



## Friday Photos 81: Celebrating Nigel's achievements

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**Posted On:** May 20, 2016

With the World Veterans' Championships due to start on Monday, May 23 in Alicante I thought it would be appropriate to highlight the achievements of one of the great characters on the veterans' circuit, Nigel Eckersley.

Sometime ago Nigel lent his scrapbooks so they could be scanned and the images this week are from those books.

Nigel was an England international making his senior debut at the World Championships in Birmingham in 1977. Playing in the Commonwealth Championships in Bombay in 1982 with Joy Grundy, Nigel won the Mixed Doubles title. He was also a member of the Men's Gold medal winning team, winning 12 of his 13 matches.

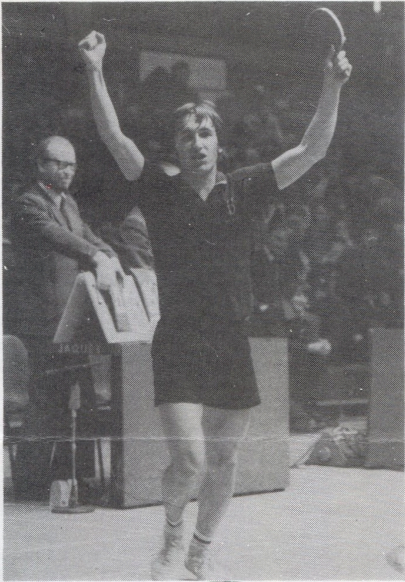
In the National Championships, Nigel played from 1970 – 2015 and in that time won the Mixed Doubles twice, with Karen Witt in 1978 and with Joy Grundy in 1983. Added to this was a hat-trick of Veterans Men's Singles titles in 1993, 1994 and 2005 plus a Veterans Men's Doubles title with Brian Johns in 1996.

At the World Veterans' Championships Nigel has won several medals – Over-40s Men's Doubles runner-up in 1994 with Ian Robertson and two bronze medals in the Over-40s Men's Singles in 1992 and Men's Doubles Over-50s in 2002.

Good luck to all playing in Alicante.

**Photo 1**

PAUL DAY



*Paul E. Day*

NICKY JARVIS



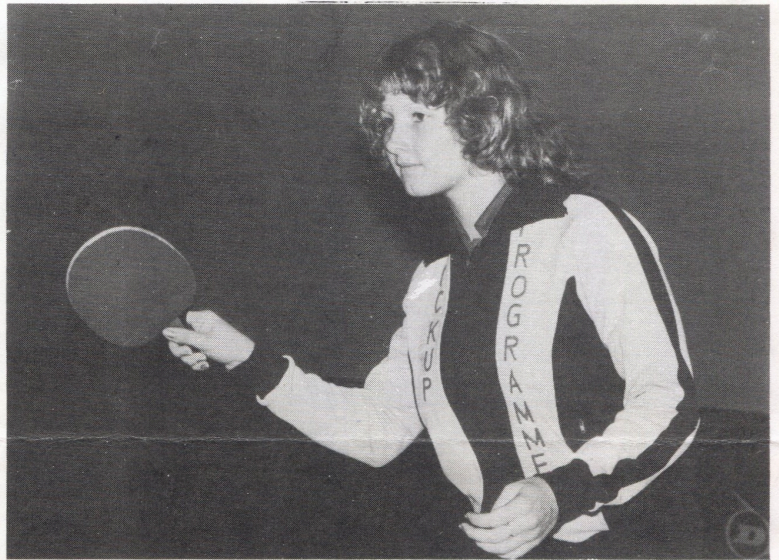
*Nicky Jarvis*

DES DOUGLAS



*Desmond Douglas*

MELODY LÜDI



*Melody G. Lüdi*

MAX CRIMMINS



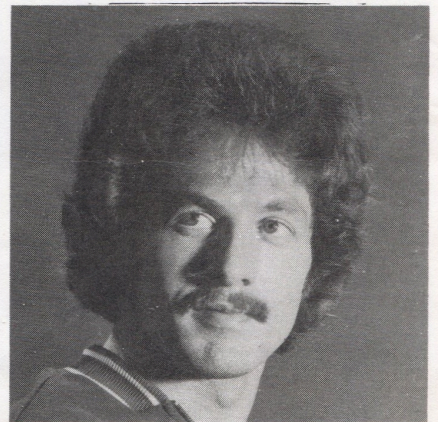
*Max Crimmins*

NIGEL ECKERSLEY

KAREN WITT



*Karen Witt*



*Nigel A. S. Eckersley*

Photo 2



News of the World Coach – how many players can you name

Photo 3



Nigel in action

Photo 4



Nigel with fellow international Alan Fletcher

Photo 5



**Nigel Eckersley and Kevin Beadsley share a mutual pleasure after winning the Men's Doubles Final of The Essex 3-Star Championships. 81**

1981 – Nigel with Kevin Beadsley winner of the Men's Doubles at the Essex 3 star

**Photo 6**



TTS BORSUM  
 1. Mannschaft  
 II. Bundesliga  
 Spielsaison 1981/82

Chris Sewell  
 Norbert Heineke  
 Walter Gründahl  
 Ralf Jung  
 Nigel Eckersley  
 Thomas Hollenbach  
 v. l. n. r.

1981 – Nigel with his German team-mates including Chris Sewell who was tragically killed in a car accident

Photo 7



1982 – Nigel and Joy Grundy Commonwealth Championships Mixed Doubles Champions

Photo 8



1982 – Nigel receiving his gold medal at the Commonwealth Championships, Bombay

Photo 9



## SEALINK PLAYERS



*Back Row: Trevor Taylor, Skylet Andrew, Gary Lambert, Nigel Eckersley, John Hilton  
Front Row: Jonathon Wright, Richard Yule, Duggie Johnson.*

Sealink Milton Keynes British League team

Photo 10

**M D Watts - Championships Director**  
**World Veterans Table Tennis Championships**  
**Manchester City Council Town Hall**  
**Albert Square Manchester M60 2LA England**  
**Tel +44 (0)161 831 9135**  
**Fax +44 (0)161 835 3387**



**PLEASE SEND ME FURTHER DETAILS OF  
THE WORLD VETERANS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Block capitals please

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Tel No. \_\_\_\_\_



The face on a flyer for the 9th World Veterans Championships, Manchester 1998

From May 13, 2016

The names have been matched up with the players' likes and dislikes.

Nicky Mason



Favourite drink: Peach milkshake, wine with lemonade.

Favourite food: Pizza, Lasagne, MacDonalds Big Mac.

Favourite Pop Group: Early Duran Duran, Five Star.

Vices: Compulsive spender.

Hobbies: Playing bass guitar badly.

Relaxation: Watching videos and films, listening to music.

### Alison Gordon



Favourite drink: Many! Beer, Wine.

Favourite food: Savoury.

Favourite Pop Group: Various – like most things.

Vices: Drink too much.

Hobbies: Most sports – having fun.

Relaxation: TV, music, my friends.

**Skylet Andrew**



Favourite drink: Pineapple juice and lemonade.

Favourite food: Pork chops, baked jam roly-poly.

Favourite Pop Group: Loose Ends, Eric B and Rakim.

Vices: Eating junk food.

Hobbies: Writing comedy.

Relaxation: Talking with my Mum.

Alan Cooke



Favourite drink: Pure apple juice.

Favourite food: Italian.

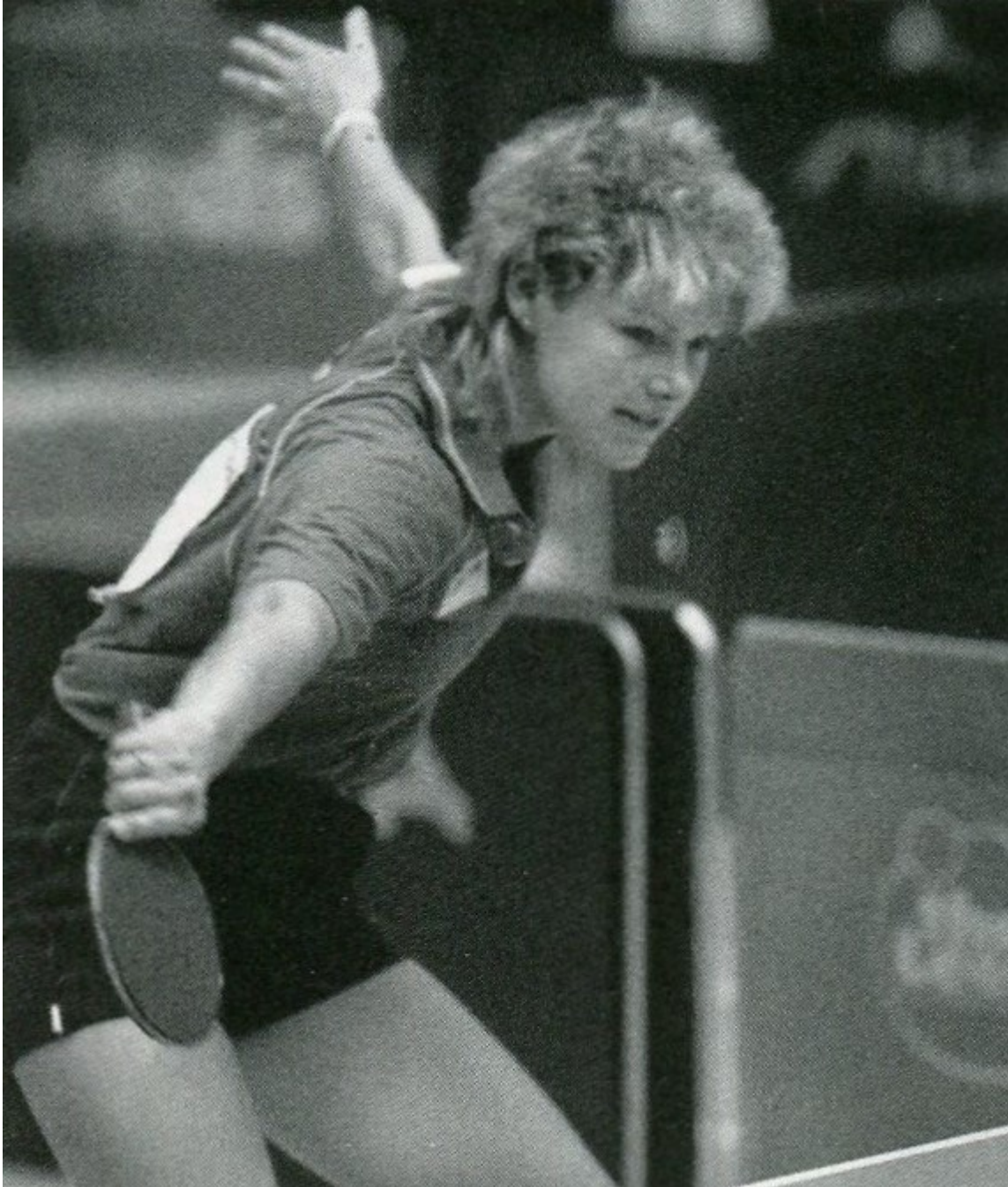
Favourite Pop Group: Whitney Houston.

Vices: Yes!!!

Hobbies: Music, football.

Relaxation: Sauna.

### **Lisa Lomas**



Favourite drink: German white wine.

Favourite food: Salad.

Favourite Pop Group: Earth, Wind and Fire.

Hobbies: Aerobics, golf, tennis.



Relaxation: Music.

Carl Preen



Favourite drink: Carlsberg.

Favourite food: German and Chinese.

Favourite Pop Group: The Gap Band, Atlantic Star, Anita Baker.

Hobbies: Cricket, playing football, music and eating out.

Relaxation: Listening to music.

Pet Hate: Arriving late before matches.

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