

ASHTEAD TENNIS PLAYERS CLUB

Autumn Newsletter

October 2008



Guess who said this: “Federer moves around the court like Baryshnikov”

Answer – John McEnroe commentating on this year’s Wimbledon.



Who would have thought that Superbrat would transform in to a patron of the arts. There is hope for us all.

Open, locks, whoever knocks

Macbeth 4.1.46

Hope too that we will outwit the vandals and gatecrashers who in the past have abused courts 1 & 2.

You may have noticed that the missing padlock has been replaced by a combination bolt. This splendid piece of engineering, is designed to outwit unruly elements through a combination of brawn and brains.

In the past, the lock’s combination has leaked out to the wider public.

Instructions removed as the newsletter is freely downloadable.
Please refer to your hard copy of the newsletter.

It's a pretty safe bet that the vandals are too dim to work out or remember how the new arrangement works. So that, allied to the robustness of the bolt's construction, should allow our club members to enjoy their tennis unimpeded.

Many thanks to Roger for finding and fitting the bolt, and to Diane for inventing the combination code.



Court resurfacing

The paint daubs on court 1 are starting to resemble performance art, and there is a risk they might win the Turner Prize, or become the subject of a preservation order.

Not only that, the cracks are widening, and it's time to wipe the slate clean and start again.

The committee has devoted time this summer to assessing potential contractors, and liaising with other clubs who have recently had courts resurfaced.

As a result of this detailed work, invitations to tender have been sent to three contractors.

The work is to be scheduled for spring 2009.



To help with the cost, we have launched a fundraising campaign. Dee Woods vigorously corralled the committee into composing and submitting an application to the Thomas Flack Trust Fund, which offers funding for projects to benefit residents of Leatherhead, Ashted, Bookham and Fetcham.

Likewise, Kate Ashton discovered that Tesco Charity Trust has made generous grants to the cricket club and other organisations in our area. Kate is masterminding an application for help with resurfacing, plus a smaller contribution towards to cost of nets, balls, etc.

Club tournament

Over the years, we have experimented with various of formats for the club adult tournament.

This year's formula worked extremely well – variations on a theme of round robins, knockouts, and marathon tie breaks.

Events took place over a series of weekends, providing much enjoyment and wholesome exercise – with none of the dehydration, exhaustion, and missed deadlines that have ornamented previous occasions.

Our champions this year are:

Ladies doubles: Dee Woods and Helen Abbott



Gentlemens doubles: Roberto Simonetti and Eunan McGregor

Mixed doubles: Kate Ashton and Ben Lerpiniere

Gentlemens singles: Roberto Simonetti

We are very grateful to Lynda Tarling, Diane Chivers and Andy McGregor for the thought and imagination that they put into organising a very successful tournament.

The junior tournament is scheduled for Sunday 19th Oct – so stand by for the results in the next newsletter.

The club website

And for other news, do visit the club web pages:

<http://www.ashteadtennisplayersclub.org.uk>

This professionally administered site (thank you, Helen) is regularly updated.

The latest feature is a noticeboard – so please to use this to keep us all in touch, make suggestions, arrange games, social events etc.



The password is.....wait for it.....the combination number for the new bolt, about which you have been reading so extensively.

Our new security measures have a virtual life in cyberspace – whatever next?

A winter's tale

Winter; that's what next, which means:

- When the clocks go back, Saturday afternoon club sessions start half an hour earlier – at 1.30pm
- The floodlights blaze into life. Please remember to bring along your 50p contribution to running costs, which should be paid to any committee member for a session during which the lights are used.

We look forward to seeing you throughout the coming months – and do remember the traditional round robin on 27th Dec, starting at mid-day.

Until then.....