



# QMSA

Queensland Masters Squash Association

FORTY YEARS ON...  
A HISTORY OF QMSA



# Contents

3	40 years on
5	Aub Amos
6-7	Viv Reedman & Ernie Robins
10-11	QMSA Committee Members
12-13	Estelle & Ray Allan
16-17	Life Member
18-19	Brian & Yvonne Cook
20-21	Awards
22-23	Ada Lanham & Laura Stranks
24-25	Shirley Dorricott & Robyne Bamberry
26-27	Kathy Paterson & Andrew Sosimenko
28-29	Jan Whackett & Beryl Robbins
30-31	Eileen Barnard & Ray Slater
32	Robyn Prentice



This 40th Anniversary souvenir was prepared by Robyn Prentice and Debbie Halpern from researched information provided by many Masters players over the years.  
*I hope you enjoy taking the trip back in time.*  
**.....Robyn Prentice QMSA President**

**FORTY YEARS ON....****40<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary**

Queensland Masters Squash started out as Mature Age Squash prior to 1979. In 1978 a meeting was held at QE2 Conference rooms with ten attendees present to discuss the formation of what is now known as Queensland Masters Squash. Ray and Estelle Allan travelled to Sydney to meet with Ron Ansell and his wife Doris. Ron was General Manager of Sun Alliance Insurance who became long time sponsors of Australian Masters Association and was of enormous help in the formation of Queensland Masters Squash in the following year, 1979.

After the second meeting, Ray and Estelle Allan became Secretary and Treasurer for the next 6 years – 1979 – 1985.

In 1980, a meeting was held in Sydney to form the initial Australian Mature Age Squash Players Association so that men and women over the age of 35 would be able to participate in competitions organised by each State and Nationally and Internationally.

Queensland ladies were dragging the chain in the initial signing of members, supported by Jenny Irving, Elva Priestly, Marion Jackman, Ada Bell, Robyn Prentice, and Denise Chalmers.

In 1980, the first Australian Masters tournament was held at the Rix Centre at Ashmore on the Gold Coast. Qld Masters were delighted with the 500 entries, no doubt some were drawn to the tournament

to see the great Heather McKay in action. On the local front, tournaments were organised every three weeks around the state, creating a great camaraderie along with the healthy desire to keep the spirit of combat burning. Social events were popular and it soon became part of people's lives.

Queensland Masters continues to support and encourage all levels of players over 35 years of age and it is the combination of all ages and levels that continue to keep the Spirit alive to where we are today forty years on .....

***Still Friends getting together***

***Still Enjoying our Squash***

***May the association grow***

***in numbers so that others***

***may enjoy the friendships***

***and competition that***

***kept us young***



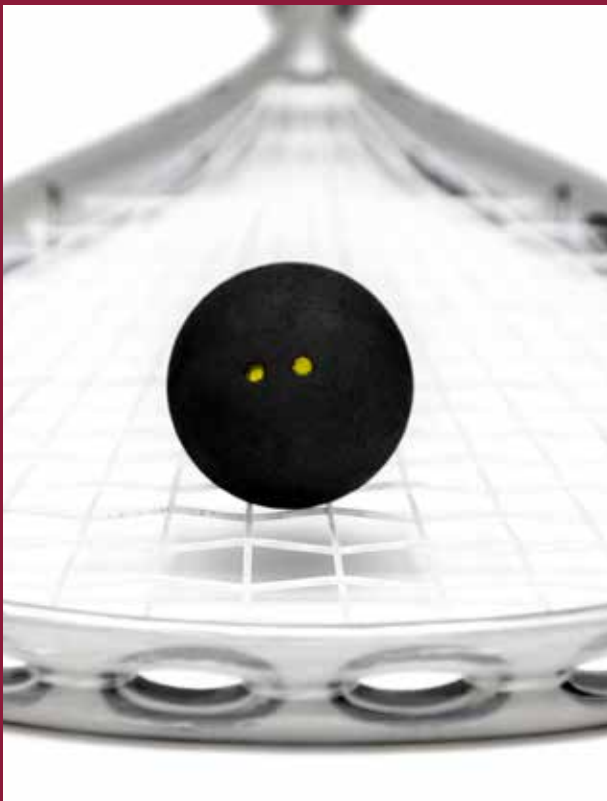
To encourage the continuation of an already healthy association, certain awards were announced to be awarded to many throughout the state.

In 1988 the Aub Amos perpetual trophy was introduced to reward Service to Masters Squash to those who had taken on the task of running the administration of the sport. Aub Amos was the patron of the association from 1979 to 1998, followed by Margaret Davidson and Murray Gaydon (Current Patron)

The Viv Reedman Trophy was presented to the player who exhibited good sportsmanship both on and off the court.

Life Memberships were awarded to Ray Allan, Brian Cook, Laura Shanks, Robyne Bamberry, Kathy Paterson and this year was awarded to Shirley Dorricott.

Globally it wasn't long before Queensland Masters got involved in Representative Squash thanks to the participation and success of many of our members over the years.



Names such as Brian Cook and Robyn Prentice were prominent in the early years in World Masters events and they have been followed on by Ian Freeme and Marilyn Kennedy.

A perpetual competition, the Trans Tasman Series, against New Zealand Masters has allowed many of our state Masters players to represent Australia, a proud moment for those special few.



## **AUB AMOS**

Andrew Aub Amos was instrumental in 1979 in forming our Queensland Masters Association (then Queensland Mature Age Association) in company with Kent Ruffin, Charlie Potts, Joe Shaw, Bernie Tatum and Ernie Robins.

The inaugural Australian Mature Age Championships were held in 1980 at Fiveways Southport Squash Courts.

Aub managed and coached at Annerley, Bardon, Sandgate and Garden City Squash courts. He also spent some time coaching in South Africa and was appointed QSRA Coach for many years travelling to country centres and towns all over Queensland, in his big old Chevrolet and then his Mercedes. He was a great believer in fitness (even though he lived on chocolates and junk food) and would always spend the first coaching session doing fitness exercises. He always worked to the theory that “You don’t play squash to get fit – You get fit to play squash”.

He had a great sense of humour and could “talk the leg off an iron pot”. He played in many Australian Masters Championships and was always competitive while enjoying himself.

# VIV REEDMAN

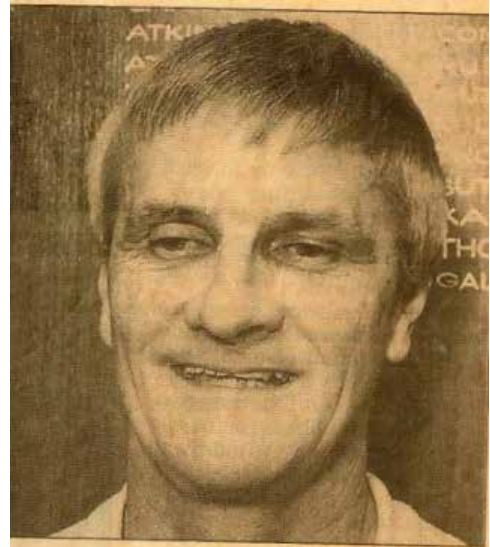
Viv Reedman was from Mackay, married to Pauline and had two children (Tanya and Marcus). He was always in the top three players in Mackay Squash and for one season after injuring his right shoulder he played left handed and could beat most local players.

At the early age of forty he relinquished his interest in Reef Marine to go into semi-retirement to practise part time as a CPA. This allowed him more time to play squash and golf. As he had a pilot's licence, he flew various mates to tournaments throughout the state. Viv travelled extensively in Masters' Squash and was recognised by his fellow players as a man who always played hard but fair.

Over his last decade the competition and fellowship of Master's squash was an important part of his life. He died on his son's 18th birthday in 1997 aged 54.

After his death, Viv's widow Pauline, presented the Viv Reedman Memorial Trophy named the Spirit of Masters Squash Award to a player to acknowledge not only performance, but general attitude, court behaviour, willingness to help, dress code and basically being a thoroughly nice person.

The inaugural Viv Reedman award was presented to Barry McDevitt in 1997.





# ERNIE ROBINS

Ernie was born in Alpha in 1930 where his family had a “selection” on which they ran some cattle and grew cotton and oranges.

In 1959 Ernie along with some other taxi drivers, started playing squash on a Wednesday afternoon at Brisbane Squash Centre at Newstead. In 1960 they moved to Kangaroo Point where Ernie commenced to play fixtures. He found he had a natural aptitude for the game and improved rapidly until he was playing A1Grade with Kent Ruffin in his team.

An O/40 Veteran’s event was always conducted in the Australian Open Squash Championships and Ernie among others competed. In 1979 a group consisting of Ernie, Kent Ruffin, Bernie Tathem, Aub Amos, Joe Shaw and Charlie Potts put their heads together and decided to start their own Queensland Veteran’s Association. In company with Bert Barwick, Joe Dunnage and Mal Buck (World O/40 champion) from Newcastle they held the first tournament at Jindalee courts which proved very successful.

Sun Alliance became a sponsor of the Association and provided financial support for the first Australian Masters Championships, which was held at Southport with a logo of “Boast at the Coast”. Ray Allan was an original Secretary of the Association which thrived in 1980 and became known as Queensland Master Squash Association (QMSA).



**Barry McDevitt, Ray Allan, John Hall**



**Murray Gaydon, Estelle Allan - Darwin**





**Estelle & Ray Allan**



**Owen Sturgess, Jenny Irving, Murray Gaydon**

# QMSA Committee Members 1979 - 2019

YEAR	PRESIDENT	VICE PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	TREASURER	COMMITTEE
1979	Kent Ruffan		Bernie Tatham	Bernie Tatham	Joe Shaw Ernie Robins Aub Amos
1980	Kent Ruffan		Bernie Tatham	Bernie Tatham	Joe Shaw Ernie Robins Aub Amos
1981	Kent Ruffan		Bernie Tatham	Bernie Tatham	Joe Shaw Ernie Robins Aub Amos
1982	Bernie Tatham		Ray Allan	Estelle Allan	Joe Shaw Elva Priestly Kim Sears Helen Hendy
1983	Bernie Tatham		Ray Allan	Estelle Allan	Bob Parker Kim Sears Jan Shalless John Gee
1984	Bevan Brown	Kim Sears	Ray Allan	Estelle Allan	Bob Parker Bernie Tatham Ernie Robins Trevor Millican
1985	Bevan Brown	Ernie Robins	Ray Allan	Estelle Allan	Bob Parker Jeanette Jones Ron Westerlund Carol Bell
1986	Bevan Brown	Joe Hrastnik <i>(Joe Hurst)</i>	Ray Allan	Estelle Allan	Carol Bell Beryl Robertson Brian Mahoney Tom Connor
1987	Bevan Brown	Joe Hrastnik <i>(Joe Hurst)</i>	Ray Allan	Estelle Allan	Beryl Robertson Ed Kirkland Tom Connor Elaine Holpen
1988	Jack Marron	Bob Parker	Joe Hurst	Carmel Caulley	Elaine Holpen Frank Francis Marg Davidson Terry Rippon
1989	Jack Marron	Marg Davidson	Joe Hurst	Carmel Caulley	Terry Rippon Neil Simpson Elaine Holpen Ray Allan Owen Sturgess
1990	Bob Parker	Marg Davidson	Joe Hurst	Adam Djonlagic	Owen Sturgess Neil Simpson Laurel Parker Graham Moisey Brian Cook
1991	Bob Parker	Marg Davidson	Yvonne Cook	L Brock/Barry McDevitt	Neil Simpson Brian Cook Laurel Parker Robyne Bamberry Kevin Bamberry
1992	Bob Parker	Marg Davidson	Yvonne Cook	Frank Francis	Robyne Bamberry Kevin Bamberry Marilyn Kennedy Steve Baldock Neil Simpson Brian Cook Geoff Price Carmel Caulley Carol Bell Carol Ormes
1993	Marg Davidson	Geoff Price	Cheryl Harrison	Frank Francis	Robyne Bamberry Kevin Bamberry Marilyn Kennedy Carol Bell Carmel Caulley Neil Payne Ian Freeme
1994	Marg Davidson	Geoff Price	Cheryl Harrison	Frank Francis	Robyne Bamberry Kevin Bamberry Marilyn Kennedy Carmel Caulley Les Jenkinson Neville Volker Yvonne Cook Bill Merritt
1995	Neil Payne	Marg Davidson	Kay Bennett	Daryl Hampson	Robyne Bamberry Kevin Bamberry Marilyn Kennedy Carmel Caulley Les Jenkinson Heather Jenkinson Bill Merritt Debbie Gunner
1996	Neil Payne	Marg Davidson	Carmel Caulley	Daryl Hampson	Robyne Bamberry Kevin Bamberry Marilyn Kennedy Bill Merritt Dennis Zipp Kay Bennett Les Jenkinson Heather Jenkinson Ray Slater
1997	Neil Payne	Ray Slater	Sharon Volker	Laura Stranks	Robyne Bamberry Kevin Bamberry Marilyn Kennedy Brian Cook Yvonne Cook Darryl Hampson Graham Lanham Kay Bennett
1998	Neil Payne	Ray Slater	Sharon Volker	Laura Stranks	Robyne Bamberry Kevin Bamberry Brian Cook Yvonne Cook Darryl Hampson Graham Lanham Kay Bennett
1999	Neil Payne	Ray Slater	Sharon Volker	Laura Stranks	Robyne Bamberry Kevin Bamberry Lynell Kelly Charlene Gribble Darryl Hampson Brian Cook Yvonne Cook Stephanie Clark
2000	Brian Cook	Ray Slater	Stephanie Clark	Laura Stranks	Robyne Bamberry Sharon Volker Yvonne Cook Barrie McDevitt Ian Forward Peter Street

YEAR	PRESIDENT	VICE PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	TREASURER	COMMITTEE
2001	Brian Cook	Ray Slater	Sharon Volker	Laura Stranks	Robyne Bamberry Sharon Volker Yvonne Cook Barrie McDevitt Ian Forward Peter Street
2002	Brian Cook	Ray Slater	Laura Stranks	Ada Lanham	Yvonne Cook Eileen Barnard Kathy Hickey Graham Lanham Kevin Beatty Debbie Mcdougall
2003	Brian Cook	Kevin Beatty	Laura Stranks	Ada Lanham	Yvonne Cook Eileen Barnard Graham Lanham Kathy Paterson Grace Fabris Helen Watkins Peter Street Ken Hayes John Wehrmann Angelo Denaro
2004	Brian Cook	Angelo Denaro	Laura Stranks	Ada Lanham	Yvonne Cook Eileen Barnard Graham Lanham Peter Street Ken Hayes John Wehrmann Kevin Batty Robyn McCosh Shirley Dorricott
2005	Brian Cook	Angelo Denaro	Laura Stranks	Ada Lanham	Yvonne Cook Eileen Barnard Graham Lanham John Wehrmann Kevin Beatty Robyn McCosh Shirley Dorricott Robyne Bamberry Debbie Halpern
2006	Brian Cook	Angelo Denaro	Laura Stranks	Ada Lanham	Yvonne Cook Kevin Beatty Robyn McCosh Shirley Dorricott Robyne Bamberry Christine Reston Marilyn Kennedy Keith Derham
2007	Brian Cook	Keith Derham	Laura Stranks	Ada Lanham	Yvonne Cook Kevin Beatty Robyn McCosh Shirley Dorricott Robyne Bamberry Angelo Denaro Christine Reston Marilyn Kennedy
2008	Brian Cook	Shirley Dorricott	Laura Stranks	Ada Lanham	Yvonne Cook Marisa Zavattaro Eileen Barnard Kathy Paterson Robyne Bamberry Patricia Knauth Peter Knauth Marilyn Kennedy Keith Derham Andrew Sosimenko
2009	Brian Cook	Shirley Dorricott	Laura Stranks	Ada Lanham	Yvonne Cook Robyne Bamberry Marilyn Kennedy Eileen Barnard Marisa Zavattaro Patricia Knauth Keith Derham Rod Shaw Kevin Beatty Estelle Allan Peter Knauth Gaylene Staples Debbie Halpern Debbie Mcdougall
2010	Brian Cook	Shirley Dorricott	Laura Stranks	Ada Lanham	Ybonee Cook Robyne Bamberry Marilyn Kennedy Eileen Barnard Marisa Zavattaro Patricia Knauth Keith Derham Rod Shaw Kevin Beatty Estelle Allan Joe Hurst
2011	Brian Cook	Shirley Dorricott	Laura Stranks	Peter Knauth	Yvonne Cook Robyne Bamberry Marilyn Kennedy Eileen Barnard Marisa Zavattaro Patricia Knauth Keith Derham Kevin Beatty Estelle Allan Lyn Mallet Curtis Reid Snr
2012	Shirley Dorricott	John Bopf	Sarah Hayden	Peter Knauth	Yvonne Cooke Marilyn Kennedy Patricia Knauth Kathy Paterson Robyne Bamberry Eileen Barnard Laura Stranks Estelle Allan Marisa Zavattaro Kevin Beatty Ada Lanham Joe Hurst Peter Street Janelle Scobie Cathy Aust
2013	Shirley Dorricott		Sarah Hayden	Peter Knauth	Robyne Bamberry Eileen Barnard Marisa Zavattaro Peter Street Janelle Scobie Keith Wone John Bopf
2014	Shirley Dorricott		Sarah Hayden	Peter Knauth	Robyne Bamberry Eileen Barnard Marisa Zavattaro Keith Wone John Bopf Gary Morellini
2015	Shirley Dorricott		Andrew Sosimenko	Peter Knauth	Robyne Bamberry Eileen Barnard John Bopf Lee Conroy Steve Williams Kevin Bamberry Trish Fox Helen Watkins
2016	Andrew Sosimenko		Christine Goodman	Peter Knauth	Robyne Bamberry Kevin Bamberry Eileen Barnard John Bopf Margie Carsburg Lee Conroy Shirley Dorricott Peter Street Trish Fox
2017	Andrew Sosimenko		Christine Goodman	Peter Knauth	Margie Carsburg Lee Conroy Peter Street Marisa Zavattaro Trish Fox Kay Kendall Robyn Prentice Robyne Bamberry Kevin Bamberry
2018	Andrew Sosimenko		Christine Goodman	Peter Knauth	Trish Fox Robyn Prentice Robyne Bamberry Kevin Bamberry Susan Alderdice
2019	Robyn Prentice	Marisa Zavattaro	Christine Goodman	Peter Knauth	Trish Fox Robyne Bamberry Kevin Bamberry Ruth Knight Andrew Sosimenko Shannon Anderson

# ESTELLE ALLAN

I was born in Gympie, the third of four children to Edith and Jim Day. I attended Wellington Point State School and left at the end of Primary School due to my severe asthma and in those days we didn't have the wonder drugs and puffers etc.

In 1975 I had the very best of my life, I married the man of my dreams within five months of meeting Ray.

Until I met Ray I had never been in a squash court. That soon changed. Shelly went to squash at nine days old as Ray was playing in a final. When the children were small I decided to try to play Ladies Daytime squash and it wasn't very successful. The first year we won the "Horses Arse" Trophy and the girls wouldn't walk across the floor at the Greek Club where the presentation took place. I thought any trophy was better than no trophy so I went and came back with a handful of "Horses Arses".

I don't remember the year now but Joe Shaw and Ernie Robins invited us to QE11 Sports Centre for a meeting and asked if Ray and I would be Secretary and Treasurer of the Queensland Masters, which we did for many years. Bernie Tatham was the first President and then Bevan Brown.

In Southport in 1984 Ray and I helped to run the Australian Masters. My most embarrassing moment was when I was checking off the entrants and this female came and just said "Heather". I said "Heather who?" and she said "Heather McKay". Years later at a sporting function we were walking out and someone called out Estelle and I turned round and it was Heather McKay and she said "Would you hold these flowers for Heather Who while she goes to the Loo?"

I have played in six Australian Masters Championships and always make my opponents happy as they mostly win. I have played in two World Masters Championships in New Zealand and Germany.



I was born in Melbourne in 1942, I was an only child and spent my early years in Victoria and then went North. Spent high school days in Cairns and then on to Darwin where I did my electrical and refrigeration apprenticeship.

I was very happy in Darwin and took up tennis which I really enjoyed, but owing to the bad weather at one stage I decided to go along and see how I went at squash, and I was wrapped from the first game and couldn't get enough of it.

When I arrived in Brisbane the first thing I did was to look up a squash court close to home. The first courts I played at were Boomerang at South Brisbane. I had a long and happy association with those courts until they closed, then Holland Park for 27 years. Then on to QEII.

In 198-81 Brisbane had 90 centres and 377 courts and approximately 5000 registered to play competition fixtures.

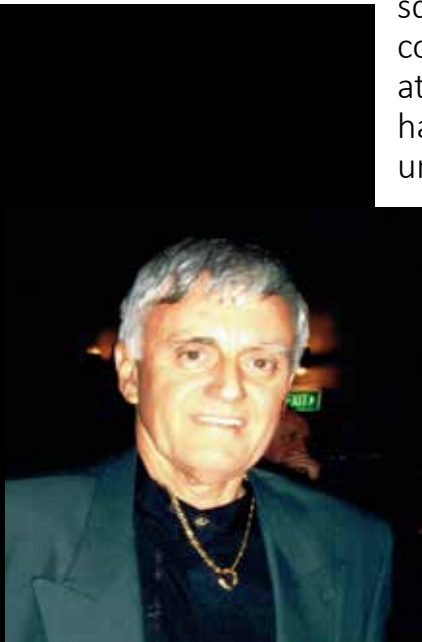
I don't know what it was about me, but I played at Boomerang, Sunnybank, QEII, Holland Park, Garden City and they all closed.

In 1978 the first Mature Squash meeting was held at QEII where Estelle and myself were appointed Secretary and Treasurer and held these positions for many years. They were the days before computers and Estelle had to type everything out and we then had to have the newsletters printed at the post office.

It was a wonderful experience to be able to play in the World Masters in Christchurch, Cologne, Hong Kong and Johannesburg. It was also a great way to see the world.

I sincerely hope I can still play squash for a long while yet!

RAY ALLAN

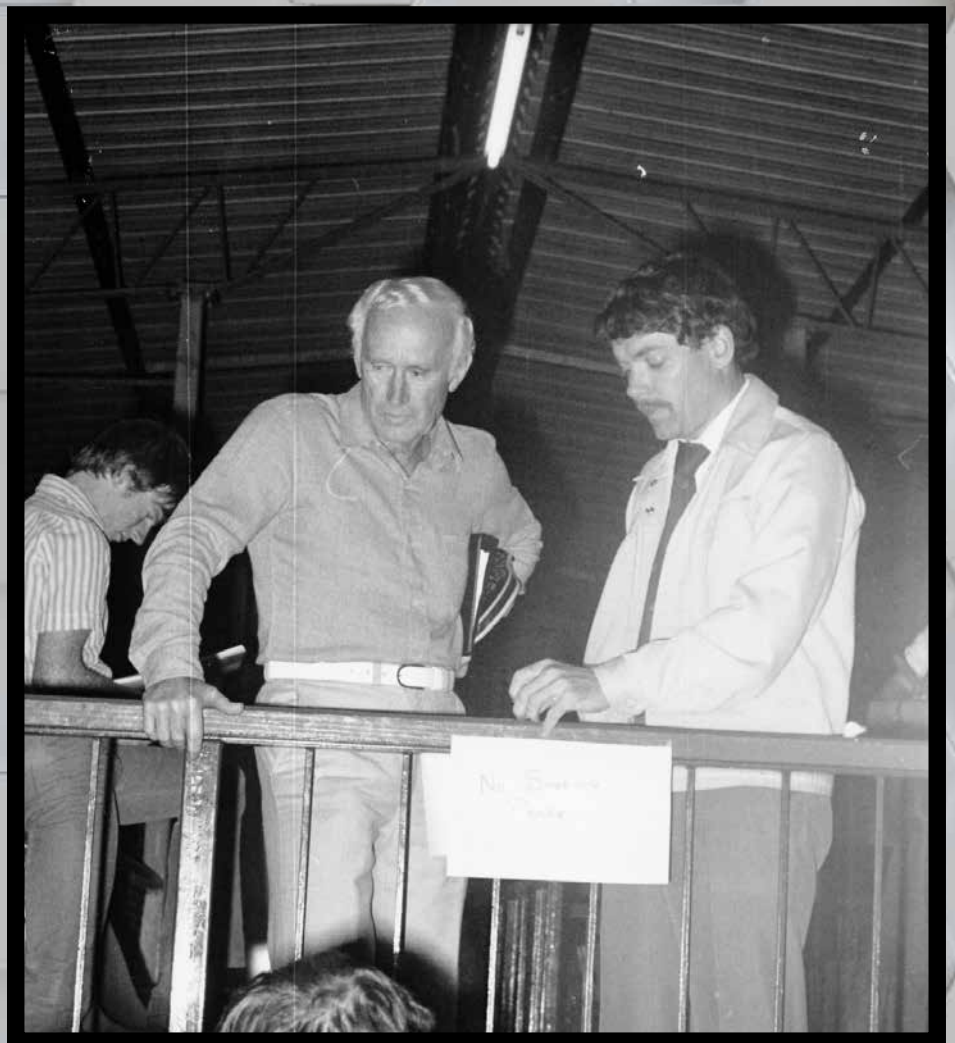




**Estelle Allan  
Estelle Gaydon**

**Aub Amos  
Pat Smythe**

**Toowoomba  
NZ/AUS Test**





**Julie Parks, Helen Watkins, Ray Allan**



**The Rocky Crew 2011**



**LIFE MEMBERS - 2017**

**Ray Allan, Robyne Bamberry, Brian Cook, Laura Stranks**

**LIFE MEMBER -**

**2018**

**Kathy**

**Paterson**

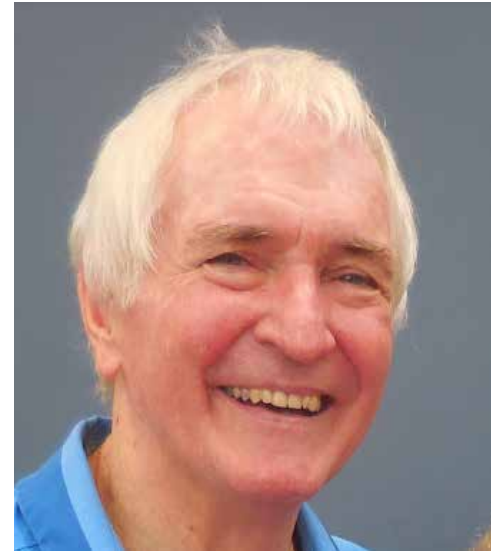




**LIFE MEMBER -  
2019  
Shirley  
Dorricott**



# BRIAN COOK



I was born in Ipswich way back in 1947 approximately nine months after my father returned home from active service in the Army following World War 11.

Ipswich traditionally has a strong sporting heritage, and after the war, many immigrants came to Ipswich to work in the coalmines. The English and Scottish influence quickly raised the standard of rugby league and in particular, soccer, in the region and during my primary school and early high school days, I loved my soccer and was fortunate enough to represent QLD Schoolboys at Under 14 level.

Without ever pushing me, my parents encouraged me to play all sports, and in my last year of primary school, I discovered tennis. My tennis improved rapidly and when I was in my senior year at high school, I managed to be selected in the Queensland Secondary Schools team.

It was during this period in the early 60's, when a particular tennis tournament was being spoiled by constant rain, that I was introduced to squash. I immediately loved the game, but until the mid 70's, only really played the game as an alternative when I could not play tennis.

After school, I did what everyone else did - got a job. I joined the ANZ Bank, working firstly in Ipswich, then in Toowoomba. There I played plenty of tennis, and because of the weather, took up squash fixtures.

After resigning from the Bank, my family moved in to Springwood Squash Centre, that we managed for nearly two years. Fortunately for me, the introduction of Masters squash coincided with my approaching the age of 35, and I could hardly wait to play my first Masters. Since 1983, I have played in every Queensland Masters titles and have missed only one Australian Masters title, that being in 1991 when I had knee surgery.

For the record, I have won Queensland Masters State titles in 1984,88,89,90,91,92,93,94,95,96,97,98,99,2000,01,02,03,04,05,06,07,08,09,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19

Australian Masters National titles in 1987,88,93,95,97,98,99,2000,02,03,05,06,07,08,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18

New Zealand Masters National titles in 1990,93,95,96,2003,07,08,15

World Masters Games titles in 1989-Aarhus, Denmark, 1998-Portland, USA, 2013-Turin, Italy

World Masters Squash titles in 1995-Melbourne, 2003-Helsinki, Finland, 2008-Christchurch, New Zealand, 2014-Hong Kong, 2018-Charlottesville USA

I have also represented Australia in Trans Tasman Masters Test Series against New Zealand in 1988,89,90,92,93,96,99,2000,01,03,05,07,09,13,17

Peter Wright OAM Medal 2016

Life Member QMSA 2017

I have two standout occasions with squash. The first was playing in a British Open in 1998. Unfortunately, I was beaten in the final of the Over 50. However, it was a wonderful experience being part of such an event.

I was the QMSA President from 2000 to 2011 - a huge achievement.



# YVONNE COOK

I was born in Ipswich on 8th February 1949 – the third daughter, in Lyndhurst Private Hospital in Ipswich.

In 1997 I married Brian and “lived happily ever after”. Between us we have six children and 12 grandchildren.

The first fixtures (daytime) I played in were at Jindalee. I played there until squash courts were built at Redbank Plains. From there, I played ladies daytime and then progressed to Ipswich nighttime on a Tuesday night. Back then, I played with Shirley Dorricott and Ada Lanham.

Redbank Plains used to compete in some out-of-town tournaments, and in 1985, we went to Stanthorpe. I played a girl from Toowoomba called Jeanette Jones (some of you will remember her) and she asked me how old I was. I thought “How rude!” When I said 35, she said, “Why don’t you play Masters?” I had never heard of Masters, so I asked her all about it and she told me that the next tournament was at Stafford.

My first Australian tournament was Canberra in 1988 when Angelo Denaro and I drove down together. I played in the teams that year, and my first opponent was Heather Mackay’s sister, and she gave me 9 points – 3 a game. I had such a good time, that I have attended every Australian Masters Tournament since then, not playing in 2007 in Perth because I had ruptured my bicep tendon and torn my rotator cuff.

I was secretary of Queensland Masters for our Australian Masters Tournament in Tweed Heads in 1992, and I have been on the committee since 1994.

# AUB AMOS AWARDS

## ***AUB AMOS EVALUATION IS BASED ON:***

- Services to Masters
- Willingness to serve on Committees
- Input to Running of QMSA Association
- Past or Present Long Standing Member

1989 Neil Simpson

1990 Carol Bell

1991 Ron Westerlund

1992 Bob Martin

1993 Estelle Gaydon

1994 Owen Sturgess

1995 Margaret Davidson

1996 Geoff Price

1997 Neville Volker

1998 Brian Cook

1999 Neil Payne

2000 Grace Fabris

2001 Robyne Bamberry

2002 Barrie McDevitt

2003 Yvonne Cook

2004 Laura Stranks

2005 Kathy Paterson

2006 Kevin Beatty

2007 Ray Slater

2008 Ray Allan

2009 Ada Lanham

2010 Estelle Allan

2011 Dale Robins

2012 Kevin Bamberry

2013 Peter Knauth

2014 Marisa Zavataro

2015 Shirley Dorricott

2016 Eileen Barnard

2017 Marilyn Kennedy

2018 Helen Watkins

2019 Cathy Aust

# VIV REEDMAN AWARDS

## ***VIV REEDMAN EVALUATION IS BASED ON:***

- Standard of Performance at the Player's Level
- Personal Presentation
- Sportsmanship
- On and Off Court Behaviour

1997 Barrie McDevitt

1998 Gordon Barsby

1999 Sharon Volker

2000 John Wehrmann

2001 Yvonne Cook

2002 Pamela Smart

2003 Marie Taylor

2004 Laura Stranks

2005 Brian Cook

2006 Ruth Knight

2007 Chyrel Finlen

2008 Marisa Zavattaro

2009 Curtis Reid Snr

2010 Lyn Mallet

2011 Kevin Bamberry

2012 Neil Hughes

2013 Jo Files

2014 Trish Fox

2015 Andrew Sosimenko

2016 Helen Watkins

2017 Phil Gott

2018 Gavin Davis

## ENCOURAGEMENT AWARDS

The Encouragement Award was suggested by Robyne and Kevin Bamberry. It is awarded annually at the QMSA State Titles. The committee members present at a meeting prior to the Titles suggest suitable players and a secret ballot determines the winner. In the event of numerous nominations; an initial vote is taken and if there is no dominant winner; another vote is taken using only the top two or three vote holders.

Guidelines while not specified, include player improvement and attitude.

2013 Joanne Engel  
2014 Patricia Knauth  
2015 Roslyn Walsh  
2016 Lee Conroy  
2017 Wayne Thompson  
2018 Melissa Elliott  
2019 Gopal Venkat

A selection of badges from across the years, including the QMSA State Championships Badge that was introduced by Shirley Dorricott in 2014.



## LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

2017 Ray Allan  
2017 Robyne Bamberry  
2017 Brian Cook  
2017 Laura Stranks  
  
2018 Kathy Paterson  
  
2019 Shirley Dorricott

# ADA LANHAM

I was born in the Roma District Hospital and at the tender age of 13 months, Mum and Dad decided to leave Roma and bought a farm at Haigslea.

I attended the local primary school at Haigslea travelled travel to Ipswich to attend Brassall Sate High School.

I enjoyed playing softball and tennis whilst at school but living in the country limited me to participating in sport. I would play tennis on a Wednesday night at Brassall Squash Centre with a group of local friends, but this depended on the weather and many a night we couldn't play because of rain.

My sister Rachel played squash at Brassall and encouraged me to strat playing. So at the age of 16 I was introduced to squash and started playing E Grade.

After a disappointing season we went to G Grade and we won! In those days it took a long time to get to A Grade as there were so many people playing.

**In 1981 I started work with Australia Post at the old Roma Street Mail Centre.**

I moved to Brisbane in the early eighties but continued to travel to Ipswich for many years playing at various clubs and making many friends.

I met Graham when I started playing at Acacia Ridge Squash and we were married in 1997 spending our honeymoon with other squashies at the Australian Championships at Ballina. We travelled to most of the Australian Championships ever year after that.

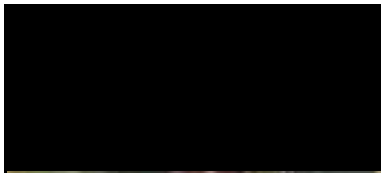
I was Treasurer for QMSA for nine years from 2002 to 2010 (inclusive).



I was born in Brisbane on 26th April 1950 to Leonard and Thelma Hospital, yes my maiden name was Hospital.

Graham and I started playing social squash in the mid 70's when our kids were young. Maree (Simmich) still plays to this day and can beat both her Mother and Father at the game. (Graham has a slightly different opinion to this).

In 1994 I joined Queensland Masters Squash playing in the World Masters Games in Brisbane.



I joined the committee of QMSA a few years later and in 1997 took over the role as Treasurer from the late Daryl Hampson.



All the records then were hand written in a ledger which I promptly transferred to the computer. I held that position until 2001/2002 after which I took over from Sharon Volker as Secretary.

In 2004 I had the honour of receiving both the Viv Reedman and Aub Amos Awards for QMSA.

I have played in 11 Australian Masters Championships winning a few trophies along the way and achieving my 10 year Medallion, as well as becoming a Life Member of QMSA in 2017.

The best part of playing is the laughs I have had and the friendships I have made along the way. Yvonne Cook, Ada Lanham and Shirley Dorricott are just a few.

LAURA STRANKS

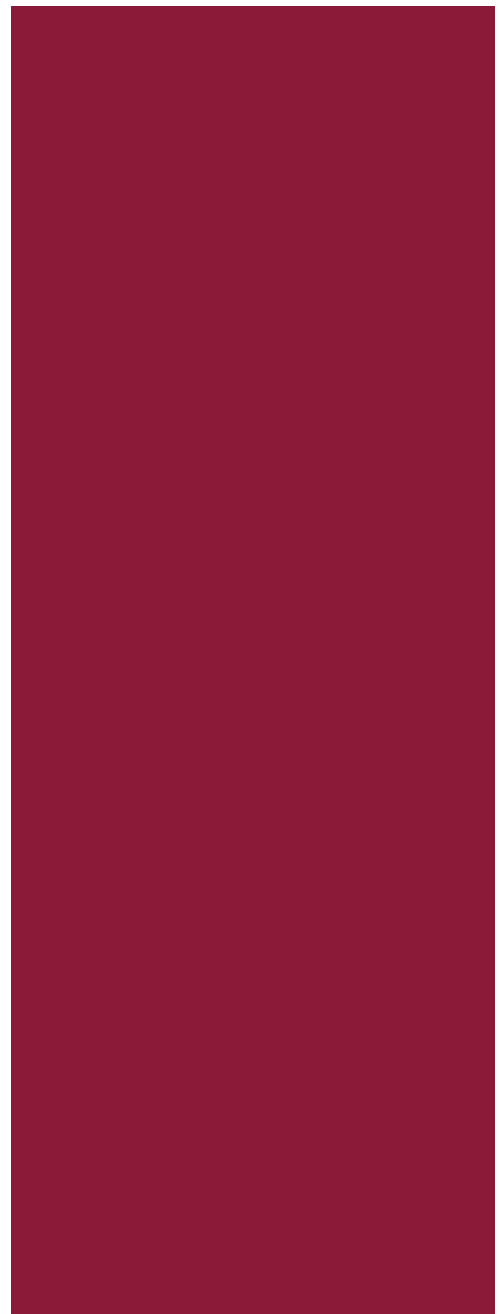
# SHIRLEY DORRICOTT

Shirley first played squash socially with friends, when it was too wet for their usual hit and giggle tennis nights. She started playing fixtures for Redbank Plains in 1979.

During this time, Shirley was in a team with Yvonne Cook, Cathy Aust and Ada Lanham. Ladies who became a huge part of her Ipswich, and later, Queensland Masters' Squash career. In 1992, after much nagging from Yvonne, Shirley started playing Masters Squash. As a teacher, getting time off work to attend the Australian Titles was a problem. However, it was in this role, that she and John Bopf took children from her school for an introduction to squash session at Brassall. Shirley also became involved with Juniors at Brassall Squash coaching sessions and through grants were able to get people like Robyn Prentice to take groups of juniors.

In 1993 her team won the Women's Over 35 Title and the following year when Brisbane hosted the World Masters Games, Shirley's team became World Champions. She worked on the desk at Acacia Ridge and due to her friendship with Yvonne was an unofficial Committee Member. Not long after Shirley joined the Committee. In 2011, as Vice President, Shirley was part of the team that organized the Rockhampton AMSA Titles, mainly gaining sponsorship donations.

In 2012, she became President and oversaw an overhaul of Committee operations. Shirley also took over the task of designing Queensland's badges for the annual AMSA Titles. After receiving the Aub Amos Award in 2015 for Service to Masters, Shirley was granted Life Membership in 2017.







# ROBYNE BAMBERRY

I was born in 1941 the youngest of four children. We grew up in the Gosford area and went to school at the local high school. I represented the school in both tennis and hockey and was selected in a team to represent Gosford district.

After one Saturday hockey match some of the girls asked me to come and play squash on Sunday morning. My reply was "What is that? I've never heard of it". I went and thought it was fun.

My second year of teaching was at Grafton and I lived around the corner from the squash center. Mick Gillette owned the courts and I started having lessons from him and it is to him I owe my understanding of the game. Third year of teaching was Macksville and no squash court in town. After spending a year doing a number of different part time jobs I could manage with the children I decided to try squash again.

I started playing At Camp Hill courts and after two seasons was able to play Premier grade at Balmoral then Kangaroo courts. I started playing Masters' squash in 1988 and have been playing ever since. Kevin and I met at squash fixtures and were married in 1989 and together we have been playing fixtures in the same team and attending our QMSA tournaments and AMSA titles ever since.

I was privileged to have played Heather Mackay twice when she was in Brisbane with the academy.

We play in the state titles every year and I have been lucky to have won 28 age titles

I was privileged to have been selected twice to represent my age group in the Trans Tasman test and both times lucky to have been on the winning team.

I joined the Masters' committee in 1988 and had a couple of years break about 2002 but rejoined and continued on till now. In about 2002 I was given the Orb Amos award for my contribution to Masters' squash and I was honored to be made a Life Member in 2017.

# KATHY PATERSON

I was born in Ballarat (freeeeezing place) on 29 December 1949, we lived there till I was 9 when Dad joined the Army after having spent the previous 4 to 5 years driving the original 23 trailer long Road Trains between Darwin, Adelaide and Perth after getting out of the RAAF.

Thinking I should do something to keep me fit and healthy (to counteract my Mum's genes) – something Bill & I could do, and maybe later the kids, I went to try squash at Woodridge Squash Club. My original (reluctant) coach, Dale Lowe, tried to dissuade me from playing fixtures as I was just too un-co, I was the absolute worst player in the whole club. Dale had to eat his words after my first two seasons when the club presented me with a "Sportsperson of the Year" award as I had won every match in three, mainly because of my serve.

A great friend, Angelo Denaro, introduced me to Masters Squash, telling me what a great social time everyone had at the local tournaments & especially at the Australian Titles. My first of these was Geelong in 1990.

In the early 80's I worked at Rochedale courts on the counter & as Junior coach, from 1996 to 2000 I held a Lease on the 11 court centre at Acacia Ridge, & have worked & coached at Daisy Hill. I still coach at each centre I play at (Pomona, Gympie & Hervey Bay).

Many of the Australian Titles have been very memorable & I still have good friends from way back in the 90's. Twelve years on the best Committee ever (QMSA) as the Tournament Director & other roles was a great place to learn, gain experience in many areas, make friends & work alongside other committed squashies.

As a member of QMSA I have been honoured to receive the Aub Amos Perpetual Trophy for services rendered in 2005 and was made a Life Member in 2018. I have been lucky enough to win quite a few Qld State Titles in 1997, 1999, from 2000 to 2005, 2007, & from 2009 to 2017 with the exception of 2015. Perseverance did pay off, enabling me to win Australian Titles in 2010, 2011, 2015 & 2017 with quite a few Runners-up along the way.

My first World Masters was in Brisbane in 1996, then in Melbourne in 2001. I came 2nd in Capetown in 2006, 3rd in Christchurch in 2008 & 3rd in Koln (Colone) in 2010. In 2011 I played in the Trans Tasman Test Series in Nelson NZ.

I have loads of friends & many great memories (some not so great too), from playing our fantastic sport, I did have a goal to be a World No. 1 Over 100 years old Champion!



I came into this world just west of Sydney to parents George and Judy Sosimenko. My formative years were not spent playing squash, but rather heavily involved in motor sport.

My first real competition game of squash was while I was studying at Uni (UNSW). I started in C11 in the Eastern Suburbs division and played no. 3 in a 4 man team. From that time I played continuously in competition until I went to Germany on a student exchange program at Bonn University for 6 months. Living in

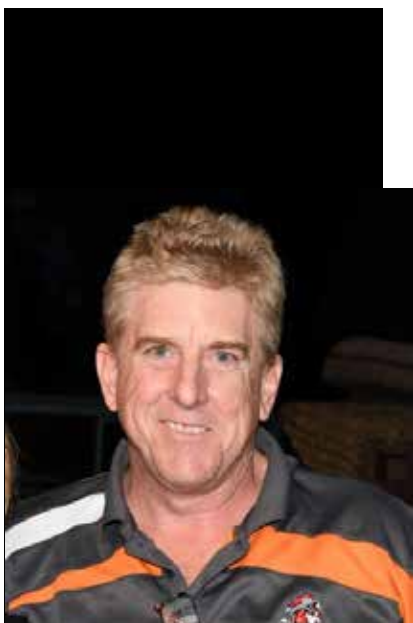
another country for a length of time is a must do, I learnt a great deal about life outside Australia.

I started playing squash at the Beerwah Squash courts (now demolished and replaced with a set of townhouses) and made some great friends there. Since that time I have played for Caboolture, Caloundra and am now playing for Acacia Ridge.

My first game in Masters Squash was at Caloundra in a timed teams event (Angelo Denaro was a team mate). Since that game I have always looked forward to the next Masters tournament.

I'll finish my story in about 30 to 40 years. Hopefully I can keep playing Masters, and enjoying the friendship that comes with playing Masters for a long time to come.

I was President of QMSA from 2016 to 2018, but handed over the reins to Robyn Prentice as I was relocated to Bundaberg for work.



ANDREW SOSIMENKO

# JAN WHACKETT

I was born in Coffs Harbour in 1937 but lived in a small village called Nana Glen situated between Coffs Harbour and Grafton.

My parents owned a dairy farm and while it was long hours and hard work I have very fond memories of my life on the farm. My claim to fame is that actor Russell Crowe now owns the farm that I grew up on.

I was a late starter at squash but had my first game in 1964, and at the beginning of 1966 my husband, Kev, and I bought the squash courts in Tamworth. Some of my great memories during the 8 years we were there were visits from Heather and Bryan McKay and Qamar Zaman and one of the Khans from Pakistan who all played exhibition matches.

When Masters squash first started I was on the NSW Committee and Registrar for 24 years. I was also the first Registrar for Australian Masters Squash, holding the position from 1984 to 1988.

In 1981 I attended my first Australian Masters Squash Championships held in Adelaide and what an eye opener it was for this country girl.

I have attended every Australian Championship since then, visiting every Australian State and Territory many times. I can boast that I am the only person in Australia to have achieved that milestone and am very proud of it! Long may it continue!

I have had some success during that time, winning an Australian Open Title five times and runner up a couple of times.

***Laugh a lot, live longer and so will !!***





# BERYL ROBBINS

I was born in Cairns in 1938 the only daughter of Fred & Violet Brown. My Dad was a returned soldier of WW1, having served in France for 3 years.

When I was 12 my parents moved to Cairns where I finished my school years. I began working life in an office but decided to try nursing to be with my school pal from Mackay. She had relatives in Victoria so we did our nurses training in Mooropna Victoria where I met and married Reg in 1960.

We came back to Cairns to live where I worked in the A&E department of the Cairns Base Hospital for many years. Dale was born in 1961 and his sister Carla was born in 1963.

I started playing squash in 1969, and soon became addicted.

When all the family became squash addicts it was time to find a more economical way to enjoy our sport, so in 1977 I left nursing to become a squash court operator and we leased a squash centre for 3 years. During this time Dale, Carla & I travelled to squash tournaments from Rockhampton to Cairns with reasonable success. We travelled to Brisbane once a year for Queensland Titles, where Dale managed to get himself noticed and was selected in the first Australian junior team to compete overseas.

I joined QMSA in 1980 during its early years. It was then known as Qld Mature Age Squash sponsored by Sun Alliance Insurance. I kept in touch from afar.

We built our own centre in 1980 and stayed there till 2000 when we relocated to Jimboomba to be closer to our family.

I played in the World Masters games in 1994 where I won a Silver Medal, Rita Paulos taking out the Gold.

I played very little squash from 1994 till 2008 when I started playing here in Brisbane, occasionally at first, building up to trying to play twice a week now.

I was rewarded for my efforts by winning both the Queensland and Australian Over 70 titles in 2011. and hope to keep playing for as long as I am able.

# EILEEN BARNARD

Eileen used to play tennis with her sister, who also played squash. Frequent rain cancellations convinced her sister to ask Eileen to try squash. She never went back to tennis; finding it too slow. Like many people, she played squash in the Brisbane World Masters' Games in 1994 and has played ever since. Her team won bronze in their division.

Being a very competitive person, Eileen likes the challenge of the one on one nature of the game, whether it be Individuals or Teams. Off court she enjoys the comradeship and the long term friendships that develop. Also, with her friend / secretary/ travel agent Shirley; Eileen has taken advantage of the visits to other States to stay and explore. She believes that without squash, she wouldn't have seen very much of our great country

Squash keeps her active and healthy. Eileen has been very fortunate and apart from a shoulder reconstruction, has experienced very few injuries. She has also had the privilege of playing Heather Mckay in a combined age group at a State Titles. Despite losing 9-3, 9-3, 9-3; she was pleased with the performance after Heather congratulated her by saying, "I don't give away points, you earned every one." She also played and beat Vic Hunt at the 2003 AMSA Titles on the Gold Coast.

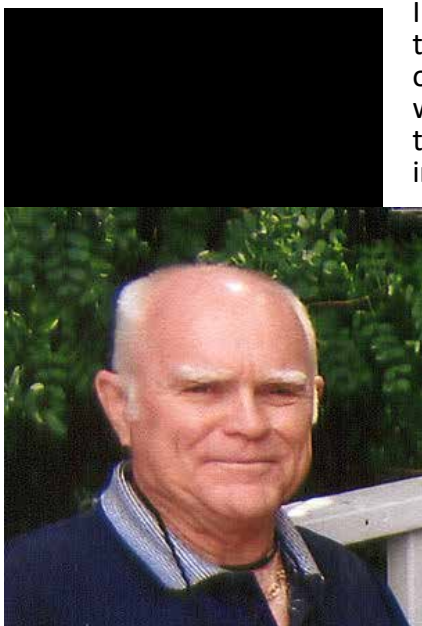
Eileen was a long time Committee member and was well known, as the lady who sold the Lucky Numbers. She really enjoys the social interaction.

In 2015, Eileen received the Aub Amos Award for service to Queensland Masters' Squash. She has no intention of giving up squash, any time soon and as well as Masters, she still plays the Friday Daytime Competition and regularly wins her matches.



My name is Ray Slater and I was born and schooled in Toowoomba attending the Toowoomba East State School and the Toowoomba State High School down in the CBD. I must also say that Robyn Prentice and I were 1 class apart at the same 2 schools. Due to a serious leg infection at age 5, spending 2 months in hospital, I was not permitted to play sport but was allowed to swim with the Olympic Swimming Club and found my niche in spring- board diving.

When I left school in 1959 I worked in Toowoomba. It was during this time I was introduced to SQUASH. During a lunch break a work colleague and I visited the only squash court in Toowoomba, at the time, in Neil Street on top of the Shell Garage. Unfortunately



I played bare foot and because of the horrendous blisters on the soles of my feet I could hardly walk for a week. After my first job stint I joined the Bank of New South Wales and was immediately transferred to Gatton, a small town about ½ to ¾ hour drive from Toowoomba. A group of us used to drive to Toowoomba periodically to play squash. Next I was transferred to Brisbane and that is where the sporting bug hit. Next was a transfer to Bundaberg (1961) where I met Barrie McDevitt who was running the Bundaberg Squash Centre.

We kept in touch with Barrie McDevitt since Bundaberg days and one day he convinced me to join Masters' squash. A few years later I joined the Qld committee. Some time later I assisted in compiling an up to date constitution for Queensland Masters Assn. A few years after that I was on a committee of 3 to travel to Sydney to compile a Memo and Articles of Association document to incorporate the Australian Masters' National Body. I have played in all the Australian Masters Championships since joining, 5 World Masters Games and most of Queensland Masters tournaments until the last 18 months due to 2 back operations.

God willing I will be able to continue playing squash for some time to come. I play now as best I am able not so much to win but to participate and continue to enjoy the sportsmanship that Masters' players display and especially the companionship of all Masters' players that I have met both here in Australia and World wide.

RAY SLATER

# ROBYN PRENTICE

When asked to provide a profile of my life by QMSA, my thoughts immediately took me back to where Squash started for me. Like many Aussies, many of my base skills started with Tennis. Such a great sport too - Challenging. But if it rains! Well that's another story.

Within a few years of playing tennis, I had reached A grade and probably would have stuck with it – except In 1961, the Austral Motors social club in Toowoomba had a squash night at Russ Brown's squash courts. My first memory of squash was running into the wall heavily and stunning myself with a nasty knock! I was so used to running over the sidelines in tennis that my spatial awareness was limited!

For all that, the first moment I tried to hold that smaller racquet and the even smaller black ball in my hand, I realised I had discovered a greater passion. Strangely enough, on the same night, I was approached by one of the local women players to play fixtures and, by the way, any chance you could become our Results Secretary?

While achieving my personal squash goals and raising a family well was hugely important to me, my life as a volunteer for Toowoomba Squash began in 1962 and I was fortunate to be a part of keeping Squash alive in Toowoomba and South East Queensland in roles as Coach, Coach Educator, Publicity Officer, Secretary, Treasurer, and then Southern Region Coordinator from 1984 -1988.

A life highlight for me was being one of a number of Toowoomba sportspeople who were honoured in 1993 by the Toowoomba City Council for their achievements and contribution to their sport. A sporting oval in Toowoomba was named for all of those who were honoured.

Other proud Aussie moments:

- 1985 Australia Day Toowoomba Sports Award
- 1985 Darling Downs Sports Star of the Year
- 2000 Australian Sports Medal







## **TIME FOR NEW GOALS !**

In 1984 I ventured into my first Masters Squash tournament in Adelaide and absolutely loved the friendly atmosphere with players of all levels and ages coming together to enjoy squash, both socially and on the court. When the Trans Tasman Series opened up an opportunity to play for Australia in this event, I was elated as, whilst my career had been extensive in playing against many of Australia's great players, I did not have the opportunity to play for Australia in the early years. For the next 4 years I played and was successful in Masters events at Local, State, National and International levels culminating with a World 40+ title in Auckland and representing Australia in the Trans Tasman Series from 1984 – 1988. So many friends made along the way are still a special part of my life.

When asked what was the match that stood out as most memorable I bring to mind the final of the World 45 Plus event in Sydney, when I returned from Canada to challenge Heather McKay. Heather has been and still is my squash idol and to see myself challenging her for a World Masters Title was quite the task! Heather was too good for me on the day but I was comforted that I challenged her in a competitive 4 set match.

In 1989 another big chapter of my life opened up with a move to Canada to take a position as Head Squash Coach at the Royal Glenora Club in Edmonton. Lester and I had taken separate ways and the opportunity to further my professional coaching career and to support my youngest son was a good option.

In closing, suffice to say that I feel privileged that my life path has had much joy, many successes, disappointments and disillusionments, but I remain strong in knowing that the friendships I have made along the way will remain strong and special to me and the future remains open to whatever I choose to create for myself. So GET ACTIVE players! Support your clubs! Age is no barrier! There is always another challenge just around the corner. And, who knows, when you wear the green and gold for the first time, you'll be glad you did. If you do not get to wear the green and gold, there is a lot of joy and fulfilment in wearing your State colours. There's no feeling quite like it.

***Happy Squashing!***



After competing in my first Masters Tournament in Adelaide in 1984 I returned to my hometown with a plan to introduce a separate competition for Over 35 players. I introduced a concept to the Toowoomba court operators at that time and what is now known as Club 33 emerged and is still operating in Toowoomba today.

My early years of Masters Squash was restricted to the Queensland, Australian & World Tournaments so I was unable to play weekend tournaments due to conflict with these. However, I was passionate about involving Toowoomba Masters players at that time in these tournaments and was elated when many chose to extend their play outside Toowoomba.

During these years, I was not a Committee member of QMSA. However, my contribution in building Masters Squash was recognised prior to my departure to take a coaching position in Canada by the Secretary at that time, Joe Hurst.

***So the Trip Back in Time has revolved where I find myself totally enjoying the Masters squash community and look forward to continuing to work with QMSA in whatever capacity is needed.***