

West Heath News

April 2008

CLUB IMPROVEMENTS

We are pleased to confirm that we are spending a total of £20,000 on new fencing around the courts and on a new irrigation system. Work will take place over five days from 21 April. It has taken some time to find the right contractors to do the work at the right price and thanks go to Sultan who has put a lot of time and effort into organising this. Money has also been spent on lining our drains to finally resolve our drainage problems.

GRASS COURTS

The groundsmen are aiming to have the courts ready by the first weekend in May and they will then be playable as follows, weather permitting:

From 3 May	2pm – 8pm
From 24 May	1pm – 8.30pm
From 31 May	12 noon – 9pm

Please *do not* play on the courts outside these times or if they are wet as this can damage them. This applies to adults and children alike.

SHALE COURTS



The drainage on these has been improved. There is more work to be done but we have had difficulty in obtaining the right type of clinker. In dry

weather, the condition of the shale courts can be greatly improved by watering them before play and instructions on the use of the new watering system will be provided once it is installed. Please also ensure you brush/drag the courts after use

VISITORS

Please do encourage your tennis-playing friends to come along **free of charge in May**. At other times our visitor fee is £3 – just enter this in the Visitor Book and add the amount to your bar sheet.

NEW MEMBERS

Friends wishing to join can come along any weekend from **10 May – 15 June between 3pm and 4.30pm** for a play-in. Alternatively, ask them to call Marjan Denis (8452 1455) or Moira

Duncan (8458 1627) to arrange a time. The joining fee for new members is held at £55 (including the key deposit).

WIMBLEDON TICKETS



The Club's allocation of tickets for The Championships, Wimbledon, are sold to members who are lucky in a ballot. All full, paid-up members are eligible to enter this. Winners receive a pair of tickets and are asked to use the second ticket to take with them a member who entered the ballot but was unsuccessful. "Junior party" tickets for No. 1 court on the last weekend will be balloted separately. Full details will be in the clubhouse. **Register your entry on your subscription renewal form or sign up at the Club by Sunday, 18 May at 4pm when the ballot will take place in the clubhouse.**

BRITISH TENNIS

Under a new ruling from the LTA, from next year, only members of *British Tennis* will be eligible to enter our club ballot for Wimbledon tickets. Membership is free until Feb '09. You can get more information and sign up at www.lta.org.uk/membership

COACHING

We recently said goodbye and thank you to Oran as he moved on to pastures new but we are very pleased to welcome Michal Forys as our new coach from 14 April. Michal has represented Poland in both singles and doubles. Introductory fees for this summer are just £20 an hour for members and £25 for non-members. Call him on 07840 347730 to book.

COME TO THE 99th
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
ON THURSDAY 22 MAY 2008
FROM 8PM - 9PM IN THE
CLUBHOUSE

Papers are being distributed by e-mail where possible or may be collected from the clubhouse.
Light refreshments are provided.

DOUBLES COACHING

Meet the new coach and improve your doubles skills by coming along to an evening of coaching with Michal, provided at no charge, on the **Tuesdays of 13, 20, 27 May & 3 June from 7pm to 8.30pm.**

SOCIAL TENNIS - TEAS

From 3 May social play is on Saturdays and Sundays from 2.30pm to 6pm and Tuesday evenings from 6pm. Please ensure everyone is made welcome and that members who have been sitting out the longest are invited to play before those who have just come off court. If any courts are not needed on Tuesdays arranged games may be played on the far grass court and the shale. Please keep our weekend teas tradition going by taking your turn at making one – the list is ready and waiting in the clubhouse.

TENNIS LADDER

For those of you keen to find other members with whom you can play singles, we plan to operate a singles tennis ladder from mid-May. If you would like to join this then please sign the list in the clubhouse or email marjan_denis@hotmail.com

TEAM TENNIS

Congratulations to the Ladies 1st team who earned promotion to the first division.

Current captains are Sultan Gangji and Ros Norkett with Paul O'Flynn and Julia Abbot captaining the 2nd teams. The match fixture list is attached and your support at matches is always welcome.

ST MARGARET'S SCHOOL

The school will be using the shale courts at the following times:

Mon 14 April - 7 July 3.15pm - 5.15pm; *Mon* 2 June – 7 July 10.45am – 12 noon; *Tues* 3 June – 8 July 10.45am – 12 noon; *Wed* 16 April – 9 July 3.15pm – 5.15pm; *Wed* 4 June – 9 July 9am – 12.30pm; *Fri* 11 April – 4 July 9am – 10.15am & 1.15pm – 2.30pm.

COURT CLOTHING

Please remember that proper tennis shoes and appropriate sports clothing must be worn. **Euro Sports** in Finchley Road (near Swiss Cottage) gives members 10% discount on clothing and 15% on racquets.

CLUB POLO SHIRTS

West Heath short-sleeved, white cotton polo shirts can be ordered and paid for on your renewal form. There are two styles – one suitable for men and a more fitted version for ladies. All shirts have the Club logo

embroidered on the front and are great value at £15 each. Shirts can either be collected from Moira at the Club or delivered to you. Full refunds if not entirely satisfied.

"AMERICAN" TOURNAMENTS

The "American" tournaments allow you to play with and against a variety of players in a fun, competitive environment. A small entry charge is made to cover tea and prizes and provide a small profit to the Club or a donation to charity. Please arrive promptly at **2.30pm on 26 May, 21 June and 25 August** to take part.

The tournament on **Saturday, 21 June** will be our charity tournament, which is again being organised by Paul O'Flynn in aid of the UCH Head and Neck Cancer Charity.

CLUB TOURNAMENT

The highlight of the summer is the Club Tournament (**Thursday 10 – Saturday 26 July**) and all members are urged to take part. Just sign the list that goes up in the clubhouse well before the tournament starts. The draw is posted on the web site and in the clubhouse.

Sultan organises the '**Gourmet Dinners**' held in the second week. Watch the later round matches before enjoying a delicious meal in good company. Add your name to the lists that go up in the clubhouse during the first week.

Finals day is on **Saturday, 26 July** when those not participating can encourage the players and enjoy a slap-up **tea**. Everyone is invited to the **evening BBQ**. Volunteers to act as line judges and make cakes, sandwiches, salads or desserts are always needed.

CLUB WEB SITE

Peter Davies maintains the web site at www.westheathlhc.co.uk. During the tournament it is updated nightly.

MANY HANDS ...

We say it every year but many hands really do make light work and if everyone does a little no-one has to do a lot so *please* always leave the Club as you would wish to find it. Washing up glasses etc. that you have used, disposing of the rubbish sack with your own household waste or taking bottles for recycling all help to keep the Club running smoothly. Gardening or small repair jobs are also always appreciated.

THANK YOU

A big thank you to the committee and additional volunteers who have helped in many different ways over the past year.

Have a great tennis-playing season!