

ASHTEAD TENNIS PLAYERS CLUB

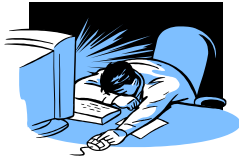
Christmas Newsletter



December 2008

It was the morning after the office party and boy, did I know it.

I switched on the pc and tried to peer at the screen.



It said “Press F2 for system recovery”

Does that mean the computer, I thought, or me?

Ah but we have something much better than key F2:

Christmas round robin

On 27th Dec, the Saturday club session doubles up as the Christmas round robin.

This starts at mid-day, and lasts until three o’clockish. Light refreshments and bucks fizz are served, as we work off the effects of the past few days, and put them back on again.

This traditional event is always well supported, so do come along if you can. Open to all adult and mid-week players.

To enter, and for the benefit of the catering manager, please add your name on the list on the clubhouse noticeboard, or ring James on 01372 721104 speaking quietly, in case I’ve been at it again.



Court resurfacing

Three contractors were invited to tender for the resurfacing of courts 1 & 2.

Their responses have been received, and are being evaluated by what can truly be described as a panel of experts – Roger Parker, Brian Bickers and Kate Ashton. Between them, this triumvirate* has extensive knowledge of civil engineering, tennis, and awarding contracts.

They will present their findings to the committee for review, and work is to be scheduled for spring 2009.



Fund raising

We are very grateful to two organisations that have agreed to help the club with generous donations – and to our members whose powers of persuasion brought this about.

Kate Ashton approached **Tesco Communities Shield**, who have offered £300 towards the costs of running expenses – tennis balls, nets etc.

Earlier this year, Janice and Les Hammond recommended an approach to **Thomas Flack Trust Fund**. This had been brought to their attention by junior club members who belonged to other organisations that had received donations.



Dee Woods then corralled the committee into composing a submission, delivering it by hand to ensure it was safely received.

On 4th Dec 2008, Mole Valley District Council wrote to confirm that the Executive Committee has allocated a grant of £12,500 towards the cost of resurfacing courts 1 & 2.

So this was a real team effort, producing a significant achievement.

* In the age of equality, it is OK to apply this term to a coalition of ladies and gentlemen.

Junior tennis

And talking of achievements, we have a new roll of honour – coaching medals awarded to junior members in September: see page 5 for the winning names.

This was followed by the 2008 Junior Tournament on 19th October; a great day, with some great new champions:

Under 12 Girls
Winner – Sarah Minns
Runner-up – Harriet Crawford

Under 14 Girls
Winner – Alison Hall
Runner-up – Hannah Gwyther

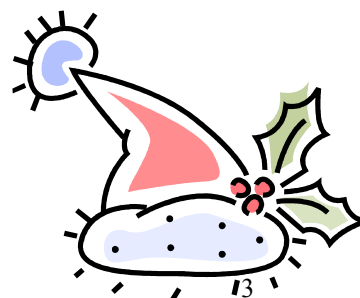
Under 17 Girls
Winner - Lizzie Sherwin
Runner-up - Sally Hall

Under 12 Boys
Winner – Ryan Cooper
Runner-up – Chris Lippiatt

Under 14 Boys
Winner – Tom Minns
Runner-up - Alex Culhane

Under 17 Boys
To be played
Between Will Culhane and Robert Brown

Meanwhile Friday club nights and summer weekend coaching are packed out, thanks to the skills and energies of the Hammonds - another triumvirate (see page 2).



Homes and gardens

Doesn't the clubhouse look nice?

There was a risk that the old water heater might go off like the dambusters, but happily the threat was averted when Diane and Roger arranged a replacement.

A team of volunteers then donated their energies and Saturday morning to repainting the walls, after which Diane and Lynda Tarling deployed their designer skills to the selection of new lino.

In November, the weeds which had invaded the court perimeters fell victim to a burst of aggressive horticulture, at the hands of the committee.



2009 AGM

One of the benefits club membership is that when the Christmas and New Year festivities are over, we can still look forward to the AGM.

The Peace Memorial Hall, the Marshall Room and the free bar have been put on standby, so please keep Thurs 5th March free for this highlight of the Ashted calendar.

But first:

A Christmas message from our chairman



We have had a great time in 2008, with improvements to our facilities, and plenty of competitions and social tennis, ending with both ladies and gentlemens teams playing in the winter leagues.

A very happy Christmas to you and your families, and we look forward to seeing you throughout the New Year.

Tom Traboulsi

