



# The Veterans Squash Rackets Club of Great Britain

## MINI NEWSLETTER – AUGUST 2017

### GB VETS TOUR TO YORK 21/22 JULY 2017

This year's annual tour took place as usual in York, managed by our good friend Nick Clifford and hosted at his club, Wigginton Squash Club, with the usual energy and efficiency that Nick enthuses.

Unfortunately, before the Tour was due to take place, we lost some players due to illness, injury and other causes but the final squad included most of those from last year with 1 additional player, Ian Bradburn, and the return of Nigel Belle and Tom Hendry and their wives and the North East couple Tommy Elves and John Shaw.

#### The Final squad

|                 |    |    |    |
|-----------------|----|----|----|
| 1 Ray Burke     | P2 | W2 |    |
| 2 Ian Bradburn  | P2 | W1 | L1 |
| 3 Martin Wright | P2 | W2 |    |
| 4 Adrian Wright | P2 | W1 | L1 |
| 5 Ian Thomson   | P2 | W1 | L1 |
| 6 Alison Goy    | P2 |    | L2 |
| 7 Nigel Belle   | P3 | W1 | L2 |
| 8 Tommy Elves   | P2 | W2 |    |
| 9 John Shaw     | P2 | W1 | L1 |
| 10 Tom Hendry   | P2 | W2 |    |



GB Vets & Supporters

Guests: Di Hendry, Grandson Sam, Jane Belle, John Hings and Martin Grayshon.

From the feedback it seems that it was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The Saturday evening meal at a French restaurant and Nick's Saturday morning York Snickleways tour being the highlights apart from the squash of course.

The squash started on Friday reasonably well with the top 3 all winning. But in the end it came down to our host needing to win the last match to level the scores. We were playing par to 15 and sudden death.

Nick is never one to give in and losing the first game 14/15 stormed back to take the second and the 4th to make it 2 all. Yours truly was getting desperate and thankful for the opportunity at 14/13 in the 5th, to hit the ball where Nick could not retrieve it.

The match with Tommy Elves deserves special mention as I believe he completely mesmerised his opponent, Ray Chambers. 6-4 to the Vets then which included a doubles match with Tom Hendry and Nigel Belle (vs Mick Malone & Mal Bruce) winning comfortably.

Ian Bradburn also caused his opponent (Angus Clapham) some difficulty, bamboozling him in a similar manner – the latter nearly beating Ray in the Saturday afternoon session.

The Saturday afternoon session started badly, a trio who shall remain nameless, spent half the night in York, not in bed where I was. Not that it did me any good. As a consequence Ray Burke MBE was 2 nil down and 14 all match ball down when his opponent (Angus Clapham) miraculously hit the tin! I didn't see the remainder of the match but our MBE stormed back in style to take the tie. The other 2 members of the trio were not so lucky, but one was carrying an injury. The North East couple, Tommy Elves and John Shaw, both managed to win. Only

Tommy, Ray, Tom and Martin Wright won both their matches. Martin, who also made it a bad weekend for our host, in the last match on Saturday, the host needing again to win to level the afternoon ties, but as ever, always humble, accepted a gracious defeat having caused a slight ripple winning the 3rd.

So overall a 12-8 victory for the vets. Nick had done well to get the sides so well balanced.

During the Saturday evening meal Tom Hendry, GB Vets Chairman, thanked all for a brilliant weekend and presented Nick with a 50th Anniversary plaque and a signed Anniversary book.

Many thanks to the Wigginton Club and their players and in particular Nick and his lovely wife Sheila for the food on Friday evening.  
**Adrian Wright.**



Martin Wright & Nick Clifford



Wigginton Squash Club



Ray Burke MBE & Adrian Wright



Wright, Hendry, Clifford

## POLAND HERE WE COME!

Over 500 players, of which some 28 are GB Vets members, will be competing for glory in the European Masters at Wroclaw, Poland at the end of August.

*Good luck to all competitors:*

WO40 Keeley Johnso

WO45 Alison Goy

MO45 Jonathan Gliddon

WO50 Rachel Woolford

MO50 Eamonn Price, Nick Sheppard

MO55 Ian Bradburn, Gordon Kerr, Nick Peel, Alan Thomson, Mark Taylor, Mark Woodliffe

WO55 Mandy Akin

MO60 Dave Clarke, Sam Balsdon, Mark Cowley, Ripley Oyler

WO60 Lynne Davies, Karen Hume

MO65 im Dougal, John Rae

MO70 Rod Boswell, Barry Featherstone, Robert Smith, Aubrey Waddy

WO70 Bett Dryhurst

MO75 Nigel Belle, Myron Evans

**A full report and pictures will be published in the next Newsletter. GOOD LUCK!**