

Sport at Bletchley Park

At the home of the Codebreakers during the Second World War recreational sport started in the form of Rounders on the lawn during lunch hour. Two tennis courts were built in 1941 then a badminton court became available and there was a fencing club, all these activities became organised into the Bletchley Park Recreational Club.

Hockey was also a popular sport:

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it was very informal people came out from lunch and joined either side. When there were just a few of us we hit the ball between two deciduous trees, but when the numbers increased someone would shout out 'Conifers!' So then we hit the ball between the conifers which were more widely spaced. We didn't bother very much about keeping score... We just played for fun

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The game of chess was also a favourite among the Codebreakers with Hugh Alexander, Harry Golombek and Stuart Milner-Barry (all leading lights of Bletchley Park) being international players.



Skating on the Lake
Courtesy of Bletchley Park Trust



Hugh Alexander
Courtesy of Bletchley Park Trust