

Chairman's Chat

So far 2007 has been a healthy season for the club. I recently attended the annual senior presentation evening with Ally and between us we collected three awards for our winning teams. The winter league is under way and this year we are running an additional team. Only one club, Next Generation, runs more teams in the winter! Thornbury is definitely a club to be reckoned with in the Avon Leagues.

Your committee have been working hard as usual, from mending fences, to arranging over 100 leagues fixtures during the year. I don't bemoan the fact that many people simply want to play rather than get involved in the running of the club. What does cheese me off is those members who by their actions, make life that little bit harder for everyone else. Everyone should try to put something in to the club and by that I just mean, returning balls to the box (where DO they go?), washing and drying their cups, NOT putting banana skins or half empty bottles in the plastic recycling bin, (who do you think has to empty it?). Better still, take your bottles home and recycle them yourself! In the end it's just about being thoughtful. (End of rant, I know most of you are).

Talking of the committee, James Morrell will be standing down at the next AGM so we will need a new club secretary if the club is to continue. If any of you have any candidates in mind, then please let me or another committee member know. James has done a magnificent job and deserves a rest!. If anyone else feels they have a useful contribution to make but who do not wish to take on one of the major roles, then please volunteer your services. We welcome the enthusiasm of Jan Vareka who has been 'co-opted' on to the committee. I'm sure he's got a lot to offer, especially in relation to junior activities. I am pleased to say that Steve Wells has accepted the committee's invitation to be nominated as our new President. Steve has been actively involved in the club over many years and his knowledge and experience are hugely valuable. I am sure he will make a great president.

*Lastly, please spare a thought for recently departed 'Benji' the collie dog who was our number one tennis fan. I must admit to feeling a little peeved at his obvious preference for watching the ladies play!. :-)
His presence will be missed.*

**Phil Jones
Chairman, Sept 2007**

FLOODLIGHT TOKENS

(30 mins per token, £1.50)

If you need tokens for the floodlights, please call:

Phil Jones
Allison Weir
James Morrell
Matt Stringer



NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS ALWAYS NEEDED

As well as a new secretary, we need someone to take over the design and maintenance of the web site, and as always, we need a Publicity Officer, and general committee members.

MINCE PIES AND MULLED WINE

At the club session on Saturday, December 22nd.

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

A copy of our Child Protection Policy is available for viewing in the clubhouse. If you have any concerns please contact our club Child Protection Officer, Christine Vincent.



Club Tournament 2007

Winners:

Chris Taylor
Sarah Hurley
Tony Light & Chris Taylor
Lucy Thomas & Allison Weir
Mark Taylor & Pauline Barnett

Runners Up:

Dave Mackie
Lucy Thomas
Stewart Flisher & Mark Taylor
Sarah Hurley & Rosemary Millar
Chris Taylor & Carole Boulton

The President's Plate was won by Colin Horler & Lucy Thomas

Thornbury LTC Committee

Phil Jones	Chairman	pjones@homecall.co.uk	01454 415894
Chris Vincent	Vice-Chair, Lottery		
Chris Arnold	Treasurer		
James Morrell	Secretary		
Matt Stringer	Membership Secretary	matthewstringer@hotmail.com	01454 853546
Pete Rosser	Men's Captain	peterosser@blueyonder.co.uk	01454 880133
Allison Weir	Ladies Captain, Match Secretary, Newsletter Editor, Website	aweir@homecall.co.uk	01454 415894
Beth Cocks	Club/Grounds		01454 260313
Tony Light		tonylight@wolfridge.co.uk	01454 412260
Jan Vareka	Co-opted		
Tony Boak	Junior representative	tonyboak@blueyonder.co.uk	01454 417394
Chris Taylor	Club Coach		

COURT AVAILABILITY

Day	Available	In use for ...
MON	All day except March-July	mid March to mid July – match practice from 6:15pm
TUES	Noon-6:30pm	Senior club morning from 10:00am and evening from 6:30pm
WEDS	am-4:45pm	Juniors, early evening
THURS	am-6:30pm	Senior club evening
FRI	All day except May-July	May – July, Senior League matches, 6:15pm onwards Winter: Junior club evening
SAT	Evening	Juniors from 9:30am, Senior club afternoon from 2:00pm
SUN	All day except Oct-March	Senior Winter League matches on 2 courts from 10:15am to approx 1:00pm. Most Sundays.

WINTER TENNIS

With our floodlit, all weather courts, there is plenty of tennis played during the winter. All the club sessions run as in the summer and we have 5 (mixed) teams (1 Vets and 4 regular) in the Avon Winter League which runs from October to March. If you are not currently a member and are thinking about joining, the winter is a good time as you pay just 10% per month until renewals are due on April 1st. (So, if you join in January you pay 30% of the annual subscription.)

TESCO SPORTS VOUCHERS - Last year we acquired a ball hopper with the vouchers collected. Tesco have now stopped issuing the vouchers for this year. I will be sending them off in January. There is a collection box in the club house.

Check out the website www.thornburytennisclub.net

for information on: **Tournaments** **Events** **Membership** **Coaching**
 Avon League fixtures and results

JUNIOR LEAGUES, SUMMER 2007

This year, as a result of the increase in Junior's wishing to play competitive tennis in the club, we entered two teams into the Avon Junior League.

Our under 16 team (who last year took the U14 title) produced some magnificent results to walk away with the Division 2 - U16 title. Thornbury were in fact unbeaten in all their games amassing a grand total of 24 sets won and 8 sets lost. The boys were awarded their winners certificate at a presentation evening at Avon LTA headquarters on 19th October. Congratulations to Dave Mackie, James Light, Richard Boak, Ross Phillips and James Lewis.

Our under 12 team who were playing competitive tennis for the first time this year were unfortunately seeded and positioned in Division 1. This meant that they were playing against the premier teams in the Avon League. However, they still managed to play most of their games and put in some creditable results. In next year's league they will be placed in Division 2 which will better reflect their standard and allow them to progress in competitive play.

Tony Boak, Oct 2007

LADIES MATCH REPORT, SUMMER 2007

The first team played in Division 2, a slight problem with star player Nicky Clark off at university. Sarah Hurley & Lucy Thomas had fantastic results winning 11/14 rubbers. They won 3/4 rubbers against division leaders Next Generation I. However the second pair were unable to match their performance and the team came 5th so will be back in Division 3 next summer. The Second team were unstoppable in Division 5 and lost only 5 rubbers (out of 40), so will try their luck in Division 4 next summer. Liz Attwood and Pauline Barnett played 5 matches together and were unbeaten. The third team won 5 out of 9 matches in Division 5, but finished a disappointing 4th.

Thanks to all those who turned out every Friday to play for the club. The players were:-

Firsts: Lucy Thomas (10), Allison Weir (9), Sarah Hurley (7), Barbara Bax (4), Jo Hargreaves (3), Ruth Abrahams (3), Jane Clark (2), Liz Attwood (1), Clare Kendall (1).

Seconds: Carole Boulton (8), Pauline Barnett (7), Liz Attwood (7), Ruth Abrahams (6), Diana Dyson (4), Gill Hardy (2), Sharon MacDonald (2), Clare Whitaker (1), Jane Clark (1), Chris Vincent (1), Jo Hargreaves (1).

Thirds: Chris Vincent (7), Beth Cocks (5), Jill Dearnaley (4), Sharon MacDonald (4), Clare Whitaker (3), Diana Dyson (3), Gill Hardy (3), Elaine Arnold (2), Rosemary Millar (1), Rose Higgins (1), Pauline Barnett (1), Rosie Hutchinson (1), Barbara Bax (1).

Once again, we played in the **Summer Vets** through August and September. We played in Division 1 (there are 3 divisions) for the first time, and were pleased to win 3 out of the 8 matches, finishing 4th, so we will play in Division 1 again next summer. Thanks to Chris Vincent for organising the team, no easy task during the summer holidays.

Allison Weir, Ladies Captain, Oct 2007

MENS MATCH REPORT, SUMMER 2007

All three men's teams won promotion this year with a magnificent effort all round. Men's III came second with 54 points as did Men's II with 78 points. Men's I won their division with a record (for us) of 90 points. We benefited from some new talent this year which was felt throughout all three teams. In particular we had strength in depth and so able to field three solid teams every Friday.

Last year I remarked on the poor attendances at match practices building up to the start of the season. What a difference this year, with a great set of results! What impressed me most about the season just gone was the team spirit. Although we all wanted to do well, and there was a positive focus on performance, players were offering to 'stand aside' so everybody got a fair share of games. I hope we can continue into next year in the same vein, but possibly with a little more emphasis on buying the captain a couple of beers after matches!

Well done to all players who contributed and thanks to Dave, Tony and Mike for helping with the teams. Remember, match practices start in March again and we are planning some Monday night drilling sessions to help perfect those lobs and drives! Above all, enjoy your tennis next year.

Pete Rosser, Mens Captain, Nov 2007

DAVIS CUP The trips to the Davis Cup in April and September were a great success, and we were able to include players from other clubs (eg Knowle). Thanks to James Morrell for his hard work in organising the coaches and tickets.

LOST PROPERTY There is a large amount of discarded clothing in the clubhouse. Please look through the box, unclaimed clothing will be taken to the charity shop at Christmas.

THORNBURY ROUND TABLE need volunteers to collect for charity on their Santa's Sleigh Christmas Collection during December. If you would like to help call Nigel Glasgow on 414082.

CLUB THORNBURY QUIZ Matthew is again the quizmaster for the quiz on Friday, March 7th, at the Leisure Centre. Please look out for details nearer the time to be in our club team.

CLUB WIMBLEDON TICKET ALLOCATION

The LTA have introduced a new organisation called **British Tennis**. Its purpose is to revitalise the existing LTA Advantage Club. They want all tennis players to join, and so are offering free membership for the first year (commencing March 2008) to members of clubs affiliated to the LTA. Additionally, they have told us that when we hold our club Wimbledon ticket ballot, we can enter only those who have signed up to join British Tennis (by Dec 31st, 2007). In the new year, we will be receiving a list of our members who have joined. The purpose of this is two-fold; firstly to ensure that people who have said they belong to our club are actually paid up members, secondly, to tell us who can enter the club's Wimbledon ticket ballot. As always, we have an obligation to tell the LTA to whom we have allocated each pair of tickets.

To join British Tennis, pick up a form from the clubhouse, or join online at

<http://www.lta.org.uk/Membership/MembershipReview>

From this page, click on **FAQs** to get further information, especially regarding the Wimbledon tickets.

LOTTERY 2007/8

Are you missing out on the Thornbury LTC Lottery?

Each month half of the proceeds goes in a prize draw and half to club funds.

It costs just £1 per month which can be paid by:

☉ Monthly standing order ☉ Annual cheque or cash

The more entries you have – the more chance you have of winning!

For more details please contact:

Chris Vincent or complete the form below.

2007 winners of the lottery are

Jan: Hilary Newton

Feb: Steven Gill

Mar: Rosemary Millar

Apr: Patricia Moffatt

May: Sharon MacDonald

Jun: Beth Cocks

Jul: Beth Cocks

Aug: Barbara Bax

Sep: Martin

Leathwood



THORNBURY LTC LOTTERY 2007/2008

NAME: _____

NO. OF ENTRIES (@ £12 each) _____

ADDRESS: _____

TEL: _____

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO **THORNBURY LTC**

SEND TO: *Chris Vincent*