

Chairman's Chat

After a very hard winter that seems to go on forever we are looking forward to a new tennis season beginning very soon. I hope that the warmer Spring weather and more daylight will encourage members to return to club sessions on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. These have been sadly neglected over the last few months and it would be nice to think that evening club tennis revives for those members who cannot play during the day!

The AGM will take place on **Wednesday 7 April at 7.30**, so please make every effort to come along and enjoy some wine and cheese at the same time! As usual, we will make the draw for Wimbledon tickets for eligible members who are enrolled in British Tennis. Unfortunately, Rosie Hutchinson wishes to stand down, as secretary and I would like to thank Rosie for all her efforts over last two years. We would very much welcome a proposal to fill this essential position on the committee. Ally Weir is also relinquishing the role of ladies captain so thanks also to her for all her hard work in arranging teams. We are fortunate that Ruth Abrahams has volunteered to take on this job. Ally still continues as match secretary. Also Carole Boulton is standing down from running the club lottery, many thanks to her for running this valuable source of club funds over the last few years.

We are entering four men's' teams and three ladies' teams for the summer leagues this year. After a break of a year or so we are also entering some junior girls and boys league teams this season, managed by Chris Taylor. The Junior section of the Club is thriving and so important for creating a lifetime interest in tennis. An **Open Day** will take place at the Club on **Sunday, 9 May**. The aim is to increase our membership by encouraging new players to take up the game or those who have not played in a while to return. We are also planning some social events such as BBQs to follow tennis in the summer months.

During the winter we have pursued our dispute with Bailey & Sons over the poor draining and drying properties of the newly resurfaced courts 1-4. I will explain the situation in more detail at the AGM. Briefly, Baileys argue that the asphalt supplied has a high resistance to wear – true, but not part of our case – and that the poor drainage is due to a high water table. The advice received from on-site inspections by the LTA and Tarmac Ltd (who supplied the asphalt) is that outdoor, tennis court grade material, as requisitioned, has not been laid. We now intend to seek an independent assessment and report to strengthen our case.

I am looking forward to your whole-hearted support for the Club as we approach the new season. Please start by coming to the AGM!

Best wishes

John Harbottle, March 2010

Check out the website

www.thornburytennisclub.co.uk

For information on:

Tournaments

Events

Membership

Coaching

Avon League fixtures and results



NOW READ THIS!!!!!!

GOOD NEWS!

Club annual subscription rates have not been increased this year.

Please Note. Members who pay later than 3 months can be subject to a joining fee (para. 5.2.1 of the constitution) this subject will be discussed at the AGM.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM will take place on Wednesday April 7th at 7:00pm for a 7:30pm start. Please make every effort to attend. Bring your chequebook, your completed subscription form (enclosed) and possibly a chair!

There will also be wine and cheese (gratis) available for those wishing to partake!

Agenda:

- ♦ Apologies
- ♦ Minutes of last meeting
 - ♦ Chairman's report
 - ♦ Treasurer's report
 - ♦ Membership report
- ♦ Coaching and Junior report
- ♦ Committee nominations
 - ♦ Proposals
 - ♦ Any other business
- ♦ Date of next committee meeting
 - ♦ Wimbledon draw (For paid up BTMs)

There is a vacancy on the committee for Secretary. For further details and a nomination form please see Page 6.

Thornbury LTC Committee			
John Harbottle	Chairman		01454 415385
Rosie Hutchinson*	Secretary	hutchjohn@btinternet.com	01454 411908
Keith Spalding	Treasurer	keith.x.spalding@airbus.com	01454 850857
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, Website	aweir@homecall.co.uk	01454 415894
Carole Boulton*	Lottery	cab.mwb@btopenworld.com	01454 416416
Mike Boulton	Publicity, Newsletter Editor	cab.mwb@btopenworld.com	01454 416416
Tony Light	Club/Grounds	tonylight@wolfridge.co.uk	01454 412260
Steve Lewis	Club/Grounds	WENDY.LEWIS@ukgateway.net	
Lucy Thomas	Child Protection Officer, Junior representative,	lucy.thomas@blueyonder.co.uk	01454 853167
Chris Arnold	General	chris@carnold.fsnet.co.uk	01454 419398
Clare Whitaker	General	Clare_mike@hotmail.com	01454 261474

* Denotes committee member relinquishing post

NEW COMMITTEE

MEMBERS ALWAYS NEEDED

We need someone to take over from Rosie Hutchinson who is standing down as Secretary and as always, we need general committee members.

COURT AVAILABILITY (Outside organised activities up to 2 courts may be in use for coaching.)		
Day	Available	In use for ...
MON	All day except March-July	mid March to mid July – match practice from 6:30pm
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
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.

Please see court booking sheets in the club house for detailed availability

Club Head Coach:- Chris Taylor
email.

ctaylor_tennis@yahoo.co.uk

Mob: 07590024186

Club Coach:- Andy Taylor

Mob: 07766402503

JUNIOR NEWS

Competitive Tennis for Juniors.

This summer we will be entering two teams into the Aegon Team Tennis League (U12 and U14). This is a singles based team competition for clubs and players of all standards, providing juniors with regular matches against similar standard players from different clubs. The matches will run from the 17th April through to the end of June, and will take place on Saturday and Sunday mornings. The matches will offer any juniors who are interested, a fun and relaxed atmosphere in which to start competing.

Want to Play at Wimbledon? Now's your chance.

The club will this year be running "The HSBC Road To Wimbledon" 14 & Under Tournament. This will be open to all boys (sorry girls!) aged 14 & under, and will be held at the club between March and May (keep checking notice board for details). The winner of the tournament will automatically qualify for the County Finals in June/July. County Finals winners will get invited to attend the National Finals on the Wimbledon grass courts 16-21 August 2010.

Junior Coaching

Junior squads run at various times throughout the week and on Saturday mornings, and are a great way to improve your tennis, gain experience playing against similar standard players, and most of all having fun. So if you have never been before, come along and give it a try.

Holiday Courses

For those of you who just can't get enough tennis, courses run every holiday, with a multi sports sessions running on Fridays, so bring your friends as well and get them involved.

Easter Holiday Camps will be running from the 5th to 9th April and 12th to 16th April organised by Chris Taylor.

For details on all aspects of coaching and junior teams, contact Chris Taylor 07590 024186.

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, Lucy Thomas.

SOME SUMMER SINGLES?

The singles ladder has attracted quite a bit of interest, but the number of matches played has remained quite low largely because of the cold winter! Now that spring is here, it's time for a change of format so we will be starting up the SINGLES BOX LEAGUES from the 1st of April. I anticipate that we will keep the BOX format during the summer with a return to the LADDER in the autumn.

The starting box positions will be determined by the final positions of the ladder, so to those of you already on the ladder, please use the opportunity to try and gain a few places before it kicks off!

After the boxes have started, new players should contact me (phone or email) if they would like to join. Alternatively, please register your interest by putting your name down on the sheet in the clubhouse. I encourage everyone to join. It should be great fun and not too huge a commitment.

Rules in short:

Match length: Will be two sets of first to four (or by mutual agreement, six) games.

Players per box: Three (or sometimes four)

Box period: One calendar month exactly.

Promotion/Demotion: One up, One down, One remain.

Full details of the rules will be posted on the clubhouse notice board.

For any other information or clarification, please give me a call or email.

Phil Jones, Tel: 415894, pjones@homecall.co.uk

WINTER LEAGUE REPORT

We have 3 mixed teams playing this winter, one Vets and two regular. The Vets are lying comfortably in second place having lost only 1 match (to division leaders Woodlands). With 2 matches left to play, the team are looking for promotion to Division 2. The First team have completed their matches and a good win in their final match means they have narrowly avoided relegation from Division 4. The second team, also in Division 4, still have 2 matches to play. It is a very tight league and the team could finish in 3rd, 4th or 5th place so it all hangs on their last 2 matches.

I am standing down as ladies captain and from the committee. Ruth Abrahams has kindly offered to take over, though of course the post is open to anyone (preferably female!) who wants to take it on. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the 42 ladies who have played for the teams (several of whom have played over 100 matches) while I have been captain. I would also like to give special thanks the 2 previous captains, Barbara Bax and Jill Dearnaley, for their support and encouragement!

Allison Weir, March 2010

Match Practice for Senior Summer League

Match practice for all 7 teams (4 men's and 3 ladies') will start on Monday, 29th March (6:30pm), and will continue to the end of the league season. We run teams in the Avon League, and the matches are played on Friday evenings from May 7th until July 16th. If you are interested in playing league tennis then come along or call Ruth Abrahams (414314) or Pete Rosser (880133).

CLUB TOURNAMENT 2010

This year, the club tournament is being organised by Phil Jones. To enter, you can sign up at the AGM, or put your name on the list in the clubhouse, or just give me a phone call or email by Sunday, April 18th. Weekday members, and juniors invited to play at senior club sessions are welcome to enter the tournament. The draw will be up by Sunday, April 25th.

To reserve a court, please make use of the court booking sheets in the clubhouse.

If you do enter, don't wait for others to call you to arrange matches; it's always best to get them arranged at the first opportunity and in particular, by the deadlines for each round.

Please note that all players must be available for the finals, which will be played on:

The Singles, Men's and Ladies' Doubles Finals - Sunday July 18th

The Mixed Doubles Final - Saturday July 17th (after club session).

This year, partners for the doubles will be allocated for you on a semi random basis.

Entry to the tournaments costs £2 each, or £5 for all three.

Even if you have never entered the club tournament before, please give it a go. Whether it's just the singles, the doubles, or all three, your entry will be welcomed.

Phil Jones (415894 piones@homecall.co.uk)

2010 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:		
Mar	Mondays from 29th March (6:30pm)	Men's & Ladies Match Practice – all 6 courts
April	Wednesday 7th April (7 for 7:30pm)	Annual General Meeting
	Sunday, April 18th, pm	Friendly match v Congleton (all 6 courts)
May	Fridays, 7th May to 16th July (6:15pm) Excluding May 28th	Senior Summer League matches – 6 courts, sometimes 8!
	Sunday, May 9th (2-6pm)	Open Day
Jul	Saturday/Sunday, 17/18th July	Club Tournament Finals The Singles, Men's and Ladies' Doubles Finals - Sunday July 18th The Mixed Doubles Final - Saturday July 17th (after club session).
Aug	To be arranged	Junior Tournament
Sept	Tuesday, 7th September	Cancer Research Charity Tournament & Lunch
	Sunday, 12th September (TBC)	President's Plate Mixed Doubles Tournament
Oct	Sunday 10th October	Open Mixed Doubles Tournament

LOTTERY 2010/11

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!

Recent winners of the lottery are:-

Oct 2009: Pat Light

Nov 2009: Rosemary Millar

Dec 2009: Matt Stringer



THORNBURY LTC LOTTERY 2010/2011

NAME: NO. OF ENTRIES

(@ £12 each)

ADDRESS:

TEL:

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO

THORNBURY LTC

And send to:

Carole Boulton

Tel: 01454 416416



If you have a proposal to put before the AGM please submit, in writing, to Rosie Hutchinson by Tuesday, March 23rd.

Nominations to be submitted to Rosie Hutchinson by Tuesday, March 23rd 2010.

I nominatefor the post of

Signed: (Proposer)

Signed: (Secunder)

Signed: (Nominee)