

PAISEY BROTHERS

Martin and Andrew

Spurred on by coaching from John Ratajczak and the enthusiasm at Nailsea's Monday night practice sessions Andrew Paisey has this summer decided to get his trusty thirty year old retired bat out of the cupboard, dust it off, renew the blade and fit two new conforming rubbers and hopefully this old bat will not let him down and see a good start with friends as a new team in division 8.

The ever encouraging Nailsea Table Tennis Club have assisted the return and new team venture and they will be called Nailsea Lynxes.

Everyone will, no doubt, welcome Andrew and his team mates to the Bristol and District Table Tennis Association league and this return by Andrew to the table has prompted him to seek your help regarding Andrew's brother Martin who sadly passed away in 1975.

Back in the 1950s two brothers Andrew and Martin Paisey used to battle it out with balsa wood bats on the dining room table with books for a net until their mum bought them one.

Martin started playing in the Bristol League in the early 1960s for Strachan and Henshaw but Andrew did not start until 1969 in the Medway League. It was not until 1973 that they played again on a chipboard top on Andrew's dining room table. Andrew had hoped to be competitive but as with all other sports got soundly beaten by big brother. Martin tried to soften the disappointment by saying he had played at a good level in the Bristol League.



Above Martin and Andrew circa 1973

Andrew went on to play in the Cambridge and Huntingdon leagues from 1974 to 1987 before hanging up his bat. Andrew would love to hear from anyone who remembers playing with or against his brother. "A six foot three inch tall leftie with a wicked smile" as Andrew describes his brother.

Martin was born on 1st September 1944 and like Andrew was raised in Pill and attended Pill Primary School. He went to Gordano Secondary School where he represented the school in most sports and was Head Boy in his final year (1959). He joined Strachan and Henshaw as a wages clerk. Later worked for the CEGB at their offices at the Centre before moving to their HQ in Plymouth around 1973.

They were both accountants but Andrew qualified first which motivated Martin greatly.

Martin first played for Lodway Cricket Club at the age of fifteen and got his name in the Green Un. He then went on to play for the first team but also played for the second team with someone who Andrew now plays TT with on Thursday afternoons. He moved to Nailsea around 1962 and apparently played football for Backwell Town with Mervyn Kitchen the Somerset CC cricketer. Later he played rugby for Gordano seconds and Clive Wilson, who he played with in the 2nd Row and who still lives in Pill.

Martin died on 22nd July 1975 from leukaemia and is buried at St Georges Church, Easton-in-Gordano just across the football field from the Hall where Andrew now practices his Table-tennis.

Anyone with any information or knowledge of Martin whether it be of a Table Tennis nature or other, then please do not hesitate to contact Andrew. *Pictured right*

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