



# England

## Squash & Racketball

### NE NEWS December 2011

#### James rises to No.1 in the World

#### Contents

- 1 National news
- 2 Regional news
- 3 School news
- 4 Club news
- 5 Club news
- 6 Racketball news
- 7 University news
- 8 Coaching news
- 9 Other news



James Willstrop made it a hat trick of World Series Event victories as he overcame Gregory Gaultier in the Punj Lloyd PSA Masters in 4 sets. So after wins in Hong Kong and Kuwait he will be the World No.1 on 1 January 2012. Meanwhile Nick Matthew has had to sit out the latest event through injury, so slips back to No 2.

According to James 'it is a very special day for me. I can't really believe I've played and won this match and I'd like to thank Greg for the great spirit in which it was played.



It's so special to have achieved this here with so many close people here, including my girl friend Vanessa, a fantastic and loyal friend; my dad Malcolm, who 's given me an incredible amount of attention since the start; my brother David, the endless sessions and work we've done together; and Mick Todd.

The day is so special—it wouldn't mean half as much if I hadn't had these people behind me'.

## Regional News

### NE players called up for National Squads

A number of players from the region have been selected for National squads

Lilleshall U15/17/19 on 19-20 November

**Lucy Beecroft, Sam Ward & Katie Smith; James Peach James Earles & Taminder Gata Aura**

Grand Prix squad at Lilleshall on 3—4 December

**Lucy Beecroft, James Peach, Jamie Todd, Jack Cooper & Dan Hockborn**

Test match against Wales & Scotland in Cardiff 10 -11 December

**Taminder Gata Aura**

### Popular Prince Tournament at Tynemouth Club

1	Jamie	Todd	7
2	Sam	Wright	7
3	Michael	Mattimore	7
4	Tom	Cornell	7
5	Harry	Little	6
6	Andrew	Shipley	6
7	Erin	Vitty	6
8	Jake	Collinson	6
9	Angus	Forster	6
10	Daniel	Ridley	6
11	Amy	Rowell	6
12	Lewis	Follin	6
13	James	Campbell	6
14	Joe	Wareing	5
15	Ellie	Watling	5

After 3 Tournaments the top 15 players are pulling away from the pack.

The next tournament is on 17 December at the Northern Club.

Another 5 tournaments will be played in 2012 to complete the event.



### Successful Super squads

The Lead Coach for the NE Neil Guirey has delivered 4 Super squads in the North East. The squads for the under 11/13 age group were held at the Queens Club, Halifax. Unfortunately due to clashes with tournaments only 3 players from the North West attended (out of 14 players) on each day. However a parent from the NW remarked on how much his daughter had enjoyed the squad, and praised the Lead Coach for his innovative delivery of the squad using music, video analysis and competitive conditioned matches.

At the later Super squad for the under 15/17 age group it was more balanced with 6 players from the North West & the North East. The squad was held at the Chapel Allerton club in Leeds and parents were most impressed with the facilities that the club offered the players and the parents. One said 'it was definitely worth travelling all this way for!'

The next Super squads will be organised and held at NW venues in the new year.

## School News

### St Williams are Squash Champs

Sedgefield Squash Club have been doing some great work in linking with local schools to introduce children to the game of squash. The SSP coach Emma Larcombe has given children from 4 primary schools - Hardwick, Sedgefield, Trimdon Juniors and St Williams a couple of coaching sessions to develop some basic squash shots.

Then the 4 schools came together for a competition at the Sedgefield Squash club courts with James Larcombe from the club organising the morning. Each team was made up of 5 players of which at least one



had to be a girl and one other member had to be year 5 or below. The children then played their equivalent from each other school with teachers marking the matches.

The standard of play improved hugely with each match and it was great to see other team members cheering on their players from the balcony. After a great morning of action and some very close matches St Williams emerged as overall winners.

### Buttershaw Rackets centre of excellence project

Buttershaw Business and Enterprise College in Bradford has set up a Centre of Excellence for Racketlon. Racketlon is a sport where each player plays Table Tennis, Badminton, Squash and Tennis back to back to 21 points. The winner of each game is the player with the most points.

In July Buttershaw Business and Enterprise College held a sponsored Racketlon Day for the Jewels cheerleading group and raised over £400. It was the schools first encounter with the sport, but the enthusiasm and talent within the school soon became apparent. The event was organized and delivered by Jermaine Manners from Bradford and his fiancée Ann Cosgrove. Jermaine is England's No.1 at the sport and he is ranked 8 on the world tour. The pair was amazed at such raw talent and after a discussion with the Headteacher Mr Richard Hughes and the schools PE department a Centre of Excellence has been established. This is the first of its kind in the country.

English Racketlon are supporting the project, as is The Federation of International Racketlon whose headquarters are in Vienna. The Federation of International Racketlon president Marcel Weigal has remarked "This is a fantastic opportunity for these young people and I look forward to seeing them in competition in the future". England Squash & Racketball is also offering support with coaching sessions.

This will be an outstanding opportunity for the pupils to take part in a range of sports, which traditionally tend to be very expensive to access.

It is hoped that the core group of elite players from the school, will take part in the English Racketlon Championships in March

## Club News

### Yarm Squash Club: Here come the girls!



Yarm squash club has attracted 17 new members thanks to a Sportivate grant . This funded coached racketball sessions for 10 weeks every Thursday 6—7pm. Some of the ladies were from a Slimming World group and they were so impressed, that they brought along their daughters to the sessions.

A big thanks needs to go to Alison Hood as she organised the ladies and chased everything up from week to week. At the last session there was a competition and a bit of a social.

### Brigade boys do battle

After the introduction of squash to members of the fire brigade in Cleveland they held their inaugural Winter tournament at Norton Squash Club. Amazingly of the 15 strong Brigade squash section, 13 of the players entered the tournament. The event was well organised by Dave Geldart (Manager of Norton Squash club) assisted by Dave Johnson (Yarm Squash club) on the night.



There was a main draw and a plate competition, to guarantee atleast 2 matches for all.

The winner of the main competition was Ray Khaliq (Director of Technical Services) as he defeated Steve Johnson (Arson reduction officer) in a very close match, with every game going to 2 clear points. Tony McGouran won the Plate competition beating Eric Storrow in another close match 3-2.

## Club News

### Queens attracts new members



David Hymas has been promoting ESR initiatives at his new club Queens Sports clubs by running a 5 for £5 coaching course to introduce new people to the game of racketball.

In order to attract Women to the course an advert was placed in a local magazine called 'Yummy Mummies'. In addition to young Mums some current squash members brought along friends and gym members to swell numbers to 9 players learning the game of racketball every Friday morning, until Christmas.

### First Northumbria Open tournament

The Northumberland Club was host to the first NORTHUMBRIA SENIOR OPEN and the crowds were treated to some high level squash from professionals coming from far and wide to fight it out for the title..

The Mens Open was contested by Joel Hinds (world ranked 84) and Shaun Le Roux (world ranked 90). The big crowd was treated to a high paced final with Hinds volleying at every opportunity but Le Roux matched that and was able to take the lead in every game with more accurate shot placement and impressive short game. Every game took a similar pattern with Le Roux taking control early on and never letting go winning 11/9 11/8 11/7.

In the Ladies final Perry used her superior racket skills to control the early exchanges in each game but Landers-Murphy fought back each time to create a very fast, feisty final but in the end Perry just edged each game of this closely fought contest taking it 11/9, 11/6, 12/10.

## Racketball News    Youngsters help out at Nunthorpe Age UK

Two members at Nunthorpe Squash club have been helping out at the Age UK racketball sessions on Tuesday mornings. Craig Macintosh and Michael Bowes both accomplished squash players have given their time to gain experience of working in the Community.



## University of the 3rd Age raves about Racketball in Yorkshire



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

After the success of the Craven University of the 3rd Age Racketball group at The Sandylands club, Skipton; the England Squash and Racketball NE Office has approached a number of other U3A branches in Yorkshire. The interest has been amazing, as within a couple of weeks, a racketball group has been established at Ilkley LTSC for the Ilkley & District U3A group on

Wednesday afternoons. After meetings with the Leeds U3A Group Coordinator Janet Keogh and successful Taster sessions at Chapel Allerton Tennis & Squash club a trial group is going to be started on Thursday mornings in January.

After publicity on other U3A Branch websites Taster sessions are planned at Heaton Tennis & Squash club for the Bradford U3A; and at Abbeydale Park Tennis & Squash club for the Sheffield U3A in January. Other Branches that are currently publicising Racketball to their members include Pocklington U3A, Wakefield U3A at Wakefield Squash club and Wetherby U3A at Collingham & Linton Cricket & squash club.

## Leeds U3A looking to establish new group

New participants to the game praised the sport of Racketball. Walkers George & Tony felt that during the damp cold winter months the prospect of running around a warm, well lit squash court, was very inviting. Margaret said 'it was great to hold a racket again; my backhand is still there. I'm just loving it, and can't wait to come again to master this game'. Angela said 'I go jogging to keep fit, but it is rather lonely; with racketball I can exercise and get the companionship of the group'



## University News

Over 80 students at Leeds Metropolitan University played Badminton, Mini Tennis, Squash, Tennis and Table tennis at the Carnegie Regional Tennis centre. The event was free although there was a tombola stall for bone cancer research that raised almost £100.



According to a 1st year Sport Development student and member of the Men's 4th Tennis team, it was a great way to try out other racket sports and have some fun. The players were entertained by well known Christmas tunes.

### Racket-thon Rocks at Leeds Met



### College coaching increases participation in Squash

At a number of Colleges at Durham University the Harris father and son coaching team have been generating lots of interest in Squash through their Coaching package deals. By using the Collegiate Sports network the College Squash captains were contacted at the beginning of term, so they could offer deals to students. So far Collingwood, St Hilde, St Bede and Ustinov Colleges have invited the Harris coaches in to deliver coaching sessions at the College courts

### New University Racketball sections

Racketball has now spread to more institutions in the North East. Bradford, Leeds Met, Newcastle and Sheffield Hallam can now boast a number of racketball players. Many of these are women looking to learn a new sport that is fun and keeps them fit.



## Coaching News



## Hymas hits the headlines at Coaching Conference

Former NE Development Coach David Hymas has been awarded the ESR Participation Coach of the year award, at the annual ESR Coaching Conference held at Lilleshall National Sports centre. This is recognition for the tremendous work done to increase participation in squash and racketball at Schools, Colleges and Universities.

## ESR Seminar Programme in 2012

**22 Mar 6—9pm Technique presented by David Champion**

QUEENS SPORTS CLUB, Moorlands View, Saville Park, Halifax, West Yorkshire HX1 2XQ

**2 April 6—9pm Movement presented by Paul Carter**

HALLAMSHIRE TENNIS & SQUASH CLUB, 716 Ecclesall Road, Sheffield S Yorkshire S11 8TA

## Courts refurbishment & Clubmark celebration

Northern Squash Club celebrated the opening of their refurbished squash club on Saturday 3rd December.

The squash club was renovated in June of 2011 using a matched funded grant from England Squash and Racketball. The squash courts, changing rooms and spectator area were all refurbished to a high standard by contractors with additional work from a members working group.

The opening ceremony was started with a fun squash event ('king of the court') including both junior and senior members of the club. This was followed by a short racketball demonstration by 2 club members.

Colin Wheatley of England Squash & Racketball then presented the Club Award and Gold Award Certificate to Chairman of Northern Squash Club Clive Lucas.

The President of Northern Football Club, Chris Matthews was then invited to officially open the club by presenting a plaque to the club received by Clive Lucas on behalf of the members.

Then an exhibition match between Northumbria County Champion Dave Barnett and former world ranked player Paul Lord was the highlight of an excellent evening. This was followed by a buffet and drinks in the squash spectator area.



## Other News

### Friends go Free campaign

During Jan and Feb there is a campaign to boost membership at Clubs and increase the use of daytime courts by attracting friends of existing club members. If your Club would like to sign up for this campaign get in touch NOW!

### Yorkshire Closed Squash Championships

13—15 January

Doncaster Squash Club

Entry fee £15

Deadline 6 January

Entries to Dave Clarke

davegillhome@live.co.uk

07722 308706



**FRIENDS GO FREE**

Why not bring a friend to try squash & racketball for free?

Club members can bring a friend to try squash & racketball for free on selected dates in Jan. and Feb. 2012

**Bring a friend, all equipment provided.**

### NE Office Contacts

#### Regional Manager

Mark Shipley 07714 226218

Mark.Shipley@englandsquashandracketball.com

#### Regional Administrator

Carol Cherry 0113 266 6077

Carol.Cherry@englandsquashandracketball.com

NOW on TWITTER

@ESR\_NorthEast

## NATIONAL SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS 2012

The **British National Squash Championships 2012** is an England Squash & Racketball and Manchester City Council run event which will be staged at the **National Squash Centre at Sportcity in Manchester** from the **7th to 12th February 2012**.

Leading challengers for the men's title are likely to include World No.1 and World Champion **Nick Matthew**, closely followed by World No.2 **James Willstrop** who is in fine form at the moment after wins in Hong Kong & Kuwait. **Peter Barker** is a force to be reckoned with on his day and not forgetting current **British Champion Daryl Selby**, the Essex star will be hoping to cause another upset and retain his title.

Whilst contenders for the women's competition are expected to include defending champion Lancashire's Laura Massaro who has just reached a career high of World No.3, hot on her heels will be World No.2 **Jenny Duncalf** who will be looking to make up for last year's loss. **Alison Waters** and **Ireland's Madeleine Perry** will also be looking to reach the later stages.

In addition to the men's and women's events, the British National Championships 2012 will also feature Masters competitions, which will attract the UK's best players who will compete in fifteen age-group categories from Over-35 to Over-70.

To book tickets <http://www.isportgroup.com>