mustn't lose to him.

Bugger! Ooh ooh-ooh ooh (any way the pile blows)
I won't qualify.
I sometimes wish I hadn't turned up at all...

[EDITOR'S NOTE: The above poem or lyric was received anonymously]

THE BOMBAY BOWL

This trophy was presented by Guinness for international matches between England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland. Winking World 3 tells us that "The present holders are England, who beat Wales in 1959, Scotland in 1960 and Scotland again in 1961." This last match resulted in a win for England by 80 points to 32. The teams had been previewed in Winking World 2, which also included a notice of a price increase of sets to 5/- (25p), and of mats to 25/- (£1.25). Though there were no internationals in 1962, a return match between Scotland and England took place in 1963, at the McEwan Hall, Edinburgh. Included in the England team was your Editor, whose most abiding and frustrating memory of the occasion is that the pubs closed at 10 p.m. in Edinburgh, even on a Saturday.

In 1964, England played both Wales and Scotland. Ireland challenged for the first time in April 1967, but lost by 67 points to 45, England's narrowest ever win. At the Warwick congress of 1968, there was an even closer contest, in which England beat Wales by 59 1/2 points to 52 1/2. Top pair for England were a new partnership, J. Mapley and C. Relle, who scored 19 points, but the top Welsh pair, M. Codd and I. Burgess, did even better with 20. Teams from Scotland and Ireland were also present. In the England team against Ireland in 1970, Cyril Edwards made his debut.

There were a few more internationals in the early Seventies, but then a lapse until 1978, when the first U.S. tour took place, and an eight round international was won by Great Britain. Since then the Americans have come over twice, and won each time. But the Bombay

Bowl, for which the Americans are not eligible to challenge, has remained with England.

Recently, Scottish Tiddlywinks has revived with the formation and flourishing of the club at St Andrews. Now must be the time for an international match. It is perhaps too late to have one in 1996, but let us try for 1997. Let us not forget too, that West of the Tamar lies Cornwall, which has a tiddlywinks club and national aspirations. Will a challenge come from there?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I see that Charles Relle keeps winning tournaments. Isn't it about time he retired and gave us youngsters a chance?

Yours sincerely,

Dr Ballsup

18 Acton Close,
Church Hill South,
Redditch,
Worcestershire, B98 9HP

[Editor's note: If the writer of this letter did not so often live up to his pseudonym, perhaps he himself would win some tournaments and take the strain off Charles.]

NEWS FROM AMERICA

The U.S. pairs result has come via the Internet.
The entry was as follows:

- A. Dave Lockwood and Brad Schaefer
- B. Larry Kahn and Rick Tucker
- C. Bob Henninge and Mac Macavoy
- D. Nick Inglis and Andrew Young
- E. Stew Sage and Chris Goddard
- F. Stu Collins

Larry comments: Basically a 2 horse race. Dave and Brad got the best of it the first day, and after the first round on the second day they had an 8 point lead. But Larry and Rick then went into high gear, and got 26 points in their last 4 games, including the needed 6-1 over Dave and Brad in the final game, to win it (they went into the last game 3.5 back).

Larry adds: We also had a World Pairs match on the Saturday night. Brad challenged with Bob against Dave (the overlap person) and Larry. It was a very competitive match, most of the games were reasonably close, and Bob and Brad had the lead after game 2. The quality of play wasn't the greatest, especially at the end, mostly due to fatigue. We think this was the first 100 year (winker experience) worlds pairs match.

Larry	Dave	2.5	4	6*	5	6	4	27.5
Brad	Bob	4.5	3	1*	2	1	3	14.5

- A. Dave Lockwood and Brad Schaefer
 B. Larry Kahn and Rick Tucker
 C. Bob Henninge and Mac Macavoy
 D. Nick Inglis and Andrew Young
 E. Stew Sage and Chris Goddard
 F. Stu Collins

				DAY ONE					
	A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	F.	TOT		
A.		6	6	6	6	6	30		
B.	1		5	5	6	6	23		
C.	1	2		5.5	1*	2	11		
D.	1	2	1.5		2.5	5	12		
E.	1	1	6*	4.5		1*	1 3.5		
F.	1	1	5	2	6*		15		
				DAY TWO					
	A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	F.	TOT	G.T.	POS
A.		1	6*	4.5	5	6*	22	52	2
B.	6		7*	5*	7*	6	31	54	1
C.	1*	0*		4	6	3	14	25	5
D.	2.5	2*	3		6	6	19	31	3
E.	2	0*	1	1		1	5	1 8.56	
F.	1*	1	4	1	6		13	28	4

THE LONDON OPEN 1996

by Charles Relle

New research needed to be done this year. The London Open needed a new venue, as the Riverdale Centre, despite our annual contribution in drinking its bar dry, had closed down. Since we traditionally support Lewisham Hospital's Diabetes Education Centre, I applied to Lewisham to see if another venue within the borough could be found. We were promised a room in the Crofton Leisure Centre. I made the arrangements, and thought no more of this part of the jigsaw. There was no on-site bar, so I had to plan somewhere for lunch. Local friends recommended the Brockley Jack, a pub a brisk ten minutes' walk away. I went to the place, noticed that four interesting real ales were available, drank a pint of one of them, survived the experience, and decided that all was well.

July 6th arrived. I decided to reach the Leisure Centre early, and, remembering a shortage of mats one year, took some of my own. At the door, I met several winkers, and a large and bemused Leisure Centre official who had not heard of the London Open. He was, eventually, convinced that we were genuine, and he and his colleagues found us some space and some tables. I was relieved that we had somewhere to play. I had no partner, but eventually Jon Mapley appeared, also partnerless, and we agreed to play together.

The early start was rather too early for some players' liking, but we had to be out of the building by 5.30 in the afternoon, so we had no choice about the starting time if we were to play a reasonable number of rounds.

Once again it was a great pleasure to welcome people to the tournament, and we especially appreciated the great effort made by those who came down from St Andrews. We had hoped also to have representatives from the new club at Truro, but a faulty car put paid to their attempt to be present. We much hope that they will

come to future tournaments, or even stage one of their own.

In round one, the sole Cornishman, Dave Salter, partnering Matthew Rose and making a welcome return to the tournament scene, inflicted a 6 - 1 defeat on Mapley and Relle, thus getting the partnership off to a good start. Other 6 - 1 winners were Kilian Anheuser and Gavin Keyte, Nick Inglis and Tim Hedger, Stew Sage and Andrew Dominey, Ben Soares and Raymond Schöne, Matt Fayers and and Patrick Barrie. Astute readers will have worked out that all games had the same score, so the draw for the second round was literally a draw. The second round produced rather more variety, including the tournament's first potout, achieved by Stuart Collins and Alasdair Grant against Jo Soares and Graham Turnbull. In the whole tournament, consisting of 42 games, there were only 9 potouts. The results table shows that Patrick and Matt were involved in four, three of which were accomplished by themselves, their only reverse in this department being a 2* - 5* against Matthew and Dave.

The break for lunch saw us repair to the Brockley Jack. As we had to complete the tournament by 5.30, the plan was to have a quick lunch followed by some sort of celebration at the end of the tournament. Alas, it was not to be. Service at the pub proved dreadfully slow, about half the speed of Lockwood in rounds, and three of the four real ales were off. The advent of 24 winkers soon demolished the remaining ale, so we were confronted with an excruciatingly long wait with uninteresting beer. Not often has there been such a gap between promise and fulfilment, and I felt that my effort to provide us with a watering hole of a proper standard had come to nothing.

So to the afternoon: by the 5.30 deadline we had played seven rounds, and the scoreline shows that the tournament was very close: six points separated the first six pairs, and there was a tie for first place, the winners being Matthew Rose and Dave Salter and Patrick Barrie and Matt Fayers. Since the ETwA chairman was present,

I expected him to present the trophy, but somehow the London Open has become associated with myself, and I had to do the job. As I made the announcement, it became clear that youth was to the fore, for Matt, obviously elated at his first tournament win, sprinted for the hypothetical podium and seized the cup.

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to everyone for taking part. I am very pleased to say that we raised another £100 for Lewisham Hospital's Diabetes Education Centre, and, as noted elsewhere, they are very grateful to us for what we do.

Please see the next page for the entry list and scores.

LONDON OPEN 1996

- A. Nick Inglis and Tim Hedger
- B. Kilian Anheuser and Gavin Keyte
- C. Patrick Barrie and Matt Fayers
- D. Jon Mapley and Charles Relle
- E. Raymond Schöne and Ben Soares
- F. Matthew Rose and Dave Salter
- G. Jo Soares and Graham Turnbull
- H. James Cullingham and Christine Wiggins
- I. Andrew Dominey and Stewart Sage
- J. Chris Goddard and Tim Hunt
- K. Geoff Thorpe and Phil Scarrott
- L. Stuart Collins and Alasdair Grant

	A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	F.	G.	H.	I.	J.	K.	L.	Tot	Pla
A.		3	1	4		1.5	6				3	1	19	8
B.	4		5			1			6	5.5	5	6	32	4
C.	6	2		6*	6	2*			7*		6*		35	1=
D.	3		1*		6	1	6	6		6			29	6
E.			1	1			4	2*	1*	6		1	16	10
F.	5.5	6	5*	6					5.5		3	4	35	1=
G.	1			1	3			1		1.5	0*	1*	8.5	12
H.				1	5*		6		1	1	1	1	16	10
I.		1	0*		6*	1.5		6		2	0*		16	9
J.		1.5		1	1		5.5	6	5			2	22	7
K.	4	2	1*			4	7*	6	7*				31	5
L.	6	1			6	3	6*	6		5			33	3