

# Fives Newsletter Winter 2015

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## The Fives Federation



**"We're all in it together."**

**Now where did we hear that again recently?** It's a useful phrase in the right context. Does it apply to Fives? Yes, it does: it's the belief that lies behind the Fives Federation.

What is the 'it' in "We're all in it together"? It could be promoting the game, protecting courts, or recruiting members. It could also be raising sponsorship or increasing the number of female players. Each Federation meeting discusses such things, and more. We share concerns, compare best practice; we congratulate and commiserate.

Above all we try to be realistic: neither Eton nor Rugby Fives is a game with big potential for rapid expansion, while Wallball – which doesn't need expensive, specialised courts and has a significant international presence – is. We try to encourage players to try Wallball, and it was pleasing to see 88 players at the recent UK championships. 70 of these counted as novices, and the hope is they will persevere with the game and perhaps try one of the other forms. Perhaps one day we'll see a triathlon of Eton and Rugby Fives and Wallball.

**Richard Black**  
Chairman EFA

**Bernard Atkinson**  
President RFA

**Dan Grant**  
President UK Wallball

# Fives Federation Stalwart Steps Down

**Mike Fenn is stepping down after 14 years working to further and maintain the close ties between the three codes of the game.**

The EFA and RFA began working together in 2001, establishing the "Fives Forum". The body featured representatives from both codes, meeting twice a year to share knowledge and discuss matters of mutual interest.

In 2005, this was formalised with the creation of the Fives Federation, with Wallball joining shortly afterwards.

Over the last 14 years, there has been a steady turnover of representatives at Federation meetings. The one constant has been Mike Fenn, who was one of the driving forces behind the creation of the Fives Forum and who has since been at the heart of maintaining the close ties between the three codes.

Mike has decided to step down as one of the EFA representatives on the Fives Federation this year. Those who know Mike from his 40 years as Secretary of the Old Ipswichian Fives Club (which he founded in 1966) and 10 years as Secretary of the EFA will not be surprised to hear that Mike has worked tirelessly in his 14 years with the Federation. He contributed hugely to many of the joint cross-code initiatives that have come about as a result of Fives Federation meetings.

Most notably, Mike was a key player in the creation and production of our joint publications and communications – such as this newsletter – as well as having a crucial role to play in numerous other issues such as incorporation, charitable status,



Mike Fenn

our online presence, coaching, court building, insurance, health and safety, sponsorship, and more.

Sports like Fives rely on a small number of people to do a large amount of the work and the Federation has been lucky to have had such a dedicated servant as Mike. His willingness to take on new jobs and his encyclopaedic knowledge of the game will be much missed but he leaves the Federation in rude health. Mike will continue in his role as a vice-president of the



**ABOVE** John East and Richard Barber sign the memorandum of understanding in 2005

EFA, but leaves his role on the Federation with the grateful thanks of everyone who has been involved over the years and all those who love the sport of Fives.



"Mike has been at the heart of maintaining the close ties between the three codes"

## Rugby Fives Association President's Report



**One of the joys of taking over the Presidency of the RFA is the knowledge that almost everyone else knows more than I do; nothing new there!**

What I do know is that whichever version of 'hand ball' one plays – Eton, Rugby, Winchester or Wallball – all are first class games, enjoying an enviable ethos within which they are played. I say this with the conviction of one who has been playing since 1951, predominantly Rugby and Winchester but with 'hands on' experience of the other two. There is no point in disputing relative merits – all are separately important, and taken together, more important still.

Each code will naturally have its own dedicated strategy for development in the medium and longer term; sports need to expand or they decline – a lesson we must learn from business. For that reason the RFA is embarking on a strategic review. I am sure that one of its outcomes will be an endorsement of my predecessor's message that clubs, too, need to organise in a business-like manner. Another will surely be to seek ways of working with the other codes to our mutual advantage. This is where the Fives Federation has the potential and the will to serve the interests of the various codes.

Just as we rejoice in Fives, so we rejoice in the stalwarts and the servants of our game and lament the passing of any one of them. Earlier this year we lost Alastair Mackenzie, whose immense contribution to Fives was appropriately lauded by Dick Warner in the RFA Annual Review. More recently we have learned of the death of former National Champion, John Howe, and of Ron Swash, a leading light in the campaign to build courts at Oxford.

John was a player who quite simply delighted in the game and, whether displaying his outstanding talents in singles or doubles, delighted partners, opponents and spectators alike over some three decades. Tribute is paid to John elsewhere in this Newsletter,

on page seven. Ron, who played for Oxford in the 1950s, gave generously of his time and energy to Fives and Real Tennis over an even longer period. Although he was a Dark Blue, Ron was delighted when Cambridge finally got their new courts in 2012.

**“Just as we rejoice in Fives, so we rejoice in the stalwarts of our game”**

On a happier note, I would like to conclude by extending our congratulations on reaching the grand old age of 90, to one of my predecessors, John Burton. John served as President of the RFA from 1979-81 and is a fellow Old Blue (ie former Christ's Hospital pupil). He also has the distinction of being our oldest member. John was runner-up in the Amateur Doubles in 1951, the same year as he captained Cambridge. He has been a tireless participant in RFA matches for many years thereafter and he has remained a keen supporter of Fives all his later life.

**Bernard Atkinson**

## Nick Woolfenden's birthday Fives

**On a sunny October Sunday, Nick Woolfenden celebrated his 40th birthday with a gathering of Old Whitgiftian (his school club) and Christ's Hospital Club players.**

With a combined age of approximately 600 years, the 12 gathered at Christ's Hospital to play a doubles round-robin. The competitive spirit was alive and well – not surprising given the dozen included the RFA president (“firing on all syllables” in his words), national Fives and Irish handball champions, and multiple plate winners.

After several hours of enjoyable Fives, all headed to Nick's home, where a feast of beer, food and Rugby World Cup awaited.



**Nick with his birthday party attendees**

## St. Olave's Court Appeal Up and Running

**St Olave's School in Orpington has now officially received confirmation from the council that it has planning permission to build four more Eton Fives courts, to go with the four that are already there.** The Kent school has a great Fives tradition and in recent years, under the inspirational leadership of Howard Wiseman, the school has produced a constant stream of enthusiastic Fives players, including several who have gone on to reach the very top of the game.

With these four new courts, the school is looking to create a “Southway” Fives centre at St. Olave's to promote the sport across a wide region in South

London, mirroring the Westway development on the other side of the capital. As well as increasing court time and raising standards among players at the school there will be additional scope for Old Olavians, parents, other local schools, the wider local community and disabled groups to get on court and (re) discover the joys of Fives.

Work is now underway on fundraising for the project, with a total of £250,000 the aim in order to achieve the goal of having the courts completed by 2017/18. You can find further information on the project and how to make a donation here: <http://olavianfives.com.gridhosted.co.uk/>



**How the new St. Olave's building will look**

# British ladies bag bronze at European Team Champs

The Great Britain Wallball team was in the medals at the European Championships in Maubeuge, France.

The GB ladies team consisted of Kathleen Briedenhann and Tessa Mills, and the first group match was against Italy, another pair that they had beaten at the Italian Open in March. They took the first game 11-1, but in the second game the Italians came back strongly and the GB pair found themselves defending at the back. After losing a few points the GB ladies upped their tactics and won 11-7. Next they took on France and with no mercy won 11-1, 11-0.

The reigning World Champions, the Dutch, were next in the semi-final. Nerves were running high in the GB camp and the controlled Dutch pair of Scheffer and Beckers took the first game



Kathleen and Tessa at the Euros with the Spanish team

11-7. A strategy change was needed, and GB played the ball higher on the wall to push them back. This rattled the Dutch, who made a few unforced errors. This put the British pair in a strong position at the front of the court, and they were leading 10-8 when they lost their serve. Scheffer and Beckers gained two more points to make it 10-10.

Another break of serve brought another chance. The pressure was mounting and on the last serve Kathleen served wide and the Dutch were back in control. The final point was won by a volley into the left hand corner by Scheffer.

The girls then faced Italy again for the bronze medal match, which they won comfortably, 11-1, 11-0.

BELOW Owers Trophy winners with Mr Owers himself



## All change in the Owers Trophy

A new three-player-team format was introduced at this year's Owers Trophy, the tournament for old school teams. The new arrangement was greeted with interest and enthusiasm, and the nine teams played in three groups of three in the group stages.

The three highest-seeded teams – the two Old Pauline teams and the Old Eastbournians – dominated their respective groups, but there were some very close matches for second and third places. The Alleyn Old Boys beat the Old Blues by just one point, while the Old Wykehamist teams used their experience to rack up good points tallies. Old Derby Moor pushed Old Wykehamists II all the way, but it was Old Wykehamists I who made it through to the knock-out stages with the next highest points total of 64.

The senior Old Pauline team dominated their semi-final, but the 2012 OP side had more work to do, as the Old Eastbournians tried to prevent an all-Pauline final. However, with the score at one game all, the Paulines were looking strong while the OEs didn't quite have the legs, so the final was the senior OPs against the 2012 leavers.

The seniors weren't ready to relinquish their dominance, and a skilled display saw them retain the title. The trophy was presented by Mr Owers himself, attending 'his' tournament for the first time.

# Eton Fives loses two legends

The world of Eton Fives has lost two of its great characters in recent months with the sad deaths of Andrew Aitken and Jimmy Biggs.

Jimmy was a magnificent player; four times a Kinnaird winner from 11 final appearances between 1955 and 1976 and undoubtedly one of the greats of the game. As well as being a champion on court, he was also universally liked off the court – a great ambassador for the game,

a tremendous encourager of others and a father figure for the Old Olavian Fives club. His enthusiasm and dedication to the game were instrumental in inspiring the current generation of dominant Olavian players.

Andrew Aitken, although a good club player, never scaled the same on-court heights as Jimmy, but made his mark on the game by single-handedly turning the Old Westminsterers from a struggling team into a thriving and well-run club. He was secretary of the OWW for over 30 years and made the club friendly and welcoming as well as creating close links with the school and fulfilling a wide-ranging fixture list.

Jimmy and Andrew dedicated a large part of their lives to ensuring that the game of Eton Fives continues to flourish. We will miss them both.



ABOVE Olavian great Jimmy Biggs  
RIGHT An Old Westminsterers team with Andrew sat front centre



## Eton Fives Association Chairman's Report



I am delighted to report that the EFA has been awarded a grant of £105,000 over three years, from 2016 to 2018, by John Lyon's Charity towards the costs of employing a Fives Manager/Coach and an assistant coach at the Westway Sports Centre.

This grant will enable the EFA who will be running the Fives (Wallball and Eton Fives) programme under a delegated management arrangement to develop the games in a number of different areas including:

- Local schools and young people
- Universities (especially for the new Imperial College accommodation)
- Disabled players
- Youth Clubs
- Family Fives
- Over-45s
- Ethnic minorities

There is great potential to increase dramatically the current low (5%) court usage and recruit many more local players of all ages and abilities. We could only have been a position to do this with a Manager/Coach and an assistant to drive the outreach programmes and do the coaching. Now that we have the funding, we are confident that we can make Westway into a real thriving community Fives centre.

The EFA is also pursuing a completely new direction in promoting Fives for disabled people at Westway. We have two projects. One is with a charity called Certitude for which we have received a small grant from the Sportivate Fund to organise eight pilot coaching sessions in Wallball and Eton Fives for local people with learning and physical disabilities. The other is a pilot project to see if Eton Fives can provide therapy for people with early onset dementia via a charity called Bounce Alzheimers Therapy.

“We hope to have coaches at Westway in place shortly”

We are finalising the operational details with Westway and we hope to have coaches in place shortly to begin this exciting new phase for the sport.

Elsewhere in the world of Eton Fives, we are working on the development of a new website using a specialist website company, Jigsaw. This will be unveiled early in 2016.

We are also delighted that two new schools are now playing the game. Kensington Aldridge Academy, a state comprehensive very close to Westway, is playing Eton Fives and Streatham and Clapham High School, a girls school within the Girls Day School Trust group, sent 14 pupils to the National Wallball Championships and covered themselves with glory, winning the Ladies Beginners competition. They will also be starting to play Eton Fives in the near future.

Richard Black



Winners in Geneva

## Swiss Fives flying high

**The links between the Lyceum Alpinum in Zuoz, Switzerland, the Old Zuozers clubs in Zurich and Geneva and UK Eton Fives schools and clubs are strengthening all the time.**

Howard Wiseman and Dominique Redmond have been taking tours to Zuoz for many years and in 2015 19 youngsters from St. Olave's, Emanuel and Alley's spent a week in May honing skills and making friends at the Lyceum.

Since then there have been the annual competitions in Geneva in July and Zurich in October that bring together Zuoz pupils, old Zuozers from around the world and UK players.

The Geneva tournament – run by Filippo Variola for the Benny Oei Trophy – was won by OZ Jan Porr and Old Citizen John Reynolds, who has been instrumental in organising the UK representation both there and at Zurich. The Old Citizens have a long tradition of playing Fives in Switzerland and John's triumph was followed by septuagenarian David Cooper's win in Zurich. Alas for the Citizens, the Hawken Garrett Cup – held by the winners of the most recent match between the Citizens and Zuozers – is now in Swiss hands. The challenge has been issued for the next fixture to take place in London in 2016.

## CH pair's Lady's Cup win

**A total of 14 pairs lined up for the second playing of the Lady's Cup, with last season's schoolgirls champion Louise Mathias and CH stalwart Ross Stuart taking the main title.**

Three groups of similar ability pitted against one another. The four least experienced pairs played a round robin for the Egg Cups, with Milly Gall and Tom Hoskins picking up the most points to win.

On court two five pairs fought it out for the Teacups and Coffee Cups. Once Richie Murby and Alley Scott's nerves settled the shots began to flow and they picked up the Coffee Cups. The stars of the group, though, were the unbeaten Freya and Trevor White, who won the Teacups.

A tight finish on court one finish meant two pairs tied for the Plate: Ed Hatton and Beatrix Crinnion from CH and Lottie Harbottle and Vlad Shirokiy from Rugby.



Lady's Cup action on the Cambridge courts

# Danny, Champion of the World\*

(\*B Grade World...)

**The GB team recently returned from Calgary with a World Champion in their number, writes Tessa Mills. Daniel Tristao is now an Open level player, having been crowned World B Singles Champion.**

The team joined more than 700 competitors from 12 countries to battle it out for the biggest title in Wallball.

An early game against Niall Flynn of Ireland was close until right at the end when Dan sneaked a couple of points ahead to take the game. Both

players really proved their worth on court.

Eventually Dan came unscathed into the semis where he played Eloy Vela, who had been hotly tipped for the title. A spectacular game saw Dan run from side to side and play some outstanding retrieving shots. He put Eloy away again and again and won 25-14.

This secured him a place in the B Grade finals where he played the tall American Anthony Delgado. The game was a three set thriller that lasted for over an

hour. Dan played with his usual athleticism and chased down ball after ball. Anthony raised his game in the second set and dominated at the beginning of the third. But then he went for a spike and missed it by a millimetre. These things make all the difference in a game like Wallball, and Anthony seemed to become slightly tentative, taking half a step back. That was all that was needed to turn the tide and Dan closed it out. The final score was 21-9 13-21 11-6, making Dan World B Singles Champion.



World B Singles Champion Dan Tristao



The 2015 Richard Black Cup Winning Team from Highgate

## Highgate Girls continue to set the standard

The girls team at Highgate has recently won the Richard Black Cup – the three pair ladies team event – for the fourth year in succession, beating a strong North Oxford team in the final for the third year in a row.

Now a well-established event in the calendar, this year's Black Cup produced a day of outstanding Fives, showcasing the increasing numbers and rising standards in the ladies game. This year's competition saw eight teams taking part, which meant a total of 48 players. The afternoon plate

games at the lower end of the tournament contained matches of a quality that would have been almost unimaginable when the tournament was first introduced seven years ago.

One of the most notable aspects of Eton Fives in recent years has been the emergence of the group of Highgate schoolgirls, under the guidance of Master in Charge Anthony Brunner, who have dominated age group and school competitions as well as making their mark on the senior ladies game, despite the majority of the team only

just entering the 6th form.

Highgate's current first pair of Phoebe Bracken and Amira Reimer have already this season retained their Under 25 title and will also be looking to retain the Under 21 and schools titles. Amira and Eve Smith-Bingham reached the senior ladies final in 2014 and no doubt the team will be gearing up for another strong challenge in the 2016 competition.

Ladies Eton Fives continues to make real progress and with the Highgate girls leading the way, the future looks bright for the game.

## All change at the RFA

Bernard Atkinson was elected President of the RFA at this year's AGM, in succession to Bob Dolby. David Bawtree was elected as Bernard's Deputy. It was the first AGM for Phil Atkinson (no relation) who took over as General Secretary from Ian Fuller in April. Ian remains Treasurer.

With Dick Warner retiring from the Board, Chris Burrows and Kathleen Briedenhann were invited to stand and were duly elected.

Bernard learned the game at Christ's Hospital and Cambridge University. After a break of some years he returned to the game to pair up with Bob Dolby (once) and John Robertson (twice) to win the Vintage Doubles. He was most recently seen doing the running for Dave Butler as they won the T-Pot at the 2014 President's Cup.

David also learnt his Fives at CH. He started playing again after a gap of 25 years and teamed up with Bernard for the Masters competition, which they won five times between 2005 and 2011.

Phil played Fives at Bedford Modern School. He has been a stalwart of the Old Bedford Modernians since those days and is probably best known for his two President's Cup wins, most recently in 2007.

## News in brief

■ Work to enclose the two Fives courts at Derby Moor should be finished by Christmas. 300 tons of soil have been removed to lower the viewing area and new back walls have been built to the RFA specification of 4ft 10in, with a door in the centre. The work will allow the courts to be used in all weathers and around the year.

■ Jeremy Stubbs reports an enthusiastic group in Reims who have taken up squash-court fives. They play at a club in the capital city of the Champagne region, using a



The French players in Reims

blue wallball. "One is a converted volleyball player - he hits the ball very hard!" says Jeremy.

Jeremy is looking for a touring four to come and play in the New Year "It's only four and a half hours by car from London." If you fancy champagne for après-fives this is the fixture for you.

■ A Young Fives Players group on Facebook has been established to help schoolchildren and younger Fives players integrate into the adult game. The group will hopefully allow young players to see there is a large Fives community of players of all abilities and ages. Details of nearly all university clubs should be on the group.

■ The latest Fives Federation Level 2 coaching course took place in September, with eight coaches from across all three codes being put through their paces by Mark Yates, Wayne Enstone and Alex Steel. >>

## UK Wallball President's Report

**As the year draws to a close we can look back on everything that has been accomplished in 2015.**

Although we have some high profile stories involving exceptional performances from some of our players, in the background much has also been going on to get excited about.

On court there was huge success for Daniel Tristao, who, not content with all his Rugby Fives accolades, is now a World Champion in the Wallball world as well. The Kinnaid is next on his list, we hear...

The ladies also delivered this year. Kathleen Briedenhann and Tessa Mills came through in aces at the World Team Champs and secured GBR a bronze medal - our first for the women. This visible success is the tip of the iceberg for

women's development in Wallball, which Kathleen is now leading and which is making giant steps forward.

The Team Champs were also the proving ground for our GB Men's Development Squad as Andrew Ibbetson, Penn Chai and Ollie Arnold took on the continent. The only way is up for these guys and their potential is something to look forward to.

Off the court the Brits have been making an impressive impact in the UK and around the World. We've been instrumental in the formation of the European Wallball ProTour, which has now standardised Wallball tournaments across Europe and introduced a ranking system. Back in the UK we've some slow burning projects that we hope will take off next year. Notably we've



"Much has been going on to get excited about"

also incorporated and introduced membership, a move we're finally ready for.

As always, although sometimes frustrating, Wallball continues to be an exciting, challenging and defining pursuit. I encourage you all to come along and try the game and see why.

## Westway Summer Superleague

**Fives is a year-round game these days, and the latest edition of the Westway Superleague saw nine teams fighting for the title on the courts at Westway throughout May and June.**

The league stages were a strong vindication of the friendly Fives philosophy underpinning the superleague - fun, sociable games with the format ensuring everyone plays everyone, with the emphasis on inclusion and enjoyment. Things began to get a little more serious in the knockout rounds, with all of the teams keen to extend their stay in the competition and make it through to finals night.

This year's finalists were Highgate and Aston House, and a match of more epic proportions and standard would be hard to imagine. For nearly three hours, the Highgate team of Jonny Ho, Joe Marks, Matt Kovar and Abhishek Bhattacharya traded blows with Aston House's Laurie Brock, Nick Shaw, Alex



Yusaf and Carl Rennie. In the end, the teams could only be separated on points difference after a nailbiting 3-3 draw, with tournament debutants Highgate taking the trophy. The other Aston House team won the 3rd/4th place play-off over Paul Bowden's Sweet EFA side.

Prizes were presented by tournament organiser Julian

Black, with the individual awards also heading to Highgate: Jonny Ho picked up the golden glove award for most shots in the hole and Joe Marks took the highest point scorer award.

The Westway Summer Superleague is firmly established in the Fives calendar and we look forward to seeing new players and teams take part in 2016.

## News in brief

More courses are planned for 2016 and anyone interested should contact EFA Secretary Gareth Hoskins – garethjhoskins@yahoo.co.uk – to find out more.



Ladies University champions

■ The 2015 Jesters Universities Eton Fives tournament saw 29 pairs from 17 universities taking part and resulted in wins for Oxford (James Cobb and James Piggot) and Durham (Sarah Frost and Lucy Pugh).

■ We're sad to report the recent death of the Hon Frank Callaway, who has done so much to generate enthusiasm for the game at Geelong Grammar School in Australia. Hopefully the planned work to improve the current court and convert the second court to proper Eton Fives specifications will be a fitting way to mark his contribution.

■ The RFA wishes to apologise to Rugby School and its players for omitting their report from the Annual Review: It was a year of rebuilding but Rugby's IV of captain George Romain, Freddie Evans, Lautaro Musiani-Perez and either Myles McKay or Michael Suddaby recorded several fine wins. The girls were always a strong force and the victory at Malvern was a highlight. Milly Richards and Kate Broad played in the first match at Cambridge University within living memory and the Rugby girls proved too strong for their adult opponents. Milly and Kate went on to be the National Schoolgirl Champions at Marlborough early in the summer term and this was a nice way to complete four excellent years of Fives.

# A Full House

**At the time of writing there are 39 different locations with playable Eton Fives courts around the UK, and in August EFA Secretary Gareth Hoskins achieved the feat of having played a game at all of them during his Fives career.**

According to Gareth, it wasn't particularly a long-held ambition, but when he realised a couple of years ago that there were only a handful of places he hadn't played at it seemed like a good idea to complete the set.

The final venues were ticked off during the course of the spring and summer, with the annual North Oxford v Old

Edwardians "unusual courts" fixture at Wrekin in May followed soon after by an impromptu trip to play on the court at City of Norwich school, which somehow turned into becoming one of the star attractions at the school summer fete.

Last on the list was Sunningdale School in Berkshire and a pre-season warm-up with EFA vice-chairman Ronald Pattison and North Oxford team mates Ian Mitchell and Karen Hird.

With all of the UK courts now ticked off the list, the next stop must surely be Europe and then the rest of the world...



Gareth on court at Sunningdale

## John Howe (1943-2015)

**John Howe, winner of 33 Fives titles including two National Singles, has died on the island of Gozo where he had been living for the past several years.**

John possessed brilliant hand-eye coordination, quickness of movement and an athleticism that set him apart as a sportsman of the highest calibre. He was a junior tennis champion, talented cricketer, a low handicap golfer, played soccer and played squash for the Old Dunstonians.

However, it was Fives where he came into his own. Games were a pleasure as he played with enthusiasm and obvious enjoyment. He was scrupulously fair and played against all types of opposition with a great sense of fun.

It's said soccer is a gentleman's game played by hooligans and rugby a hooligan's game played by gentlemen. Perhaps Fives is a gentleman's game played by gentlemen and if so, John was one of its finest.



John Howe

## Ellison wins 'Greatest Final Ever'

**Will Ellison has completed a successful defence of his National Singles Championship title, sealing the victory with a typically narrow win over Dan Tristao at St Paul's in what is already being regarded as one of the greatest finals ever.**

It was perhaps no surprise that the tournament ran true to the seedings to produce an Ellison versus Tristao final but the

spectators, and those following the action on Twitter, were treated to a match that exceeded their high expectations.

Will won a tight first game, before Dan struck back to take the second game easily against an apparently tiring opponent.

That led into a deciding game, which ebbed and flowed, with umpteen changes in momentum and never more than a few points

between the players. First, Will was able to capitalise as his opponent tired and cramped up on several occasions, but Dan would not admit defeat.

Dan fought back to lead 13-10, seemingly with one hand on the magnificent Jesters trophy, only for Will to score an unanswered run of five points that made him the National Champion for the second consecutive year.

# The Exeter Rugby Fives Club goes on an 'Origin of Fives' Tour

Alex Rew reports on a notable venture

Exeter Rugby Fives Club turned its annual trip to Marlborough into an 'Origin of Fives' tour this year, playing all four variants of the game - Rugby, Winchester, Eton and One Wall.

The tourists included Stuart Watson, Tim Lewis, John Webber, Jonathan Sawyer, Keith Kennerley, Jim Hughes, Alex Rew, Sholto Moger and Alexandra Steel and Maddy Raynor, the girls bringing the average age below 50.

After playing One Wall on Friday afternoon, using masking tape to mark out a court at Marlborough, the club moved to Winchester on Saturday morning for the buttress game. Bill Gunyon and Harry Akerman's Wessex Club were a shade tentative against the girls but



when they realised how hard the returns were coming back, a superb game of Fives followed as Wessex honed their skills for their win at the Club Knockout – although Exeter won on the day.

Finally it was Eton Fives at Marlborough on Sunday. The club is indebted to the College for the use of their facilities without which three-quarters of the tour wouldn't have occurred.

## EFA Tournament Results Round-up 2015

**Westway Summer Superleague:** Highgate beat Aston House

**Under 25s:**

Men: A.Joyce & R.Houlden beat J.Cobb & J.Piggot 2-0

Ladies: A.Reimer & P.Bracken beat H.Asquith & E.Scoones 2-0

**Universities:**

Men: Oxford (J.Cobb & J.Piggot) beat LSE (S.Yick & I.Salim) 2-0

Ladies: Durham (S.Frost & L.Pugh) beat Cambridge (H.Rapley & S.Kelly) 2-0

**Richard Barber Cup:** Old Olavians

**Midlands Tournament:** T.Barker & R.Houlden beat D.Mew & A.Rennie 2-0

**Midlands Festival:** T.Leech & J.Rumble beat M.Pett & A.Theodossi 3-0

**Richard Black Cup:** Highgate beat North Oxford 3-0

**Turnbull Trophy:** St.Olave's (S.Cooley & T.Gallagher) beat Westway (R.Perrie & N.Caplin) 3-0

**London Tournament:** T.Dunbar & S.Cooley beat J.Toop & T.Gallagher 3-0

**London Festival:** A.Stewart & S.Balaji beat V.Shetty & C.Plews 2-1

## RFA Tournament Results Round-up 2015

**South West Open:**

Singles: W.Ellison  
Doubles: C.Brooks & W.Ellison

**South East Open:**

Singles: W.Ellison  
Doubles: E.Hatton & A.Pringle

**London Open:**

Singles: D.Tristao  
Doubles: W.Ellison & D.Tristao

**Owers Trophy:**

Old Paulines

**Yorkshire Open:**

Singles: D.Tristao  
Doubles: D.Butler & D.Tristao

**Lady's Cup:**

L.Mathias & R.Stuart

**West of England Open:**

Singles: D.Tristao  
Doubles: D.Grant & D.Tristao

**Schools Winchester Doubles:** Winchester College (P.Kullavanijaya & A.Song)

**British Universities:**

Singles: E.Kay  
Doubles: B.Beltrami & M.Shaw

**National Open Singles:** W.Ellison

**President's Cup:** D.Grant & M.Kiteley

## UK Wallball tournament Results Round-up 2015

**World Championships:** Daniel Tristao - World B Champion

**European Team Championships:** Kathleen Briedenhann & Tessa Mills - Bronze Medal

# Forthcoming events

## Eton Fives

January 2016		
Sun 17	Alan Barber Cup Semi-Finals	Eton
Sun 24	EFA Trophy Qualifying Rounds	Eton
Sun 31	Under 21s Tournament	Eton
February		
W/E 6/7	Northern Tournament	Shrewsbury
Sun 14	Universities Mixed Tournament	Highgate
Sun 14	Alan Barber Cup Final	Eton
W/E 20/21	Kinnaird Cup Preliminaries	Eton
Sun 28	EFA Trophy S-Fs and Final	Eton
Sun 28	Ladies Championships	Eton
March		
Sat 5	Varsity Match	Eton
Sun 13	Kinnaird Cup Semi-Finals	Eton
Sun 20 – Fri 25	National Schools' Championships	Shrewsbury
April		
Sun 3	Ladies Championship Final	Eton
Sun 3	Kinnaird Cup Final	Eton
Sun 10	Mixed Championships	Eton
Sun 17	Aberconway Cup	Eton
Sun 24	Veterans Tournament	Eton
May		
Sat 7	EFA Dinner	Westminster

## Rugby Fives

January 2016		
Sat/Sun 9/10	West of England Schools	Sherborne
Sat/Sun 16/17	North West Open	Manchester
Sunday 17	Ladies' National Championships	Barnes
February		
Sat/Sun 6/7	National U25 Championships	Oundle
Saturday 20	Oxford v Cambridge	Barnes
Sunday 28	Midlands Schools	Bedford
March		
Sunday 6	RFA v BUSF	Cambridge
Sunday 6	Ladies Winchester Fives	Winchester
Sunday 13	Open Winchester Doubles	Malvern
Sunday 13	National U13 Championships	Barnes
Sunday 20	National Vintage Championships	Cambridge
Tue 29 – Fri 1	National Schools' Championships	Barnes
April		
Sat/Sun 9/10	National Doubles	Alley'n's
Sat/Sun 16/17	National Club Championship	Barnes
Sunday 17	National Girls' Championships	Marlborough
Sat/Sun 23/24	National Veterans and Masters	Marlborough
Sat/Sun 30/1 May	Scottish Open	Loretto
May		
Sunday 8	Mixed Winchester Doubles	Bradfield

## Wallball

December 2015		
Sat/Sun 19/20	European Junior Championships	Franecker, Holland
February 2016		
Sat/Sun 13/14	UK Open	Merchant Taylors'
Sat/Sun 27/28	French Open	Valenciennes

Full details on [fivesonline.net](http://fivesonline.net), [ukwallball.co.uk](http://ukwallball.co.uk) and [rugbyfivesassociation.net](http://rugbyfivesassociation.net)