



The Veterans Squash Rackets Club of Great Britain

President: Philip Ayton

www.gbvs.co.uk

Chairman: Tom Hendry

AUTUMN 2018 NEWSLETTER

FESTIVAL OF SQUASH, RAC EPSOM, SUNDAY 4TH NOVEMBER

The sixth annual Festival of Squash organised by the GB Vets was held at the RAC, Woodcote Park, Epsom on Sunday 4th. November.

By 9.30 a.m. groups of keen players, with ages spanning from 29 to 83, representing the GB Vets, the Army and the Escorts, began arriving to join the players from the host RAC team.

For the Army Craig Webb was the overall star winning all three of his Singles playing at No.1 whilst also playing in three Doubles matches. Phil Croager and Nick Palmer repeated their achievements of 2017 by winning all three of their Doubles.

The ladies were well represented with newcomer Shayne Baillie (RAC) joining **Mandy Akin** and **Karen Hume** (GB Vets). All played highly competitive and exciting matches throughout the day.

One of the key factors of the whole day was the way in which the GB Vets were able to dominate the Doubles.

Dermot Hurford made his debut in the Festival and teamed up with **Dave Clarke** following the absence of **Alan Thomson**. Dermot and Dave won all three of their doubles scoring 12 vital points for the GB Vets team. In addition to Dermot and Dave's splendid performance, Mandy and Karen won two of their three matches and amassed another ten points. Perhaps even more splendid was the way that the really "mature" GB Vets players performed in the other doubles with **Nigel Belle** and **Roger Sulley** (combined ages of 148) winning

both their matches, and **Lance Kinder** and **John Woodliffe** (combined ages of 166) also winning their one match. It was great to have John and Lance participating especially given Lance's recent achievement of winning the Over 80 World Masters Championship in Charlottesville, US.

The strong performances in the Singles were Craig Webb (The Army) who won all three of his matches equaling his performance in 2017, **Howard Cherlin** (Escorts) who won both of his matches, whilst **John Goodrich** (GB Vets), **Chris Goodbourn** (GB Vets), Nick Palmer (The Army) and **Andrew Lowenthal** (RAC) all won two matches.



Some of the winning GB Vets team

Over the whole of the day a record number of 95 games were played in the 22 Singles matches, and 80 games in the 18 Doubles matches.

The result of the overall competition went down to the wire with large galleries watching the final matches which proved to be key to the final positions.

After the splendid **Jane Belle** and **Di Hendry**, who had managed the timetable through the day, had reckoned up all the points, the result showed the closest

competition since the event started in 2013 with all sides scoring well:

GB Vets: 66
The Army: 60
Escorts 47
R.A.C.: 44

Shortly after the final matches finished, hot and cold canapés, were served with beer and wine for both players and the many guests who came to support their teams. Finally, the GB Vets Chairman, **Tom Hendry**, thanked **James Dubois** and the RAC for their generosity in making it possible for the event to take place in such fine surroundings. Tom then thanked Jane and Di for their hard work orchestrating the matches for the four courts throughout the day. He also thanked **Berge Kay** (Escorts), Phil Ashman (The Army) and James Dubois (RAC) for assembling their players and congratulated everyone for both turning out and exemplifying the spirit of the event -that participation was much more important than the result!

The Festival of Squash Trophy for 2018 was then presented to **Nigel Belle** who had led his GB Vets team from the front and narrowly prevented The Army winning five times in a row. Finally, Nigel thanked his players, opponents and the organisers for another great event and spoke for all present, stating that they could not wait for the next festival when we can celebrate our great sport.

See you all on Sunday November 3rd. 2019!

Tom Hendry,
Chairman, GB Vets.

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NOSTALGIA IS NOT WHAT IT USED TO BE...



Tom Hendry, Chairman

I invite all GB Vets members to raise a glass on December 19th when we celebrate 55 years since our club was formed.

By chance recently, I was sorting some old books and came across a number of early copies of The Squash Rackets Association Handbook. I chose to read the 1963-64 one because it I was interested to compare the squash world today with that in 1963 when our club was formed. The only paid member of the SRA was Secretary John Horry who relied upon the huge support of volunteers, who shared a love of squash, to make things happen. The SRA Handbook had become the bible of British and International Squash largely financed by over 1600 members (including 260 Juniors), 36 counties and

hundreds of clubs together with all the armed services, universities and overseas. It included articles on the rules of squash, marking and building of courts.

You can either wonder at the advertisement for a Spalding wooden squash racket (round head of course!) on sale for £4.19.6 (with a present-day value of £101!) or note with interest the start of the Annual Report:

“However much a game may be expanding, there are always periods of stagnation when through complacency or lack of incentive the game gets into a rut.”

The writer went on to describe the shock to British squash in 1962 when teams from Australia and South Africa first came over. Australia won 14 out of 15 matches while South Africa won 12 out of 15. The Amateur Championship of that season was won by Australian Ken Hiscoe.

Roy Wilson, who had won the Amateur Championship in 1954 and 1956 and ran Surrey County Squash who dominated the Inter-County tournaments, wrote that the impact of these two visiting teams resulted in *“an explosion of enthusiasm and the spreading of a wide net to catch the best talent.”*

It is well documented that during the later 1960s and the 1970s our sport expanded rapidly when squash became THE game to play inspired by the phenomenon of Jonah Barrington and attractive to aspiring young people. Building of courts by local councils and ambitious investors produced clubs with

up to twenty courts compared with the traditional “members” clubs with four courts. However, as early as the late 1980s, clubs were beginning to convert squash courts for gym or dance or close them altogether. Since then, our sport in Britain has continued to decline despite continued efforts by the likes of The Jesters, Escorts, GB Veterans and, later, the England Masters.

It is evident that England Squash (the modern version of the old SRA) is struggling to halt the fundamental decline of our sport. With currently 17 members of staff (in itself a huge reduction on a few years ago), it seems to concentrate on “Premium Squash” with the PSA and the top, International players. Although they organise excellent programs for juniors, they seem to add less and less value to clubs and inter-county initiatives.

I would like to turn the clock back. Let’s energise the club players and the counties. Let’s try and ensure that young players, who learn to love squash at school or university continue to play the game in their twenties, thirties and onward.

Over the last 55 years, the Great Britain Veterans and England Masters have worked very hard, with limited funds but huge energy, to recognise the needs of the Over 35 squash players (both men and women). Let’s continue to make a difference!

**Tom Hendry
Chairman**

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS 2018/9

Have you completed your entry form yet? If not, do so now as entries close on 1st Dec 2018

The semi-finals take place on Saturday 30th March 2019 and the finals, together with the presentation of trophies and free evening meal plus wine, on Sunday 31st.

Mislaid your entry form? Need a new one? Contact the Tournament Director or the Hon. Secretary.

SMALL MEMBER!

Brenda and Steve took their six-year-old son to the doctor. With some hesitation, they explained that although their little angel appeared to be in good health, they were concerned about his rather small penis.

After examining the child, the doctor confidently declared, “Just feed him pancakes. That should solve the problem.”

The next morning when the boy arrived for breakfast, there was a large stack of warm pancakes in the middle of the table.

“Gosh, Mum,” he exclaimed, “for me?”

“Just take two,” Brenda replied. “The rest are for your father.”



Fixtures 2018/19

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 asap 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 2018

Sunday, 4 November 18	Festival of Squash - Woodcote Pk	Tom Hendry	twhendry@gmail.com
Friday, 23 November 18	Bromley Cricket & Squash Club	Karen Hume	karen.hume999@hotmail.com
Saturday, 24 November 18	Chichester	Paul Reader	pfareader@hotmail.co.uk
Sunday, 25 November 18	Lee on Solent	Paul Reader	pfareader@hotmail.co.uk
November 2018 TBC	Civil Service at Southbank	Geoff Howes	geoff.chrishowes@ntlworld.com
Thursday, 29 November 18	Camberley	Graham Chambers	grahamchambers@dixonwilson.co.uk

JANUARY 2019

10 January 2019	Roehampton	Graham Chambers	grahamchambers@dixonwilson.co.uk
January 2019 TBA	RAC Woodcote Park(Doubles)	Geoff Howes	geoff.chrishowes@ntlworld.com
26 January 2019	Cambridge University	Nick Sheppard	jnshepp.home@hotmail.com

FEBRUARY 2019

Saturday, 2 February 19	Eton College Boys	Dave Smith	bigd1102@hotmail.com
February 2019 TBC	Beckenham	Robert Smith	Robert.Smith@sgsmithproperties.co.uk
Monday, 25 February 19	Escorts (Finchley Manor SC)	Graham Chambers	grahamchambers@dixonwilson.co.uk

MARCH 2019

March 2019 TBC	The Wimbledon Club (Lakeside)	Geoff Howes	geoff.chrishowes@ntlworld.com
Wednesday, 13 March 19	Bourne Farnham	Dave Smith	bigd1102@hotmail.com
Friday, 15 March 19	Purley	Nigel Belle	belles@waitrose.com
Saturday, 16 March 19	Hurlingham	Graham Chambers	grahamchambers@dixonwilson.co.uk
Saturday, 16 March 19	Fitzwilliam/Dublin	Steve Jackson	smaxjackson@googlemail.com
19 March 2019	Dorking	Nigel Belle	belles@waitrose.com
March 2019 TBC	Park Langley	Robert Smith	Robert.Smith@sgsmithproperties.co.uk
March 2019 TBC	Civil Service at Southbank	Geoff Howes	geoff.chrishowes@ntlworld.com

APRIL 2019

Monday, 15 April 19	RAC Pall Mall	Nigel Belle	belles@waitrose.com
16 April 2019	Ashstead	Dave Smith	bigd1102@hotmail.com
Wednesday, 24 April 19	Surrey Sports Club	Dave Smith	bigd1102@hotmail.com
Friday, 26 April 19	Oxshott	Nigel Belle	belles@waitrose.com
Sunday, 28 April 19	Bromley/Nuffield Health	Robert Smith	Robert.Smith@sgsmithproperties.co.uk

MAY 2019

Friday, 24 May 19	Bexley	Nigel Belle	belles@waitrose.com
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JUNE 2019

Friday, 7 June 19	Ealing	Graham Chambers	grahamchambers@dixonwilson.co.uk
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OTHERS TBA

TBA	Bishops Stortford	Nick Sheppard	jnshepp.home@hotmail.com
TBA	New Malden	Geoff Howes	geoff.chrishowes@ntlworld.com
TBA	Cheam	Dave Smith	bigd1102@hotmail.com
TBA	Canterbury	Nick Sheppard	jnshepp.home@hotmail.com
TBA	Limpsfield	Nigel Belle	belles@waitrose.com
TBA	Woodford Wells	Nick Sheppard	jnshepp.home@hotmail.com
TBA	Hamptons/Chelmsford	Nick Sheppard	jnshepp.home@hotmail.com
TBA	Colets	Geoff Howes	geoff.chrishowes@ntlworld.com
Mid Nov 2019	Tour to York	Adrian Wright	ade@silver-fox.co.uk

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



NEW HON. MATCH SECRETARY NICK SHEPPARD

Nick Sheppard, who joined the GB Vets Committee 2 years ago, has very kindly agreed to become our Hon. Match Secretary. He is a regular player in the Regional Tournaments, lives in Chelmsford and plays squash at Bishops Stortford, Hertfordshire.

In general now, individual Match Managers arrange their own matches against Clubs –



Nick Sheppard

some arrange just one others as many as six. Nick's job therefore is to oversee and ensure all matches are played, collect results and ensure the smooth running of this important task. Any member who is interested in arranging and running a GB Vets team vs their own Club please contact Nick on 07748 593390 or email: jnjshepp.home@gmail.com

EXCITING NEWS! GB VETS VS CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY 26th JANUARY 2019

A new fixture has been arranged against Cambridge University to be played on Saturday 26th January 2019 and we are looking for a minimum of ten veterans to take part. This match is against the full University team and will be a great opportunity for members to get some competitive play in advance of the National Championships.

The University have offered to provide matches against women's team members for any of our ladies who would

like to join but do not want to play against men.

It is also hoped that an evening meal and overnight accommodation may be made available.

If you would like to take part please contact the Match Manager, Nick Sheppard on 07748 593390 or email: jnjshepp.home@gmail.com or the Hon. Secretary Nigel Belle on 07973 658120 or email: belles@waitrose.com

THREE MEN ON A HIKE

Three men were hiking through a forest when they came upon a large raging, violent river.

Needing to get to the other side, the first man prayed:

'God, please give me the strength to cross the river.'

Poof!.... God gave him big arms and strong legs and he was able to swim across in about 2 hours, having almost drowned twice.

After witnessing that, the second man prayed:

'God, please give me strength and the tools to cross the river.'

Poof!.... God gave him a rowboat and strong arms and strong legs and he was able to row across in about an hour after almost capsizing once.

Seeing what happened to the first two men, the third man prayed:

'God please give me the strength, the tools and intelligence to cross the river.'

Poof!.... He was turned into a woman. She checked the map, hiked one hundred yards up stream and walked across the bridge.

'If at first you don't succeed, do it the way your wife told you!'





LANCE KINDER

A WORLD MASTERS CHAMPION AT 83!

The Early Years

Lance was born in India in 1935 and came to England in 1948 due to the partition with India. At school he played football and cricket and was asked to join the ground staff at Old Trafford. He did his National Service in the RAF and boxed for them. Having left the RAF he was continually moved around the Country by his employer and whilst in Derbyshire he took up golf and badminton and at the age of 40 in 1975 took up squash.

Playing for his County

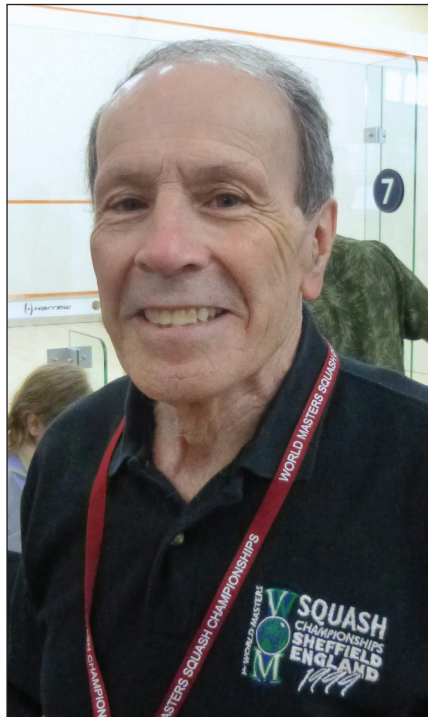
Having moved to the Bristol area Lance joined a wonderful squash club called Redwood Lodge. They boasted 19 squash courts and every imaginable facility for training. In 1980 he won the Avon Veterans Championship and thereafter went on to win 15 County titles in the O45, O55 and O60 age groups. In one single year, at the age of 57, he represented Avon County in the O35, O45 and O55 age groups!

The Setback

Having moved from Avon to Hampshire (playing at the Beechdown Club) in 1982, he continued to play squash but unfortunately, at the age of 64, suffered a heart attack in August 2000. His first words to his doctor treating him were "Can I travel and play squash in South Africa on Friday?!" His sheer determination and will to recover quickly saw him play for England in May 2001 in the O65 age group. Since then.....no 'blips' healthwise.

The Vets Club of GB

Lance joined the Vets Club in 1983 and has enjoyed the camaraderie of players and competitive matches against other Clubs. He was on the Committee for 15 years, 10 of which were as Tournament Director, running (with the great help of wife Jacqui) the Club Championships. He has been successful in winning 12 singles tournament events in most age groups and in the doubles, with partner John Woodliffe, has won a staggering 23 tournaments again in most age groups. He also won the O70 doubles event



Lance Kinder

with Ken Barrett in 2006. He won the prestigious Burrell Trophy in 2001 and is now a Vice President of the Club.

Home Internationals

Since 1992 to date he has represented England, wait for it, on 71 occasions losing only once! It was at the age of 60 he decided to approach England Squash to extend the age groups for the Home Internationals. He is proud that, at his instigation, he started the O60, O65, O70 and O75 events. Whilst the National Open and Closed Championships are now open to the O80's sadly he has not been able to persuade ES to run an O80 Home International event. The main reason being that the other 3 nations – Scotland, Ireland and Wales – have so far not been able to raise a team.

The World Scene!

Lance has been on many GB Vets tours all over the world and he has been successful in European and WSF (World Squash Federation) events on 5 occasions including in 1999 in Sheffield winning the O55 doubles event with John Woodliffe beating the Egyptian favourites in the 5th! So, right up to date, Lance won Gold in the 2018 World Masters Championships in

Charlottesville Virginia USA. He was seeded No. 1 and beat the American No.1 3/1 in the final.

Secrets of his success?

Well many, but high up on the list will be the fact that he has been quote *"very fortunate in having the backing, encouragement and support of my wife Jacqui. She has also continued to support me, not only in England but all over the world. I have no doubt that during my future squash playing days she will continue to be 'my rock'."* Also hugely important is his diet which, amongst other items, consists of black coffee, diet coke, sweetex pills, no sugar, no alcohol and hot spicy curries (favourite Vindaloo!) His training regime must also help with his success – palates (twice a week), training 3 times a week (one hour sessions) and, oh yes, squash 3 times a week!

The future

It goes without saying that he would like to play squash 'forever' but he is also extremely keen to start the next age group, Nationally and Internationally in the O85. I ask about how many trophies he has won in his squash career and is he looking to increase that number. In answer to the first question he has won over 300 to date but says there is still some spare space in the trophy cabinet for more..... He is pleased to tell me that his 'rock' keeps all his trophies in immaculate condition!

And Finally....

In many ways Lance has epitomised the spirit of the GB Vets Club over the years. His many friends would fill a whole book with anecdotes about him but Chris Wilson speaks for us all when he describes Lance as... *"one of those unique characters, wonderful people and real friends, who have always inspired me. His generosity, kindness, sportsmanship and modesty, qualities I greatly admire, are second to none. He simply loves everything about the game, both on and off the court and he shows it all in the nicest possible way."*

Well done and congratulations Lance, keep up the good work!

Nigel Belle





GOLF DAY REPORT

Twelve members of the Vets Club met at Surbiton Golf Club on the 10th September to contest the 3rd playing of our, now annual, Golf Championship.

The weather was fair and although the course had suffered a little after the long dry summer some of the golf played was of a high standard (and some was not).

The winner on the day was David Johnson with Stuart Hardy coming second.

There were prizes for nearest the pin on 2 holes and a longest drive prize.

Along with a team prize, wooden spoon, lucky loser and anything else the organiser could think of, everyone left with a memento of the day.

The catering was excellent with the food washed down with some fine wine from the club cellar.

If you are a golfer and wish to join us next year then put the date in your diary (when you get one)

Monday 9th September 2019.

Geoff Howes

GLEN RAGOU MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

Glen Ragou, whilst never a GB Vet, was a great friend and squash player to so many. He passed away in 2015 of cancer at the early age of 54 and an annual tournament has been held in his memory ever since.

The event is a social but competitive one where a Masters team from the 'North' play a Masters team from the 'South'. This year over 80 players took part. Any profits from the event go to charity.

The winning team is presented with the Glen Ragou Cup.

The event took place at the Sutton Coldfield Squash Club on 8th

September and for the first time the South of England beat the North by a convincing margin – 103 points to 64.

Well done to the organisers: Ian Bradburn, Andy Murray, Alison Goy and to the excellent tournament organiser/manager, Brian Brock.

GB Vets taking part:

North: Alison Goy, Adrian Wright, Sue Pynegar, Ian Bradburn.

South: Nick Sheppard, Rachel Woolford, John Parkes, Geoff Redfern, Mark Taylor, Nigel Belle, Ripley Oyler, Chris Harland, Andy Murray, Mandy Akin.



PREGNANCY & WOMEN: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Should I have a baby after 35?

A: No 35 children is enough.

Q: Is there anything I should avoid while recovering from childbirth?

A: Yes, pregnancy.

Q: What is the most reliable method to determine baby's sex?

A: Childbirth.

Q: Is there any reason I have to be in the delivery room while my wife is in labour?

A: Not unless the word 'alimony' means anything to you.

Q: I'm two months pregnant now, when will my baby move?

A: With any luck, right after he finishes college.

Q: Do I have to have a baby shower?

A: Not if you change the baby's nappy very quickly.

Q: Our baby was born last week. When will my wife begin to feel and act normal again?

A: When the kids are in college.



REGIONAL MASTERS RESULTS

WEST 21-23 SEPTEMBER 2018 – WOLVERHAMPTON

7 WINNERS 6 RUNNERS UP

WINNERS

- MO50 **Steve McLoughlin** bt **Andy Murray** in the final 3/1
- MO70 **Barry Featherstone** won the final 3/0. **Dave Hardern** and **Mike Clemson** both reached the semis.
- MO75 **Adrian Wright** bt **Nigel Belle** in the final 3/0. **Mick McLaughlin** reached the semis.
- WO45 **Sam Mueller** won the final 3/0
- WO50 **Rachel Woolford** won the final 3/1. **Bev Vatcher** reached the semis.
- WO55 **Lesley Sturgess** won the final 3/1.
- WO60/65 **Sue Pynegar** won the pool of 4.

RUNNERS UP

- MO35 **Jamie Goodrich** playing 2 age groups down lost in the final 0/3.
- MO50 As above **Andy Murray** reached the final losing to **Steve McLoughlin**.
- MO55 **Darren Withey** lost in the final 0/3. **John Parkes** reached the semis.
- MO60 **Ian Bradburn** lost in the final to the No.1 seed 0/3.
- MO65 **Paul Reader** lost 1/3 in the final.
- MO75 As above **Nigel Belle** lost in the final to **Adrian Wright**.

NORTH 12-14 OCTOBER 2018 – PONTEFRACT

6 WINNERS 4 RUNNERS UP

WINNERS

- MO35 **Jamie Goodrich** again playing 2 age groups down won the final 3/1
- MO45 **Jonathan Gliddon** won the final 11/4 in the 5th.
- MO55 **Eamonn Price** won convincingly 3/0 in the final. **John Parkes** reached the semis.
- MO65 **Geoff Redfern** beat fellow GB Vet **Jim Dougal** 3/0 in the final.
- MO70 **Barry Featherstone** bt fellow GB Vet **Ian Ross** 3/1 in the final. **Rod Boswell** reached the semis.
- MO75 **Adrian Wright** won the pool of 5.

RUNNERS UP

- MO60 **Ian Bradburn** lost in the final 0/3.
- MO65 As above **Jim Dougal** lost in the final to **Geoff Redfern**.
- MO70 As above **Ian Ross** lost in the final to **Barry Featherstone**.
- WO55 **Lesley Sturgess** lost in the final to the No.1 seed. **Sarah Howlett** reached the semis.

MIDLANDS 9-11 NOVEMBER 2018 – EDGBASTON

5 WINNERS 5 RUNNERS UP

WINNERS

- MO55 **Darren Withey** won the final 11/8 in the 5th. **John Parkes** reached the semis.
- MO65 **Geoff Redfern** won the final 3/0. **Paul Reader** reached the semis.
- MO70 **Ian Ross** won a thrilling final beating **Barry Featherstone** 18/16 in the 5th. **Mike Clemson** and **Larry Grover** reached the semis.
- MO75 **Adrian Wright** won the final 3/1. **Nigel Belle** and **Bev Boag** reached the semis.
- WO35/40 **Keeley Johnson** won the final 3/0.

RUNNERS UP

- MO45 **Jonathan Gliddon** lost to the No.1 seed in the final.
- MO70 As above **Barry Featherstone** lost in the final to **Ian Ross**.
- WO45 **Sam Mueller** lost to the No.1 seed 0/3 in the final.
- WO50 **Rachel Woolford** lost 1/3 in the final. **Mandy Akin**, playing an age group down, lost 19/21 in the 4th to the eventual winner.
- WO60 **Sue Pynegar** came runner up in the pool.



NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS

NEW MEMBERS

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

- Mike Lowe – RAC & Dorking
- Geoff Redfern – Leamington
- John Parkes – Barnt Green
- Geoff Lees – Nuffield Health
- Steve Wright – Uxbridge
- Ian Lennox – Bishops Stortford

'LOST' MEMBERS

If you know the whereabouts of any of the above members please notify the Hon. Sec.

- Alf Barker John Barton
- John Grieve Tim Higginson
- T.Peter Jones Robert McIntosh
- Geoffrey Mortimer Aubrey Smith

OBITUARIES

It is with much sadness we report the death of **Tony Dilley** a few weeks ago. He was a member since 1992 and was a very keen player and supporter. He is survived by his wife Audrey.

FELLOW DECADENTS

A few years ago **Andrew Beeston** advised the Editor of two Trophies he was aware of in his Lancashire area. One, reverent, respectful and dignified trophy presented by **Tony Swift** and is awarded annually to the winners of the Men's Home Internationals. The other, irreverent, disrespectful, undignified trophy called '**The Dropped Bollock Trophy**'. Are these trophies still contested and awarded annually? More information please Andrew!

NEVER TOO OLD!

Bob, a 70-year-old, good squash player and extremely wealthy widower, shows up at his club with a breathtakingly beautiful and very sexy 25-year-old blonde-haired woman who knocks everyone's socks off with her youthful sex appeal and charm and who hangs over Bob's arm and listens to his every word. His buddies at the club are all aghast. At their very first chance, they corner him and ask, "Bob, how'd you get the trophy girlfriend?" Bob replied, "Girlfriend? She's my wife!" They're knocked over, but continue to ask: "So, how'd you persuade her to marry you?" "I lied about my age," Bob replied. "What? Did you tell her you were only 50?" Bob smiled and said, "No, I told her I was 90."

CLUB SHOP – ON LINE

Don't forget you can now (only) buy Club Merchandise on line. Not only are the usual items – polo and tee shirts – available but now also shorts and warm-up jackets. Go to www.iprosports.co.uk click on the 'Club Zone', scroll down and click on the GB Vets logo and then follow the instructions! Exception: Lamb's wool v neck pullovers are bought from a different supplier. For information on these and to order contact the Hon. Secretary, Nigel Belle.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

BRITISH NATIONAL (CLOSED) CHAMPIONSHIPS

Nottingham
13/17 February 2019

JESTERS AMATEUR TOURNAMENT

RAC Pall Mall
1/4 February 2019

REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS

East Norwich
 14/16 December 2018

South W.Worthing
 11/13 January 2019

GB VETS CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS (FINALS W/E)

Colets
30/31 March 2019

HOME INTERNATIONALS

MO40,MO60,WO35/40
Cardiff
26/27 April 2019

MO35,MO55,MO75,WO55
Galway
3/4 May 2019

MO45,MO65,WO45
Edinburgh
10/11 May 2019

MO50,MO70,WO50
Nottingham
17/18 May 2019

EUROPEAN MASTERS

Vienna, Austria
21/24 August 2019

BRITISH OPEN TBA

ANNIVERSARY BOOK

This magnificent record of the GB Vets '50 Years On' is still available to purchase. You can buy it now for just £10 inc p&p. Order from Nigel Belle 01959 565444 OR email belles@waitrose.com OR purchase from any Committee member. Pay options available.

