



THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
ON THE HISTORY OF TENNIS.  
THE REAL TENNIS SOCIETY.  
13TH SEPTEMBER 2022.  
PRESTED HALL.  
ON THE OCCASION OF  
THE MEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SINGLES.

**THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
ON THE HISTORY OF TENNIS**

**Tuesday 13th September, 2022**

**PROGRAMME**

**11:15 WELCOME & INTRODUCTION**

**Frederika Adam**

**I. TENNIS AT LORD'S**

**John Shneerson**

**II. PHILIP THE BOLD OF BURGUNDY:  
WINE, TENNIS & SONG**

**Ian Harris**

**LUNCH**

**III. RONALDSON PUBLICATIONS**

**Kathryn McNicoll & James Zug**

**TEA**

**IV. THE WORLD OF "MIKKO"**

**Michael Lindell**

**LONDON'S RICH TENNIS HISTORY**

**David Best**

**THE REAL TENNIS SOCIETY**

**Celebrating Ten Years (2012-2022)**

**Promoting Real Tennis through History**

**[www.realtennissociety.org](http://www.realtennissociety.org)**

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# I.

**JOHN SHNEERSON**  
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## **Biography**

### **Biography**

**John Shneerson has been a keen tennis player for many years and was largely responsible for saving and restoring the tennis court at Newmarket in the 1990s. This story is told in his Two Centuries of Real Tennis. His comprehensive Real Tennis Today and Yesterday was published in 2015 and MCC: More than a Cricket Club in 2020. He has been a Consultant Physician at Royal Papworth Hospital, Cambridge and lives between there and Newmarket.**

## **Abstract**

### **TENNIS AT LORD'S. THE FIRST 100 YEARS**

**MCC was founded as a cricket club in 1787 and a real tennis court was built at Lord's as early as 1839. The status of the game there rose rapidly from the 1860s, especially when George Lambert, world champion from 1871-1885, was in post. His fortunes rose and then fell dramatically. The Club's position in the game was consolidated under two long-serving professionals, Jimmy Fennell and Jack Groom, and with the opening of the new court in 1900. Later, Henry Johns played a pivotal role in tennis from the 1950s-1970s. Since then the professionals at the Club have adapted to the changes of the modern game.**

## II.

IAN HARRIS  
ianlharris@gmail.com

### Biography

**Ian Harris is a founder/director of Z/Yen, the City of London’s leading commercial think-tank. He is also co-author of several books, including the best-selling novel “Clean Business Cuisine” and the award-winning book “The Price of Fish: A New Approach to Wicked Economics and Better Decisions”. He is also a relentless blogger at <https://ianlouisharris.com/> writing about “travel, theatre, music, cricket, tennis and life”. Ian describes himself as an amateur historian; more storyteller than historian, and an even-more-amateur real tennis player. Yet somehow The Real Tennis Society has convinced Ian that he is uniquely qualified to entertain our audience and answer questions about 14th century Burgundian wine, tennis and song.**

### Abstract

#### **PHILIP THE BOLD OF BURGUNDY: WINE, TENNIS & SONG**

**There is an adage handed down since Medieval times that Philip, Duke of Burgundy, would gamble on his jeu de paume (real tennis) play and on at least two occasions needed to mortgage his girdle as surety for his losses. Yet this 14th century Duke was no loser; he is also remembered for his heroism in battle, for an edict strictly controlling wine production in Burgundy and for establishing a large school of music attributed with much of the innovative transition from Medieval to Renaissance music. This immersive presentation will delve into one of the early, less-well documented periods of tennis history, drawing suppositions and tentative conclusions from the sparse evidence available, some hysterical, some genuinely historical and some lyrical.**

## LUNCH

### III.

#### RONALDSON PUBLICATIONS



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### TEA

### IV.



#### THE WORLD OF "MIKKO"

**MICHAEL LINDELL**  
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