

## Thanks to the volunteers



The next time you get picked up by a shuttle or served a meal at a club, the chances are that you are being looked after by some of the more than 300 volunteers who have given their time freely to make this such a great tournament.

From the sweeping of the courts at 7am, to the fine-tuning of draws well after midnight, these volunteers are working hard to make this a tournament for you to enjoy. There's also the 30 plus referees and tournament controllers, all of whom have given of their time freely.

Barry Gardiner, Chairman of the Organising Committee, said that tournaments of this size and stature just can't run without a huge band of volunteers who give selflessly of their time.

"We try and keep entry fees to acceptable levels and one way we are able to do this is through the help we get from the volunteers.

"It needs to be noted that these volunteers

*Volunteers from left: Dave Welsh, Trish Roughan-Smith, Suzanne Spibey and Keith Beatty.*

have come from the wider squash fraternity in Canterbury, not just the host clubs, and there are also a significant number who have no affiliation with squash whatsoever. All they want is to ensure that visitors to Christchurch have an enjoyable time," he said.

The host clubs will each use up to 50 volunteers over the week-long tournament, the six mini-vans, which operate for up to 12 hours a day require about 60 volunteers.

"The management committee, again on a voluntary basis, has been planning this tournament for four years, and even now several of them are working 15 to 18 hours a day to ensure the smooth running of the tournament.

"This is the biggest World Masters ever held and, thanks to the volunteers, we want to make it the best," Barry Gardiner said.

### Spirit of Masters squash

While we are all here to win, is it really in the spirit of Masters sport to try and inflict a 9-0,9-0,9-0 scoreline on our opponent? It is understandable in the championship draw that you do not want to give your opponent a glimmer of hope, but once in the plate rounds, please remember the spirit of the sport. Thank you.

### Tamaki Heritage Village tonight

Buses leave Victoria Square at 6pm sharp and return at 10.25pm.

### Third round main draw losers in four men's grades

If you are a third round loser in the main draw of M40, M45, M50 or M55 grades, you still have some squash to play. You will go into a plate of eight and play tomorrow (Thursday).

### Cocktail night

The Christchurch Squash Club is hosting a cocktail night tonight, starting from 7pm onwards. There is a \$10 entry fee, which includes your first cocktail and a commemorative glass.

### Seating for Final Gala Dinner

If you have not booked a specific table for the dinner, you need to do so at Event Headquarters, Christchurch Squash Club. Each seat is allocated, it is not a first-in first served.

**Event HQ phone number is 374 6536.**

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