

## Chair's Annual Report 2022-23

A bumper year for GB Vets, pushing forward with various new projects and starting our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year with many planned events.

The aim to arrange multi player fixtures was successful with matches against the Civil Service, Oxford University, Scotland Masters ( to honour John Rae and Jim Dougal ) and Wales Masters. Tours were another success with an inaugural visit to play Gibraltar who will come to England later this year. We fielded a team at the Jersey Festival and our annual fixture at the Fitzwilliam Club in Dublin was more successful than the Rugby result. The Festival of Squash at the RAC Woodcote Park playing against the Army, RAC and Escorts had a lot of players turning out to enjoy a great days squash in magnificent surroundings. Perhaps the only downside was the Army team walking off with the trophy again!

Our players have been very busy and successful this year. The British Open produced 4 winners and 9 runners up. In the Home Internationals 39 members will be playing for their country. The World Championships in Poland had 20 members enter. A tremendous 3 gold, 2 silver and 2 bronze medals were won.

Two Golf competitions were played in Surbiton and Windermere with 40 members turning out. Regular fixtures that have happened for many years were also played with results in newsletters and on the website. Our Newsletters remain an interesting and well read feature of our club. Sara Howlett, Mark Cowley, Karen Hume and David Leakey the most recent subjects of 5 Questions. Our annual tournament was less popular. Robert Smith was awarded the Burrell trophy and David Parker picked up the Norman Hunt trophy. GBV continues to thrive with 25 new members in the last year.

We are now well into the 60<sup>th</sup> year and a lot more is planned. There are 3 more multi players events against England, Ireland and the Jesters (Doubles only). Our Festival of Squash will be on Sunday November 26<sup>th</sup> and the preceding day will be an event at Colet's with squash games in the afternoon and dinner/disco/auction in the evening.

I am indebted to members of the committee for doing virtually all the work to make these events so successful. Without them little of note would happen and they have my sincere thanks.

Ian Graham

Chair