



60th ANNIVERSARY YEAR OF The Veterans Squash Rackets Club of Great Britain

NEWSLETTER – JULY 2023

2023 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2023 Club Championship was held at a new venue, Nuffield Health, St Albans. We were celebrating our 60th Anniversary and it was hoped that the entries would be an improvement on the last few years. This proved not to be the case, but the competitors who entered enjoyed a successful weekend of squash. The low entries did not reduce the standard of squash played, with many International players competing there were some exceedingly competitive matches. The tournament was opened up to England Squash Masters players who were not GB Vets members and some local players provided stiff competition to our members. Andy

Duckworth pushed **Dean Newberry** all the way in a close 5 set match in the Over 45 event.

Other winners were **Marvin Rust**, **John Parkes** and **Allen Barwise** in the O'50, 60 and 65 tournaments.

Barry Featherstone entered the O'70 and O'75's, winning them both. With **Mike Clemson** playing (he says) in his last competitive event taking the O'80 title. The Non County events were won by **Dan Sweeney** and **Keith Ragg**.

The ladies title was decided in a close match between **Catherine Ruffle** and Keeley Peacock with Catherine winning.

The ladies doubles nearly didn't happen when **Kim Ricks** was unable to compete, but a local player, Louise Dalwood, was called in as a replacement and formed a winning partnership with Keeley Peacock. The mixed doubles title was won by **Dan Sweeney** and **Catherine Ruffle**.

The men's doubles events usually prove to be some of the best matches over the weekend. Unfortunately we had very low entries but the finals were won by **Dermot Hurford** and **Nigel Stiles** in the O'40 and **Geoff Howes** and **Aubrey Waddy** in the O75.

The two final awards were for the Burrell Trophy which was awarded to **Allen Barwise** for services to the club and for contribution to the tournament, the Norman Hunt Trophy to **Philip Courtenay-Luck**.

Geoff Howes
Tournament Director

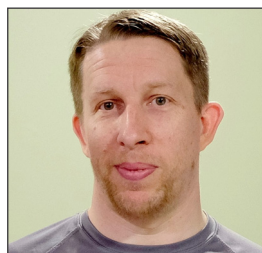


Burrell Trophy
Allen Barwise



Norman Hunt Trophy
Philip Courtenay-Luck

SINGLES & TROPHY WINNERS



Dean Newberry MO45



Cathy Ruffle WO40



Marvin Rust MO55



John Parkes MO60



Allen Barwise MO65



Barry Featherstone MO70



Barry Featherstone MO75



Mike Clemson MO80



Keith Ragg NC MO65



Dan Sweeney NC MO45

FULL RESULTS AND MORE PICTURES ON PAGE 6

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ADRIAN WRIGHT - One Player, Five Questions

Interviewed by Aubrey Waddy

Not many GB Vets members can claim a World Masters title. Even fewer (if any?) have more than one World Championship on their CV. Beyond that, it is extremely rare across worldwide Masters squash for anyone to win two World Championships in the same age group. Adrian Wright belongs in that select group: two of his four World Masters titles were in the highly competitive O-70s category, in 2012 in Birmingham, where he beat Brian Philips in the final, and then Hong Kong in 2014, where he had a narrow win over the very mobile Canadian Gerry Poulton.

All this is in a player who didn't take the game up until the age of 33. In addition to the four World Championships, Adrian's squash history includes ten National Championships, five British Opens, many regional titles ("at least 36, I'd have to count"), and eleven Leicester O-45 championships. The life he interleaved with squash has been just as full: one wife, Vivien – they've been married for almost sixty years – three children, Lesley, Martin and Stephen, and six grandchildren. Plus two complete careers. Adrian was born near Barnsley. He showed more aptitude for engineering than the three RRRs and started as a student apprentice at Wakefield Power Station, where he got an OND in electrical engineering. This was followed by an HND on a sandwich course at Rotherham College of Technology. He didn't stop there and claims to have, "fortunately scraped through the then IEE Part (III) examination," equivalent to a first class degree in electrical engineering. The IEE qualification must have been particularly fulfilling – "I knew at the age of eleven or twelve I wanted to be an electrical engineer."

In 1964 Adrian moved to the Midlands, firstly to Meaford B power station, and then in a series of promotions to other facilities in the region. He left the power industry in 1993. In 1994/5 he began his second career when he set up Silver-Fox Computers. The Silver Fox moniker comes from a colleague at Staythorpe Power Station, a fellow Electricity Supply team member. Adrian explains the meaning of the nickname: "A devious or sly white-haired git I think was the reckoning"! Computing had at least one major advantage over power stations. It didn't involve shift work, which is incredibly draining for a squash player. "Peter Lonsdale excepted."

Adrian always had an aptitude for computing. He started programming in the 1970s on the Sinclair ZX. Before setting up Silver-Fox Computers he was already using his skills in his

position as Assistant Shift Charge Engineer at Ratcliffe power station. He would build PCs and servers and did the initial work developing the Permit for Work system with the limited tools available. He succeeded in developing his business to an eventual annual turnover of £1.5 million.

Before squash, in addition to football, "my major love," Adrian played a lot of badminton and cricket. "I only made one ton. I regret packing it in," though he was principally a fast bowler. "Freddy Truman was my hero." He once took eight wickets for six runs playing for Rugeley Power Station. He continued cricket into his late fifties, but a serious back injury in 1984, which took him out of sport completely for two years, affected his bowling. "Pity I didn't keep it up as I could have been doing a Martin Pearce!"



Adrian Wright

Adrian started playing squash in 1975. For more than two years he played just a single opponent, John Gallagher, a work colleague he met at Rugeley when he was an apprentice and had since moved to Ratcliffe. They eventually joined a club in Kegworth that had recently been set up by Peter Marshall's father. "I have been hooked ever since."

Adrian's early squash years must have been a slow burn. Eventually, in 1987, soon after recovering sufficiently from his back injury, he saw a notice for the Leicestershire O-45

tournament. In the first round he dispatched the holder and top seed, Reg Fry, and won the first of his eleven titles. His good friend Dave Hardern, who he still has a game with every Monday, then, "convinced me I was good enough for the national scene." His first one-off title was in one of the forerunners of the 'Regionals' set up, at Redwood Lodge, Bristol, in 1998. Both his first and second national tournaments (Closed then Open in the same year) resulted in losses to Stan Biffin, on fitness. "I then learned he was a fell runner and would never dream of entering such prestigious tournaments without extensive training – he might have said six weeks. I realised what a very wise man was Stan. I did take some note, and Stan never beat me again."

In 1997/8 Adrian reached the semi-finals of both the Open and the Closed, losing to Roy Bradley in one and Mo Khalifa in the other, and won his first England cap. His first national title was in 2002. Because of the 'eccentric' (my word, not Adrian's) Masters selection system, he didn't play for England again until 2002, when he was sixty. Since then he made the England team for every home international series up to 2022, many times as captain. His single loss in all those matches came playing an age group down in the O-75s after he had passed his eightieth birthday.

Adrian's notable opponents are too many to list here, but his win over Jonah Barrington in the 1999 World Championships must be mentioned. "Then Perrott hammered me for two points!"

Throughout his squash career Adrian has had a big involvement in GB Vets, including some memorable tours, two to South Africa, in 2002 and 2003, the first especially provided lasting memories. He also toured in France in a visit to Adeje, to Dublin and indeed York, a tour which he managed for a few years with his old Nottingham club and teammate Nick Clifford, the Manager at the York Club.

It's worth finishing with a significant comment. For many UK players, to win your own National Championship represents the pinnacle of squash ambitions. Here is a quote about Adrian from Stuart Hardy, Chairman of England Squash Masters, at the Nationals, in February 2023: "Adrian Wright ...the most successful winner of National titles..."

What an accolade.



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Here are Adrian's five questions.

1. Who was the best player you ever played?

Has to be Barrington – nobody else had his credentials – though this wasn't his heyday. Khalifa has to be the other – also lost my second match against him 3-2 in the only 'Grand Prix' event – but went on to beat him twice in later years – when he wasn't quite as good. (Ed: the Grand Prix idea came from Paul Walters, who was trying to get into promoting Masters squash.)

2. What training did you do over the years, particularly after your experience with Stan Biffin (I can't imagine you took up fell running!)?

Never been a runner but I did used to run round the village twice, 2x1 miles – that was the Boxing Day fun run circuit – at which I never excelled. And a bit of gym work.

3. What was your hardest match?

Having lost to John Perrot three times for six points total – maybe –

but that wasn't hard as I got thrashed.

Possibly my final win in Hong Kong which was close. Another Canadian said I was lucky. And I remember this time Stuart Hardy egging me on after losing the fourth. And I do seem to recollect playing short, stupidly, again to the front left corner at 11-10 – fortunately it nicked and dropped in the corner – so lucky might have been an appropriate call.

4. What was your proudest win?

My first world title in 2006 in Cape Town against the classy Chris Stahl – never part of my wildest dreams – helped on by Martin Pearse's support having lost the first and fourth – winning the second and third for few points.

Fifth question, chosen by Adrian:

5. What is one aspect of your life would you change?

I would strive to be less sensitive and serious and have a better temper with loved ones. To be calm and forgiving.

60th ANNIVERSARY NIGHT

SATURDAY 25th NOVEMBER – 7.30-11.30pm at COLETS

- 1960's FUN NIGHT WITH 60's DANCING MUSIC •
- FOOD BY SPECIALIST CATERERS •
- 60's FANCY DRESS ENCOURAGED (not Compulsory!) •
- PRIZES FOR MOST AUTHENTIC DRESS & STRICTLY DANCING EXPERTISE •
- COME EARLIER FROM 4pm FOR SQUASH COMPETITIONS •
- JUST £25 A TICKET INCLUDING FOOD •

IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY BOOKED, DO IT NOW VIA OUR WEBSITE

FESTIVAL OF SQUASH SUNDAY 26th NOVEMBER – RAC EPSOM

Singles and doubles matches against the Escorts, the RAC, the Army and the GB Vets.
Start 10.00 am. Snack lunch and early evening buffet, after the presentation of the annual trophy, included.
If you are interested in playing please contact Ian Graham ipg49@btinternet.com

GB VETS GOLF DAY – SURBITON – 4th SEPTEMBER

9.00am start. Cost £80 which will include coffee and bacon before the golf and a 2 course meal afterwards.
To reserve a place please email Geoff Howes geoff.chrishowes@ntlworld.com with the name of your Club (if you are a member of a golf club) and transfer a deposit of £10 to Nat West 50-41-01 A/C No. 11760621.

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MATCH REPORTS

RAC PALL MALL – 19TH APRIL – LOST 2/3

With a gap of some 5 years, mainly due to Covid, the GB Vets again took on the RAC at Pall Mall.

With Squash Levels providing a reasonable guide to playing strengths, potentially all matches should have been close. And so it proved!

Strings 3 and 4 went to 5. **Mandy Akin** taking on regular adversary **Jill Campion**. One all, two all with Mandy slightly below par seemed to be heading for defeat but she never gives up easily and powered through to win the 5th 11/2.

John Goodrich on the other hand went 2/0 down, then scrambled back to 2/2 having been match ball down in the 4th, but then succumbed in the 5th.

Robert Smith at No.5 struggled with a much younger and fitter opponent and lost 0/3.

Dermot Hurford at No.1 played fellow GB Vet **Richard Winter** in a match of high quality with Dermot's length and accuracy winning in



Nigel Belle (Match Manager), Dermot Hurford, John Goodrich, Robert Smith, Mandy Akin, Dan Sweeney.

the end 3/0.

So at 2/2 in matches it was left to **Dan Sweeney** to take on the RAC's manager/captain **James Gardner**. Dan's flashes of brilliance were no match for James' solid, consistent, accurate play and after a hard fought battle it was all over and the RAC claimed an overall 3/2 victory.

A thoroughly enjoyable evening finished off with drinks and an excellent buffet in the Long Bar. Huge thanks to **James G** for the RAC's abundant generosity and hospitality.

So an RAC win 3/2 in matches and 11/8 in games.

Nigel Belle, Match Manager

OXSHOTT – 21ST APRIL – LOST 2/5

A welcome return to a GB Vets match vs Oxshott. Squash levels, although only a guide to standard, played an important part in ensuring all games were reasonably contested.

All games were played to PARS to 15 and first up was **Kim Ricks** playing fellow GB Vet and Oxshott match manager **John Prestwich**. A fascinating see-saw match and at 2/2 the result could have gone either way. Unfortunately for the GB Vets John won the 5th 15/11.

3 matches then went Oxshott's way. **Peter Culver** at No.3, **Nigel Belle** at No.6 and **Nigel Bacon** at No.1. The last match saw **John Prestwich**'s great friend **Nigel Bacon** (squash level circa 5200) take on **Stewart Hibbert** (level 6300) A feast of high quality squash in the end proving the squash levels correct!

David Parker at No.4 had four very hard, close games, 13/15, 12/15 down, saving a 3/0 defeat by winning the third 18/16 but just losing

the 4th 13/15.

Fergus Burnett at No.2 took the first easily 15/4, lost the second 13/15 and with consistent, accurate play took the next two to win 3/1.

A doubles match finished with a GB Vets win. A thoroughly enjoyable evening was had by all and thanks to **John Prestwich** for superb organising!

So an overall win for Oxshott 5/2.

Nigel Belle, Match Manager

WALES SQUASH MASTERS – 1ST APRIL – DRAW 4/4

The second of the four matches against the Home nations in our 60th year took place at Bridgend on April 1st and proved to be another great occasion. GB Vet **Tony Bevan** put together a side to match the 10 English players with Welsh Squash referees and a magnificent post-match buffet. The game had caught the attention of club players and the Gallery was packed out all afternoon with a great atmosphere.

Sadly **Ian Graham** and **Luke Rawlins** were

last minute casualties but the other 8 matches were highly competitive and resulted in a 4-4 draw and 16-16 in games. **John Parkes** started the match with a terrific high quality game that had the gallery cheering and lost a close match 1-3. **Sam Balsdon** and **Lynne Davies** both had 3-1 victories. **Rob Reid** in his first match for the club narrowly lost out to **Ian Fenner-Evans** 2-3. **Jamie Barnett**'s 0-3 loss was evened up by **Linda Pritchard**'s 3-0 victory. **Damian Jay**

lost out 1-3 to **Simon Lau** and **Barry Featherstone**'s 3-2 victory left both teams with a very creditable draw.

The whole event was hugely enjoyable for both teams and supporters with many new friends made and a future fixture with the Bridgend club likely. Thanks to **Tony** for his great organisation and our team who had all travelled some distance for the match.

Ian Graham, Match Manager

GB VETS VS

Nick Hargreaves
John Simpson
John Parkes
Ray Burke MBE
Peter Lonsdale
Rob Reid
Nick Sheppard

GB Vets

CIVIL SERVICE

lost 0/3
Won 3/0
Won 3/1
Won 3/0
lost 1/3
Won 3/1
lost 1/3

WON 4/3

FIRE SERVICE

Won 3/1
Won 3/0
Won 3/1
Won 3/2
Won 3/2
Won 3/0
Won 3/2

WON 7/0

Note: GB Vet Tim Burrell played for the Civil Service and won and Neil Cross played for the Fire Service and lost.

A Full report and pictures will be posted on the GB Vets website



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MATCH REPORT

GB VETS VS ESM – 23RD JUNE – LOST 3/9

As part of the Veterans Club of GB 60th Anniversary year the Club took on a select side from England Squash Masters. The match at Colets Health and Fitness on Saturday 23.06.23. was a 12 a side affair with Women playing Men and all players playing in age groups other than their own. After the singles there were a number of doubles matches as well.

The results -

Marcia Brittain gave **Richard Mosley** a few problems but the Yorkshireman's skilful drops and angles saw him win the day 3/0. One up for ESM. **Kim Ricks**, always a powerful hitter proved to be too good for **Robert Smith**. Both players hit the ball very well but Kim moved better and took the match in straight games. Two for ESM.

The Vets. Club struck back through the tenacious match player that is **Barry Featherstone**- you don't win that many titles by being flakey! Although **Jeanette White** pushed him hard, the old Champion was too experienced and won in three close games. An

interesting match up was **Dave Clarke** for ESM against o-75 England Captain **Aubrey Waddy**. Both very skilful players but Clarke had the edge and on his home courts notched up a good win. 3-1 to ESM.

World Masters O65 Champion **Karen Hume** had a great tussle with **Paramjit Deol** who often looked like he could not believe how good she was. Pram held it together to take the match in five for ESM. Hampshire player **Geoff Lees** put on a very solid display for the Vets Club and took out **Paul Ekins** to get one back and make the score 4-2. Meanwhile Surrey star **Peter Culver** was involved in an action packed match with another World Masters Champion, **Mandy Akin** and again, the ESM man won through in five. Newly crowned British Open Champion **Catherine Ruffle** showed her fine form beating Colets player **Andy King** in four classy games to make the score 5-3 to ESM.

Nick Sheppard for the Vets Club found **Ripley Oyler** too problematic and a barrage

of short game winners saw him go down 3/0. Meanwhile Masters Chairman **Stuart Hardy** was having his own problems against Women's 50 National Champion **Linda Pritchard** who went 2/0 up before Hardy mixed the game up a bit and powered through the next three. One of the best matches of the afternoon saw **Damien Jay** have a great battle with **Andy Hall** and in a match that could have gone either way, Hall clinched it in five.

Unfortunately ESM no. 1 **Julian Beckett** did not get a match as his opponent was a no show which was disappointing.

This gave an overall score of 9-3 to England Squash Masters. It is worth noting that of 24 participating players 21 were GB Vets!

After a number of entertaining doubles matches there was a lovely meal - thank you **Kelly** at Colets!

A few words from the respective Chairmen - **Stuart Hardy** and **Ian Graham**, concluded the afternoon.

Stuart Hardy



HOME INTERNATIONALS



No less than 37 members represented their Country in the Home Internationals played earlier this year. England won 13 of the 14 age groups.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL !

WO35/40 Mhairi Gritz **WO45** Cathy Ruffle **WO50** Alison Goy, Sarah Parr, Linda Pritchard **WO60** Mandy Akin, Karen Hume, Lesley Sturgess, Eunice Bond (S) Lynne Davies (W) **MO40** Neil Cross **MO45** Tim Burrell **MO50** Matthew Stephenson, Jeremy Krystyniak, **MO55** Raymond Burke MBE, Steve McLoughlin, Eamonn Price **MO60** Neil Harrison, John Parkes, Teejay Sogunro,

Mark Woodliffe **MO65** Allen Barwise, Peter Alexander, Ian Bradburn, Stuart Hardy, Ripley Oyler, Clark Adam (S) **MO70** Paul Reader, Terry Belshaw, John Goodrich, Ian Graham, Emilio Fazzi (S), Ian Ross (S) **MO75** Aubrey Waddy, Tommy Elves, Barry Featherstone, Alastair McMeckan (S).

All England players except where noted: S=Scotland, W=Wales, I=Ireland

PLURALS

We'll start off with box, now the plural is boxes,
But the plural of ox, is oxen, not oxes.

One fowl is a goose, but two are called geese,
Yet the plural of mouse, has never been meece.

You may find a lone mouse, but a whole nest of mice,
But the plural of house is houses, not hice.

If the plural of man must always be men,
Why shouldn't the plural of pan be called pen?

If I speak of a foot and you show me two feet,
And I give you a boot, would a pair be called beet?

If one tooth and the whole set is teeth,
Why shouldn't the plural of booth be called beeth?

If the singular's this and the plural is these,
Should two kisses or over be written as keese?

We speak of a brother and also brethren,
But though we say mother, we never say methren.

Then the masculine pronouns are he, his and him,
But imagine the feminine, she, shis and shim!

So English, as surely you all must agree,
Is the funniest language you ever did see.



RESULTS NON COUNTY RUNNER(S)-UP

EVENT

O45 Singles (The Hendry Jug)
O65 Singles Plate
O65 Singles (Smith/Hume Salver)

Nick Atkins
Martin Miller
Rik Boxer

WINNER(S)
Dan Sweeney
Philip Courtenay-Luck
Keith Ragg

MAIN TOURNAMENT

O80 Singles	Myron Evans	Mike Clemson
O75 Doubles (Kinder/Woodliffe Cup)	Nigel Belle & Robert Smith	Geoff Howes & Aubrey Waddy
O75 Singles Plate		Mike Clemson
O75 Singles (Howell Cup)	Chris Ansell	Barry Featherstone
O70 Singles (Plate)		Sam Balsdon
O70 Singles (Pellew Salver)	Ian Graham	Barry Featherstone
O65 Singles Plate		Keith Ragg
O65 Singles (Perkins/Dengel Cup)	Julian Craxton	Allen Barwise
O60 Singles (Burch Salver)	Teejay Sogunro	John Parkes
O60 Singles Plate		Kevin Connors
O55 Singles (Walrond Cup)	Allen Barwise	Marvin Rust
Ladies O40 Singles	Keeley Peacock	Cathy Ruffle
O40 Doubles	Dan Sweeney & Nick Sheppard	Dermot Hurford & Nigel Stiles
Ladies Doubles (Belle Salver)	Mhairi Gritz & Cathy Ruffle	Louisa Dalwood & Keeley Peacock
Mixed Doubles (Akin Cup)	Dermot Hurford & Kim Ricks	Dan Sweeney & Karen Hume
O45 Singles	Andy Duckworth	Dean Newberry
The Burrell Trophy 2023		Allen Barwise
The Norman Hunt Trophy		Philip Courtenay-Luck



O75 Doubles

Howes/Waddy (L) Winners, Belle/Smith RU



O40 Doubles

Sheppard/Sweeney RU



Ladies Doubles

Dalwood/Peacock (R) Winners, Gritz/Ruffle RU



O40 Doubles

Stiles/Hurford Winners



Markers

Ragg, Halpin, Clayton, Ayton, Belle, Graham



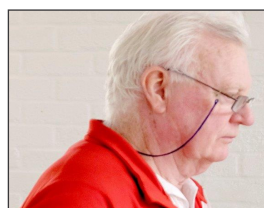
Marker Halpin at work



President with Tournament team Chris H & Jane B



Chair, Ian Graham with Burrell winner Allen Barwise



Hon.Sec in reflective mood



Karen Hume with future GB Vet!



APART FROM PLAYING SQUASH I ALSO... PLAY THE UKULELE



Steve Jackson

Steve Jackson plays Squash at The Bourne Club in Farnham. He has always enjoyed music and with two very musical sons soon found himself travelling around S E England ferrying his son's to gigs with their group. Standing at the back and watching Steve realised he would like to be up there too.

A few months later at a music Festival Steve is intrigued to join a beginners ukulele class and finds it's so easy even he can play and really enjoys it too. So, after much practice he joins a ukulele group who play in a Farnham pub called the Hop Blossom and they form a group called UKANHOP, who start playing in the local area and then further

afield. Steve finds himself chief organiser and doing most of the singing.

He then moves on forming a new group called Cool Hand Ukes! They are locally popular playing at care homes, festivals and local pubs and bring great joy playing regularly at a dementia club (new material not needed). This ensemble has Steve doing most of the vocals and playing his ukulele, plus they have a bass player, cajon drummer (Google it!) and guitars.

Steve clearly loves playing and is now extending his musical talents by learning to play the Harmonica and Melodica.

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO SINDLESHAM SQUASH CLUB?

Sindlesham SC is near Wokingham in Berkshire and Chris Ansell was the 11th of the inaugural members. The club was built on land left to provide recreational grounds but an enterprising builder managed to slip squash courts through planning and built a 4 court club.

This was in 1973 when Chris and his football friends all felt the end of careers coming and looked around for something new. Chris became the club's 10th member. It was an attractive building, gained a good name for welcoming lady players and stayed open late. Chris loved the new game and became club champion in 1982. The continuing popularity of squash resulted in 4 more courts and with Sindlesham going from strength to strength adding a further 2 glass back courts giving it an impressive 10 courts.

The enthusiasm for squash saw large galleries turning up to watch team games. The actor Leonard Rossiter was a near county standard

player with Jasper Carrott, William Franklyn and Tommy Steele sometime members. Sir Michael Edwards would play doubles with "Bomber" Harris there and Chris was often invited. Jonah Barrington was a popular visitor turning up at first to play a Banbury Cup match against Chris who did not recognise him after Jonah had cut off his long hair! As Chris remembers Jonah did not play a hard game and humiliate Chris in front of his friends but made a match of it albeit with a 3-0 victory. Jonah returned a few times to run coaching clinics from the gallery where he would have 2 players competing and keep stopping the game to deliver coaching points, often in an amusing and enlightening way. Chris was lucky(?) enough to play Geoff Hunt in the British Open O50's on his birthday



Chris Ansell

in 1990 and it was a 3-0 loss. Enough of Chris' losses! He will be the star of another article to come on "When I won the World Championship".

Fortunes change and Sindlesham became a victim of the Gym era. 4 courts were first lost for the new gym which was so popular that 4 more courts went to provide a bigger area. Finally, the last 4 courts were taken, and Pulse 8 became a very large fitness centre. Nirvana,

a massive new Spa facility was built in the field opposite. Not unlike a Roman Colosseum it dominates the former recreation ground and ended a rich history of squash in the area.

Chris has many happy memories of playing there and many members keep in touch socially each week and still go on holidays together.

Chris Ansell as told to Ian Graham

BRITISH OPEN – COLETS – 6/11 JUNE RESULTS

8 WINNERS

MO55 Steve Mcloughlin
MO65 Ian Bradburn
MO70 Terry Belshaw
MO75 Ian Ross
WO45 Cathy Ruffle
WO60 Mandy Akin
WO65 Karen Hume
WO70 Ann Manley

5 FINALISTS

MO60 Eamonn Price
MO70 Ian Graham
MO75 Barry Featherstone
WO50 Linda Pritchard
WO60 Lesley Sturgess

7 SEMI-FINALISTS

MO60 John Parkes
MO65 Paul Ekins
MO70 Geoff Redfern
MO75 Chris Ansell and
Aubrey Waddy
MO80 Nigel Belle
WO60 Kim Ricks



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NEW MEMBERS

We warmly welcome the following new members who have joined since the last Newsletter:

Salu Manzour	- Paddington Sports Club
Matthew Towers	- Towers Health & Racquets Club
Keith Winfield	- Nuffield St. Albans
Mhairi Gritz	- Nuffield St. Albans
Chuck Nwosu	- Nuffield St. Albans

MEMBER INFO

Don't forget you can access all members details via our website:

www.gbvs.co.uk

Login: GBVETSSQUASH

Password: RACKET7288

ALL UPPER CASE

'LOST' MEMBERS

Surely someone must know the whereabouts of a 'lost' member below? If so please let the Hon. Sec. know.

Alf Barker
Tim Higginson
Robert McIntosh
Aubrey Smith

OBITUARY – MARK COWLEY

We are very sorry to announce that Mark Cowley passed away on 16th June. Mark was a member of the GB Vets since 2008 and was renowned as a ferocious competitor and was an exceptionally successful Masters Squash player. He represented Middlesex in the Inter-County age groups from 35 to 55 winning several Inter County titles. He was an England regular, often at No.1 and never on a losing team. His record of a World Masters title (over 55), three British Opens, five National titles, two European Masters and 21 Regional Championships speaks for itself.



Mark Cowley

He unfortunately contracted Covid in the early days of the pandemic and it took a dreadful toll on him. No doubt his indomitable spirit kept him going although it left him wheelchair-bound and needing oxygen. A real character of the game. 'The Bailiff' will be very missed.

His funeral took place on the 4th July. The crematorium chapel was packed to overflowing with his many squash friends and family.

Our condolences go to his wife Bridget, his family and friends.

Stuart Hardy, Chairman ESM

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	VENUE	CONTACT
4 September	Golf Day	Surbiton	Geoff Howes
16 September	GB Vets match	Shrewsbury	Ian Graham
22/23 September	GB Vets vs Ireland	Galway	Allen Barwise
29 Sept-1 Oct	South Regional	Nuffield St. Albans	See ESM website
6 October	Jersey Squash Festival	Jersey	Allen Barwise
14 October	Match vs University	Cambridge	Nick Sheppard
15 October	Doubles match vs Jesters	RAC Epsom	Karen Hume
21 October	Glen Ragou	Sutton Coldfield	TBA
29 October TBC	Match vs Lancing College	Wimbledon	Nigel Belle
3-5 November	North Regional	Pontefract	See ESM website
17 November TBC	Match vs Escorts	Lords	Nick Sheppard
18 November	Match vs Chichester	Chichester	Paul Reader
25 November	60th Anniversary night	Colets	See this Newsletter
26 November	Festival of Squash	RAC Epsom	Ian Graham
8-10 December	East Regional	Grantham	See ESM website
12-14 January 2024	West Regional	Wolverhampton	See ESM website
7-12 February 2024	Nationals	Nottingham	See ESM website