

# From the Archives – 13<sup>th</sup> February 2025



## Tennis – Qualifying Tournament for Wimbledon at Roehampton Club

In February 1925, the Joint Committee of the Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships announced for the first time that there would be a preliminary eliminating competition held this year for the purpose of filling the last eight places in the Men's Singles and Lady's Singles and the last four places in each of the three doubles championships.

The players who will take part in this competition will be selected from those who have not yet been definitely accepted for the various championships. The number selected for the preliminary competition will not exceed 32 players for each of the two singles and 16 pairs in each of the doubles events.

This competition will be conducted on the 'knockout' system and the last eight players left in each singles event, and the last four pairs left in each doubles event will be included in the draw for the Championships at Wimbledon. The British Newspaper Archives report this event widely across a number of publications at the time with the Westminster Gazette featuring their report on the front page. The London Daily Chronicle also picked up this story with both publications confirming that the preliminary competition would be held at Roehampton Club in June.

### Westminster Gazette

14 February 1925

### ELIMINATING THE "RABBITS."

**KNOCK-OUT TOURNEY  
TO PRECEDE WIMBLEDON.**



## Resignation of Founder Member LT-COL Charles Miller



The Richmond Herald reported this event in February 1950 with the reasons described as advancing years and failing health. The report confirms his role in the development of the Club over 50 years and his reputation as a fine polo player with his brothers from Rugby who were seven times champions at Hurlingham.

The article also makes reference to his obsessive attention to the quality of the grounds of the Club and his annoyance if he found a dandelion on the croquet lawns which he compared to a bad piece of play or indifferent horsemanship. His prowess at other sports had also been captured in the newspapers throughout his career such as the attached caricature in *The Sketch* publication.



**Steve Riedlinger, Roehampton Club Archivist**