

THE CUE COLLECTOR

by *Andy Hunter*

The name of Walter Lindrum is probably the best known in billiards, and there are at least eight distinctly different cues which bear this name. Unless otherwise referenced, the values relate to hand-spliced examples.

Picture Badges

I know of two picture badge cues. The first of these carries a head and shoulders portrait of Walter together with his signature. The example I have seen was ash, with a plain ebony butt. This would have a current value of £300.

The other picture badge depicts Walter and Clark McConachy in profile, facing each other. This badge exists in at least two different sizes and also has slightly differing backgrounds. The butt is rosewood and ebony, and I have only ever seen this cue with an ash shaft. It's value would be in the region of £300.

Record Break Badges

The first badge commemorates Lindrum's record break of 3,262 completed on 7th December 1929 at the conclusion of a two week match against Willie Smith in London. Also bearing Lindrum's signature, the badges for both record break cues are identically styled (as illustrated) with just the details being changed. Examples have only been seen with an ash shaft and a plain ebony butt, and a value of £150-200 can be expected.



Lindrum's 1932 "Record Break" Cue

Lindrum's second "record break" cue commemorates his break of 4,137 made over 19th-20th January 1932. This was Lindrum's highest recorded break in competitive play, and a good example would be worth about £150.

There is also a machine spliced cue with a similar badge, except that the inscription is read holding the cue vertically, rather than being side-on. This cue has a front veneer, while the hand-spliced versions are plain ebony. A value of between £70-80 can be expected for an ash shafted example, but there is a much rarer pear shafted version, which would bring between £140-160.

Special Cue

The Walter Lindrum "Special Cue" has two ebony and two rosewood splices. This cue does not have a badge, the name and inscription being embossed into the wood, and filled with golf leaf. It's value would be £120-140.



Walter Lindrum "Special" Cue

Monarch Cue

Although not specifically mentioning Walter, it is believed that the "Lindrum Monarch Cue" was produced to market his name rather than those of his brother Fred or nephew Horace. The cue has a rosewood and ebony butt, and the badge is black with gold lettering. It's value would be approximately £150.

The value of all these cues will vary depending upon its rarity and condition. With all else being equal, picture badges are always the most expensive.

Most of the cues in the Walter Lindrum range were made by Peradon & Co who manufactured a vast range of cues exclusively for the billiard trade. As a result there may also be a transfer, or additional badge which is added by the retailer prior to sale. These are known to include Willie Holt (Burnley), Smith & Nelson, Thurston's and E. A. Clare & Son.

[Andy is keen to hear from anyone with an example of the Lindrum 1929 Record Cue. He can be contacted on 01670-774416—Ed.]

Northern Ireland News

by *Davy Pogue*

"Billy Mills Memorial" 1998

The first event of the 1998/99 season has been won by the ex-snookey pro, Tommy Murphy. The Billy Mills Memorial, sponsored by The Windsor Club, and the NI Billiards Association, is a non-ranking event as past Northern Ireland Champions are not permitted to enter.

In the final, played at the Windsor Club rooms, in front of a large crowd, Murphy just got home by 18 points over the 2 hour game. Aaron Cahoon, Murphy's opponent, had lead throughout the game by over 100 points up to the final 15 minutes when Murphy came with runs of 42, 36, 39 and 20 unfinished to lift the title.

In the semi-finals, Cahoon defeated Eugene Rogan by 22 points over 1½ hours, while Murphy beat Davy Pogue by 42 points in two very close games.

Highest break prize went to Jimmy Victor McLaughlin with 106. The prizes were handed over by Windsor Chairman, Billy Craig, and the Associate secretary Davy Pogue who congratulated both finalists for providing such an exciting game of billiards. Thanks was also given to the NI Referees Association, who officiated the matches, and The Windsor Club for staging the event.

Bangor Reading Rooms Billiards Classic

The opening shots of the first ranking event were fired at the Bangor Reading Rooms Billiards Classic which commenced Sunday 27th September. Tony Buttimer was quick off the blocks, running out an easy winner over Bob Broome 400-132, aided by breaks of 52, 60, 74 and 100, which also set the target for the top break prize.

Jimmy Victor McLaughlin was also in good form, having runs of 51, 52 and 71 in his victory over Tommy Murphy. Eugene Rogan from the home club, defeated clubmate Darl Hayes in the all-Bangor clash. Davy Pogue knocked in runs of 39, 41, 51 and 73 against another Bangor man, George Thompson. Freddie Cahoon got the better of fellow Windsor player Sammie Currie, while Paddy Donnelly—the holder—got through by defeating Brian Haskell. Pat Flynn shocked Joe Drain with a good solid performance, and former Northern Ireland Champions Sammy Clarke and John McIntyre also came through at the expense of Aaron Cahoon and Des O'Reilly. Jimmy Millar had a comfortable victory over Sam Menelly which included a top break of 73, and in the closest match of the day Joe McAlister just pipped Billy Craig of Windsor by 24 points.

Quarter Final : Davy Elliot moved into the semi-final with a solid performance against West Belfast player, Sammy Clarke, making runs of 71, 60, 52 and 50 in the match of 400 up. Freddie Cahoon ensured his place by defeating John McIntyre in a closely fought game, eventually edging home by just 28 points. Davy Pogue came back from the dead with breaks of 47, 60 and 69 late in his match, to just pip Jimmy Victor McLaughlin by 23 points. At one stage McLaughlin had lead by over 100 points and looked all over the winner until Pogue's final charge took him home in a very exciting tie. Paddy Donnelly had breaks of 80 and 52 but was unable to prevent Tony Buttimer taking the last semi-final place as he clinched a 113 point victory. Buttimer had a best break of 60 and others of 48 and 41.

Semi-Final

Tony Buttimer	500	Davy Pogue	488
Davy Elliot	500	Freddie Cahoon	135

Davy Pogue and Tony Buttimer had a great tussle before Buttimer edged home in a very close match between the two international players. Buttimer had the highest break of the tie with 60. In the other semi-final, Davy Elliott was in sparking form, having runs of 149, 138, 63 and 66 unfinished, to overwhelm Freddie Cahoon, who included a break of 52 in his 135 point aggregate.

Final

Davy Elliott	600	Tony Buttimer	236
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The final, played over 600 up, proved to be very one-sided, with Elliott dominating the match from the onset. Breaks of 80 and 57 helped him to a winning margin of 364 points. Davy Elliott also took the competition high break prize with his 149, made in the semi-final. Prizes were handed over by George Thompson, Treasurer of the Reading Rooms. Donations were also given to the NI Referee's Association and the NI Billiards association.