



## **APRIL/MAY 2009 NEWSLETTER**

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- Former Members Reunion Tournament - Saturday 9th May (midday to late)
- The Wimbledon ticket draw - Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May  
(this is the same day as the draw for the tournament will be published, with a date of 15<sup>th</sup> May set for membership to be fully paid up to give entry to the Wimbledon ticket ballot and the annual club tournament).

### **COACHING**

Sarah is working hard on ensuring there is continuity of coaching as we make the transition onto the new courts. A full schedule of the different sessions that will be available and contact details of the coach will be published in due course.

### **COURT REFURBISHMENT UPDATE**

The first layer of tarmacadam is now on all courts. Looks like a big car park at the moment, but don't worry (says Brian), the carpet is expected to be laid the week after next.

Having spoken to the contractors they expect that courts 5 and 6 will be accessible throughout the duration of the refurbishments work. It must be stressed, however, that during the week access is only available from 4pm due to health and safety regulations.



If you wish to keep track of the court refurbishment work please log onto the website @ <http://www.gardenstennis.co.uk/blog.html>,

### **CLUB TENNIS**

During the resurfacing work, the club will cover the cost of substitute club sessions at Wimbledon Park, for 3 courts for up to 3 hours on Sunday afternoons and Tuesday & Friday evenings, for fully-paid-up members only. Receipts should be handed to Nigel Tabbron for reimbursement. If you book a court on behalf of the club, please let Nigel know ( [nigel.tabbron@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:nigel.tabbron@tiscali.co.uk) ) so that a tally can be kept. Club session rules will apply to all courts for which reimbursement is made.

### **SURREY WINTER LEAGUE**

Wondering how our men's teams have been performing in the Winter Surrey County tennis league? Then read on .....

The Men's 1st team won 3, drew 1 and lost 1. Likely to finish in second position, possibly first.

The Men's 2nd team won 3 matches and lost 2. Likely to finish second (with possible promotion) or third

The Men's 3rd team won all 5 of their matches in the Winter league so therefore finished top and will be promoted.

Finally the Mens 4th Team won 1 and drew 2 matches, and likely to finish in second place.

The ladies 1st team has had good results during the winter season with the adverse British weather being their biggest hurdle. With 4 matches having been played, the results have been 3 convincing wins and 1 draw. There is one away match remaining to be played on Saturday April 25 against Barnes.

The Ladies 2nd team have played four matches in the Winter League, and though there have been some close ties, unfortunately, this season they have come second in their matches!

**\*\* NEW FEATURE\*\* "COMMENT FROM" .... THE GARDENS CLUB MENS CAPTAIN JAMES WRIGHT**

**Editor - Could you comment on how the mens' teams have performed this year?**

James: Good performance overall, in particular the mens' 3rds, who had a clean sweep of wins. Great to get the 4th team off the ground, which demonstrates the depth of competitive play we now have - 5 years ago we struggled to get players for 1 team and didn't win many matches!

**Editor - What's been your highlight so far in 2009?**

James: Due to good fiscal management and promotion of the use of the club facilities by third parties, we have been able to finally afford to resurface the courts and add a further court.

**Editor - Who are you predicting to win Wimbledon Championship men's singles this year?**

James: Nadal vs Murray - Murray to win!

**A RARE SIGHT INDEED**

A moment for you to enjoy this picturesque view of the Gardens clubhouse covered in a blanket of snow, taken in January this year.



**MEMBERSHIP**

Just to remind you all of the discounted membership rate during April. The adult rate is £170 if you join before 30th April, at which point it will revert to £185.

Also, if you wish to enter the Wimbledon ticket ballot your membership must be paid by 15th May. Don't forget you also need to be a member of the BTA to be eligible. The same rules applies to entry to the annual club competitions.

**CALLING ALL TABLE TENNIS PLAYERS**

The club will be starting a new table tennis team, playing in the local league from September to March. If interested, please contact Robin Reeves (robin.reeves@hotmail.com)

**CONGRATULATIONS**

Since the last newsletter, there have been a number of potential new tennis stars in the making. Congratulations to members Rob and Nicole on the birth of Beatrice Charlotte Richman born on 22nd January 2009. To James and Sue-Ellen on the birth of Bronte Rose Matilda born (in the car!) on 20 December 2008. Also to David Riggs and his wife Piola on the birth of Junia Matidia, born on 11th December 2008 and to members Barbara and Perry the birth of Leo Finlay Stimpson, born on 10th September 2008.

## NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

The committee thank you in advance for your continued patience during the refurbishment works.

And remember by May we will have:

Courts 1-4: existing surface(s) removed, tarmac base laid and fully covered with synthetic grass to give medium pace courts, all with new nets and posts.

Courts 5 & 6 cleaned and refreshed.

On completion we will have courts that can bear comparison with the best!

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The club committee meets once a month to discuss a variety of matters relating to the maintenance and efficient running of the club on your behalf. If anyone would like to see the minutes of these meetings then please contact David Riggs at clonmore99@btinternet.com A summary of April's meeting is outlined below:

### **Finance**

In Andrew's absence, no financial information was available.

### **Membership**

Juliet reported there have been a number of renewals, with hopefully an influx before the end of the month and again once the new courts are in.

A discussion also took place regarding family membership rates. Various ideas were put forward but a decision was not taken as the impact on the membership income stream would have to be discussed with Andrew in attendance.

### **Club Development & Re-development**

Brian reported that the contractors are currently a couple of days ahead of schedule. The date for the tarmacadam to be laid is set as w/c 20<sup>th</sup> April. James and Brian have been visiting local courts who have the same surface we intend laying and expressed their satisfaction on the durability and play. Nigel will keep the new section of the website up to date on a weekly basis to keep members informed of the works progress.

### **Social Events & Newsletter Items**

No significant social events are imminent due to the work on the courts. An alternative date to 2<sup>nd</sup> May is being sought for the Grand Re-opening of the courts.

No adverse reaction to the work has been received by any of the tenants, in fact the provision of the signage at the top of the driveway has received a vote of thanks from WOD and Gymboree

### **Coaching**

In Sarah's absence Juliet and Nigel reported that a meeting had been held with Ben Halstead regarding this year's coaching. Sarah is in the process of contacting 2 more coaches who have submitted their CV's. It is hoped to have a coach in place by the time the courts re-opens.

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Hon. Secretary	David Riggs	07720 774000	clonmore99@btinternet.com
Treasurer	Andrew Elliot-Frey	0208 785 6371	aefrey@btinternet.com
Men's Captain	James Wright	07976 289619	james.wright@restorebrick.co.uk
Men's Vice Captain (Officer)	Vacant		
Ladies Captain	Sharon Gibson	07906 173 767	sharonj_gibson@hotmail.com
Ladies Vice Captain (Officer)	Sarah Groves	07788717291	sarah.groves@emirates.com
Membership Secretary	Juliet Childs	0208 789 0865	childsfam@btinternet.com
Comms Officer	Michael Cole	07860 342803	michael.g.cole@bt.com
Facilities Manager	Brian Hoban	07973 226443	brian.hoban@restorebrick.co.uk
Bar Manager	Tony McConnell	0208 789 8783	tony@mcconnells.co.uk
Bookings & House Manager	Tony McConnell	0208 789 8783	tony@mcconnells.co.uk
Entertainments Secretary	Nigel Tabbron	07711 846365	nigel.tabbron@tiscali.co.uk
Coaching Liaison Officers	Sarah Groves	07788717291	sarah.groves@emirates.com