



Newsletter

7 BELFORD PLACE, EDINBURGH EH4 3DH TEL: 0131 539 7071

SUMMER 97

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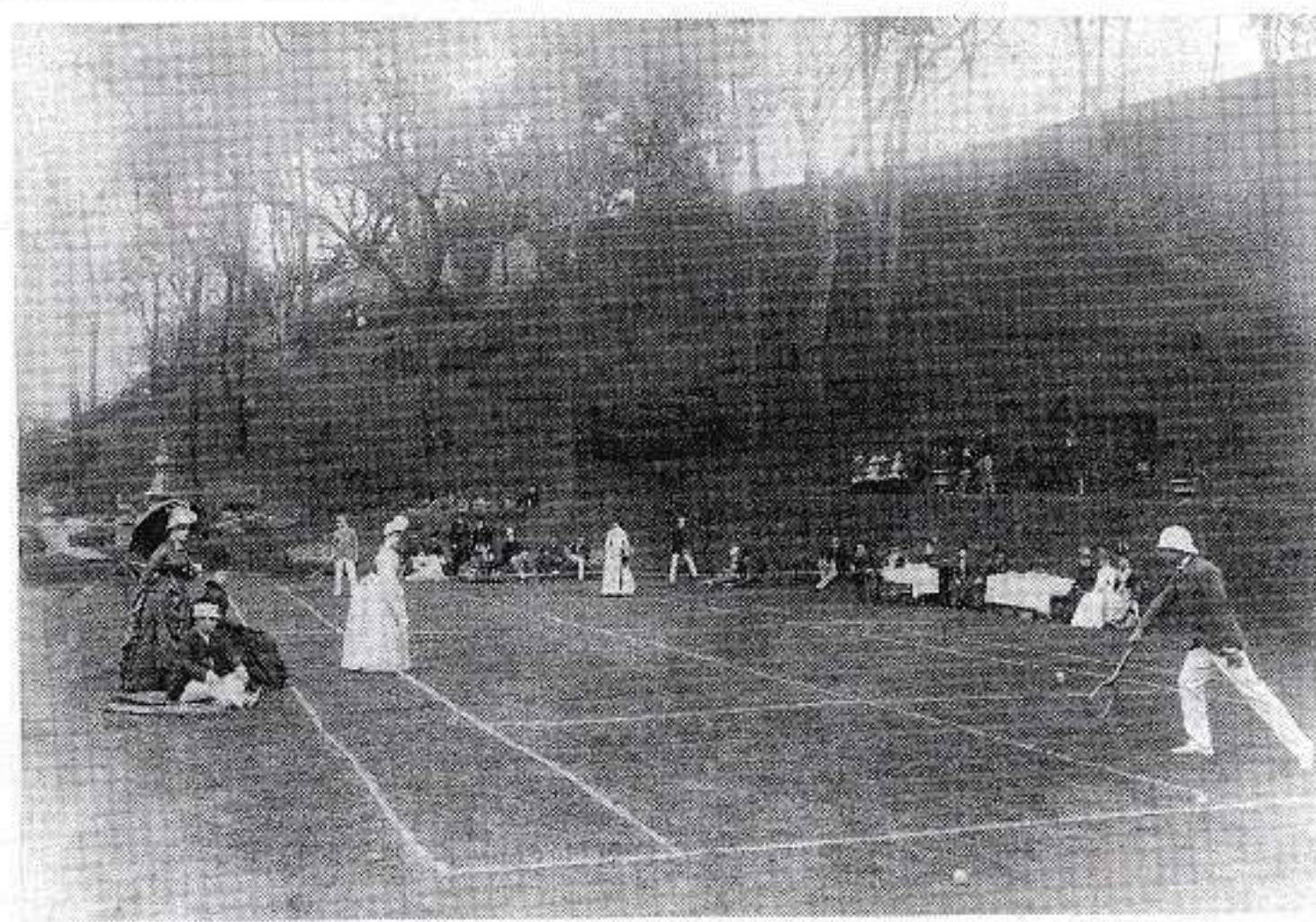
Tony Rae
Neil Steedman
(Bar)

Pat Wilson
Joyce Waterston
(Catering)

Mr Waddell's Residence, Belford Park. Sept 1887

This photo shows a family tennis day in Mr Waddell's Garden. Now the Sports Club Car Park. Could these folk be the founder members of the club?

SEE THIS PICTURE IN THE CLUB BAR



Chairman's Message

Welcome to the first edition of the Newsletter produced in its new format, one of many innovations introduced by the new management team. With regard to the club development programme progress has not been quite as fast as we would have liked, mainly because of a delay in planning consent, but we are hopeful of resuming the process towards the end of June, when the lottery application will be

made. Members will be consulted fully at all times regarding development options and funding. Thanks to all of you who returned voting papers, also to those who made personal appearances at the court 5 exhibition, contributing many valuable ideas and comments which are much appreciated.

We look forward to a summer of varied club activities. Please

support these activities the future of the club depends upon members' participation in as many sports as possible. We always welcome suggestions for programme expansion or alternatives, so please contact the management team or any board member if you have any ideas which you would like to be implemented.

Alastair Allanach.

ESC Member Takes to The Road.

Fred Multon & The Peking - Paris Motor Challenge. By Michael Campbell.

Good Luck and Best Wishes are extended to Fred Multon and his co-driver who are embarking on a life or death mission in the Peking to Paris Classic Car Rally, a gruelling 10,000 mile 6 week challenge last held in 1907. This years event will start on the 6th September with the Intrepid

finishers arriving in Paris on the 18th October.

Fred will be driving a 1955 Austin A90 Westminster Saloon and during his travels will be sporting Edinburgh Sports Club Apparel in the form of cap and Tee Shirt. This is surely the ultimate Adventure Experience for the 80 mostly European participants. The course goes through China (approx 2 weeks) Kathmandu, India, Pakistan, The Middle East and finally Europe. Three Deserts to negotiate en-route will test the Car and Driver's Endurance.

Draft route and schedule details will be displayed on the club notice board so we can track Fred's progress. I shall be there to meet him in Paris on the 18th October.

Development Plans - How You Voted

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Number of voting papers issued | 836 |
| Votes in Favour of Option (1) | 196 |
| Votes in Favour Option (2) | 43 |
| Votes in Favour Option (3) | 43 |
| Total Votes Returned | 281 |

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

End of Season
Squash Results
Adventure Trip -
The Highlands
A Tribute - Bill Nimmo
Junior Section
Forthcoming Events

Senior Roll of Honour

ESC Closed Squash Championships 29/3/97

Male Winner
Niall Mackinnon



Runner Up
Dave Hickman

Female Winner
Helen McFie

Runner Up
Irene Cowper

Racquetball Championships

Men's Doubles Winners
Dave Hickman &
George Halliday



Runners Up
Ray Stevenson & Alan Murray

Mixed Double Winners
Julie McBurnie &
Renwick Patterson

Runners Up
Fiona Stevenson &
Pete Rasberry

Badminton Championships

The club is currently holding its inaugural Badminton Championships in the form of a mixed doubles event. With

over 30 entrants proving the expanding popularity of Badminton within the club.

International Caps

Jane Arnold Represented Scottish Squash in Ireland at end of May. This celebrates a family Double as husband Peter also represented Scotland. Congratulations to all of our International Players including:-

Dave Hickman
Irene Cowper
John Done
Peter Wilson
Chris Wilson

Regional

Lothian Closed Ladies Winner
Helen McFie

Lothian Closed Mens Winner
Dave Hickman

Lothian Closed O/35 Ladies
Winner Irene Cowper

Lothian Closed Mens O/50
Winner John Done

National Champion
Irene Cowper (O/40)

Scottish Champion
Lisa McKenna
Jane Arnold (O/50)
John Done (O/50)



ESC Win Scottish Masters Quaich (13th April) beating Bo'ness in the Final L to R Colin Caldwell, Michael Campbell (Sponsor Stafford Exports) Irene Cowper Chris Wilson, Dave Hickman.

Ladies Squash Players Meeting 17/3/97

In attendance Irene Cowper, Desni Nixon, Sandra Kempston, Alison Hickman, Rosie Fraser, Mary McGavigan, Alison Zuill, Jenny Jack.

Thanks were given to all players for their commitment and effort over the season. As team selection centres around the ladder, time was spent discussing this topic. The following points were identified.

There will be a 6 week open challenge period commencing mid august to give ample time for challenges to be played and too accommodate holidays etc. New entrants to be put on ladder. Ladder movements to be identified at least every 2 weeks during open challenge season. A players meeting will be held 2 weeks prior to the leagues commencing when all ladder players and other interested ladies will be asked to identify their level of commitment to regular team or of their preference to be a pull in. The objective of this meeting will be to select teams and captain's plus deal with any other issues players may wish to raise. These should be forwarded to Irene Cowper 1 week prior to the meeting.

National and Scottish teams will be taken from the Ladies Ladder positions. All Ladies intending to play for these teams will be put on the Ladder.

Sponsorship. All efforts to gain sponsors are welcome. However this needs to be co-ordinated via the club management. If any Ladies identify a potential sponsor please liaise with Dave Thomas, Paul Macari or Irene Cowper.

Irene Cowper on behalf of ESC will put forward a written proposal to Lothian Leagues to change the format of the leagues by promoting 3 teams up from Division 2 and no relegation from Division 1. Consideration was given to applying the same rule to senior leagues as Junior i.e. International players are not eligible. However on discussing this with Jock Smith it was decided to put this contentious issue on hold.

Squash Team News

The men's National League team had a poor season by their own standards. However they may avoid relegation due to the fact that two teams have pulled out of the league.

Our Ladies competed in the first National Ladies League finishing second to Colinton Castle. However the tables were turned with ESC beating them in the final of the Scottish Cup.

10th European Squash Club Championships - Algarve, Portugal. 25-28 Sept 97.

ESC Ladies have qualified for the above Tournament. Good Luck to our Ladies Team

Lothian Squash Leagues

Men's Division 1
ESC 1st finished 3rd,
ESC 2nd finished 2nd

Men's Division 2
ESC finished 9th

Ladies Division 1
ESC 1st team finished 2nd
ESC 2nd Team finished 5th

Ladies Division 2
ESC finished 4th

Ladies Team Players Wanted

Any Ladies wishing to play Team Squash should contact Club Management or Mrs Irene Cowper.

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Junior Roll of Honour

ESC Junior Championships

U19 Winner Graham Lind
R/UP Neil Steedman
U16 Winner Richard Snowden
R/UP Allan Angus
U14 Winner Peter Kempston
U12 Winner Gregor Thomson
R/UP Ross McHoul
U16 Winner Kirsty Lind
R/UP Lisa Pratt
U12 Winner Sophie Woodhead
R/UP Vicki Lynch

Competitions

ESC retained the U16 Junior Scottish Quaich

International Caps

Niall Mackinnon (U19)
Richard Snowden (U16)
Christopher Hillyard (U14)
Peter Kempston (U14)
Jackie Edwards
Nicholas Hillyard, Christopher Hillyard and Allan Angus were members of the U16 Select Team.

Representing Lothian

U19 - Niall Mackinnon, Graham Lind, Richard Snowden, Paul Angus, Neil Steedman, Andrew Snowden and Joanne Waine.
U16 - Richard Snowden, Allan Angus and Kirsty Lind.
U14 - Christopher Hillyard and Peter Kempston.
U12 - Sophie Woodhead

Tournament Winners

Richard Snowden U16 Scottish Nationals, Lothian Open, Lothian Closed and The Inverness Open.
Joanne Waine U19 Lothian Closed
Christopher Hillyard U14 Lothian Closed
Lisa Pratt U14 Lothian Closed

Junior Squash Section

Regular Sunday afternoon coaching sessions have continued this season at various ability levels. Thanks are extended to Chris Wilson who took over the coaching following the tragic death of Tom Cain. A large number of our juniors have taken part in Lothian League Matches gaining enjoyment and valuable experience. Juniors should be aware that a Lothian Junior Squad has recently been established and promising players will be invited to join the squad for coaching sessions. There is also the Scottish Junior Squad for the country's top players. Very special thanks are extended to Jeremy Snowden for his Indefatigable work promoting the Junior Section.

Kwik Fit/Sportsmatch Junior Tennis Coaching

The Club was successful in obtaining a Sportsmatch Award for the Junior Section which matches pound for pound private sponsorship already gained from Kwik Fit.

This award was used to subsidise the Junior Tennis Coaching Course's recently held at the club and will assist with other Junior Programme's throughout the year.

LOOK

Edinburgh Sports Club is please to commend its new

**RACKET STRINGING AND
RACKET MAINTENANCE SERVICE**

Contact reception for further details of the service available

Stringing is provided by Rapid Repairs - Scotland's leading racket stringing company. All restringing is carried out on top quality Babolat electronic machines to ensure accuracy and full racket protection.



High Adventure

**Hill Walking in the
Western Highlands
The Loch Mullardoch
Expedition.
2nd - 7th August
1997**

Introduction

The vast tract of wild mountainous country running north from Kintail to Achnasheen in the Western Highlands is almost uninhabited. It is the abode of arctic hare, red deer, eagles and foxes. Although the great glens of Affric, Cannich & Strathfarrar penetrate the mountains from the east, no road bisects the region and the area is particularly remote. Twelve proud Munro's (Scottish Mountains over 3000 ft) surround the isolated Loch Mullardoch. Most of these hills can only be reached after hours of arduous walking.

About the Expedition.

ESC are organising an expedition to the area with an objective to climb Munro's. The team will be based in a private mountain hut 5 miles up the north shore of Loch Mullardoch. Although only accessible by boat and 15 miles from the nearest town this base is in the perfect position to enable the team to explore this magnificent country.

This will be a serious, well equipped expedition that will appeal to those who are in excellent physical condition with a positive attitude and a good sense of humour. No technical skills are required but you will have to be capable of walking and climbing for 6-8 hours per day

across steep and rough terrain sometimes enduring heavy rain and driving wind. The Mullardoch hills are exceptionally isolated and in the face of a severe blizzard survival rather than progress may be paramount.

**Itinerary = Depart Saturday.
Day Walks - Sun, Mon, Tues,
Wed, Return Thursday.**

Equipment.

All team members will be required to supply their own attire such as suitable mountain boots and windproof/waterproof shell clothing. Backpacks are available for hire.

Cost

The cost is £100 per person which includes round trip transport via mini bus, bunkhouse accommodation, breakfast and evening meal.

The Expedition Leader is Dave Thomas British Joint Services Mountain Leader (Summer/Winter). Dave has led many NATO Forces Expeditions on British Mountains.

For safety & logistical reasons the team will consist of 8 people and selection will be on first come first served basis & payment of a non refundable deposit (£25).

**Remember
10mph
on the Club
Approach Rd**

Tom Cain Memorial Squash Marathon

Thanks to all the participants who participated in the above event held at Colinton Castle in memory of our former Squash Coach, Tom Cain. Through generous sponsorship over £400 was raised for The British Heart Foundation.

Fitness Centre

The Fitness Room continues to improve in both facilities and member usage.

The new Stairmaster climbing machine has proved to be a popular personal trainer with the forgiveness of a Sergeant Major. The Fitness punch bag has been installed to help develop upper body strength and endurance. The New abdominal cradle will enable you to Rock your stomach muscles into action. Look out for further development in the Health & Fitness area.

MEMBER PROFILE Dr John Done

John Done started playing squash in 1963 while a student in London. A Lancashire lad from St Helen's young John took up a position at Edinburgh University after graduating with a PhD in Chemistry. This move launched a career playing for the ESC and his adopted country that is still active today. He has represented Scotland at every level and has an impressive playing resume.

Scottish Caps

- 5 Full Caps 74/76
- 2 Time Winner East of Scotland
15 Over 45 Caps 89/94
- 3 Time Winner West of Scotland
2 Over 50 Caps
- 2 Time R/Up Scottish Closed
Scottish Vets Winner
- 5 Time Winner Scottish Closed
Over 50s
- 3 Time Winner Scottish Open
Over 50s

Tournament Achievements

During the 1970s John took some famous scalps including the highly rated New Zealand International Trevor Colyer and England's Clive Francis. John has represented the Edinburgh Sports Club in National and Local leagues for nearly 26 years, Winning the Club Championships 4 times. He was the Semi-Finalist in the 1993 World Masters winning the player of the tournament award.

Outside playing John has been the Manager of the Scottish Senior Team (81/83) and is currently Manager of the Scottish Vets Team. Hobbies include Birdwatching and Hill Walking having climbed all 277 Munro's by his 40th Birthday.

John's talent and attitude on and off court make him an ideal role model for any aspiring Junior member.

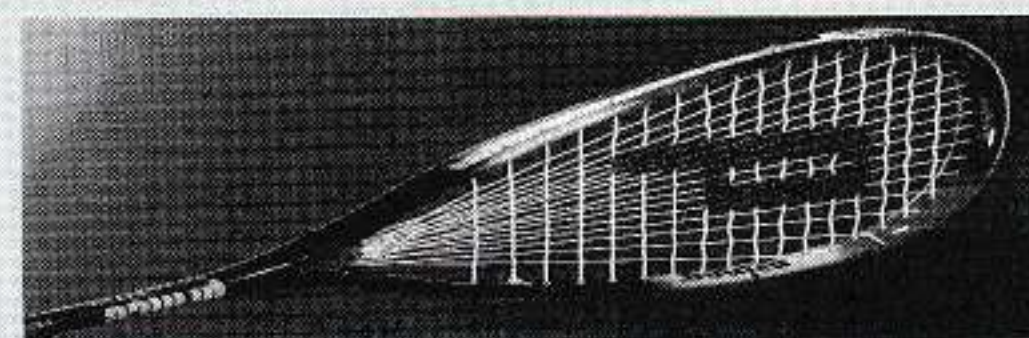
The Sports Shop

The shop continues to strive to provide quality sports clothing at competitive prices.

Look What's New:

New Squash Racket from Prince THE POWER WEB

Developed in association with Peter Nicol the racket will be available at Edinburgh Sports Club from August. This new concept where all the main strings wrap round an inverted ring which is integrated into the throat of the Racket is set to revolutionise Squash Racket Development. Here's what will it do for you.



Greater Touch & Control
More Power • Increased Durability
Improved Response

Also New

Embroidered ESC Tennis/Squash Shirts.
The 1000 Mile Racket Sock
(guaranteed blister free socks)



Car Parking

Yes it's an old chestnut but Car Parking continues to be a contentious issue at the club. Recently Management have been conducting a survey and have revealed a number of Illegal parkers. Members are therefore respectfully reminded of the following key points to remember.

(1) The Car Park is for the use of Club Members Only

(2) Only park in designated car park bays.

(3) Members parking their car for longer than 3 hours during the period 8am - 6pm Monday - Friday are requested to:

(a) Apply for and display a car park permit

(b) Park in the area at the far end of the car park (west end of building)

Social Membership

Members are advised that the club is no longer accepting New Social Members. This does not apply to Senior Long Standing Members who wish to retire from active sports.

Karaoke Caption Competition 30/3/97 No this isn't Gary Glitter Leading the Gang It's Club Chairman Alastair Allanach proving you don't need to be able to sing to participate. We will be giving away a small prize for those who can guess the name of the song. Send to The Editor, ESC Newsletter.



An Appreciation BILL NIMMO

A member since 1937 who died on the 19th April

Bill Nimmo who has died aged 79 was educated at Fettes College, Trinity College Cambridge and Edinburgh University. He qualified as a Solicitor in 1949 Joining the family firm of Russel & Aitken in Falkirk, the town of his birth. Later the company opened a branch in Edinburgh and Bill moved there.

Bill was a quiet and very modest man, kindly and courteous. As a family Solicitor he was diligent and conscientious almost to a fault. His elderly Lady clients would have been astonished to learn that this kindly, gentle man was an explosives expert during the last war, engaged in blowing up trains behind enemy lines. He was commissioned in the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Subsequently he trained as a Commando and was posted to India. After the Japanese invasion of Burma he took part in the two Chindt Expeditions led by General Wingate. He next became a member of Force 136 which was the SEAC branch of SOE (Special Operations Executive) with them he took part in several operations where a small team of highly trained men parachuted behind Japanese lines with the objective of obstructing communications and obtaining information about troop movements etc. One such operation codenamed BISON was commanded by Major John Hedley DSO and his Second in Command was Bill Nimmo.

Major Hedley wrote a book Jungle Fighters which only came to my notice after Bill's Death. The following is an excerpt from the book.

I sent Bill Nimmo and Havildar Gum Naw off for 12 days. They put up a splendid show, covered

an immense amount of ground and came back with all the information they had been sent for. I'm glad to say that for this role and his consistent work throughout operation BISON I was able to get Bill a well deserved Military Cross. I could never have got a better Second in Command and the Kachins would do anything for him.

The Kachins were a Burmese Tribe who fought with the British Forces. With typical diligence, Bill Nimmo took time to learn their language so gaining their respect and loyalty.

I did Law with Bill at University but my main contact with him over the last Fifty years was playing Tennis at Edinburgh Sports Club. He had some health trouble in recent years but would never give up. He was still playing Doubles Squash two weeks before he died. After all these years I never knew he had a Military Cross up until a few days ago.

He is survived by his charming wife Anne, two sons and three grandchildren. I salute the passing of a very gallant Gentleman.

DAVID HUNTER

Forthcoming Events

Sat 28th June Mini Team
Mid Season BBQ & Karaoke

2 - 9 Aug. Highland hike
(hill walking in the
Highlands) See Feature.

Fri 25th July ESC Golf Day
West Lothian G.C.

Sat 23rd Aug Mini League
Presentation Dinner