

## Annual General Meeting...

Held on Friday 5th March, those present heard reports from our chairman, Mike Bartlett, and each of the committee members. After opening the meeting, Mike then handed over to Phil Moss who presented the Michael Shanley Trophy for the most improved junior girl to Kirsten Dickens and then to Liz Franklin who presented the Norman Trophy for the most improved junior boy to Will Hewitt. Well done to them both.

The following is a summary of the reports presented during the meeting. The full reports will be published in the minutes which will be available on the website in due course.

Before his report Mike announced that he would be standing down as Chairman and had been nominated for Treasurer. In his Chairman's report, he referred to the weather as being the lows of the year and several highs; the new court surfacing, the new decked veranda and the benefits the club are receiving from the LTA due to Clubmark and British Tennis membership.

Mike thanked those committee members standing down this year: Liz Franklin, Hon Secretary; Ron Lynch, Hon Treasurer and Sarah Thorne, Club Development and went on to thank the Committee for their time and effort and the many other volunteers who help in different ways. He repeated his annual plea that the club is run by dedicated volunteers and members shouldn't expect everything to be done for them or feel entitled to complain if they do not contribute themselves. The club remains one of the top four in the county, due mainly to the commitment of the people who run it.

Club Secretary, Liz Franklin, said that there had been seven committee meetings throughout the year and gave a comprehensive list of the topics covered.

Treasurer, Ron Lynch, reported how subscriptions, bar trading and floodlight income are down on 2009, but has been more than offset with substantial grants from the LTA. After his gripe last year about heating and lighting costs, he was pleased to see that bills had lowered dramatically. Maintenance to the clubhouse was £2000 higher due to the new veranda, but Ron praised Mick Smitham and all the volunteers for keeping that cost to a minimum with a self build.

(A copy of the accounts for the year ending 31st December 2009 can be found on the notice board.)

Match Secretary, Anne Bartlett, said how pleasantly surprised she was that the recent snow had not caused too many problems for the winter fixtures. Fixture meetings for summer 2010 have been held and the fixture list will be published shortly. Unfortunately, DTC were beaten in the KO Cup, but are one of eight teams in the draw for this year and have a great chance of winning back the title. First round away to Leighton Buzzard on 6th June, with the semi-finals on 11th July.

*Other points to note from committee members reports were:*

Social Secretary, Jenny Morgan, gave a summary of the social events for the year in a lively and positive report. She thanked all those who helped with the Summer BBQ, Beach Party, Bowling evening, Chairman's supper, Jim Balls Christmas party, Stoo's New Year karaoke, Safari Supper and Ron's Quiz night.

In his absence, Tony's Bar Manager report stated that profits were now back to the required percentages now that the draught Fosters had been replaced by cans and new fridges had been installed to keep drinks chilled. The bar is a valuable source of income for the club and members are reminded to put rubbish in bins and to wash their glasses when finished.

Phil Moss, as Membership Secretary, detailed the club membership as, Life 2, Senior 108, Country 3, Off Peak 1, Intermediate 20, Junior 54, Junior Associate 2, Mini Tennis 46, and Social 10. He noted that the adult membership was down by 5 and was not surprised at the fall in Intermediates. Juniors were up 6 and Mini Tennis membership down by 18 resulting in a £1270 reduction in fees.

Jane's Child Protection Officer report stated that there had been no issues and that the clubs Child Protection policy had been updated according to the LTA's Tennis Clubmark guidelines.

In my report I reminded members to use the website as a useful source of information and relevant documentation and thanked those who contribute to Contact each month. All 'Facebookers' are encouraged to join the DTC Group

House Manager, Stewart Meagher, in his brief report praised the work of Mick Smitham stating "If you mention it's broken within earshot of Mick, the next day it's fixed".

Nick Boys then gave a report of last years visit to DTC by Rot-Weiss Tennis Club of Porz. This year's visit by RWTC will be over the weekend of 19th to 22nd August.

In addition, Nick gave details of aspirations for having a seasonal bubble/dome over courts 4 & 5, purchased for the club and erected every year for the winter season. This will be taken to the committee for feasibility and further discussion.

The proposal to increase all categories of subscription by £10 was passed, as were the increase in age to 25 years for Intermediates and the reduced subscription incentive for new senior members, for the first year only. As a result, the following section in the constitution now reads: -

**1) Section 4 – Classes of Membership and Subscription Rates.** Subscriptions for 2010/11.

The following full-price rates apply from 1st April 2010 and must be paid in full by 31st March.

- Senior £160 (*new members £110 for the first year only*)
- Intermediate\* £90 (*Up to age 25 years*)
- Off-Peak £90 (*Mon – Fri, daytime only*)
- Country £90 (*Resident over 25 miles away*)
- Junior £70
- Mini Tennis\*\* £20 (*Born 2000 or later*)
- Senior Citizen £90 (*Aged 65 years and over*)
- Social\*\* £20

*\*\*Social members and Mini Tennis are excluded from early payment discounts.*

- Family\*\*\* £340

*\*\*\*Applies to families at the same principle permanent residence.*

*(A £10 discount applies to members who are also British Tennis members and, as usual, there will be discounts for early payment, see re-newal form for more details.)*

<http://www.dunstabletennisclub.com/documents/A3.pdf>

**MEMBERS ARE REMINDED TO COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS OF THE FORM WHEN RENEWING THEIR MEMBERSHIP, SO THAT CONTACT DETAILS ARE ALWAYS UP TO DATE, THANK YOU...**

### **Election of Officers and Committee Members.**

Alan Gore was elected unopposed as Club Chairman, Mike Bartlett unopposed as Hon. Treasurer and Anneliese Webley (aka AJ) unopposed as Hon. Secretary. The position of Club Development (Playing) is now a vacant position. All other members agreed to stand again and were elected en mass. Officers and Committee for 2010/11 are as follows:-

**Officers** – CHAIRMAN Alan Gore, HONORARY SECRETARY Anneliese Webley, HONORARY TREASURER Mike Bartlett, and MATCH SECRETARY Anne Bartlett.

**Committee** – CLUB CAPTAIN Udev Makwana, SOCIAL SECRETARY Jenny Morgan, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY Phillip Moss, JUNIOR SECRETARY Phillip Moss, BAR MANAGER Tony McMenamin, HOUSE MANAGER Stewart Meagher, CLUB DEVELOPMENT OFFICER (Playing) Vacant Position, CONTACT EDITOR / EMAIL & WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR Graham Morgan and CHILD PROTECTION OFFICER Jane Sutton. CLUB PRESIDENT is John Taylor.

*(Due to the nature of Anneliese Webley's shift work pattern, Francis McMahon has agreed to provide secretarial cover when necessary.)*

Mike Bartlett, standing down as Chairman was thanked for his 6 years in office from 2004 during which the club had seen many changes and improvements. New Chairman, Alan Gore, is not so new to the position having previously served as Chairman for 12 years from 1992 – 2004.

Date of next committee meeting was set as Tuesday 23rd March at Graham and Jenny's...

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Fri Mar 12	Darts League – Division 1 (Final week)
Sun Mar 14	Winter League (12) – Debbie Wilkins (662102)
Fri Mar 19	Darts League – Division 2 (Final week)
Sat Mar 20	Afternoon 'Tennis and Tea' League, 2pm – Last one
Tue Mar 23	Committee Meeting, 7.30 pm at Graham & Jenny's
Fri Mar 26	Darts League – Divisions 3 and 4 (Final week)
Sun Mar 28	Extra Winter League – David Bradshaw (667374)
Sun Jun 06	KO Cup – First Round vs. Leighton Buzzard (A)

**Mon May 10 Golf Society Day – See Noticeboard**

**Thu Aug 19 – Sun Aug 22 Visit of Rot-Weiss Tennis Club**

## WINTER LEAGUE ROUNDUP

### An Extra Session Added...

With the February 28th session being cancelled because of heavy rain it now means that we have lost two out of the eleven sessions so far. As a result of this, the suggestion that we have an additional session has been upheld and this will take place on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

Kevin Drew's position as an organiser must be under threat (!) as it was his week's sessions (November 1st and February 28th) that were cancelled through snow and rain respectively. Meanwhile, his January 17th session only survived as a result of rain on the Saturday which removed the last of the January snow! He must have felt he was jinxed and wasting his time!

On the Nancy Tibbet Cup front, Michael Tatham is the latest to head the winter league table, remarkable considering the fact that he has played one session fewer than anybody else near him. Ian Haigs is one point behind on 76 then Kevin McMenamin on 74 followed by a cluster of five on 73 which includes Jacqui Crossley who is still the leading lady. Frances McMahon is two points behind her, followed by three on 70 and two on 69... *D.E.B.*

### RESULTS - SUNDAY, 14 FEBRUARY (10)

Division 1:	<b>M Tatham 21</b> , A Riley 15, M Peck 11, M Bartlett 7
Division 2:	I Haigs 17, R Cook 15, S Ward 13, Macauley Smitham 9
Division 3A:	D Provan 14, P hale 12, K Drew 8, *-Reserve 20
Division 3B:	I Wildman 16, T McMenamin 16, A Gore 12, C Tilcock 10
Division 4A:	B Clare 18, J Crossley 16, L Dorman 10, S Holt 10
Division 4B:	D Hillman 16, N Magee 14, A Harris 14, R Daniels 10
Division 5A:	J Tatham 17, F McMahon 15, C Turner 13, A J Webley 9
Division 5B:	J Taylor 17, J Warner 13, K Ward 13, A Bartlett 11
Division 6A:	No competition
Division 6B:	P Hillyard 15, J Wigley 15, L Howard 15, Danny Wilkins 9
Division 7A:	J Holt 17, G Wigley 15, K McMenamin 11, John Wright 11
Division 7B:	D Bradshaw 16, J Palmer 14, J Mullany 12, L Benali 10
Division 8A:	J Cardiff 17, C McMenamin 15, S Hitchcock 15, R Stroud 9
Division 8B:	C Ward 16, J Morgan 14, G Morgan 14, J Ansell 10
Division 9A:	Mick Smitham 16, D Stone 14, J Ford 14, *-Reserve 10
Division 9B:	K McMahon 16, Jenny Wright 16, A Wydmuch 12, Debbie Wilkins 10

**SUNDAY, 28 FEBRUARY (11)** – Cancelled due to heavy rain.

## AROUND AND ABOUT

### WIMBLEDON CHAMPIONSHIPS 2010...

This year the Championships, from Mon 21st June – Sun 4th Jul, compete with the FIFA World Cup. There will be no draw for World Cup tickets, but watch out for details advertising the draw for Wimbledon tickets in the Clubhouse towards the end of March. (No doubt there will be a world cup sweepstake!!!)

### MANOR HOUSE HOTEL...

From February 18th – 21st, a group of our members spent 4 days / 3 nights at the Sport and Craft centre near Okehampton in Devon. Road closures and heavy snow in the Bristol meant an extended journey for most and the snow continued to be a problem cancelling the walks and closing the golf course on both Friday and Saturday mornings. However, all other activities are indoors so no problem there. Most of the sporting activities offer a prize of a tee-shirt for the winner or highest score and there were plenty of winners from the group. You will no doubt see them worn around the club when the weather warms up. Other successes were in the quizzes held every evening. Strict rules on team size and use of internet phones were strictly adhered to this year ;-)

Our chairman, Mike, celebrated his 50th birthday during the stay (it's always his birthday when we go) and just as last year found himself having a facial of cream cake after a dinner washed down with plenty of Champagne. Mike may wish to change the dates of this, what is now an annual event, if he is going to keep getting creamed on his birthday.

On the final day, Sunday, we awoke to brilliant sunshine so the golfers were off early to get 18 holes in whilst many of those staying on took part in the last tennis tournament of the stay. Although in previous days a pair from DTC that made the final had been successful, on this occasion a pairing of a very impressive 10 year old and his mum overcame the DTC pair (hangovers no excuse) who will remain nameless to save embarrassment. A final round of shooting, another hearty lunch and a leisurely game of bowls followed before the long drive home.

Again this year with as much food as you could eat and as much drink as you cared for we all had fantastic time. Our thanks to Mike for organising the weekend and looking forward to the next...

### TESCO VOUCHERS...

Back again this week and running until 9th May, if you shop at Tesco please ask for the 'Sports and Clubs' vouchers. If you do not have a sons / daughter's or grandchild's school to support then please save the vouchers for Dunstable Tennis Club. There is a collection box in the clubhouse...

### FIRST DARTS LEAGUE TITLE TO JACQUI CROSSLEY...

February saw the second round of matches played in our internal darts league leaving most people with one match to play and certain positions still to be decided.

Simon Ward continues to astound in division one with three victories and a draw to put himself in the driving seat for the title as he enjoys his best ever run of results in the top division. Only Mike Bartlett and Alan Gore can possibly catch him and he and Mike meet in their final match for the crunch! As if to emphasise how close this division is all the second round of matches went to all four legs. Not much consolation for Graham Morgan though as he finds himself relegated after a four year stay in the top flight. With one match to go in theory he could catch up either of the two above him, Darren Snee and Ian Fourmy, but as they have to play each other in their final match it will be a relegation battle to decide who goes down with Graham. Draws proliferated in the second round of the second division with four of the six matches ending all square. The only exceptions were the two involving Dave Simons who as a result of his two defeats finds himself relegated back to the third division. Alan Harris still holds a one point lead at the top with Liam Barton and Mike Mullany a single point behind. The two promotion places and the remaining relegation spot are still wide open.

The third division entered its second week with only one point separating all six players. After the evening's five matches had been played this had increased to three points with Mick Smitham still in top place and with a game in hand. Joining him on five points and still undefeated is Dennis Stone along with Jenny Mullany who has however now completed her programme.

Jacqui Crossley with four straight victories in division four is the first known title winner of

the season as she cannot now be caught so adds this trophy in her league debut season to the ladies' knockout she won in December. Four players all separated by a single point are fighting for the runner up promotion position which will be decided on the final night... *D.E.B.*

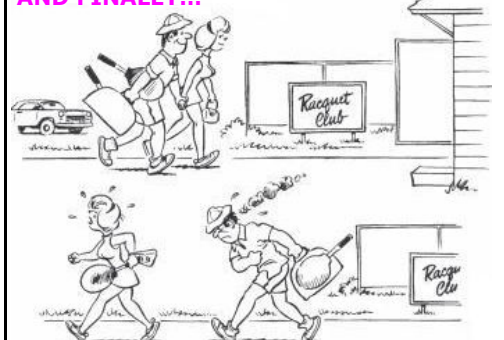
### BIG RON'S QUIZ NIGHT...

Held in the clubhouse on Saturday 27th February, 10 teams were lined up to do battle. Eight rounds of questions with a break halfway for a Ploughman's Supper saw Nigel, Sue, Alan and Val triumphant collecting the first prize of a case of wine. At the other end of the scoreboard the Corgans (Jenny, Graham, Lucy and Jordan) picked up the boobie prize of a box of After Eight mints. Well done to all who took part and, as always, our thanks go to Ron, Marilyn and Sarah Lynch for organising a great evening...

### CHARITY EVENT...

On Saturday 10th April Jim Balls & The Rackets will be performing with some Special Guests at a charity event to be held at the Luton Rugby Club. It is to raise money for my son Steve and his girlfriend Jacqui who are running the Virgin London Marathon on behalf of the Children's Society on Sunday 25th April. They would like to raise over £1750 for a very worthy cause. Tickets are only £5 each and can be obtained from myself. I will be putting a notice up in the clubhouse soon... *Alan Harris*

### AND FINALLY...



*Mixed doubles is a great social game. Husbands and wives find hours of fun and togetherness playing mixed doubles...*