



## WELCOME BACK

Three months is a huge chunk out of our lives when our activities have been hugely curtailed. Thank goodness there has been some easing of lockdown from Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March (at time of writing) and we can at last play tennis again.

While we still have to observe Covid protocols (see below) it will be good to meet up in the permitted organised groups. It will be good to see some of the faces that have only appeared on Zoom over the past long months.

Despite no tennis activity of any kind since late December 2020, the club campus has undergone a facelift thanks to the small band of volunteers led enthusiastically by Andrew Clough whose efforts are much appreciated. Details appear later of the improvements. It is your Club and it is true that many hands make light work.

Our finances have taken a hit with income down and the cost of improvements made, so a period of consolidation is appropriate as we will just about break even by 30<sup>th</sup> September the end of our financial year. The committee has met several times on Zoom and I am grateful for their support.

As we emerge slowly out of lockdown and the pandemic situation remains fluid, the Opening Spring Tournament is cancelled as is the Wimbledon Ballot. However, it is expected that the Club Championships will go ahead from August. Also, the Box League will resume alongside Club matches in due course. It is intended to enjoy some social events on site after 21<sup>st</sup> June such as BBQs if restrictions are lifted.

We are open for new members and there is nothing better than personal recommendation. We already have some joining and to them I say – welcome! This is a great Club with the opportunity to meet new people and play tennis at all levels.

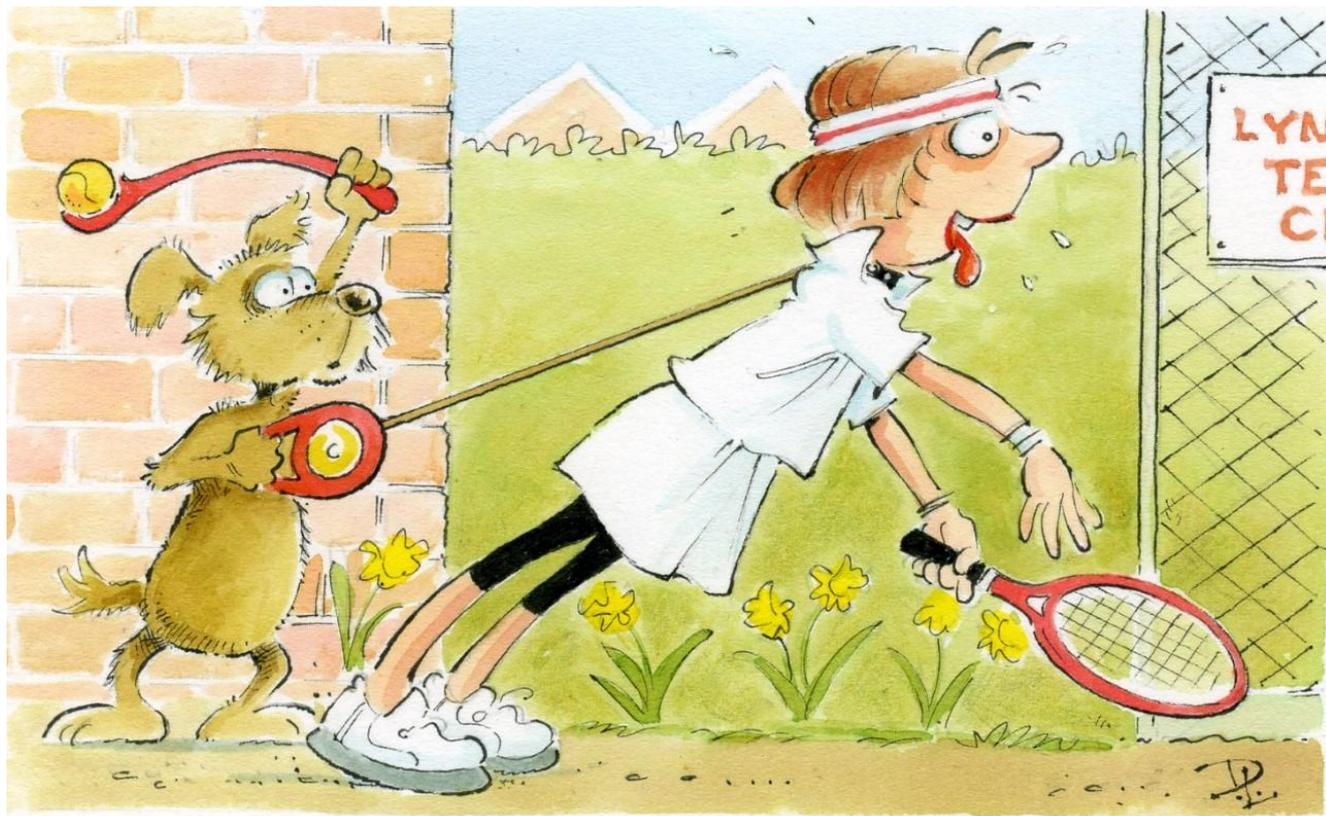
Lastly, thank you to Angus and Sue for their hard work on the Newsletter over the past 6 years as they hand over the reins.

Enjoy your return to tennis!

Tony Roe, Club Chairman



## ON THE COURTS



### Box League

The league will resume where it left off in January and will continue until the end of April or end of May depending on how quickly people get through their matches. You will notice there are now only 11 pairs instead of 14. A couple of pairs have dropped out and a couple of individual players likewise, so two pairs have a changed partner.

There may be some interest in running a singles Box League to run at the same time as the doubles one so watch out for news on that.

The mix in sessions remain the same as last year. For use of the courts outside of these times please use the website's online booking system.

### Team News

Unfortunately all the competitions over the winter season were cancelled after a few friendly matches had been played.

We still don't have details re the Summer's Men's and Ladies tournaments. As we await news from the LTA we have entered one mixed team into the summer Apsley League. Jill Trant has kindly offered to be captain again.

From Jill Trant: After the great disappointment of last summer we have much to look forward to this coming season with lots of match play along the way. The League Association proposes that we plan to start our League matches from 1st May for matches to run until the end of October. (No dates have been released as yet).

As 2020's summer season was considered void (arranged, postponed, rearranged, cancelled!) The

updated divisions will be based on this year's club entries along with our final position from the 2019 season. We were then in Division 3. (4 Divisions in total).

PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU ARE WILLING TO PLAY: [Jilltrant@btinternet.com](mailto:Jilltrant@btinternet.com)

Matches are really good fun and generally played on a Saturday afternoon. Each team consisting of 4 Ladies and 4 men. Each event/rubber to be the best of three sets. Mixed doubles played first, followed by ladies' and men's doubles. All great fun.

I'll keep you all updated with regard to any change. Meanwhile, dust off your raquets, find your trainers and enjoy the fun.

### **Club Championships**

These will be planned shortly – please look out for announcements.

### **Club coaching**

The Club is fortunate to have first class coaching. Please contact directly on email if you are interested in improving your game.

### **Candy Reid Harrop**



Candy specialises in the four pillars of coaching: Technical, Tactical, Mental and Physical. This can be improved at any age, all it needs is a willingness to learn and have a growth mindset! I absolutely love seeing players improve! Please contact Candy on [candidarh@gmail.com](mailto:candidarh@gmail.com) or 07497155286

## **COMMITTEE NEWS**

### **Appointment of Officers**

There are no changes from last year and the Annual General Meeting in November 2020 (on zoom) approved the following appointments for 2021:

**Chairman:** Tony Roe

**Hon Treasurer:** Mike Dow

**Hon Secretary:** Catherine O'Mahony

**Match Secretary:** Alan Hales

**Membership Secretary:** Debbie Elsworth

**Wimbledon Ballot Secretary:** Susan Kenny

## New Committee Members 2021

Candy Reid-Harrop



I am a Lyndhurst resident and a former World Ranked tennis player. I moved to the USA in 1996 to take up a full scholarship at the University of Tennessee, before spending 12 years as a Sports presenter and reporter for CNN International. Highlights included spending the day with Serena Williams at the Home Shopping Network and playing in a football match alongside Novak Djokovic and Rafael Nadal. After that I ran my own Tennis Academy in Atlanta, Georgia and worked with several nationally ranked juniors. Now, back in the UK, I commentate on tennis for Amazon Prime and coach at David Lloyd and here at the Club.

Christine Thomas



I played tennis at school and then not again until we moved to the New Forest in 2019. With more time on my hands I decided to get some coaching with Saps. This gave me the confidence to join the mix-in groups which was a great way to get to know people at the Club. Everyone was so welcoming and encouraging from the start and I have now played in the box league. Having the courts so close by is convenient and has enabled me to play competitive tennis in a social environment.

Kate Chambers



I was a member of my local London club as a teenager and continued to play sporadically down the years. Last April, I found myself spending more time in Lyndhurst, prompted by the pandemic, and was delighted to find a club virtually on my doorstep. Once I plucked up the courage to join, it proved to be a lifesaver. The members are a very jolly bunch and with the help of Saps, I'm gradually building my confidence and enjoying the ample opportunities for group playing,

## 2021 SUBSCRIPTIONS

All subs are now due and need to be paid by 30 April, at the latest. If you could pay via bank transfer please, if at all possible, as we are still in lockdown. You should have received my email with reduced rates but for queries contact me on: [delsworth@virginmedia.com](mailto:delsworth@virginmedia.com) (please note Debbie's new email address).

## WIMBLEDON DRAW

While the LTA "hope" to stage as much live competitive tennis as possible this year, it is still too early for them to say what level of attendance will be possible. Sue Kenny has not yet received any information about the Wimbledon ballot she will be in contact as more information becomes available.

## MAINTENANCE

Whilst not playing tennis members have been busy getting our club ready for the new season, including:

- Painting step edges at entrance and the steps up to rear clubhouse door
- Placing topsoil to create safe mound left of new path and seeded?
- Pruning behind the courts and behind practice wall
- Renovating pavilion: roof, replacing rotten boards and adding a new coat of paint
- Treating and repainting benches
- Planting flower beds and spring pots – thanks Debbie
- Fitting padding to the retaining wall

A special thanks to our maintenance Tzar Andrew Clough leading the maintenance task force.

A few of our many volunteers getting the club ready for the new season...



## **COVID 19: CLUB RULES**

It's great to be allowed out to play tennis again and we are doing all we can to enable Members to play as much tennis as possible within the current constraints. Our Covid-specific Risk Assessment, required by the LTA, remains under constant review. Everyone must surely now be familiar with the prevailing national rules and the latest LTA guidance can be found here [<https://www.lta.org.uk/about-us/tennis-news/news-and-opinion/general-news/2020/march/coronavirus-covid-19---latest-advice/>]. We still need to be absolutely clear what all this means for our behaviour at the Club, both on and off court.

First and foremost, do not come to the Club if any of the following applies:

- You have possible symptoms of Covid-19.
- You are awaiting a Covid-19 test or the result of a test (except for routine asymptomatic screening).
- You are required to self-isolate for any reason.

So that the Club can continue to operate in a safe and lawful manner, please do everything you can to ensure that the behaviour of anyone and everyone at the Club complies with both the spirit and letter of the various regulations.

Remember "Hands-Face-Space" at the Club. Most of us will be well aware of these rules as we have had a year to practise! But just the tennis specifics:

### **Hands**

- Sanitize hands and racquet handles before and after play
- No handshakes, fist-bumps or high-fives
- Make your own coffee and wash your own mug in hot water

### **Face**

Having touched tennis balls handled by other players please avoid touching your face on court.

### **Space**

- Don't mingle in groups of more than 6 when waiting to play or leaving court
- Avoid close contact if playing doubles with a partner from outside your 'support bubble'
- No more than 6 people in the pavilion – and keep well-spaced
- The Clubroom remains closed except for individual access

### **Record your contacts at the Club so that they can be traced if necessary:**

- Scan the QR code at the Club (if you have the NHS COVID-19 app on your smartphone)
- Report any symptoms, tests and results to Andrew Clough
- Use the Court Booking System for non organised sessions
- Mark the register at organised group sessions

## **GOOD TO KNOW**

### **Safeguarding**

The Club registers annually with the LTA to ensure that we continue to be certified as meeting the LTA's Minimum Safeguarding Standards, aimed at ensuring a safe and inclusive venue. This means that we will have the following in place:

- Safeguarding Policy
- Diversity & Inclusion Policy
- Welfare Officer (Andrew Clough)
- Relevant Criminal Records Checks
- Annual Risk Assessment

The Policies and Risk Assessment can be found on the notice board in the Clubroom. Members are asked to make time to read these so that they will be fully aware of these important matters.

LTA registration also brings with it the benefit of continuing public liability insurance for the Club through the LTA.

### **Defibrillators**

Can you remember how to use the defibrillator and where to find it?

To refresh your memory, please click [HERE](#) to watch a short video.

(Note: The video also shows a 'CPR Device', which our defibrillator does not include.)

To access the defibrillator you will need to:

- Have a key for the clubroom.
- Know where to find the large key fob (usually stored in the clubroom cupboard).
- Unlock the access door to the main clubhouse corridor.
- Find the defibrillator cabinet (on the wall opposite the toilets).

... and don't be surprised when the alarm sounds as you open the cabinet door.

### **Club Wi-Fi, Website & Webcam**

Members wishing to make full use of Club internet facilities will need to know the relevant passwords.

For technical reasons, different passwords are required to access:

- The **Dramatic-Tennis** Wi-Fi network at the Clubhouse
- The Members-only protected area of the Club website
- Webcam coverage of the courts

Passwords can be found in the Clubroom, inside the door of the floodlight switch cupboard. The Club website can also be accessed via [this link](#).

## CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS

**Members news:** Hayley Tucknott, a former club champ in singles and doubles, and described here by the Ladies Team Captain, Jill Trant, as an ACE player, is expecting her second child later this year. We look forward to welcoming said offspring as soon as he/she is out of nappies.

**Newsletter:** A huge thanks goes to Angus Brown and Sue Moss for the sterling effort they have put into producing the Club's excellent newsletter over the past six years. Rob Salter and Kate Chambers have now taken over as the new co-editors and look forward to receiving any stories, photos and members' news you may like to include in our Summer newsletter. Please send to [katec9929@gmail.com](mailto:katec9929@gmail.com)

**Cartoon:** Finally, thanks goes to member David Lock for his brilliant cartoon summing up our return to play after the long winter lockdown