

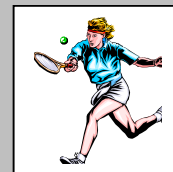
"The Dodgy Call"

Spring 2008.

STUDHAM TENNIS CLUB



Chairman	Richard Quinn	01582-*****
Treasurer	Tony Noone	01582-*****
Secretary	Linda Arbury	01582-*****
Match Secretary	Nick Jones	01582-*****
Junior's Secretary	Fiona Mitchell	01582-*****
Social Co-ordinator	Jane Calder	01582-*****
Court Development	Jonathan Clinch	01582-*****



"The Quinn Moment"

Hello one and all!

I must apologise for the delay in the preparation of this newsletter. As some of you may be aware I have been otherwise engaged in matters of a personal medical nature, which have put me out of the loop for a little while. I don't know where the last couple of months have gone and I would like to thank all of you for your best wishes during my recovery.

Regretfully, due to my incapacity, I was not able to attend our AGM in April and I would like to thank Jon Clinch for "Chairing" the meeting at very short notice, I understand he made a first class job of it. Not being able to attend also meant that I did not get to see the presentation of the "Ray Frith" Trophy for the Winter League, so congratulations to Dan Penberthy as winner (for the second year) and also to Patricia Hardy as "Highest Placed Lady" (she also finished in overall second place). Many thanks to all those who took part, to Kevin Swain for his hard work in organising and special thanks to Madeleine & Richard Hull and Lesley Smith for their invaluable contribution in allowing the use of their courts.

We had a sad start to the year with the death of Tony Webb. Tony was a Founder and Life Member of the Club and served for some years as Social Secretary. He will be greatly missed by all those who knew him. On a personal note, I will never forget that he was the first person to welcome me when I joined. In Tony's honour it has been decided to hold an open one-day competition on the 28th June with a BBQ in the evening (Tony loved his BBQs) and I would encourage all of you to attend what, we hope, will become an annual event in the Club calendar.

I would like to welcome the following new members to the Club:- Natasha Barton, Matthew Calthorpe, Macaulay and Ellis Fletcher, Alasdair, Chinot, Callum, Euan and Nicola Thomson, Sean Woodhouse.

Richard.

JUNIOR'S CORNER

Well, as the new Junior Secretary I guess I'd better introduce myself – I am Fiona – wife of Clive, Mother to Amy, Robert, Matthew & Charlie and sister to Nick Jones!

Rather nervously I am stepping into the shoes of Sheila and promise to do my best to carry on the good work!

The Saturday afternoon coaching is once again proving popular and we are ending this term with a Junior American Tournament on 19 July. I feel that this will take some organising (!) so anyone who would like to come and help with scoring and umpiring will be more than welcome!

I am also intending to have a Junior Championship - a singles and a doubles - and entry forms will be distributed soon!

We have bought a short tennis set that we have been putting up during the coaching and will also have around so that the kids can play whilst parents are on the courts.

Our boys team is doing well and only lost by one point to Dunstable last Saturday – so very well done Jack and David!

During the first week of the school holidays we are around so I will be holding a daytime Junior session – I will e-mail to let everyone know time and date, everyone welcome!

Fiona

Social Report

The 10th Anniversary Dinner and Dance was held at Harper's Barn and was a great success. Many thanks to all those who supported by attending and all who gave willingly of their time in helping me to organise the event.

We held our third annual Quiz night in Easter. This event goes from strength to strength with a greater number attending each year. Many thanks to Andrew Jones who, once again, did a fantastic job as quizmaster.

Plans for the rest of this year are as follows:-

Saturday 28th June @ 2 PM Open Tournament for the "**Tony Webb**" Trophy. This is "Open" to Members and Non Members and is a good opportunity to bring a guest or two. The tennis will be followed by a BBQ in the evening starting at 7 PM. The tennis is free to all who take part. The BBQ is £5 per head. Tickets are obtainable from Jack @ the Social Club, let him know if you want to play in the tournament. Any problems contact myself or any Committee Member.

Social event (possibly a Race Night) with food @ the Social Club in the Autumn.

Club Dance @ the Social Club in December.

Details to follow!

Thoughts of Old Nick.

After a successful summer last year our teams are geared up for another attack on the South Beds League. For the first time in the Clubs history our Mixed A and Men's A teams are both in Division 1 following promotion last summer.

We entered 4 teams in the South Beds Winter League. Final table positions show 3 of them mid-table with the Mixed B team finishing bottom of their division, in their defence it was their first season in division 2 and due to non availability of players and weather problems, they were only able to play 3 of their 6 matches. Well done to all who took part.

Another first for the club this Summer is partaking in the Beds League with a Men's team. This league covers the whole of the county and means playing some new clubs with interesting car journeys to reach them as of course we are literally at the southern most end of the county.

Yet another first is the club taking part in the South Beds Knock Out Cup. An event with a long tradition with clubs being drawn in rounds to be played on a fixed day-with no rearranging allowed. Each match is the best of 5 rubbers consisting of Men's Singles, Ladies singles, Men's Doubles, Ladies Doubles and Mixed Doubles. Our first match for this event is away to Dunstable on 1st June. Also for the first time this year the league have introduced a Plate event for losers in the first round to enter and to be run concurrently with the main event including a finals day in September.

Lastly our Second Club Championships are about to take place with an additional 2 No new events by popular demand- Men's and Ladies Doubles Partners Drawn. Please get your entries in by the extended entry date of 30th May. Draw will take place for all events on Monday 2nd June after club play at 7.45pm.

Good luck to all our teams.

Nick.

COURT DEVELOPMENT.

The courts are holding up well despite the inclement weather. Within the next week, there will be another weed killing session around the perimeter, as the thistles are trying to regain their position next to the fence. We shall repel them!

Please remember to use the correct footwear when on court, it should not have black soles that mark the court, also always lower the nets after use.

The wind breaks have not been erected yet, but it is intended that the windbreak at the football pitch end will be erected next month, mainly to assist sighting the ball during early evening play.

The ball machine is back in action, and we are pleased to confirm it is available for use. However, it has, on previous occasions, been left out on the court and been subject to misuse. So a new regime is now in place. It is for the present time being held in our illustrious Chairman's garage, where he is ensuring that it is properly charged and looked after between use. Anyone wishing to use the machine should contact Richard to arrange collection, in certain circumstances he may be able to get the machine to the courts and collect it after.

I would like to express my thanks to all those who assisted in keeping the courts free of leaves and other detritus during the Winter months in particular, Dickie and Nobby

Jonathan.



“From the Secretary's Table”

I have recently circulated by e-mail this year's Club Membership List, which at the time of sending it stood at 94 members. I will update the list periodically and circulate to all members. Don't forget if you have any friends or relatives that might be keen to play, we are always looking for new members.

You will have all received details of the “British Tennis Membership” scheme launched by the LTA. Hopefully you will have by now joined and are in receipt of your “Welcome Pack” from the LTA. There is no membership fee at present, although this may well change, so I exalt all of you who have yet to join to sign up. This can be done online by visiting www.lta.org.uk/Membership or, if you have any problems let me know and I will get you a hard copy form. There is a strong possibility that our future allocation of Wimbledon tickets will depend on how many of our members have signed up.

We received 5 pairs of Wimbledon tickets for 2008 and the lucky recipients drawn for these tickets were: Fiona Mitchell, Nick Jones, Rayna Shiach, Sheila Luck and Jonathan Clinch. Have a great time guys.

Social play continues-

Monday evenings	Mixed	6 00 p.m.
Wednesday mornings	Ladies	9.30 a.m.
Wednesday afternoon	Ladies Coaching	1.30 p.m.
Saturdays	Rusty Rackets Mixed	1 00 p.m.
Sunday mornings	Mixed	10 00 a.m.

Our Chairman has already mentioned the sad passing of Tony Webb. I was one of many of Tony's friends, Colleagues and, I am glad to report, Tennis Club Members who attended his funeral at St. Mary's Church. We are extremely grateful to Tony's Family, in particular to Richard Jnr, for enacting Tony's wish that the proceeds of any collection be passed to the Tennis Club in his memory. The total for this collection is in excess of £ 600 and has been used to purchase a commemorative bench and to fund the one-day tournament in his honour.

On a happier note I am pleased to announce that, following the withdrawal of the LTA support for our old website, we are well on the way to developing our own. It is envisaged that it will be simple in construction and easy to use, giving details about the club and also having an interactive calendar to enable court bookings. We owe a great debt of thanks to Clive Mitchell who, in amongst all his other duties and work commitments, has set this site up for us. It is still quite empty at present as we are working on the content but feel free to visit at www.studhamtennisclub.co.uk more info to follow on this exciting development as it becomes available.

Linda.