

LIBRARY DAILY POSTING INDEX: UNCATEGORISED (general)

Year	Month	Day	(features, bold)
2019	Nov	22	Agatha Christie's Court
2019	Dec	06	1st mag article - Boys Own Paper 1894
2019	Dec	07	1st book - 1900
2019	Dec	27	Library featured - Squash Player Magazine
2020	Jan	01	Death of Elvis Presley
2020	Jan	12	Litesome coaching cassette
2020	Jan	13	Stamps featuring squash
2020	Jan	18	Racketball/Squash 57 history
2020	Jan	25	Bjorn Borg
2020	Jan	26	Shakespeare Squash
2020	Jan	28	US Urban Programme
2020	Feb	05	Worldwide Clubs 1938
2020	Feb	12	London Breweries
2020	Feb	24	London Capital Radio Survey
2020	Mar	01	Irish qualification appeal
2020	Mar	21	Coaching film 1938
2020	Mar	31	Squash Player Diary
2020	Apr	01	Postal Squash!
2020	Apr	18	Squash Forward launch
2020	Apr	28	1st World Squash Day
2020	May	08	Hardball / Softball USA 1983
2020	May	18	1st squash computer?
2020	June	02	Spelling; Racket or Racquet
2020	Aug	09	Eric Hyde views (smoking/women) 1935
2020	Aug	12	Covid Snapshot
2020	Aug	17	SPIN introduction
2020	Aug	31	Jumbo Doubles
2020	Sept	05	Nicol/Garner 7 Court Challenge 2013
2020	Sept	13	History timeline
2020	Sept	15	PSA / WISPA promo DVDs (2004 & 07)
2020	Sept	21	Elton John Squash court
2020	Sept	27	Missing WSF Annual appeal
2020	Oct	05	Gander Dowar predictions 1932
2020	Oct	14	Hardball Doubles promotional brochure
2020	Oct	24	Squash Library 1st birthday
2020	Nov	14	1st Malaysian Champion, Tunku Imran
2020	Nov	21	Prince Philip meets
2020	Nov	24	Ball levy 1965
2020	Dec	15	1st British Squash 57 Champs (1984)
2020	Dec	24	RAC Club coaches
2020	Dec	31	SquashInfo Partnership
2021	Jan	16	New website daily post directory
2021	Jan	17	New website championships heading
2021	Feb	02	Doha Airport Squash Courts
2021	Feb	04	Athens LTC (HM King Constantine - 1966)
2021	Feb	06	Racketball becomes Squash 57
2021	Feb	21	Boy's Own Paper article 1894
2021	Mar	01	Filofax Squash Insert (1990)
2021	Mar	03	Handicaps for Squash (1937)
2021	Mar	07	World Clubs 1938
2021	Mar	09	Bath Club v Queens Club 1906
2021	Mar	19	Dick Hawkey, author
2021	Mar	31	Jesters Club (first 75 years)
2021	Apr	01	Finals backwards (April Fool)
2021	Apr	05	1st nuclear reactor - in a court (racquets)
2021	Apr	06	Pop-up squash shop
2021	Apr	15	Novak Djokovic plays squash
2021	Apr	28	Ultra violet squash
2021	May	08	WISPA Promotional Tour (Russia)
2021	May	15	SportAccord 2012 (Inflatable court)
2021	May	22	Missing publications
2021	May	25	Prince Philip – playing in Hong Kong
2021	May	30	Fred Perry ad, Khans, 1954
2021	June	05	Greek Law, medical fitness, 1968
2021	June	11	Torvill & Dean on court
2021	June	15	1st squash book by a woman
2021	June	22	Harrow School
2021	June	23	1st court in a house
2021	June	25	Titanic Ship court
2021	June	28	Shadow Caller training aid
2021	July	03	Rod laver (squash ball in pocket)
2021	July	24	Hugo F Charteris comments (1909)
2021	Aug	03	Post directory
2021	Aug	06	Qatar stamps
2021	Aug	07	Commonwealth Games 2014 stamp
2021	Aug	09	Plate event start
2021	Aug	12	Doubles report 1951
2021	Sept	13	Squash court ballroom 1930s
2021	Sept	22	Australian growth 1957
2021	Sept	25	Squash in art
2021	Sept	30	Argue Martin!
2021	Oct	05	Squash on stamps
2021	Oct	09	World Squash Day 2021
2021	Oct	14	Longest Match 2015
2021	Oct	18	Squash + Education Alliance
2021	Oct	23	Racket sports –risk of death
2021	Oct	29	1st English computerised ranking
2021	Nov	04	Titanic court fees
2021	Nov	05	WSF Ambassadors Programme
2021	Nov	18	Australia accounts 1936
2021	Nov	24	World Squash Coaching start
2021	Dec	20	Amr Bey memento return
2022	Jan	15	Squash sculpture 1986
2022	Jan	29	Squash Wales calorie chart 2013
2022	Feb	02	Obata session, Japan
2022	Feb	12	Anti-doping education
2022	Feb	15	Worldwide squash boom (1973)
2022	Mar	22	Outside the Box, show
2022	April	05	Hashim Khan on service.
2022	April	14	Kirks Classic Squash can
2022	April	18	Atari Squash Game 1992
2022	April	22	US Hall of Fame
2022	June	03	Tom Cruise squash T-shirt
2022	June	09	Quotes prompt
2022	June	13	Arsenal / Chelsea training courts
2022	July	01	Charles Read book, women comments
2022	July	11	John Skillman's book 1937 on glass courts
2022	July	20	Richard Mosley coaches King Juan Carlos
2022	Aug	05	Women's Tour calendar 2009 & 2010
2022	Sept	13	Memorable quotes
2022	Sept	19	Worldwide National court list 1987
2022	Sept	20	Eye Group event rights acquisition 1999
2022	Sept	24	Roger Federer retirement
2022	Oct	04	Extract, Charles Arnold coaching 1926
2022	Oct	11	Ned Bigelow, US 'shaker'
2022	Oct	14	World Squash Day start
2022	Nov	09	Cellphone offer (UK) 1987
2022	Nov	19	Sports Marketing Survey UK 1987
2022	Dec	24	Bath Club Cup, best of three (1936)
2022	Dec	27	John Nimick, PSA & promoter
2023	Jan	09	1st Postage stamp 1962

2023	Jan	09	Pakistan stamp, Worlds 2005
2023	Feb	11	Kensington Country Club
2023	Feb	14	Munster courts WW2
2023	Apr	24	Hashim Khan book quote
2023	May	27	Tay-Bul squash game
2023	June	02	Scandinavian squash 1969
2023	June	03	English SRA accounts 1938
2023	June	13	1 st anniversary Nicol David Org
2023	June	15	Bert Armstrong collection
2023	June	19	RAC Squash Sub-committee 1912
2023	June	27	Veterans Club of GB 60 th anniversary
2023	July	28	Elliman's Athletic Rub
2023	Aug	24	Andrew Shelley job ad
2023	Sept	11	Frankenstein's monster ad 1989!
2023	Sept	12	Question of Sport cards 1987
2023	Sept	19	Sports Survey UK 1987
2023	Oct	13	World Squash Day
2023	Oct	28	Male player fashion 1938
2023	Nov	04	Drinks trolley 1951!
2023	Nov	09	Racquets Ground, Fleet Prison
2023	Nov	10	Frank Sedgeman on tennis/squash
2023	Nov	17	Jack Giles (coach)
2023	Dec	27	Squash stickers
2023	Dec	30	SRA officers 1938 (inc Amr Bey)
2024	Jan	02	Aliens playing squash!
2024	Jan	22	1950s player levy, Canada
2024	Feb	10	Coaching course 1951
2024	Feb	23	Peter McRae heroism WW2
2024	Mar	04	Hillary Clinton opens StreetSquash
2024	Mar	11	Subramaniam Singaraveloo 70th
2024	Mar	16	Calcutta Merchants Cup (1954)
2024	Apr	20	Dunlop factory visit 1962
2024	May	06	1 st World Coaching Conference 1994
2024	May	24	1st SRA Newsletter (1979)
2024	May	27	South African squash slogan comp '82
2024	June	13	Lanyards and passes
2024	June	25	Bert Armstrong collection display
2024	June	26	Titanic postcard
2024	July	17	European courts 1974
2024	Aug	24	US Federation logo evolution
2024	Oct	04	UK summer league start
2024	Oct	10	Junior age groups 1954
2024	Oct	27	1 st Library post 2019
2024	Dec	17	Fairbairn / Wilson preparation 1954
2025	Jan	11	HRH Prince Rainier (Monaco)
2025	Jan	14	Ealing public courts, London 1933
2025	Jan	27	HMS Renown court 1920s
2025	Feb	11	AIS (Australia) starts 1985
2025	Mar	13	Jonah Barrington (President SRA)
2025	Mar	31	Tatler squash cartoon 1936
2025	Apr	19	Barbados National Centre
2025	Apr	30	John Flanigan, Univ Club, Chicago
2025	May	20	<i>Ask The Library</i> launched
2025	May	31	King Edward VIII squash enthusiast
2025	June	14	Squash courts in churches
2025	June	18	Arthur Winnington-Ingram
2025	June	21	Oldest club debate
2025	June	28	Promotional head covers (1070s)



Update: 30 June 2025

Squash Library

The debate about the oldest continuously operating squash club includes Aberdeen Squash Club in Scotland, established in 1913. Meanwhile the Toronto Racquet Club preceded it, albeit moving premises. Here is a letter written by their representative in 1948 stating their claim. [Squash Canada/Scottish Squash](#)

The Oldest Squash Club?

December 21st, 1948

The Editor,
British Lawn Tennis and Squash,
Dear Sir,

I have just been perusing a circular letter of yours dated November 10th, together with a reprint of an article on the Jesters Club, which appeared in your November issue. I note with interest an article on the back of the reprint under the title "Which is the Oldest Squash Club" and was surprised to learn that a club with as recent an origin as 1909 could be advanced as the oldest.

Perhaps your article has produced many responses and this of mine may not be in the running at this date. However, for whatever interest it may have to you, the Toronto Racquet Club was organised in 1905; and was incorporated as a limited liability company by letters patent issued by the Province of Ontario later in that year. The courts were opened for play on October 16th, 1905. The club has been in continuous existence since that time, although playing facilities were suspended during the first great war.

The club has always been solely for the playing of squash, and affords almost no facilities other than that. It has probably the most active playing strength of any of the clubs that I know in these parts, with a better average ability, due, of course, to its limited purpose; and this in spite of the fact that membership is limited to about 100.

Many of the original members are still members, though no longer active players.

During the last war a very high percentage of the members were on active service, but the club managed to carry on without shutting down the courts. The writer himself was away for nearly 5 years but managed to get a few games in during the period of waiting in England, playing at the R.A.C. Belzize Park, Brockenhurst, Blackdown, and at the Staff College, Sandhurst, also on the private court of Capt. E. George Spencer Churchill, M.C., in Glos.

Squash is enjoying a great popularity here these days, but in a more restricted circle than seems to be the case in England. Almost no women play hereabouts; and of course, a woman has never got her face inside the door of our own club.

Best wishes to yourself, and also to Aberdeen; but the latter will have to think up some other claim to fame than the one in your article.

Yours sincerely,

R. D. JENNINGS,
Director and Secretary,
Toronto Racquet Club,
135 St. George Street,
Toronto, Canada.

(In 1959 the site was needed for a subway station so new premises were sourced)

Squash Library

Arthur Winnington Ingram (1858 - 1946) was Bishop of London from 1901 to 1939, and an enthusiastic squash player. He played at the Bath Club seemingly starting in mid-life, coached by pro Charles Arnold. He played squash with the Prince of Wales (later Edward VIII), usually beating him despite the age difference.

As a 68 year old, on a tour to universities in the USA in 1926, he requested playing students at tennis and at squash, as he was, as he himself said, "still playing these games pretty well". In 1934 a British newspaper described Ingram, then 76 year old, as "the Peter Pan of the Church, he positively refuses to grow old".

And in January 1937, the year this photo was taken, Ingram played a squash match at the Bath Club on the day of his 79th birthday against his coach Charles Arnold, to celebrate the occasion. Ingram won by 3-1, and afterwards Arnold commented that "the Bishop must be one of the most remarkable athletes the country has known".



Photo from the Rex van Horn collection

Squash Library

14 June at 07:51

Back in 1987 the disused St Cuthbert's Church was an innovative way to provide squash courts in Middlesbrough, England (bottom). It was called Phoenix Squash Club, and featured five courts as well as two badminton courts. Similarly, in 1976 in Scotland the Bridge of Weir Church was converted to house two courts – the organ loft providing a gallery (top). So, there were services going on again!



Squash Library

31 May at 07:34

Shortly after he became British King Edward VIII in 1936, this item was published. (He is photographed, racket in hand, on page 50 of <https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration>).



King Edward VIII.

Our new King is well known to all of us as a player of Squash Rackets. To Charles Arnold of the Bath Club fell the great honour of teaching King Edward, then Prince of Wales, all there is to know of the game of Squash Rackets, and as Prince of Wales the King proved a first-class pupil. He played in the Amateur Championships of 1924, 1925, 1926 and 1927, and during his tours abroad he played in most countries of the world where Squash Rackets courts were to be found. His great fondness for the game caused him to have a court built in the battleship H.M.S. Renown. Although it is some time since His Majesty took part in competitive Squash Rackets, he became a member of the Jesters Club towards the end of 1934 and more recently the first Royal Patron of the Squash Rackets Association.

Squash Library

20 May at 08:45

WSL Launches "Ask The Library"

World Squash Library, the archive for squash being preserved for future generation as well as freely available website resources, has now launched an "Ask The Library" service.

Library founder Andrew Shelley will try to provide answers to questions asked via an online form on any elements of squash's evolution and history, such as rules, champions, events, equipment, and more.

'Ask The Library' will now make it easy for anybody to get their questions answered via one click from www.squashlibrary.info.



ASK THE LIBRARY....

World Squash Library (www.squashlibrary.info) is the sport's information resource for the history of squash, champions, events, courts, equipment, rules.
What can the library help you with?

CLICK TO ASK YOUR QUESTION

Squash Library
30 April at 07:58 · 🌐

John Flanigan, pictured, retires as Athletics Director at the University Club of Chicago today, after 26 years in post. He initiated the Windy City Open in 2004 that has been held in the club's Cathedral Hall (pic), and later has coordinated the biennial World Championships in the city's Union Station.
He says that after today he will remain involved with the PSA as a Sponsor Liaison and 'I plan on pursuing my love of music, squash and many other hobbies.'
[PSA Squash TourUS SQUASHUniversity Club of Chicago](#)

Squash Library
19 April at 07:54 · 🌐

There have been national squash centres built around the world, including Malaysia, Philippines, USA, Paraguay and England to name but a few. Malta's opened earlier this month, and now ground has been broken for a Barbados National Rackets Centre to feature three courts (convertible to two doubles ones) along with space for the national federation office. Squash was introduced into Barbados in 1972, with the nation boasting both the current men's and women's Caribbean champions. [Federacion Panamericana de SquashWorld Squash Federation](#)

At the ground-breaking ceremony: Craig Archer, President of Barbados Squash Association) (L), Charles Griffith-Minister of Youth and Sports.

Squash Library
31 March at 07:28 · 🌐

This was The UK's Tatler Magazine humorous angle on squash in 1936, playing on the word squash!

From the Star van Houten collection

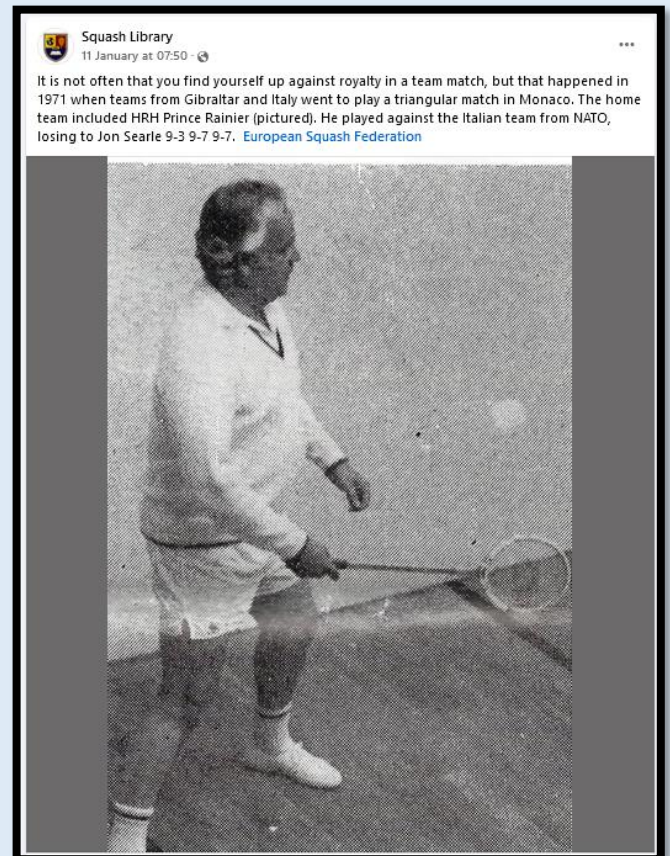
Squash Library
13 March at 07:50 · 🌐

In 1994 Jonah Barrington stood to become the President of the English Federation (SRA), and was duly elected. Here, in an article in the Times by sports journalist David Miller, his reasons for standing were explained. [England SquashJonah Barrington](#)

Barrington steps forward to save squash

Squash Library
11 February at 08:21 · 🌐

Forty years ago in 1985, squash was added to the Australian Institute of Sport activities - the same year in which squash featured for the first time in the Australia Games. The unit was able to call on the services of two great champions, Heather McKay and Geoff Hunt (pics) to pass on their knowledge to the inducted players. The first group of participants in the programme included Rodney & Michelle Martin, Rodney Eyles, Austin Adarraga, Danielle Drady and Sarah Fitz-Gerald. [Squash Australia](#)



2024



Five years ago World Squash Library was founded, and so began the daily social media posts looking back. Here was the first, exactly five years ago on 27 Oct 2019. To see the past 1500+ in 13 categories go to <https://www.squashlibrary.info/> and click on POSTS.

Squash legend Hashim Khan (left) beat brother Azam (right) in 3 of his 7 British Open final wins (1951 – 58), with Azam winning the next 4 (1959 – 62). Hashim only lost one final - to Jahangir's father Roshan Khan in 1957.



70 years ago in 1954 British international and prolific squash book author Dick Hawkey (pic) proposed that junior age groups go up to 20, and include 18 ½ years. See the correspondence on the Library website at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/general-resources>.



Squash in the United Kingdom was considered a winter game. There were no summer leagues or competitions played until 1949 – 1955 when some rugby clubs near London organised a league to keep their players in training.

After it was abandoned, it wasn't until 1968 when a London Summer League with two divisions began, including three Hornsey sides.

The teams were:

Division A:

Wanstead, Hornsey Hawks, Meadhurst, Chiltern, Ministry of Labour.

Division B:

Hornsey Hamsters, John Lewis, Forest Hill, Barclays Bank DCO, Hornsey Hounds.

Older national squash federation have not only evolved their names but their logos too. A good example is the American federation which was formed in 1904, and has changed its name and updated their logo at times too. Here are some iterations. [US SQUASH](#)



50 years ago in 1974, Squash Player Magazine printed a UK 'State of Play'. While fascinating, the 1.3 million players quoted, using 5,000 courts would mean an improbable 260 per court average! Squash Player Magazine

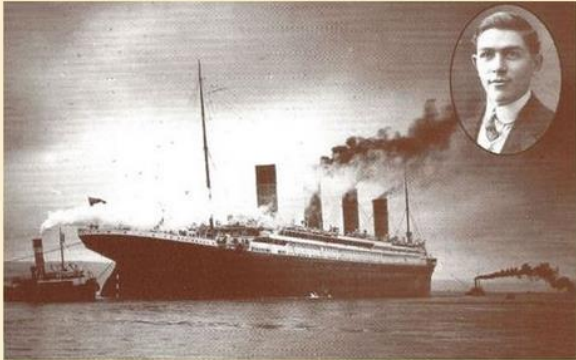


The Library has a commemorative Titanic postcard, featuring resident squash coach Fred Wright, who gave lessons to travellers on the ship's court. Here are the front and back. Wright was one of the 1,517 who perished when it went down on its maiden voyage.

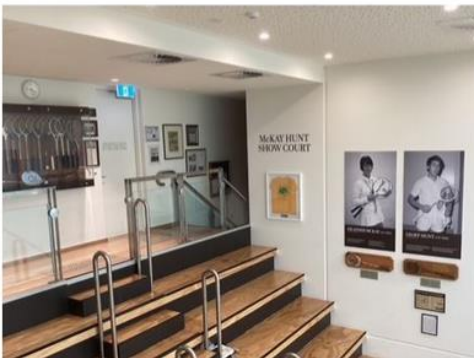
Number Four of Twelve Postcards
R.M.S. Titanic and Fred Wright



From the Collection of Denis Cochrane
Fred Wright was the Squash Rackets expert on board the Titanic. He had been transferred from the Olympic and gave private lessons to those passengers who wished to use the time to improve their game. He was never found.



Bert Armstrong reports that his superb set of display cases showcasing his vast collection of rackets and other memorabilia is almost finished. It is at Kooyong Lawn Tennis club, Melbourne, Australia. Here are two photos that give a flavour of it.



Passes on clips or lanyards are a feature of access. For squash in particular, here at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/general-resources> is a random selection, many from McWili's David Carr, who gave them to the Library, along with some publications he was happy to donate. Thanks, David.

6 DRAKKAR NOIR èmes Internationaux Guy Laroche de Squash.

PRESSE

PLACE DE COLOMBIE - 75016 PARIS
PORTE DE LA MUETTE
Organisation SQUEM Golf Européen Management
19 rue de Prony, 75017 Paris - Tél. 42 67 91 25

In 1982 South African Squash Scene magazine ran a competition for a slogan to sum up squash. Here are the entries. Which slogan won? Decide what you think, with the answer here later.
[Squash South Africa](#)

from KENWOOD
CASCADE

a friend
indeed

We have a winner!

Here are all the entries
in the Kenwood Cascade
Slogan Competition.
For the winning entry,
turn to page 10.



And this is the wonderful
Kenwood Cascade cool drink
maker — part of the
magnificent bumper for
the winner worth over R50.
Turn to page 10 for
details of the winner.

of the Kenwood Cascade slogan competition

CASCADE(!) INTO SQUASH
CASCADE(!) INTO HEALTH
CASCADE(!) INTO VITALITY
CASCADE(!) INTO FUN AND FITNESS
CASCADE(!) INTO HEALTH AND VITALITY
SQUASH IS A CASCADE(!) OF FUN
SQUASH IS A CASCADE(!) OF HEALTH
SQUASH IS A CASCADE(!) OF FRUITY FUN
SQUASH IS A CASCADE(!) OF THIRSTY FUN
SQUASH IS A CASCADE(!) OF FUN AND HEALTH
SQUASH IS A CASCADE(!) OF FUN AND FITNESS
SQUASH IS A CASCADE(!) OF JUICY FRUITY FUN
SQUASH IS A THIRSTY GAME — ASK KENWOOD
SQUASH KEEPS YOU BUBBLING WITH HEALTH
SQUASH THAT THIRST WITH A CASCADE(!)
SQUASH THE GREATEST — SQUASH THE TASTIEST
HELP SQUASH OUT HEART DISEASE
FIT PEOPLE SQUASH MORE INTO LIFE
SQUEEZE MORE OUT OF LIFE — PLAY SQUASH
JET INTO SQUASH — THE INTERNATIONAL WAY
TRY ANOTHER ANGLE(!) AND BOAST(!) GOOD HEALTH —
— LOB OR DRIVE(!) FOR A DROP(!) OF SQUASH(!)
I'M A SQUASH NUT
I'M NUTS ON SQUASH
I'VE A CRUSH ON SQUASH
VITAL PEOPLE PLAY SQUASH
DON'T SQUEEZE ME, SQUASH ME
SQUASH ME, DON'T SQUEEZE ME
SQUASH COMES THIRST(!) WITH ME
SQUASH SQUASH FOR FITNESS AND FUN
SQUASH KEEPS YOU IN ORBIT
SQUASH HIM, SQUEEZE HIM
SQUASH HER, SQUASHER(!)
SQUASH IS THIRSTY WORK
SQUASH COMES THIRST(!)
SQUASH THAT THIRST
SQUASH TURNS HIM ON
SQUASH TURNS ME ON
SQUASH IS H — Hard work
E — Enthusiasm
L — Lowdown
L — Luck!

26 "The S.A. Squash Scene"

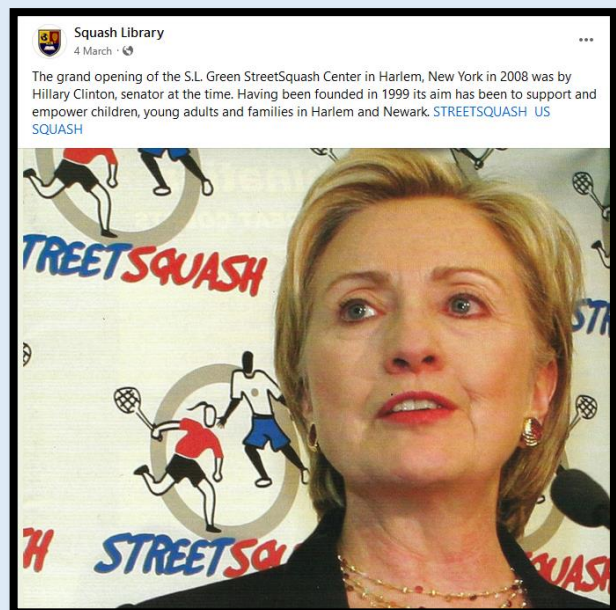
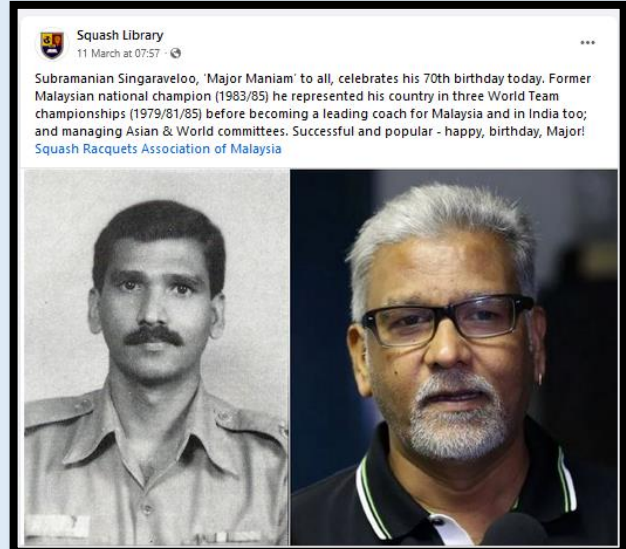
Number 1-82 Jan/Feb 1982

The slogan that was adjudged the winner in 1982 is here. But what would win now? [Squash South Africa](#)

We have a winner!

of the Kenwood Cascade slogan competition

WINNER of Kenwood "Cascade" slogan competition is Mrs A. Agar of Houghton, Johannesburg, whose slogan "FIT PEOPLE SQUASH MORE INTO LIFE" was one of several sent in by this reader, and the one adjudged by the sponsors to be the winning slogan.



Squash Library
23 February at 08:23 · 🌐

Today's post is only peripherally about squash, the link being that Peter McRae played for England; just once in 1937. It recounts the heroic act that ended his life during World War 2. He was serving on HMS Mahratta in the Arctic when the ship was sunk by a German U-boat.



McRae and 17 others scrambled onto a small float. Realising that it was overcrowded, he apparently remarked 'There's not enough room for us all' and slipped off the float into the sea to his death. The postscript is that the rest of the sailors were rescued.

Playing squash for England was an achievement, but nothing compared with what he managed in his utterly selfless death.

Squash Library
10 February at 07:45 · 🌐

In September 1951 the Hampstead Squash & Rugby Fives Club in North London hosted a 'professionals course of instruction and discussion'. The front row in particular was an assembly of top names at the time. L to R: E Vandenburg, Leslie Hamer, Jim Gordon, Henry Hayman (SRA Sec), Brian Phillips, Donald Butcher, Leslie Keeble, CF Roupell.



Squash Library
22 January at 11:50 · 🌐

An early example of a player levy was the Canadian \$1 charged to each member of a club in Canada during the 1950s. The money was used to fund the operations of the Canadian Squash Rackets Association. In 1963 it was reported that it was working very well. [Squash Canada](#)

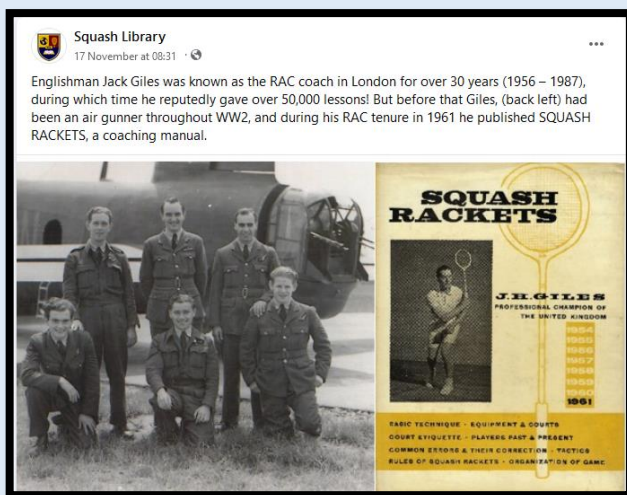
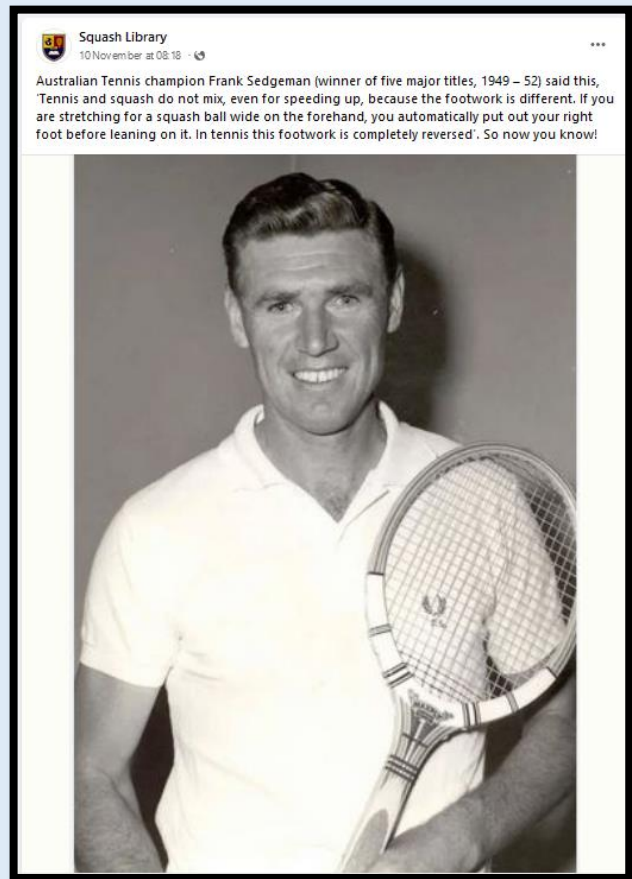


Squash Library
2 January · 🌐

Squash Library looks back, but just for today looks forward instead. AI can produce great written results, but visuals too. Ask Dall-E-3 for an image of martians playing squash, for example, and this is the result. Seating inside the court is an interesting innovation as are the updated floor lines!



2023



In 1951 the English Cambridge University team travelled to The Hague to play the Dutch national team. Hospitality was such that the No1s got on court very late, and it reached two all at around midnight. At that point a trolley was wheeled in to the court and the players were invited to take food and drinks before finishing their match! [Squash Bond NederlandEngland Squash](#)



World Squash Day takes place tomorrow. It promotes and celebrates squash globally, having been initiated following the deaths of so many people in New York in the 9/11 terrorist attack in 2001. The history of it is at www.worldsquashday.net/how-it-all-started/.

WORLD SQUASH DAY

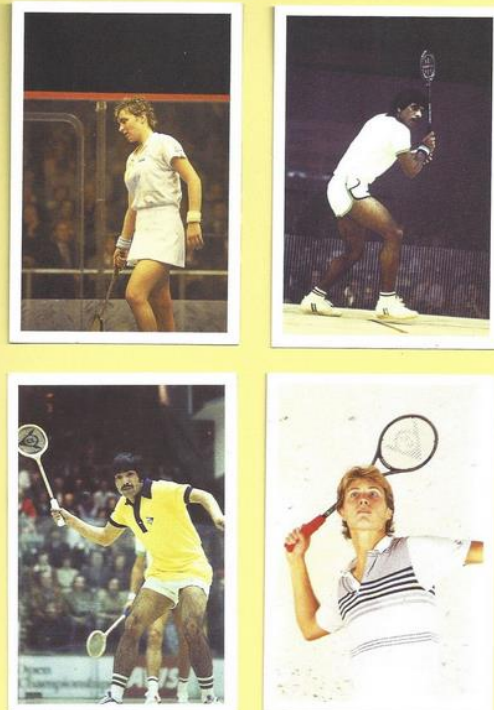
OCTOBER 14 2023

A UK survey carried out by Sports Marketing Surveys in 1987 asked people aged 15 – 30 the sport they most enjoyed playing saw squash at 12.2%, behind only soccer (15%), and ahead of tennis (8.9%) and badminton (8.1%).

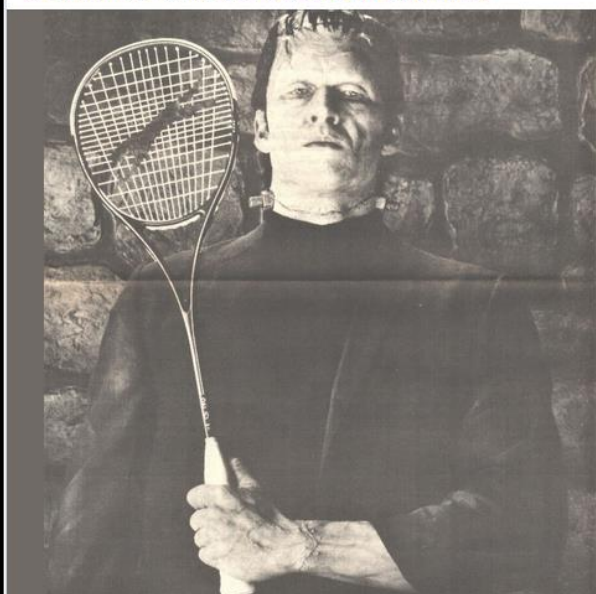
Long sleeves, long trousers – squash gear as worn by two top English players in 1938. Albert Biddle (left) was runner-up in the British Open that year, and Leslie Keeble won the first British Professional Championship after WW2, in 1947.



A British TV quiz programme, A Question of Sport, produced a sports person set of 240 cards in 1987 which included squash players. Pictured from top left, Lisa Opie, Jahangir Khan, Jamie Hickox, Qamar Zaman.



This top squash player was sponsored by Slazenger. Yes, Frankenstein's monster endorsed their rackets in North America in 1989, as seen in this ad from the time. PSA ranking www.squashinfo.com please? [Squash Canada](#) [US SQUASH](#) [Squash Mexico](#)



A WIDE BODY, FLAT HEAD AND STRANGE FACE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN SYNONYMOUS WITH POWER.

Introducing the Slazenger CS 190. Featuring "The Web" - a new stringing pattern that creates three additional sweet spots near the top and sides of the racquet. The strings are closer together near the center for more string/ball contact. So you also get greater control. By making the racquet cross section wider in the throat, we made it stiffer while maintaining a very

maneuverable weight and balance. Finally, the flat head gives you power along the wall and out of the corners. Call 1-800-476-5400 (in S.C. 1-803-241-2200) for the Slazenger dealer nearest you. And get your hands on the CS 190. The squash racquet that plays like a monster.



I have found this Squash Player Magazine ad from 1976. The SRA misguidedly employed somebody with no experience or knowledge - me! This ad led to the Shelley personal squash journey starting. Thank you, SRA! Andrew.

THE SQUASH RACKETS ASSOCIATION
Require an
Administrator for the organisation of
Tournaments and Membership
Initiative, good humour and a willing-
ness to participate in general work
essential. Opportunities for increased
responsibility.
Starting salary, c. £3,300.
Applications to:
SRA, 70 Brompton Rd, London S.W. 3.

Unless you have a ninety-year old bottle lurking in the back of a very old cupboard you have missed the chance to try this Donald Butcher-endorsed rub. The 'best before' date on it from the 1930s has passed anyway!

D. G. BUTCHER
The Famous Squash Champion
RECOMMENDS
ELLIMAN ATHLETIC RUB
As Invaluable to Squash Players
READ HIS FULL TESTIMONY

*St. John's Wood Squash Club
85a, St. John's Wood Terrace, London, N.W.8
May 1932*

I first used "Elliman Athletic Rub" for a sprained ankle, just before my match in the Professional Championship, and have used it ever since. I have no hesitation in saying that "Elliman Athletic Rub" is invaluable in treating sprains and bruising them quickly, and is a valuable safeguard against strains and sprains. I have recommended it to several fellow Professionals and players, and they have derived equally beneficial results.

Yours faithfully, D. G. BUTCHER.

Professional Champion 1928-31-32-33-34-35. Open Champion 1930-31-32

ELLIMAN ATHLETIC RUB

Increases Suppleness and Agility, Wards off Stiffness and Guards against Muscle Tears and Strains.

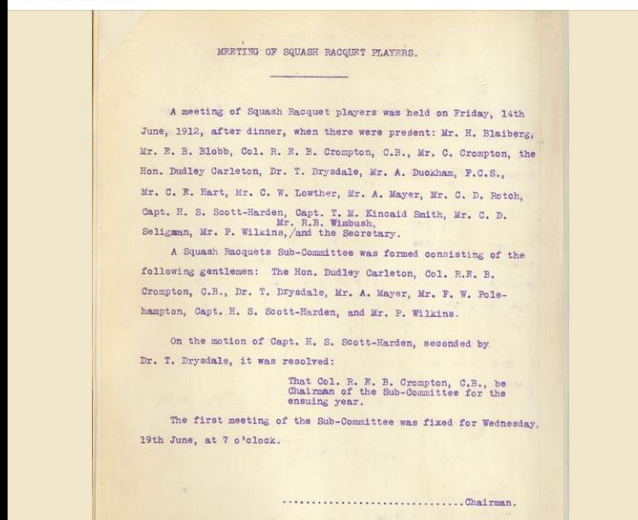
1 - per bottle, club size 2/6, from Boots, Timothy White and Taylor, and all high-class chemists, or direct, post free in U.K., from ELLIMAN'S, SLOUGH.

WORLD'S WONDER MUSCLE TONIC

The Veterans Club of Great Britain (www.gbvs.co.uk) celebrates its 60th anniversary this year. Formed in 1963 when eight veterans (now called Masters players) got together to start a club, it manages championships, matches and tours for its several hundred men and women members.



Before the SRA was formed in England in 1928 and became the de-facto world body until the ISRF arrived in 1967, the RAC in London was the unofficial squash authority after forming a squash sub-committee in June 1912 (as shown here). The first meeting was exactly 111 years ago today on 19th June 1912.



In 1981 Bert Armstrong completed building a squash court next to the kitchen in his Melbourne home. This coincided with the first graphite rackets appearing, and so friends left wooden ones behind when he played them – prompting him to hang them round the court. Then he started adding club badges, banners, flags, balls; anything that had a Squash / Racket sports connection. An obsession with collecting was beginning.

As he put it, 'From then on I visited every Charity shop, Municipal Tip, Antique Fair from Hobart Tasmania to Cairns in far North Queensland, and similarly the UK, and even scoured a market in Kirkenes Norway.'

So about 35 years later he has 1000+ rackets from 120 manufacturers in 23 countries plus many badges, books, flags, trophies, documents etc.

Squash Player Magazine interviewed him in 2021, which you can see in the Library here: www.squashlibrary.info/general-resources.

Since then Bert has turned much of his collection into a display at Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club, complete with notes so that anybody can come along and see them (some cabinets are pictured here). He is even offering personal tours! [Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club](#)



Today (13 June) marks the first anniversary of the Nicol David Organisation classes beginning. It was founded by eight times World Champion Nicol David and Mariana de Reyes in Kuala Lumpur (<https://nicoldavidorganisation.org/>) with the objective of empowering children through sport and education. The first intake was 72 children. [Nicol David](#) [Nicol David Organisation](#)



The British SRA accounts for 1938, reflect the small size of the sport, even though 27 English county associations had been formed by that point. The expenses included £0,6s,6d (approx. 62 pence) for burglary insurance! [England Squash](#)

THE SQUASH RACKETS ASSOCIATION.

Dr. RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1938 Cr.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
To Balance at Bank 1st April, 1937	247	11	10	By Stationery and Printing	89	17	10	
" Subscriptions	272	17	0	" Postages	18	12	9	
" Sale of Rules and Handbooks	12	10	9	" Clerical Services	52	2	0	
" Advertisements in Handbooks	49	17	6	" Competitions and Match Expenses	93	15	5	
" Competitions	33	0	0	" Honorarium to Staff	55	0	0	
" Loan of Plans, etc.	24	3	0	" Medals and Engraving	6	2	6	
" Dividends and Interest	10	0	5	" Professional Charges	36	15	0	
				" Tennis and Rackets Association, Subscription	2	2	0	
				" Burglary Insurance Premium on Challenge Cup	0	6	6	
				" Commissioners of Inland Revenue :—				
				Corporation Duty, 1937/38	0	12	3	
				Income Tax on Deposit Interest	0	18	0	
						1	10	3
				" Sundry Expenses	5	3	3	
				" Balances at Bank 31st March, 1938 :—				
				Deposit Account £250 0 0				
				Current Account 38 13 0				
					288	13	0	
	£650	0	6		£650	0	6	

J. E. PALMER-TOMKINSON, Chairman.
W. F. BASSETT, Vice-Chairman.

We have prepared the above Account from the books of the Association, and certify it to be in accordance therewith.

KENT HOUSE,
TELEGRAPH STREET,
LONDON, E.C.2.
12th July, 1938.

JACKSON, PIXLEY & Co., Chartered Accountants,
Auditors.

B. H. & Co., Ltd.

In 1969 John Horry (the first World Federation secretary), reported on the growth of squash in Scandinavia – and it is certainly not only an interesting read about squash, but a general snapshot of the time, too. Go to www.squashlibrary.info/post/squash-in-scandinavia-1969 to view it. [The European Squash Federation Dansk Squash Forbund](#) [Svensk Squash Norges Squashforbund](#)



Photo. Per-Olov. John Horry, Secretary of the International S.R.F. (right), discusses the growth of squash in Sweden with Lennart Iepson, President of the Swedish S.R.A. outside Jan Landvik's new club in Stockholm.

Squash Library
27 May at 11:00

Squash courts too big? You should try Tay-bul Squash. Tay-bul (table, gettit!) was, according to this ad, played under squash rules with table tennis bats and a specially made table tennis ball. Look for it at an antiques shop as this was available in 1937.

SPALDING TAY-BUL SQUASH

NOT A TOY BUT A NEW INDOOR GAME.



INVENTED BY A WELL-KNOWN SQUASH PLAYER.

SPALDING "TAY-BUL" SQUASH

is actually a Squash Court in miniature. It is well made and beautifully finished in durable white cellulose. Does in fact, it provides a fast and exciting game of squash in a limited space in the home.

The Court illustrated is 6 feet by 4 feet, suitable for playing on an ordinary dining table. When not in use, can be quickly folded to stand in only a small space.

The game is played under Squash rules with table tennis bats and a specially made table tennis ball.

No. 1 Tay-bul Squash (as illustrated) complete with 6 Tay-bul Squash Balls £5 5 0

A WELCOME GIFT FOR THE HOME

Popular at all Sports Clubs, Hotels, &c.

OBTAINABLE FROM ALL SPORTS DEALERS EVERYWHERE OR SPALDING SPORT SHOPS

LONDON: 316 High Holborn, W.C.1	78 Chesapeake, E.C.2	212 Putney Bridge Road, S.W.15
BIRMINGHAM: 21a Bennett's Hill	LIVERPOOL: 20 Lord Street	SOUTHSEA: 94 Palmerston Road
MANCHESTER: 22 Mosley Street	LEEDS: 3 King Edward Street	GLASGOW: 60 St. Vincent Street
EDINBURGH: 3 South Charlotte Street	BELFAST: 15 Lombard Street	

THERE IS A SPALDING SQUASH RACKET

TO SUIT EVERY PURSE AND PERSON

"TOP-FLITE" with the celebrated "Thyn Thrust"	"LAMINA"	"NEW ERA"	"UNITED SERVICES"
30/-	30/-	25/-	22/6

Other recommended Spalding rackets "Autograph" 28/6; "Gold Star" 25/-; "Tournament" 21/-; "Standard" 18/6; "College" 15/-; "Club" 12/6; "Malvern" 10/6.

Should you find any difficulty, please write for Illustrated Catalogue to A. G. Spalding & Bros. (S.R.), Putney, S.W.15.


Squash Library
11 February at 08:35

Anybody who knows Kensington High Street in central London, full of housing, retail and offices, may find it difficult to believe that in the 1930's there was enough room for an 18-hole short golf course as well as four squash courts 'in a woodland setting'!

KENSINGTON COUNTRY CLUB

(10 ACRES OF OPEN GROUNDS)

SQUASH Four well ventilated courts built above ground, in woodland surroundings, embodying the latest improvements. Dressing rooms, shower baths and locker accommodation.



THE SQUASH COURTS AND DRESSING ROOM.

PRACTISING THE FULL-DRIVE.

GOLF Facilities for intensive practice of every golf shot from the full drive over a 250 yard fairway to chip shots on to well bunkered Greens, and putting on a Cumberland Turf Putting Green. 18-hole Ap-proach Course. Staff of skilled Professionals.

Particulars of Schoolboy Holiday Competitions for both Squash and Golf on request.
Playing facilities open to Visitors as well as Members.

MELBURY COURT, KENSINGTON HIGH STREET, LONDON, W.8. Phone: Woburn 3131 (3 lines)

Squash Library
9 January at 08:58

..... and in 2005 squash featured again on a Pakistan stamp to coincide with the WSF Men's World Team Championship held in Islamabad. [Pakistan Squash Federation](#)

20TH WORLD MEN TEAM SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIP

Islamabad-Pakistan



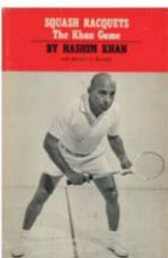
First Day of Issue



Squash Library
24 April at 08:33

In his 1967 book 'Squash Rackets', Hashim Khan said this in his inimitable style:

I do not think it is good idea, woman playing squash with man opponent, for reason she has handicap: she is not so strong in wrist and arm, and cannot twist quick to change direction like man. Not fair match. Better women play only other women.



SQUASH RACKETS
The Khan Game
BY HASHIM KHAN

Squash Library
9 January at 08:21

The first postage stamp featuring squash appears to be this one issued by Pakistan on 14 August 1962, based upon the Khans dominating the British Open in the 1950s. Go to www.squashlibrary.info/post/squash-on-stamps to see a worldwide selection of squash on stamps. [Pakistan Squash Federation](#)



Squash Library
14 February at 07:50

In the 1930's there were two wooden squash courts at the Munster Agriculture Grounds in Cork, Ireland. But in 1939 the Irish Government imported a large reserve of wheat grain as World War 2 was beginning. These two wooden courts were considered to be perfect silos, so the only seeds in the courts were not players! [Irish SquashMunster Squash](#)



Munster Agricultural Society

2022

In December 1994, John Nimick, then aged 35, became Executive Director of PSA (Professional Squash Association), taking the role to North America for the first and so far only time. The former USA Team player held the position for six years before moving into promoting, which includes the Tournament of Champions in his portfolio. [Squash - PSA World Tour](#)



Before England hosted the World Men's Open and Team Championships in 1987 there was a linked promotion with British Telecom, offering early generation 'brick' cellphones at a discount for SRA (English Federation) members, allowing them not only to make calls, but receive them too!

Be in touch on court.

British Telecom West End District will rent you a Cellphone for as little as 24 hours.

So you can make all the calls you need to make however far you may be from a conventional phone.

Local calls. Long distance calls. Calls to anywhere in the world with a direct-dial number.

You'll not only be able to make calls, you'll be able to take calls as well. We will give you a personal number for as long as you rent the phone.

Here costs range from £25.00 to as little as £10.68 a day. (These prices include VAT and insurance, but fully documented call charges will be added.)

Against this modest outlay of course, you can stay in touch during site visits, exhibitions, whenever your business takes you out and about.

And at the very least save yourself running around looking for a phone.

For more information about our wide range of British Telecom Cellphones for hire or sale at competitive prices, call us on 01-439 6032 (or ask the operator for telephone user and world codes). Or send the coupon on reverse.

SPECIAL DISCOUNT for S.R.A. MEMBERS. CALL 01-439 6032 NOW!

British TELECOM

OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS SUPPLIER FOR THE WORLD SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS

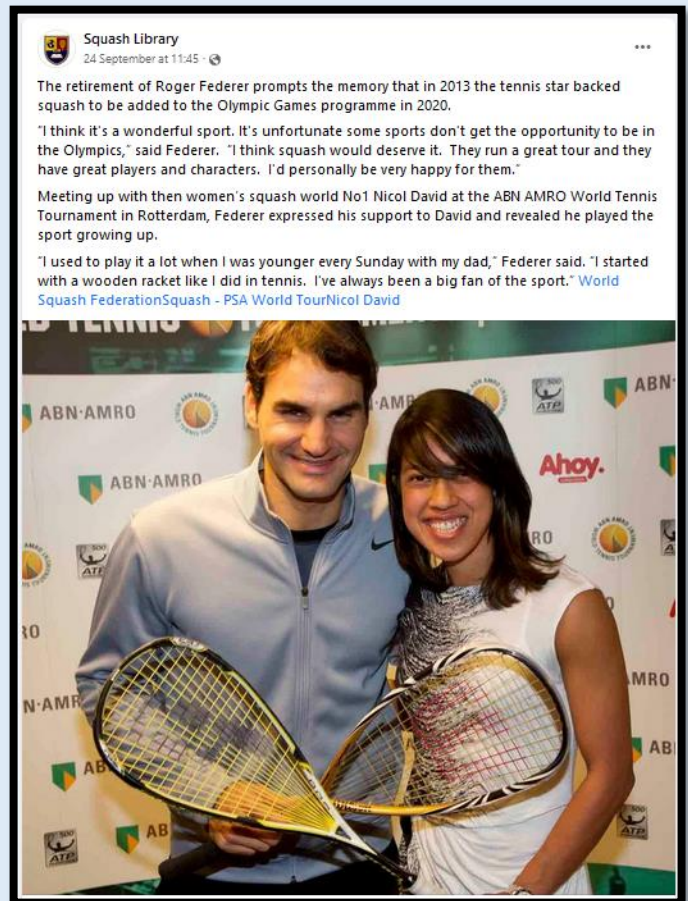
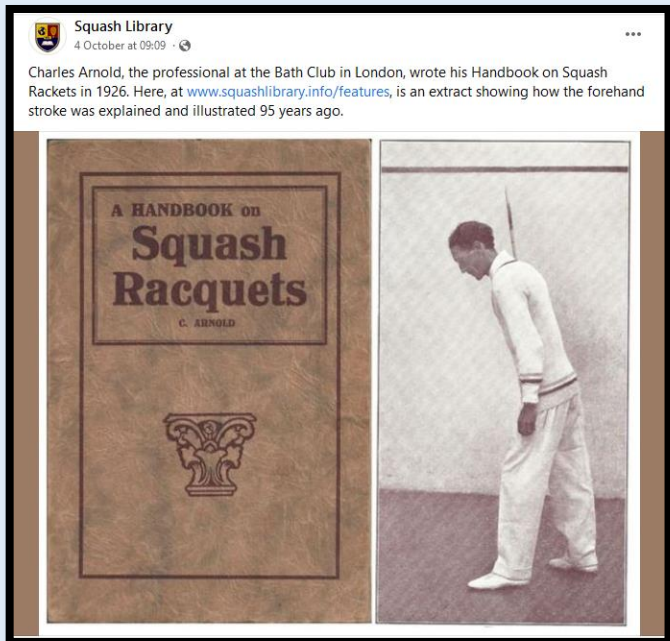
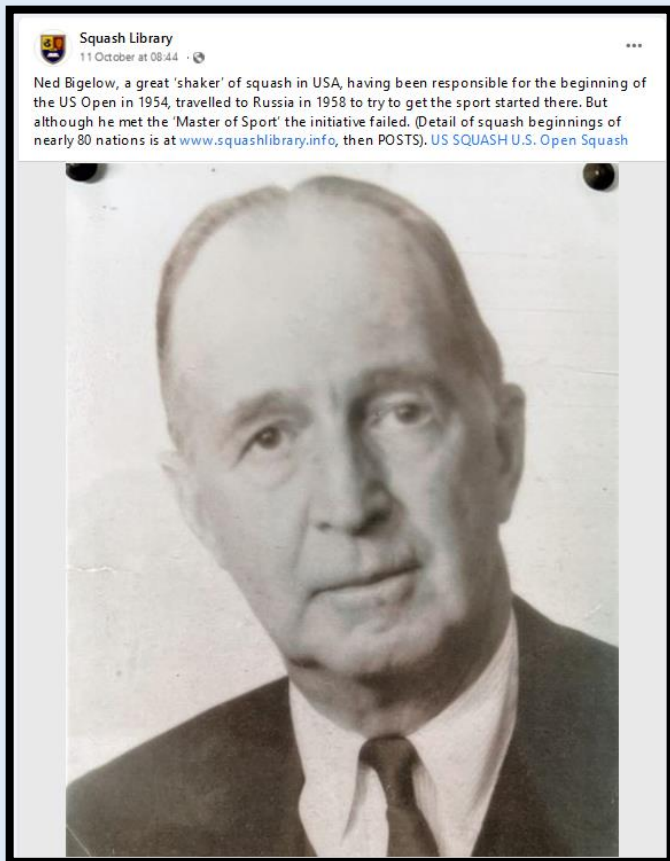


A UK survey carried out by Sports Marketing Surveys in 1987 asked people aged 15 – 30 the sport they most enjoyed playing, and saw squash with 12.2%..... behind only soccer (15%), and ahead of tennis (8.9%) and badminton (8.1%).

Tomorrow, this year's World Squash Day takes place globally. Stemming from the death of so many people, including Derek Sword a former Scottish junior squash international, in the 9/11 terrorist attack in 2001, the first was held on 11 January 2002 at Lamb's Club in London. It featured an 8-man pro event alongside a 15-a-side match between teams from London and New York to remember those lost and support the game. Here are a number of players from that first event. [World Squash Day](#)



Photo courtesy Steve Line



Squash Library
19 September at 09:20

A World Federation publication from 1987 provided a listing of clubs and courts in the member nations of the time. This snapshot shows how the national court stock may have changed in these nations in the intervening 35 years. [World Squash Federation](#) [Squash Federation of Africa](#) [SFA](#) [The European Squash Federation](#) [Federacion Panamericana de Squash](#)

INTERNATIONAL SQUASH RACKETS FEDERATION – MEMBER NATIONS

EUROPE

Courts	Clubs
ANDORRA	11 2
AUSTRIA	184 14
BELGIUM	402 120
CYPRUS	17 9
DENMARK	36 15
ENGLAND	9000 3000
FINLAND	250 80
FRANCE	550 250
FED. REP. GERMANY	3000 650
GREECE	9 6
IRELAND	780 312
ISRAEL	30 10
ITALY	80 40
LUXEMBOURG	11 4
MONACO	6 2
NETHERLANDS	562 160
NORWAY	159 38
PORTUGAL	58 10
SCOTLAND	350 240
SPAIN	390 80
SWEDEN	429 24
SWITZERLAND	552 79
WALES	235 130

* Also affiliated: Malta

JOHAN BARRENGTON, ex-tennis British Open champion and one of the game's finest ambassadors

ASIA

Courts	Clubs
BANGLADESH	
BRUNEI	260 29
HONG KONG	150 20
INDIA	60 40
INDONESIA	50 20
JAPAN	650 119
MALAYSIA	42 26
MUSCAT & OMAN	212 3
PAKISTAN	25 25
PHILIPPINES	500 71
SINGAPORE	8 8
SRI LANKA	
THAILAND	

N. AMERICA

Courts	Clubs
CANADA	1800 375
MEXICO	150 150
U.S.A.	3500 243

S. AMERICA

Courts	Clubs
ARGENTINA	500 100
BRAZIL	55 55
CHILE	
COLOMBIA	
ECUADOR	
PARAGUAY	12 6
PERU	
URUGUAY	
VENEZUELA	

TWO of the most talented players ever on the world's Rackets Courts: Kenyon (left) and New Zealand's Stuart (right)

AFRICA

Courts	Clubs
KENYA	80 395
NIGERIA	1900 429
SOUTHERN AFRICA	31 31
ZAMBIA	116 42
ZIMBABWE	

CARIBBEAN

Courts	Clubs
BAHAMAS	15 2
BARBADOS	14 2
BERMUDA	10 4
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	
GUYANA	
JAMAICA	15 5
ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES	8 1
CAYMAN ISLANDS	2 1
ST. LUCIA	
ANTIGUA	
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	

OCEANIA

Courts	Clubs
AUSTRALIA	6000 800
NEW ZEALAND	681 256
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	38 10

Squash Library
20 July at 08:40

In 1978 English player Richard Mosley (right) aged 23 was coaching a Spanish businessman in Madrid and found himself summoned to the Royal Palace. There, at the King's court he was introduced to King Juan Carlos by tennis star Manuel Santana, the King's squash partner and was invited to play the King (right) and pass on coaching tips. He did. [REAL FEDERACIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE SQUASH](#)

Squash Library
11 July at 08:40

When American John Skillman wrote his book 'Squash Racquets' in 1937 he speculated about glass squash courts, over four decades before they began to be produced. Here is the section: [US SQUASH](#)

I often have thought how fine it would be if we could have glass squash courts. At every exhibition match I have watched, even those in which I have played, the spectators were shoving each other and stepping on each other's toes in order to get an occasional glimpse of the players. Some even resorted to getting high step-ladders, so that they might look over the crowd and see a little of the play. This lack of gallery space is indeed a great handicap to the game, for many people who now do not play would want to learn the game if they saw how much real enjoyment players of all degrees of skill get from it. Those who are already interested in the game are anxious to watch good players in action in order to learn things that would better their own games.

Recently I discussed the possibility of building glass courts with a man well acquainted with many glass products on the market today. He thought the idea a good one and quite practical. I have no doubt that within a short time glass courts of the type that I am going to describe will be built. I feel that an investment in courts of this kind would prove profitable to any club interested in increasing interest in squash racquets.

The glass court I have in mind would have its two side walls and its back wall of glass. The inside of the court would be white, and would have the same reaction on the ball as the wood court. There would be no sliding effect, as one might fear. It would be possible for spectators to look in and see all the actions of the players, but the players would not be able to see out. If they could see out the court would be worthless, as the crowd would annoy the players so badly that good squash would be impossible. These glass sides and back could be made every bit as strong as any wood backing. This is hard to believe but it is true. Get ready to play in glass courts in the future and prepare yourself for a great treat.

Squash Library
13 September at 12:25

The Library's first edition of memorable quotes is here: <http://www.squashlibrary.info/.../memorable-squash-quotes...> Enjoy these amusing or insightful uttering, and if you can add more for the next edition please Email the Library at info@squashlibrary.info.

“We have run out of lets”.

“Man who does not volley just play squash to run around and keep fit”.

“Watch ball, walls don't move”.

.....and many more.

Squash Library
5 August at 08:39

In 2009 the then separate Women's Tour produced a calendar for the first time. The intentions were to promote the Tour, generate sales income and provide a 'thank-you' for promoters. That year squash props were used, while for 2010 Cayman Islands Open settings were featured.

Squash Library
1 July at 08:50

When Charles Read wrote his book 'Squash Rackets' in 1929, he encouraged women to play saying, 'Squash Rackets is a game which should appeal to every lady who wishes to keep fit, to retain a youthful figure and to remain supple and comely for years beyond the general allotted span of such attributes'.

Mind you, he did also observe this about females 'Her back is more flexible and weaker than a man's back; it is apt to become tired more quickly, and it may wobble and spoil the direction of a high shot if too much power is put into the stroke'. A view from nearly a century ago!

SQUASH RACKETS

BY
CHARLES R. READ
President and Champion of the British Isles
Special Rules 1928-1929
Rackets ... 1928-1929
Ladies' Rules ... 1928-1929

CHARLES R. READ,
Formerly Professional, Governor of the British Isles of
Squash Rackets, Rackets and Lawn Tennis to 1928.

LONDON
WILLIAM HEINEMANN LIMITED
99, GREAT RUSSELL STREET, W.C.1
1929

90 years ago Arsenal football club in London considered building squash courts as an aid to player training, before deciding against. Chelsea, had already discounted the idea as they thought that the sport tightened muscles, though thought it might be useful for reducing weight before the season started. [ArsenalChelsea Football Club](#)



Old Arsenal & Chelsea badges.

Tarek Momen's quote from yesterday (below) prompts a reminder that the Library is still looking for more memorable squash quotes for a compilation. Funny, insightful or strange. Play, refereeing, coaching or any other facet of the sport. Please send me your favourite by reply, DM or Email (info@squashlibrary.info). Thanks, Andrew

'I had a plan today. It seemed like I wanted to break the world record for the number of tins hit in one match. I came close but I didn't reach it, maybe another match'.

In 1985 Tom Cruise, currently starring in Top Gun Maverick, was wearing a squash event shirt while watching Paul Newman compete in a car race. The event was the 9th annual Insilco National B/C/D Championships played across USA. Why he did so was not explained! [US SQUASH](#)

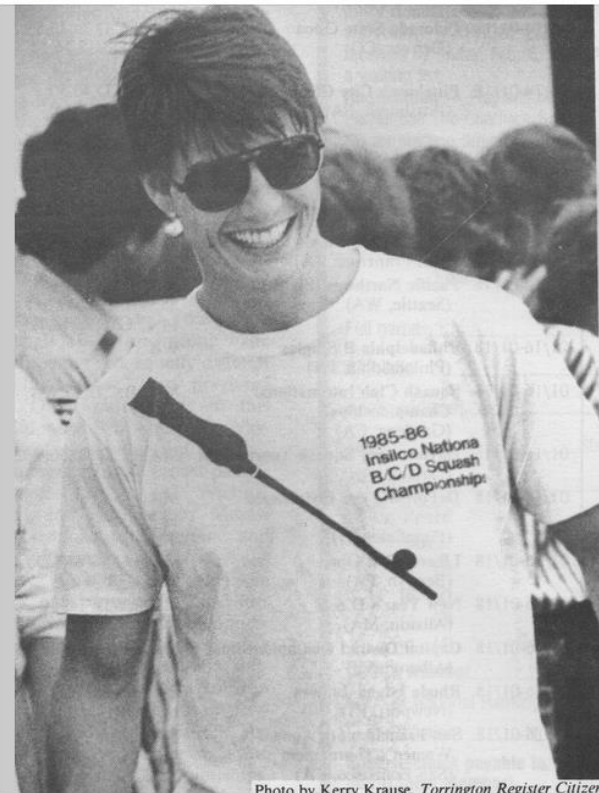
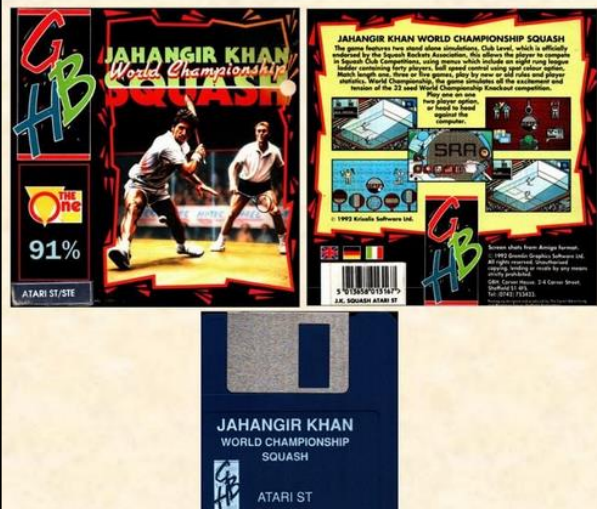


Photo by Kerry Krause. *Torrington Register Citizen*

April 2022 has seen U.S. Squash formally open their U.S. Squash Hall of Fame at the Arlen Specter U.S. Squash Center. The Peggy & Leo Pierce U.S. Squash Hall of Fame was launched in 2000. It was initially housed at the Racquet Club of Philadelphia before moving in 2006 to Payne Whitney Gymnasium at Yale University. Now it has returned to Philadelphia at the recently opened U.S. Squash Center. There are now sixty-nine members of the U.S. Squash Hall of Fame, many pictured here at the opening. Full list at <https://ussquash.org/hall-of-fame/> [US SQUASH](#)



Thirty years ago in 1992, an Atari Game titled JAHANGIR KHAN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SQUASH was on the market. It says '...the game simulates all the excitement and tension of the 32 seed World Championship Knockout competition'. Wow!





Squash Library

14 April at 08:27 · 🌐

...

Retro squash! An Australian drink manufacturer says on their lemon squash drink can ... "this isn't just any Lemon Squash, this is Kirks, as classic as a 70's style squash racquet and a pair of tight shorts" (Kirks is an Australian soft drink company founded in 1865). [Kirks OriginalsSquash Australia](#)



Squash Library

22 March at 08:40 · 🌐

...

As part of the Commonwealth Games programme, Outside the Box is taking place in May during Birmingham 2022 Festival. James Willstrop, actors and school children bring the story of Squash to life on three glass-back courts at Birmingham University, exploring its origins to the mountains of Pakistan and beyond. The story of Squash mirrors the evolution of the Commonwealth, and Outside the Box playfully explores this journey, to engage family audiences. A unique historical presentation! Details and trailer at: <https://untiedartists.info/outside-the-box/>. [Untied ArtistsBirmingham 2022](#)



Outside the Box

The story of squash

21 - 22 MAY

28 - 29 MAY

AN UNTIED ARTISTS
& THE PLAYHOUSE
PRODUCTION

Presented by
**BIRMINGHAM 2022
FESTIVAL**
COMMONWEALTH
GAMES



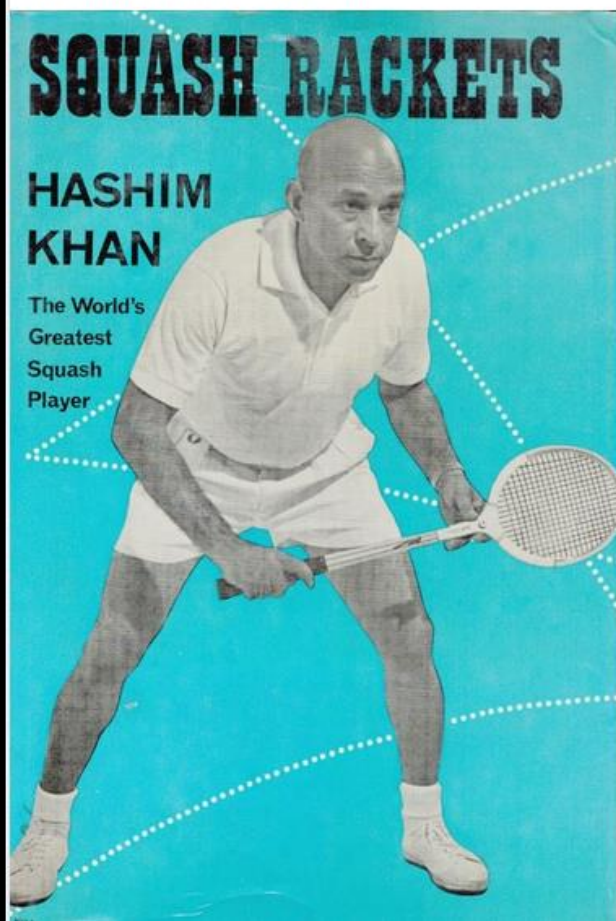
Squash Library

5 April at 08:45 · 🌐

...

Hashim Khan once said this about service:

"Some squash players, plenty of experience and no excuse, have wrong idea about serve. They think it is not important, just signal to begin, like bell in boxing match. Not so! Service in squash is not like bell. It is like first punch . . . maybe K.O.!"



Squash Library

15 February at 08:48 · 🌐

...

In 1973 UK's Sunday Times newspaper journalist John Hopkins wrote an article for the British Open programme that year. It provides a great snapshot of the state of squash around the world nearly fifty years ago. Go to <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features> to read it. [Squash Federation of Africa - SFA](#)[Federacion Panamericana de Squash](#)[The European Squash Federation](#)[World Squash Federation](#)

The Squash Boom Continues—Worldwide

John Hopkins—Sunday Times



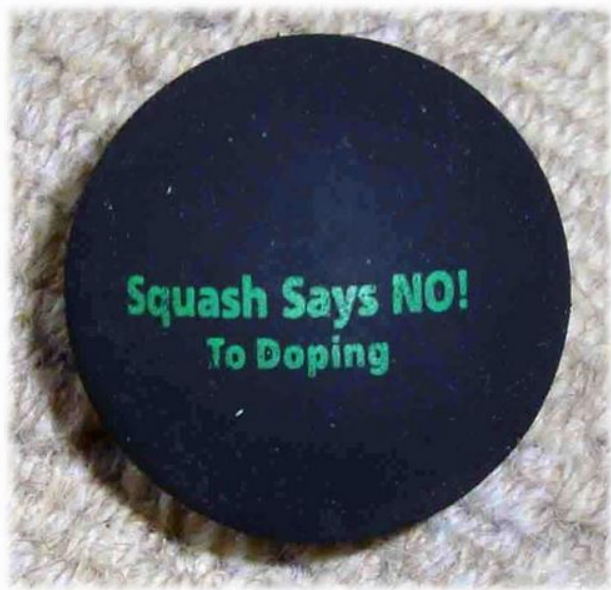


Squash Library

12 February at 07:18 · 🌐

...

In 2016 Anti-Doping education was carried out at the British Junior Open, via DFSU (Doping-Free Sport Accord Unit) on behalf of the WSF. Players visiting their Outreach Booth was could participate in an online WADA quiz and given a free squash ball incorporating the logo: "Squash says NO! to Doping". [World Squash Federation](#)



Squash Library

2 February at 08:21 · 🌐

...

In April 1997 in Chiba, Japan, Nobuo Obata started gathering friends, and their friends too, for monthly coaching sessions at Central Fitness ShinUrayasu. The squash routines – which have been unchanged since the start so that progress can be gauged – along with general play, have always been followed by a meal.

Over 4,000 have joined in, and while Covid caused a pause after session 246 (the 200th was celebrated in August 2015), the sessions are poised to re-start on the 25th year anniversary and move to 300 shortly.

Pictured: Nobuo Obata (left) with Tomokazu Saito who has managed the sessions with him from the start. Japan Squash Association



Squash Library

29 January at 08:28 · 🌐

...

Nine years ago here is how Squash Wales showed just how good squash is to use up energy. This chart showed schools, parents and prospective players generally what health benefits an athletic sport like squash can offer. [Squash Wales - Sboncen CymruWorld Squash Federation](#)

Get fit, stay fit..
Without the gym?
It's **EASY**
Play **SQUASH!**
The numbers for you...



Squash burns 920 calories per hour



Running burns 720 calories per hour



Cycling burns 600 calories per hour



Swimming burns 500 calories per hour



Source - Men's Health Magazine June 2013

In 2003, Forbes created a ranking of the ten healthiest sports - SQUASH came out on top! In 2011, LA Times took a look at the sport also sung its healthy praises, reporting that it can burn between 600 and 1,000 calories an hour and improve strength, flexibility, and balance. "Squash offers an aerobic workout due to the steady endurance required to sustain a game, but it's also an anaerobic workout because of moments of high-intensity play," the Times reported.

www.wsrb.co.uk

@sqwales



Squash Library

15 January at 08:46 · 🌐

...

In 1986 squash players from the Detroit Athletic Club, commissioned the well-known sculptor A. Thomas Schomberg (creator of the Rocky statue displayed at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games) to create a squash sculpture. Just 24 of these quarter life-size sculptures were produced.



2021



Squash Library

20 December at 08:47 · 🌐

...

The Library has reunited a memento given to Egyptian legend Abdel Fattah Amr Bey with his family. The five times British Open Champion (1932-7) had received it, engraved: 'with sincere appreciation from his American Friends'. The other wording was: 'In commemoration of receiving from H.M. King Fuad 1, The Orders of Merit (14 Feb 1935) and the Bahaweya (26 Mar 1936). The boxed memento was found by British tennis memorabilia collector Alan Chalmers, who kindly passed it onto the Library so that it could be reunited with his family. Pictured here is Amr Bey's great grand daughter Dana Khater who gratefully received it in London. [Egyptian Squash Federation](#) - الاتحاد المصري للإسكواش



Squash Library

24 November at 08:38 · 🌐

...

The WSF Coach Education Programme, which heralded the start of a worldwide unified and standardised coaching structure for Squash, was launched at the start of 2015.

Tutor training across the continents began with Level 1 courses introduced first. The courses featured agreed core-content and delivery methods to ensure that standards were uniform and qualifications achieved would be recognised not only in the coach's own nation but worldwide too for coaches moving internationally.

[World Squash Federation](#)

World Squash COACHING

WSC



Squash Library

18 November at 08:20 · 🌐

...

The 1936 accounts for the Australian Squash Association accompanying their 1937 AGM Agenda showed an annual expenditure of just £163. (This was the Australian Pound, which in 1966 became the Australian Dollar). See them in full at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/.../australian-squash...> It included £1 for the doorman of the Australian Championships! Budgets have grown since! [Squash Australia](#)

SQUASH RACKETS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA	
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30th NOVEMBER, 1936.	
	Expenditure
31.18. 6	By Expenses of Management
14.14. 0	Petties Postages and Telegrams
	" Tournament Expenses:
	Victorian Championship -
14. 0. 0	Hire of Court
22. 2. 0	Scoring
	Printing and Stationery
	Tickets etc.
	Doorkeeper
	Exhibition Matches
	Replica of Trophy
8.10. 0	Australian Championship -
29. 9. 0	Hire of Court
10 -	Scoring
	Doorkeeper
	Printing and Stationery
	5. 0. 0



Squash Library

5 November at 09:11 · 🌐

...

The WSF launched its Ambassador Programme in 2011 with a visit to Riga, Latvia. It was the first of a decade of the WSF international promotional initiative taking leading squash players, together with an international coach and referee, into younger squash nations to help raise the sport's profile - through clinics, exhibition matches, refereeing and coaching seminars, and media presentations.

After Latvia the African countries of Malawi and Namibia followed, then Panama and Venezuela in 2013, Papua New Guinea in 2014, before focussing on the Balkan region in 2015 with appearances in Serbia, Romania and Croatia. In 2016, the team visited Dalian and Macau in China. After the 2017 edition was postponed, the Ambassadors went to Armenia and Ukraine in 2018, and Nairobi, Kenya in 2019. [World Squash Federation](#)



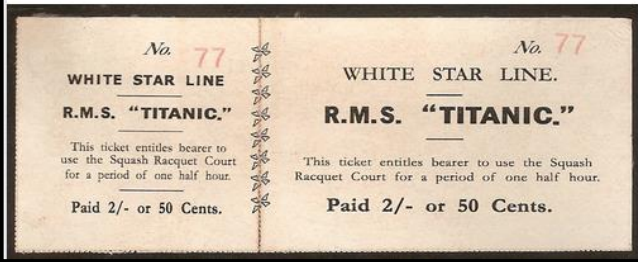


Squash Library

4 November at 08:35 · 🌐

...

First class passengers on the Titanic liner in 1912 could pay two shillings / 50cents for a half-hour game, and they could have lessons from resident coach Frederick Wright too. It wasn't only when they couldn't get a booking that passengers got a sinking feeling!



Squash Library

29 October at 09:02 · 🌐

...

35 years ago, in October 1986, the first English Men's ranking was produced by computer, by a company called Microcache, using their APG system that weighted events and linked the player rating to those above and below playing, altering their average based upon an algorithm on the gap. [England Squash](#)



Squash Library

23 October at 09:33 · 🌐

...

Playing squash, tennis and badminton is the best way to reduce the risk of suddenly dying, a study published in 2016 found (<https://bjsm.bmj.com/content/51/10/812>). The racket sports reduce the risk of death by 47 per cent compared to doing nothing, researchers discovered based on 11 annual health surveys for England and Scotland from between 1994 and 2008.

The study, which looked at the impact of different sports on health of people with an average age of 51, discovered that taking part in running and jogging, or football and rugby did not have a significant effect on cutting the chance of death. [British Journal of Sports Medicine \(BJSM\)](#)

British Journal of
Sports Medicine



Squash Library

18 October at 08:35 · 🌐

...

In 2003, Boston's SquashBusters became the first US urban program to open its own youth center in coordination with Northeastern University. Two years later when the American National Urban Squash and Education Association was launched in 2005, it featured four member programs serving a total of 250 students in Boston, New York and Philadelphia.

It now has 19 member organizations across the country and five affiliates abroad, with more than 2,500 students enrolled. As the NUSEA network expanded—beyond the United States and outside of major urban centres—the need for a new name became clear. Squash and Education Alliance (SEA), was chosen. [Squash and Education Alliance@](#)



Squash Library

14 October at 08:51 · 🌐


...

Leo Au, from Hong Kong, broke the record for the longest professional squash match ever recorded en-route to claiming the ninth PSA World Tour title of his career at the Holtrand Gas City Pro-Am in January 2015 in Canada.

His dramatic semi-final victory was the longest match ever recorded - a mammoth 170-minute encounter (11-6, 4-11, 11-6, 7-11, 16-14) against Canadian Shawn Delierre.

It was a match that eclipsed the previous record set by legendary Pakistani six-time world champion Jahangir Khan, who took 166-minutes to get past Gamal Awad in the 1983 Chichester Festival 9-10, 9-5, 9-7, 9-2. Yes, in four games!

It was a match that eclipsed the previous record set by legendary Pakistani six-time world champion Jahangir Khan, who took 166-minutes to get past Gamal Awad in the 1983 Chichester Festival 9-10, 9-5, 9-7, 9-2. Yes, in four games! [Hong Kong Squash Squash CanadaSquash - PSA World Tour](#)

				Holtrand Gas City Pro-Am Semi-Final Shawn Delierre vs. Mark Knight Leo Au			
SA (1) BL	SA (2) BL	SA (3) BL	SA (4) BL	SA (5) BL	SA (1) BL	SA (2) BL	SA (3) BL
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164	165	164	165	164	164	165	164
165	166	165	1				



Squash Library

9 October at 07:45 · 🌐

Today marks the 20th World Squash Day, it having been started in memory of Scottish squash junior international Derek Sword, one of the many fatalities of the Sept 11 2001 attack on New York's World Trade Centre. Alongside the worldwide celebrations and promotions this year is another great auction of exciting items in support of the PSA Foundation and World Squash Library. See them & bid on eBay here: <https://tinyurl.com/4jyuhfvb>. (Worldwide postage can be arranged at cost). What are you waiting for? [World Squash Day](#) [World Squash Day Auction](#) [Squash - PSA World Tour](#) [Squash - PSA Foundation](#) [World Squash Federation](#)

WORLD SQUASH DAY

SAT OCT 9, 2021
20TH ANNIVERSARY



Squash Library

5 October at 09:15 · 🌐

Squash has featured on the postage stamps of many nations. More than you may think.
Here is a Library selection from over 20 countries in national alphabetic order, including many provided by Craig Thorpe-Clark from his personal collection. Go to:
<https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-on-stamps>



Squash Library

30 September at 08:12 · 🌐

Argue Martin won the Men's Canadian Championship three times - in 1930, 31, 33. His opponents and scores are recorded, but did his on-court behaviour reflect his first name? [Squash Canada](#)



Squash Library

25 September at 11:10 · 🌐

As squash events moved from glass-backs to all-round viewing there was a brief stage where buildable glass back courts were used. The first major event to do this was the March 1980 British Open, with final rounds played on the stage of the Wembley Conference Centre. (After that year the event moved away before returning in 1984 with a showcourt with seating all found it). Promoter Mike Palmer of Multisquash needed to show what this new staging concept would look like. In his words, 'To give the media - and the public - a greater understanding of what was happening, I commissioned a commercial artist to produce an illustration. This was then photographed and photos sent out with press releases'. This picture is an example of 'squash art', as opposed to cartoons and the like. If there are others out there the Library would love to create a gallery of them so that they can be viewed and preserved.



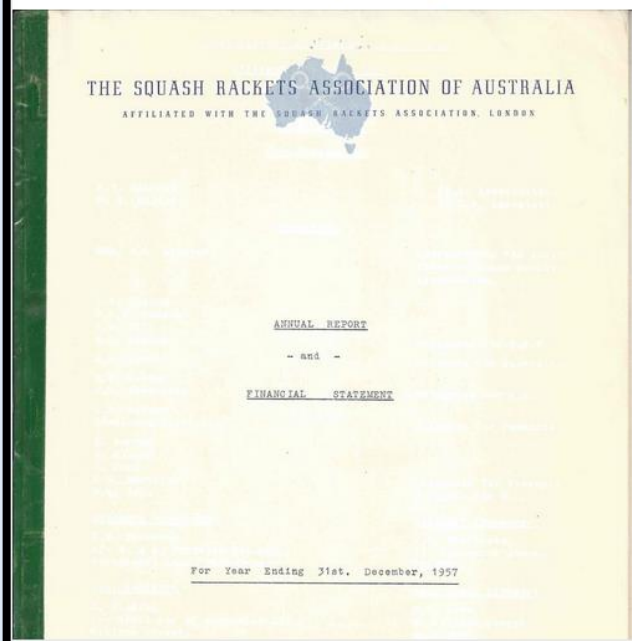


Squash Library

22 September at 08:39 · 🌐

...

In 1957 the Australian Squash Rackets Association reported growth, saying 'Blocks of squash courts erected as a commercial proposition are springing up rapidly, particularly in Sydney, where the game is enjoying unexampled prosperity. It is only a matter of time before Australia begins to produce players who will at least equal the best that England can show'. It certainly happened! [Squash Australia](#)

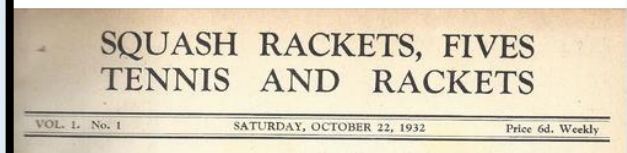


Squash Library

13 September at 08:51 · 🌐

...

In 1932 the first edition of British Squash Rackets, Fives, Tennis & Rackets magazine somewhat cryptically reported this: 'We read with interest of a certain Squash Rackets player who recently used his own private court as a ballroom. The spectators' balcony was used quite naturally as the musician's gallery, and the party, we are informed, was a great success. This seems to us quite definitely "a good thing," and we pass on the suggestion to any of our readers who are fortunate enough to possess a Squash Rackets court of their own'.



Squash Library

12 August at 09:10 · 🌐

...

Seventy years ago, in 1951 this report on the state of doubles appeared in a British magazine, indicating that there was only one 'larger' court available. It was a few decades before moveable side wall courts added more on demand to the few permanent ones.

BEFORE the war the doubles game was rapidly increasing in popularity and several doubles events were built in the London area. Unfortunately, bombs and other causes have exterminated every doubles court in England, leaving only the doubles court at the Edinburgh Squash Club where devotees of this type of game can continue to play.

In the past few years, there has been growing up an increasing tendency for those who find the singles game too strenuous, to play the doubles game in the ordinary standard singles court. Those who have played the game for some time have evolved the technique by which the players give way to each other so that each player has plenty of room in which to play his shot and collisions between players are surprisingly infrequent.

Although the game is not yet officially recognised by the S.R.A., doubles competitions have started and a tournament has been successfully held at the Worthing Squash Club for the past two seasons.



Squash Library

9 August at 08:32 · 🌐

...

Plate events, events to give 1st match event losers a second game, were first introduced at the South African Championships held in Johannesburg in 1948. The idea was soon taken up widely. While they are not played in PSA Tour events, for World Junior Individual Championships minimum three matches are offered i.e. plate, consolation plate (1st match plate losers) and classic plate (2nd match losers).

[Squash - PSA World Tour](#)[World Squash Federation](#)[Squash South Africa](#)





Squash Library

7 August at 08:35 · 🌐

...

Another example of squash featuring on stamps is the British one issued at the time of the Commonwealth Games 2014 in Glasgow, Scotland. It was part of a set of six featuring judo, swimming, marathon, netball and track cycling too. [Commonwealth Games Federation](#) [Scottish Squash](#)



Squash Library

6 August at 09:03 · 🌐

...

The poster for the 2011 Qatar Classic looked like a postage stamp. Why? Because the Qatar Squash Federation had arranged for a Qatari stamp to be issued by their philatelic bureau promoting the event. A new way to promote with 200,000 printed. Can another event lick that! [Qatar Squash Federation](#)



Squash Library

3 August at 09:16 · 🌐

...

Have you found the POSTS heading on www.squashlibrary.info? Every Library daily post, nearly 900 of them, are there in 13 categories, each one having an index too. Want to explore the posting archive on people, events, nations, rules, milestones, etc you know where to look!

BRITISH OPEN

COURTS & EQUIPMENT

EVENT REGS (Champs & PSA)

EVENT VENUES

MEDIA/BROADCAST

NATIONS (Squash beginnings)

OBITUARIES

OLYMPIC/REGIONAL/GAMES

PLAYERS & EVENTS (general)

REFEREEING & RULES

SQUASH FEDERATIONS

UNCATEGORISED (general)

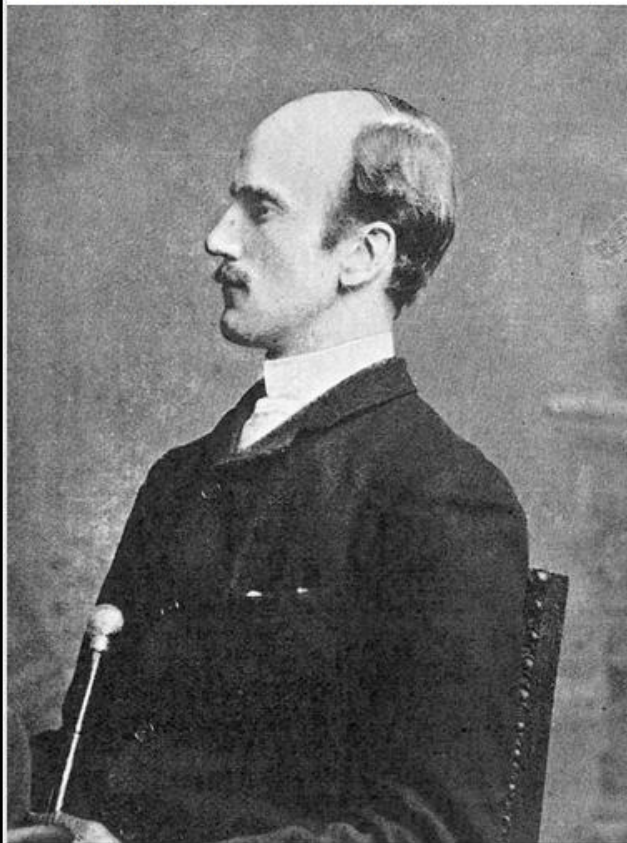


Squash Library
24 July at 08:57 · 🌐

...

In 1909, Hugo F Charteris (later Lord Elcho) wrote this while posted as an attaché to the British Ambassador in Washington:

'Squash Rackets is the great game in American country houses. It is the most brutal smashing form of sport in which I have ever indulged. It is squash tennis, really, as they use tennis rackets and covered tennis balls. It is impossible to miss the ball, as it is as big as the racket with which you hit it, and it goes on bouncing for a good long time in a small four sided court with no ledges or steps to add to the variety or uncertainty of the game. You hit as hard as you can till you become exhausted and miss it.'



Squash Library
3 July at 08:52 · 🌐

...

Commentators at the Wimbledon tennis this week have regularly talked of 'squash shots' being played. Meanwhile Australian tennis legend Rod Laver once said of his career that he was never without a squash ball in his pocket to help strengthen his wrist!



Squash Library
28 June at 08:45 · 🌐

...

Shadow training / star bursts, where a player replicates movement from tee to corner and back without a ball has been a feature of training regimes for generations. But in 1986 an attempt was made to automate it with a device that would call out a random set of corners to avoid predictability.

Enter 'Shadow Caller'. An electronics firm in England developed a unit that would be placed at the back of the court and emit four different tones at intervals – each indicating a different corner. Intervals and tones were adjustable. It was sold for GB£90.

Perhaps the absence of follow up advertising indicated low interest at a high price.





Squash Library

25 June at 08:14 · 🌐

...

When the Titanic, the largest passenger steamship of the time, sank in 1912, the squash court on it was relocated to the Atlantic depths. The court was available for use by 1st class passengers, and there was a professional in residence. Full details can be found in this comprehensive report:

<http://squashbloglife.com/a-squash-match-on-the-titanic/>

OCEAN STEAMERS.

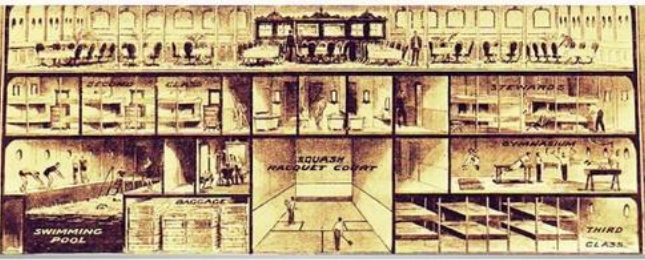
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THE LARGEST STEAMERS IN THE WORLD

New 45,000 Tons Each	TITANIC	Sail From NEW YORK	APRIL 20 May 11, June 1, June 22, July 13.
	OLYMPIC		MAY 4 May 25, June 15, July 6.

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BATHS, SWIMMING POOL, FOUR ELEVATORS, GYMNASIUM,
VERANDAH CAFE, PALM COURT, SQUASH RACQUET COURT.
Company's Office. 119-121 South Third St., Minneapolis, (Guaranty Bldg.)
O. E. BRECKE, Pass. Agt., or local agents.



Squash Library

23 June at 08:13 · 🌐

...

After the first squash-specific courts arrived at Harrow School near London in 1865 (see <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features> for details), a past-pupil constructed what is thought to be the first court in a house. Augustus George Vernon Harcourt (pic), a scientist, did this at his Oxford home in 1883.

His son Simon (one of 10 children – an unbalanced 8 girls and 2 boys!) recounted 'As soon as they could walk the children were taught the game. It must have been between 1980 and 1895 that my brother-in-law, the famous war correspondent, Sir William Beach Thomas who ran for Oxford, C B Fry, TB Case and many others used to come along and play with us'



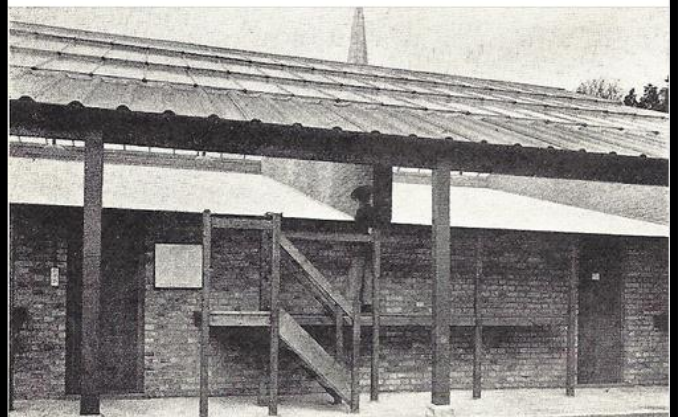
Squash Library

22 June at 07:49 · 🌐

...

The story of how squash evolved from being played on 'baby' rackets courts at Harrow School in North West London in 1865 into the courts we know is detailed in a new Library feature. See it at

<https://www.squashlibrary.info/features>



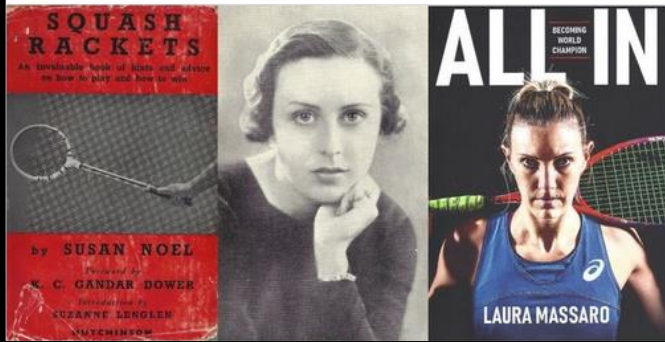


Squash Library

15 June at 08:52 · 🌐

...

Laura Massaro's book 'All In' published this month is the newest squash book, but not the first written by a woman player. That was 'Squash Rackets' by Susan Noel, first published in 1937. Also English, Noel (pic) had won the British Open three times (1932-34) and the US title in 1933. Multi-talented Noel was runner up in the French Open Tennis Doubles in 1936 too.

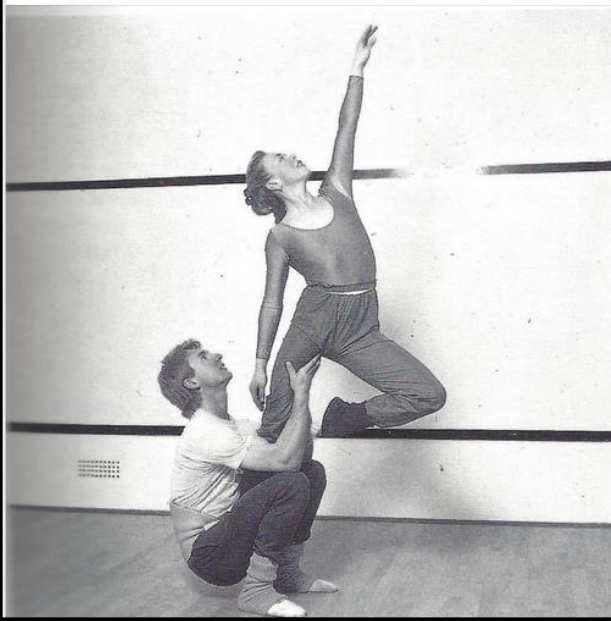


Squash Library

11 June at 09:10 · 🌐

...

In an unusual use for a squash court, World & Olympic ice dance champions Jayne Torvill & Christopher Dean used one at the Mollington Banastre Hotel in Chester, England to rehearse routines for a world tour in 1990.



Squash Library

5 June at 07:40 · 🌐

...

From the 'really?' dept: In 1968 the Greek Government passed a law requiring squash and tennis players to appear before a doctor every six months. Competition play would not be permitted without a certificate issued confirming fitness to play. This law was soon repealed, apparently! ΕΦΟΑ - Hellenic Tennis Federation HTF



Squash Library

30 May at 08:45 · 🌐

...

Sunday prompt. Squash player brand partnerships is not a recent phenomenon. In 1954 Pakistani 'legends' Azan, Hashim and Roshan Khan wore and advertised Fred Perry clothing. The advertisements were not in colour but neither was the clothing! [Fred Perry](#)

NOTHING BUT THE BEST IS GOOD ENOUGH

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PAGE TWENTY-FOUR

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Squash Library

25 May at 09:01 · 🌐

...

UK's Prince Philip had a secret squash court in Hong Kong. You didn't know? Why would you, it was a secret!
<https://www.squashlibrary.info/features> for the full story. [Hong Kong Squash](#) [England Squash](#)



Squash Library

22 May at 10:58 · 🌐

...

World Squash Library is trying to fill gaps in the archive, as ever. If you have any of these let's discuss please! Thanks, Andrew. (Email: info@squashlibrary.info or DM). Full list link: <https://www.squashlibrary.info/whats-missing>

ISRF Handbooks: 1980, 1986

(WSF was called ISRF until 1992)

English SRA Handbooks: 1931 – 1935

World Champ Programmes: see link



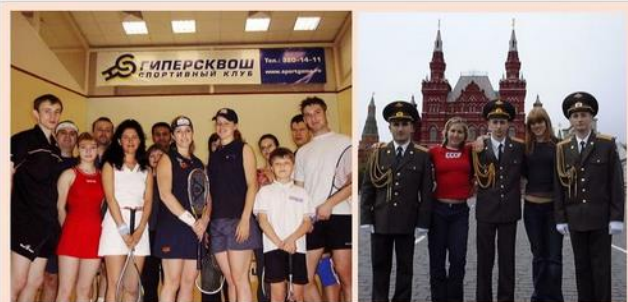
Squash Library

8 May at 08:49 · 🌐

...

With the World Juniors going to St Petersburg next year, looking back to 2003 Russia was visited by Vanessa Atkinson and Sarah Fitz-Gerald, with sessions in St Petersburg and Moscow assisting the development of squash there.

(During the period 1999 – 2009, the Women's Tour, under the WISPA banner, took top players to over twenty 'young' squash countries to help them promote squash. In Moscow the players took time out in Red Square to pose with Army Academy graduates!).



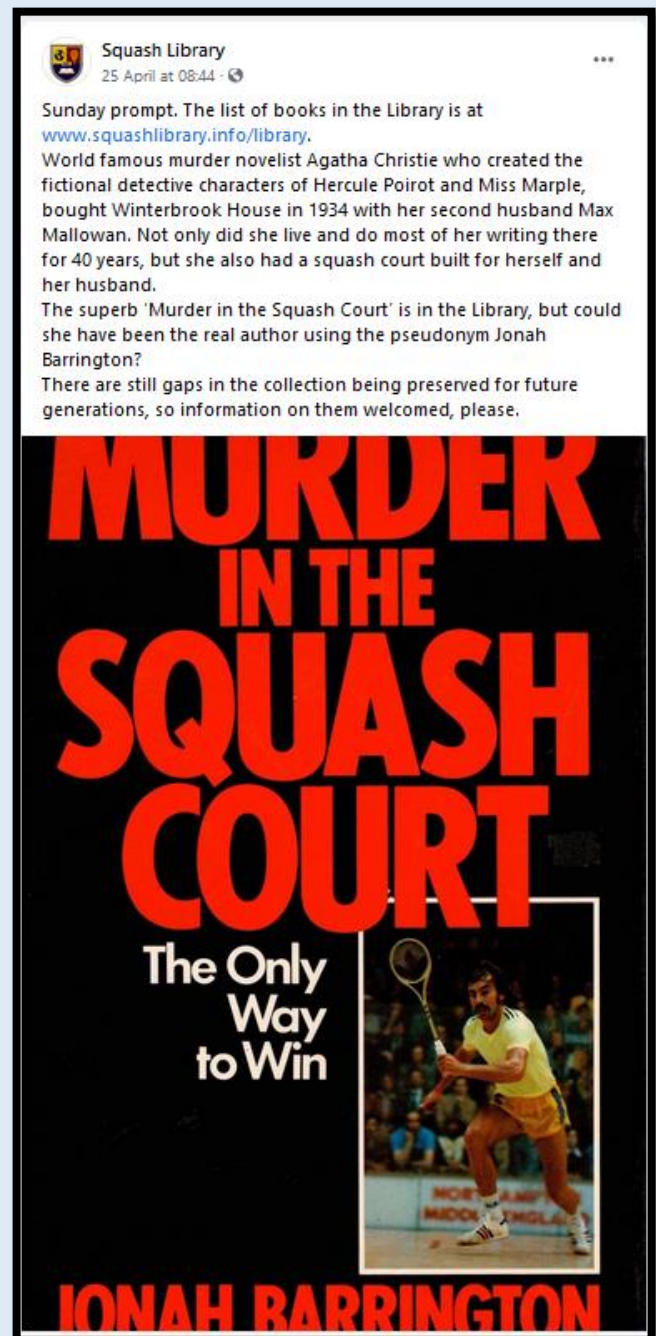
Squash Library

28 April at 08:25 · 🌐

...

Eight years ago The University of Warwick, England, held an Ultra Violet Squash Festival. The unique four day event featured 160 players with matches being played in ultraviolet light with fluorescent tape on the walls and floors. The rackets and balls were also sprayed with fluorescent material, and all players wore white clothing.







Squash Library

15 April at 09:15 · 🌐

...

We hear tennis commentators describe a shot as a squash shot, especially from Roger Federer and here is another tennis player playing squash.

When he put down his tennis racket on his winter break in 2015 tennis star Novak Djokovic clearly liked to still keep a racket in his hand while on holiday. A future player for the Serbian squash team?



Squash Library

6 April at 09:18 · 🌐

...

An idea from eight years ago has relevance as retail stores have borne the Covid brunt along with squash. In Manchester's Corn Exchange in England, a pop-up squash shop making use of un-used retail space created a temporary high street squash court, with the England Squash intention to roll it out in other cities.

A BBC sports presenter Mike Bushell (pictured) gave it a try with Laura Massaro. [England Squash](#)

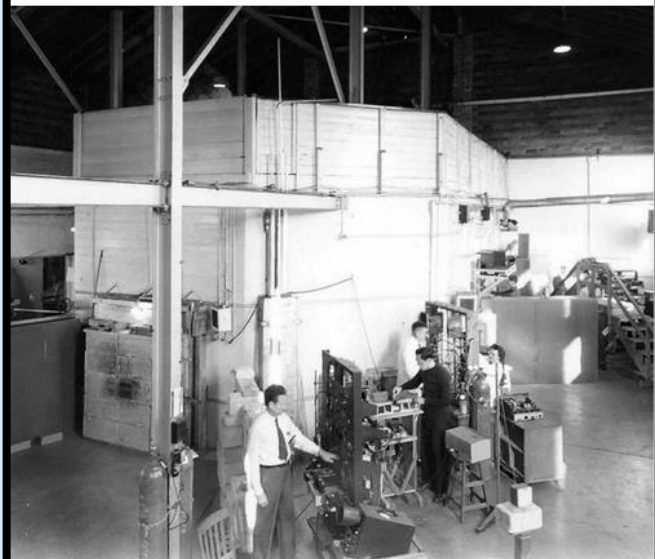


Squash Library

5 April at 09:18 · 🌐

...

The world's first working nuclear reactor was built in a racquets court! In Chicago, USA, at University of Chicago's Hyde Park Campus in 1942. The court sitting beneath the bleacher seating for the football field became the first home for self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction.





Squash Library

1 April at 09:13 · 🌐

PSA have found the solution to the issue of pro players needing flexible flights as they don't know how long they would be in a tournament has been found. The problems of tiredness as matches get harder has been solved too. All very neatly and simple - by playing event final on the first day and working backwards to end the event with the first round.

Most players could arrive when the event was well under way, with all the players knowing they would leave after the first round. Matches get progressively easier too. News of when the PSA Tour roll out this format is awaited.

[Squash - PSA World Tour](#)

BACKWARDS



Squash Library

31 March at 08:26 · 🌐

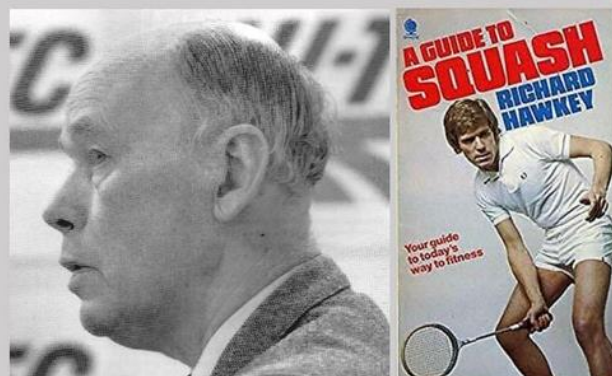
As the Jesters Club edges closer to its Centenary in 2029, here is the story of the first 75 years of the worldwide organisation set up to encourage interest and participation. It is told by its President Robert Dolman. It is at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features>



Squash Library

19 March at 08:44 · 🌐

Thirty years ago today (19.03.91), the most prolific author of squash books died aged 67. Richard (Dick) Hawkey wrote over a dozen playing, coaching and refereeing books, along with booklets and magazine articles during the 1960's and 70s, with later updating. He was a British squash international then later a school teacher.



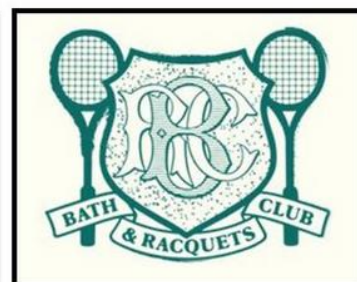
Squash Library

9 March at 09:36 · 🌐

In 1906 what was reputedly the first inter-club match took place. In London, England, the Queens Club thought it would be 'interesting' to challenge the Bath & Racquets Club, and it was arranged that each club would field a team of three, each should play all of the other side, and six matches would be played at Queens Club, three at Bath Club. The matches, on 22 & 23 February 1906 resulted in a crushing victory for Bath Club.

It was reported at the time in Lawn Tennis magazine:

'It is hoped that this match may be the forerunner of others, for one believes squash racquets will become more and more popular



Squash Library

7 March at 10:03 · 🌐

Sunday prompt. If you want to know where squash was played back in 1938, here's a Library worldwide list of clubs / courts from then.

<https://www.squashlibrary.info/.../principal-clubs...>

Name of Club	Address	No. of Courts	Subscription, Fees, Remarks, etc.
EAST AFRICA			
KAMPALA			
Kampala Club	P.O. Box 241, Kampala, Uganda. Tel.: Kampala 47 (L. J. Wood, P.O. Box 44, Kampala, Uganda)	1	18/- monthly; Non-Members: Court fee, 6/- per person
MAGADI			
Magadi Sports Club	P.O. Magadi, Kenya Colony (J. A. Tate, Magadi Soda Co. Ltd., P.O. Magadi, Kenya Colony)	1	
MOMBASA			
Mombasa Club	P.O. Box 270, Mombasa. Tel.: 56	2	120/- Country, 60/- Entrance fee, 100/-
NAIROBI			
Mathika Country Club	P.O. Box 181, Nairobi, Kenya Colony. Tel.: 5801	2	Town Members, 240/-; Country, 120/- Entrance fee, 100/-
NAKURU			
Rift Valley Sports Club	P.O. Box 1, Nakuru, Kenya Colony. Tel.: 18	1	
EGYPT			
(SUDAN, see page 219)			
ALEXANDRIA			
Alexandria Sporting Club	Drahlmish, Ramleh. Tel.: Alexandria 5865	6	£E6, plus £E1 games fee; Entrance fee, £E10
New Sports Club	Smouha City, Alexandria. Tel.: Ramleh 3048	4	£E6; temporary membership, 100 piastres monthly
CAIRO			
Gezira Sporting Club	Gezira. Tel.: Gezira 66419	8	£E6 (£E8 married); Entrance fee, £E10; Court fee, 1 piastre per person (bookable, 2 piastres). Three professionals
Madi Sporting Club	Madi, near Cairo. Tel.: Madi 91	2	£E3 married, £E10 single Entrance fee, £E3 married, £E3 single
PORT SAID			
Port Said International Sporting Club	Roe Mokattam. Tel.: Port Said 2191 (Secretary's, 2044)	2	Annual subscription, 180 piastres; Squash subscription, 100 piastres; Entrance fee, 150 piastres; Visitors, 4/- per day



Handicap events are a popular feature at many clubs, but eighty years ago the idea was being developed. How to handle handicapping being wrestled with, as this December 1937 UK Tennis Magazine article by the Esports Club secretary indicates. See it at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features>

WHY NOT HANDICAPS FOR SQUASH?

By PETER HADLEY, Hon. Secretary, The Esports S.R.C.

ALTHOUGH Squash has been growing in popularity from year to year, it has still one great lack; there is no major tournament in which players of all standards can compete with one another on a basis that makes for equality.

In the Lawn Tennis world, thanks to the existence of handicaps, players of an indifferent standard can compete in tournaments with a reasonable chance of surviving several rounds of an event, and perhaps even of winning it. In Squash, on the other hand, the ordinary player has no hope of progressing in a tournament beyond the first or (if he is very lucky) to the second round.

players who never experience anything more exciting after their day's work than an occasional match for their local club, and who would welcome an opportunity for tournament play. The introduction of handicap events would provide such an opportunity.

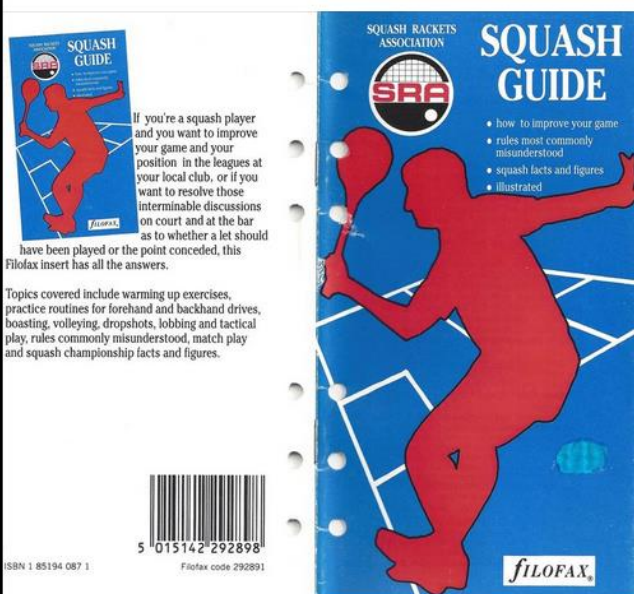
It should not be difficult to evolve an efficient system of handicapping. Local committees might assign handicaps to members of their own club, based on current form (bolder matches, etc.). Thus the best player in the club might be given a handicap of, say, One 5, and the worst might receive the same amount. These handicaps could be used not only for the purpose of competition within

ment should be able to determine the handicaps with some degree of accuracy. Each competitor could be asked to supply, with his entry, not only information as to his club handicap, but also details of any matches played by him during the season. Most club secretaries keep full records of all matches, so that a member would have no difficulty in obtaining the necessary scores. An enormous number of club matches are played at Squash, and these should provide the handicappers with a great deal of useful information.

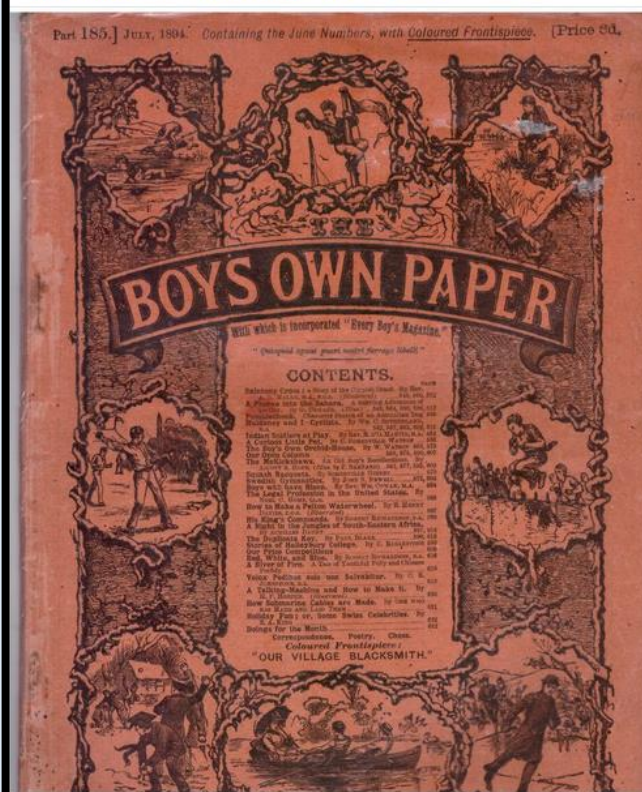
In order that the fullest possible data might be available, it would perhaps be advisable for handicap tournaments to



In 1990 the large squash playing business community prompted the English Squash Association to produce a 32 page Filofax Squash Guide, featuring tips, rule details, facts, championship results, useful addresses (and a membership form too!).



If you want to see the first known magazine article written on squash – from way back in 1894 – you can do so in this Squash Library feature: <https://www.squashlibrary.info/post/boy-s-own-paper-1894>



Racketball, a form of squash played on a squash court was rebranded as Squash 57 in an initiative spearheaded by the World Squash Federation in partnership with England Squash in September 2016. The new formal name focused on the key difference to squash – the larger ball, which has a maximum diameter of 57mm (compared with 40mm for a squash ball). Although at a local British level it was expected that the old name would be informally used for a time to come, newer countries... [See more](#)

squash 57



Squash Library

2 February at 08:54 · 🌐

...

An airport terminal with squash courts? That would be Hamad International Airport in Doha, Qatar, opened in May 2014. The spa area at Hamad features two ASB courts available for passengers, with rackets, balls and shoes provided. [Hamad International Airport Qatar Squash Federation](#)



Squash Library

4 February at 08:39 · 🌐

...

The two squash courts at the Athens Lawn Tennis Club were under threat when the Greek club was due to be re-located, but with H.M King Constantine an avid player, this was averted, and indeed saw a doubles court built in time for him to win the Greek Doubles Championship held there in 1966.

For the record, he and Demetriades beat Zeruos & Glyplis 15/13, 10/15, 15/11, 15/12.

(Seen here, H.M. The King receives a pennant at a match played against Malta. Queen Anne-Marie is looking on).



Squash Library

17 January at 09:22 · 🌐

...

In addition to the Squash Library daily postings broken down into headings for easy reference at: <https://www.squashlibrary.info/daily-posting-directory>, you can find World Championship and major games/other events results & information at www.squashlibrary.info CHAMPIONSHIPS.



WORLD SQUASH LIBRARY



HOME THE LIBRARY NEWS CHAMPIONSHIPS FEATURES SUPPORT WSL CONTACT

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS



Men's World

From 1972



Women's World

From 1972



Men's World Junior

From 1982



Women's World Junior

From 1981



Men's World Team

From 1987



Women's World Team

From 1979

WORLD SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS

Host Directory

Australia	Bermuda
1982-1983	1982-1983
1984-1985	1984-1985
1986-1987	1986-1987
1988-1989	1988-1989
1990-1991	1990-1991
1992-1993	1992-1993
1994-1995	1994-1995
1996-1997	1996-1997
1998-1999	1998-1999
2000-2001	2000-2001
2002-2003	2002-2003
2004-2005	2004-2005
2006-2007	2006-2007
2008-2009	2008-2009
2010-2011	2010-2011
2012-2013	2012-2013
2014-2015	2014-2015
2016-2017	2016-2017
2018-2019	2018-2019
2020-2021	2020-2021
2022-2023	2022-2023

WORLD SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS

Egypt	Finland
1982-1983	1982-1983
1984-1985	1984-1985
1986-1987	1986-1987
1988-1989	1988-1989
1990-1991	1990-1991
1992-1993	1992-1993
1994-1995	1994-1995
1996-1997	1996-1997
1998-1999	1998-1999
2000-2001	2000-2001
2002-2003	2002-2003
2004-2005	2004-2005
2006-2007	2006-2007
2008-2009	2008-2009
2010-2011	2010-2011
2012-2013	2012-2013
2014-2015	2014-2015
2016-2017	2016-2017
2018-2019	2018-2019
2020-2021	2020-2021
2022-2023	2022-2023



Squash Library

16 January at 09:07 · 🌐

...

Squash Library posts daily on many aspects of squash's rich history. Now, you can find all of them broken down into thirteen groups for easy reference at: <https://www.squashlibrary.info/daily-posting-directory>.

The headings:

BRITISH OPEN
CHAMPIONSHIP & PSA REGULATIONS
COURTS & EQUIPMENT
MEDIA
MISCELLANEOUS
NATIONS
OBITUARIES
OLYMPIC / MAJOR / REGIONAL CHAMPS
PLAYERS & EVENTS
SQUASH ORGANISATIONS
SQUASH RULES & REGULATIONS
VENUES
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS



2020





Squash Library

24 November at 09:25 · 🌐

...

While the SRA in England were still managing the sport internationally (the World Federation began in 1967), they introduced a ball levy so that a proportion of the sales price would come to them as support funding. Hence the ball price rise to 17½p (approx. €0.19½ / \$0.22).

INCREASE IN PRICE OF THE SQUASH BALL

The increase in the recommended retail price of a squash ball from 3s. to 3s. 6d. from the 1st July, 1965, has come about as the result of a request made by the Squash Rackets Association to the Federation of British Manufacturers of Sports and Games Ltd.

In recent years, the rapid increase of international commitments, in a game in which spectators are necessarily so few, has resulted in a very severe strain on the S.R.A.'s finances, and the repeated, and unsatisfactory recourse to appeals for money from clubs and individuals. The S.R.A. felt that the players in this country would not object to paying an increased price for a ball, if they realised that it was money that was being put back into the game, and was being solely used to maintain our position in international squash, and as the overall governing body. With the game developing so rapidly throughout the world, our S.R.A. is competing with overseas associations, which derive financial assistance from their own sources, and to maintain our leadership in the international federation, which will no doubt shortly come into being, our finances must be on a sounder basis. This levy will, it is hoped, help to do this, and a proportion will go to the Women's S.R.A. to assist them with their international commitments. It must, therefore, be clearly understood, in fairness to the manufacturers and distributors of squash balls in the U.K., that this increase has been made at the request of, and solely for the benefit of, the S.R.A. and W.S.R.A., and is in no way a normal trade increase. The manufacturers are taking no profit whatever from this, and do not at present foresee the need to put up the price further. In view of the fact that the price of the ball has remained stable for so many years, it is hoped that this increase will be accepted without criticism by players in this country, in whose interests it is being made.

J. H. HORRY, *Secretary,*
Squash Rackets Association



Squash Library

15 December at 09:13 · 🌐

...

The first British Squash 57 Championship (then called Racketball) was held from 1 December 1984 at the Metropolitan Club in London. Inaugural winners were Denis Secher - pictured (Men) & Greer Batty (Women's). They beat John Hakes and Barbara Watkins respectively.



Squash Library

21 November at 09:12 · 🌐

...

In 1965 H.R.H Prince Philip became President (later, Patron) of what was then the English Squash Rackets Association. He was a keen player himself on the court at Buckingham Palace, and on court when his first son was born!).

Some photos of his meeting top players and national teams are at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features>





Squash Library

14 November at 09:20 · 🌐

...

The very first winner of the Malaysian National Championship in 1973 was Tunku Imran Ja'afar, beating Hood Salleh 3-0. Prince Imran as he is informally known, not only fostered the development of Malaysian Squash (seen here with star product Nicol David), but is a former President of the Commonwealth Games Federation, and an Honorary Member of the International Olympic Committee. In squash circles he became an inspirational President of the World Squash Federation (1996 – 2002) and is now the WSF Patron.

[Squash Racquets Association of Malaysia](#)



Squash Library

24 October at 09:12 · 🌐

...

World Squash Library celebrates its first birthday today. A year of over 500 Facebook / Twitter posts, many features produced / questions researched, the archive building too. Lots more to develop, but for now comments & ideas welcomed, along with any items to fill gaps (<https://www.squashlibrary.info/whats-missing>), or any donations towards planned digitalisation work (at www.squashlibrary.info). Thanks for all the support during the year. Andrew

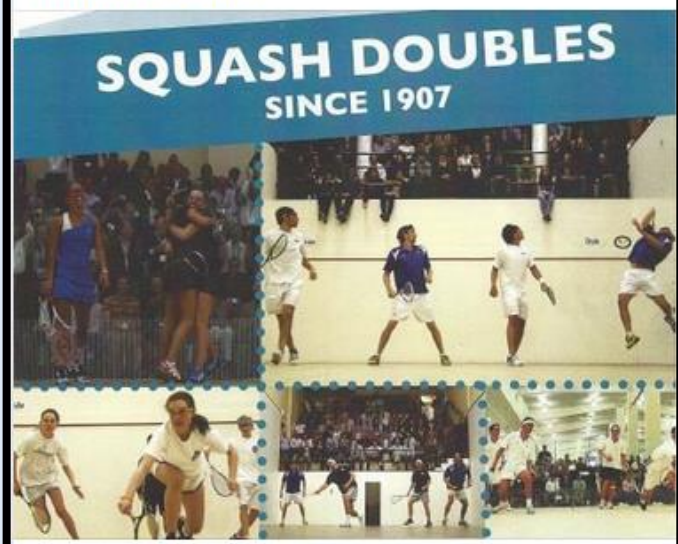


Squash Library

14 October at 11:43 · 🌐

...

Before the International Squash Doubles Association (ISDA) became Squash Doubles Association (SDA) Pro Tour in 2012 it produced an informational and promotional booklet. See it at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features>. (For 2020, around 20 events across the United States, Canada, and Mexico were scheduled). [SDA Pro Tour](#)



Squash Library

5 October at 09:53 · 🌐

...

In October 1932 Mr K.C. Gandar Dower, a leading English tennis and squash player of his day (and aviator, explorer and author too!), set out predictions for the future of squash in a magazine article. Now, 88 years later, here is an extract for interest:

'What of the future? We must remember that squash is still in his infancy, somewhere about where lawn tennis was in 1900. By 1940 let us hope that players will have reached a degree of accuracy so great that they can really kill the ball, or else, as is much more probable, matches will be lasting somewhere around three hours. By 1970 ... athletes will drug themselves scientifically and make their one great bid for the championship and totter home and die. And I shall come puffing into the auditorium and take my place among 5,000 people and watch the final reflected in the vast mirror in the roof'.





Squash Library

27 September · 🌐

...

World Squash Library, committed to preserving squash's rich history, is delighted to partner PSA Foundation as beneficiaries of proceeds for the World Squash Day Auction, and grateful to World Squash Day for including the Library. Some great items to bid for!

[World Squash Day Squash - PSA World Tour](#)

WORLD SQUASH DAY AUCTION

IN AID OF



Squash Library

21 September · 🌐

...

Music legend Elton John bought his home in Old Windsor near London in 1975, and in his autobiography entitled 'Me', he wrote, 'The squash Court was one of the things I liked when I moved in. I would challenge anybody who came over to a game'.

But he added that eventually the squash stopped as packing cases of memorabilia were deposited there. Later, it was transformed into a Library.

A court lost. Don't go breaking our heart, Elton!

[EltonJohn](#)



Squash Library

15 September · 🌐

...

Here is a reminder of the featured players and footage used by PSA & WISPA in promotional DVDs in 2004 & 2007 respectively. They are on the Library YouTube channel at <https://tinyurl.com/yvj9nzke>, along with a selection of Squash's Olympic bid videos. [Squash - PSA World Tour](#) [World Squash Federation](#)





Squash Library
13 September · 🌐

...

Want to know the milestone dates for squash from the 1850's until present? Nations, court, championships, legends, compiled by James Zug, it is on the Library website here:
<https://www.squashlibrary.info/history-of-squash>
World Squash Federation Squash - PSA World Tour

1971

An all-glass back wall, using suspended assembly, is constructed at Abbey; at a cost of GB£31,000; the British Open in 1972 is played on this court. Squash magazine, is started.

1973

Jonah Barrington creates the International Squash Professionals Association. In April the European Federation hosts the first European Championships in The West German Squash Rackets Association is founded.

1974

The British Open, having been closed to only amateur women since 1922, all enter tournament; the finals are filmed for television by the BBC.

1976

The first individual World Championships is played in London in February for Brisbane in August for women; Geoff Hunt and Heather McKay are the winners.

1977

Heather McKay wins the last of her record sixteen straight British Open titles.

1978

In September six hundred people watch the world's first portable court tournament on a glass back wall erected in the Swedish national tennis centre in Stockholm.

1979

In March the first Women's World Team Championships are held in Birmingham.



Squash Library
31 August · 🌐

...

Jumbo Doubles is a big South Eastern Asia idea! So-called because of the larger court, the Library has produced a feature on the local squash variation at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features>.
Squash Racquets Association of Malaysia Singapore Squash Thailand Squash Rackets Association (TSRA)

JUMBO DOUBLES – A BIG SOUTH EAST ASIAN IDEA!

Doubles squash can be played on singles courts, and on courts that are expanded to & International Competition width – 7,620 & 8,420mm respectively, as opposed to single 6,400mm. But in South East Asia a variation called Jumbo Doubles is played too on National sized 'Hardball' courts – which are 7,600 wide but much longer than an international as opposed to 9,750mm.



In Thailand in the early 1980s of expatriate tobacco players in Chiang Mai started playing on a singles court at the Club. Soon after the tournament for residents.

Then, during the 1980s Bangkok Sports Club introduced Jumbo Doubles court, using the size of an American hard ball and started a tournament called the Mai Cup.



Squash Library
5 September · 🌐

...

In April 2013 former squash world number one Peter Nicol and fellow professional Tim Garner played seven squash matches in seven days in what they called the '7 Continent Challenge'. It aimed to promote the squash Olympic bid for a place on the now postponed 2020 Games programme.

The itinerary was Falkland Islands (Stanley), Chile (Santiago), Australia (Sydney), Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur), Egypt (Cairo), England (London), USA (Stamford, Conn).

It involved: (a) Total flying time: 76 hours, (b) Total travel time: 138 hours, (c) Flights taken: 12, (d) Missed flights: 0! (e) Fund raising a substantial sum for good causes.



Squash Library
17 August · 🌐

...

International Player registration began for squash when WSF introduced it in January 2014. Called SPIN (Squash Personal Identification Number), it was formulated along the lines of other regulated sports that already had player, coach, official licences. The intention was to deal with official coordination and player international event entry, seeding, draw and results seamlessly, handle eligibility, uniform name spelling, discipline and anti-doping considerations. Half of the income from registration fees was related to regional federations to help with their promotional and development activity. [World Squash Federation](https://www.worldsquashfederation.org)

WORLD SQUASH

SPIN PROGRAMME

WSF

COVID-19's impact on world sport in general, and on squash specifically, will be remembered for generations to come. So, to record the wide range of effects produced by the pandemic on the sport, the World Squash Library is asking for contributions from around the world – from which to create a unique record of the unprecedented period.

From players, both recreational and professional, facility operators, federations; anybody involved with squash. The impact; the repercussions; and views on what the future holds.

This will be published on the website, and available so that in future people can look back at this time for the sport using information supplied by the squash community.

Please go to <https://www.squashlibrary.info/covid-19-squash-snapshot> - and write about your personal and/or business experiences of how Covid-19 has impacted squash, plus other insights including thoughts on how the sport might be altered in the future. Thank you.



In 1935 an Englishman, Eric Hyde, wrote a book entitled *How to Play Squash Rackets*. In addition to his coaching tips (the illustration shows a rather erect half volley pose), he covers preparation and ladies squash.

On preparing he says this about smoking, '..... none at all on the day of a match, until about half an hour before the match starts, when a cigarette will steady the nerves'. Definitely not a recommendation any more.

He also comments on women's squash saying, 'Usually a woman is quicker and lighter on her feet than a man.... But she is liable to tire quickly with injudicious running about'.

Hyde also explains, '... one other important difference between the sexes in playing games is a temperamental one. Most women play a dashing type of game which produces a brilliant shot one stroke and very often a weak one the next it is definitely not the way to win matches consistently.

The library reports, it does not endorse historical comments!



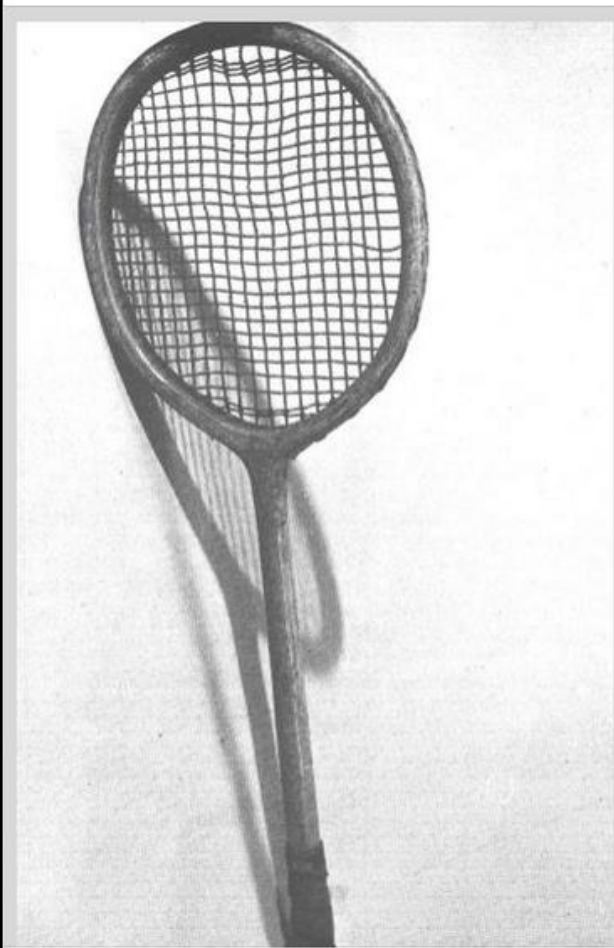
A FOREHAND HALF-VOLLEY

Do we play squash with a racket or racquet? Generally speaking it has been a racquet in USA, and a racket elsewhere worldwide. In America a 'racket' can be used as a term for unscrupulous activities!

In the late 1300s British author Geoffrey Chaucer used the term racket & later William Shakespeare did too, referring to tennis e.g. King Henry V says 'When we have match'd our rackets to these balls'.

Other famous writers from where the sport originated in UK have used racket, including Johnson, Swift, Thackeray and Dickens.

Perhaps it is best left that either spelling is understood, wherever it is written!



It was in 1978 that one of the first squash computer programmes was developed – by the Victorian Association in Australia. Reacting to the growth of squash and time taken to process results, it was intended to cover areas we have taken for granted for many years now.

At the time the uses were stated to included: (a) weekly match results, (b) Ladders, (c) Performance lists, (d) Registration lists (e) Club registration (f) remote output using data transmission from country areas.

Then, it was claimed that squash was a sport that was an early recogniser of the value of computers to sport.

(Sid Myers, VRS President, pictured testing the computer with company reps looking on). [Squash Australia](#)



At the 1983 WSF AGM (then called ISRF) this was recorded:

'HARDBALL. It was noted that the Directors of U.S. SRA voted to recognize and support softball squash as a summer game within the United States, and had recently completed the first national softball championships'. International squash has certainly blossomed Stateside since. [US SQUASHWorld Squash Federation](#)



World Squash Day was born in the aftermath of the 11 September 2001 World Trade Centre attack in New York. Former Scottish squash junior international Derek Sword was one of the many fatalities, and WSD founder Alan Thatcher along with Sword's friend Laurie Maclachlan decided this would be a fitting tribute, while doing something positive for the sport.

A few months later on 11 January 2002 the inaugural event was an eight player challenge tournament at Lambs Club in London, including stars Peter Nicol, John White and Paul Price (logos 2002 – 2004 below).

The occasion also marked the first 15 a side London-New York Challenge match for the Derek Sword Trophy donated by Derek's friends and colleagues at Keefe Bruyette Woods in New York.

With more than 50 events taking place around the world in 20 different countries, it was the start of the annual worldwide Day used to develop and promote squash.

World Squash Day this year takes place on Saturday 10 October. Details at www.worldsquashday.net [World Squash Day](#)



On this day in 2018 PSA & WSF announced SquashFORWARD, an initiative which selected young PSA members from across the world to bring his or her own perspective on the future of their sport. They became the ambassadors of thousands of young players internationally to help capture the aspirations of their generation to help shape squash's future. [World Squash FederationSquash - PSA World Tour](#)



In keeping with the Library archive role, as it is April Fools Day here is an article on postal squash from The English Federation magazine 27 years ago, just before the internet began. (Mea culpa!). Now time for a new version? Web Squash?

My three wall boast got lost in the post

"SURELY he can't have volleyed," I thought as I retrieved the familiar looking postcard that had come to rest, snuggled neatly between the final gas demand and a card from the library insisting that three books had been required back many moons ago. Ignoring the ever-mounting library fine, I turned over Peter's card to find that he had indeed played a sharp volley deep into the forehand court.

Here we were well into the fifth game of our Postal Squash match and he was still taking the ball early. One could only marvel at the stamina of an opponent after eight months' exhausting play. Still, a good response now and my trump card - a same-day couriered card no less - would see me at match ball.

You may not have encountered Postal Squash since there are currently only two players, but stand by for what may become the new sporting phenomenon of the 1990s. Don't be surprised if it sounds the death knell for scores of squash clubs, as participants switch from the frantic energy sapping version they currently play in the sweat boxes of the nation.

What is postal squash? Quite simply, it is a derivation of postal chess in which each player sends his opponent the next shot in a rally which continues until a point is won.

I cannot yet reveal the rules and general details of postal squash, as my patent application has yet to be granted. Obviously I must wait until I can do so without fear that it might be copied before royalties can be agreed. However, I am conceited enough to believe that I might be doing for the development of sport what Mr. Waddington has done for board games. And I'm not overly worried about the reaction from those who say the whole element of exercise has gone. I can simply point to the virtual elimination of any risk of injury, which must surely be to everybody's benefit.

I am prepared to say that in principle a player wins a point if the opponent incorrectly anticipates a shot when cards cross in the post. Or when his return doesn't arrive within a stipulated deadline. Of course, the requirement for quick delivery if points are not to be squandered generally means short matches in England where the Post Office continue to mount strikes or simply lose letters within their sorting system for days and weeks! It is only a personal observation, but mail is definitely more likely to go astray if it has a short distance to travel. Address it to the other side of the country and it will unerringly arrive the next day if it has been sent second class and three days later if posted first class, but don't hold out too much hope if you are corresponding within the same town!

But I digress. Readers will appreciate that postal squash cannot operate effectively without use of a third party who will receive and log all shots. It is he or she who adjudicates on lets and strokes, ensures players do not take more than the one week break allowed between games, and

The start of the now annual WSF World Coaches Conferences can be traced back to 1994 when the first was held at the Dekker Club in Zoetermeer, Netherlands, organised by legendary coach Ken Watson (pic), the Australian at the time being the national coach of Denmark. Sixty coaches attended. [World Squash Federation](#)



Do you have Irish heritage then this article searching for possible representative players may be of interest. However, you may have missed the response date (and requirements changed) as this request appeared 56 years ago in 1966! [Irish Squash](#)

COULD YOU PLAY FOR IRELAND?

The Irish S.R.A. is trying to form a panel of British based players who are eligible to play for Ireland. Ireland has been the weakest of the four home countries for many years and the Association feels that there are many good players who live and play their squash in England who do not realise that they are qualified to play for Ireland. The differences between the county and international qualifications are that whereas the residential qualification for international teams is three years instead of one, an international qualification may be obtained if a player's father was born in the country. Therefore any first-class player whose father had been born in either Eire or Northern Ireland is qualified to play for Ireland and the Irish S.R.A., the Fitzwilliam Lawn Tennis Club, Wilton Place, Dublin 2, would like to hear from him.

Such were the number of seventies UK players that in 1977 a company produced a Squash Player's Diary that ran for several years. In addition to normal diary detail, it featured a grid for match bookings and results and sections on Rules, tactics and refereeing. (Oh, and the obligatory London Underground map too!)





Squash Library

24 February · 🌐

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In 1987 research carried out for a London, England commercial radio station, Capital Radio, come up with the impressive stat that 1 in every 20 men aged 15 to 34 from London played squash at weekends. When all ages were combined the proportion dropped to 1 in 50 – which still placed squash as twice as popular as golf, and on a level with tennis.

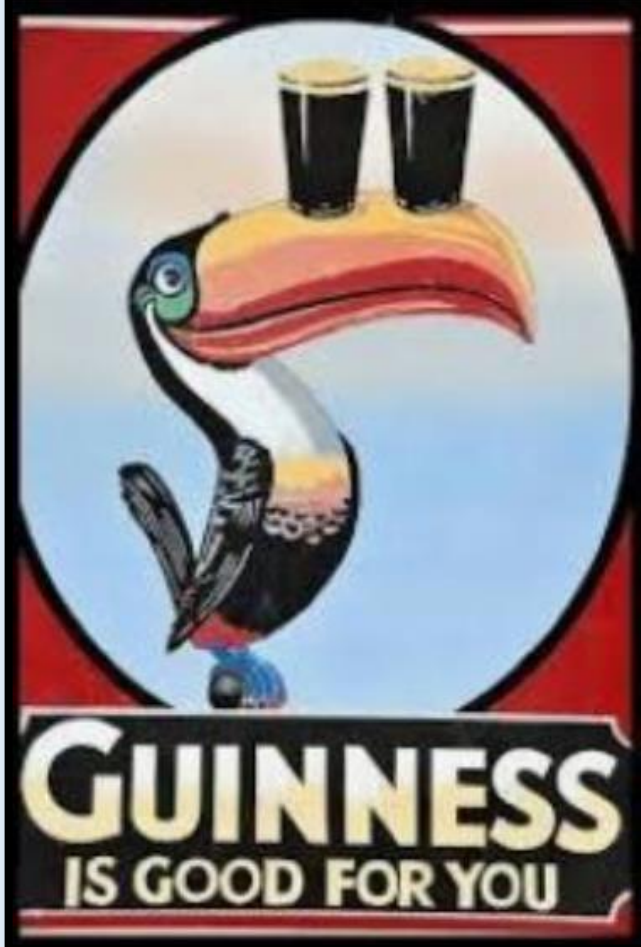


Squash Library

12 February · 🌐

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As far back as the 1920's Guinness advertised their beer as having health benefits. They also must have thought the same about squash as they had a squash court at their London brewery, as did another famous brand, Watneys. After WW2 they and some of the other London firms started the London Breweries Squash League which ran into the 1950s. Supporters no doubt hoped to be invited to the post-match socialising! [Guinness](#)



Squash Library

5 February · 🌐

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Here is a list of worldwide 'Principal Clubs' from 1938. There were a number of GB / US clubs followed by Argentina through to Sweden - nearly 20 other nations in all. A few country names have changed, and 82 years later it is pretty definite that the club manager list is out of date, as are the membership fees! It is in the Library features section: <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features> [World Squash Federation](#)

ADEN			
Khormaksar Club	Aden, British Arabia	2	Rs. 8/- per month; Entrance fee, Rs. 10/-; Court fee, 8 annas; Visitors, Rs. 1/- per day plus Court fee. Also Golf and Polo.
ARGENTINE			
BUENOS AIRES			
The Squash Club	Calle Florida 471	3	
Hurlingham Club	Hurlingham, P.C.F. Tel.: Hurlingham 14	4	\$10/-; Entrance fee, \$100. Facilities for all ball games.
The Juncoy Club	Calle Florida 555. Tel.: 11-5181	1	
AUSTRALIA			
NEW SOUTH WALES			
SYDNEY			
Garden Island Squash Rackets Club	H.M.A. Naval Establishment, Garden Island, Sydney. Tel.: 91-4151	1	Members Club
Royal Sydney Golf Club	Rose Bay, Sydney. Tel.: PU 11118	2	15 yrs.; Entrance fee, 30 gns. 15. Inland (P.)
Longridge Squash Rackets Club	113 George Street, Sydney. Tel.: B 7773	2	Visitors subscriptions from 1 gns.; Court fee 1/6 per person. J. P. Cunningham (P.)
Wall Gorge Officers' Mess	Victoria Barracks, Sydney. Tel.: PL 4151	3	
Sydney Squash Rackets Club	14-16 Bridge Street, Sydney. Tel.: B 1087	1	4 gns.
University Club	10 Phillip Street, Sydney	2	
Commercial Club	Deas Street, Albury. Tel.: Albury 126	1	2 gns.; Entrance fee, 5 gns. Court fee, 1/- per person.
Killara Golf Club	Killara. Tel.: JX 1417	2	



Squash Library

28 January · 🌐

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In 1995 SquashBusters launched in Boston, USA, the first program of its kind to combine the sport of squash with academic support, mentoring, and community service. Ten years later in 2005 The Squash and Education Alliance was formed to provide an umbrella that would unify, share knowledge and support. 'US Urban Squash' is now celebrating its silver jubilee year with twenty national locations in place along with five international affiliates (Canada, Colombia, India, Israel and South Africa). [Squash and Education AllianceUS SQUASH](#)



**SQUASH +
EDUCATION
ALLIANCE**



Squash Library

26 January · 🌐

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An interesting question posed by a writer for a rackets magazine in 1932. William Shakespeare died 406 years ago and seemed to have played squash! (When he played squash badly was it 'A Comedy of Errors', winning definitely 'All's Well That Ends Well'. Or is the whole article really 'Much Ado About Nothing'?)

14 December, 1932

SQUASH RACKETS, FIVES, TENNIS AND RACKETS

151

DID SHAKESPEARE PLAY SQUASH RACKETS AND FIVES?

By W. HODGSON BURNET

YOU will, of course, at once pooh-pooh the idea that Shakespeare ever played either Squash Rackets or Fives. But I am not so sure. In fact from a close study of his works I have at least convinced myself that not only was he a keen player of both games but that he belonged to a recognised club—which had international fixtures. In Henry V. i. 2, he says—
"When we have matched our rackets to these balls we will in France by God's grace play a set."
(The difficulty he mentions of being able to get "rackets to match these balls" is one which luckily no reader of this paper who patronises our advertisers need have to face). That Shakespeare knew something about the design and construction of Squash courts there can be little doubt. Playing a match one day he remarks to his opponent—
"The roof of this court is too high."
(Love's Labour's Lost ii. 1)
and again, speaking of a friend who had just built one with out expert advice, he says—
"He hath a court he little cares for."
(Cymbeline i. 7)
Sometimes (for he was only human) Shakespeare appears to have lost his temper when playing, for we find him exclaiming angrily—
"That's a foul fault!" (Henry V. iii. 2)
but after a hard won match he shows his real love of the game by saying in a sort of ecstasy—
"This Squash—!" (Winter's Tale i. 2).

With regard to Fives there is distinct evidence (always of course cunningly concealed in the text) that Shakespeare had a marked preference for the Rugby game, for when asked to make up a four he says with enthusiasm—
"Rugby! Come to the Court!" (Merry Wives i. 4)
muttering as he goes in evident disparagement of the Eton game—
"No jatty—bustren!" (Macbeth i. 6)
I am sorry to say that in the matter of Fives gloves Shakespeare shows himself a bit of a snob for he refers (quite unaccountably) to—
"Those gloves the Court gave me." (Much Ado About Nothing iii. 4)
I am still sorer to have to record that the Bard was addicted to the practice (referred to in a recent issue of this paper) of inserting pieces of metal in his gloves for apparently just before a match he says in a spirit of pure swank—
"Fill this glove with crowns." (Henry V. iii. 8)
then turning to his opponent adds in a confident and offensive manner—
"I dare you to this match." (Cymbeline i. 2)
I could give any number of further references to prove that the question in the title of this article must be answered in the affirmative. Want of space however forbids—
[So do I. Definitely.—Ed.]



Squash Library

25 January · 🌐

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As the Australian Open tennis moves into its second week current stars Federer has been a squashie and Djokovic pictured on a court, are both in the mix. Looking back, Wimbledon champion Stefan Edberg enjoys his squash, and Bjorn Borg used to play squash at the Monte Carlo Country Club in Monaco where the Swede was based. Here he is in 1978 with rackets and girlfriend Mariana Simionescu. [#borgsquash](#)



Squash Library

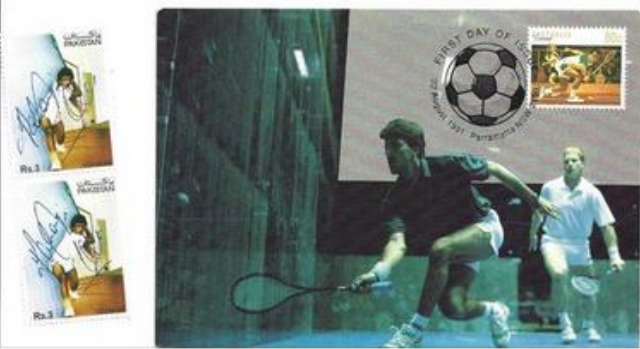
18 January · 🌐

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If you want to know how Racketball/Squash57 have evolved you can find the details in the features section of www.squashlibrary.info at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/.../the-racketball...> World Squash Federation England Squash Racketball



On 12 January 1977 the British Post Office issued what is thought to be the first postage stamp featuring squash. It was part of a series of four racket sports of different value, the others depicting badminton, lawn tennis and table tennis. Since then there have been others, for example a Pakistan one of Jahangir Khan and an Australian one using illustrations (one player looking suspiciously like a 'reversed' Kiwi Ross Norman!). Other examples?

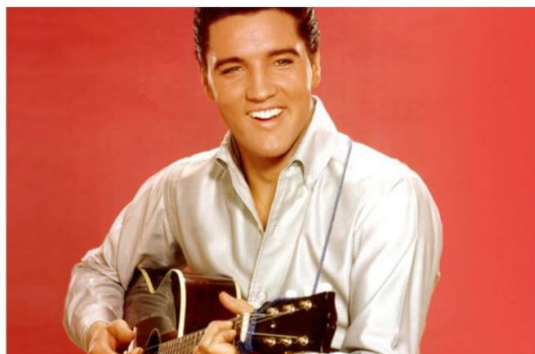


Back in the time of cassettes, a squash coaching tape was produced. Using the catchy title 'Litesome teaches you to play squash with Jonah Barrington' the 40 minute tape of Barrington teaching was accompanied by a chart when released in November 1974.



The sadly early death of Elvis Presley aged 42 on 16 August 1977 followed a game of Racquetball (not racketball, now called Squash57). He liked Racquetball so much he had his own court built at his Graceland mansion.

Elvis was overweight, on a cocktail of drugs and apparently had a diseased enlarged heart, leading to a heart attack verdict. On the day of his death he gave up mid-game saying 'I can't go on' and left the court. An hour later he was found dead in his bathroom. The world had lost the 'King'.



World Squash Library is featured by Squash Player Magazine in their latest edition. Thanks, SPM. [Squash Player Magazine](#)

FEATURE

THE REST IS HISTORY

Mike Dale finds out about the World Squash Library. Andrew Shelley's new labour of love following his departure from the World Squash Federation

In a small room recently vacated by an osteopath at Southgate Squash Club in North London lies a treasure trove of 4,000 items revealing every significant event in the world of squash dating back to 1890.

The room - packed full of books, magazines, photos, tournament programmes, annuals, handbooks and much else besides - is the recently-launched passion of Andrew Shelley, who finally has sufficient time and dedication to invest in it since leaving his post as CEO of the World Squash Federation in June.

Called the World Squash Library, it is undoubtedly the most comprehensive collection of squash information on the planet. It includes almost every book ever written about the game (nearly 200 in total), as well as every single issue of Squash Player magazine since its first hit newstands in 1971 (as well as back issues of many 'live' magazines, which are, alas, now extinct).

"I've started this library to ensure we preserve the history of squash for future generations, as well as helping the current generation - media, fans, players, national federations, students - who need information now," Shelley told Squash Player. "This is a collection which is ever-growing and will never be complete."

The library is not open to the public as such, but visitors are welcome by appointment. You can browse what Shelley believes is the first book ever written specifically about the game - The Game of Squash by Eustace Miles, published in 1900, as well as a compendium Sports & Pastimes, which dates back to 1890. There is also a copy of The Boy's Own Paper from 1884 with an article on squash.

It isn't Shelley's intention to make money from the project, only to, he says, "give back to the sport that has given me so much over these last 40-odd years".

His plan is to fund-raise in order to provide greater services to those seeking historical information. He has catalogued all the materials and intends to digitise key data, so that it is more easily searchable, starting with historical world individual and team events, and British Opens.

He has already begun posting daily fascinating insights from documents and photos from the collection on the World Squash Library website Facebook and Twitter feeds. Further articles and posters will be made available looking back at advertising, court development and other facets of the sport.

"There's so much that can be done to provide colour to the fabric of squash," he explains. "It's not intended as a commercial



proposition; it's to provide a service now and into the future. Over time, my task will get easier and thereafter I can be more activity-driven.

"I'm not being paid to run the library and clearly it can only be very helpful to a small number of people. I'm only one pair of hands, but I'll be doing this until I drop, so hopefully I'll have plenty of time to make it pretty special."

Shelley has been hoarding squash memorabilia ever since his first job in the sport some 42 years ago - and it was this very magazine that helped kick-start his career-long love affair with squash.

In 1976 Shelley was working as a publicity assistant for Rolex, which had sponsored the British Amateur Closed Championships. He bought a copy of Squash Player magazine to check it a Rolex advertisement it had supplied had been published. Inside, he spotted a job advertisement for a tournament and affiliation secretary at the Squash Racquets Association (now England Squash). He applied, got the job, stayed at the organisation for 18 years and never left the squash industry for the rest of his working life.

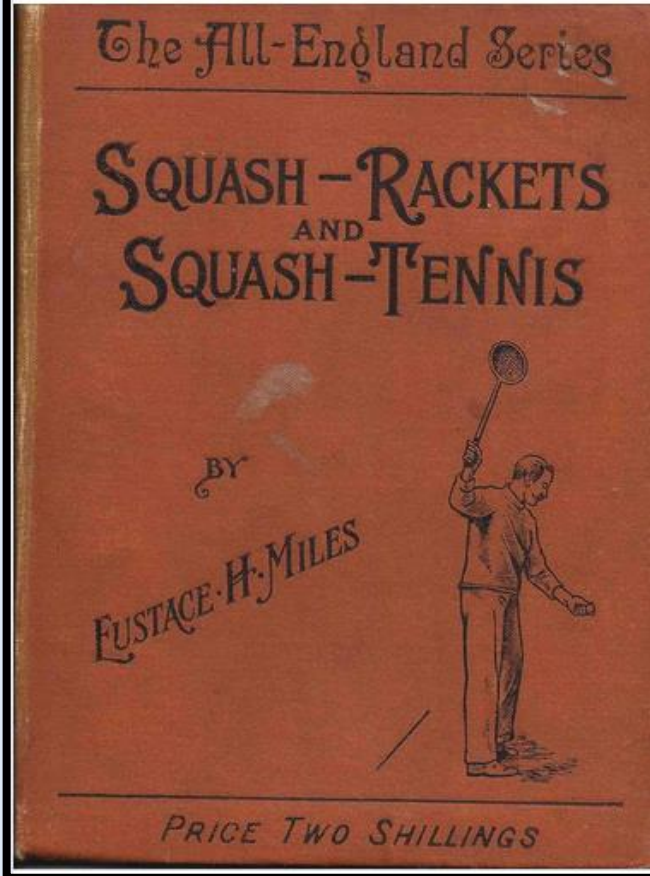
After the SRA, he spent 15 years at WSPA (later the WSA, before it joined forces with the PSA) and is credited with growing the women's professional tour by 300 per cent. He joined the World Squash Federation in 2010 and spent nine years as its chief executive.

He reflected: "Having seen out the last Olympic bid - together with the PSA, we mounted a terrific bid - it was clear we were miles away from the current intentions of the IOC (International Olympic Committee), so I thought it was time for somebody fresh to come in."

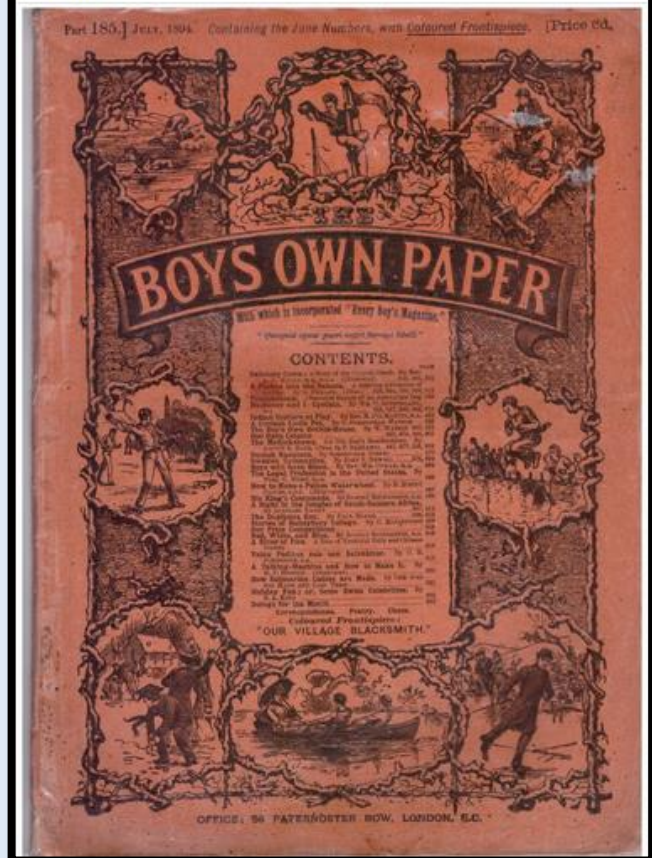
"I'm now throwing myself into growing the library, but in financial terms I'm now unemployed, at least until the male modelling assignments start rolling in! I'm sure it's only a matter of time!"



Eustace Miles, the Amateur Champion of America of Rackets and also Squash-Tennis (as he called it), and Amateur Champion of the World of the time, wrote *The Game of Squash*, first published in 1900. He said 'Squash has no literature of its own: I believe that this is the first book on the game. In fact, till 1899 I had never seen an article on squash, or even a report of a match'. (Miles clearly had not seen the magazine article on squash in *Boy's Own Paper* of 1894 – see yesterday's posting!). [US SQUASH](#)



The very first known article about squash appeared in the *Boy's Own Paper* in England in 1894. If you want to read it you can find it in the Library features section at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features>





Squash Library

22 November 2019 · 🌐

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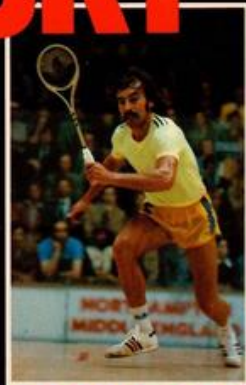
World famous novelist Agatha Christie who created the fictional detective characters of Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple, bought Winterbrook House in 1934, with her second husband Max Mallowan. Not only did she live and do most of her writing there for more than 40 years, but she also had a squash court built for herself and her husband.

Could it be that she was the real author of Murder on a Squash Court using the pen-name Jonah Barrington?

For the full Library book list, (including this one by Agatha!) go to <https://www.squashlibrary.info/library>

MURDER IN THE SQUASH COURT

The Only
Way
to Win



JONAH BARRINGTON