

Bloomfield Lawn Tennis Club –
www.Bloomfieldtennisbath.co.uk
Newsletter October 2010

Hello from the Chairman

I can hardly believe it was the end of February when I last put a newsletter together. I told you I was just about to go off to Australia and here we are in October and I am only just back from my second trip to Oz this year – where did the season go?

There is a great deal to catch up on so here goes ...

League News

I have to start by congratulating our splendid Ladies team on being the champions of Division 3 and taking up the place in Division 2 they were denied when the Lansdown ladies were granted direct access to Division 2 at our expense three years ago.

The Men's A Team are also back where they belong in Division 1 after winning Division 2 with only one defeat all season.

The Men's Bs and Cs and the mixed team all finished comfortably in mid-table, so it was the first year I can remember when none of our teams were relegated – well done to all those who contributed – particularly Neil Murray who returned from his world travels to partner Rob Hyman in the Men's B team's last match and save them from relegation.

I am attaching a copy of the final league tables for you all to do your own analysis!

Club Competitions

We have managed to finish all our club competitions with most of the finals taking place on Finals Day on 2nd October. We caught the good weather on the Saturday and avoided the Sunday washout unlike the Ryder Cup over in Newport!

The Men's singles title went to Graham this year, who beat last year's champion Jason 6-1 6-3.

Emma deservedly won her first ladies singles title by overcoming Heidi 7-6 5-7 6-1.

The Men's doubles was almost an exact repeat of last year's final with Graham & Jason beating Patrick & Pete 6-2 6-3.

Heidi & Christina won the Ladies Doubles by beating Bud & Pauline 6-3 6-1 and Graham & Juliet took the Mixed Doubles against Jason & Christina 6-3 6-3.

A new innovation this year was the introduction of the Men's and Ladies Singles Plate for first round losers. Many thanks to Wilf for the idea and for donating the trophy – a splendid silver ... err ... plate!

The Men's event was won by Bob Vincent with a win in the final over Jon Selway by 6-0 6-2.

In the Ladies Plate Jane Freeman beat Penny 7-5 6-1.

Knock Out Cup

In July this year and for the second time in the club's history we won the C&DTL Knock Out Cup – this is a handicap competition and the standard is very high indeed - so even with the handicap this is a great achievement for our team.



The regular players are Clive & Emma and Graham & Juliet and they had possibly their greatest success in the semi final when they beat Trowbridge by a single game – Graham & Juliet went into the last crucial set with the match level and had a famous victory in a tie break to take us through to the final against Civil Service.

Unfortunately, Graham & Juliet were unavailable for the final, but Jason &

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Anna stood in and helped the team to a convincing success by 55 games to 39.

Congratulations to everyone that took part in the competition.

C&DTL

The Chippenham & District League annual dinner was held last week and it was a special event because this year is the League's 50th Anniversary. Eight of our members went along to witness what was a momentous evening for our treasurer Wilf.

Now we all know Wilf is a stalwart both of our club and League and in this special year the C&DTL Committee really put the boat out to show its appreciation of the contribution Wilf has made to local tennis.

Not only was Wilf honoured by becoming a Life Vice President of the League but he was also awarded the Millennium Shield for services to the League. The Shield was originally donated by the late John Ford who was so tragically killed in a road accident.



Well done Wilf and many congratulations on this very well earned recognition.

Club Sessions

The midweek club sessions are all but at an end although a few stalwarts are still turning up for a set or two. So that means the emphasis is turning to winter weekends. This year we hope to keep club sessions going on both Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Both sessions start at 2pm.

In addition the bubble sessions are getting started very soon. Mark is currently trying to get the first one organised for Sunday 31 October but needs a few more players. Please contact Mark as soon as you can on Mark.Richardson@brislift.org if you would like to play.

Club Christmas Bloomfield Buffet & Boogie at The Bear!

Thanks to Nicola and Jette we are well ahead with plans for a Christmas celebration at the Bear on **Thursday 2nd December** – please look out for more details in your mailbox shortly but get the date in your diaries!

Working Party

With autumn right on top of us there will soon be a need for all round help with keeping the courts clear of fallen leaves and debris.

We don't have any dates arranged yet as the trees are hanging on to their leaves for now, but anytime now could see frosts or storms that would change all that. If you are able to help with a working party on any weekends over the next few weeks please email me at tryfam@tisacli.co.uk urgently.

We particularly need urgent help from a budding carpenter with a power saw to build the leaf composter from the scaffolding planks we already have on site. He'll need a couple of string blokes to level the site for him too!

Development Plans

We are continuing discussions with the bowlers about moving the water tank but they have told us that they have no money to fund it. We have secured a grant of £5,000 for the pathway and creating a step free access to the clubhouse, but it must be spent by the end of March next year. We are trying to find ways to unlock the impasse with the bowlers and it looks possible to move the tank a small distance north so it is just out of the way of the path. We may have to fund the work ourselves if we can't persuade the bowlers to pay. Another option for us is to lend

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them the money but we can't make them accept. Watch this space!

We also starting to think about a new log cabin clubhouse – I have talked to quite a few members and present thinking is a two or three roomed building with a veranda. We have taken the view that providing a separate tennis club toilet is a step too far – the expense and keeping one clean and properly serviced are obvious obstacles.

There is a longer term possibility of seeking joint grant funding with the bowlers for a disabled facility, either within or adjacent to the bowlers' club house.

At long last we have agreed the location of the bike rack and Andrew hopes to get it installed shortly.

Junior Coaching 2011

Our group coaching sessions enable boys and girls aged between 5-15 years of all abilities to develop their tennis skills in a fun-filled, action-packed environment!

Junior Saturday coaching finishes for the winter on **Sat 23rd Oct 2010**. The **coaching dates for 2011** are as follows:

Block 1 = Sat 19th Feb - Sat 9th Apr (8 consecutive weeks)

Block 2 = Sat 30th Apr - Sat 16th July (12 consecutive weeks)

Junior Holiday Camps 2011

Specially formulated courses focus on teaching the full range of shots, techniques, tactics, grips, footwork patterns, fitness and match play. All our lead coaches are qualified; CRB checked and have completed first aid courses.

The Holiday Camp dates for 2011 are as follows:

Easter Camp = Mon 11th Apr - Thur 14th Apr; 10am-3:30pm

Summer Camp 1 = Mon 25th July - Thur 28th July; 10am-3:30pm

Summer Camp 2 = Mon 8th Aug - Thur 11th Aug; 10am-3:30pm

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss your child's tennis, please don't hesitate to contact us for more information:

Neil Murray

Head Tennis Pro at Bloomfield Tennis Club **Tel: 07877 933 564** or at neilmurraytennis@hotmail.co.uk.

Senior Coaching

Anyone looking for senior coaching please contact Rob Hyman on **07970 766095** or at robert@hyman.eclipse.co.uk.

Rob runs an improvers/intermediate 'drop-in' tennis course on Thursdays between 9.30 – 11am (new and returning players welcome – members £5, open to non-members @ £7) followed at 11am by the beginner's course entitled 'Tennis for the Terrified' for novices at the game.

On Fridays he runs a beginners/improvers course from 1 – 2.30pm (same rates as above).

Committee Members

Just a reminder of this year's Committee – please feel free to talk to any of them with your ideas for improving the club and it's activities – and of course to offer help!

The new Committee is: –

Pete Try	Chairman
Jane Gibbons	Secretary
Wilf Oatley	Treasurer/ and A team non playing captain
Clive Wilcox	A team playing captain
Ian Hardman	B team captain
Andrew Wright	C team captain
Heidi Wood	Ladies rep

Other Committee members are **Tim Kingham** (Mixed team contact), and **Mark Richardson**. Many thanks to Mark for kindly standing in for me whilst I have been away.

Pete Try, Chairman