

Devon Pétanque Region 2009 AGM

PRESIDENTS REPORT

This past year has seen the region tick over with very little change from 2008. We held the Devon league again but with only 3 teams which was disappointing. We managed to just about hold on to our unbeaten record against Kernow beating them 13 games to 12 at Vogue St Day on a very wet Sunday in July. We then combined with Kernow again at the Inter Regional Championships and managed to finish last but only by one game.

All our Regional Competitions were held again this year and the results were:

Singles Winner – John Thatcher

Pairs Winners – Barry and Diane Scott

Triples Winners – Brian and Audrey Kempshhead and Josie Tidmarsh

The huge loss to the region this year was the very sad news of Sheila Smith's demise. Sheila was a driving force in Devon, never slow to voice her views and while those views did not always meet with everyone's favour she told it as she saw it and I would welcome more like her. There will never be another Sheila and I am sure that we would like to express our heartfelt condolences to Gary. Perhaps you would all join me in a moments silence remembering Sheila.

I would like to thank the Regional Officers for all their help this year. Liz has been instrumental in pushing us all forwards with reminders about regional events and league matches. Rick has tried to hold a coaching event this year but disappointingly it was cancelled in order to complete a league match. Behind every great man is a great woman and Mac and Ann have worked as a pair in supporting the region as secretary. The great woman behind me has made great strides in sorting out the accounts and also starting to keep track of stock and trophies and given more help from me will have it all sorted this year.

I am very concerned about the region's membership and the availability of players for the Inter Regional Match against Kernow and more importantly the Inter Regional Championships. This year I intend to canvass all members as to their availability and willingness to compete in these events. I am seriously considering if we can afford to enter The Inter Regional Championships and as soon as I can find out the cost of chalets this year I will send out a form asking all members to complete with their intentions.