



The good thing about this time of year is that we can hope that all the bad weather is behind us and we have the warmth of Spring and Summer to look forward to for the many games of tennis that we hope to play this season.

Your committee met on February 17th and reviewed the impact of introducing the Sunday mix-in and the box leagues, both intended to widen the opportunities for members and newcomers alike to play at the club. Both these initiatives are deemed to be a success and will continue to be promoted, as indeed will the existing sessions such as the Tuesday Club Night where we hope for good attendance as the weather improves.

Your committee continues to strive for inclusiveness and opportunity within our club to help improve the enjoyment of existing members and make the club attractive for new members. To this end we have decided to remove the reference to age for the Monday and Friday morning sessions on the website. We are now looking for a name to describe these mix-in sessions that we can use on the website – ideally, a description that embodies inclusiveness, playing ability, etc. and which will indicate to any member of average ability that they are welcome to hone their skills at these sessions. Please let us have your ideas.

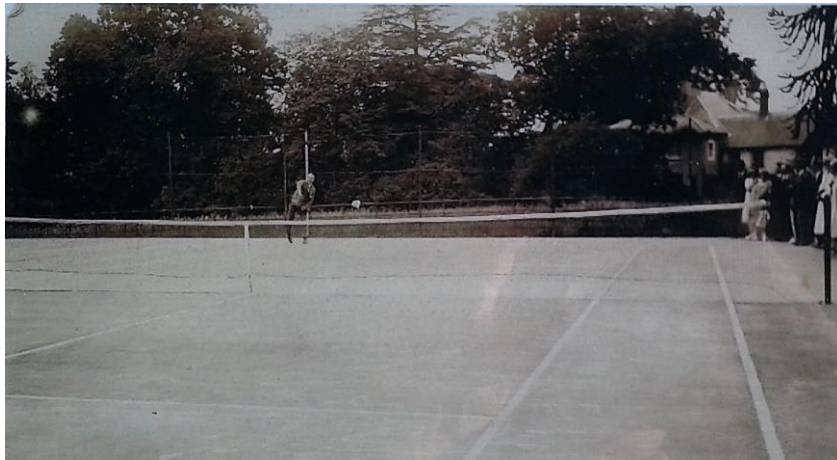
We are once again intending to hold an Open Day on May 8th, a couple of weeks after the Opening Tournament on April 24th. Also we plan a range of other activities during the year – please read Mike Downton's piece below, where he lists all these activities.

We now believe that with the various initiatives your committee has started that the club is becoming much better positioned to make it more attractive for new and existing members alike. Thank you for your continued support - and enjoy the forthcoming season of tennis.

Bill Freer - Chairman

Lyndhurst Tennis Club's 90th Anniversary

On 2nd July 1926 Dr Alfred Moore served the first ball on the tennis courts of the newly-formed Lyndhurst Tennis and Social Club, so we are pleased to be celebrating the Club's 90th anniversary this year.



Dr Alfred Moore serving the first ball on 2 July 1926

On the Courts

Box League

Alan Hales has developed a Box League for the Club, which has been a great stimulus to Autumn and Winter tennis. If you click on [this link](#) you can read about the background to this and the work involved in developing a computerised system.

There was truly awful weather throughout the first Box League period, but despite this many doubles matches were played and everyone seemed to enjoy the games. The singles leagues were less successful; this was partly due to one or two prolonged bouts of illness and no doubt also due to the poor weather.

Moving into the second Box League period there are 13 singles players and 16 doubles pairings. This period started in February and will finish at the end of April. If you want to see how the Box League is progressing, you will find the Box League as a menu option on the club website. When you click this option a page will open and display the league tables (singles then doubles) along with results for matches played for the current period.

Mixed Doubles League - Division 1

Players	Played	Sets For	Sets Against	Games For	Games Against	Points
Hayley Tucknott & Martin Taylor	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jill Trant & James Trant	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jeanne Almond & Robert Salter	0	0	0	0	0	0
Steven Parker & Andrew Clough	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sue Moss & Bill Freer	0	0	0	0	0	0

Results for Division 1

Mixed Doubles League - Division 2

Player	Played	Sets For	Sets Against	Games For	Games Against	Points
Alan Van Hoof & Brian Van Hoof	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gill Ellis & Chris Ellis	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kim Hutchings & Stephen Stafford	0	0	0	0	0	0
Linda Young & Alan Hales	0	0	0	0	0	0
Maggie Rose & Barry Barnes	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sue Jones & Roger Simmons	0	0	0	0	0	0

Results for Division 2

Mixed Doubles League - Division 3

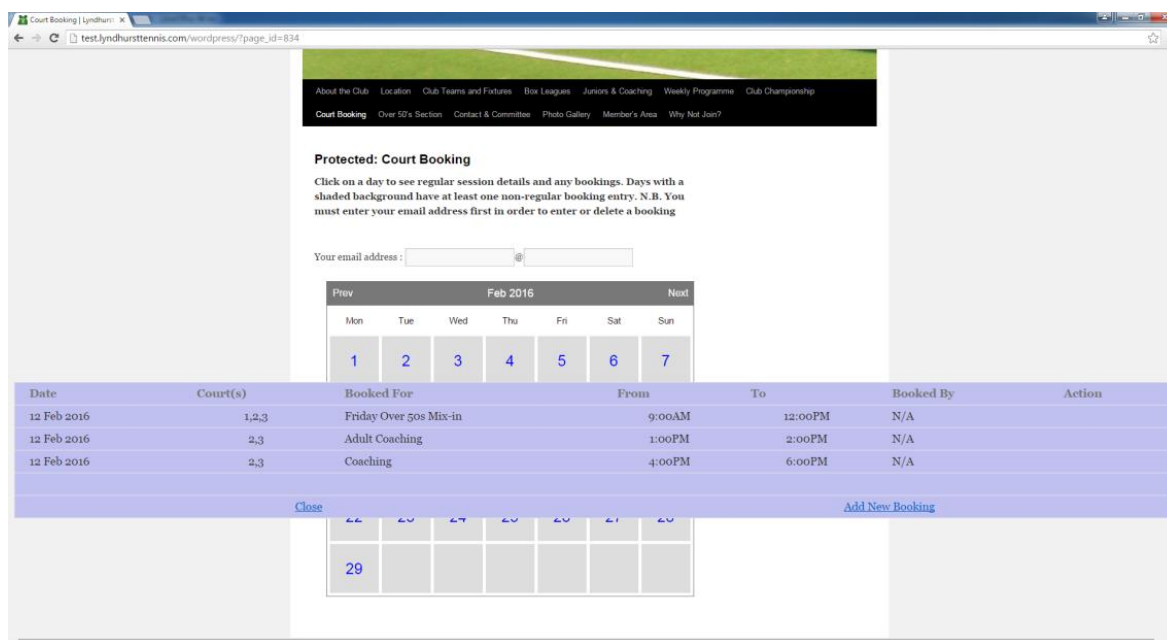
Player	Played	Sets For	Sets Against	Games For	Games Against	Points
Christine Salmon & Desmond Harris	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clare Holmes & Pippa Holmes	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kathleen Charlesworth & Graham Charlesworth	0	0	0	0	0	0

An example from the first Box League period

If all of these matches were to be played, that's a lot of additional games of tennis being played at Lyndhurst. The additional court time demanded to play these matches has generated the need for another initiative to be taken forward - a court booking system.

Court Booking System

A number of members have been saying for some time that the club should have a court booking system because, perhaps after going to the trouble of arranging a doubles match with 3 other people, you really don't want to turn up to play and find there isn't a court free. Alan has developed an easy-to-use Court Booking System that a few members have helped to test over recent months. He hopes to have the system in use before Easter and members will be informed when it is ready.



This is how it looks.

Tuesday - Club Night

The Tuesday evening session is open to all adult members and more-experienced juniors. Numbers were lower in the lead up to Christmas, and since then the weather hasn't helped, but Alan continues to encourage us to play by sending out a group e-mail and players respond to everyone on the list regarding their availability. This means that participants know if there will be at least 4 people to play.

Play usually starts at 6pm and continues for as long as people want. The floodlights give good coverage on the 2 lower courts. The format is doubles, playing 4 or 8 games depending if others are waiting, and then the groups are mixed up. If you haven't come along before and wish to be on Alan's e-mail circular please contact him via this [this link](#) or just turn up and give it a try.

Sunday morning – Tennis 'mix-in' session

The Sunday morning mix-in was a new venture for us last year. Like the Club night, it is designed to encourage social tennis within the Club membership. It runs from 10.00-12.30 and Alan has a separate e-mail circular for this session, please contact him via this [this link](#).

Juniors

We currently have 35 juniors receiving coaching on a weekly basis, ranging from a tots' tennis class for 3-5 year-olds through to a teenagers' group where some of the players are now playing for the adult teams. We try to ensure that all of our sessions have a good balance of technical input, competition, rules and etiquette - and FUN. We also try to encourage our juniors to get involved in the LTA system by becoming a British Tennis member and gaining a rating.

Our coaching times for juniors are as follows:

Monday	18.00-19.30	Teenagers
Wednesday	16.00-16.45	8-10 year olds
Wednesday	16.45-17.45	10-12 year olds
Friday	16.00-16.45	Tots
Friday	16.45-17.45	5-8 year olds

Adult Coaching



Our coaching team are all fully qualified, licensed coaches with qualifications ranging from Level 3 to Level 5 and all are passionate about tennis. We are currently looking to set up new adult courses alongside our current cardio tennis session that we run on Wednesday mornings. Cardio Tennis is a fitness-based, high energy session to music and is shown to have excellent results in weight loss and overall fitness. It can be tailored to any current fitness levels.

The coaching team are keen to get feedback on any new adult sessions that might be popular in order to create the perfect weekly programme for all abilities. To really take your game to the next level there are also individual lessons that can be arranged at the player's convenience. These sessions are proven to improve players at a faster rate as the session can be adapted to the player's individual technical or tactical needs.

Weekly Programme

We aim to ensure that our facilities are generally available all members and there are only a few times when courts are reserved for specific groups. To avoid disappointment, please check the Weekly Programme using [this link](#) for details of organised groups and matches.

Team News

Match Secretary, Andrew Clough, reports:

I write this 'missive' having just returned from a very damp Compton & Shawford Tennis Club - leaden skies and a light but steady drizzle, with the promise of more to come, ensured no play was possible. In many ways this sums up the Winter season of match tennis, which draws to a close soon.

I'll not dwell on results, save to say we've done OK. WELL DONE and THANK YOU to ALL those who have played for one or other of our teams - and in particular our long-suffering Captains, who continue to do so well in the face of inclement weather!

So to Summer 2016, where your Club has entered 4 teams in the various League competitions:

APSLEY LEAGUE for Mixed Doubles

LADIES' OPEN

MEN'S OPEN

MEN'S VETS (for gentlemen of a certain age!)

At the time of writing, I don't yet have the fixture lists from the organisers, but as soon as I do they will be published on the notice boards in the Clubhouse and Pavilion, together with names and contact details of our Captains. With some help from our computer experts, the fixture list will also be updated regularly on the Club Website. In arranging fixtures for our teams, I have tried to avoid Sunday mornings wherever possible, so we can promote our fledgling Sunday morning mix-in, without fear of a match clashing.

Finally, PLEASE tell our Captains if you would like to make yourself available for any of the teams; contact information is on the notice board in the Clubhouse only. Remember Match tennis can be played by anyone....even me!

My best wishes to ALL players for great tennis this coming summer.

Social Scene

Your Social Secretary



Social Secretary Mike Downton has been a member of Lyndhurst Tennis Club off and on for almost 40 years, since he settled in Lymington after returning from South Africa. He took up tennis as his main sport after a serious football injury and soon began playing competitions and league tennis.

Unusually for a small club, Lyndhurst had a strong Hants 1 men's team in the 1990s and took on the likes of Winchester and West Hants. At that time Mike played a number of County matches and got his name on the Lyndhurst Honours Board several times.

Increasing responsibility at work (in the nuclear industry) limited Mike's spare time, so when he retired 6 years ago he was determined to play more tennis. At that time the vets' team had been promoted to the top Hants division and Mike got back into playing regularly in the team and with our Thursday morning group. When Bill Freer mentioned that he was looking for someone to organise the open days and arrange some social events, Mike wanted to put something back into the club and offered to take on the job.

We asked Mike to tell us about his experience of his first year as Social Secretary and his plans for 2016.

"2015 was my first year as Social Secretary; it was very much a learning year and a bit of a challenge trying to organise events. With lots of help from fellow committee members, we had a successful Open Day resulting in several new members joining the Club. Later in the year, the English weather did not help, forcing us to cancel both BBQs that I had organised. However, we did finish the year with a successful dinner at the New Forest Lodge for 26 people.

Looking ahead, we have a full social programme for 2016 starting with the season opening tournament. We then have the Open Day and BBQ, Wimbledon draw, and summer BBQs. We finish the season with another popular club dinner in October. Details of all these events are in this newsletter and on the website."

2016 Social Events

- **Sunday 24th April – Season Opening Tournament and BBQ**
- **Sunday 8th May – Lyndhurst Tennis Club Open Day and BBQ**
- **Tuesday 17th May – Club Night and Wimbledon Draw (7.00 pm start)**
- **Possible BBQs over the Summer – short notice events depending on the weather**
- **October – Club Dinner - date to be advised**

American Lunch – 29 January



Our Monday and Friday morning group held another of their periodic American lunches on a wet and windy January morning as Storm Gertrude battered the UK - demonstrating that, like our courts, our stalwart senior members really are 'all-weather'.

Committee News



Your Committee (L to R):

*Linda Young, Kay Lindsell, Joanne Almond, James Lilley, Alan Hales,
Brian van Hoof, Rob Salter, Mike Downton, Andrew Clough, Tony Roe.*

(Not in picture: Bill Freer, Jill Trant, Hayley Tucknott, Martin Taylor.)

2016 subscriptions

Annual subscriptions are due for payment on 1st April and the good news is that fees are unchanged for 2016. Full details will be sent by e-mail.

Wimbledon Tickets



Many thanks to all members who opted into the Wimbledon Ticket Ballot. We achieved 95%; 120 out of 126 members eligible and registered with the LTA opted -in (children aged under 9 years can't). That's the good news, but come late September we'll all have to opt-in again for next year! Registration with the LTA costs nothing and only 7 members have yet to do this.

Our allocation of Wimbledon Tickets will be drawn on Tuesday 17th May, starting at 7.00pm. Our Wimbledon Secretary, Kay Lindsell, will be sending an e-mail setting out the rules nearer the time. This is a normal club night so also expect some tennis to be played!

Clubroom Blinds

The clubroom patio doors have recently been fitted with new blinds. Please treat these gently, as heavy handling over the years broke the old blinds.

The vertical slats should be turned to the open position before the blinds are drawn back slowly. When closing, first draw the blinds to the middle and then turn the slats to close them.

Opening Tournament (24 April) & Open Day (8 May)

The Opening Tournament of the Season encourages all standards and is intended to kick off the membership year.

The Club Open Day seeks new members - current members are encouraged to bring along potential new people of all ages.

New Committee Members

We are very pleased to welcome 2 new Committee members this season and we asked Linda Young and Joanne Almond to introduce themselves.

Linda Young – Membership Secretary



“I started playing tennis over 50 years ago when I went to secondary school. I then spent hours at home playing against the house wall having to avoid a rockery and a window (not always successfully!)

I have played for several clubs, including Whitchurch, Corsley, Kinross, Windermere and finally Lyndhurst, having found joining a tennis club a good way of settling into a new area.

I joined Lyndhurst in 2011 and play on Monday & Friday mornings, Tuesday evenings and am a regular at the Wednesday morning cardio sessions.



Lyndhurst is a very active club with new ideas/groups being tried regularly. I am enjoying the recently activated box league as I think it gives some competitive play for those of us who do not play in the leagues.

Ideas for the future:

1. Group outings to watch tennis at O2, Albert Hall or Eastbourne.
2. Forming a new group and adapting the game so the ball is allowed to bounce twice.”

Joanne Almond – Committee Member



Suzy Ellis Photography

“Why did I start tennis? Well, that's a hard question for me. All I know is that my Father played tennis and when I was big enough to hold a racket - I think I was 6 years old - my Dad started throwing tennis balls at me and I would hit them back. Eventually (much like Serena Williams in a way), when I got the hang of it, I really enjoyed it. In fact my Father would take me to the courts every Sunday.

I've been a Club member for 16 years and play twice a week at Lyndhurst, and I also play at Romsey.

When Bill Freer mentioned he was keen to get some younger voices on the Committee, I thought I'd give it a try and see what it was like.

Newsletter

What did you think of it so far?

The main conclusion we drew from our survey is that Club members would rather play tennis than reply to surveys!

From the 10% of members who responded online (plus the many informal comments we received personally), it seems that members are generally happy with the current format and content. We accept that we have not reported much 'Junior News' previously and we have tried to remedy this in the current issue.

We are always pleased to receive updates from members about Junior and any other activities, and photos (JPEG format, with separate caption please) would be very welcome. Please check that all in the photo - and also parents of juniors - are content for it to be used. We are also happy to receive further feedback at any time, in person or by e-mail.

Next edition

This is our 4th edition of the e-newsletter - the previous editions can be found on the website. We plan to continue with Spring, Summer and Autumn editions each year and aim to publish our Summer edition in late July.

Newsletter Editors: Sue Moss & Angus Brown

Please contact any of the committee or the editors via the website using [this link](#)

Website

The Club website can be accessed via [this link](#)