

# West Heath News

April 2009

## CLUB IMPROVEMENTS

We hope you will be pleased with the improvements that have been made to the Club over the winter. We have just spent around £12,000 on new fencing around the courts (this was last renewed in 1983) and on cutting back many of the shrubs and trees that were starting to encroach on the playing areas. There will also soon be a new shed for the storage of equipment. Again thanks must go to Sultan who arranged and supervised the work.

**Working parties** are being organised for the weekends of **18/19 and 25/26 April from 11am – 4pm** to do some additional tidying up and your help would be very much appreciated. Please contact Marjan for more information or if you can help (8452 1455).

## GRASS COURTS

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

From 2 May	2pm – 8pm
From 23 May	1pm – 8.30pm
From 30 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 watering system that was installed last year should help us keep the shale courts in good condition throughout the summer. The courts will be watered automatically at 5am and again from 5.15pm – 5.45pm in dry weather. The coach will do additional watering as necessary. Please 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.

## NEW MEMBERS

Anyone wishing to join can come along any weekend from **9 May – 14 June between 3pm and 4.30pm** for a play-in. Alternatively, ask them to call Marjan (8452 1455) or Moira (8458 1627) to arrange a time. The joining fee for new members is held at £55 (including the key deposit). All new members are invited to meet one another and existing members at a **New Member's Afternoon on Sunday, 28 June from 4pm – 6pm**.

## WIMBLEDON TICKETS

Under a new ruling from the LTA, The Club's allocation of tickets for The Championships, Wimbledon, may only be sold to British Tennis members who are lucky in a ballot. Winners will receive a pair of tickets and are asked to take another club member on the second ticket. "Junior party" tickets (for those aged 9 and over) for No. 1 court on the last weekend will be balloted separately. Full details will be in the clubhouse with the ballot entry list. **The ballot** will take place on **Sunday, 10 May at 4pm** in the clubhouse so you must sign up by that time.



## COACHING

Michal Forys is continuing as the Club coach and lessons with him cost £25 an hour. Call him on 07840 347730 to arrange these.

## DOUBLES COACHING

Improve your doubles skills by coming along to an evening of coaching with Michal, provided at no charge, on the **Tuesdays of 12, 19, 26 May & 2 June from 7pm to 8.30pm**.

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE  
**100<sup>th</sup>**  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
THURSDAY 21 MAY 2009  
8PM - 9PM IN THE CLUBHOUSE  
Celebratory refreshments provided  
Papers are being distributed by e-mail  
where possible or may be collected from  
the clubhouse.

### ***SOCIAL TENNIS - TEAS***

From 2 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 rota is on the notice board.

### ***TENNIS LADDER***

The singles ladder is still in operation and it is up to you to arrange to play your matches if it is to continue. If you would like to join the ladder then please e-mail [marjan\\_denis@hotmail.com](mailto:marjan_denis@hotmail.com)

### ***TEAM TENNIS***

Our current 1st team captains are Sultan Gangji and Ros Norkett with Paul O'Flynn and Julia Abbot captaining the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 27 April – 18 May* 9am – 10am; *Mon 27 April – 6 July* 12.45pm – 1.15pm & 3.15pm – 5.15pm; *Tues 28 April – 19 May* 10.15am – 12noon; *Tues 28 April – 7 July* 9am – 10.15am; *Wed 29 April – 8 July* 10.45am – 12noon & 3.15 – 5.15pm.

### ***LADIES' TENNIS AFTERNOON***

Ladies are invited to come along at 2.30pm on Thursday, 21 May for an afternoon of doubles on two grass courts. Please sign the list in the clubhouse to join in.

### ***"AMERICAN" TOURNAMENTS***

The "American" tournaments allow you to play with and against a variety of players in a fun, competitive environment. A small 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 25 May, 20 June and 31 August** to take part. **Saturday, 20 June** is our charity tournament, which is being organised by Paul O'Flynn in aid of the UCH Head and Neck Cancer Charity.

### ***VERA ROGERS***

We are sad to say that Vera died recently. She was an active member of the Club for many years and her contribution was very much appreciated. Members past and present attended her funeral and a donation was made from West Heath to Age Concern.

### ***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 terrific value at £15 each. Shirts can either be collected from Moira at the Club or delivered to you.

### ***CLUB TOURNAMENT***

The highlight of the summer is the **Club Tournament** from **Thursday 9 – Saturday 25 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, 25 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](http://www.westheathlhc.co.uk) and 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 especially but also to the additional volunteers who have helped in many different ways over the past year.

***Have a great season!***