



The Veterans Squash Rackets Club of Great Britain

President: Philip Ayton

www.gbvs.co.uk

Chairman: Tom Hendry

AUTUMN 2015 NEWSLETTER

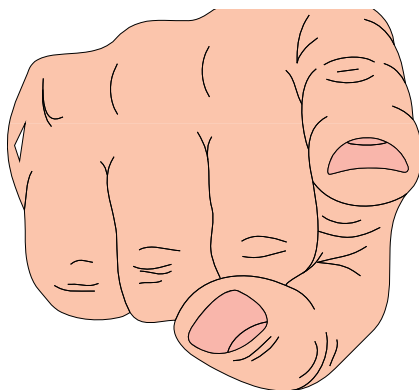
AUTUMN 2015 MESSAGE FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

I am pleased to report that the last eighteen months, since I took over from John Woodliffe, have seen some significant forward moves in efforts to strengthen our G.B. Vets Club for the future. As you may recall from John's excellent summary in our 50th anniversary book 50 Years On, we planned to continue to play to our strengths whilst also trying to reach out to those members who do not play at Masters, County or even Club Veterans level.

I am glad to report that we have already had some success in reinvigorating the fixture list for our unique set of friendly inter-club matches. The 2015 Finals Weekend was another huge success with a collection of permanent trophies and personal prizes unmatched anywhere in the squash world.

We have already established contact with the new regime at England Squash and Racketball including the new CEO, Keir Worth. We have suggested that the GB Vets Club, together with the Masters

YOUR CLUB



NEEDS YOU!

organisation, can have a significantly positive role to play in sorting out the more comprehensive issues threatening the fundamental future of the sport that we all hold so precious.

To this end, we have initiated discussions on a pilot plan to run an aged based

Doubles tournament in conjunction with regions and clubs. Your Committee all feel that the doubles game provides a unique opportunity for our club to take the lead in such a new enterprise.

However, to bring these ideas into fruition, we need more people to join our Committee. This requirement has now become more critical since both David Garrett, who has been our Treasurer for eight years, and David Smith who has been our Match Secretary for four years have both tendered their resignations due to work pressures and will not seek re-election at the 2016 AGM. We therefore, **URGENTLY**, need some volunteers from our membership to come forward and offer their services to the club. All our members need to be aware that Nigel Belle, on a day-to-day basis, does the bulk of the work needed to run our club. It is vital that we bring in some new blood to reinvigorate our Committee and replace the fine contributions of those standing down.

I therefore want to reach out to all our members and ask you to consider joining your Committee.

If you feel you can help, please contact me (019870 555547) or Nigel (01959 565444) urgently.

**YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU!
Tom Hendry, Chairman**

IN THIS ISSUE...

- HALF PRICE MERCHANDISE SALE – NOVEMBER ONLY!
- 2015/16 FIXTURES
- REPORTS, MEMBERSHIP NEWS AND MUCH MORE

STUFF!

Now listed as a highly used word in the English language, every squash player has some STUFF. Whether it be spare balls, racket gripper (I hear pole dancing hand gripper solution is particularly useful in gripping rackets), bandannas, wrist bands, energy drinks etc and then there are the essentials of daily life – mobile 'phone, credit cards, keys, watch etc.

Only problem is where you put them when you play squash. Not every Clubhouse has secure lockers, but here the GB Vets can help you if you help them. We need to grow our membership; I do not mean grow older we all do that, I mean more members. Now if you could find just another member we can solve your on

court storage issues. Yes I know that to the letter of the law you should not bring personal items and deposit them at the front of the court, but let's be realistic we nearly all do it.

So send us a new member and we will send you a free man/woman bag. That is not a bag to contain either a man or a woman but a very useful small discreet bag to carry all the paraphernalia mentioned above – see picture below.

Play squash, enjoy, keep your stuff secure and mainly in sight.

Regards, Court Guru.



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FESTIVAL OF SQUASH

RAC WOODCOTE PARK, EPSOM – 8th NOVEMBER

This now annual event will take place between the GB Vets, the Army, RAC and Escorts on Sunday 8th November. All competing for glory and the handsome Cup.

Come along and enjoy a fun, competitive day of squash in the

wonderful surroundings of the RAC Woodcote Park.

Play starts at 10.00am, refreshments available all day, free drinks and canapés in the evening.

Fixtures 2015/16

Below is a list of all fixtures for the coming season.

These can also be found on the website www.gbvs.co.uk

All players are urged to let Match Managers know as soon as possible of their availability – please do not wait to be asked to play in a particular match if you are available.

Please note also that fixtures are sometimes rearranged so check the website for up to date information.

November 2015

November TBA	Sandown	Tom Hendry	twhendry@yahoo.com
November TBA	Oxford & Cambridge Club	Tom Hendry	twhendry@yahoo.com
Sunday, 8 November	Inter Club Tournament RAC Woodcote	John Woodliffe	jtwoodliffe@btinternet.com
Friday, 13 November	Bishops Stortford	Nick Sheppard	jnjshepp.home@gmail.com
Saturday, 14 November	Chichester	Lance Kinder	lancekinder@yahoo.co.uk
Sunday, 15 November	Lee-on-Solent	Lance Kinder	lancekinder@yahoo.co.uk
Friday, 20 November	Bromley Cricket & Squash Club	Karen Hume	karen_hume999@hotmail.com
Sunday, 29 November	Wimbledon Lakeside	David Esser	lesserstressed@yahoo.co.uk
Monday, 30 November	Civil Service at Southbank	Geoff Howes	geoff.chrishowes@ntlworld.com

December 2015

Thursday, 3 December	RAC Woodcote Park	David Esser	lesserstressed@hayhoo.com
Friday, 4 December	New Malden	Nigel Belle	belles@waitrose.com
Friday, 11 December	Brighton	Phil Ayton	joyphil.ayton@ntlworld.com

January 2016

Friday, 15 January	Beckenham	Robert Smith	robert.smith@sgsmith.co.uk
Thursday, 21 January	Roehampton	John Woodliffe	jtwoodliffe@btinternet.com
Friday, 22 January	Park Langley	Robert Smith	robert.smith@sgsmith.co.uk

February 2016

Saturday, 6 February	Eton College Boys	Dave Smith	bigd1102@hotmail.com
Thursday, 18 February	Dorking	John Woodliffe	jtwoodliffe@btinternet.com
TBA February 2016	Hurlingham	Nigel Belle	ngatkins@btinternet.com
TBA February 2016	Wimbledon	Stuart Farrar	stuartfarrar10@hotmail.co.uk
Monday, 22 February	Escorts (Finchley Manor SC)	Berge Kay	berge.kay1@btinternet.com
Friday, 26 February	Bexley	Nigel Belle	belles@waitrose.com
TBA February 2016	Fitzwilliam/Dublin	Geoff Howes	geoff.chrishowes@ntlworld.com

March 2016

Tuesday, 1 March	Camberley	John Woodliffe	jtwoodliffe@btinternet.com
Wednesday, 2 March	Bromley/Nuffield Health	Robert Smith	robert.smith@sgsmith.co.uk
Monday, 7 March	Petersfield	Nigel Belle	belles@waitrose.com
Wednesday, 16 March	Surrey Sports Club	Dave Smith	bigd1102@hotmail.com
Friday, 18 March	Purley	Nigel Belle	belles@waitrose.com
Tuesday, 22 March	RAC Pall Mall	Dave Smith	bigd1102@hotmail.com
Wednesday, 23 March	Bourne Farnham	Dave Smith	bigd1102@hotmail.com
Monday, 28 March	Civil Service at Colets	Geoff Howes	geoff.chrishowes@ntlworld.com

April 2016

Thursday, 14 April	Ashstead	John Woodliffe	jtwoodliffe@btinternet.com
TBA	York Tour	John Woodliffe	jtwoodliffe@btinternet.com
TBA	Tour to Jersey	Phil Ayton	joyphil.ayton@ntlworld.com
TBA	St George's Hill	Tom Hendry	twhendry@yahoo.com
TBA	Oxshott	Mike Shattock	mikeshattock@btinternet.com
TBA	Woodford Wells	Nigel Belle	belles@waitrose.com

DON'T WAIT TO BE ASKED TO PLAY – TELEPHONE THE MATCH MANAGER NOW!

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THE DECADE !

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NOW JUST
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POSITIVELY FINAL
REDUCTIONS!

JOKE PAGE

(at least the Editor laughed!)

YOUR DUCK IS DEAD!

A woman brought a very limp duck into a veterinary surgeon. As she laid her pet on the table, the vet pulled out his stethoscope and listened to the bird's chest.

After a moment or two, the vet shook his head and sadly said, "I'm sorry, your duck, Cuddles, has passed away."

The distressed woman wailed, "Are you sure?" "Yes, I am sure. Your duck is dead," replied the vet.

"How can you be so sure?" she protested. "I mean you haven't done any testing on him or anything. He might just be in a coma or something."

The vet rolled his eyes, turned around and left the room. He returned a few minutes later with a black Labrador Retriever. As the duck's owner looked on in amazement, the dog stood on his hind legs, put his front paws on the examination table and sniffed the duck from top to bottom. He then looked up at the

vet with sad eyes and shook his head.

The vet patted the dog on the head and took it out of the room. A few minutes later he returned with a cat. The cat jumped on the table and also delicately sniffed the bird from head to foot. The cat sat back on its haunches, shook its head, meowed softly and strolled out of the room.

The vet looked at the woman and said, "I'm sorry, but as I said, this is most definitely, 100% certifiably, a dead duck."

The vet turned to his computer terminal, hit a few keys and produced a bill, which he handed to the woman.

The duck's owner, still in shock, took the bill. "£150!" she cried, "£150 just to tell me my duck is dead!"

The vet shrugged, "I'm sorry. If you had just taken my word for it, the bill would have been £20, but with the Lab Report and the Cat Scan, is now £150."

4 WORMS IN CHURCH

Four worms and a lesson to be learned!



A minister decided that a visual demonstration would add emphasis to his Sunday sermon:

Four worms were placed into 4 separate jars.

- The first worm was put into a container of alcohol.
- The second worm was put into a container of cigarette smoke.
- The third worm was put into a container of chocolate syrup.
- The fourth worm was put into a container of good clean soil.

At the conclusion of the sermon the Minister reported the following results:



The first worm in alcohol.....Dead



The second worm in cigarette smoke.....Dead

The third worm in chocolate syrup.....Dead



The fourth worm in good clean soil.....ALIVE.

So the Minister asked the congregation "What did you learn from this demonstration?"



Maxine was sitting at the back, quickly raised her hand and said.....

"As long as you drink, smoke and eat chocolate, you won't get worms!"

That pretty much ended the service!

EUROPEAN MASTERS – MALMO

27-30 AUGUST 2015

6 GOLDS, 2 SILVER, 2 BRONZE!

GOLD

MANDY AKIN(WO50),
ALAN THOMSON (MO55),
MARK COWLEY (MO60)
JANE LAW (WO60),
BARRY FEATHERSTONE (MO65),
CHRIS ANSELL (MO70)

SILVER

BETT DRYHURST (WO65)
GRAHAM FISHER (MO70)
ALISON GOY (WO45)

BRONZE

CHRIS HARLAND (MO55)
JIM DOUGAL (MO65)

SEMI FINALST

LYNNE DAVIES (WO55)

QUARTER FINALISTS

TAMMY BENNETT (WO50)
IAN BRADBURN (MO55)
STUART HARDY (MO60)
ERIC ROBINSON (MO70)

Other GB Vets who competed: Garry Williams, Paul Vale, Chris Wilson, Richard Mosley, Gordon Kerr and Dillwyn Rosser.

Congratulations to all especially MARK COWLEY – the first British Masters player to have won all four major championships – British Open, British Closed, European and World.

REGIONAL TOURNAMENT – EAST BURY ST EDMUNDS – 25-27 SEPTEMBER

GB VETS DOMINATE THE MEN'S OLDER AGE GROUPS!



Clemson & Ansell



Mark Cowley



Harrison & Goulding



Smith & Featherstone

Men's O60 Mark Cowley beat Stuart Hardy 3/0

Men's O65 Barry Featherstone beat Peter Smith 3/1

Men's O70 Chris Ansell beat Mike Clemson 3/1

Men's O55 Neil Harrison lost in the final – at 2/2

Neil had to retire with a back injury.

Women's O55 Sarah Howlett was runner up in a pool of 3

The following reached the semis: Stephen McLoughlin (O45), Marvin Rust (O50), Ian Bradburn (O55), Larry Grover (O65), Dave Hardern (O70), Adrian Wright (O70).

GB VETS GOLF DAY – SURBITON

28th SEPTEMBER

The inaugural GB Vets Golf Day took place at Surbiton Golf Club on Monday 28th September.

Whilst there were only 8 players on the day (poor President Phil Ayton had to withdraw due to man 'flu) all agreed it was a superb day – coffee and bacon rolls to start, 18 holes (Stapleford) on a beautiful, dry, sunny course ending with a 3 course meal.

There were winners for nearest the pin and the longest drive but the overall winner was Stuart Hardy, seen in the picture with Geoff Howes who was thanked profusely for organising such a wonderful day.

All agreed to repeat the event on the corresponding day in 2016 (Monday 26th September) and to recruit at least one other player so that we have around 20 players.



Nigel Belle, Geoff Howes, Stuart Hardy,
David Johnson, Derek Lyons (back)
Steve Jackson, Garry Williams, John Galt (front)



Geoff Howes and Stuart Hardy

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

NEW MEMBERS

We warmly welcome the following new member who has joined since the last Newsletter:

Peter Newman – Nuffield St Albans

'LOST' MEMBERS

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

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

OBITUARIES

We are very saddened to hear of the death of Peter Brindley, Paul Montgomery, David Rees.

2015/16 HANDBOOK

Please check that all your printed details are correct. Any additions or amendments please notify the Hon. Sec. asap thank you.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Don't forget to enter the Club Championships. Complete the entry form, enclosed with this Newsletter, and send off your money by 1st November 2015, at the very latest, to Geoff Howes.

'Normal' Tournament as usual open to ALL members, ALL ages – Singles and Doubles.

'Fun' Tournament. Your Committee feel there is a need a desire for a 'fun' Tournament especially for those members who do not play for their County or Country.

Dependent on the level of entries will determine whether or not it becomes a regular annual event. You can of course enter both Tournaments if you wish.

2015/16 FIXTURES

Fancy playing in one or more of the many fixtures, detailed on page 3, in the coming season?

Don't wait to be asked, just contact the relevant Match Manager.

Could you arrange a match against your Club and a GB Vets side? Speak to a Committee member if you feel there is a possibility.

NATIONAL DOUBLES

Update – Progressing slowly! We are in the process of obtaining a list of Clubs in the South East, which will then be contacted to gauge the potential for an organised Doubles Tournament, hopefully under the auspices of England Squash & Racketball. A pilot Tournament will then be held and, if felt to be successful, will be expanded to other areas.

WEBSITE

Do you visit our site regularly? Do you find it of interest? How can we improve it? This is YOUR Club, let's hear from you!

YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU!

You will have seen your Chairman's plea on the front cover for members to come forward to serve on the Committee. We are a friendly bunch and meet 3 or 4 times a year in a Committee member's house with a bite to eat after the meeting.

Perhaps you fancy being our Treasurer (ideal for a retired or semi-retired accountant or person with a good grasp of figures) or our Match Secretary. Neither are onerous tasks.

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

GB VETS FESTIVAL OF SQUASH

Sunday 8th November 2015 RAC Woodcote Park

HOME INTERNATIONALS

MO45,MO65,WO45	22/23 April 2016	Cardiff
MO40,MO60,WO35/40	29/30 April 2016	Dublin
MO35,MO55,WO55	6/7 May 2016	Nottingham
MO50,MO70,WO45	22/23 April 2016	Glasgow

WORLD MASTERS

23/30 September 2016 Johannesburg, SA

GB VETS CLUB FINALS – 16/17 APRIL 2016 – COLETS