

## ***The Fives Federation – February Newsletter***

The Eton Fives and Rugby Fives Associations formed the Fives Federation in February of 2005. A year ago we published our first Newsletter, and in the summer our first Joint Annual Report. We are delighted that these joint publications were received with acclaim by the memberships of both Associations, underlining the confidence our members have in the initiative we have taken.

A key development in 2006 has been

the formation of the City Fives Association under James Toop's chairmanship, to drive the One-Wall Fives initiative; and James and Sanjaya Ranasinghe from the CFA have joined the Fives Federation Board to ensure a co-ordinated approach and the maximum support from the whole of the Fives community for this important initiative.

We continue to exchange, and benefit from, ideas and developments in our two

games during our quarterly meetings – from strategic initiatives through ideas for sponsorship to practical details, all devoted to helping our two codes prosper even more strongly in the future through drawing on everything that we can learn from each other.

We hope that this Newsletter will further enhance all members' understanding and appreciation of all that is going on in our two games throughout the country.

**John East**, President, RFA  
**Richard Barber**, Chairman, EFA

# ***Courts on the Way Up!***



It has been a hectic few weeks on the courts front with a number of exciting new projects at various stages of completion. The building of four new rugby fives courts is currently underway at Oundle School which is the highest number of new courts to be built in one location for well over 30 years. The photos show work at its early stages but the roofs are now on and the plastering work has just started. The courts, which will form part of the school's sports centre, will be formally opened in May but may be available for playing in March. The existing courts will regrettably be demolished but the new facilities will undoubtedly help to heighten the profile of the game at the school.

The RFA recently became aware of the existence of three unused roofless courts (pictured overleaf) at King Charles 1 school in Worcester, where the School Council has asked for the courts to be refurbished. Estimates are currently being obtained.

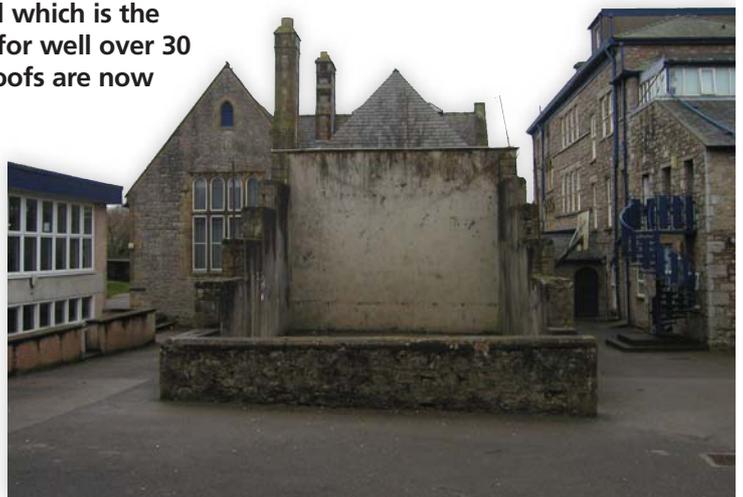
In a similar vein the six courts at Stoke Newington, which are also currently roofless, are shortly to have a major overhaul. A new roof covering all six courts will be added, new doors

installed, the walls will be replastered and a new finish will be put on the floors.

Through the Old Boys' Society of Heversham Grammar School, the RFA has been advised of the decision by the school to revive Fives there. Heversham, previously a Grammar school until 1984, is now a split-site Comprehensive currently providing boarding facilities for some 60 pupils (boys and girls). The court (pictured below) is somewhat dilapidated and used as a tennis wall and kick around facility. Estimates are currently being obtained for the required remedial work to which the RFA has agreed to contribute.

In other court news, planning consents are being sought for enclosing the courts at Sedbergh and the Evans House court there has been renovated. Anyone who has suffered the condensation problems

*Continued overleaf ...*



# Notes from Ian Fuller

## RFA General Secretary

- Enclosed with your Newsletter is a questionnaire regarding the increased use of e-mails for the distribution of information. Please take a few minutes to complete the form and return it to me.
- The courts at Tonbridge School are amongst the oldest in the country and are currently enjoying their 100th season of continuous use. The Old Tonbridgian Fives Club is organising a centenary lunch at the school on Saturday 24th March 2007 and invites any Tonbridgian who enjoyed playing Fives at the school, at whatever level! For those who are still active players, there will be some informal fives in the afternoon. If you have not already received notice of the event then please contact Bill Gunyon on 01962 851906 or e-mail .
- We are very sorry to report the death in October 2006 of Jack Slater. Jack was a very talented left-hander who won various schools titles, the BUSA doubles and several regional tournaments, as well as being runner up in both the National singles and Doubles championships. However, perhaps he will be best remembered as one of the great 'touring' Fives players who made any fives tour hugely more enjoyable by his presence off the court as much as on it. A full obituary will appear in the Annual Review.
- It is pleasing to report that David Urquhart was installed as Bishop of Birmingham on the 17th November 2006. David was educated at Rugby and has played with the Guthrie Dalesmen on an occasional basis.
- Although not a member, some of you may know Robert Hopwood, an Old Giggleswickian, who we would like to congratulate on celebrating his 100th birthday on 15th November 2006. Robert went on to play fives regularly at the old Manchester YMCA Club at Peter Street and like many of us has clear recollections of climbing over 130 steps to the courts there!

## Courts on the Way Up!

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at Sedbergh will appreciate what a transformation this could make. Blundell's too are considering enclosing some or all of their courts which would have similar results.

Thanks to the persistence of Steve Korris, two courts at Leeds University have now been fully restored and are available for play. Discussions are taking place about improving the courts at both Giggleswick school and at Halifax.

Work continues to try and persuade those schools e.g Haileybury, Felsted, who have courts but don't play, to revitalise the game through the provision of coaching facilities. Having funds available through the Charitable Trust has enabled us to be far more proactive in offering assistance to schools.

# Revival at Wolverhampton G.S.

**After a decade without regular fives, Wolverhampton Grammar School has once again embraced the game.**

As an Old Wulfrunian, I rediscovered Fives four years ago after a 10-year break following University. The power of the Internet and the Eton Fives website led me to Andrew Mitchell and the Shrewsbury Monday Club. The Monday Club and Salopian fives has ensured a good standard of competition in the Midlands. A meeting with Howard Wiseman at the Northern Championships in February 2006 suggested that it may be possible to rekindle Fives at W.G.S.

Richard Barber arranged a meeting with the Head, Bernard Trafford, and the Head of P.E. John Johnson in November 2006. I accompanied Richard and received a warm welcome from both Bernard and John. The School had built new courts adjacent to a new Sports Hall in the mid 1990's. Originally there were six courts with excellent lighting and covered backcourt area. One of the courts has subsequently been converted into a climbing wall, leaving five courts ready and waiting to be played on.

Both Bernard and John were keen to see fives played on a regular basis and make use of the excellent facilities that had been lying dormant. The enthusiasm at the meeting ensured that cooperation and funding were readily agreed between the Eton Fives Charitable Trust, the E.F.A., the R.E.F.C.A. and Wolverhampton Grammar School.

December 2006 saw me at the front of the Junior Assembly explaining the merits of Eton Fives to a group of 180 boys and girls. We followed up with

two after school taster sessions that provided the pupils with an opportunity to come and have a go at a new sport. The taster sessions saw all the courts full and over 30 pupils enjoying a new challenge. The success of the taster sessions has seen Fives introduced to Year 7 Games and an After School Fives Club established. Although it is still early days there is definitely enthusiasm to seeing fives re-established in a school that has had such a prolific past.

**Mark Yates.**



# City Fives Association Report

2007 is the year that the CFA gets serious. We are putting structures in place to ensure that we are able to expand the association and target five London boroughs from September this year. This means focusing on three areas; attracting funding, incorporating as a charitable company, and making our work in London schools sustainable.

Full-time coaches and administrative staff are essential if the CFA is to continue expanding its work in London schools. Therefore, we have set ourselves the target of raising £50,000 from corporate and charitable sources by September. We have been conducting research until now with professional fundraisers, trusts and corporate social responsibility departments and are now in a position to start approaching potential sponsors. A major retail bank, the Youth Sports Trust, and a charitable foundation have already indicated their interest in the CFA, and we are confident of achieving the target.

To continue attracting this level of funding we are applying to become a charitable company. This will formalize the association and give our sponsors the confidence to continue supporting us long-term. It is also important to have a

committed and experienced board in place and the CFA trustees will be made up from a combination of current CFA board members and other supporters with experience from business, sports and charitable sectors.

None of this will be possible though unless we can continue proving that 1-wall Fives is sustainable and meets a need for London schools. To do this we launched a school membership scheme which provides schools with support to set up after-school clubs, mark out courts and train staff. The scheme started in Kensington and Chelsea with schools that received free coaching and we already have 5 member schools and a further 10 interested. Links have also been



*James Toop playing in the World One Wall championships in Edmonton*

established with the Lambeth Healthy Schools partnership to begin coaching this summer.

Further information about the CFA's strategy, goals and sponsorship costs can be found on our supporter website, [www.cityfives.org.uk](http://www.cityfives.org.uk). Please take a look and if you know of any potential sources of support, then please get in touch.

*James Toop*

## NEWS FROM ALDENHAM FIVES CLUB

### *Fancy dress fives at AFC*



*Winner of the AFC's Fancy Dress Fives competition, Chris Cernuschi, in his Snow White costume and first prize Percy Penguin.*

Christmas came early at Aldenham Fives Club in December when the last Tuesday before the Yuletide was named Fancy Dress Fives Day.

Within the fog-bound courts could be seen players dressed in fisherman's gear, a cricketer, a skier, a snowman and even a Happy Slapper!

"It was just done for a laugh," said organiser Phil Lyndon (Happy Slapper), "though the costumes were a bit of a hindrance when reaching for those ankle level cuts."

New rules were invented for the event

which dictated that costumes impeding the ball were deemed a let – these included Simon Randall's pads, Phil's breasts, Andrew Fraser's bobble hat, Martin Lindsay's yellow waders, Jim Fredenham's skis and Bob Pace's tri-cornered hat.

Prizes were awarded in the pub afterwards with Chris Cernuschi taking top slot for his dainty Snow White costume. The judges felt that his outfit suited him and that his girly style of play matched his dress perfectly.

"Chris did look very pretty, so much so that a drunk in the pub took a fancy to him and invited him out on a date...after he'd copped a bit of a feel," revealed Phil.

*Phil Lyndon*

## Fives Online and the Ladder Competition

Fives Online, a new online portal, has quickly become an important hub for the Eton Fives community since it was launched in September. The website ([www.fivesonline.co.uk](http://www.fivesonline.co.uk)) brings together previously 'scattered' information, such as the fives fixture list, as well as club and court information aimed at active players or those returning to the game. It has also become an active online network with over 260 people registered to the website. With players' contact details easily available via a player directory, people are using the site to keep in touch with each other and arrange matches. Fives Online has also helped players returning to the game after many years to integrate with the rest of the community and find opportunities to get back on court.

In addition, Fives Online works hand in hand with the new Ladder Competition. Players sign up to participate in any Ladder event via the website; it then tracks how players climb up or slide down the ladder as they win or lose in a series of time limited encounters. It really has proved to be an exciting and popular format. There have been 6 rounds in the Ladder so far with an average of 6 courts in use and almost 80 players involved. Even players who have been on the scene for a while have been surprised by the number of 'new faces' turning up at Ladder events. Thus, the Ladder along with Fives Online has had a big impact on both increasing participation and drawing together previously disparate groups.

The EFA is keen to further develop Fives Online. The ambitions for 2007 include:

- improving the club and court information sections
- increasing the number of players registered to the site, especially students and sixth-formers about to leave school
- encouraging tournament organisers to make better use of the site to advertise and recruit for major tournaments

If you want more information about Fives Online or the Ladder competition (there are three more dates left this season) please visit [www.fivesonline.co.uk](http://www.fivesonline.co.uk). Joining the Fives Online player directory is easy – just a brief introduction, a handful of simple questions and you're ready to go. However, to protect the site from unwanted guests you'll need this registration password - *buttress5* – when you first sign up. For help with Fives Online registration, please email Dan Hawkins at [register@fivesonline.co.uk](mailto:register@fivesonline.co.uk).

*Dan Hawkins*

## RFA President's Note...

Last year my theme was that the game of Rugby Fives was in pretty good health as regards the number of enthusiastic players at various different levels (school, university and senior), but that there were still obvious dangers such as the loss of courts at Sutton Valence last year driven, ultimately, by an insufficient number of well supported coaches in schools that have the facilities. The potential loss of courts is still a serious concern in other schools such as Haileybury and Rutlish, but perhaps overall the tide is beginning to turn somewhat as there are also a number of positive and exciting developments affecting rugby fives courts as mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter.

We have tried to encourage more coaching, by holding a coaching day for coaches at St. Paul's School in September. More of these events will be held if there is any demand. A dozen or so masters attended, and it was good to see, amongst others, Bedford Modern well represented as well as the Pilgrims prep school. Extending fives into more prep

schools which have easy access to courts seems to me to be an initiative that should be strongly encouraged, as it will help to ensure a good playing base in schools at the more senior level.

Following Denise Hall Wilton's retirement from the Board in June we are delighted to welcome Melanie Whitehead (pictured) onto the Board. Whilst female fives is not

strongly supported in many locations, there are some positive examples, such as Blundells School, which show that it could become more popular and the Board is keenly aware that it needs to do all that it can to help to encourage the development of female fives, especially in schools in the first instance. Having Melanie's input will certainly be a big help in this respect.



Staying with Board members for the moment I would like particularly to thank Ian Roberts for taking up David Barnes' mantle so successfully in producing (with Mike Fenn of the EFA) this year's Annual Report. I believe the Joint Report is a great step forward for both games.

This note would not be complete without a reference to One Wall Fives, which is being steadily developed in London Boroughs, and is hopefully going to raise enough finance to put it on a more professional footing. If it gets going it will certainly benefit all forms of fives in the longer run. More on that too elsewhere.

Lastly congratulations to Matt Cavanagh for regaining his singles title with some impressive precision play; and a note for the diary to attend the 80th anniversary dinner of the RFA (referred to elsewhere) at Queens Club with your partner on 29th September 2007. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

John East

## EFA February Newsletter 2007 – Chairman's Report

This Newsletter marks the third anniversary of my taking over as Chairman of the Eton Fives Association. I said when I did so that I defined three main priorities –

- (i) to make sure that the "engine house" of the game is running well – in the schools, the clubs, the management and popularity of the competitions; and the good ordering of the Association and its Board.
- (ii) to ensure that the Westway project is supported, healthy and growing
- (iii) to develop a forward strategy for Eton Fives, as a framework for directing the scarce resources of the Association to the areas which will most benefit the game nationally at this stage of its development.

I can report that in most of these areas the game is flourishing.

- Regarding the first, there is enthusiasm among those who organise the game in all its facets, good records of attendance in League, Ladder, matches and competitions, and a united and active Board composed of people from all walks of the game, with Sian Evans our most recently-appointed Director representing the growing importance of Ladies' Fives throughout the game.
- Regarding Westway, we have expanded the Fives coaching team in 2006, and over 300 people a week are now playing on the main courts, or in the One Wall version for which new courts have now been permanently marked out there.
- And the new Strategy for Eton Fives published in January 2005 has continued to drive new initiatives during 2006, notably in the fields of Schools Fives, the Ladder competition and the introduction of a dedicated Fives IT system – 'Fives Online' – which has the potential to revolutionise the game through the benefits it can bring for all our strategic objectives such as the managing matches, contacting people, tracking school leavers and expanding our player base.

The single most crucial element of the senior game is of course the Clubs, around which the whole game is structured. As stated later in this Newsletter, "there are too many of our Clubs which are just surviving, rather than thriving" and it is to support and strengthen this part of the "engine house" of Eton Fives that the EFA's main efforts and resources are already turning in 2007.

In January 2005 I wrote in the Newsletter:

*"Our new Strategy will require great effort, and will involve Change. But 'Change' is just a nickname for 'Opportunity' for people who really believe in it. So this Strategy is about action and also about believing in something – namely the preservation and strengthening of the best court game in the world. Not a bad cause for which to ask everyone involved in the game to light a candle!"*

Two years on I am excited by the progress we are making, confident of the success of our numerous initiatives to strengthen the game, greatly appreciative of the efforts of so many people to make it all work, and hugely grateful for the help and advice which I am constantly receiving personally in fulfilling my role.

Richard Barber – Chairman

## Eton Fives Strategy Report

The Strategy for Eton Fives which was approved in 2005 had at its heart the encouragement and support of Fives at Schools, the essential base of the game. To this end the Chairman has visited the Headmasters of 28 schools in 2006, from which a number of exciting initiatives have flowed – not least the EFA's support for the resurrection of Fives at Wolverhampton Grammar School, formerly one of the leading Fives playing schools in the country.

A core part of our Schools' strategy is to encourage a much greater flow of school leavers into the senior game. We hope that Fives Online, the game's new interactive website where players can enter their own contact details and personal aspirations to play, will make a huge difference to this flow – as well as to the organisation of matches through the availability of an accurate and more substantial list of players.

Fives Online is also enabling the new Ladder to prosper, a key initiative as a regular source of friendly, accessible Fives enabling participants to find matches throughout the season at their own standard of play.

Our priorities are now focusing on the Clubs, where there remain too many merely surviving rather than thriving. The strength of the game at Club level is a key indicator of the strength of the game in the country as a whole, and here we must succeed in increasing the flow of school leavers into adult Fives, enable Clubs to identify, hold and expand their player numbers, and ensure robust management, motivation and membership. This focus will be a high priority for the EFA during the rest of 2007.

Anthony Wagg – Director Strategy

## RFAC Mid-Season Report

Stepping into the shoes of someone who was as adept at running the club as Denise was a daunting task and I would firstly like to thank her for the time she has put into helping me get to grips with the demands of my new role.

Having sent out all the match details before the start of the season I am also pleased to report that I have actually had some replies. Thank you to all those who have contacted me so far with results and also for some of the stories that come with them. Tom Maconie in particular wanted to point out that contrary to what some of you may have heard in Dick Warner's speech at the Jesters Strawson Dinner in October, it was the RFA not the Jesters who emerged victorious from the fixture. Exercise, it appears, has a nasty 'fudging' effect on Mr Warner's mathematical skills!

Looking forward, there are plenty of fixtures planned for the next half of the season and I would encourage you all to get involved. I have thoroughly enjoyed the fixtures that I have been involved in so far and would also like to thank our opposition teams for their excellent hospitality. Good luck for the rest of the season, I look forward to hearing about all your endeavours on and off the court.

*Ed Fuller*

## EFA Fives Appeal – Takes Off!

Our Appeal for funds to ensure the future of the game was launched in November and there has been a good response. Thank you to those of you that have made an early commitment. I am now asking all other Eton Fives players and supporters to make a donation. It doesn't have to be a large sum: with the help of Gift Aid, £5 or £10 per month will build to a substantial endowment. But I do want to ask everyone to make at least a small regular donation.

**PLEASE DO IT NOW!**

**IF NOT YOU, THEN WHO?**

Contact John Rimer The Court House, Chenies, Rickmansworth, Herts WD3 6EU for details

**Rodney Knight**  
Chairman of the Eton Fives  
Charitable Trust

## RFA Anniversary Celebration

As some of you may have read on the website, a dinner to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the formation of the RFA is to be held at Queen's Club on Saturday 29th September 2007.

The aim is to make the evening as informal as possible with a 'carvery' style meal and no 'after dinner' speeches. There will be a bar extension until midnight.

Application forms for tickets will be sent out at the time of the AGM notice but put the date in your diary NOW!! Places will be limited to 120 and applications will be treated on a 'first come first served' basis so watch out for the application form!

# Miscellaneous EFA News

**Nigerian Visit** The Nigerians were not able to take part in the London Tournament due to difficulties in obtaining the necessary visas.

## Old Ipswichian 40th Year Celebratory Dinner

The O.I. Eton Fives Club has been affiliated to the Eton Fives Association for 40 years. To celebrate the occasion and to mark the Secretaryship of Mike Fenn for the whole of that time he and his wife Athene were guests of honour at the 40th Anniversary Dinner held in Pimlico.

## Fives Service Ball Machine

Imperial College have recently been in correspondence with the EFA concerning the development of 'Ball Service Machine' which will provide a series of serves for the cutter to practise cutting the ball. The machine will be similar to that used in the tennis and cricket world for players to practise their shots. Watch this space!

## Fives in New Zealand – e-mail from Neville Larson

I read with interest your article "Fives in Australia". I was educated at Nelson College, New Zealand, and I enjoyed playing Eton fives during lunch breaks, I remember well the damage to hands it caused. They have 5 courts, 4 still in use. I would suspect that several of the older more traditional schools in New Zealand – in Wellington, Christchurch and New Plymouth – would be the same. We played quadrangular tournaments in all sports annually.

Webmaster's Note: The courts are three sided with no back wall possibly without the step, buttress and ledges.

## French Bid to Conker the World

In a recent article in the Times the French suggested that although "The British invented the game of conkers, we do it better." The article went on to list UK Sporting Exports including Hopscotch Tiddlywinks, Cricket, Cresta Run and Eton Fives. "Eton Fives originated with medieval Britons hitting balls against church walls. Courts are mostly in public schools in the UK, but also exist in Malaysia, Argentina and Nigeria."

## World Handball Championships by Pete Cohen

Myself & James Toop had a taste of the international game in the World Handball Championships, Edmonton, Canada, in August. It's possible that we were naïve to enter the 'Open' division of the One-Wall, as the standard from the New Yorkers was incredible – needless to say we both lost in straight sets in the singles and doubles, although James managed to rattle his opponent enough to make him call a timeout.

The four-wall pitted James against a Basque player, both players experiencing four-wall for the first time, and James had an excellent game and only narrowly missed out on recording a win for England! In the doubles we played a Mexican pair, and had it been a best of 5 set game we could well have won, but the learning curve was a bit too steep. After being knocked out the Rockies provided a fantastic couple of days exploring, and there were some great social events throughout the tournament providing an opportunity to meet hundreds of handballers from all over the world. The next competition is 2009, in Portland, Oregon (USA), and it would be great to see as many fives players as possible there.

## Mill Hill School

10 September, Old Millhillians Day, witnessed the formal opening of the three new Eton Fives courts at the School. Old Millhillians, School staff, Governors, EFA members, school boys, parents and friends gathered at the courts on what was a fine sunny day. The Headmaster, William Winfield, welcomed those present before asking Richard Barber, Chairman of the Eton Fives Association to formally open the courts. Andrew Summers spoke on behalf of the Old Millhillians whilst Steve Plummer, Master-in-charge of Fives at Mill Hill, acted as master of ceremonies. Champagne was served to mark the occasion whilst the spectators witnessed demonstration games of Fives by experienced and younger players.

*Mike Fenn*

## The Rugby Fives Association Charitable Trust

The Rugby Fives Association Charitable Trust was launched in the summer of 2002 and has since then raised just over £50,000.

It has helped with the funding of four major projects – Derby Moor, Denstone, Clifton College and Loretto - with a total commitment of £26,000. Hence there is currently just over £25,000 on deposit but discussions are currently taking place to support a major refurbishment of the courts at Sedbergh.

In addition to these large projects the Trust would also like to support the provision of coaching at schools where fives is no longer

played and would also like to help establish fives within universities where the game has lapsed.

In the longer term a number of fives playing schools are considering upgrading or refurbishing their fives courts (leaking roofs seem to be the largest single problem) and without doubt being able to provide financial support does encourage schools to actually commit to these works.

If you would like to make a donation then please contact Peter Dunscombe at 15 Archfield Road Bristol BS6 6BD and remember that as a registered charity you are able to "Gift Aid" donations so that the charity receives an additional 28p for every £1 donated. Alternatively if you make a provision in your will to donate money to the Trust then it is entirely free of inheritance tax.

*Peter Dunscombe, January 2007*

## Mid-Term EFA Tournament Position

### Rossall

*Singles Winner:* Mike King (Malvern)  
*Doubles Winners:* Rahul Desai (St Olave's)  
Sid Mason-Malik (Stoke Newington)

### Alan Barber Cup

*Finalists:*  
Olavians and Harrovians

### County Championships

*Semi-finals:*  
Kent beat Hertfordshire 3-0  
Warwickshire beat Middlesex 2-1  
*Third-place playoff:*  
Hertfordshire beat Middlesex 2-1  
*Final:*  
Kent beat Warwickshire 3-0

### London Tournament

*Final:*  
P and T Dunbar (Harrovians) beat M Wiseman and S Cooley (Olavians) 12-15, 10-15, 12-3, 12-8, 14-13

### Graham Turnbull Trophy

*Finalists:*  
Berkhamsted

### Universities

*Semi-finals:*  
Oxford 1 (P Dunbar & O Butler) beat Cambridge 2 (N Gill & J O'Callaghan) 12-7, 15-12  
Cambridge 1 (A Patel & A Varma) beat Warwick (T L Fletcher & A O'Callaghan) 12-4, 12-6  
*Final:*  
Cambridge 1 (A Patel & A Varma) beat Oxford 1 (P Dunbar & F Krespi)\* 12-9, 12-9

\*Olly Butler retired hurt after the semis, with Oxford 1 effectively conceding the title. Peter Dunbar and Freddy Krespi sportingly agreed to play the final anyway. Even if the result was academic, the final was hard-fought and very close, with some excellent shot-making on display on both sides.

### Under 25s Championship

*Men's Final :*  
Tom Dunbar & Will Jones beat Will Betts & Ryan Perrie 15-7

*Ladies' Final:*  
Ashley Lumbard & Rosie Scott beat Emma Wells & Kelly Johnston 15-8

### Ipswich Tournament (Graves Cup)

*Final:*  
T L Fletcher and W Gibbons beat P Scholey and A Yusaf 12-8, 9-12, 12-6, 5-12, 12-3

### Keeling Cup 2005-2006

*Winner Richard Tyler*

### League Pole Positions

1st Division – Olavians I with Old Harrovians 2nd and Old Etonians 3rd  
2nd Division - Westminster's I with Olavians III 2nd and Old Ipswichians 3rd  
3rd Division – North Oxford with Emanuels 2nd and Old Westminster's II 3rd

## RFA Tournaments Report

10 tournaments have been held so far this season and it is probably fair to say that competitors from the south have had the better of things to date. Matt Cavanagh has won three of the four singles events, including winning back his National Singles title. His one and only defeat came at the hands of Ed Fuller in an exciting and hard fought final in the London Open.

In the doubles arena, Hamish Buchanan has been the dominant figure winning all four of the events he has entered, two with the irrepressible Dave Hebden.

In the Old Boys' tournament (Owers Trophy), Alleyn Old Boys judged their tactics perfectly to win the closest final yet, beating Old Paulines by just three points.

In the BUSA championships Cambridge came away with the major titles with Alan Beverly adding the singles title to the Under 25 title he already holds. In the doubles, Alan teamed up with Charlie Brooks to retain the trophy they won last year. For Charlie it was his fourth doubles title in succession, a truly impressive feat.



*Dave Fox and Phil Bishop in action in the National Singles'*



*Hal Mohammed, Adrian Lee, Charlie Brooks and Alan Beverly. Finalists BUSA doubles'*

On the Schools front, St.Paul's won the Winchester Doubles tournament and, but for Peter Hanton (Alleyn's) winning the colts singles, would have had a clean sweep at the recent West of England championships.

Entries for all tournaments have continued at high levels and the depth of talent and quality of Fives has been encouraging. As ever, we are extremely grateful to all the tournament organisers for all their hard work in making these events so successful.

Full reports and results will appear in the Annual Review but the list of winners so far is as follows:

<b>South West</b>	Singles	: Matt Cavanagh
	Doubles	: Phil Bishop and John Minta
<b>London Open</b>	Singles	: Ed Fuller
	Doubles	: Hamish Buchanan & Matt Cavanagh
<b>Yorkshire Open</b>	Doubles	: Hamish Buchanan & Dave Hebden
<b>West Of England</b>	Singles	: Matt Cavanagh
	Doubles	: Hamish Buchanan & Dave Hebden
<b>National</b>	Singles	: Matt Cavanagh
<b>President's Cup</b>		: Hamish Buchanan & Matt Hanney
<b>Old Boys' (Owers Trophy)</b>		: Alleyn Old Boys
<b>BUSA</b>	Singles	: Alan Beverly (Cambridge)
	Doubles	: Alan Beverly & Charlie Brooks (Cambridge)
<b>Schools Winchester</b>	Doubles	: Dan Tristao & James Corbin (St.Paul's)
<b>West of England Schools</b>	Singles	: James Corbin(St.Paul's)
	Doubles	: Anand Ashok & Alex Griffiths (St.Paul's)
	Colts Singles	: Peter Hanton (Alleyn's)
	Colts Doubles	: Dara Ahrabian & Joe Harris (St.Paul's)