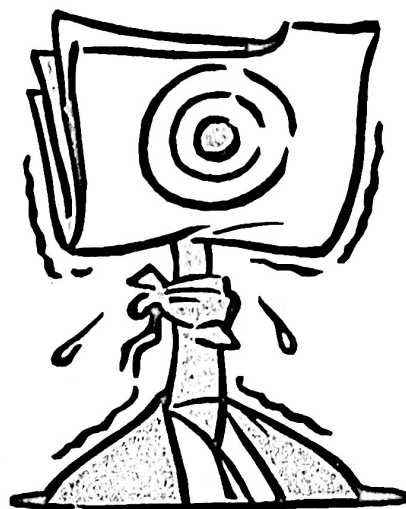


THE HACK

News from
Inverkeithing Curling Club
No. 20 (see below)
January 2001



We hope the new logo is appealing - it is allegedly a cartoon of a worried skip, with all to play for on the last stone.

Thanks for all the comment for our last issue of THE HACK. Most people were intrigued with the experiment to print from back to front! - we are back to more traditional format this time (we hope).

You might notice we have reached edition no. 20 - and last issue was no. 18 - in fact it should have been no 19. We aim to be linked to the internet as well - perhaps we could start a website. There is lots of scope for the club - as long as we get the support of members.

In this issue

- Play off required to decide winner of the annual points - *mates and rivals* ends up equal first
- Cartoons are provided by our own special artist - William Brown Esq.
- The Supper Dance Reports inside
- The Thirds competition - so far!
- League table to date
- Outstanding victory v Broomhall
- Matches and events to look forward too
- Results and match reports

Published by 'Bend an ear.'

How close to outdoor curling?

The thaw on New year Night was unwelcome, from a curling point of view. I guess that many of our readers were beginning to contemplate the thrill of spending afternoons on Otterson Loch. Does anyone have any accurate information as to how close we got to outdoor curling?

Donation

THE HACK would like to thank one of our members for a donation of £50 to support the publication.

EXCLUSIVE STORY HISTORIC VICTORY FOR CLUB AS LAMOND LEADS RINK TO TAKE ZERMATT TROPHY.

Alistair Lamond, John Taddei, Jim Aitken and Bill Galloway took part in the East Fife v West Fife Province Match at Kirkcaldy on 5th January - more details inside.

Happy New Year
to all our readers

Cartoon Page by William B



FIXTURE BOOK, YOUR SPEAKING TO HIS FIXTURE BOOK

LEAGUE RESULTS

not reported in the last issue of **THE HACK**

Tait v Macdonald 7-5
 Tait v Maclachlan 9-9
 Campbell v Paxton 11-7
 Lamond v Paxton 10-4
 Campbell v Macdonald 9-7
 Smith v Aitken 6-3
 Tait v Blyth 5-2
 Clarke v Maclachlan 5-9

Other results:

Bank of Scotland KO Lamond & Campbell - a steady and well earned victory in this two team aggregate competition. Next round a chance to beat Dunfermline - on Sunday 14th January.

C & WF

Clarke v Macdonald v Kirkcaldy IR 2-10
 Blyth v Forret ?
 Aitken v Aberdour 11-8
 Macdonald v R & A Ladies 5-5

Challenge

Ritchie v Maclachlan v Tulliallan 9-5
 Clarke & Paxton v Larbert (W) (L) 17-17
 Dunfermline Challenge LOST (but closer!)
 Broomhall Challenge see report

Province

Aitken v R & A ladies ?
 Macdonald v Balwearie 6-9

Inter Province

Smith v St Andrews 7-7

Zermatt

Lamond v Thornton won 15 - 5 and take the trophy (see match report)

Next League matches on 9th January

Campbell v Aitken
 Lamond v Clarke and on 10th January
 Tait v Paxton
 Smith v Macdonald

The final matches before the mid season break had quite an impact on the League table. Wins by Lamond and Smith, matched by a defeat for Aitken turned the top three places upside down. Tait has a chance to go top with his game in hand. This is quite likely as Bob is one the most consistent performers in the League. Colin Blyth has played most of his matches, but it seems he has certainly done enough to escape the relegation zone.

At the bottom of the League Tom Clarke with his band of mercenaries is struggling with only one win and two points. Ian Paxton has only one more point on three. With three more matches left for each of the bottom four teams it is too early to call the favourites for the drop. It certainly promises to be an interesting finish to the season. Unlike the Premier Leagues in Scotland and England the bests are still on!

INVERKEITHING CURLING CLUB

SEASON 2000/2001

(table at mid season break)

Message sent to Bob Smith after the last edition was published.. by creating the league from the scores provided I have concluded that the missing score is Tait 7 Macdonald 5. For my prize I would like to receive the remaining league match scores - can you oblige? Your very humble and obedient servant PACKO
 Some fancy number work there Ian

	P	W	D	L	f	a	Pts	+/-
SMITH	6	4	0	2	52	25	8	27
LAMOND	6	4	0	2	14	35	8	9
AITKEN	5	4	0	1	35	27	8	8
BLYTH	7	3	1	3	46	38	7	8
TAIT	5	3	1	1	30	35	7	-5
CAMPBELL	5	3	0	2	38	33	6	5
MACDONALD	6	2	1	3	39	41	5	-2
MACLACHLAN	6	1	2	3	35	56	4	-21
PAXTON	6	1	1	4	37	51	3	-14
CLARKE	6	1	0	5	31	46	2	-15

THIRDS Competition

The 'young pretenders'! have started. Syd Ward and Phil Barton lead their respective sections, however Ian Robertson has a one-match advantage that if taken will easily overhaul Phil Barton's shot difference.

Have the rumours that there might be a change in the way the Thirds competition is organised developed?

Ward v Ritchie 9-2
Ward v Wilson 9-2
Archibald v McLeod 10-7
Archibald v Ritchie 5-6
McLeod v Wilson 3-8
Ward v Archibald 8-3
Ritchie v McLeod 2-6
Ritchie v Wilson 2-6

Tibbert v Blyth 7-11
Barton v Ayres 13-4
Barton v Robertson 7-11
Blyth v Ayres 9-3
Robertson v Tibbert 11-8
Barton v Blyth PGW

next match on 12th January.
Robertson v Blyth

THIRDS FINAL

Monday 19th February
Kinross

PAIRS - FINAL STAGES ON TUESDAY 16TH JANUARY AT KINROSS

Semi finalists are; Ian Robertson/Gavin Hughes v Phil Barton/John Taddei and Peter Campbell/Syd Ward v Jim Aitken/Jim Miller.

Support would be very welcome.

CLUB DINNER

Friday 23rd February - you should have received the information, and information to invite guests from our president. Have we any prospective new members?

CLUB BONSPAIL

Friday 9th February
Kirkcaldy
Lamond & Murray Trophy

Supper Dance - item one

An excellent evening - so the non attendees missed something. The raffle raised funds of £200. The HACK reporter was at first confused why one table won over half the prizes - then heard it was something to do with the number of tickets purchased - spread betting or something! Thanks on behalf of the club for all the donations and the purchasers of tickets. We hope you enjoyed the beetroot and the plum pudding Peter (R)

Who is the invisible curler now- asks Derek Pearson? Any ideas?

The skips did well, nine out of ten attending. Bob sent his apologies in advance - sad he spoiled his 100% record. Two rinks had full attendance Ian Paxtons, and Alistair Lamond.

Ian McLeod managed to win the style points of the night - sporting a pair of ear warmers - or was it protectors. Either way Ian you looked swell on the dance floor - a bit like Mickey Mouse!



JOHN T'S IDEA
OF A CURLER'S
SUPPER!
IT'S NO WONDER
I'M THIN ON TOP

ZERMAT TROPHY VICTORY.

The lads did well and now hold a magnificent trophy. The story of the trophy goes back to the days when teams from the East and West Fife provinces went out to Zermatt for an annual competition. East Fife won the trophy and on their return to Scotland, decided to donate the prize, a swiss style drinking cup, to the winners of an annual event between the two provinces.

This, we understand is the first time the club have won the trophy. West Fife beat East Fife, and as Alistair's rink was the highest up with ten shots, they hold the trophy. Thornton could not cope with the consistent, indeed sparkling form of our four lads in their 15 - 5 victory. The joy of success even sweeter because Dunfermline were second best at 9 shots up.

Pete McLoed asked Santa for a new thermos flask - in fact he went back to Makro twice to complain that his thermos was not working. The store were very patient. The mystery was solved when Peter realised it was his kettle that was not working.

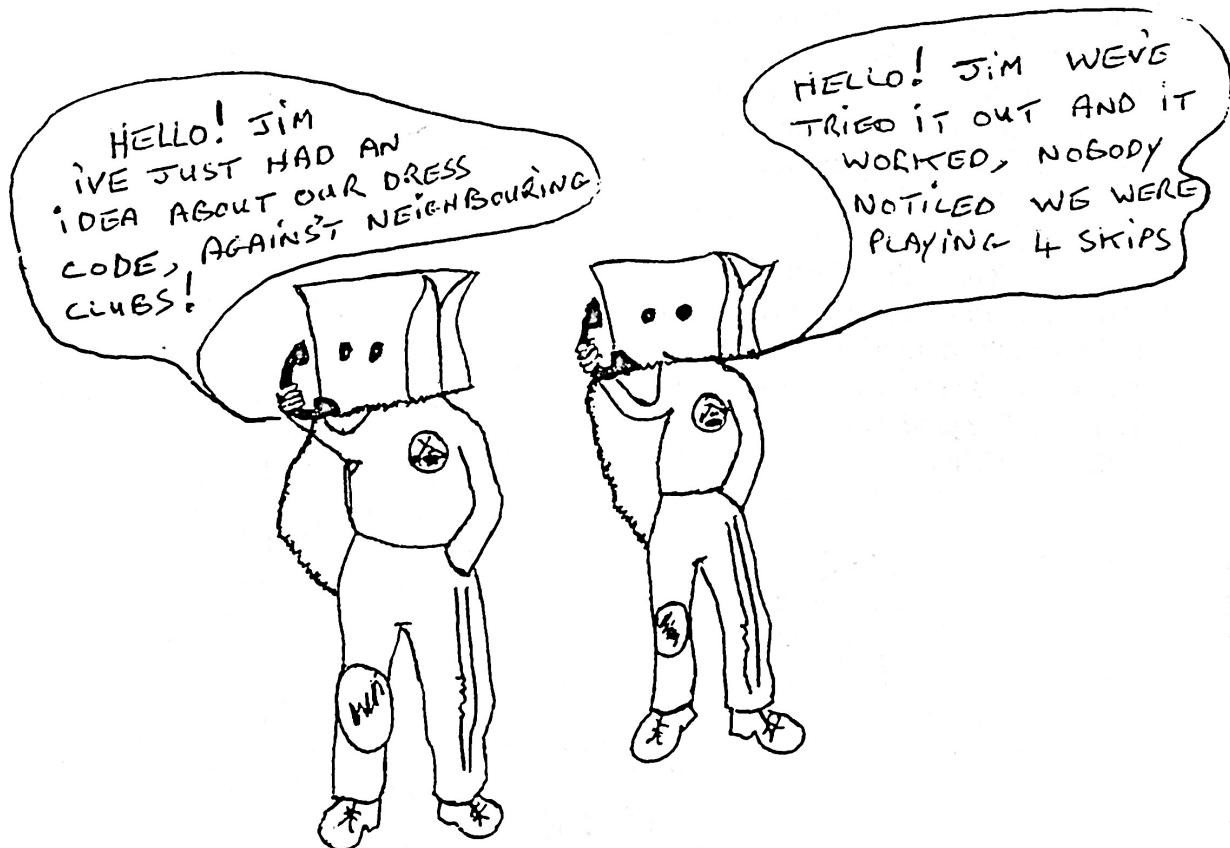
BROOMHALL CHALLENGE

A brilliant night at Kinross were the four rinks excelled in a 34 - 21 victory. The first ends all ended in our favour, however as the match progressed Broomhall started to take a clear lead. Persistent play by our rinks, and strong nerves by the skips so a dramatic swing in our favour in the last two ends. Ian Paxton took a five at the last end, and Jim Aitken took a two to peel the match.

Three wins and one peel - an impressive score, surpassing last year when Inverkeithing won on ends won, after the scoreline was equal.

Paxton, Ward, Smith, D. Murray 10-9
Lamond, Archibald, I McLoed, Innes 9 - 1
Aitken, Ayres, Jas Wilson, Hughes 8 - 8
Maclachlan, Barton, P. McLoed, Kennedy 7 - 3.

Broomhall are planning a trip to Canada - quite a project. Have we got a potential benefactor in our club? Maybe their club uses some of the VAT refund money ...
Broomhall only pay £5.30 fore ice at Kinross. They no longer play at Kirkcaldy.



SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Supper Dance item two

*observations by a man of few words
(but many pictures)*

Bob Smith possibly the best behaved I've ever seen.

Peter Campbell - 'Standing in for president@ Brilliant speech, but did not get the best of order.

Billy Brown - Almost the best behaved I've ever been!

John Tibbert - John spoke to naebody all night, naebody bought John a drink, naebody got a trophy? But ten out often John for congratulating that same naebody for getting through and joining the club

NEW CURLERS REQUIRED

Have we had any bright ideas and success in identifying potential new members. It is quite clear when you speak to members of other clubs that the sport is finding it hard to keep up the playing strength. Recent results suggest that our club might in fact be gaining ground on our rivals.

The entry requirements to be a player, might limit options - but at least everyone knows. The most important qualities for a player must be to show enthusiasm and commitment.

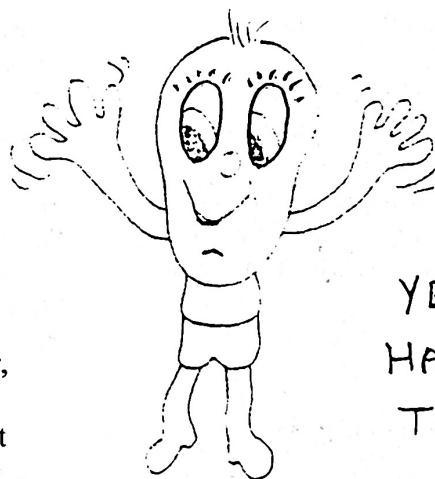
Tip of the month

Hammy McMillan, passed on a vital tip to Bob Smith, during a weekend at Stranraer, when he recommended Duck Tape as a fine product to repair holes in your curling shoes.

Pairs - club pairing reach final
Congratulations to Bob Smith & Peter Ritchie who made it to the final of the Pairs Competition at Kirkcaldy over the festive period - unfortunately the opposition in the final proved too strong securing a win with no shots conceded.

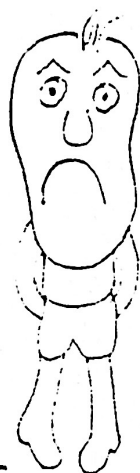
The Maxwell Trophy is to be played on Friday 19th January and Friday 2nd February.

Jack Dryburgh has returned to Kirkcaldy ice rink. We believe he is compiling a history of indoor curling. Did you know Kirkcaldy is the only pre war ice rink in current use! (No comment)



DAS FREUT
MICH!

"TRANSLATED"
YES IAN I AM
HAPPY TO DISCUSS
THE FINAL SCORE!



DAS
MIR TUT
LEID!

"TRANSLATED"
GETIFA YA
BASA AH LOST?

POINTS GALORE

The Points was close to Christmas and played at the 'poor venue' in Fife. 14 members turned up - with everyone pleased to see Tam Hunter at an event. He is sorely missed from the competitive curling circuit. *We would not mind him using the tickling stick.* There was good show from our new curlers as well.

Last year's winner Tom Clarke was unable to attend and so Phil Barton received the dubious honour of leading. In general the ice, two end sheets (what else) were quite different, however each sheet was consistent. The outside sheet, and second to play had far more movement, in fact was almost playing negative ice. The lads worked quite hard to ensure six disciplines were completed.

The final result was a tie between Bob Smith and Ian Paxton on 24 points. After a fair amount of argument and debate the RCCC rulebook was consulted and it was decided that at a future date Bob and Ian should play one more discipline to decide the winner. Many present thought it would have been best to call a tie - but other including Mr. president thought the play off was the correct call. We were assured it was nothing to do with buying two brushes.

There was some surprise at the dead heat for first place as it had appeared that Ian Paxton was hoping to emulate his success of 1998. Bob Smith had in fact fallen on his rear on at least two occasions - which probably explains why the bonnet was being worn at a jaunty angle.

Billy Brown attempted a new discipline - 'hit the president' with one stone that was probably travelling at warp speed. He admitted to getting his weight wrong. As the evening progressed our Pres, seemed to fade - probably the drink quipped Ian McLeod..

It was suggested that in next year's events the disciplines are played in a different

order - how many have ever got down to **out wicking** or **drawing through a port**, never mind **chipping the winner!** Bob a keeper of tradition was clear the order was derived for a purpose - it prepared the ice. He would say that perhaps!

The results were as follows (sheet one followed by sheet two score with the combined total:

Ian Paxton 15/9 = 24
Bob Smith 13/11 = 24
Ian Macdonald 8/13 = 21
Syd Ward 11/7 = 18
Pete Campbell 9/8 = 17
Jim Aitken 8/8 = 16
Phil Barton 11/3 = 14
Billy Brown 8/6 = 14
Ian McLeod 10/3 = 13
Bill Galloway 6/6 = 12
Gavin Hughes 6/3 = 9
Ian Innes 5/4 = 9
Trevor Hutcheson 3/5 = 8
Tam Hunter 6/1 = 7

Peter McLeod missed the points competition - it has been alleged he was out wenching! (What's that some of our readers ask?)



Club member finally admits to being off his rocker! article copied from local press without permission.



CLUB UNIFORM

Sweat shirts - fleece jackets
Some members have started to wear the new fashion item - very smart. Well done to the clubs outfitters.

Bonspiel - a mixture of French and German. Guess who told THE HACK about the roots of this word. He also told THE HACK that the proof reading was not of sufficient standard. Fair point - but the wages are not good enough!

We hope you enjoyed this issue of THE HACK - it would be even better if we could get a few items from members.

You can send articles by post, hand them over to Bob Smith or Phil Barton. You can send items to Phil at 21 Inch Avenue, Aberdour, Fife. KY3 0TF or fax to 01383 860956. and for now email to: barton@aberdour1.fsnet.co.uk

The plan is to compile another issue for after the Dinner, so that we can include a report of the Thirds and hopefully the final matches of the League.

• by Richard Cranidge

AN INVERKEITHING man has the best possible NEIGH-bours - beautiful, silent and worth hundreds of pounds.

In the past two years, rocking horses have become part of the McPherson household, taking over space in the garage and living room.

David, who lives with his wife in Niven Road, is one of the few rocking horse makers and restorers left in the UK and one of only 400 members of a worldwide guild of rocking horse makers.

The former manager at an Edinburgh timber merchant explained, "When I retired two years ago, I found I had a lot of spare time on my hands.

"To begin with, I made things like old-fashioned

barrows for holding plants but I was turning them out every other day and I thought I would get fed up with that. I wanted something that would be more time-consuming."

He got in touch with a firm in Yorkshire who supply wood for making rocking horses.

There are 23 separate pieces which have to be carefully assembled before the long process of carving the wood begins.

Once that is completed, the mane and tail, which are made of real horse hair, are attached, along with the saddle, bridle and stand.

The process takes around 90 hours and it is that time and craft which gives each horse a unique character.

Mr McPherson's custom has come from many different sources, including nurseries, schools and indi-

viduals.

Some people want them as a special present for their children while others intend them as an ornament.

He said, "I recently had one to restore that was 70 years old and had been lying in a garden shed for years.

"The children who had used it were grown up but they wanted it done up for future generations.

"They are expensive but there are never two the same and once they are made, they will last forever."

Mr McPherson has seen horses on sale in Harrod's for £4000 but all of his, even though they are of high quality, are sold for three-figure sums.

But it is a one-man show, so if you are planning early for next Christmas, he needs plenty of notice.

Happy Curling