



This is my last Newsletter introduction as I retire as Chairman following the AGM on November 8th. During my 4 years as Chairman, I believe that the club has progressed in several ways. Through the Open Day and other initiatives we have attracted a new cohort of players, increasing the membership and subscription base year-on-year to the largest number that we have seen for several years. This has left club finances in a strong position to move forward with confidence that investment will be available for replacement playing surfaces (and, possibly, new floodlighting) when deemed necessary during the next few years. Apart from the financial position, I also believe that the club now has a much stronger playing base, with many well-supported regular sessions during the week. Additionally, the Club teams thrive and begin to include many of the newer members. The coaching side is showing improvement and we have significantly more juniors joining the club. Also, to encourage the junior and younger members in the club to improve their playing standard, a new session on Thursday evenings has been started. All-in-all, I believe that we have generated a momentum to maintain a healthy club both financially, and in membership and playing terms, for future years.

All of this could only be possible with the support of an excellent committee, upon whom falls much of the work to generate the improvements mentioned above. I would like to offer my sincere thanks here for all of their contributions and support, their time and their efforts to help make the Club what it is today. I am sure that the committee will continue to give their support to the incoming Chairman and to all the on-going initiatives which will continue to deliver further improvements for the Club.

Finally, I hope that I have managed to help to maintain and improve the club for you as members to do what all of you enjoy, that is play tennis – be it competitive tennis at all standards, or simply social tennis within a happy and friendly environment. The Club is indeed for you all to enjoy your pastime within inclusive and amicable surroundings. This, I am sure, will be maintained as the major overall objective by our new Chairman.

**Bill Freer – Chairman**

## Club Championships 2017

The crowds gathered looking forward to some excellent tennis on Finals Day.



This year's Club Championships, organised by Martin Taylor and Chris Ellis, were held during July, August and September, with the finals on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September.

The competition was held as a series of Round Robin leagues with the winners of each league playing each other on a finals day. This year saw a record number of entrants, ensuring all except one event had 2 Round Robins. There was really good commitment from the players to get the matches completed and everyone who was due to play turned up in good time for the final. The finals day was very successful, well supported, with some really good tennis played. Food was provided by an American lunch style whereby everyone brought along something for the table. Thank you to Elizabeth who served tea and coffee to the crowd and players.

It was really pleasing to see some of our young players getting involved. We were all cheering for Connor, but wily old Lars came through (sorry Lars!) Maybe next year Connor?





It was quite a long day, cold to start but by the end of the evening the sun was out and the crowd still hung around!

### The Ladies' Doubles Final



Here are some more of the winners



We can't include all the pictures,  
but we thought these were also 'winners'



Best pose



Cup-cakes?

## Club Championship Results

	<b>Winner</b>	<b>Runner Up</b>
<b>Men's Singles</b>	Lars Hanson	Connor Rhodes
<b>Ladies' Singles</b>	Hayley Taylor	Jill Trant
<b>Ladies' Doubles</b>	Hayley Taylor & Steph Hillier	Anne van Hoof & Joanne Almond
<b>Men's Doubles</b>	Martin Taylor & Christopher Parker	Brian van Hoof & Rob Salter
<b>Mixed Doubles</b>	Hayley Taylor & Martin Taylor	Anne van Hoof & Brian van Hoof
<b>Vets Men's Doubles</b>	Martin Taylor & Christopher Parker	Brian van Hoof & Rob Salter
<b>Vets Ladies' Doubles</b>	Hayley Taylor & Steph Hillier	Jill Trant & Stevie Parker
<b>Vets Mixed Doubles</b>	Hayley Taylor & Christopher Parker	Steph Hillier & Martin Taylor

## Team News

### Match Secretary, Andrew Clough, reports:

Firstly, thank you for the kind comments I have received for my time as LLTC Match Secretary, I have enjoyed it a lot and will of course continue to support our teams in any way I can. Many thanks also to Gill Ellis, who attended with me the recent SLTA AGM, at which we sorted the Winter League fixtures.

Suffice it to say, it's been a 'difficult' summer for our teams, in particular for our Ladies and in the Apsley League. We must now turn our thoughts to the Winter Leagues. As with last winter, the Club has entered 3 leagues – Ladies, Mixed 'A' and Mixed 'B'. In winter, the Ladies play as 3 pairs and in the Mixed Leagues it's 2 pairs. Gill Ellis has kindly agreed to captain the Ladies' team again and Jill Trant will captain Mixed 'A', while Mixed 'B' is currently leaderless.

The winter season got off to an encouraging start with our Ladies winning their first match 8-1 against Compton & Shawford.

LYNDHURST

V

Mens / Ladies • Division 3

Played at LYNDHURST

COMPTON / SHAWFORD On 8 / 10 / 2017

Home Team \ Away Team	1st Away Pair		2nd Away Pair		3rd Away Pair	
	SCORE	CLUB	SCORE	CLUB	SCORE	CLUB
1st Home Pair Hayley Taylor Jill Trant	6-0	L	6-1	L	6-0	L
	6-3		6-2		6-1	
2nd Home Pair Steph Hillier Sue Parker	6-3	L	6-3	L	6-3	L
	7-6		4-6	CS	6-1	L
3rd Home Pair Gill Ellis Michelle Lock	6-1	L	7-6	L	6-4	L
	6-3		6-4			

TO AVOID ERRORS PLEASE PRINT ALL NAMES IN BLOCK LETTERS

Result LYNDHURST won by 3 matches to 1. Submitted by Lyndhurst

Mixed 'B' were equally successful, winning 3-1 at Glebian, as Sue Moss reports:

GLEBIAN B

Phone no: (023) 8036 6547

Mixed Division

V

Played at GLEBIAN

LYNDHURST On 14 / 10 / 17

Home Team \ Away Team	1st Away Pair		2nd Away Pair	
	SCORE	CLUB	SCORE	CLUB
1st Home Pair MALCOLM VAN BOON CHUCK MALONEY	2-6	L	2-6	L
	7-5		3-6	
2nd Home Pair ANDY UTLET LINDSAY	6-4	G	6-7	L
	6-3		0-1	

TO AVOID ERRORS PLEASE PRINT ALL NAMES IN BLOCK LETTERS

Result LYNDHURST won by 3 matches to 1. Submitted by GLEBIAN

*We had a great afternoon playing at Glebian. Their courts are very similar to ours and it was a lovely warm afternoon to play against well-matched opposition. Alan and Catherine lost their close match against the first pair – this might have been in part because Alan failed to recognise they were both left-handers until after the match had been completed! He and Catherine then won their second match on a deciding 10-point championship tie break. Catherine said Alan served very well and we can tell you that his line calling and on-court decisions were decisive – we certainly heard them!*

*Sue and Brian kept reminding themselves in the 1<sup>st</sup> match that playing consistent shots to make the opposition play each point is a very effective technique – yes Saps, we remembered what you taught us! In the 2<sup>nd</sup> match we needed a tie break and a 10-point championship tie break to dig us out of holes we kept making for ourselves. Sue suggested that the cup of tea between matches had not improved Brian's consistency, but there is no doubt that Brian made up for this winning some great points with excellent net technique.*

*The afternoon concluded with an excellent sit down tea in the Clubhouse.*

## Autumn on the Courts

### *Box League – Mike Bowles reports:*

Chatting with a few club members earlier in the year, an idea came up that would see a change in the box league system. The idea was that all names would be re-drawn after each playing period. This new system allows people to come into the doubles league who are currently not there because they don't have a partner. It could be that there might still be someone left out if there were uneven numbers, but they could come back in the next session with a guaranteed place. Also, some people might want to drop out of a session because of a holiday, a work commitment, an injury, etc, which they could do in the knowledge that they can return next session or when ready. There was to be an opt-out of the draw for existing pairs who wish to stay playing together, for example a married couple who perhaps travel quite a way in together.

The draw may become a 3/4/5/6 times a year informal 'Club Night' with some drinks to encourage attendance! Equally, Alan – with his IT know-how and expertise – has a random selector capability which can do it for us, but no drinks. All current players were asked about the idea and there was pretty much total support to give it a go. For the first session the draw was done by Alan and at the time of writing the new system has been up and running for almost a month.

We believe that this new system will have the advantage of enabling members to play with and get to know different people - a sort of extended Club mix-in if you like.

### *Juniors/Coaching*

We've been pleased to welcome a number of new junior members since the summer and now have a total of 25 junior members.

During the summer, the older juniors got together with Neil for their own summer tournament. It was very closely fought and all matches were very enjoyable to watch – especially with the sun out and a glass of Pimms! In the end, Harry Fitchett won - so a big “Well done!” to Harry.

We now have about 35 juniors receiving regular weekly coaching, with Neil currently running sessions on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons/evenings. Although we've lost Connor, Harry, James, Cameron and Lucy to their college studies or work, we're hoping to see some of them on a Thursday evening at the 'Big Hitters' session.

### *Mix-in sessions*

Our mix-in sessions continue throughout the winter:

#### **Monday & Friday mornings**

Come along from 9.30am for sociable tennis, with the opportunity to put the world right over coffee and biscuits.

### **Monday afternoon**

A session of social tennis from 2 to 4pm that is open to everyone looking for a bit of a workout and a chance to improve your technique whilst playing games. [Sue Moss](#) sends out a weekly group e-mail to encourage attendance – please let her know if you would like to be included in this circulation list by sending her an e-mail.



Brian, Catherine, Kathleen and Bill celebrating Saps' birthday – he provided his own cake!  
(Sue took the photo)

### **Tuesday - Club Night**

We start at 6.00pm and continue as long as there are at least 4 people enjoying the session. Depending on numbers, we play 4 games and swap in, or we play a complete set. We ensure that no one sits out for long. Floodlights mean that we can continue all year, using hats, scarves and gloves if necessary! It really helps encourage players if they know that there will be others attending; there is a weekly group e-mail to remind everyone and people are urged to reply if they can play. If you are not yet on this e-mail list please contact [Alan Hales](#).

### **Wednesday morning – Cardio Tennis**

Every Wednesday except schools holidays, starting at 9.30am. Just turn up and pay for your session individually or pay for a block. Numbers vary a lot but the session is always good and Neil is a really good instructor. Great when there's a lot of people but equally as good even if there's just a few.

### **Thursday morning – Team Tennis mix-in**

This session, starting at 9.15am, welcomes members who enjoy a competitive game – especially if they also have a taste for coffee & cakes!

### **Thursday evening – Big Hitters**

A new session of social tennis, starting at 6.30pm, especially to encourage junior and younger members to improve their playing standard.

### **Sunday morning – Mix-in session**

The Sunday morning mix-in session, starting at 10am, continues throughout the Winter, except on a couple of occasions when a scheduled Winter League match has priority on the courts.

## *Floodlights – past, present and future*

**Past:** Our planning permission for the floodlights stipulates that the lights must not be on after 10pm. We have had a timer switch installed for many years that would cut off the electrical supply to the lights at 10pm if they were not switched off. Unfortunately, we did have a problem when the lights remained on after the timer had been affected by a power cut.

**Present:** In anticipation of the dark winter evenings, we have renewed the floodlight bulbs and cut back the trees to improve the illumination of the lower courts. To avoid further inconvenience to our neighbours we have replaced the manual timer switch with a battery-backed device which should maintain the correct time even if mains power is interrupted for an extended period. We also had some lights angled downwards to reduce the spill of light into neighbours' property. However, members should **always turn the lights off at the end of their session** and not depend on the timer to shut the lights off. This will avoid waste of electricity and reduce the impact on neighbours. A reminder on how to use the floodlights:



- The floodlight switches are in the cupboard in the clubroom, to the right of the sink.
- There are separate timer switches for the lights on each of the lower two courts.
- If left, the timer switches will keep the floodlights on for 4 hours, so please switch them off when you've finished playing.
- The master time-switch should turn the lights off automatically at 10.00pm.

**Future?** Modern LED lights make it possible to reduce the height of the lamps, for easier and safer maintenance. Quotes for replacement of lamps using the existing wiring are in the region of £25k, which is more than our current sinking fund can support. We therefore plan to revisit the floodlighting options in about 5 years, when the new lamps may need replacement due to ageing.

## ***Guest Fees***

Members are very welcome to bring guests to play at the club, but are reminded that there is a charge of £2 per guest which can be paid direct into the club account (see below) or to a committee member. Guests may each play 4 times in a membership year, after which we would be delighted to receive a membership application.

Lyndhurst Lawn Tennis Club

Sort Code – 309532, Account Number – 00244667, please specify 'Guest Fees'

## **Social Scene**

### ***Club Dinner – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October***

The Club Dinner will have taken place at the Forest Lodge Hotel by the time this newsletter reaches you.

### ***American Lunch – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November***

The Friday mix-in group is holding its next American lunch on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, at 12.30pm. Contact Trevor Lawrence on: [trevor.lawrence@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:trevor.lawrence@hotmail.co.uk)

### ***Christmas Lunch – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December***

The Thursday morning 'boys' are having their Christmas lunch at The Fox and Hounds in Lyndhurst on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December, at 12.30pm. Details from Mike Downton: [mikedownton@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mikedownton@hotmail.co.uk)

## **Committee News**

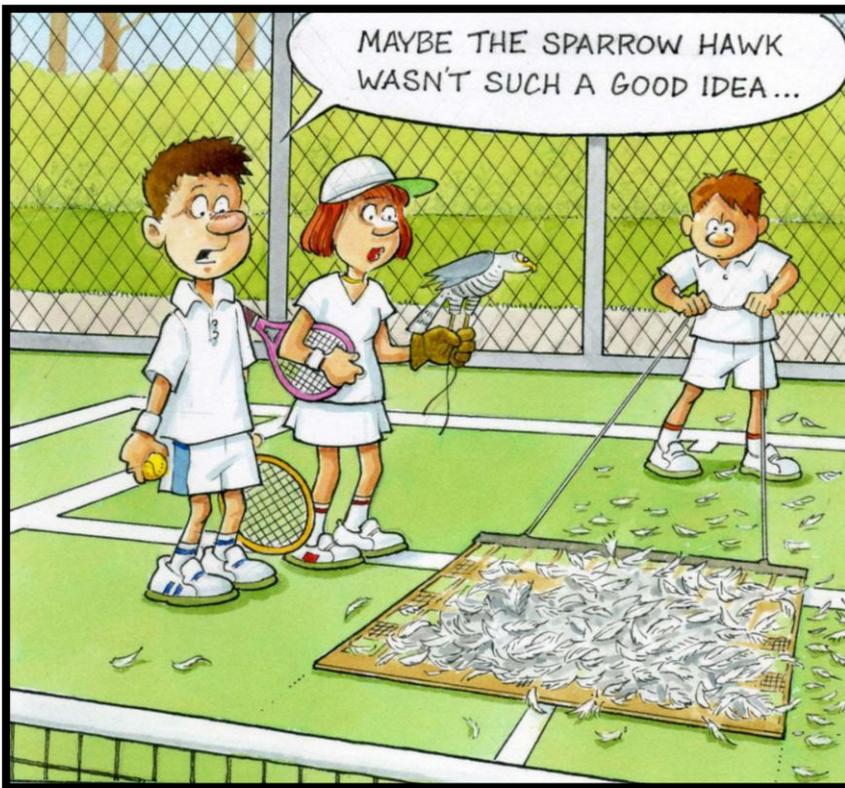
### ***Annual General Meeting – Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November***

Please note that the AGM will be held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2017, at 7.30pm in the clubroom. We need a quorum of at least 15 members present, so do come and hear about the Club and its future and show your support.

Some of your committee are standing down and nominations are sought for replacements - you will have received a nomination form by e-mail and there is one in the clubhouse. It is important that the committee represents the membership across the Club, so let's have some younger members - who are, of course, the Club's future. The committee meets 3 times a year, so if you can spare some of your time why not put your name forward?

### ***Court Care & General Maintenance - Members' Responsibilities***

The club does not have any employees and most of our ground maintenance is carried out by volunteer members led by Brian van Hoof, who gives a lot of his own time to this task. Occasionally, we need to form a work party; if you are willing to help, please let Brian know at: [bvgh@aol.co.uk](mailto:bvgh@aol.co.uk).



The life of our courts depends on careful maintenance and sweeping the court before play is every member's own responsibility.

The special mat is easy to use and is kept between the courts on the grass.

*Thank you to our artist David Lock*

We are purchasing 3 new nets as the one on the middle court was recently discovered to have holes just below the net tape. The top court net had to be exchanged earlier this year for an old spare for the same reason. We don't believe the damage is caused by normal play and would ask all members to have a word with anyone hitting their racquet into the net, for whatever reason. The damage results in unnecessary expense and also is embarrassing if we have to play a Club match, where there can be confusion whether a ball has gone over or through the net.

For the Club grounds, we've just bought a long-reach hedge trimmer so that the laurel hedge perimeter can be kept neat and tidy.

Finally, please always leave the clubroom as we would all wish to find it. There are clean tea towels and a vacuum cleaner in the clubroom, and if you've had any food, empty the waste bin – we don't want to encourage mice!

### **Club Initiatives**

This summer has seen the start of 2 initiatives to enhance the profile of the Club within Lyndhurst:

**Ineos.** A block membership for the Ineos chemical company, whose offices are in Chapel Lane, enables 10 members of Ineos staff to benefit from Club membership.

**Lime Wood.** For a trial period, guests and spa members of the Lime Wood Hotel have been able to make limited bookings to play on one of our courts.

Whilst the Club gains financially from these initiatives, our aim is that they will enable local tennis players to see the advantages of becoming full members of the Club.

## Wimbledon Tickets

There are 2 ways you have a chance of getting Wimbledon tickets – in the public draw (where the chance is very small) or through membership of a tennis club (which gives you a much better chance).



To enter the Club Draw you must be LTA (Lawn Tennis Association) registered and OPT-IN to the Wimbledon Ballot on the LTA website. Tickets are allocated to clubs on a pro-rata basis for the proportion of members who have opted-in. The opt-in process this year is easier than in previous years and almost 50 members have already opted-in this year – only another 80 yet to do so!

For members who are not yet LTA-registered the process is straightforward. Go to the website [lta.org.uk](http://lta.org.uk) and create a login, which is free for basic membership (known as Lite), then OPT-IN.

For members who are already registered, please go to the website and OPT-IN even if you don't want tickets for next year – this helps the club to obtain as many tickets as possible.

Any queries, please e-mail Hon Secretary: [anthonyroe@btopenworld.com](mailto:anthonyroe@btopenworld.com)

## Memories and Memorials

### Elizabeth Lawrence on Radio Solent



Elizabeth Lawrence, one of our 'senior' members, was interviewed on Radio Solent during Wimbledon. If you missed the broadcast, you can hear her interview by using the separate link attached to the e-mail sent out with this newsletter.

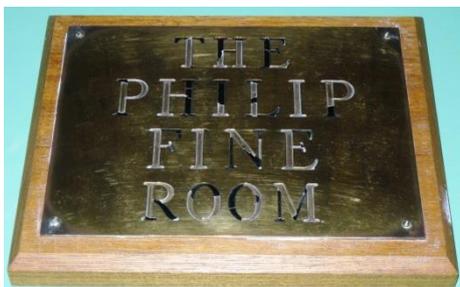
## Club Memorials

As a private members' club we rely on the voluntary work and goodwill of members to sustain the Club for the benefit of all current and future members. Over the years, various people who have made an exceptional contribution to the Club have been commemorated and, around the Club, there are memorials to:



### **Dr Alfred Moore**

The Club's founder and main benefactor.



### **Philip Fine**

Philip organised fund-raising to build the extension to the clubhouse solely for tennis players. His widow, Jean, was Honorary Secretary for some years.



### **Edward Vernon**

In the early 1960s the courts were re-positioned and Edward (Ted) Vernon was instrumental in organising a lot of the ground work including work on the clubhouse. Sadly, not long after completion, he died suddenly at an early age and was not able to enjoy the fruits of his labour.



### **Jean Soddy**

Jean was a team player in the 1960s and was described as 'a great worker for the Club'.



### **Bill Evans**

The history of the Bill Evans Memorial Seat is now lost from corporate memory.

The passing of some of our most senior members has prompted the Committee to consider whether and how the Club should commemorate departed members. After some discussion, it has been decided to adopt the following policy:

- Individuals who have made a truly exceptional contribution to the Club should continue to be commemorated in an appropriate manner.
- Honorary members have paid their membership subscriptions for 40 years and will likely have played a very full part in the life of the Club. When an honorary member passes on, a plaque will be placed in the pavilion (or clubroom, if considered appropriate by the Committee) after consultation with the next of kin, to serve to remind members of some of their predecessors who have kept the Club alive for us all to enjoy.
- The family of any departed member might wish to commemorate them by funding a similar plaque or a larger item for the benefit of the Club. The Committee should consider such proposals favourably, providing they fit in with the 'ambience' of the club environs, and may designate an 'Absent Friends' bench to which plaques could be fixed.
- Retrospective recognition is permissible when requested by family or friends. In such circumstances, 40 years membership should be equivalent to honorary membership.

## Newsletter

### *Next edition*

We intend to publish the Spring edition in March.

**Newsletter Editors:** Sue Moss & Angus Brown

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