



The Veterans Squash Rackets Club of Great Britain

President: Jeremy Lyon

www.gbvetssquash.co.uk

Chairman: John Woodliffe

SPRING 2008 NEWSLETTER

GB Vets Tour to Antibes

South of France, 17-18 November 2007



From left to right: Ray Rook, Nigel Belle, Chas Stevens, Derek Tullett, Geoff Howes, David Leach, Barry Skelding, Steve Rudd, Martin Pearse, Adrian Wright.

What started as a small 5 man team of Kent GB Vets players ended up as a 10 man team, which included a number of England and World ranked players from... well, north of Watford.

Most had braved the Easyjet flights down to Nice airport on the Friday in readiness for a practice session at the Antibes Squash and Fitness Centre in the early evening. This was much needed since the courts appeared a lot faster off the front wall and it took a while to adjust to the ball coming off the back wall due to the dark carpet behind.

The main matches took place on the Saturday. We could see before we started that we could have quite a fight on our hands since the opposition didn't appear to

possess any grey hairs! We worked out that our average age was 63 whilst theirs was around half that!

There were some very close and also some rather one sided matches, the latter unfortunately in Antibes' favour.

The highlights started with our No.1, Steve Rudd doing battle with the Club coach, Guillaume, Steve eventually succumbing 1/3. Dave Leach (No.2) and Geoff Howes (No.5) both had hard games and notched up wins for the GB Vets, 3/2 and 3/1 respectively.

Barry Skelding (No.6) and Nigel Belle (No.7) had great 5 setters but both just lost in the fifth.

The real nail biting game was Martin

Pearse (No.3) who was up against the French O50's No.1. The result was not certain until the very last point which Martin won 10/9 in the fifth. At that point entente cordiale went out of the window with the defeated Frenchman throwing his racket all over the place and storming off court – not a pretty sight!

Messrs. Adrian Wright (No. 4), Chas Stevens (No.8), Derek Tullett (No.9) and Ray Rook (No.10) all succumbed to rather young, fit Frenchman so that the overall match result was a win for the French 7-3.

Many of the GB Vets ladies – Julie (Leach), Chris (Howes), Carol (Stevens) and Gloria (Saunders) – took to the courts and played many games of squash and racketball.

Saturday evening saw some 20 of us – players, wives, partners – descend on an excellent restaurant in Juan Les Pins. The wine flowed freely and soon our battered bodies and morale were back to normal.

Squash on the Sunday consisted of doubles matches – 7 pairs, one game per match up to 15, therefore 6 games in all for everyone – exhausting fun!

The Antibes Squash Club, run by Clive and Debbie Stokes, put on an excellent buffet supper in the evening. Nigel Belle for the GB Vets thanked them both for a very well organised, thoroughly enjoyable weekend and presented Debbie with a plaque and an Anniversary Book signed by all the players.

Our thanks also went to Derek and Jonathan Tullett for organising and liaising with the Antibes Club.

We all said our good byes and disappeared into the relatively (by England standards) warm night – a great weekend had by all.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2008

Notice is hereby given that the 45th Annual General Meeting will take place at

**Broxbourne Sports Club, Mill Lane Close,
Broxbourne, Hertfordshire EN10 7BA**

On Sunday 20th April 2008

Following the Club Finals and prior to the Presentations and Buffet Supper.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the 2007 AGM
2. Interim Statement of Accounts
3. Chairman's Report
4. Election of Officers
5. Any other business

Club Championships Semi-finals and Finals

The **semi-finals** of all competitions, Main and Plate, will commence at 12.00 on Saturday 19th April 2008.

The **finals** of all competitions will commence at 11.00 on Sunday 20th April 2008.

The finals will be followed by the AGM, Presentations and the traditional buffet.

Everyone is most welcome to come along on both days to Broxbourne

Please support your Club and enjoy a super weekend of squash, meet up with some old friends and make some new ones. Details of how to find Broxbourne are below.

The address of Broxbourne is shown in the AGM notice above and contact telephone number for the Club is: **01992 440209** or **Geoff Howes: 07836 335 494**

Broxbourne web site www.broxbournesquash.co.uk

Details, including maps/routes to the Club and Accommodation in the area, are shown on our Club website. <http://www.gbvetssquash.co.uk/>

These may also be obtained by telephoning Geoff Howes

The route:

From the M25 Junction 25 Head North up the A10 for 2.5 miles Exit Signpost Broxbourne and join the A1170 for 2 miles Go past Mill Lane (No right turn) and turn round at Richmond Court

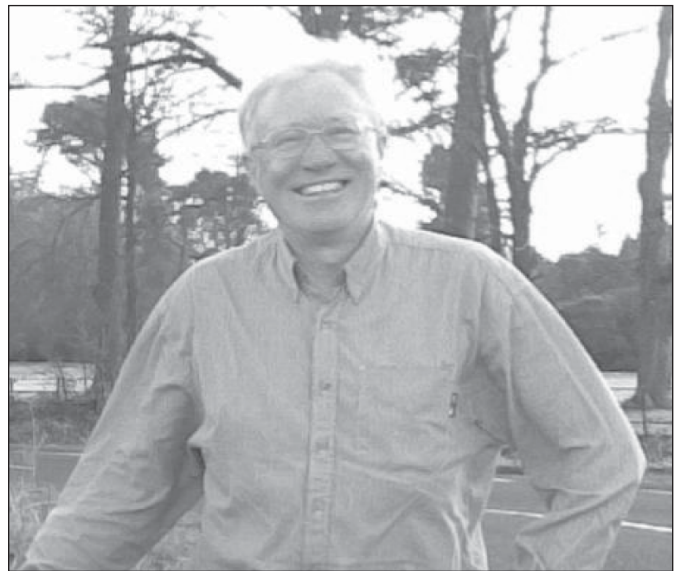
Return to Mill Lane. Mill Lane Close is 1st Right

From the North coming down the A10 exit to Hoddesdon. Join the A1170 and head into Broxbourne. Mill Lane is on the left after the Station Road traffic lights.

CHAMPAGNE WINNER

Congratulations to Mike Clemson for winning the 'John Perrott' caption competition from the Summer 2007 Newsletter. His winning entry 'Now you see me....' confused the editor but since his was the only entry he had no option! Mike was presented with his bottle of bubbly outside Sportcity, Manchester during the National Championships in February.

OUR PRESIDENT ELECT



Jeremy Lyon is to stand down as our President at the next AGM after 7 years selfless support. More about Jeremy in our next newsletter.

Very kindly, Philip Ayton, who is very well known to many members of our club, has agreed to take over the reins on the 20th April 2008.

Philip has been, and still is, an outstanding player and is always a joy to watch – in wonder at his anticipation and ball control!

His international career started on 1969 and he played for England 51 times until 1980. He is also one of a small band of players who represented Great Britain - in his case 25 times; he also captained the England Team that won the World Team Championship in 1976. He was the National Champion in 1975.

He later decided to join the Masters' events and has won the O50, O55 and O60 National titles as well as the British Open titles in the O55 and O60 age groups.

Philip is prepared to coach anyone but does not have a great deal of time because besides squash he also loves tennis, sailing, golf and skiing!

We hope he enjoys his spell as our President.

**COMING OF AGE (VETERAN) DINNER
SEE BACK PAGE FOR DETAILS**

TOURNAMENT NEWS

GB Vets members in bold – Congratulations to all!

BIRMINGHAM GRAND PRIX

6-9 September 2007

Men's O50's Saw a major upset with **Peter Alexander** losing to his travelling partner **David Taylor**. In the other half **Duleep Adhietty** beat long time opponent Mark Cowley.

Men's O55's With the absence of **Keith Jones** through injury, **Phil Ayton** was too good for everyone and took another title.

Men's O60's **Barry Featherstone** recorded his first Regional title having beaten **John Smith** and **Chris Ansell**, both 3/0, on the way.

Men's O65's **Adrian Wright's** proud record disappeared when he succumbed 2/3 to **Mo Khalifa** who then went on to beat the flying Yorkshireman, the world's keenest squash player **Mike Clemson**.

Men's O70's **Lance Kinder** lost to Pat Kirton in the extra venerables.

Women's O50's Saw a visitor from Oz, Jan Miller, win over Carolyn Roylance, who earlier took out **Karen Hume**. **Bett Dryhurst** lost to Elke Rubsam in the ¼'s.

THE BRITISH OPEN 2007

Manchester – 18-24 September 2007

Men's O45's **Ian Bradburn** succumbed to the eventual winner Phil Whitlock in the 3rd round whilst in the bottom half of the draw **Mark Woodliffe** progressed relatively easily to the final but after a tight opening game lost 3/0.

Men's O50's The seedings went as planned to the ¼'s then **Duleep Adhietty** took out the number 2 seed to meet **Peter Alexander**, who hadn't until then dropped a game the whole tournament, in the final. **Peter** triumphed 9/7 in the 4th.

Men's O55's Not many GB Vets in this age group; **Howard Cherlin** the only one making it to the last 8, who lost to the eventual winner Ian Parke.

Men's O60's Plenty of GB Vets in this age group! **Alastair McMeckan** lost to **Martin Pearse** in the second round, the latter having been 0/2 and 1/5 down against **Mike Taylor** in the previous round but eventually pulled it round to win 9/7 in the fifth. Visually, probably the best match of the whole tournament, was the battle between **Chris Ansell** and **Trevor Wilkinson**, the latter winning through in the end 10/9 in the fifth. **Phil Ayton** has always been the one to beat but whichever age group he is in no one has done it yet! He beat **Martin Pearse** in the semi 3/1 and **Trevor Wilkinson** 3/0 in the final.

Men's O65's The second round saw **Len Froggitt** take 62 minutes to beat ex tax inspector **Roy Bradley** 10/8 in the fifth, whilst **Chris Stahl** (5/8) upset the seedings by beating **Mo Khalifa** (3/4) 3/0. Titanic battles from the ¼'s onwards! **Len F** beat, for the first time ever, the No.1 seed **Adrian Wright** 3/1 in the semi's and **Mike Clemson** (nuts about squash Clemmo!) beat **Chris S** by the same margin in the other semi.

The match of the whole tournament though was the final. **Mike Clemson** came back from, wait for it, 0/2 and 2/8 down to survive 5 match balls and win in the fifth against poor old **Len Froggitt**. What a match!

Men's O70's With **John Woodliffe** missing Pat Kirton (still not a GB Vet, but probably the second best masters player of all time behind **Ayton**) took the title beating old adversary **Lance Kinder** 3/0. **Malcolm Gilham** and **Tony Seare** lost to Kirton and **Kinder** respectively in the semi's.

Women's O50's **Karen Hume** reached the semi's only to lose to the No1 seed Jan Miller, whilst **Ann Windle** lost to the eventual winner Julie Field.

Women's O55's Yet another win for **Bett Dryhurst**, the Worcestershire player, who has probably won more titles than anyone worldwide.

JESTERS TOURNAMENT

RAC Pall Mall – 2-4 February 2008

O45's Veterans

Colin Payne bt **Gordon Kerr** 3/0.

Other GB Vets competing: **Dermot Hurford**, **Brendon Mounter**.

O55's Vintage

David Cooper bt **Stuart Glass** 3/0.

O60's Venerables

Tony Wheeler bt **John Prowse** 3/0.

Other GB Vet competing: **Tony Clifford**.

O65's Vulnerables

Len Froggitt bt **Pat Kirton** 3/0. 10/9,9/6,10/9.

Other GB Vets competing: **Nigel Belle**, **Mike Hanson**, **Berge Kay**, **John Woodliffe**, **Lance Kinder**, **Ken Barrett**, **Brian Hardcastle**.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Manchester – 10-17 February 2008

Men's O50's Semi-finals

Ian Bradburn (Lancs) bt **Mo Sarwar** (Warcs) 3/2

Duleep Adhietty (Middlx) bt **Peter Alexander** (Suffolk) 3/1 Rtd.

Final: Ian Bradburn bt **Duleep Adhietty** 3/2.

O55's Semi-finals

Howard Cherlin (Middlx) bt **Ian Holmes** (Northants) 3/0

David Lumsden (D&C) bt **Paul Reader** (Hants) 3/0

Final: Howard Cherlin bt **David Lumsden** 3/2.

O60's Semi-finals

Phil Ayton (Sussex) bt **Mike Taylor** (Devon) 3/0

Barry Featherstone (Hants) bt **John Smith** (Northumbria)

Final: Phil Ayton bt **Barry Featherstone** 3/0.

O65's Semi-finals

Adrian Wright (Leics) bt **William Wilson** (Cheshire) 3/2

Len Froggitt (Herts) bt **Mike Clemson** (Yorks) 3/2

Final: Adrian Wright bt **Len Froggitt** 3/0.

O70's Semi-finals

Pat Kirton (Surrey) bt **Tony Seare** (Sussex) 3/0

John Woodliffe (Glous) bt **Lance Kinder** (Hants) 3/2

Final: Pat Kirton bt **John Woodliffe** 3/0.

Women's O45's Semi-finals

Victoria King (Middlx) bt **Mandy Akin** (Kent) 3/2

O55's Round Robin:

Averil Murphy (Essex) bt **Bett Dryhurst** (Worcs) 3/2

Bett Dryhurst bt **Rebecca Czuczman** (Kent) 3/0

HIGHLIGHTS

Ian Bradburn's win 9/4 in the 5th over **Duleep Adhietty** in the O50's.

Howard Cherlin's win 9/5 in the 5th over **David Lumsden** in the O55's.

Len Froggitt's win 10/8 in the 5th over **Mike Clemson** in the O65 semi's.

John Woodliffe's win 9/6 in the 5th over **Lance Kinder** in the O70 semi's.

Not taking away the sheer mastery of 3/0 wins in the finals by: **Phil Ayton** (O60's) and **Adrian Wright** (O65's)

2008 CLUB CHL

At the time of going to press, the 2007/8 Club Cha



Men Over 45 Singles

Semi-finals Alan Thomson v Chris Lowry
Dermot Hurford v Dave Stanton

Men Over 45 Doubles

Semi-finals Chris Ansell/Mike Tidy v Dermot Hurford/Dave Stanton,
John Bullock/Mick Carson or
Keith Palmer/Andrew Bonner
Alan Thomson/Geoff Howes v Trevor Wilkinson/John Perrott or
Dillwyn Rosser/Richard Mosley

Men Over 50 Singles

Semi-finals Stuart Hardy or Howard Poll v Jon Gransden or George Pinfold
Tony Scott or John Bullock v Colin Evans

Men Over 55 Singles

Semi-finals Derek Thorpe or Geoff Howes v Howard Cherlin or Paul Reader
Steve Jackson or David Cooper v Philip Ayton or Andy Larkin

Men Over 55 Doubles

Semi-finals Ian Smith/Peter Ray v Geoff Howes/Nigel Belle or
Tony Wheeler/Leighton Jenkins
Trevor Wilkinson/John Perrott v Syd Spittle/Soliman Allam or
Trevor Cox/Neil Thompson

Men Over 60 Singles

Semi-finals Trevor Wilkinson or John Prowse v Mike Taylor or Chris Ansell
Chris Goodbourn or Martin Pearse v Tony Wheeler or Barry Featherstone

REGIONAL RESULTS... REGIONAL RESULTS... REGIONAL RESULTS...

EAST OF ENGLAND REGIONAL

BURY ST EDMUNDS – 28-30 September 2007

Men's

O50's David Taylor bt Colin Shields 3/0.
O55's Paul Reader bt David Cooper 3/1.
Paul R bt Howard Cherlin in semi's 3/0.
O60's Barry Featherstone bt Nick Topman 3/0.
Nick T bt Martin Pearse 9/5 in the fifth.
O65's Round Robin – 4 entries only.
Adrian Wright bt all – Len Froggitt 3/0, Mike
Clemson 3/0 and Mike Preston 3/0.
O70's Malcolm Gilham bt Lance Kinder 3/0. In semi's
Lance K bt Gordon Ross, Malcolm G bt Tony
Seare.

Women's

O50's Ann Windle won the round robin.

WEST OF ENGLAND REGIONAL

SWINDON – 2-4 November 2007

Men's

O50's Ian Bradburn bt Mo Sarwar 3/0.
O55's John Goodrich bt John Duckworth 3/2.
Other GB Vets players: Paul Reader, Trevor Cox,
David Cooper, Geoff Howes.
O60's Barry Featherstone bt Trevor Wilkinson 3/1.
Other GB Vets players: Tony Wheeler, Harvey
Kember, Martin Pearse, Mike Taylor, Chris
Ansell.
O65's Adrian Wright bt Mike Clemson 3/2.
Other GB Vets players: Chris Stahl, Roy Bradley,
Len Froggitt, John Preston, Mike Graham.
O70's Lance Kinder bt Tony Seare 3/1.
Other GB Vets players: Gordon Ross, Tony
Breakwell.

Women's O50's

O50's Karen Hume won all 4 games – 3rd Bett Dryhurst.

CHAMPIONSHIPS

Championships have reached the following stages:

Men Over 65 Singles

Semi-finals Mike Clemson v Roy Bradley or George Aplin
 Brian Phillips or John O'Brien v Len Froggitt or Nigel Belle

Men Over 65 Doubles

Semi-finals George Aplin/Len Froggitt v John O'Brien/Brian Dobson
 Nigel Belle/Chas Stevens v John Woodliffe/Lance Kinder or
 Graham Davies/Tom Hannon

Men Over 70 Singles

Semi-finals John Woodliffe v Gordon Ross or Derek Tullett
 Tony Seare v Lance Kinder or Graham Davies

Men Over 70 Doubles

Semi-finals John Woodliffe/Lance Kinder v Jim Grandage/Alex Hamilton or
 David Robinson & Jim Switzer
 Martin Bronstein/Dennis Hill v William Little/Graham Davies or
 Tony Seare/Brian Sayer

Men Over 75 Singles

Semi-final Robert Budd v Arthur Franks
 Alex Hamilton v Keith Spurgeon or Jim Switzer

Ladies Singles

Mandy Akin v Ann Windle
 Averil Murphy v Karen Hume

Ladies Doubles

Mandy Akin/Karen Hume v Ann Windle/Anna Cherry



FINAL RESULTS... REGIONAL RESULTS... REGIONAL RES

MIDLANDS REGIONAL

COVENTRY – 7-9 December 2007

Men's

O50's **Ian Bradburn** bt Mo Sarwar 3/0.
 O60's **Barry Featherstone** bt **Martin Pearse** 3/0.
 O65's **Michael Clemson** bt **Adrian Wright** 3/2.
 O70's **Tony Seare** won round robin (4 entrants)

Women's

O50's **Karen Hume** bt Elke Rubsam 3/0.

SOUTH OF ENGLAND REGIONAL

BROXBORNE – 4-6 January 2008

Men's

O50's **Ian Bradburn** bt **Duleep Adhihetty** 3/0.
 O60's **Barry Featherstone** bt **Trevor Wilkinson** 3/1.
 O70's Round robin: 1. **Tony Seare** 2. **Lance Kinder**.

Women's

O50's **Ann Windle** bt **Averil Murphy** 3/1.

NORTH OF ENGLAND REGIONAL

PONTEFRACT – 25-27 January 2008

Men's

O50's **Ian Bradburn** won round robin (6 entrants)
 O55's **John Duckworth** bt **Howard Cherlin** 3/1.
 O60's **John Smith** bt **Geoff Howes** 3/1.
 O65's **Jimmy Evans** bt **John Preston** 3/1 in 2 man final.
 O70's **Lance Kinder** bt **Malcolm McArthur** 3/0 in 2 man final.

CLUB SHOP

We have the following items for sale:

Blue, v-neck pullovers with Club logo	– £30 including post & packing
White, polo style squash shirts with Club logo	– £15 including post & packing
Club ties	– £7.50 including post & packing
Club lapel pins	– available shortly – price tbc

Please contact **Gordon Coulthard, Treasurer**, if you wish to purchase any item.

MATCH NEWS

GB VETS VS RAC – 13 MARCH 2008

The annual Doubles match took place at the RAC , Woodcote Park, Epsom – the venue as always was superb – courts, ambience and supper.

As for the squash, well the GB Vets went down 0-4!

The GB Vets are very lucky to play at the RAC and John Woodliffe made special mention that the Club were very much looking forward to the 45 year celebratory dinner (on 21st Nov '08) in such a wonderful location.

During the course of an excellent evening it was discovered that Lance Kinder had represented Ireland in a doubles match against England and had the audacity to confess that he had won!



(The picture shows both teams enjoying a wonderful supper. RAC skipper, David Esser on the left, GB Vets John Woodliffe on the right)

GB VETS VS BECKENHAM – 11 JANUARY 2008

A team of 6 GB Vets took on Beckenham and whilst games 'for' were 12 with an equal number 'against', the match was won by Beckenham 4-2.

Three hard 5 setters all went Beckenham's way – Andrew Bonner (No.1), Albert Akin (No.3) and Nigel Belle (No.5).

Mandy Akin (No.2) and Brian Harland (No.6) both triumphed 3/0 and Peter Young (No.4) lost 3/0, 10/9 in the 3rd.

After the match 19 sat down for a most enjoyable dinner organised by Beckenham faithfuls Ian Smith and Oliver Pollard.



Picture left to right: Brian Harland, Albert Akin, Mandy Akin, Nigel Belle, Peter Young, Andrew Bonner.

INTER COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS – 2007/8 FINALS

Results and GB Vets members representing their county

MEN'S O45

- 1 **YORKSHIRE**
Chris Harland
- 2 **SURREY**
Dermot Hurford
Paul Ekins
- 3 **KENT**
Clive London
- 4 **LANCASHIRE**
Ian Bradburn

MEN'S O50

- 1 **KENT**
Clive London
Peter Willmor
- 2 **DURHAM & CLEVELAND**
- 3 **LANCASHIRE**
Ian Bradburn
- 4 **AVON**

MEN'S O55

- 1 **SURREY**
Steve Jackson
Trevor Wilkinson
Andy Larkin
- 2 **HAMPSHIRE**
Chris Wilson
Barry Featherstone
Paul Reader
Alex Johnstone
- 3 **YORKSHIRE**
Mark Thompson
Mike Clemson
- 4 **HERTFORDSHIRE**
Peter Leary
David Cooper
Len Froggitt
John Preston

MEN'S O60

- 1 **WORCESTERSHIRE**
Gray Wilson
- 2 **SUSSEX**
Phil Ayton
Graham Fisher
- 3 **BERKSHIRE**
Chris Ansell
Harvey Kember
Brian Phillips
- 4 **HAMPSHIRE**
Barry Featherstone
John Perrott
Garry Williams
- 5 **YORKSHIRE 1**
Mike Clemson
- 6 **YORKSHIRE 2**
Mark Thompson
- 7 **LANCASHIRE**
- 8 **CHESHIRE**

WOMEN'S O40

- 1 **SURREY**
Claire Baker
Maggie North
- 2 **YORKSHIRE**
- 3 **LEICESTERSHIRE**
- 4 **MIDDLESEX**
Jill Champion
Ann Windle

Membership News

Here is an update on new members joining since the Summer Newsletter plus a list of those members we have lost contact with – as at 29th February 2008.

New Members since Summer 2007 Newsletter:

Merv Morrison	–	Purley, Surrey.
Gordon Freakes	–	Bromley, Kent.
Chris Harland	–	Lakeside, Wimbledon.
Mike Neale	–	Surbiton, Surrey.
Alan Cornish	–	Thame, Oxon.
Christine Howes	–	Colets, Thames Ditton.
Richard Rook	–	Army
Brendon Mounter	–	Southgate, Middlx.
Colin Payne	–	Dartford, Kent.
Darren Withey	–	Esporta, Oxford.

Lost Contact:

We have lost contact with the following members and would be most grateful if any member knows the whereabouts of anyone listed below to contact the Hon. Sec. Nigel Belle or a committee member:

Robert Baker	Alf Barker
John Batty	Anthony Bodie
George Burne	Peter Champion
John Dover	David Erskine
Andrew Farnham	Terry Farrington
Geoffrey Irvine	David Jeffcoate
Alan Moynihan	Derek Parkes
Fethi Samy	Edward Smith
Kevin Solly	Robert Strang Steel
Neil Stewart	Stephen Withers
Robin Williams	

TOURS

Overseas Tours have been on the decline of late. This is partly because the squash calendar now gets extremely full with Regional Tournaments, National Tournaments and Inter County games for O45's, O50's, O55's and now O60's.

But tours are not just for those who enter tournaments, they are for anyone who is interested in playing squash, having competitive but fun games and meeting likeminded people from a different Club or Country.

If you have a contact either at home or abroad why not plan a tour?

Contact Martin Pearse, Nigel Belle or any committee member for help and advice.

MEMBERS FORUM

Let me have your news and views on any item you think might be of interest to other members. What would you like to see included or excluded in future Newsletters? Let me know, don't be shy!

belles@waitrose.com

NEWSLETTER BY E MAIL

As only 3 members were prepared and happy to receive the Spring Newsletter by e mail it has been agreed to scrap the idea for the moment. The question will again be asked of members in 2 years time.

FORTHCOMING TOURNAMENTS 2008

8-12 May.	BRITISH OPEN	Liverpool
29 May-1 June.	SUNSHINE MASTERS	Antibes, France
29 Aug-7 Sept.	EUROPEAN MASTERS	Malmö, Sweden
17-25 Oct.	9th WORLD MASTERS	Christchurch NZ
<i>For information on any of the above click onto:</i>		
www.englandsquashmasters.com		
30 Jan-2 Feb 09.	AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIPS (JESTERS)	
<i>For information and entry forms click onto:</i>		
www.jesters-squash.co.uk		

CANADIANS COME TO CANNONS!



Picture left to right: Roger Sulley, Peter Willmor, Steve Calcott, Perry Hartwick, Peter Young, Marc Smith, Nigel Belle, Ian Lucas.

A thoroughly enjoyable match was played on 29th February at Cannons Bromley with GB Vets – Peter Willmor, Peter Young, Roger Sulley and Nigel Belle – playing against 4 guys from near Niagara Falls, Ontario. The match was drawn 2-2 with the GB Vets claiming victory 8 games to 7! The Canadian Vets, organised by Ian Lucas, was over here “to promote a series of reciprocal friendly team trips – a kind of fun international league for older squash fanatics to exchange social and travel opportunities”. Visit their Club on their website below – anyone planning a squash, business or holiday trip in the future will be made extremely welcome:

www.whiteoaksresort.com

STILL PLAYING AT 84!

When you are next trawling through the handbook searching for someone to complete your team or checking to see who has been a member longer than you, the last name you come to in the book is Brian Youngs.

In 1996 and 1997, Brian was the Veterans Club over 70 champion and those of us who know and play Brian regularly believe he could have retained his title longer if he had found the time to enter.

Brian has played over many years at the Ealing, Eastcote and Northwood clubs and was 84 in early March 2008. He is still playing frequent friendly matches at Northwood, although he has recently been complaining that many of his regular (and younger) opponents are falling by the wayside with injuries. Many squash players also know Brian as an osteopath practising in the Kenton area of Middlesex who has helped many get back onto court much earlier than they would have done without his professional assistance.

In 2004 Brian created a record for the Middlesex League when he became the first, and still the only, eighty year old to take part in a competitive match, playing for Northwood 3 in the Vintage League at the West Herts Club.

Brian is a gentleman on and off the court, but this does not prevent him having a keen intent to win every rally. Is Brian the oldest club member still playing singles regularly?

MATCH V THE FITZWILLIAM CLUB, DUBLIN

The annual fixture against the Fitzwilliam Club was held this year at the Ealing Squash and Fitness Club on Saturday, 15th March.

The match is played in alternate years in Dublin and here to coincide with the Rugby International between our respective countries. The winning team is presented with the McVeagh Trophy – which is always immediately returned to the Fitzwilliam Club for safe keeping!

As we have not won the trophy for three years, we felt it was time to get some low-down on the strength of our likely opponents. This was achieved through the good offices of two



of our members, John O'Brien and Bill Ryan, who go over to Ireland from time to time to play in their qualification tournaments.

The information they brought back was entirely accurate and the result meant that the name of the VC of GB is once more on the trophy for 2008.

The match was, as always, played in an exceptionally sporting way. It produced some very fine, entertaining squash and was a thoroughly enjoyable occasion. The arrangements at the Ealing Club were made by Gordon Coulthard and the club looked after us very well indeed.

The day was concluded by dinner at Queen's Club organised by Robert Dolman, Chairman of the Jesters.

The Fitzwilliam Club send over squash and tennis teams to play at RAC Pall Mall, the Jesters' Club and the Public Schools Association as well as the VC of GB.

For the record, the results of our match were as follows:

VC of GB v FITZWILLIAM CLUB

Dermot Hurford	beat	Damien O'Reilly	3-1
Stuart Hardy	beat	Trevor McVeagh	3-1
Geoff Howes	beat	Martin McDonald	3-0
Bill Ryan	beat	Martin Rogers	3-0
Tom Hannon	beat	Patrick Murray	3-0
Bruce Stanton	lost to	Dave Allen	0-3

The photograph shows the two teams.

Veterans Squash Rackets Club Golf Tournament 2008

To be held on Friday 6th June 2008 at:

Pine Ridge Golf Club, Old Bisley Road, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey GU16 9NX

Tee off times start at 12.30pm

(Coffee and bacon rolls will be served from 11.30 on arrival)

18 hole Stableford competition plus

Nearest the Pin and Longest Drive competitions.

There will be a Ladies' competition for lady Vets Club members and lady guests.

Cost is £52.00 per person to include: Coffee and rolls on arrival, 18holes Golf, 3 course dinner and prizes.

Please return this form to the organiser:

A. C. E. Seare, Little Brook, 49 Ferring Lane, Ferring, West Sussex BN12 6QS.

Please make cheques payable to A. C. E. Seare and include with entry form below.

Closing date for entries is Friday 9th May 2008.

NO LATE ENTRIES ACCEPTED.

Competitor's name..... Golf handicap.....

Guest's name..... Golf handicap.....

THE COMING-OF-AGE (VETERAN) DINNER

RAC WOODCOTE PARK, EPSOM ON FRIDAY 21ST NOVEMBER 2008

The Club is to celebrate reaching its true Veteran status this year with a dinner at the RAC Woodcote Park, Epsom on Friday 21st November 2008.

Due to some very kind VC of GB members who are also members of the RAC, we are most fortunate once again to be able to use the facilities of this wonderful club.

We last had a dinner in 2003 to celebrate our 40th Anniversary and the publication of the history of our 'First Forty Years' and this was a very happy occasion.

We do hope we will have a good turnout for this dinner and we would encourage members to make up tables of 8, 10 or 12 and to make an early commitment to attend.

The occasion will be for Vets' Club members, their wives, husbands or partners and a limited number of guests. Timings are 7.15pm for 8pm and the cost of the evening will be £55 per head.

The next Newsletter will advertise the evening again, but if you wish to book early please return the booking slip to John Woodliffe.

Tickets will be sent out in the early autumn with a request for payment; thank you to those of you who have heard about the evening and have already booked.

PLEASE BOOK EARLY

TO: J.A.Woodliffe FROM: (name) _____
4 Redwood Drive (address) _____

Please reserve me a table for 8/10/12 for the Dinner on 21st November 2008

Or

Please reserve me places for the Dinner on 21st November 2008.

I would like to sit with.....

Signed:.....