

Mrs Elaine Shenton (née Wilson) passed away at the beginning of August in a residential home in Somerset. She was in her late eighties and had been unwell for some time. Throughout her life Elaine was a keen sportswoman. Before she played golf, tennis was her game. In 1954 she won the Italian International Championships Tennis Open Doubles with Patricia Ward. She played in the Wimbledon Championships almost every year from 1951 to 1964, although unfortunately she never made it to the final stages. In later years.

Elaine became a keen golfer. As you might expect from such an accomplished sportswoman, she took the game of golf seriously. She and her husband Bernard joined Dudsbury Golf Club as founder members in 1992. She was pivotal in setting up the Ladies section at Dudsbury. She was Dudsbury's Lady Captain in 1994 and held other positions on the Ladies committee. In 1996 Elaine asked the then owner of Dudsbury GC, Mr Colin Legg, to sponsor a lady's winter interclub knockout competition. The Legg Bowl was the result, a successful competition that continues to this day. In 2019 there were 52 participating clubs from Dorset, Hampshire and Wiltshire.

Elaine and her husband moved to the Loire area of France in 2001. Although by this time well into her 70's, she became the feared but much respected matriarch of her local French golf club, correcting their rather quirky 'French' interpretations of the rules of golf and reorganising their course. As their health declined, she and her husband returned to England recently.