



newsletter



The misty morning session of the EACF AC Leagues playoff on Saturday 20th September. Clockwise from top left: Paul Hetherington and Terrey Sparks (Peterborough), Chris Frost and Thomas Cullis (St Albans, winners), Jane Collier, David Haslam and Jeff Farrington (all Colchester South)



Handicap tournament 13/14 September

Anyone pondering the decline in tournament entries would have found food for thought here. Seven of the 11 participants were club members, and George Woolhouse is such a regular visitor he might almost be regarded as an honorary member. Of the three others, Cesar Miranda-Reyes was the latest of late entries as he only enquired the evening before the tournament having seen our plea on the CA website. But even though we may have been short on quantity there was no lack of quality, as the other two players were Robert and Susan Fulford. Robert played on Saturday prior to taking part in an Inter Club match the following day, his place being taken by David Woolley.

Robert began with a +16 win against Rod Ashwell and followed this with a TPO against John Bevington, going one better with a QPO against Peter Aspinall when he pegged out both balls to minimise the effect of Peter's remaining bisques and went on to win +3. Susan opened her account with a +26 against George Collin. She then lost by 2 on time against Peter Aspinall, her

only defeat. Cesar lost his three games on Saturday, but the next day was a different story as he won both games and would have won the last +26 had he combined the killer instinct with his four remaining bisques.



L-R: George Woolhouse, Susan Fulford, Cesar Miranda-Reyes, Geoff Strutt, David Woolley, George Collin, Tim Brewer, Peter Aspinall

The winner was George Collin, who after his initial loss to Susan won his next five games. Susan was a close

second, followed by Peter Aspinall, Tim Brewer and the rest. Our thanks to Geoff Strutt for managing, Tim for catering, the weather for being sunny and benign throughout, and, last but not least, our old but recently serviced mower which left the lawns in the best condition they've been all season.

George Collin (1)	5/6
Susan Fulford (12)	4/5
Peter Aspinall (16)	4/6
Tim Brewer (2½)	3/5
Cesar Miranda-Reyes (9)	2/5
Geoff Strutt (9)	2/5
George Woolhouse (2½)	2/5
John Bevington (1)	1/5
Rod Ashwell (-½)	0/5

Robert Fulford (-2½)	3/3
David Woolley (9)	0/2

Match results

Beds & Herts League v Watford (home) 22 July Won 4-2

Bryan Harral (1) and Peter Aspinall (18) beat John Smallbone (3) and Quiller Barrett (9) +8T

David Woolley (9) and Cliff Hayes (18) lost to Geoff Johnson (4) and Nick Archer (12) -7T

Bryan Harral beat John Smallbone +12

David woolley beat Geoff Johnson +7T

Cliff hayes beat Quiller Barrett +8T

Peter Aspinall lost to Nick Archer -8T

Beds & Herts League v Enfield (home) 4 September Lost 2-4

Bryan Harral (½) and Peter Aspinall (16) beat Ken Pickett (3) and Tony Elliott (9) +1T

David Woolley (8) and Richard Keighley (20) beat John Sreet (11) and David Minihane (20) +15T

Bryan Harral lost to Ken Pickett -1

David Woolley lost to Tony Elliott -23

Peter Aspinall lost to John Street -15

Richard Keighley lost to David Minihane -2T

A match of two halves: after winning both the doubles matches hopes were high but Enfield came back strongly with wins by John and Tony. Bryan went for a pegout when Ken was on 5 and penult, but the forward ball missed and he pegged out the other. Ken had an easy roquet on Bryan's ball to get started and eventually pegged out after Bryan failed to hit in. Richard was unable to get the better of David to salvage the draw. This defeat left us fourth in the final table, just behind Enfield, with St Albans and Melgrave tied for first place.

St Albans and Melgrave could not be separated by any means other than a playoff, which took place at Wrest Park on Friday 19th September and was won by Melgrave, featuring a TP by Duncan Hector against Terry Mahoney. However as Melgrave is a composite team (Meldreth + Bygrave) they were ineligible for the Leagues playoff the next day, so their place was taken

by St Albans, who won and go through to next year's Secretary's Shield competition.

Many thanks to all those who turned out during the season, and especially to Bryan Harral for his captaincy and organisation.

EACF Beds & Herts League player records

	Doubles			Singles		
	P	W	L	P	W	L
Bryan Harral	7	4	3	5	3	2
David Woolley	5	3	2	5	3	2
Cliff Hayes	3	2	1	3	2	1
Peter Aspinall	3	2	1	3	0	3
Richard Keighley	2	2	0	2	1	1
Tim Brewer	1	1	0	1	0	1
Geoff Strutt	1	0	1	1	0	1
John Bevington	1	0	1	1	0	1
David Morris	1	0	1	1	0	1

"Oh, east is west and west is east . . ."

to misquote Rudyard Kipling



This is a detail from a photo that appears as part of an illustrated display on the wall of the Visitor Centre. It was presumably taken during a tournament weekend as all the centre and corner pegs are out, with the long shadows of early evening stretching across the lawns.

I asked EH about obtaining a copy, and you can imagine my surprise when I was told that the photo, taken in August 2002, had been flipped. The sun is rising rather than setting, and play is not over but has yet to start.



It may only be an illusion, but how nice it must be for a statue to be able to look the other way.