

## Sad News

27<sup>th</sup> October 2021

We have just learned of the recent death of a former stalwart of petanque in Cornwall, Gordon Couch, after a short illness. He was 77. His funeral took place at Penmount on Friday 22 October. Kernow Petanque offers sincere condolences to Gordon's widow, Ann.



Gordon first started playing during the 1990s in 'fun' games on the gravel around his house in Gorran Haven during visits by Anthony Frost and family. He was then recruited as a member of the 'Abstract Boat Heads' team – Anthony the abstract painter, Gordon the skilled boat builder and restorer and Jock Turnham the primary school head! Gordon, Anthony and Jock were all known for 'big hair' and the team was later renamed the 'Angel-headed Hipsters': not many petanque teams can claim a name taken from American beat poetry!!



The Hipsters were regulars in Kernow competitions during the 1990s and 2000s and are on the roll of honour for their victory in the region's Summer League in 2007.



Gordon was known as a quiet, kind and above all gentle man, with a dry sense of humour and a wicked smile! He was the nominated shooter for the Hipsters but always reluctant. He was particularly known for putting in his team's last ball to a place where it held the point but was then very difficult for the opposing team to shift! RIP Gordon; you will be missed.

