

**LIBRARY DAILY POSTING INDEX:
UNCATEGORISED (general)**

Updated to 30 June 2026

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	1 st squash book by a woman
2021	June	22	Harrow School
2021	June	23	1 st 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	1 st 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 1st 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 60th 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 1st 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 1st 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 *Ask The Library* 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)
 2025 July 05 US Coaching handbook 1962
 2025 July 19 Ayton & Millman, Berlin Wall
 2025 Aug 06 Handicapping discussion (1936)
 2025 Aug 23 20th anniv, Becerra+Stillman Acad
 2025 Aug 27 WSF Coach Education Prog 2015
 2025 Sept 08 Vacant title guidelines 1928
 2025 Sept 11 Boast & Nick word origins
 2025 Sept 26 Ned Bigelow, US Open initiator
 2025 Oct 09 Bath Club racket presentation
 2025 Oct 12 Racquets or Rackets question 1929
 2025 Oct 18 Racketball recognition
 2025 Nov 19 George Bernard Shaw house court

2025 Nov 25 Harrow School
 2025 Nov 28 Squash Library, WSF Official Archivist
 2025 Dec 11 **'Greatest' results**
 2025 Dec 12 Wheelchair squash, Canada & Wales
 2025 Dec 13 SRA 21st birthday 1949
 2025 Dec 24 Logoed bags, European Team 1975
 2025 Dec 30 Amr Bey advice
 2026 Jan 05 Women's clothing ad 1936
 2026 Jan 17 Tony Swift resigns 1976
 2026 Feb 23 Oldest team match 1908?
 2026 May 04 Barrington / Corby consultancy 1971
 2026 May 15 Charles Roupell 4 tips (1934)
 2026 June 05 Ovaltine tablets 1950s
 2026 June 27 Anti-doping education 2016

2026



In 1934 C F (Charles) RouPELL wrote an instruction book called Squash Rackets. He also wrote about these four things that he thought needed to be focused on and learnt.

FOUR THINGS TO LEARN IN SQUASH

BY CHARLES ROUPELL

1.—LEARN TO HIT THE BALL EQUALLY CONFIDENTLY ON BOTH FOREHAND AND BACKHAND. This can only be achieved by conscientiously taking nearly every ball backhand in the left court and forehand in the right court. To do this one must keep near to the centre line of the court while awaiting the ball.

2.—LEARN TO HIT THE BALL LOW TO THE FRONT WALL. Practice getting sufficiently near to the ball to be able to "smother" the bounce. If left foot for forehand, and right foot for backhand, is placed close to pitch of ball greater control is acquired. Lifting of ball nearly always occurs from swinging out at a ball that is too far from the player.

3.—LEARN TO HIT SOFTLY IN ANY DIRECTION EVERY BALL THAT IT IS EASY TO HIT HARD. Speed can be decreased by shortening the backswing, swinging slower, and by lessening the follow through. With some shots particularly the volley, the racket can be left outstretched for the ball to bounce off. The use of "cut" also reduces speed.

4.—LEARN THE ART OF SERVING. A good server always looks to see where his opponent is standing. If he stands near the half court line serve to the back wall corner. If he stands guarding the corner use the side wall and make the ball jump into the receiver. Pace and direction should be altered every service.

55 years ago in 1971 Jonah Barrington and Mike Corby became squash consultants. Corby went on to found a group of health and fitness clubs in London including Lams - which hosted many events until its closure in 2007; while Barrington spearheaded the growth of squash by force of personality as well as on-court success. [Jonah Barrington](#) See less



BARRINGTON AND CORBY SQUASH CONSULTANTS

Britain's two leading players over the last decade have now joined forces, to form a unique blend of talent and experience. If you need advice on any problems regarding the development and running of squash courts.

Write to:
73 St. Georges Square, London, S.W.1
or contact us at any of the tournaments

<https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration> covers the early London clubs and their matches, including Bath Club v Queens in 1908, possibly the first inter-club match. Here, are the details of it published by Lawn Tennis magazine in 1908.

LAWN TENNIS, March 5, 1908.

GENTLEMEN'S SINGLES.
J. W. W. v. B. ...
J. W. W. v. B. ...
J. W. W. v. B. ...

LADIES' SINGLES.
The ...
The ...
The ...

Finals.
The ...
The ...
The ...

GENTLEMEN'S DOUBLES.
The ...
The ...
The ...

LADIES' DOUBLES.
The ...
The ...
The ...

Squash Raquets.
The Bath Club v Queens Club.

The Bath Club v Queens Club. The match was played on the 15th inst. at the Bath Club. The Bath Club were victorious by 3-1. The match was a very close one, and the Bath Club were very well supported. The Queens Club were also very well supported, and the match was a very interesting one. The Bath Club were very well supported, and the Queens Club were also very well supported. The match was a very interesting one.

Kindly supplied by Alan Chalmers

This month marks 50 years since Tony Swift resigned as English National coach in 1976. In 1967 he worked as John Horry's assistant at the SRA, then as National Coach wrote a five year national development plan in 1972. Moving to Canada in 1978 (pic from then) where he is still based. Swift coached in Toronto and became a leading referee and coach, writing books on both facets of the sport. [England SquashSquash Canada](#)



Here is a women's squash fashion item from 1936, featuring Harrods. The 'white clothing' regulation was not dropped until nearly fifty years later, interestingly!



2025


Squash Library
30 December 2025 at 07:54 · 🌐

At a time when many people think of new year resolutions, squash legend F D Amr Bey has some advice from his 1934 book 'The Art of Squash rackets'. He commented:

'Unless played absolutely fairly, squash rackets is not worth playing.

There are some games in which the bad sportsman can 'get away with it,' but not so in squash.

He who will not play it in the true spirit of sportsmanship soon becomes a marked man and is thereafter very properly shunned by his fellows.'



Squash Library
12 December at 08:01 · 🌐

In both Canada and Wales, wheelchair squash has been actively played in recent years, the activity spearheaded by Lolly Gillen and Richard Plenty respectively, with landmark events this year in each nation. The first Welsh Wheelchair Open took place at Rhiwbina Squash Club in Cardiff, and the first Canadian Wheelchair Doubles Squash Championships which had 8 physically challenged competitors from across Canada was held at the Toronto Cricket Skating and Curling Club.

Groups from Wales (top) and Canada pictured. [Squash Canada](#) [Squash Wales](#) - [Sboncen Cymru](#)



2025 CANADIAN WHEELCHAIR DOUBLES SQUASH INVITATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Squash Library
24 December 2025 at 07:58 · 🌐

Fifty years ago for the 3rd Men's European Team Championship in Dublin in 1975, logoed squash bags were produced. This was before the women's event was added in 1978 and number of competing nations and the players would have made it a very large order indeed! [European Squash Federation](#)



Squash Library
11 December at 08:40 · 🌐

With thanks to all who responded, the 'greatest' results are here: <https://www.squashlibrary.info/general-resources> on the Library website, featuring all these named players. [World Squash Federation](#) [PSA Squash Tour](#)



WORLD SQUASH LIBRARY

GREATEST

THE RESULTS

Featuring: Asal, Ashour, Awad, Barrington, David, Devoy, ElSherbini, Elshorbagy, Farag, Fitz-Gerald, Gaultier, Hashim, Hunt, Jahangir, Jansher, Lilley, Maqsood, Martin, Mckay, Norman, O'Connor, Palmer, Rodriguez, Yasin

Squash Library
13 December at 07:53 · 🌐

On this day 76 years ago (13 Dec 1949), the British SRA celebrated its coming of age with a 21st birthday exhibition match between Don Butcher and Charles Read - who contested the first British Open final in 1930 after Read was designated champion. Butcher had won the title 19 years later. The 'Three musketeers' from the 1920's, Oak Johnson, Charles Read and Charles Arnold (from left) were pictured at the dinner.

(More details on pages 54-7 of <https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration>). [England Squash](#)



Squash Library
28 November at 07:56 · 🌐

The WSF AGM took place last weekend and the meeting appointed World Squash Library as their Official Archivist.

The main three thrusts of the free service the Library provides are to preserve the rich history of squash for future generations via storing books, photos, films, documents, handbooks etc; to provide resources; and answer questions. The official acknowledgement of WSF is greatly appreciated' commented Library founder Andrew Shelley. 'As well as individuals, I hope that this link will encourage national federations not to throw away their histories but to contact me at info@squashlibrary.info to discuss them adding them instead!'

The Library and SquashInfo are also pleased to be research and data partners for WSF, PSA, ASF, ESF and FPS. [World Squash Federation](https://www.squashlibrary.info) [PSA](https://www.psa.org) [Squash Tour](https://www.asf.org) [European Squash Federation](https://www.esf.org) [Federacion Panamericana de Squash](https://www.fps.org)




Official Archivist

WORLD SQUASH FEDERATION

Research & data partners for:



Squash Library
19 November at 07:44 · 🌐

George Bernard Shaw died 75 years ago. The Irish playwright wrote more than sixty plays, including Pygmalion, and after his death in 1950 this book was published: Bernard Shaw's Rhyming Picture Guide to Ayot Saint Lawrence.

The village of Ayot Saint Lawrence north of London was where he lived – in a house called Shaw Corner, and featured in his rhyming guide was this photo of a squash court in the grounds, along with his lines. The court is not there anymore, but when it was taken out of use is not certain.



Save where our folk, to play squash rackets
Within this court take off their jackets.

Squash Library
18 October at 07:18 · 🌐

40 years ago in 1985 the UK Sports Council accepted that, with nearly 10,000 players in the UK, racketball (now re-named Squash57) should become an officially recognised sport; a month later the inaugural racketball championships were held — the North of England at Leicester Squash & Badminton Club and the South of England at Sutton & Cheam Squash Club — and then on December 1 the winners from these two tournaments clashed at the Metropolitan Club in South London to find the sport's first national champions.

Essex-based Denis Secher, became the first men's national champion and Greer Batty from the West Midlands clinched the women's championship.

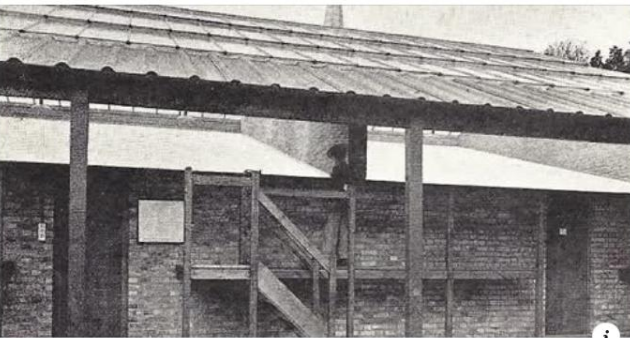
[England Squash](https://www.squashlibrary.info)



**THE BRITISH
RACKETBALL**

Squash Library
26 November at 07:35 · 🌐

160 years ago the first squash courts in the world were opened at Harrow School in North West London, England in January 1865. Details are a resource on the Library website at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/post/harrow-school-where-squash-was-born>, and on pages 26 and 27 of <https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration>. [England Squash](https://www.squashlibrary.info)



SQUASHLIBRARY.INFO

Harrow School - Where Squash Was Born

Squash Library
13 October at 07:58 · 🌐

In the heavyweight (literally!) book titled British Sports And Sportsmen, dated around 1929, the editor speculated on whether the sport should be titled rackets or racquets. It had been noted that squash pro Charles Arnold had titled his 1926 book 'The Game of Squash Racquets'. It is only in the last few decades that the sport has generally dropped either after the word squash. Here are the notes:

to their own advantage. It may not pass unnoticed that H.R.H. spells the name of the game "racquets," not as other authorities, such as the late Mr. Noel, set the fashion. Mr. Arnold also spelt it as does the Prince, but it is ventured to suggest that the latter, if he gave the matter a thought at all, spelt the word as he found it spelt by Arnold, so in this work we shall continue to spell it "rackets," as has been the fashion in the original "Badminton Library" and in most if not all subsequent works on the subject. If it was known that the Prince of Wales was of the opinion that Mr. Arnold's way was the most classical and therefore the most academically correct, we should, as loyal subjects, have instructed the printer to make the necessary alteration in the text already in print.

Squash Library
9 October at 08:04 · 🌐

The Bath Club in London was one of the earliest and most influential squash clubs, when built in 1904 (details and photo in <https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration>). Shortly after it opened Charles Arnold became the resident pro there. It changed ownership and location and became Bath & Racquets Club, where yesterday Stuart Hardy (left), England Squash Masters Chair and squash collector, presented Director Simi Panesar (centre) and Hiddy Jahan (right) an autographed Arnold model racket and Arnold's book titled a Handbook of Squash Rackets, published in 1926. Former top star Jahan, who has coached there for 34 years, and Panesar were left to discuss where to display Hardy's gift to them.



Squash Library
26 September at 06:44 · 🌐

Ned Bigelow (pic) died 55 years ago in 1970. He was a mover and shaker in the squash community, and the man who initiated the US Open at the University Club in New York in 1954, beginning on New Years Day. It was won by American Henri Salaun, who beat Hashim Khan in the final. The Pakistani star did adapt quickly to the North American game and subsequently won the title three times (1956,57,63). Meanwhile, Salaun won the US National title four times in total, but not another US Open. [US SQUASH](#)



Squash Library
11 September at 07:55 · 🌐

Sports do seem to have terms they use that are exclusive to them, and sometimes with their origin somewhat shrouded in mystery. While for squash some terms can be easily explained e.g. the tin, which was originally made of tin, two examples that are not obvious are boast and nick. Possibilities for them:

BOAST

Perhaps English from past centuries provides a clue as *boast* was linked to *rebound* or *deflect*. Couple that with another meaning of a *bold* / *tricky move*, so a shot that reaches the front wall via the side wall could have been linked to them.

NICK

Again, the past English meaning of a *notch* or *groove* may be the origin. Could it be that the ball going into a *niche*, pronunciation evolving into *nich* and *nick* be the route to our usage? (Certainly, as reported by Peter Eedy, an Australian newspaper 1949 discussing Mahmoud Karim said 'He plays deliberately for the sidewall niches near the front a great deal'.

Squash Library
8 September at 07:34 · 🌐

When the S.R.A in England was formed in 1928 it set out rules for vacant titles when events were played as challenges rather than knockout. The Men's British Open was played as a best of three matches until 1947 (<https://www.squashlibrary.info/.../men-s-british-open-the...>).

SUGGESTIONS TO GOVERN COMPETITION FOR A VACANT TITLE OR TO ELIMINATE MORE THAN ONE APPROVED CHALLENGER

The following are not intended to be Rules.

They are to be subject to the widest discretionary power of the S.R.A., who may also accept or refuse entries or seed the draw.

The purse for each match shall be divided two-thirds to the winner and one-third to the loser. (See paragraph 9.)

- (a) The knock-out principle is suggested.
- (b) Every match shall be played in a neutral standard court in the British Isles with standard balls and rackets.
- (c) The S.R.A. shall decide the court and make of ball for each match. They will consider the wishes of the players in these matters.
- (d) At least three days' rest between matches is suggested.
- (e) One practice game in the court to be used shall be allowed to each competitor before each match.

Nos. 12, 17, 18, 19 and 20 of the Conditions Governing the Professional Squash Rackets Championship of the British Isles shall also govern this competition.

Squash Library
27 August at 06:50

Ten years ago in 2015 the WSF Coach Education Programme was launched. It was the start of a worldwide unified and standardised coaching structure for Squash, launched with the opening of WSF Level 1 coach candidate registration. Tutor training across the continents began, and WSF Levels 2 and 3 came on stream later.
(Information at <https://www.worldsquashsport.com/coach-education/>)
World Squash Federation

WORLD SQUASH

COACH EDUCATION PROGRAMME

WSF

Squash Library
6 August at 07:50

In 1936 a letter to a UK's racket sports magazine suggested that handicapping could be done with the better player having to play left-handed. (Interestingly, it seems that in past times it was assumed that all players would be right-handed!). Bisques, which were also mentioned were adopted later for a UK club / company team competition ("The Austin Reed"), running up to the 1980s.

VIEWS ON SQUASH HANDICAPPING.

To the Editor Squash Rackets & Fives. (Enclosure)

Dear Sir,
Owing to the fact that squash is an easy game to play, it is possible to introduce left-handed play as a handicap. This has many possibilities, especially when 2 players are of a very different standard.
For friendly games, a good plan is for the stronger player to play left-handed when leading or equal, and right handed when losing. This results in very close matches.
Yours sincerely,
D. I. BURNETT.

To the Editor Squash Rackets & Fives.

Dear Sir,
I am enclosing a suggestion from one of our Members who used to play a lot of Squash. I have played this system with him and find it excellent and far above any other form of handicapping I have yet found at Squash.
Yours sincerely,
NORMAN DICKS.
Thames House, S.R.C.

Dear Captain Dicks,
Year after year, we hear players complaining of the drawbacks in the existing handicap method and those of us who have taught many beginners know where the system is faulty. It is mainly due to "Hand-Out" being forced to win two strokes successively before he can secure a point and this favours the stronger player to an enormous degree.
The plan I have adopted with all my beginner friends is, for want of a better name—the "Bisque" system. For example, a player given four "Bisques" has a right to become "Hand-In" or to continue as "Hand-In" at any stage of the game, and he can exercise this option on four occasions, and naturally the number of "Bisques" given vary according to the prowess of each player.
Yours sincerely,
CHARLES DEPINNA.

Squash Library
19 July at 06:30

In 1971 top English players Philip Ayton (left) and Paul Millman hit balls against the Berlin Wall to promote squash while they were in Germany (as featured on page 139 of <https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration>). Here they are showing the photos of that day 54 years ago when they were together yesterday.

Squash Library
23 August at 07:59

Becerra Stillman Squash Academy celebrates its 20th anniversary this year. It started in 2005 when Colombian Sergio Becerra was in USA with his brother Luis and met Ken Stillman, then president of the United States Squash Federation.
He returned to Colombia with their vision to create to create a pan-Latin American squash base to serve players from grass roots to elite. As he explained, 'this dream was born with the intention of connecting our players with universities in the United States and with the goal of exporting our players abroad.'
The academy is based in the Colombian city of Bucaramanga, spearheaded by three brothers, Diego Becerra and Luis Becerra, WSF Level 3 Coaches, as well as Sergio Becerra, President of the Pan American Squash Federation, and father Enrique Becerra, founder of the Colombian Squash Federation (pic, with Stillman, right).
Players there have included Lucia Bautista, Colombia number 1 and Pan-American doubles champion, Jose Santamaria, bronze medal in World Juniors 2024, and other top juniors in the region.
Becerra Stillman Squash Academy

Squash Library
5 July at 07:50

In 1962 Captain Asbury Conrad of the US Navy supervised the publication of a coaching booklet for squash (hardball). As can be seen from the foreword, squash began as a varsity sport at the U.S. Naval Academy in 1949. **US SQUASH**

THE SERVER

FOREWORD

Squash Racquets began as a Varsity sport at the U. S. Naval Academy in 1949. In 1953 and 1954 the Midshipmen tied for the National title. In 1957 and 1959 they were the National College Champions. Coach Art Potlitz's (Commander, USN, Ret) Navy teams have won 107 and lost 26. Two Midshipmen have achieved the National Intercollegiate All American Ranking. Among them Lieutenant Art Potter, Jr., USN, Class of '53, a six-letter athlete. Coach Potlitz holds graduate degrees in Psychology and Education. He is 1962 Family Squash Champ and 1962 Title Holder in Administration.

Squash drills are limited to the Plebe curriculum. One orientation lesson featuring the U. S. Naval Academy sound movie of former national champions is given during plebe summer. Two lessons are given during plebe summer. The sports program includes battalion teams during plebe summer, battalion teams in the Fall season, and company teams in the spring season.

Since very few plebes know anything about squash, they start out on equal terms within their own ranks. Only one Navy varsity squash letterman in the past twelve years ever played before coming to the Academy. Plebe candidates are urged to join the out-of-season squad in September and October. Most varsity players are drop outs from basketball and football squads. The emphasis of the Navy game is on defense and top physical condition.

When wooden racket heads were small and with head covers, the covers were also used upon occasion with event detail added as a promotion. Here is an example from the British Club Championship ('The Banbury') from 1987/9 season. [Dunlop Squash](#)



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 CanadaScottish 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., Belsize 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)

Arthur Winnington Ingram (1858 - 1946) was Bishop of London from 1901 to 1933, 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 Bas van Nboom 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
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 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
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 Ear van Hoorn 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
27 January at 07:51

In the 1920s, Britain's Prince of Wales, the future King Edward VIII, travelled the world with his squash racket. When HMS Renown was refitted as his royal yacht he arranged for a squash court to be added on to the deck. It is visible here in the foreground when the ship was anchored in Neutral Bay in Sydney, Australia. More details / photos on page 50 of <https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration>.

Squash Library
11 February at 08:21

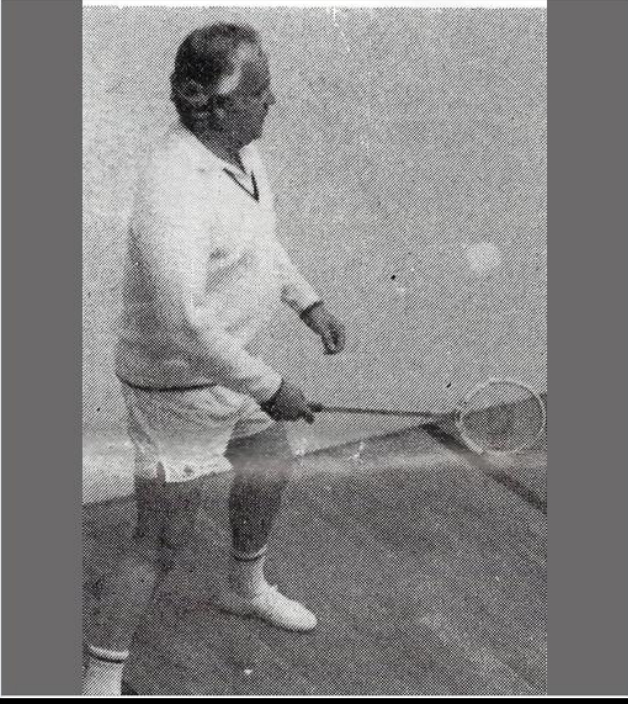
Forty years ago in 1985, squash was added to the Australian Institute of Sport activities - the same year in which squash featured for the first time in the Australia Games. The unit was able to call on the services of two great champions, Heather McKay and Geoff Hunt (pics) to pass on their knowledge 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](#)

Squash Library
14 January at 07:59

In January 1933 the first public use courts were built in London. Over ninety years ago Gilbert Jacob initiated the recently closed Ealing Squash Club in West London, featuring two courts, with two more soon added. The opening featured both men's and women's exhibition matches. Interestingly, the main women's match was between Susan Noel (right), the current British Open champion and Eliza Wolfe (left), who was captaining the Women's team about to travel to USA (to play for their Wolfe Noel Cup. (History of the Challenge here <https://www.squashlibrary.info/post/wolfe-noel-challenge-cup> and in <https://www.squashlibrary.info/squash-a-celebration>). The match, which Noel won 2 - 1, saw both players using the heavier American racket and heavier ball, to prepare for the trip.

Squash Library
11 January at 07:50

It is not often that you find yourself up against royalty in a team match, but that happened in 1971 when teams from Gibraltar and Italy went to play a triangular match in Monaco. The home team included HRH Prince Rainier (pictured). He played against the Italian team from NATO, losing to Jon Searle 9-3 9-7 9-7. [European Squash Federation](#)



Squash Library
27 October at 08:19

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 Library
27 October 2019

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.



2024

Squash Library
17 December at 07:56


Asked how they prepared 70 years ago in 1954, these two British Amateur champions said this: Alan Fairbairn (left), when asked how he had trained to defend his championship title stated that he gave up smoking and drinking spirits on 1st November (weeks before the event). He did no running and relied on his squash matches, which averaged nearly three a week to keep him fit. He did not go especially early to bed.

Roy Wilson (right), said that the year before he trained up to the hilt and was convinced that this was worth quite four points and game to his opponent! Accordingly he did no special training the next year, and no running. He cut out drinking spirits but drank beer and especially Guinness. He did not smoke cigarettes and cut out cigars but allowed himself an occasional pipe. His one "must" was early to bed - 10-12 hours of sleep every night. [England Squash](#)



Squash Library
10 October at 07:59

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 Library
4 October · 🌐

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.

Squash Library
24 August at 08:25 · 🌐

Older national squash federations 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](#)

Squash Library
17 July at 08:43 · 🌐

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

INDUSTRY INDEX

1. Fibreglass Shot
2. Clay Racquet Glass Walls
3. Double Racquet
4. Racquet Racquet
5. Acet Racquet
6. Drive of Cambridge Racquet
7. Adlon Shot
8. Racquet Shot
9. Racquet Shot
10. Racquet Shot
11. Racquet Shot
12. Racquet Shot
13. USA
14. Racquet Shot
15. Racquet Shot
16. Racquet Shot
17. Racquet Shot
18. Racquet Shot

The UK Facts and Figures NOW

Total players: 1,300,000 (85% adult male, 25% adult female, 10% junior)
 Total courts: 5,000 (40% member clubs, 20% educational institutions, 10% commercial, 10% local authority, 5% unaffiliated)
 Rate of growth: 2% per annum. Rate of league growth: 20% per annum.

Squash Library
26 June at 05:44 · 🌐

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 Raquets 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.

Squash Library
25 June at 08:15 · 🌐

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.

Squash Library
13 Jun at 08:43

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 McWil's David Carr, who gave them to the Library, along with some publications he was happy to donate. Thanks, David.

6èmes 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

Squash Library
24 May at 07:22

This month 45 years ago the SRA (then the English men's national federation) produced its first newsletter. It gave a snapshot of the time, including the amateur status debate. See it at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/general-resources> on the Library website. [England Squash](#)

THE SQUASH RACKETS ASSOCIATION
70 BROMPTON ROAD, LONDON SW3 1DX
01-584 2506 & 01-584 0094
NEWSLETTER No 1 **MAY 1979**

Squash Library
27 May at 08:07

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.

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 THIRSTY(!) 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 THIRSTY(!)
SQUASH THAT THIRST
SQUASH TURNS HIM ON
SQUASH TURNS ME ON
SQUASH IS H — Hard work
E — Enthusiasm
L — Lowdown
L — Luck!

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

26 "The S.A. Squash Scene" Number 1-82 Jan-Feb 1982

Squash Library
6 May at 08:09

30 years ago this month, in May 1994, the 1st World Squash Coaching Conference took place in Zootmeer, Netherlands, organised by Australian Ken Watson. Sixty delegates from countries as widely spread as New Zealand, USA, Brazil, Japan and Malaysia participated, with speakers including Jeffrey Woolstein, Dianne Davis & Watson (AUS), Thomas Troedsson (SWE), Paul Wright (ENG), Dr Mike Hughes (WAL) and Chris Hadden (SUI), led sessions both on-court and in the lecture room. From initially scheduled biennially, in the last decade it moved towards annual scheduling in rotation around the continents. [World Squash Federation \(WSF\) Accredited Coaching Group](#) [World Squash Federation](#)

1st WORLD SQUASH COACHING CONFERENCE

Squash Library
20 April at 08:30

In January 1963 Australia and South Africa came to UK to play tests against GB, but before them they not only played warm-up ties against regions, SRA and Scotland, but also visited the Dunlop factory, as can be seen here. [Squash South Africa](#) [Squash Australia](#) [Scottish Squash](#) [England Squash](#)

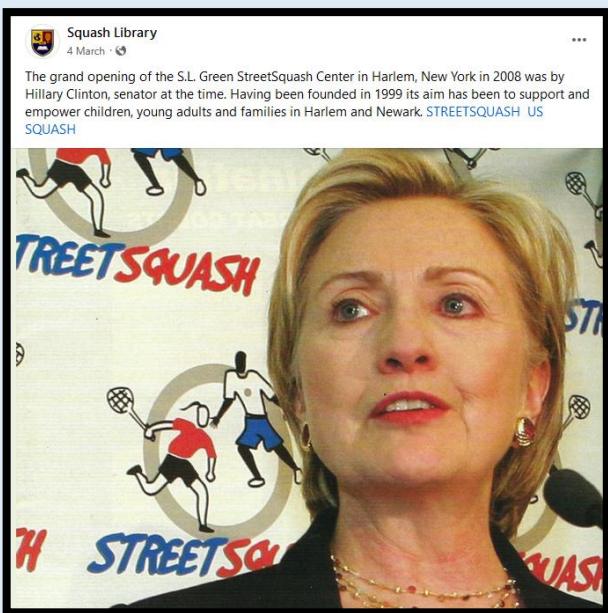
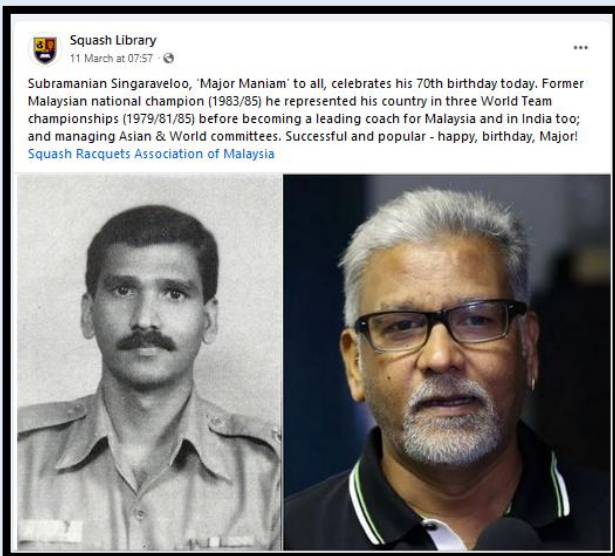
Below: The Australians and South Africans visit Waltham Abbey, L. to R. M. H. Thornhill (Dunlops), Owen Parmenter, Brian Sherriffs, David Barrow, Eric Broderson, Jeff Maiseis, John Cheadle, Dennis Godfrey (Dunlops), Dave Duchan, Leo Melvill, Breton Priestley (Dunlops).

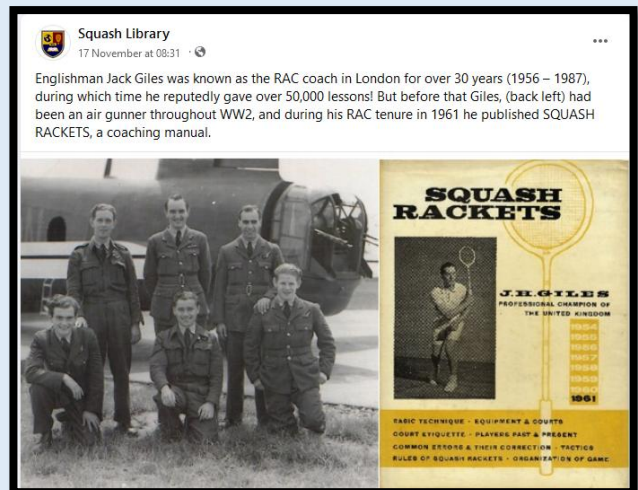
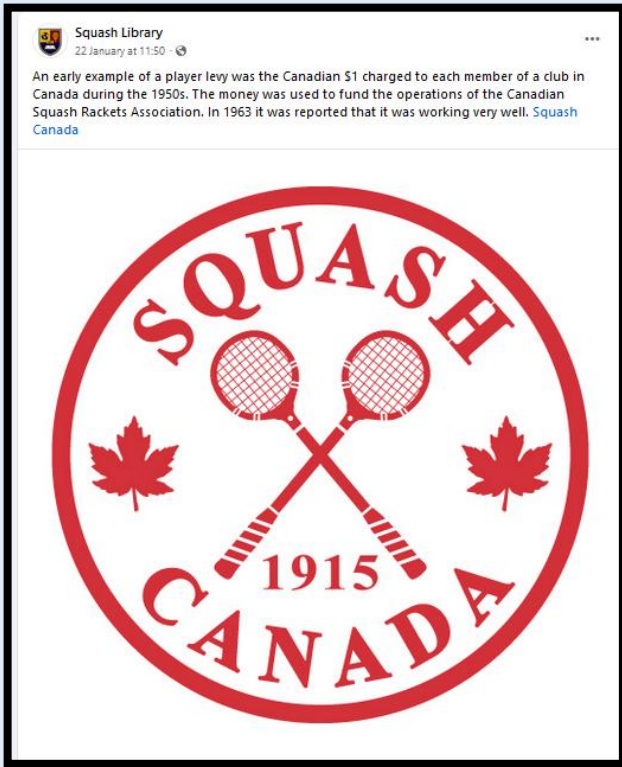
Squash Library
27 May at 12:23

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.






2023

Squash Library
10 November at 08:18 · 🌐

Australian Tennis champion Frank Sedgeman (winner of five major titles, 1949 – 52) said this, 'Tennis and squash do not mix, even for speeding up, because the footwork is different. If you are stretching for a squash ball wide on the forehand, you automatically put out your right foot before leaning on it. In tennis this footwork is completely reversed'. So now you know!



Squash Library
4 November · 🌐

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](#)



Squash Library
9 November at 08:00 · 🌐

Squash began at Harrow School in 1865 (<http://www.squashlibrary.info/.../harrow-school-where...>), a forerunner being rackets. Here's a rackets picture of from the 'racquet ground' in Fleet Prison by Augustus Pugin and Thomas Rowlandson, published in 1808, kindly passed to the [Squash Library](#) by Peter Eedy.



Squash Library
28 October at 08:39 · 🌐

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.



Squash Library
13 October at 08:04

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/.



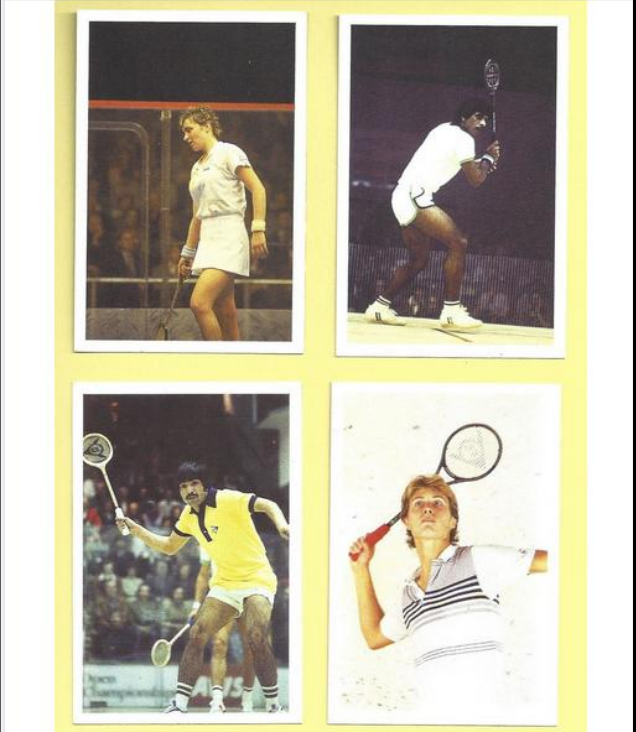
WORLD SQUASH DAY OCTOBER 14 2023

Squash Library
19 September at 08:23

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%).


Squash Library
12 September at 07:52

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.



Squash Library
11 September at 07:09

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 CanadaUS SQUASHSquash 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/hall contact. So you also get greater control. By making the racquet cross section wider in the throat, we make 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 racket that plays like a mousier.

Slazenger

Squash Library
24 August at 08:15

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.

Squash Library
28 July at 08:23

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!

Squash Library
27 June at 08:20

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.

Squash Library
19 June at 08:21

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.

Squash Library
15 June at 08:30

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

Squash Library
13 June at 08:04

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](https://nicoldavidorganisation.org/)

Squash Library
3 June at 05:51

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 £0,65,6d (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.

JACKSON, PIXLEY & CO., Chartered Accountants, *Auditors.*

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

R. M. & Co., Ltd.

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, with lines in red. 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 placing 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 (see illustration) complete with six 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: 318 High Holborn, W.C.1 - 78 Chesapeake, E.C.2 - 212 Putney Bridge Road, S.W.13
BIRMINGHAM - 21a Bennetts Hill LIVERPOOL - 20 Lord Street SOUTHSEA - 94 Palmerston Road
MANCHESTER - 22 Masley 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 "Open throat" "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
2 June at 05:49

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](#)


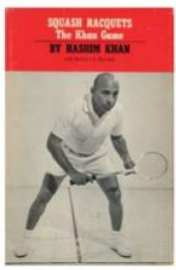


Photo. Per-Olow. John Horry, Secretary of the International S.R.F. (right), discusses the growth of squash in Sweden with Lennart Iepson, President of the Swedish S.R.A. outside Jan Landvik's new club in Stockholm.

Squash Library
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 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

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 Approach 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: Weters 3131 (3 Lines)

Squash Library
27 December 2022 at 08:33



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](#)



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
19 November at 08:14

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%).

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
9 November at 08:48

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.
Hire costs range from £25.30 to as little as £10.68 a day. (These prices include VAT and insurance, but fully documented call charges will be added.)
Against the 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 **PERSEPHONE** **WERE THE WORLD COMES**). 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

PERSPEX ICI WORLD SQUASH 1987

Squash Library
11 October at 08:44

Ned Bigelow, a great 'shaker' of squash in USA, having been responsible for the beginning of the US Open in 1954, travelled to Russia in 1958 to try to get the sport started there. But although he met the 'Master of Sport' the initiative failed. (Detail of squash beginnings of nearly 80 nations is at www.squashlibrary.info, then POSTS). US SQUASH U.S. Open Squash



Squash Library
14 October at 08:44

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 Lams 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](http://WorldSquashDay)

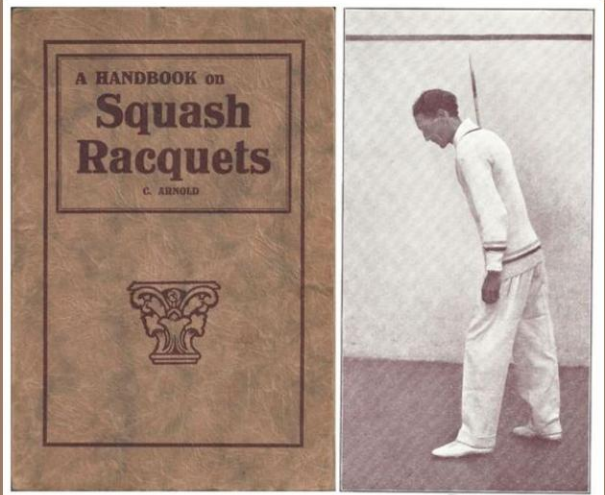


WORLD SQUASH DAY 2022
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15
FUN / FRIENDS / FAMILY

Photo courtesy Steve Line

Squash Library
4 October at 09:09

Charles Arnold, the professional at the Bath Club in London, wrote his Handbook on Squash Rackets in 1926. Here, at www.squashlibrary.info/features, is an extract showing how the forehand stroke was explained and illustrated 95 years ago.




Squash Library
24 September at 11:45 · 🌐

The retirement of Roger Federer prompts the memory that in 2013 the tennis star backed squash to be added to the Olympic Games programme in 2020.

"I think it's a wonderful sport. It's unfortunate some sports don't get the opportunity to be in the Olympics," said Federer. "I think squash would deserve it. They run a great tour and they have great players and characters. I'd personally be very happy for them."

Meeting up with then women's squash world No1 Nicol David at the ABN AMRO World Tennis Tournament in Rotterdam, Federer expressed his support to David and revealed he played the sport growing up.

"I used to play it a lot when I was younger every Sunday with my dad," Federer said. "I started with a wooden racket like I did in tennis. I've always been a big fan of the sport." [World Squash Federation Squash - PSA World Tour Nicol David](#)



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 SFAThe European Squash Federation Federacion Panamericana de Squash](#)

INTERNATIONAL SQUASH RACKETS FEDERATION – MEMBER NATIONS

Region	Country	Courts	Clubs
EUROPE	ANDORRA	11	2
	AUSTRIA	184	14
	BELGIUM	402	120
	CYPRUS	17	9
	DENMARK	38	15
	ENGLAND	9000	3000
	FINLAND	250	80
	FRANCE	550	250
	FED. REP. GERMANY	3000	800
	GREECE	9	5
	IRELAND	78	215
	ISRAEL	30	10
	ITALY	40	40
	LUXEMBOURG	11	4
	MONACO	6	2
	NETHERLANDS	562	160
NORWAY	159	38	
PORTUGAL	58	10	
SCOTLAND	650	840	
SPAIN	300	80	
SWEDEN	429	74	
SWITZERLAND	252	79	
WALES	235	150	
* Also affiliated: Malta			
ASIA	BANGLADESH		
	BRUNEI	180	29
	HONG KONG	120	
	INDIA	90	20
	INDONESIA	90	
	JAPAN	60	
	MALAYSIA	650	118
	MUSCAT & OMAN	45	28
	PAKISTAN	213	3
	PHILIPPINES	25	
SINGAPORE	500	71	
SRI LANKA			
THAILAND	6		
AFRICA	KENYA	80	
	NIGERIA	350	420
	SOUTHERN AFRICA	1900	
	ZAMBIA	31	
ZIMBABWE	116	42	
CARIBBEAN	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	
OCEANIA	ST. LUCIA		
	ANTIGUA		
	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC		
S. AMERICA	ARGENTINA	500	100
	BRAZIL	150	95
N. AMERICA	CANADA	1800	375
	MEXICO	150	
	U.S.A.	3500	243
	CHILE		
	PERU		
M. EAST	BAHRAIN	60	
	EGYPT	130	29
M. EAST	JORDAN	60	29
	KUWAIT	130	29
	LIBANON	11	
	PALESTINE	80	
	QATAR	80	
	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	8	
	IRAQ	20	
	SAUDI ARABIA	8	
	SUDAN	15	3
	TWO of the most talented players of the modern era, British former Open and former World Champion, played in the 1980s.		



Squash Library
20 September at 08:19 · 🌐

In 1999 the uncertainty about the staging of the British Open was swept away via an 8 year deal with Eye Group, a sports rights acquisition and production company. The deal lasted for that year in Aberdeen as well as the next two years before it collapsed with legal action being taken by England Squash against Eye and their sister company Fablon in 2002. But not before Eye / Fablon agreed other 8 year agreements with PSA and WISPA to inject many millions over 8 years into the Men's & Women's Tours, together with a WSF accord too. All three organisations were involved in the Melbourne Festival 2001 which was to feature the Men's & Women's World Opens, Men's Team Championships and World Masters events. The non-payment of the underwriting commitment led to PSA cancelling the Men's World Open, while funding had been secured in advance to provide a Women's prize pot so that it went ahead, as did the other elements. The Australian organisers incurred substantial losses however.

A short but sorry story after such high hopes.



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”.

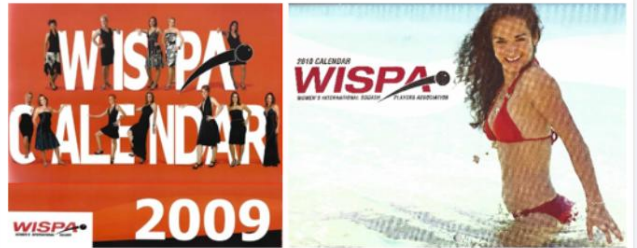
“Man who does not volley just play squash to run around and keep fit”.

“Watch ball, walls don't move”.

.....and many more.

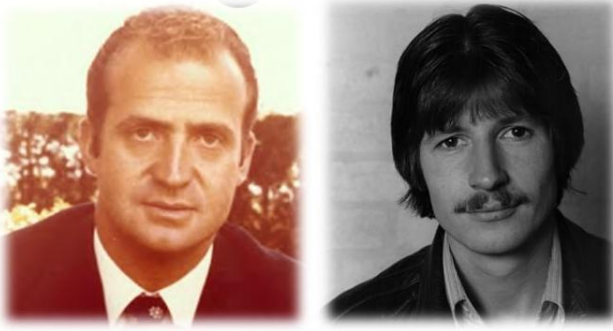
Squash Library
5 August at 08:39 · 🌐

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
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
13 June at 08:20 · 🌐

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. [Arsenal Chelsea Football Club](#)



Old Arsenal & Chelsea badges.

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 showing 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 wall 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
9 June at 15:11 · 🌐

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'.

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 Library
3 June at 08:35 · 🌐

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 Squash Championships played across USA. Why he did so was not explained! [US SQUASH](#)




Photo by Kerry Krause. Torrington Register Citizen

Squash Library
22 April at 08:43 · 🌐

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



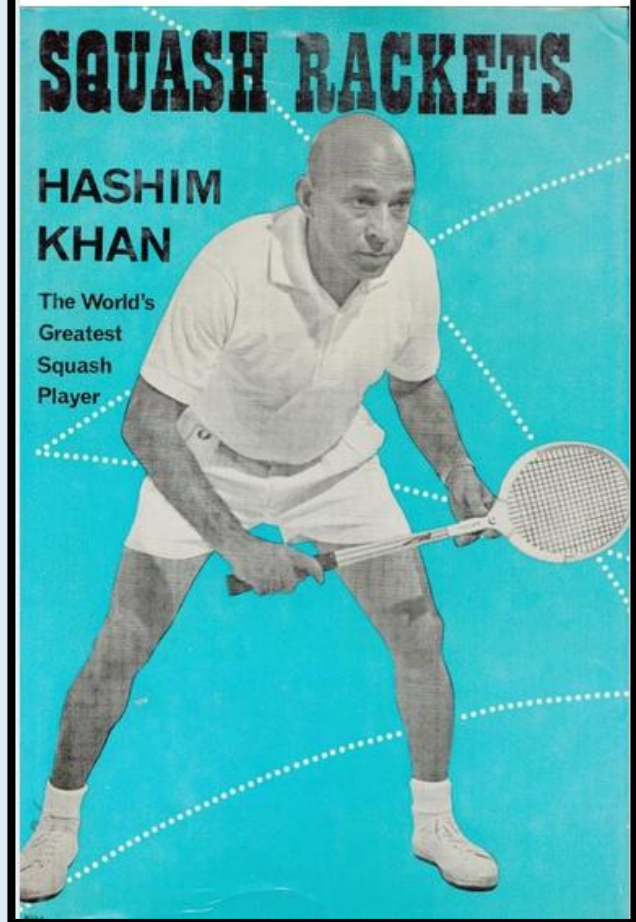
Squash Library
14 April at 08:27 · 🌐

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 Originals Squash Australia](#)



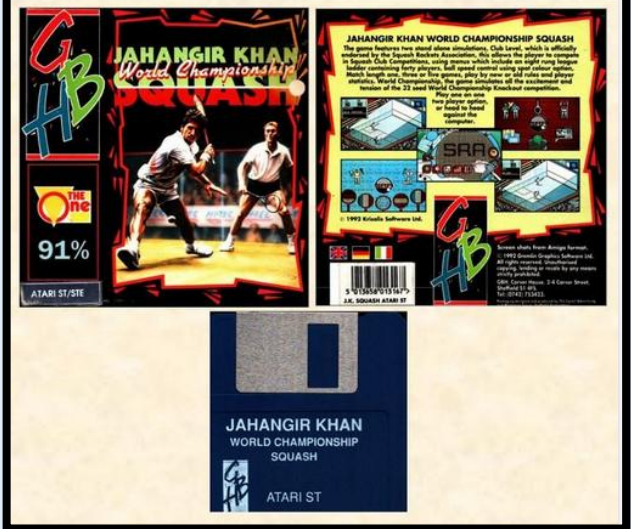
Squash Library
5 April at 08:45 · 🌐

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
18 April at 08:42 · 🌐

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
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 Artists Birmingham 2022

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
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
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.



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.

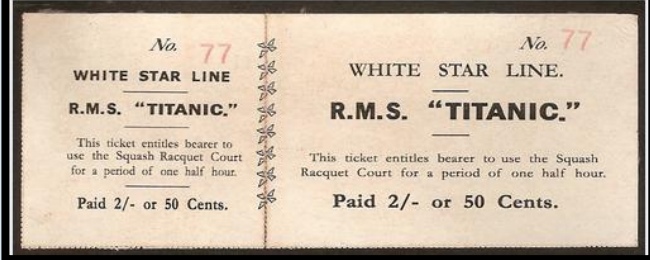
		Expenditure
	31.18. 6	By Expenses of Management
	14.14. 0	Petties Postages and Telegrams
		" Tournament Expenses:
		Victorian Championship -
		Hire of Court
		Scoring
		Printing and Stationery
		Tickets etc.
14. 0. 0		
22. 2. 0	36. 2. 0	
		Doorkeeper
		Exhibition Matches
		Replica of Trophy
8.10. 0		
29. 9. 0	37.19. 0	Australian Championship -
		Hire of Court
		Scoring
		Doorkeeper
		Printing and Stationery
10 -		
	5. 0. 0	



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
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
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 \(BJSM\)](#)



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 +
EDUCATION
ALLIANCE**

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](#)

SA (1) BL		SA (2) BL		SA (3) BL		SA (4) BC		SA (5) BC	
0		1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
1		2	1	1	2	2	1	1	2
2		3	2	2	3	3	2	2	3
3		4	3	3	4	4	3	3	4
4		5	4	4	5	5	4	4	5
5	1	6	5	5	6	6	5	5	6
6	2	7	6	6	7	7	6	6	7
7	3	8	7	7	8	8	7	7	8
8	4	9	8	8	9	9	8	8	9
9	5	10	9	9	10	10	9	9	10
10	6	11	10	10	11	11	10	10	11
11	7								
12	8								
13	9								
14	10								
15	11								
16									
17									
18									
19									
20									
21									
22									
23									
24									
25									
26									
27									
28									
29									
30									
31									
32									
33									
34									
35									
36									
37									
38									
39									
40									
41									
42									
43									
44									
45									
46									
47									
48									
49									
50									
51									
52									
53									
54									
55									
56									
57									
58									
59									
60									
61									
62									
63									
64									
65									
66									
67									
68									
69									
70									
71									
72									
73									
74									
75									
76									
77									
78									
79									
80									
81									
82									
83									
84									
85									
86									
87									
88									
89									
90									
91									
92									
93									
94									
95									
96									
97									
98									
99									
100									

Handwritten notes on the scorecard:
 - Game 1: Leo Au vs Shawn Delierre (11-6, 22min)
 - Game 2: Shawn Delierre vs Leo Au (4-11, 19min)
 - Game 3: Leo Au vs Shawn Delierre (11-6, 30min)
 - Game 4: Shawn Delierre vs Leo Au (7-11, 78min)
 - Total match time: 170 min

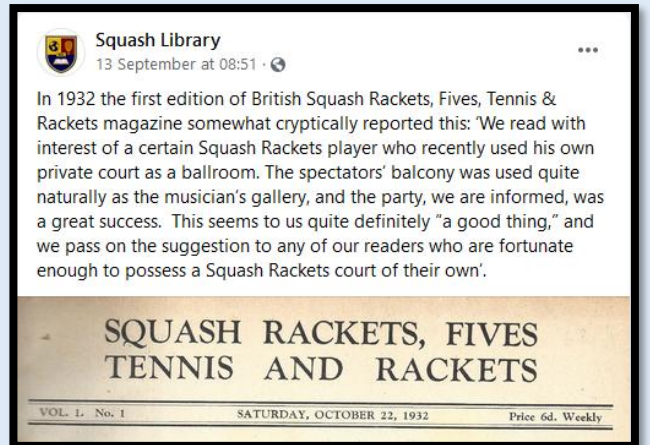
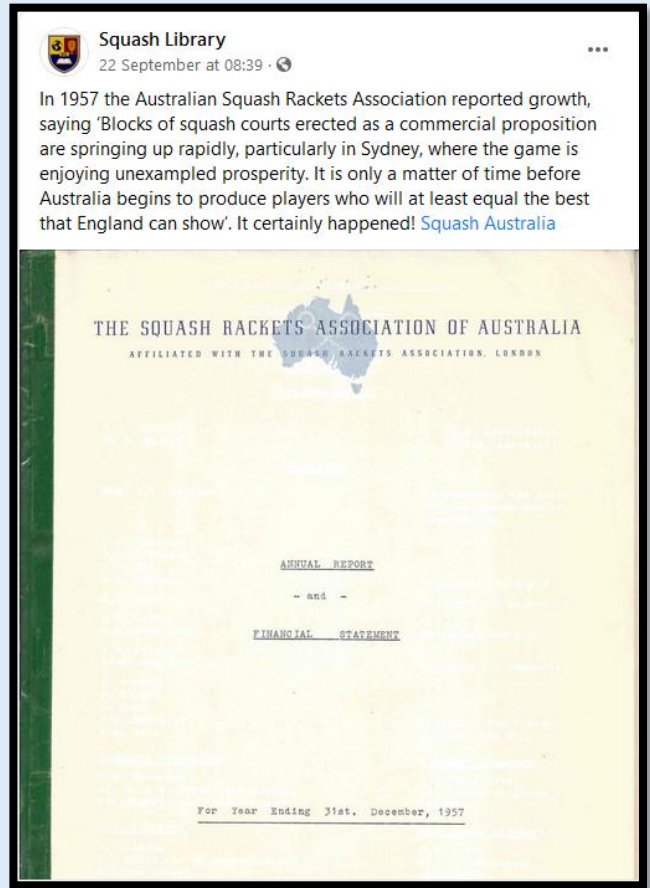
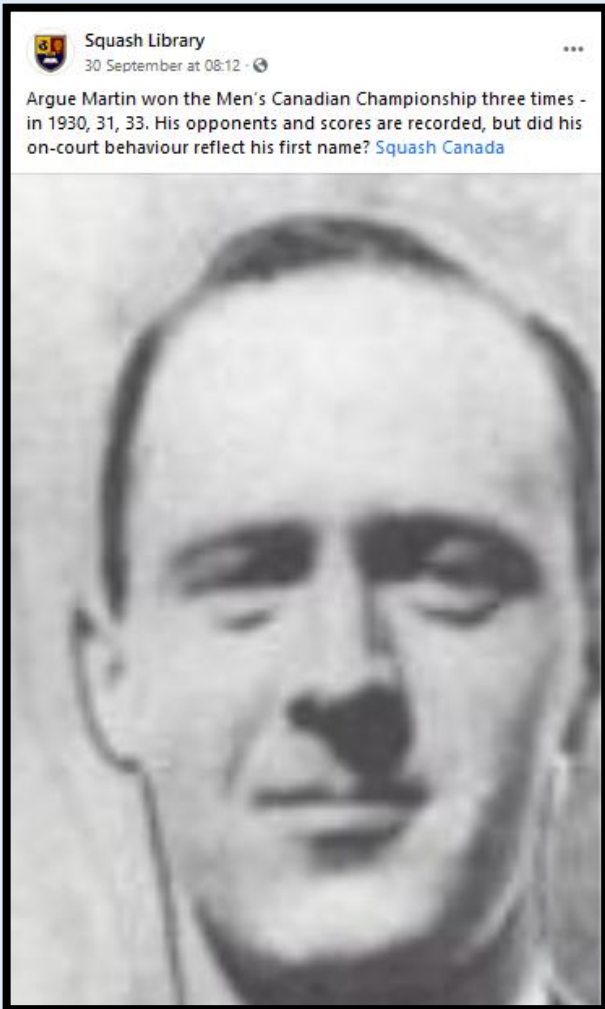
Today marks the 20th World Squash Day, it having been started in memory of Scottish squash junior international Derek Sword, one of the many fatalities of the Sept 11 2001 attack on New York's World Trade Centre. Alongside the worldwide celebrations and promotions this year is another great auction of 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 DayWorld Squash Day AuctionSquash - PSA World Tour Squash - PSA FoundationWorld Squash Federation](#)

WORLD SQUASH DAY

SAT OCT 9, 2021
20TH ANNIVERSARY

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

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

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

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

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)



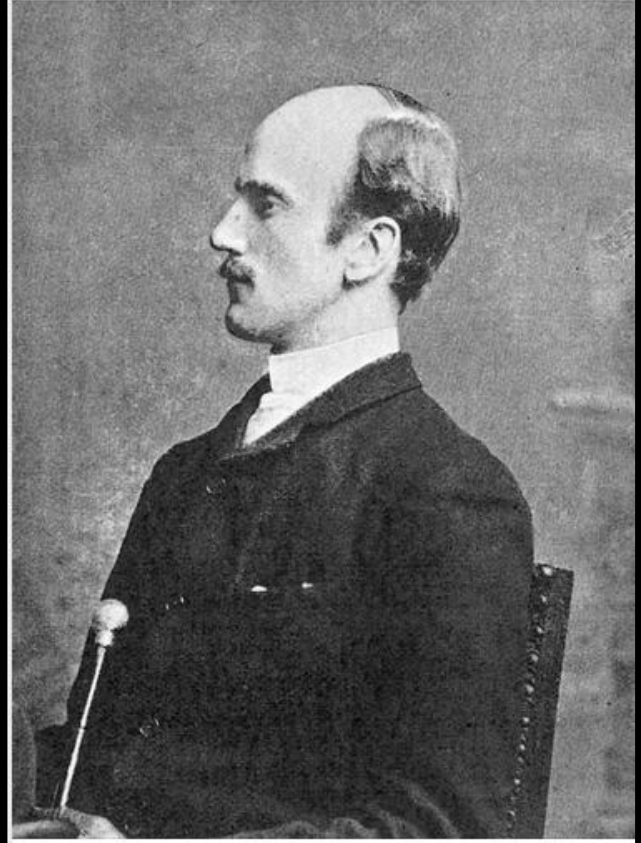
Squash Library

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
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.

WHITE STAR LINE

New York—Plymouth—Cherbourg—Southampton.
Fast mail route to England and the Continent.

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.

FRENCH A LA CARTE RESTAURANT, TURKISH AND ELECTRIC 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
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
23 June at 08:13 · 🌐



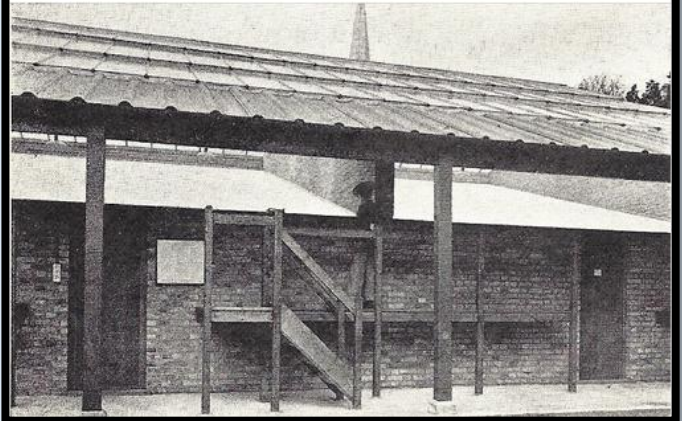
After the first squash-specific courts arrived at Harrow School near London in 1865 (see <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features> for details), a past-pupil constructed what is thought to be the first court in a house. Augustus George Vernon Harcourt (pic), a scientist, did this at his Oxford home in 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 1880 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 · 🌐



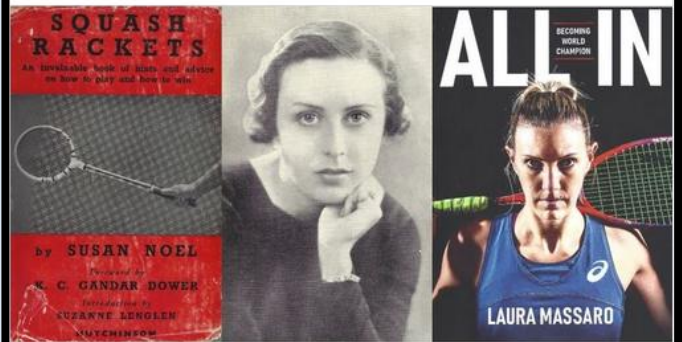
The story of how squash evolved from being played on 'baby' rackets courts at Harrow School in North West London in 1865 into the courts we know is detailed in a new Library feature. See it at <https://www.squashlibrary.info/features>



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
for the Fabulous
KHANS
That is why they wear
FRED PERRY
Shirts and Shorts exclusively

You, too, can obtain them from any leading sportswear stockist

FRED PERRY SPORTSWEAR LTD., 13-14 GOLDEN SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.
PAGE TWENTY-FOUR Telephone: GERard 4600/4655

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 SquashEngland Squash](#)

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
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
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

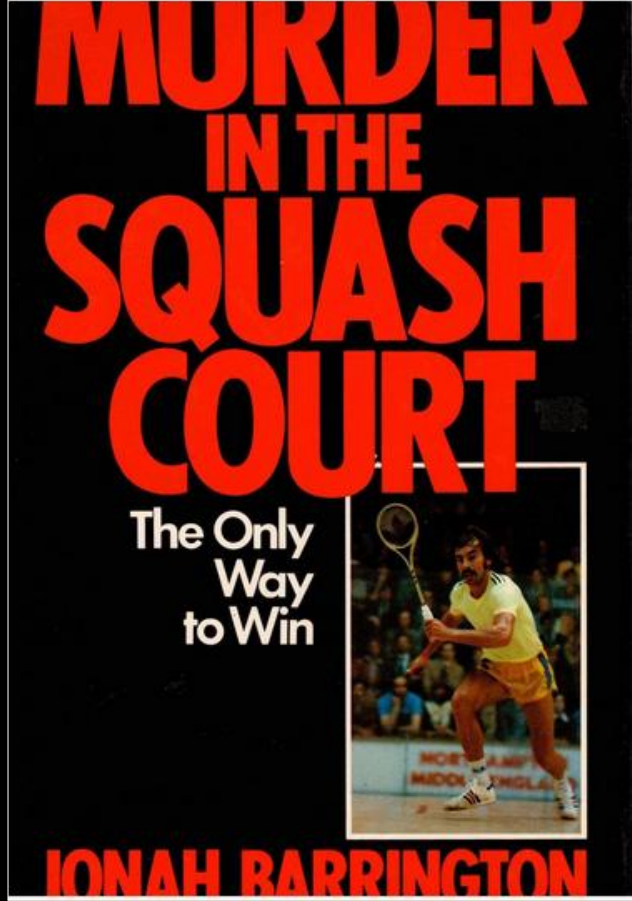
Squash Library
15 May at 08:37 · 🌐

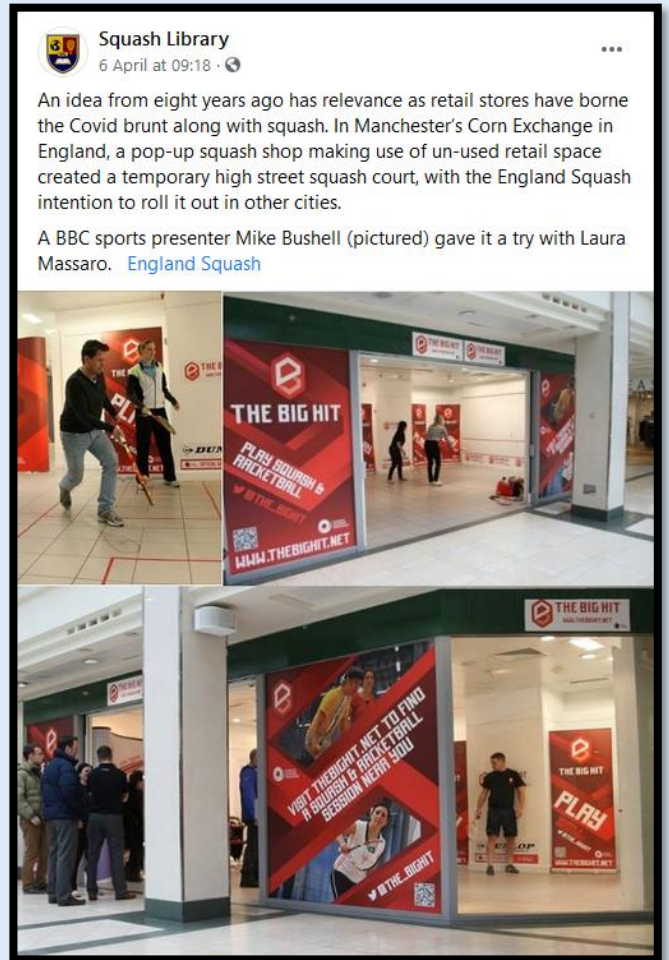
SportAccord is the key meeting place for all involved in international sport, and when squash's delegates attended in 2012 in Quebec, Canada, they arrived with two inflatable mini-courts. World champion Nick Matthew and Pakistan's leading female player Maria Toor Pakay attended to demonstrate this way to encourage children to try squash at schools or in public places. They tried out the courts in the Demo Zone using rackets and also BigHand, the 'glove' beginner rackets, as seen in the photo. [SportAccordWorld Squash Federation](#)



Squash Library
25 April at 08:44 · 🌐

Sunday prompt. The list of books in the Library is at www.squashlibrary.info/library.
World famous murder 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 40 years, but she also had a squash court built for herself and her husband.
The superb 'Murder in the Squash Court' is in the Library, but could she have been the real author using the pseudonym Jonah Barrington?
There are still gaps in the collection being preserved for future generations, so information on them welcomed, please.





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.

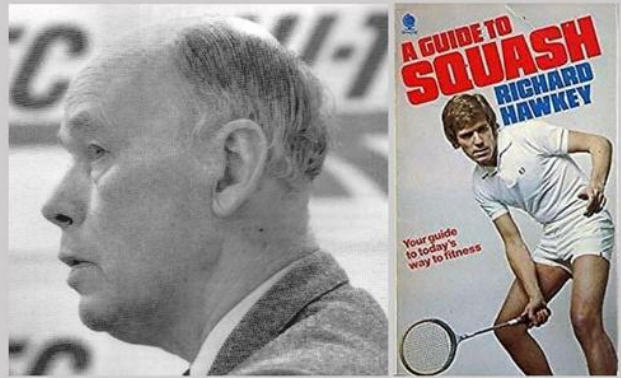
Most players could arrive when the event was well under way, with all the players knowing they would leave after the first round. Matches get progressively easier too. News of when the PSA Tour roll out this format is awaited.

[Squash - PSA World Tour](#)



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
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
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	14/- 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 Mathiga Country Club	P.O. Box 181, Nairobi, Kenya Colony. Tel: 5801	2	Town Members, 240/-; Country, 120/-; Entrance fee, 200/-
NAKURU Rift Valley Sports Club	P.O. Box 1, Nakuru, Kenya Colony. Tel: 18	1	
EGYPT (SUDAN, see page 219)			
ALEXANDRIA Alexandria Sporting Club	Drahihieh, Ramleh. Tel: Alexandria 28626	4	£85, plus (£81 games fee; Entrance fee, £10)
New Sports Club	Smouha City, Alexandria. Tel: Ramleh 3948	4	£85; temporary membership, 100 piastres monthly
CAIRO Geiza Sporting Club	Geiza. Tel: Geiza 44419	8	£86 (£88 married); Entrance fee, £10; Court fee, 1 piastre per person (bookable, 2 piastres). Two professional Entrances fee, £15 married, £10 single.
Masdi Sporting Club	Masdi, near Cairo. Tel: Masdi 91	2	
PORT SAID Port Said International Sporting Club	Rue Mokattam. Tel: Port Said 2191 (Secretary's, 2044)	2	Annual subscription, 120 piastres; Squash subscription, 100 piastres; Entrance fee, 250 piastres; Visitors, 1/- per day



Squash Library

3 March at 08:59 · 🌐



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 (holder 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



Squash Library

1 March at 09:03 · 🌐

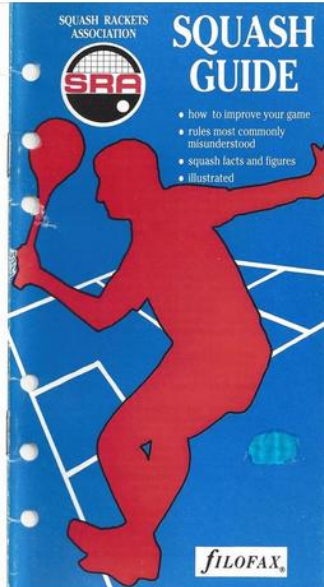


In 1990 the large squash playing business community prompted the English Squash Association to produce a 32 page Filofax Squash Guide, featuring tips, rule details, facts, championship results, useful addresses (and a membership form too!).



If you're a squash player and you want to improve your game and your position in the leagues at your local club, or if you want to resolve those interminable discussions on court and at the bar as to whether a let should have been played or the point conceded, this Filofax insert has all the answers.

Topics covered include warming up exercises, practice routines for forehand and backhand drives, boasting, volleying, dropshots, lobbing and tactical play, rules commonly misunderstood, match play and squash championship facts and figures.



ISBN 1 85194 087 1
5 015142 292898
Filofax code 292891

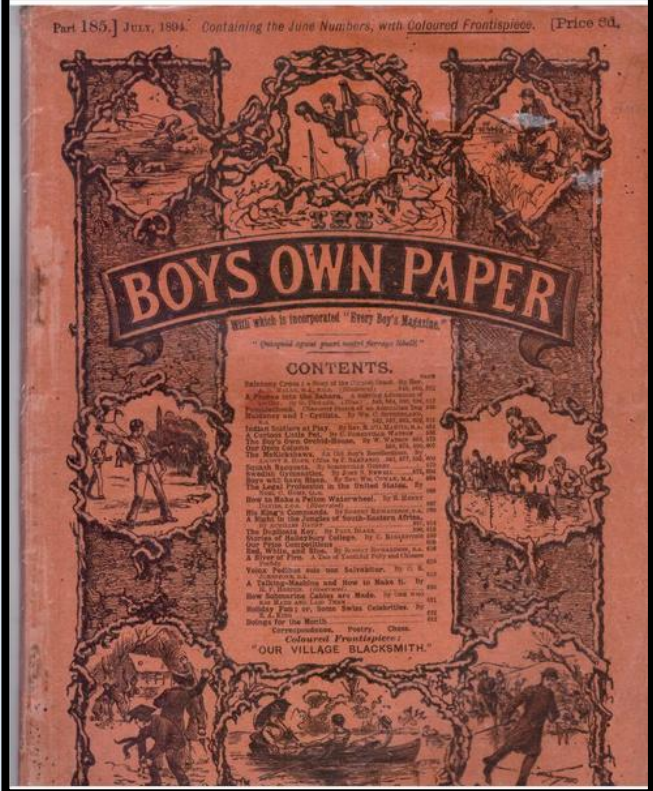


Squash Library

21 February at 08:34 · 🌐



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>



Squash Library

6 February at 09:15 · 🌐




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 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 1976)

WORLD SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS Host Directory

Year	Host	Year	Host
1982	Australia	1987	Bermuda
1983	Malaysia	1988	Brazil
1984	Malta	1989	Canada
1985	Malta	1990	Egypt
1986	Malta	1991	Finland
1987	Malta	1992	France
1988	Malta	1993	Malta
1989	Malta	1994	Malta
1990	Malta	1995	Malta
1991	Malta	1996	Malta
1992	Malta	1997	Malta
1993	Malta	1998	Malta
1994	Malta	1999	Malta
1995	Malta	2000	Malta
1996	Malta	2001	Malta
1997	Malta	2002	Malta
1998	Malta	2003	Malta
1999	Malta	2004	Malta
2000	Malta	2005	Malta
2001	Malta	2006	Malta
2002	Malta	2007	Malta
2003	Malta	2008	Malta
2004	Malta	2009	Malta
2005	Malta	2010	Malta
2006	Malta	2011	Malta
2007	Malta	2012	Malta
2008	Malta	2013	Malta
2009	Malta	2014	Malta
2010	Malta	2015	Malta
2011	Malta	2016	Malta
2012	Malta	2017	Malta
2013	Malta	2018	Malta
2014	Malta	2019	Malta
2015	Malta	2020	Malta
2016	Malta	2021	Malta
2017	Malta	2022	Malta

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

Squash Library
6 January at 12:23 · 🌐

As part of the Squash Library mission to find and secure important squash documents for future generations, I am looking for these World Federation (ISRF/WSF) Handbooks: 1981, 1982, 1986, & 1991-1998. Can you help? Please DM or Email me: info@squashlibrary.info. Thanks, Andrew



WORLD SQUASH LIBRARY

Squash information, then and now, freely available.

2020

Squash Library
31 December 2020 at 08:04 · 🌐

World Squash Library and website www.SquashInfo.com are joining forces in an exciting move to consolidate the history and records of the sport, the, with effect from tomorrow. Each will continue to operate separately, but sharing data and archived information closely together. Full details at: <https://www.squashlibrary.info/news>




THE SQUASH RESULTS & ARCHIVE HUBS

Squash Library
24 December 2020 at 09:21 · 🌐

The RAC Club in London had three coaches who held the post for no less than 107 years between them! It has now just appointed Patrick Foster as their new Head of Squash – so expect him to be in place for a while! (The Irish international is moving from a similar role for Bermuda Squash). Previously Oke Johnson had been at the RAC for 45 years; while Jack Giles (who reputedly gave over 50,000 lessons) and Greg Pearman who retired earlier this year, were in post for a mere 31 years each too!

Top (L) Johnson, and Giles. Bottom (L) Pearman, and Foster.





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

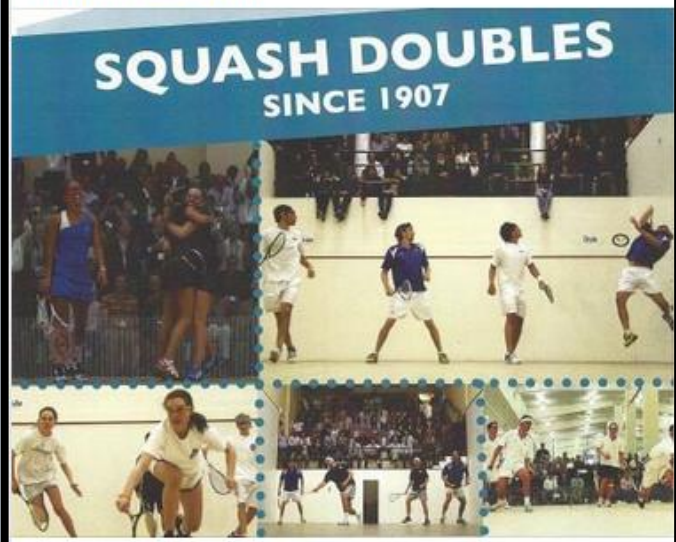


Squash Library

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 · 🌐

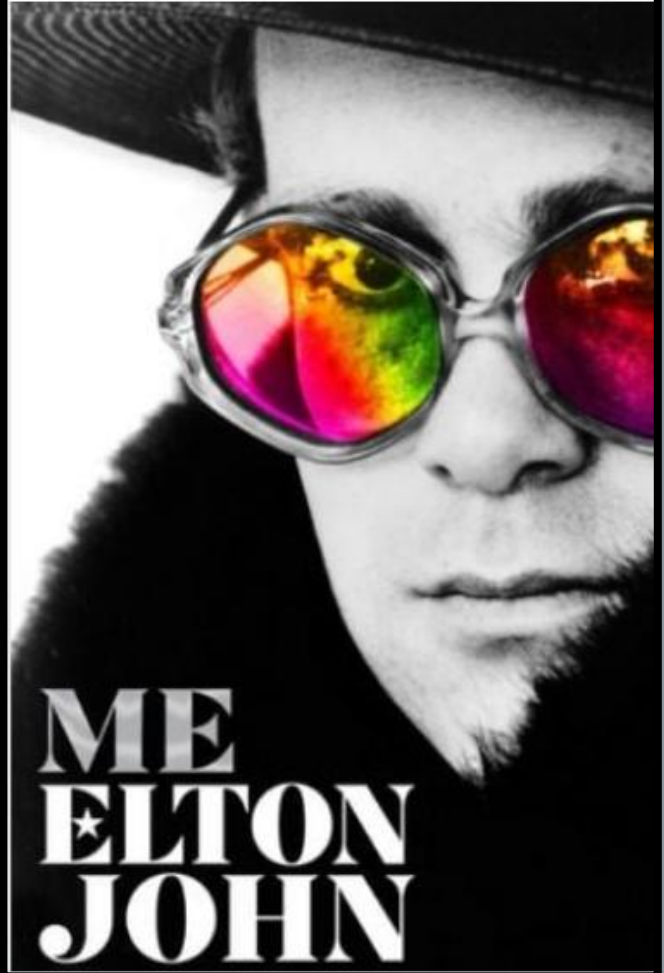


Music legend Elton John bought his home in Old Windsor near London in 1975, and in his autobiography entitled 'Me', he wrote, 'The squash Court was one of the things I liked when I moved in. I would challenge anybody who came over to a game'.

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](#)



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.

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 just 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 an expatriate tobacco merchant 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 had a Jumbo Doubles court, using the size of an American hard ball and started a tournament the Mai Cup.

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.worldsquash.org)

WORLD SQUASH

SPIN PROGRAMME

WSF

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
12 August · 🌐

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.



Squash Library
9 August · 🌐

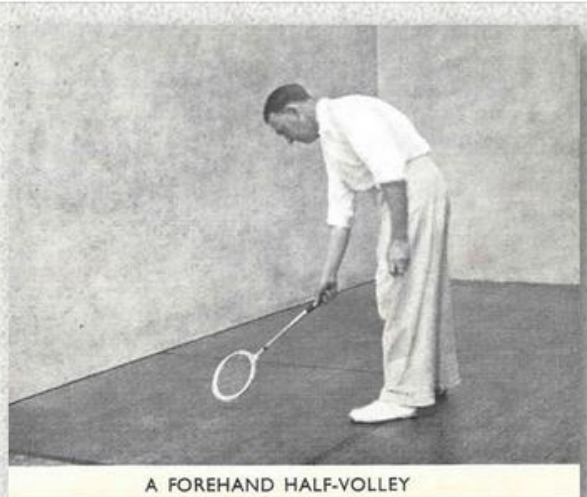
In 1935 an Englishman, Eric Hyde, wrote a book entitled *How to Play Squash Rackets*. In addition to his coaching tips (the illustration shows a rather erect half volley pose), he covers preparation and ladies squash.

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

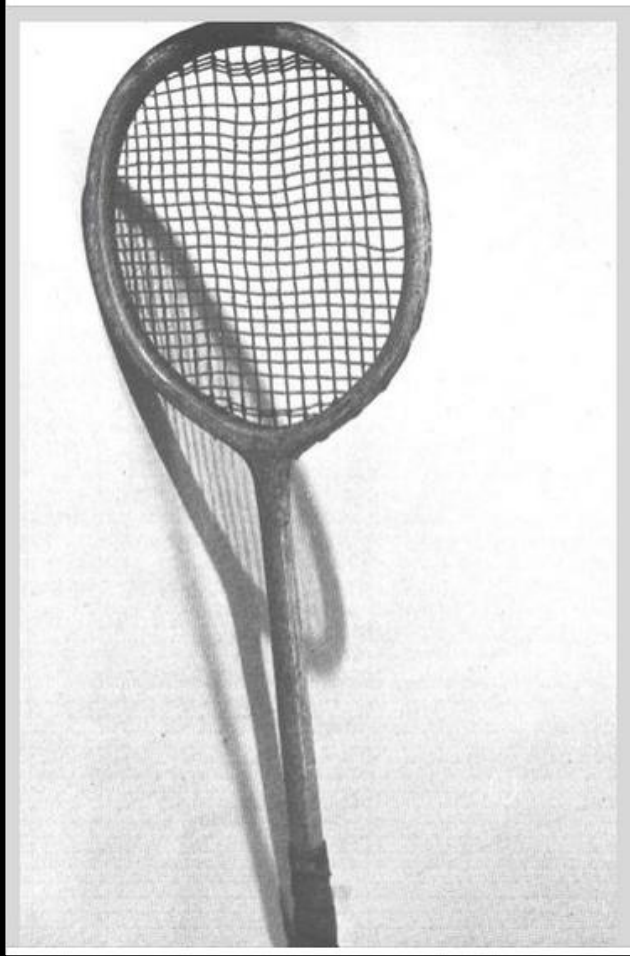
Squash Library
2 June · 🌐

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!



Squash Library
18 May · 🌐

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



Squash Library
8 May · 🌐

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 SQUASH](#)World Squash Federation



Squash Library
28 April · 🌐

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](#)



Squash Library
18 April · 🌐

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 Federation](#)[Squash - 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.

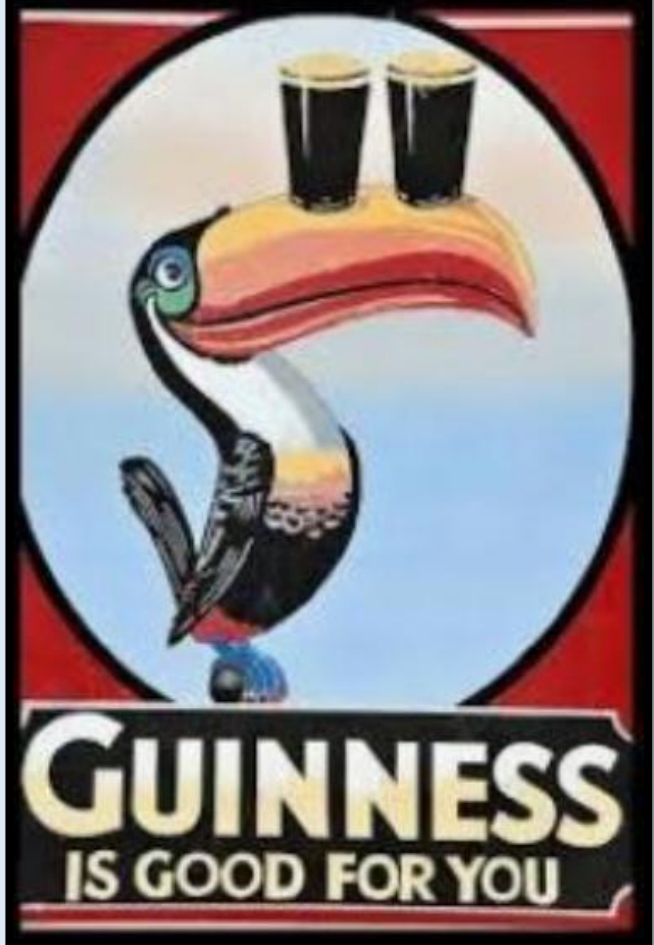
Such were the number of seventies UK players that in 1977 a company produced a Squash Player's Diary that ran for several years. In addition to normal diary detail, it featured a grid for match bookings and results and sections on Rules, tactics and refereeing. (Oh, and the obligatory London Underground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



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.



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](#)



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		
Kherwabar Club	Aden, British Arabia	3
ARGENTINE		
BUENOS AIRES		
The Squash Club	Calle Florida 471	3
Hurlingham Club	Hurlingham, P.C.F. Tel: Hurlingham 14	4
The Junco Club	Calle Florida 588. Tel: 11-5181	1
AUSTRALIA		
NEW SOUTH WALES		
SYDNEY		
Garden Island Squash Rackets Club	H.M.A. Naval Establishment, Garden Island, Sydney. Tel: 31-4101	1
Royal Sydney Golf Club	Rose Bay, Sydney. Tel: PU 41118	3
Langridge Squash Rackets Club	173 George Street, Sydney. Tel: B 7773 Women's Section: 325 George Street. Tel: B 1000	3
Stall Gorge Officers' Mess	Victoria Barracks, Sydney. Tel: PL 4131	3
Sydney Squash Rackets Club	14-20 Bridge Street, Sydney. Tel: B 4287	1
University Club	19 Phillip Street, Sydney	3
Commercial Club	Dean Street, Albury. Tel: Albury 124	1
Killara Golf Club	Killara. Tel: SX 2417	2



Squash Library
28 January · 🌐



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 · 🌐



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 our 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 sternly—
"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 un-necessarily) to—
"These gloves the Court game 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 snob—
"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. 3).
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 · 🌐



As the Australian Open tennis moves into its second week current stars Federer has been a squashee 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](#)



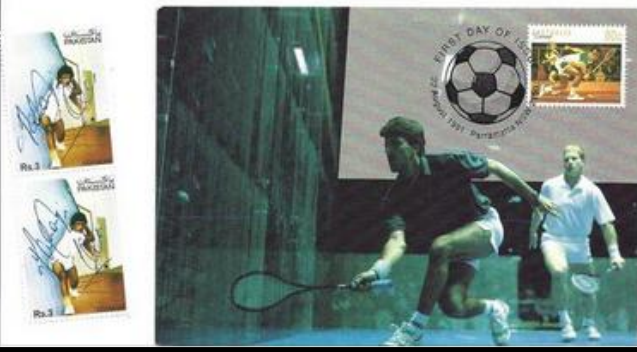
Squash Library
18 January · 🌐



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?

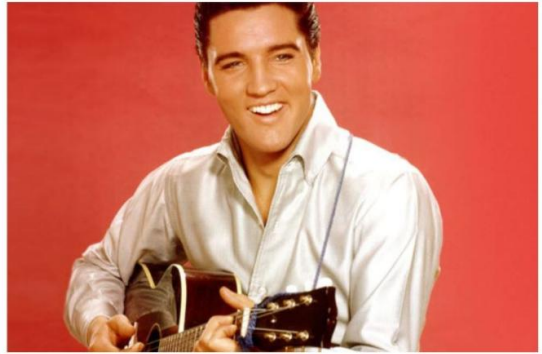


Back in the time of cassettes, a squash coaching tape was produced. Using the catchy title 'Litesome teaches you to play squash with Jonah Barrington' the 40 minute tape of Barrington teaching was accompanied by a chart when released in November 1974.



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 it first hit newsstands in 1971 (as well as back issues of many 'rival' 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



Andrew Shelley in the new World Squash Library Annex through the sport's magazine of record, Squash Player.

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 actively-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 die, 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 if a Rolex advertisement it had supplied had been published. Inside, he spotted a job advertisement for a tournament and affiliation secretary at the Squash Rackets 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!"



Squash Library

22 November 2019 · 🌐



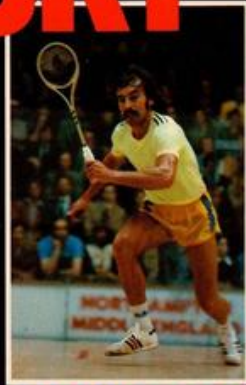
World famous novelist Agatha Christie who created the fictional detective characters of Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple, bought Winterbrook House in 1934, with her second husband Max Mallowan. Not only did she live and do most of her writing there for more than 40 years, but she also had a squash court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