



The Veterans Squash Rackets Club of Great Britain

President: Philip Ayton

www.gbvetssquash.co.uk

Chairman: John Woodliffe

SUMMER 2008 NEWSLETTER

Jeremy Lyon has stepped down as our President after some seven years in the post and we are very grateful for all the effort and guidance he has given to the Committee over this time.

Sir Michael Edwardes, who was President between the years 1979-1992, once said that his primary task as President was to make sure the AGM did not last longer than 5 minutes!

Jeremy gave his Committee a little more time.....

Jeremy had a very distinguished playing career; he represented Great Britain from 1959-1965 and was awarded some 40 England caps during the years 1956-1968.

He was the British Open O45 Champion in 1980 and 1981 and O55 Champion in 1990.

He won the National O45 event in 1981 and the O55 from 1997-1999.

He also did well in the VC of GB Championships, winning the O55 three times, the O60 three times and the O65 once.

Quite a list of achievements!

We know Jeremy will continue to support our Club in every way he can over the coming years and we hope to see him often.



JEREMY LYON

45th ANNIVERSARY DINNER

21st NOVEMBER 2008

HAVE YOU BOOKED YOUR PLACE YET?

FOR FULL DETAILS AND BOOKING FORM SEE BACK PAGE



CLUB CHAMP

Tournament Director's Report 2008

Another year has passed and the finals weekend is over with 52 matches being played over the weekend at Broxbourne.

As always the quality of the squash was of the highest level, with internationals playing in almost all age groups.

My main concerns for next year are firstly to eliminate the large number of walkovers given during the competition (I know that injuries happen but not all matches were conceded on this basis), and secondly to encourage more entries in the Over 45 age group.

Will those younger players amongst you try and persuade other players to join the club and also to enter the tournament.

A year ago the biggest single entry was in the Over 70 singles. This year it moved in the right direction with the Over 55's having the greatest number of entries.

Highlight of the weekend was Len Froggitt playing on his "own" court and beating the British Open seeded No.1 Mike Clemson in the final of the Over 65's event.

Could this be the ultimate "home court advantage"?

As always our thanks must go to Broxbourne for hosting the event, and to Karen Lane for the assistance given over the weekend.

Fiona created a magnificent spread for the buffet, which was much appreciated by all.

A final word of thanks must go to the markers. Much maligned though they are they do a magnificent job, without their efforts the weekend would not run so smoothly.

The 2009 Finals will take place at Colets, Thames Ditton on the weekend of 18/19 April 2009.

Geoff Howes

Tournament Results 2007/8

Event	Finalists	Runner Up	Result
Over 45 Singles	Alan Thomson	Dave Stanton	3-1
Over 45 Doubles	Thomson & Howes	Ansell & Jones	3-2
Over 45 Doubles Plate	Wilmor & Wilmor	Rosser & Mosley	3-0
Over 50 Singles	Stuart Hardy	John Bullock	3-1
Over 50 Singles Plate	Dillwyn Rosser	Terry Easton	3-0
Over 55 Singles	Derek Thorpe	Philip Ayton	3-1
Over 55 Singles Plate	Patrick Fleming	Peter Young	3-2
Over 55 Doubles	Wilkinson & Jackson	Smith & Ray	3-0
Over 55 Doubles Plate	Goriup & Morrison	O'Brien & Reynolds	3-2
Over 60 Singles	Barry Featherstone	Trevor Wilkinson	3-2
Over 60 Singles Plate	David Garrett	Barry Skelding	3-2
Over 65 Singles	Len Froggitt	Mike Clemson	3-2
Over 65 Singles Plate	Brian Hardcastle	Ned Hall	Rtd
Over 65 Doubles	Aplin & Froggitt	Woodliffe & Kinder	3-0
Over 70 Singles	John Woodliffe	Tony Seare	3-0
Over 70 Singles Plate	Graham Davies	Jim Grandage	3-0
Over 70 Doubles	Woodliffe & Kinder	Seare & Sayer	3-0
Over 75 Singles	Alex Hamilton	Arthur Franks	3-1
Ladies Singles	Mandy Akin	Karen Hume	3-1
Ladies Doubles	Akin & Hume	Windle & Howes	3-0

IONSHIPS 2008



Dave Stanton and O45 Singles Winner Alan Thomson



Derek Thorpe O55 Singles Winner and Philip Ayton



Alex Hamilton O75 Singles Winner and Arthur Franks



Having a party: Ken Barrett, Jane Belle, John and Terry Woodliffe, Jacqui and Lance Kinder.



Robert Smith and Albert Akin



Tournament Director's wife, Chris Howes



The markers: Gordon Coulthard, Nigel Belle, Jack Harris, (Jeremy Lyon, President) Dean Clayton, Gordon Ross



Lance Kinder & John Woodliffe and O65 Doubles Winners George Aplin & Len Froggitt



Stuart Hardy O50 Singles Winner and John Bullock



Karen Hume and Mandy Akin, Ladies Doubles Winners



Roger Mosley & Dillwyn Rosser and O45 Doubles Plate Winners Brian & Peter Willmor



O70 Doubles Winners Lance Kinder & John Woodliffe in Middle with Brian Sayer & Tony Seare



CLUB CHAMP



Mike Clemson and O65 Singles Winner Len Froggitt



Geoff Howes & Alan Thomson O45 Doubles Winners with Chris Ansell & Keith Jones



Brian Harcastle O65 Singles Plate Winner with Ned Hall



Norman Hunt, Margaret, Robert Smith and Denis Hill



The Willmors – Peter, Brian, Alison and Irene



Some of your committee: Geoff Howes, Tony Seare, Phil Aytton, John Woodliffe, Nigel Belle, Gordon Coulthard



Barry & Ros Featherstone and Mike Clemson



Graham Davies O70 singles plate winner



O55 Doubles Runners Up Ian Smith & Peter Ray and Winners Trevor Wilkinson & Steve Jackson



Enjoying the apres squash evening!



Girls Aloud! Karen Lane, Jane Belle, Chris Howes, Terry Woodliffe, Jacqui Kinder



The Burrell Trophy winner – Gordon Coulthard

IONSHIPS 2008



Barry Skelding with O60 Plate Winner David Garrett



O70 Doubles Winners John Woodliffe & Lance Kinder



Graham Davies O70 Singles Plate Winner with Jim Grandage



Glasses in hand! John Woodliffe, Lance Kinder, Nigel Belle, Norman Hunt



Len Froggitt O65 Singles Winner – on his own court!



Trevor Wilkinson O60 Singles Runner up



Barry Featherstone O60 Singles Winner



Mandy Akin Ladies Singles Winner



George Aplin & Len Froggitt O65 Doubles Winners



Lucky Hon.Sec!

FREE CHAMPAGNE!!

A bottle of Champagne will be given to the member giving the most apt caption to what the Hon. Sec. is thinking in the last picture.

KEEP IT CLEAN PLEASE!

Captions by finals weekend please.

ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2008

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2008

	2008	2007
	£	£
INCOME		
Subscriptions	5,632.00	5,732.00
Joining fees	140.00	140.00
Championship entry fees	1,405.00	1,460.00
Interest	370.31	290.11
Profit on shirts	-	-
Profit on sweaters	5.70	5.70
Book (sales)	10.00	-
Postage	2.50	-
	<u>£7,565.51</u>	<u>£7,627.81</u>
LESS: EXPENDITURE		
Loss on ties	66.00	62.00
Championship costs	790.96	908.03
Championship prizes	1,203.25	1,100.65
England Squash	-	126.75
Postage/telephone	-	473.93
Insurance	479.36	447.49
Handbook/newsletter	3,099.90	2,693.80
Stationery	--	169.62
Club matches (Irish visit)	504.40	-
Website	630.00	822.50
Computer expenses	-	187.75
Sundries	25.00	49.95
Lapel badges	-	224.19
Golf day deposit	100.00	-
	<u>6,898.87</u>	<u>7,266.66</u>
Surplus/(Loss)	<u>666.64</u>	<u>361.15</u>
	<u>£7,565.51</u>	<u>£7,627.81</u>

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2008

	2008	2007
	£	£
GENERAL FUND		
Balance at 30.06.06		11,373.28
Surplus to 30.06.07		361.15
		<u>£11,734.43</u>
Balance at 30.06.07	11,734.43	
Surplus to 30.06.08	666.64	
	<u>£12,401.07</u>	
REPRESENTED BY:-		
Balance at bank	11,892.37	11,082.93
7 shirts at cost	87.50	87.50
44 ties at cost	242.00	308.00
8 sweaters at cost	179.20	256.00
	<u>£12,401.07</u>	<u>£11,734.43</u>
SUNDRIES		
Donation (Don Allen)		25.00
Flowers (Alf Gibbs)		24.95
		<u>£49.95</u>
Flowers (Brian Hanson)	<u>£25.00</u>	

GORDON COULTHARD, HON. TREASURER

MATCH REPORTS

GB VETS vs ASHTEAD – 10 April 2008

This was one of the most finely balanced of matches and was excruciatingly close. You would expect a player of Lance Kinder's experience to convert match points. World, British Open and National titles by the dozen. But no. Nine, yes, nine match points came and went and when Peter Ward finally got one, wham bang! All over! No Jacqui on the gallery you see. One down. John 'the Irish Whip' O'Brien was still recovering from an injury and played one of those matches where every game could go either way. Unfortunately he lost the last one. VCGB – two down.

The come-back. At top string Stuart Hardy the current England over 50 captain took on former Scotland International Gordon Blair, still possessing some wonderful racket skills. Stuart proved the quicker to the front of the court where both players found nicks and winners. Stuart came through 3/1 to keep the match alive, and then team captain Ann Windle played beautifully controlled squash to level things winning in four against Barry Davies. David Garrett at no. 2 went two up against Ashtead's Gary Roberts and had a match point in the fourth, but found himself 8-3 down in the fifth. Shades of Kinder. Several saved match balls later DG served at 9-8 for the match, appeared to win the point, the marker called "Match to Garrett" the crowd cheered. A fine win for the Club. No. DG felt his last shot was down. Gary hit a fluky nick and won the next point well. 10/9 to him. Match to Ashtead 3-2. We were exhausted just watching it all!

Stuart Hardy beat Gordon Blair 9-4, 4-9, 9-4, 9-3 3/1

David Garrett lost to Gary Roberts

9-7, 9-6, 2-9, 9-10, 9-10 2/3

John O'Brien lost to Jon Gransden

9-7, 7-9, 6-9, 9-7, 6-9 2/3

Lance Kinder lost to Peter Ward

9-5, 9-3, 4-9, 0-9, 8-10 2/3

Ann Windle beat Barry Davies 9-2, 3-9, 9-1, 9-4 3/1

Stuart Hardy

GB VETS vs SALISBURY SELECT – 16 May 2008

The VCGB play two fixtures against a Salisbury team at LA Fitness, Salisbury every season and in keeping with the club ethos, some of the closest matches and most enjoyable evenings are had.

The VCGB produced an unusual team in that all five players were Masters Internationals and all four home countries were represented. A truly G.B. selection, and possibly a unique one – although someone may know differently!

For the visitors Gary Williams (Wales O-65s) conceded a few years to Tony Bronsdon but came through in five games, proving steadier on the big points while John O'Brien (Ireland O-65s) conceding an even larger handicap won through against a very mobile Colin Cook again in five games. The only match that did not go the full distance was when Chris Wilson (Scotland O-55s) overwhelmed his Hampshire colleague and England O-60s star Barry Featherstone at no. 3.

Meanwhile at top string, Stuart Hardy (England O-50s captain) had his hand full against Army over 40 Champion Phil Ashman – still 3 years away from club eligibility! Stuart almost had a 3-0 win but eventually had to grind out another five game victory. Finally at no. 2 Paul Reader (England O-55) went two down to Sussex over 45 player Mike Saunders before taking control and notching up the Club's fourth 3-2 win of the night.

So a fine 5-0 victory to the VCGB, and another very pleasant meal at Harpers Restaurant in Salisbury's market square.

Phil Ashman lost to Stuart Hardy

4-9, 7-9, 10-8, 9-2, 2-9 2/3

Mike Saunders lost to Paul Reader

9-3, 9-6, 5-9, 7-9, 3-9 2/3

Barry Featherstone lost to Chris Wilson 1-9, 5-9, 3-9 0/3

Colin Cook lost to John O'Brien 4-9, 4-9, 9-7, 9-2, 5-9 2/3

Tony Bronsdon lost to Gary Williams

9-6, 6-9, 9-10, 9-5, 3-9 2-3

Stuart Hardy

FORTHCOMING TOURNAMENTS & EVENTS 2008/9

REGIONALS

19-21 September 2008	East of England	Bury St Edmunds
31 Oct – 2 November	West of England	Swindon
5-7 December	Midlands	Coventry
2-4 January 2009	South of England	Broxbourne
6-8 February	North of England	Pontefract

9th WORLD MASTERS

17-25 October 2008	Christchurch	New Zealand
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INTER COUNTIES

STAGE 1

28 September 2008	Womens O50
19 October	Womens O40 (Stage 1a)
18/19 October	Mens O60
18/19 October	Mens O50
22/23 November	Mens O55
23 November	Womens O40 (Stage 1b)
29/30 November	Mens O45
30 November	Womens O50

STAGE 2

25 January 2009
28 February
10/11 January
10/11 January
28 Feb/1 March
28 Feb/1 March
31 Jan/1 Feb (Final 28th)
25 Jan (Final 7/8 March)

AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIPS (JESTERS)

30 Jan/2 February 2009 RAC Pall Mall

For information and entry form click onto www.jesters-squash.co.uk

BRITISH CLOSED

10/16 February 2009 Manchester

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

18/19 April 2009 Colets, Thames Ditton

BRITISH OPEN 2008

The British Open was held between May 8th and 12th at the Northern Club, Crosby and the Liverpool Cricket Club with some of the 'younger' age group finals being played on all the glass court at the ECO Arena. There was success for Club Members at almost all levels.

In the senior Ladies Maggie North overcame Bett Dryhurst.

In the O50 ladies Karen Hulme lost to Jackie Gardiner.

Mandy Akin beat Heather Tweedle in the O45's.

In the Men's events the winners were Mark Woodliffe O45's – Ian Bradburn O50's – Philip Ayton O60's – Mike Clemson O65's. Runners Up were Alan Thomson – Adrian Wright – John Woodliffe.

Also the following members reached the semi finals: Lesley Sturgess, Howard Cherlin, Barry Featherstone, Len Froggitt, Lance Kinder, Tony Seare.

The usual fun was had by those whose progress was ended early, and support given to those who progressed further. Although the viewing space at the LCC was restricted apart from one glass back, the crowds of spectators enjoyed many closely contested matches.

The only down side was that all the finals were on the Monday which meant that many with other commitments had to return home and miss some great games.

The Open returns to Manchester in 2009.



Philip Ayton left, winner of the O60's with Geoff Howes.



Karen Hulme left, runner up in the O50's with Mandy Akin winner of the O45's.



Ian Bradburn left winner of the O50's with Stuart Hardy.

CLUB RECORDS BOOK

It is your committee's idea to produce a Club Records Book which would chronicle Club Officers, Championship results with some photographs. It could also include Chairmen's messages, tour reports, International players etc.

Those of you who play in the Jesters Tournament, run by Peter Chalk, will know what an interesting read his book is.

Some of you will remember Ken Fisk who was Treasurer from 1966-1989. On his retirement he was presented with a Records Book, with beautiful calligraphy writing. It is this book we plan to resurrect and update and it can then be on display at the AGM and Club Finals.

But we need your help!

Please let the Hon.Sec have any pictures from past Tournaments – we will let you have them back!

Nigel Belle

HOME INTERNATIONALS

Congratulations to all those members who recently represented their Country. All England players except where noted.

Cardiff 25/26 April 2008

Women's O40's: Jackie Jones, Claire Baker.

Men's O45's: Ian Bradburn, Alan Thomson (Scotland)

Men's O50's: Stuart Hardy, Peter Alexander, Duleep Adihetty, Clark Adam (Scotland)

Nottingham 2/3 May

Women's O45's: Lesley Sturgess

Men's O55's: Howard Cherlin, Paul Reader.

Men's O60's: Martin Pearse, Phil Ayton, John Smith, Mike Taylor, Barry Featherstone, Chris Ansell.

Dublin 2/3 May

Women's O50's: Karen Hume, Ann Windle.

Men's O65's: Adrian Wright, Mike Clemson, Len Froggitt, Chris Stahl, Roy Bradley, John Preston (England but played for Wales!) Brian

SUNSHINE MASTERS REPORT – ANTIBES: 29 May – 1 June

All matches were played at the Antibes Squash and Fitness Club – 4 excellent glass backed courts but at temperatures around 25°C meant the atmosphere was ‘sauna like’. Fortunately the Club had a 30ft swimming pool which proved a very pleasant ‘cooling off’ experience to the court conditions! Competitive matches, an exhibition match between Peter Nicol and Derek Ryan, excellent jazz dinner/dance – a great time was had by all!

GB Vets results in order of the photograph:

Ian Bradburn. A serious onset of gout to his big toe prevented, an extremely disappointed Ian, from being in the running to win the O50’s title.

Chris Lowry. Successfully won through 2 rounds and then lost in the O50’s final to the ‘mean and lean’ French Champion.

Ann Windle. With her usual solid performance she managed to get through to the final and win the O50’s ladies tournament.

Nick Peel. GB Vets newcomer Nick found he was playing in many age groups, coming 5th overall in the O35’s and 2nd in the O45’s.

John Preston. Winner of the O60’s group, beating genuine O60 players including – wait for it – an 84 year old!



THE COMING-OF (VETERAN) – AGE DINNER

RAC WOODCOTE PARK, EPSOM ON FRIDAY 21ST NOVEMBER 2008

The Club is to celebrate reaching its true Veteran status this year with a black tie dinner at the RAC Woodcote Park, Epsom KT18 7EW.

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 our next dinner is likely to be in 2013!

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.

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.

Please complete and return the booking slip to John Woodliffe with your cheque, which will not be cashed until 14th November 2008.

Those of you who have kindly already booked should just send your cheques to John. The requisite number of invitations will be sent to you once your cheques have been received.

PLEASE BOOK BY 30TH SEPTEMBER 2008

TO: J.A.Woodliffe FROM: (name) _____
 4 Redwood Drive Camberley (address) _____
 GU15 1QJ _____

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.

Any special dietary requirements.....

I would like to sit with.....

Signed:.....

Membership News

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members who have joined since the Spring 2008 Newsletter.

- Gordon Kerr – MCC, Oakleigh Pk, Southgate, Escorts.
- Ian Mann – Hazelwood
- David Stanton – Colets, Fitness First
- Richard Wilson – Broxbourne, Herts
- Geoff Gill – Aldershot
- Nick Peel – Maidstone, Dartford, David Lloyd
- Jackie Jones – Colets, Thames Ditton
- Martin Miller – Letchworth Corner, Odyssey, Knebworth
- Lesley Sturgess – Duffield, The Park

LOST MEMBERS

Do you know the whereabouts of any of the members listed below? If so please contact the Hon. Sec. Nigel Belle or a committee member.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Robert Baker | Alf Barker |
| Anthony Bodie | George Burne |
| Peter Campion | John Dobbin |
| John Dover | David Erskine |
| Andrew Farnham | Terry Farrington |
| Ted Hare | Alan Moynihan |
| Derek Parkes (was Beaminster) | Edward Smith |
| Kevin Solly | Robert Strang Steel |
| Robin Williams | Stephen Withers |

We are saddened to learn of the deaths of David Kitching and Fethi Samy.

John Timberley writes of Fethi: Died aged 97, married for 68 years, probably an émigré from Turkey. He taught at one of the Whitgift schools in Croydon, played well into his 80’s. The last time John played Fethi he told him how pleased he was to have beaten a very young rugby player – in five!

The Burrell Trophy



Gordon Coulthard receives the trophy from outgoing President Jeremy Lyon.

The Burrell Trophy, in memory of Colin Burrell, is awarded annually to a member who has served the Club well. This year it has gone to Gordon Coulthard. Gordon joined the Club in 1990 and took over the post of Treasurer from Jack Dengel in 1996. Because of injury he has not played squash for a few years, but does enjoy his golf. He and his wife Jan put in hours of work each year to ensure that our accounts are kept in excellent order – and that the Committee do not get carried away by over-extravagant ideas! Club and Committee are very grateful to them both.

John Woodliffe, Chairman