



The Veterans Squash Rackets Club of Great Britain

President: Philip Ayton

www.gbvs.co.uk

Chairman: Tom Hendry

SUMMER 2015 NEWSLETTER

PLEASE NOTE: MOST OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS NEWSLETTER CAN ALSO BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE.

2015 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

This year's Club Championship Finals took place at Broxbourne over the weekend, 18th and 19th April. There were many fine matches played, some results going with form and some not, which is always a good thing.

Highlight matches of the weekend were; the 65 semi-final where Aubrey Waddy overcame Barry Featherstone, in the 50 age category Marvin Rust beat Mark Hildred and Malcolm Gilham with a master class of age squash, won the Over 80 singles, from holder Wilf Mann.

Mandy Akin proved too strong for all the opposition winning the Ladies O'40 and O'50 titles, then the Ladies doubles with her partner Karen Hume.

Brian Phillips was probably the tiredest player there, with a total of 7 matches

over the weekend in the O'70 and O'75 age group singles and doubles, winning 3 titles and runner up in the 75 singles. Quote " I won't enter so many next year". Watch this space!

After the squash had finished we held the AGM. Tony McStravick said a few words on the passing of Brig. Michael Perkins and then the agenda was raced through in a matter of minutes.

The prize table bulged under the weight of crystal, the trophies were duly presented and the winners applauded.

The last 2 awards were then presented. Firstly, The Norman Hunt Trophy, which was given to George Aplin for his support of the Tournament over many years while travelling from the West Country. Finally, The Burrell Trophy was given to

the most surprised person present, Jane Belle.

Both awards rightly deserved.

Then close of events was marked as usual by the buffet, thanks go to Darren and his team for a fantastic spread of food.

The last mention should go to Karen Lane and the staff and members of Broxbourne.

Karen stepped in and sorted the whole weekend when we had to relocate from Colets, the bars staff supplied refreshment and the members didn't complain about us taking over their club for the weekend. Many thanks go to all of you.

Geoff Howes
Tournament Director



NORMAN HUNT TROPHY

WINNER *George Aplin* flanked by *Philip Ayton* President and *Tom Hendry* Chairman.



BURRELL TROPHY

WINNER *Jane Belle* flanked by *Phil* & *Tom*

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SINGLES RESULTS



LO40
Phil Ayton (President)
MANDY AKIN Winner



MO45
Richard Winter RU (left)
ANDY NORMILE Winner



MO50
Geoff Gill Plate Winner (left)
DARREN WITHEY Winner (centre)
Marvin Rust RU (right)



LO50
Julia Ledger Plate Winner (left)
MANDY AKIN Winner (centre)
Karen Hume RU (right)



MO55
Chris Lowry Plate Winner (left)
DERMOT HURFORD Winner (centre)
Alan Boulden RU (right)



MO60
Paul Reader RU (left)
STUART HARDY Winner



MO60
IAN SMITH Plate Winner



MO65
Aubrey Waddy RU (left)
PHIL AYTON Winner (centre)
David Garrett Plate Winner (right)



MO70
Nigel Belle RU (left)
BRIAN PHILLIPS Winner



MO75
Brian Phillips RU (left)
VINNIE TAYLOR Winner (centre)
John Woodliffe Plate Winner (right)



MO80
Phil Ayton (President)
MALCOLM GILHAM Winner (right)



MO80
Wilf Mann RU

DOUBLES RESULTS



MO45
STUART FARRAH & CLIFF MARTINDALE
 Winners (Centre)
 Gary Raw (left) & Darren Withey (right) RU,
 Chris Lowry (2nd R) & Richard Winter (2nd L) Plate winners



Ladies Doubles
 Julia Ledger & Claire Baker RU (left)
KAREN HUME & MANDY AKIN Winners



MO55
DERMOT HURFORD (left) & **STUART HARDY**
 (3rd left) Winners, Robert Smith (2nd left) & Ian Smith
 (not there!) RU,
 Alastair McMeckan & Roger Sulley (right) Plate winners



MO65
 Leighton Jenkins & Tony Wheeler (left) Plate winners
GEOFF HOWES & AUBREY WADDY (centre)
 Winners
 Alastair McMeckan & Ray Lanagan (right) RU



MO70
BRIAN PHILLIPS & GEORGE APLIN (left)
 Winners
 Nigel Belle & Tom Hendry (at back) Plate Winners
 Lance Kinder & John Woodliffe (Right) RU



MO75
 Lance Kinder (left) & John Woodliffe (3rd left) RU
BRIAN PHILLIPS (2nd left) & **VINNIE TAYLOR**
 (rt) Winners

MORE WEEKEND PICTURES



Markers & Referees



Karen Lane, Phil Ayton



Berge Kay O70 Plate Winner



The Trophies



Claire Baker & Eunice Bond



Melissa Jagger & Mandy Akin



Allan Whittow & Nigel Belle



Keith Searle & Tony Wheeler



Karen Hume & Claire Baker



Vinnie Taylor & Malcolm Gilham



Aubrey Waddy & Phil Ayton



Marvin Rust & Darren Withey



Aubrey Waddy & Geoff Howes, Ray Lanagan & Alistair McMeckan



Gary Raw & Darren Withey, Stuart Farrah & Cliff Martindale



John Woodliffe & Lance Kinder, Brian Phillips & George Aplin



Ian Smith & Robert Smith, Stuart Hardy & Dermot Hurford.

NATIONAL NEWS & RESULTS

NATIONAL BRITISH CLOSED – MANCHESTER FEBRUARY 2015

4 wins for GB Vets

Mandy Akin	WO50
Peter Alexander	MO60
Aubrey Waddy	MO65
Mike Clemson	MO70

5 Finalists

Mark Cowley	MO60
Adrian Wright	MO70
Dermot Hurford	MO55
Brian Phillips	MO75
Bett Dryhurst	WO65

BRITISH OPEN – HULL MAY 2015

3 Winners

Dermot Hurford	MO55
Mark Cowley	MO60
Mike Clemson	MO70

5 Finalists

Sarah Howlett	WO55
Stuart Hardy	MO60
Barry Featherstone	MO65
Averil Murphy	WO65
Chris Ansell	MO70

14 ¼ Finalists

Stephen McLoughlin (MO45), Nigel Stiles (MO50), Richard Millman (MO55), Neil Harrison (MO55), Peter Alexander (MO60), Larry Grover (MO65), Ian Graham (MO65), Adrian Wright (MO70), Vinnie Taylor (MO75), John Woodliffe (MO75), Alison Goy (WO45), Mandy Akin (WO50), Lesley Sturgess (WO55), Sue Pynegar (WO55).

GB VETS PARTY – HULL 14th MAY 2015

The GB Vets hosted a wine and beer party in the Jubilee Room at the University of Hull. This was by invitation of President Phil Ayton, Chairman Tom Hendry and the Committee. Delicious canapés were also served.

This was an excellent social event designed to bring together GB Vets members and their supporters and potential new members.

On display was Club merchandise and literature extolling the virtues of GB Vets membership. Hopefully this helped our current recruitment drive and further similar functions will be planned in the future.



Cheers!



A happy bunch



Great eats



Excellent wine



Chairman & Co



Hon. Sec & Pat



Little & large



Go get 'em Jacqui

REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS – MASTERS

Full results & reports can be found on the ESR Masters website: www.englishsquashmasters.co.uk

East (Bury St Edmunds), South (Colets) and West (Wolverhampton), were played in the latter part of 2014 and the North (Pontefract) early January 2015.

MIDLANDS COVENTRY 6-8 FEBRUARY 2015.

4 WINS:

MO55 Dermot Hurford
MO60 Peter Alexander
MO65 Aubrey Waddy
MO70/75 Adrian Wright
(WO55 Lesley Sturgess was 2nd in a pool of 4)

4 FINALISTS:

MO45 Stephen McLoughlin
MO50 Darren Withey
MO60 Stuart Hardy
MO65 Chris Goodbourn

NORTH WEST STOCKPORT 27 FEB – 1 MARCH 2015

4 WINS:

MO55 Neil Harrison
MO60 Stuart Hardy
MO65 Aubrey Waddy
WO55 Lesley Sturgess

3 FINALISTS:

MO55 Ian Bradburn
MO65 Barry Featherstone
WO55 Sue Pynegar

HOME INTERNATIONALS

These took place as follows:

24/25 April Cardiff

MO40, MO60, WO35/40

1/2 May Dublin

MO35, MO55, MO75, WO55

8/9 May Nottingham

MO50, MO70, WO50

22/23 May Aberdeen

MO45, MO65, WO45

Congratulations to all GB Vets (37) who represented their Country:

IRELAND: Alex Richardson, Myron Evans. **SCOTLAND:** Eunice Bond, Vinnie Taylor, Alan Thompson, Jim Dougal. **WALES:** Lynne Davies, Brian Phillips, Gary Williams, Eric Robinson. **ENGLAND:** Sue Pynegar, Lesley Sturgess, Malcolm Gilham, John Woodliffe, Lance Kinder, Peter Alexander, Stuart Hardy, Paul Reader, Adrian Wright, Mike Clemson, Brian Hardcastle, Graham Fisher, Nigel Belle, Neil Harrison, Dermot Hurford, Ian Bradburn, Colin Payne, Darren Withey, Mark Hildred, Mandy Akin, Sarah Howlett, Steve McLoughlin, Andy Normile, Barry Featherstone, Ian Graham, Larry Grover and Martin Pearse.

JESTERS 30 JAN – 2 FEB 2015

VINTAGE MO55 Dermot Hurford bt Duncan Marlow 3/0
VENERABLES MO60 Mark Cowley bt Stuart Hardy 3/1
VULNERABLES MO65 Chris Goodbourn bt Terry Reynolds 3/0

Other GB Vets who competed in an excellent weekend of squash, again organised by Peter Chalk: Nigel Belle, James Dubois, Graham Chalmers, Berge Kay, Roger Sulley, Tony Wheeler, Martin Pearse, Chris Lowry, Martin Miller, Gordon Kerr, Richard Mosley, Brian Donnelly, Andrew Lowenthal.



Vintage – MO55 – Hurford & Marlow



Venerables – MO60 – Cowley & Hardy



Vulnerables – MO65 – Reynolds & Goodbourn

ORIGINAL CARTOONS FOR SALE

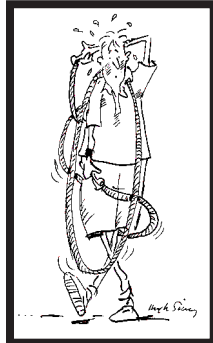
Original cartoons by Hugh Silvey that were used in the 50th Anniversary Book.

Original price £75 each **NOW just £30 each!!**

OR buy all 7 for a staggering £140!!!



The Physical Warm-Up



Skipping



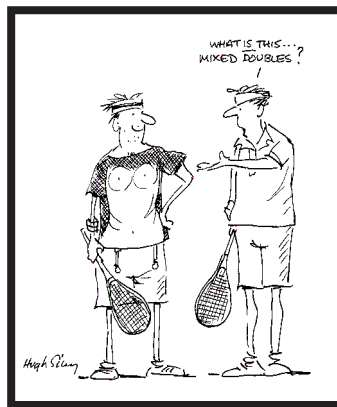
High Knee Kicks



Ghosting



Never Gives In Does He?

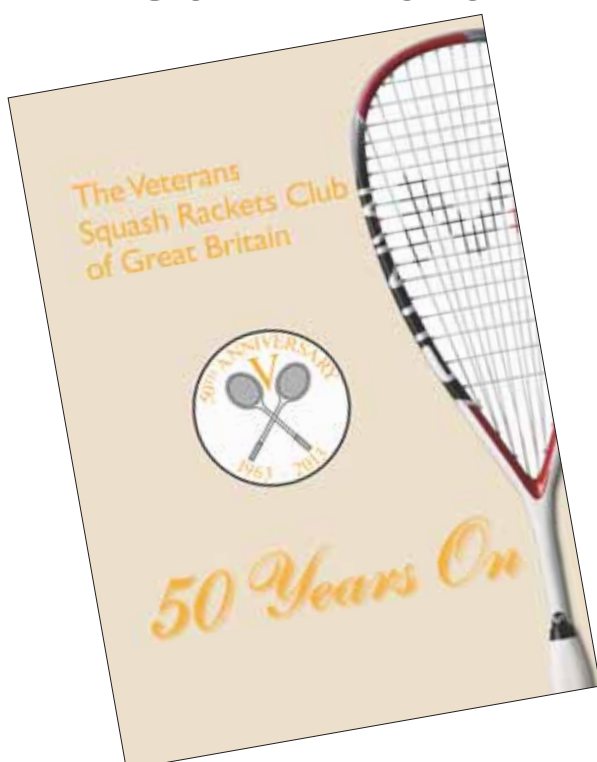


What is this ... Mixed Doubles?



Protective goggles etc.

ANNIVERSARY BOOK '50 YEARS ON'



Have you bought your copy yet?

Don't delay, buy today whilst stocks last!!

Special Offer price **JUST £12.50** inc p&p. was £17.50!!

Order from Nigel Belle email belles@waitrose.com or
telephone 01959 565444 or

purchase from any Committee member.

Cheques payable to 'The Veterans SRC of GB' please.

CLUB SHOP

Polo shirts	Men's	£23.50
	Ladies	£20.00
Tee shirts	Men's	£18.00
	Ladies	£17.00
Club ties	Standard	£8.50
	Anniversary (blue or gold)	£10.00
Lapel pins		£2.00
Magnetic Book Markers		£1.50
Man Bags	Small	£9.00
	Large	£10.00
V Neck Pullovers		£33.00

All merchandise with Club logo.

Prices exc. p&p (approx. £2.75)

NATIONAL DOUBLES TOURNAMENT

As was mentioned in the Chairman's report at the AGM in April, Tom Hendry and Hon.Sec. Nigel Belle, are currently having discussions with ESR – Keir Worth Chief Executive and Mark Williams Director of Participation – to look at ways of establishing a National Doubles Tournament. Clearly there is much groundwork to be done before anything positive can be announced. Watch this space!

A PLEA FOR DOUBLES

...AND WHY ONE SHOULD AVOID THE PLAGUE OF YOUTH

The trouble with youth Oscar Wilde said was that it is wasted on the young. The same can apply to young squash players with their absence of knee bandages, anti-tennis elbow clamps etc they can become a real nuisance on court. One particularly despises their ability to pick up some of your very best shots and drill them back to a part of the court you were in some minutes ago but not now.

This is of course where doubles comes to the fore. Suddenly the game moves you back some 30 years as the court reduces dramatically to your half, mathematically do you immediately halve your age, perhaps not entirely?

The trick of doubles is of course the introduction of the confusion factor and this is where my partnership with young Belle has been such a revelation – neither he nor I have any idea where each is intending to hit the ball, so how can our opponents know? The slight flaw in this approach is that occasionally we hit it straight back to them and this is the moment where our hours of court training come into play as either Belle or me sprint (in the metaphorical sense) to the return and promptly hit the ball into the tin.

So words of advice on doubles, hit it once more than your opponents below the top line and above the tin, wear new energy absorbing shoes, to give you that advantage on take-off, try to remember who's turn it is to hit the ball, us or them, and avoid strong alcohol before playing but add immediately after the game finishes.

The GB Vets are going to have a good bash at reviving the doubles spirit and I hope my vital instructions as above will encourage many to consider a re-entry into the Amphitheatre of the doubles game and perhaps most of all enjoy more court time. Must go, the bar is open!

Regards,
ROBERT SMITH

— OLYMPICS 2020 —

There is still hope that squash will be included in the 2020 games in Tokyo.

The 'Tokyo Additional Event Programme Panel' have examined a further 26 IOC recognised International Federations, including WSF (World Squash Federation) and squash has made it to the last 8! Others on the shortlist are: Baseball Softball, Bowling, Karate, International Roller Sports, Sport Climbing, Surfing and Wushu.

A final decision won't be made until the 129th IOC session in Rio in August 2016.

THE 52nd AGM REPORT

The 52nd AGM took place at Broxbourne Sports Club on Sunday 19th April 2015 after the Club Championship finals. Main points:

1. The sad announcement that Brigadier Michael Perkins, who was our President from 1993 to 2001 died on 29th March. (See obituary on Page 8 of this Newsletter)
2. Healthy annual a/c's to 31st December 2014.
3. Chairman's Report covered a variety of topics including a) recruitment, especially amongst the 'younger' age groups b) increasing the number of friendly matches c) tours d) Festival of Squash e) expanding the Doubles game and finally a vote of thanks to his hard working Committee.
4. All officers of the Club were re-elected for 2015/16.
5. Any other business: A number of items were raised:
 - a) add squash shorts to the Club merchandise
 - b) advise members of which doubles rules apply during the Club Championships
 - c) sale of Club merchandise
 - d) helping or sponsoring playing members who have a disability.

All points to be raised at the next Committee meeting.

TAXI!

As a fellow squash player who enjoys a good night out I would like to share a personal experience with you about drinking and driving.

As you may know some of us have been known to have brushes with the authorities from time to time on the way home after a 'social session' with friends.

Well a couple of weeks ago I was out for an evening and had several pints followed by some good red wine. Feeling jolly I still had the sense to know that I may be slightly over the limit

That's when I did something that I've never done before – I took a taxi home. Sure enough on the way home there was a police road block but since it was a taxi they waved it past.

I arrived home safely without incident.

This was a real surprise as I had never driven a taxi before, I don't know where I got it and now that it's in my garage I don't know what to do with it.

Anon!

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

If you can start the day without caffeine,
If you can always be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains,
If you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles,
If you can eat plain food every day and be grateful for it,
If you can understand when your loved ones are too busy to give you any time,
If you can take criticism and blame without resentment,
If you can conquer tension without medical help,
If you can relax without liquor,
If you can sleep without the aid of drugs,

Then

you are probably the family dog.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

NEW MEMBERS

We warmly welcome the following new members who have joined since the February 2015 Newsletter:

Mo Sarwar	–	Coventry & N. Warwicks SC
Tariq Mushtaq	–	Walthamstow Squash Club
Vaughan Newcombe	–	The Bourne, Alton Energique
Richard Winter	–	RAC
Mike Halpin	–	Edinburgh Sports Club
Jane Belle	–	Nuffield Health, Bromley
Shaune Cooke	–	Charters
Nigel Stiles	–	Sandown Sports

'LOST' MEMBERS

The number of members for which we have no contact details has been increasing of late. Do you know the whereabouts of any of the members below?

If so please contact the Hon. Sec. Nigel Belle.

Jim Alexander	Alf Barker	John Barton
John Dover	Terry Farrington	John Grieve
Tim Higginson	Robert McIntosh	Geoffrey Mortimer
David Summerscale		

MEMBERS HANDBOOK

This is now printed every two years and the next one will be published this September. Do we have your up-to-date details? Have you moved recently? Changed your e mail address? We don't want you to end up as above – a 'lost' member! New details to the Hon. Sec. asap please.

WEBSITE

Have you visited our website recently? What can your Committee do to improve the service and information provided for your annual subscription? This is YOUR Club, we would love to hear from you.

FESTIVAL OF SQUASH

This has now become an annual event with teams from the GB Vets, RAC, Escorts, Army and Jesters competing for glory over a weekend or perhaps one day. This year it will probably be held in November. Details to follow.

SQUASH PLAYER ARTICLES

Did you see the excellent articles by Ian McKenzie in Issue 3 2015 of the Squash Player Magazine? They are on pages 16 and 17. If you would like a copy e mail Nigel Belle – belles@waitrose.com

GB VETS GOLF DAY

A golf day has been arranged for Monday 28th September 2015 at Surbiton Golf Club, Woodstock Lane, Chessington, Surrey, KT9 1UG.

Bacon Rolls and Coffee from 8.00, Price £53. Limited numbers so to book your place now contact Geoff Howes – 07836 335494 or e mail: geoff.chrishowes@ntlworld.com

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Each year an award is made by England Squash Masters for 'Player of the Year'. This year there were 3 awards one of which was our very own Stuart Hardy. Congratulations Stuart!

OBITUARIES

BRIGADIER MICHAEL PERKINS CBE



It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Brigadier Mike who died on 29th March 2015 at the age of 83.

Mike was our President from 1993 to 2001 and those of you who bought a copy of 'Our First Forty Years', published in 2003, will have read about his many achievements in the squash world up to that time.

In summary, he started playing at prep school. In those days squash was not played during his time at Charterhouse, but he did play rackets and fives. He started playing squash in earnest when he was called up for National Service and then in the regular Army.

He went on to win the Army Championship eight times between 1953 and 1967 – 3 times as a Lieutenant, 3 times as a Captain, once as a Major and once as a Lt. Colonel. He played for England nine times from 1955 to 1958 and played for Great Britain in 1954. He later played for England in the Veteran and Vintage age groups and played for Surrey over many years.

Mike became a member of Vets Club of GB in 1981, was a very active Chairman then President during his time in office and supported our events right to the end. He had a charming personality, good sense of humour and was very easy to speak to. He loved mixing with those involved with sport and always encouraged us all to 'keep at it!'

A service of Thanksgiving took place at Christ's Hospital School on 24th May attended by well over 200 people. Mike Perkins will be sorely missed.

DENIS HILL



With grateful thanks to Mike Breckon, we have a short appreciation of Denis Hill, a GB Vets Member since 2004, who died recently: Denis played squash for many years, initially at Wimbledon Squash and Badminton Club and

later at Colets. He never aspired to be a great player but was always competitive and gritty on court and a gentleman off court. His peak achievement was certainly that of winning the Open Singles and the Over 45 Veteran's trophies at Colets Club in 1982. His other hobby was golf as a member of Wimbledon Park G.C. for nearly sixty years. Denis also played a number of years as a guest at the Jesters' Golf Day. In his later years he was a regular supporter of our finals weekends although he no longer played our game.

We are also saddened to hear of the death of **Anthony Bodie**.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS 2015/16

REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS

East	25/27 September 2015	Bury St Edmunds
North	23/25 October 2015	Pontefract
West	27/29 November 2015	Wolverhampton
North West	18/20 December 2015	Stockport
South	8/10 January 2016	Bishops Stortford
Midlands	5/7 February 2016	Coventry

EUROPEAN MASTERS

Malmö, Sweden 27/30 September 2015

GB VETS FESTIVAL OF SQUASH

RAC Woodcote Park, Epsom November 2015 TBA

WORLD MASTERS

Johannesburg, SA 23/30 September 2016.