

WIMBLEDON - 1961

Christine Trueman and Angela Mortimer made this a truly historic Wimbledon. 47 years had passed since two English girls met in the Finals, and not since 1937 had the title been won by a British woman. A tonic indeed for the Home country. There seemed to be a chance that rain might fall before the day was over. Otherwise, what a wonderful day.

Christine served, showing the power that puts her among the best in the world, when she's on top form.

Point to Christine.

It went to 4-all, and then Christine Trueman won the first set, 6-4.

Now came the rain, so play was stopped and the covers were on for forty minutes. That must have been unsettling for the players who'd begun the second set, before the interruption.

Play was resumed, with most people in the big centre court crowd fancying the chances of Christine Trueman. Mortimer serving.

Point to Christine.

Service to Angela Mortimer. Now came the dramatic incident. Miss Trueman fell, and when she rose it was evident that her leg was in pain. The question in everybody's mind was, would she be able to continue for long? The crowd applauded her pluck.

Angela won this point. Although Christine Trueman carried on, the fall had made it impossible for her to move quickly.

Miss Mortimer levelled the match by taking the second set, 6-4.

Christine's pluck and determination nearly brought full rewards in the last set. Her leg had almost recovered; she was much more like her real self, and she took Angela Mortimer to 5-all.

Championship point now to Angela Mortimer. She'd won the 11th game, and was 40-15 in the 12th. Christine failed to get the ball over, and that was it. What a terrific battle these girls had fought.

Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone came on to the court to present the Trophy to the girl from Devon, Angela Mortimer.

There couldn't have been a happier girl anywhere in Britain; nor surely a more gallant loser. The whole tennis world says, Bravo, Angela.