

BBC tv

Sudeley Castle

Sunday 18th April 1976



IT'S A Medieval KNOCKOUT

WINCHCOMBE v CIRENCESTER v NEWBURY

25p

Designed & Printed by Gloster Graphics Ltd.
3M476

SUDELEY CASTLE

If you have enjoyed today's event, why not come again — on a quiet day, perhaps, to savour our normally more tranquil atmosphere! Or to one of our forthcoming Special Attractions:

- 1) **MAY 23 — TULIP SUNDAY!** — Thousands of tulips have been newly planted in Katherine Parr's formal gardens
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- 4) **AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY — SUNDAY & MONDAY, AUGUST 29 & 30**
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The 'Crossed Lances' return to stage a spectacular tournament

WELCOME TO IT'S A KNOCKOUT!

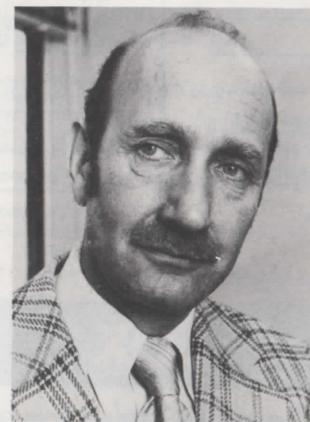
This year, Knockout is 10 years old and more British teams than ever will be competing with three teams in each of the seven rounds.

The winners of this third round match at Sudeley Castle, between Winchcombe, Cirencester and Newbury, will take part in at least two further competitions. Their European Heat will be at Caslano in Switzerland on 23rd June. This year, for the first time, they will also participate in a British Winners competition for the Radio Times Trophy at Charnock Richard in Lancashire on 27th June.

Should today's winning team prove ultimately to be our most successful representatives in Europe, they will of course also appear in the International Grand Final, which this year is to be held at Blackpool on 22nd September.

I know that all three of today's teams have been training hard for this event and I am sure that whoever wins will perform with credit in the subsequent competitions.

May I take this opportunity of welcoming you to this lovely setting for the games. We hope you all enjoy yourselves supporting your favourites and may the best team win!!




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THE STORY OF SUDELEY CASTLE

In the last five years over half a million people have visited Sudeley Castle to enjoy the beauty of its buildings, gardens and Cotswold setting. Not all of the visitors enjoying the tranquility of a summer afternoon visit are aware, however, that Sudeley's history goes back even beyond the Norman Conquest and has been associated with some of the most turbulent times in English history.

In Saxon times King Ethelred the Second had a Royal Manor House near Winchcombe which was then at the height of its fame and was capital of the ancient Kingdom of Mercia. The remains of King Ethelred's Manor House are thought to lie in the Hopyard field to the east of the present Castle buildings. There is good evidence to believe that William the Conqueror visited Sudeley on his many visits to Gloucester but no remains exist of the Castle at that time. The first stone building had to wait in fact until the 12th century when John de Sudeley erected the first building on the exact present site. Of his building only an embattled tower remains and this can be seen between the present Banqueting Hall ruins and the main Courtyard.

The vast majority of the Castle as it is presently seen was built by Ralph Boteler who married into the Sudeley family. He was renowned as a soldier in the French campaigns of King Henry V and with some of the money he no doubt made in that venture was able to finance the building of what was considered to be one of the finest Castles in England. As happened frequently during its history Sudeley reverted to the Crown when the occupant lost favour with the Monarch and at the time of King Henry VIII's death it was granted by him to his last and surviving wife Queen Katherine Parr who was perhaps the Castle's most illustrious owner. She, sadly, died at Sudeley in 1548 and is buried in the beautiful Chapel to the east of the Castle. Sudeley passed to the Lords Chandos and Queen Elizabeth I who had been a girlhood visitor came on no less than three occasions as part of her "progresses". At this time Sudeley must have been truly magnificent and a reconstruction of the Castle as at that time may be seen in the Royal Sudeley Exhibition.

During the English Civil War of 1640-46 King Charles I used Sudeley as his headquarters and the dashing Prince Rupert was frequently seen here. Alas, the Castle was twice besieged, and surrendered and Oliver Cromwell ordered the Castle to be "slighted" or reduced to the extent that it could no longer be held as a fortress.

The Castle fell on evil times and during the 18th century was a mere ruin.

At the beginning of the 19th century the building passed into the hands of the present owners who have spent considerable time and money renovating parts of the Castle. The buildings, whilst essentially 15th and 16th century, incorporates various Victorian additions which are very much in keeping with the original style.

A comprehensive description of Sudeley and more about its fascinating story will be found in the guide book.



WINCHCOMBE SQUAD

Back Row – left to right

*P. Hornby (coach), K. Parsons, V. Chapman, K. Dancer, D. Owen,
E. Sekulic, N. Hobbs, T. Mustoe, B. Lewis (coach)*

Middle Row

P. Webb, D. Hunt, J. Wallis, L. Hayden, R. Tyler, T. Madley, P. Butler

Front Row

*H. Godfrey-Porton, M. Morris, P. Green, W. Moseley, S. Baker, W. Slatter,
D. Jones*

The Winchcombe Team is supported entirely from the proceeds of the sale of this programme and the generous assistance of the following organisations:—

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WINCHCOMBE

Situated in a valley in the Cotswold Hills about a mile from Sudeley Castle is a town of some four thousand inhabitants. It has not changed a great deal over the last century and its many old grey limestone cottages and houses with their stone tiled roofs contributed to its charm.

There are picturesque lanes leading down to the small river which runs alongside the town and a walk along the main street will reveal many features of architectural interest. One may easily imagine the Horse Fairs and Mop Fairs which took place in the streets a hundred years ago. The well used stocks which stand at the corner of North Street and the High Street are a reminder of old time village justice.

The Parish Church of St. Peter has many and various gargoyles around its outer walls, believed to be old Winchcombe characters, or perhaps caricatures of the old monks of Winchcombe Abbey. Unfortunately, virtually nothing now remains of the magnificent Benedictine Abbey which dominated Winchcombe in the Middle Ages. The Abbey was established by King Kenulf, son of the legendary Offa, in whose reign during the Eighth Century Winchcombe became capital of the Saxon kingdom of Mercia. The Abbey, together with nearby Hayles Abbey, was almost completely destroyed in the Dissolution of the Sixteenth Century.

Winchcombe has seen many changes in its trade and occupations over the years. Like most Cotswold towns it was involved in the wool trade in the Middle Ages. In the Seventeenth Century it became an important tobacco growing centre. This was a profitable venture until it was prohibited to help the expansion of the colonies. Paper making has continued for many centuries, probably the longest established trade in the area, and at one time there were many small paper mills along the banks of the River Isbourne.

Nowadays, Winchcombe is perhaps best known as a residential and agricultural community and is increasingly popular with tourists passing along the Cotswolds.

Today, however, Winchcombe's claim to fame will be as competitors in the BBC's "It's a Knockout" competition. Our team has been training enthusiastically and is looking forward to joining with Cirencester and Newbury in the Battle of Sudeley 1976 on Easter Sunday.



PHOTOGRAPH OF CIRENCESTER TEAM SQUAD

- Standing (L. to R.) *David Williams, Andrew Hughes, Andrew Myhill, Anita Newnham, Paul Perry, Barry Gardner, Tony Crane, Shaun Barron, Kenneth Anthony, Peter Britton, Tony Weaven, Eddie Butler, Kevin Magee, June Lock.*
- Seated (L. to R.) *Penny Allberry, Patricia Harris (Women's Captain), Walter Gray-Brown (Trainer & Men's Captain), Wyn Lloyd (Local Organiser), Joy Williams, Ann Crane, Sarah Acres, Deborah Bates.*
- Kneeling (L. to R.) *Carolyn James, Sharon Townsend, Michele Still.*
- "Phoenix" Majorettes *Mandy Harris, Kirsty Hill, Jo Kent, Beverley Newland, Sarah Davies, Deborah Newland, Nicola Cook, Frances Wood, Laura Newland.*

CIRENCESTER TEAM SQUAD – "IT'S A KNOCKOUT"

Believe it or not, the Cirencester team is representing a town which, in Roman times, was second only to London in size and importance. It is now a thriving Market Town with a population of approximately 14,000 where the Market Place presents a colourful and lively scene and in which the colours of the buildings blend together to form a harmonious whole as the centre of what is now generally accepted as the "Capital of the Cotswolds". The scene is dominated by the magnificent Parish Church of St. John the Baptist – one of the famous "wool" churches of the Cotswolds, so called because they owe their being to prosperity brought to the Cotswolds in days past by the wool trade.

Although to the casual visitor time may have appeared to have passed Cirencester by, those who live in the town know full well that it contains a community throbbing with enthusiasm for sporting, cultural and leisure activities. In 1975, when Cirencester celebrated its 1900th Anniversary no less than 46 organisations and associations in the town offered to make some practical contribution to the events which were being arranged to mark this memorable occasion. Little wonder, therefore, when the B.B.C. extended an invitation to field a team for "IT'S A KNOCKOUT" at Sudeley Castle considerable interest was shown in this proposal and, indeed, many more applicants came forward for a place in the Team Squad than could possibly have been accommodated. For this reason it was essential that rigorous and strenuous trials should be arranged to test the physical fitness and stamina of aspiring candidates for a place in the team. Thanks to the ingenuity and professional experience of our Trainer/Team Manager Walter Gray-Brown (Manager of the Cotswold Sports Centre) I am confident that we have produced a squad which will at least be hard to beat. Easter Sunday alone will tell!

The Cotswold Sports Centre, owned by the Cotswold District Council is located in Cirencester. This is a superb modern leisure and sporting complex and the team acknowledges with grateful thanks the generosity of the District Council in allowing the free use of the Centre for training purposes. Equally, we are grateful to the Cirencester Town Council for its support to our effort.

The team will not be lacking in vocal support. A small contingent from the "Phoenix Majorettes" under the direction of Brenda Newland and Judith Wood will be our Cheer-Leaders. Formed in May 1975, the Majorettes are now in great demand and have already established themselves as a great attraction with their displays of military-like precision. The Phoenix, incidentally, is the emblem on the town's insignia.

Good luck to Cirencester, Newbury and Winchcombe. May the best team win!

Wyn Lloyd
Organiser – Cirencester Team

PROGRAMME

11.00 a.m. Gates open to Castle and Grounds.

(N.B. Visitors are not allowed into the Spectators Arena until the rehearsals are finished, and only at the stated times below.)

3.30 p.m. Admission to arena for Advance ticket holders only. This will be (approx.) announced over the B.B.C. public address system.

(N.B. BUFF and GREEN tickets only.)

4.00 p.m. Admission for other ticket holders. This will be announced by the B.B.C. (approx.)

4.00 –

4.45 p.m. Folk Dancing and New Orleans Jazz Band in the Arena.

4.45 p.m. B.B.C. recording of It's A Knockout Competition.

5.45 p.m. End of competition.

(approx.)

7.30 p.m.

(approx.) Castle and Grounds close.

WARNING

Spectators are now allowed into the competition arena and must stay behind the barriers at all times.

Please keep well away from all B.B.C. equipment.

THE GAMES

Game 1 – 'Get The Sack'

One man is lifted on a wooden palette by 2 others. He takes sacks on the shelves and throws them to the girl who loads them onto a cart. When loaded the cart is pushed to the finish line.

Marathon 1

A man dressed in costume in which he cannot see is audibly directed by a girl to burst the Cavaliers balloons with his helmet.

Game 2 – 'Hoopless'

3 men and 3 girls standing on a block have to throw hoops to a team-mate standing on a revolving platform with a catching pole in each hand. The platform is turned by the opposing team.

Marathon 1

Game 3 – 'Knights of Favour'

A girl at the end of the course holds out a favour on a pole. The knight runs down the course on a hobby horse collects the favour on his lance and returns to his valet who hangs it on a board.

Marathon 1

Game 4 – 'An Apple A Day'

Two men and a girl stand on an air tube, each with a large shield with which they must protect the royal apples on the tree behind. The opposite team throw balls at the trees to hit the apples.

Marathon 2

Man dressed in costume in which he cannot see is directed audibly between Cavaliers clad in balloons. He must burst as few balloons as possible.

Game 5 – 'Hungry Henry'

Man throws apples into a bowl on a table two others then throw them to man and girl who throw them at Henry VIII. They first have to hit his middle to open his mouth. They have to get the apples into his mouth.

Marathon 2

Game 6 – 'What A Knight'

A knight on a toy horse with another horse in tow waits for two of his team-mates to open the castle doors with a battering ram and hold them open. He rides to the keep walls and climbs to rescue a damsel. Together they escape through the castle door.

Marathon 2

Game 7 – 'Crime Partners'

Man and girl have to climb keep walls to get inside the castle vaults. Once inside they must grab as many bags of money as possible and return the same way.

THE END

SCORING

Marathon	...	...	...	...	6, 4 or 2 points
Games 1–6	...	...	...	...	3, 2 or 1 points

Double points for Joker on any game except marathon



NEWBURY

The market town of Newbury nestles in the beautiful countryside of Berkshire with the river Kennet flowing through its centre. Situated on the crossroads – London to Bath and the Midlands to Southampton – Newbury's prosperity was based on farming and, in particular, the sheep trade. In June 1811 two sheep belonging to Sir John Throckmorton were sheared at five o'clock in the morning and the wool given to John Coxeter who had it spun, the yarn spooled, warped, loomed and wove. The cloth was then burned, milled, rowed, dyed, dried, sheared and pressed, by four o'clock. All the processes of manufacture were performed by hand in eleven hours. The cloth was then given to Isaac White whose son, James, cut out the coat and had it made up in two hours and twenty minutes and it was presented to Sir John Throckmorton who appeared with it on before 5,000 spectators. "This singular and unprecedented performance was completed in thirteen hours and twenty minutes." It was called the Throckmorton Coat. Since then Newbury has developed into a bustling town of 25,000 people with another 25,000 in the surrounding villages and district.

The nearby villages of Lambourn and East Ilsley (so-called after a civil war battle when many were killed and it was named the 'hill of the slain') are now famous for racehorses, and the gallops on the Downs are busy in the early morning when the horses

are taken out for training. So, today, our team of cheer-girls are appropriately dressed in jockeys' uniforms; this is even more appropriate as the town boasts one of the finest racecourses in the Country. On the direct line from London many visitors come by train to the regular monthly meetings and many others travel down the M4 motorway which has made the district popular for those who prefer to live in a smaller, compact community but still have the advantages being able to travel to the larger cities and shopping centres.

Newbury's team was selected through a system of 'sudden death' organised by Mike Hart, physical training instructor at St. Bartholomew's Comprehensive school in Newbury. The idea of entering It's a Knockout came from Newbury Round Table which appealed for volunteers through The Newbury Weekly News and over 80 young people came forward for the test. One young man had three weeks treatment in hospital afterwards, but we understand that he has now recovered! A long established shop, Camp Hopson & Co., have supplied the sports clothes for our contestants and many locals have helped to prepare our team for the battle. The age of the team ranges from sixteen to thirty. The photograph shows Newbury's team with their coaches Mike Hart and Sue Robertson together with Chris Saint, Chairman of Newbury Round Table. In recent years Newbury has also become known as a centre for Hot Air Ballooning and thus Newbury's choice of Mascot for its team – a locally owned balloon named "Jack of Newbury", after a man who lived in Newbury at the time of Henry VIII and is still remembered as a founder of Newbury's trade and prosperity.

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IT'S A KNOCKOUT!

It's a Knockout has become a national institution and an international phenomenon. Its roots go back more than 20 years when then producer Barney Colehan first launched a series in the North called Top Town, in which communities competed against each other in a studio.

Knockout was born in 1966 and has never looked back. The following year, Europe joined in and set in motion the crazy international competition Jeux sans Frontieres.

Knockout's inimitable duo, Stuart Hall and Eddie Waring are the commentators again, and former international soccer referee Arthur Ellis is the senior referee.

This year Knockout has a new producer, Cecil Korer who says "My ambition is to put more fun back into the show. I want to revive the original concept of the series as a fun show with lots of fun. In recent years, it has become too competitive and serious.

"The European versions have often been crazier than ours and now we are importing some of that flavour with daft props and costumes.

"The bonus for the teams will be that they will have the chance to take part in European-style games before Jeux sans Frontieres actually starts. British teams haven't performed so well lately. The changes we are making should alter that."



EDDIE WARING

Eddie joined the programme in 1966 and has vast experience of Knockout recordings all over Europe.

He has been a top BBC personality ever since TV came to the North in 1951, becoming a household name in covering Rugby League.

Born in Dewsbury, Eddie played soccer, Rugby Union, Rugby League — and was a wrestler, too.

A globe-trotter, he has made seven trips round the world and appeared on TV in Australia, New Zealand and the U.S.

Eddie usually gives a special blow-by-blow account of the mini-marathon contest, which can be a vital tie-breaker in a tight contest. "For me," he says, "the programme really comes alive when we go into Europe. The atmosphere is electric, the competition intense, and yet so enjoyable. It's an exciting show to do."

STUART HALL

Stuart Hall, who made his Knockout debut in 1972, presents Look North, the BBC North West weeknight TV magazine programme in Manchester, and makes frequent appearances on the network in Nationwide.

A Lancashire lad, he first broadcast in 1958 as a radio contributor in Sports Spotlight. He has reported on soccer, cricket, tennis, motor racing and motor cycling, as well as current affairs.

His great loves are football, fast cars and antique clocks. Perhaps the clocks reign supreme — he loves their sense of continuity.

He sees Knockout as essentially a "fun show" and is determined to make it as entertaining as possible for competitors and viewers.

ARTHUR ELLIS

Arthur Ellis, from Halifax, one of the best-known soccer referees in the world, has officiated in practically every country that plays first-class football.

He refereed World Cup ties and 73 internationals in his time, and became the first English referee to be awarded the Gold Badge of FIFA.



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Designing and Printing this “It's a Knockout” programme was just part of a varied week at Gloster Graphics.

That week also saw the production of two complete stationery ranges for local businesses, a promotional package for a London entertainment agency, Posters, Showcards and Booking Forms for Gloucester's Leisure Centre, Technical literature for a company making X-Ray machines, Packet tops for D.I.Y. Frame Assembly kits, Two press advertisements for a Tyre and Battery retailer and a mountain of Information Sheets for an Estate Agent.

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