



Newsletter – Summer 2021

Chairman's welcome

As I write, Wimbledon is in its second week with some great performances from Brits, not least from 'new discovery' Emma Raducanu – it is good to know that British tennis is set fair for some years and this should cascade down to clubs. I am pleased to say we have seen quite a few new members this summer. If you see an unfamiliar face do welcome them as we are an inclusive club.

Back in June we were still restricted to gatherings of 30 people but still managed to have some fun. A sushi lunch was hosted by our 'resident chef' Bruno and his assistant, Bogdan, from the Crown Hotel, with support from Kate, Christine and Rosie. It was much more than sushi with other dishes on offer all prepared in the clubhouse by the 'Master'. Well done to Bruno and team on what was a splendid event on a sunny day. A BBQ is being planned for August so look out for an invite.

It's good to see the courts being well used, although some of the roll-up sessions could do with more support to avoid the release of courts for general play. The court booking system generally works well but please cancel a session promptly if you cannot play. The Box League has 26 participants and is a good way to have regular competitive tennis. If you are not involved in the current one, why not join in next time? Thanks to Graham for organising this. The Club Championships are underway with the finals in September. I am grateful to James with support from Chris Ellis for taking this on.

The grounds continue to look amazing attracting admiration from visiting teams. Thanks go to Andrew who keeps the lawns mown, extracts the weeds and cuts back where needed. If you see something that needs doing don't just walk on by – we don't have any staff! Debbie and Mike have created a great floral look so well done to them!

I commissioned a review of our court surfaces (known as Tiger turf) recently as they are nearly 10 years old. The opinion is we have about six years of life left with normal usage which is good news.

The Club website has undergone a transformation to better inform new members (and perhaps you!) – my thanks to Alan, his 'protégé' Angus and to David for his wonderful cartoons.

The BBC programme *Escape to the Country* has filmed a sequence at the club featuring member Candy Harrop. It charts her family's return to the UK after living in the US for a number of years. Maybe we will attract more new members when this is shown in six to eight months' time.

The AGM in November seems far away but we must keep looking for new faces on the committee to replace those standing down. I am glad to say we have a prospective Chairman and Vice-Chairman but we will need a Membership Secretary as Debbie is moving into the Treasurer's role. It is your club so why not have a say in its future by joining the Committee? My thanks to the Committee and all those who do their bit behind the scenes.

Tony

On the Courts



Team News

The Lyndhurst Mixed Team is quite thrilled to be back on the tennis courts, thrashing the ball about and hoping to win a few matches.

We play in Division 3...there are four divisions in the summer Apsley League.

Lots to organise from my point of view, but so far so good. Matches can be quite close and are often hard fought, as in our first match at Romsey where sadly we lost the opening match of the summer season 5-3.

However, good luck, grit and determination were with us in our next match v Littleton, this match of many tie-breaks and 3 'setters', was eventually won by Lyndhurst 6-2. It took hours of close play, brilliant rallies and stunning shots to accomplish this great win against very strong opposition. (Exhausting, but fun!)

Our next match is on 17th July, away v Twyford. Although their club is in the most picturesque location, they only have two somewhat ageing grass courts. (Quite bumpy). The Twyford team definitely has the home advantage, knowing exactly where to place the ball for the best possible

damage to the opposition. There'll be lots of frustration and laughter in this match for sure. (No swearing!) Let's hope we win!

There are three more matches to follow the Twyford match, hopefully winning a few along the way will enable us to stay in Division 3. We wouldn't like to be relegated. Thank you to the club players who support the mixed team. If you are a new member to Lyndhurst and feel you'd like to play in the mixed team at some point in the future please email me at Jilltrant@btinternet.com. Keep practising and above all enjoy your tennis. **Jill Trant**

Captain Jill and Stevie, following a gruelling match played in 27degree heat at Twyford.



Club Championships

The 2021 Championships has begun. We've had entries in all categories except Ladies singles, open and vets. All score sheets are now up in the clubhouse ready for matches to be played before mid-August. There are four categories (Vets Men's singles, Vets Men's doubles, Vets Ladies doubles and Open Ladies doubles) which have only had two entrants so these members will go straight through to the final.

The Open finals will be played on Saturday 4th September and the Vets on Saturday 18th September (Sundays will be back-up date in event of rain). **James Elsworth**

Box league

Under normal circumstances the summer Box League would be drawing to a close and we would have a one-month break before kicking things off again in September. As I am sure you will all agree these are 'far from normal' times and so we have decided to extend for a further month so everyone will hopefully have the opportunity to complete their matches. Therefore, apologies to Jan and Jean Marc who are currently leading the field and unless Sue and Felix can catch them this week would be the likely winners. So, weather, holidays and Covid App Pings permitting we have another month of competitive and fun tennis ahead and so please take full advantage if you can.

Looking to the future and the Autumn Box League can you let me know if you would like to participate and I'll start drawing up the pairings. My email address is grahamjamescharlesworth@gmail.com.

Thanks, **Graham Charlesworth**

Club coaching

We are fortunate to have two excellent coaches at the Club. Whether you are a beginner, a little rusty or looking to improve certain aspects of your game then expert help is on hand.



Candy Harrop 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 or 07497155286



Neil Webb is a qualified Level 3 LTA coach offering private lessons and a group class on Wednesday mornings. He also runs classes for Juniors.

RED: Tots from 4.00 to 4.45 (on Wednesdays).

ORANGE/GREEN 4-6 years and 6 -10 years from 4.45pm to 5.30pm

YELLOW: 10-13 years 5.30 to 6.15pm (both on Fridays).

Cost is £5 per session for Junior members and £7 for non-members
Please contact Neil on 07952 025406



Ladies team coaching

Membership

I'm pleased to report that our Club membership continues to thrive with a current total of 149 members. So far this year we've had 13 new people (beginners and experienced players) joining us and we hope they will very much enjoy playing at Lyndhurst. **Debbie Elsworth.**

Website

We have been updating the club website, aiming to:

- Make the public area of the website more inviting to potential members, encouraging them to contact and visit the Club.
- Develop the members' area to make it more useful, especially to new members.

You can help by taking a few minutes to browse the updated website at lyndhursttennis.com . Please send any comments or improvement suggestions by email to lyndhurst.tennis@gmail.com.

Thank you. **Angus Brown**

Bruno's Club lunch



A big thanks goes to Bruno for his outstanding lunch to mark the opening day of Wimbledon 2021. It was touch and go right up to the last moment as to whether it would go ahead but the weather was finally on our side and a few torrential downpours weren't about to dampen our chef's exuberance to put on a show.

Apart from the most exquisite hand-rolled sushi (along with a full chef's presentation), Bruno knocked up the most fabulous seafood pasta. His colleague Bogdan from the Crown Hotel created beautifully presented Summer cocktails and a refreshing elderflower presse.



It was so kind of Bruno to go the extra mile for the club and we hope to see more of his truly awesome cooking skills with a BBQ in late August.



Time to tuck in...

Covering old ground

It has been a great pleasure to design and plant a garden bed where the old bonfire area used to be, after it was given approval by the committee.

Horticulture is one of my interests as it is with a lot of people and there is nothing better than to see a blaze of colour in the Summer brightening up that area. I have had many wonderful comments on how it has turned out.



I think from my experiences at the golf club where we have an 'absent friends' area, that I thought I could create something that would maybe serve the same purpose at our tennis club.



If at any time you notice that it might need watering then please do so in these hot Summer months. But please take time to perhaps sit awhile and enjoy the colour of both the flower bed and Debbie's flower tubs, that would give us all the thanks I think that we would need. **Mike Downton**

Debbie's Flower Pots have been glorious this year

Rules & regulations

You might be surprised to discover that our Club has its own Rules & Regulations. Club Rules are effectively the Constitution of the Club and can only be amended or modified by Members at an Extraordinary General Meeting.

Club Rule 2 empowers the Committee 'to make and amend such Regulations from time to time as it deems necessary for the successful continuance of the Club and for the benefit of its members'.

Club Regulations have recently been reviewed and up-to-date copies of both Club Rules and Regulations can now be found in the Members' Area of the Club Website.

Good to know

Covid

As we write we are awaiting instructions from the LTA but in the meantime the Club website is the place for the most up-to-date information but we continue to sanitise hands before and after play and use common sense around distancing, congregating in groups etc.

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 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 by searching for Lyndhurst Tennis.

Thanks

Finally, once again many thanks goes to member David Lock for his cartoon.
We look forward to receiving your news and pictures and pics for the Autumn 2021 newsletter.
Please send to katec9929@gmail.com

Here's to a great summer of tennis for all.

Kate Chambers and Rob Salter