

# CONTACT

THE DUNSTABLE TENNIS CLUB NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2011

## MUTTERINGS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

**GRAHAM MORGAN** reports on his new role as chairman and keeps us up to date with some important news.

It is now four weeks since the AGM where I was elected as Chairman of the club. This will be a very different role from that of writing the club's newsletter which I had been doing for the last seven years, although I will still have an input into supplying you news about club matters.

### DTC AGM MARCH 2011

Recently, the full committee held the first of their regular meetings for the year with me at the chair for the first time. Points raised at the AGM were dealt with first. All officers have signed up to being 'Fit and Proper' as required by HMRC as part of the conditions of being a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC).

With regard to a special membership category for those persons who find themselves un-waged, the committee have decided to take special consideration for any case on an individual basis. So, there will be no additional membership category and those with financial hardships should discuss terms with me and/or the membership secretary.

### STANDING ORDERS

In order to spread the cost of membership, the club will now accept up to 10 monthly payments by Standing Order



*Making a clean sweep of it*

starting in April 2011. Updated membership forms, a Standing Order mandate and instructions can be downloaded from the website and paper copies are available in the clubhouse.

### COMMITTEE ROLES

All committee members have various roles and responsibilities to fulfil. These are being updated and will form the basis of a development plan for the club where each member has clear definition, not only of their own, but of each other's roles and responsibilities throughout the year. The R&R document and development plan will be available on the website when agreed.

### WIMBLEDON BALLOT

During April members will be able to sign up to the Wimbledon ticket ballot. We have 22 pairs of tickets to go into the draw. Only members who are also members of British Tennis can enter.

### CLOSED TOURNAMENT ENTRY

The entry sheets for the club

annual closed tournaments will be put up soon with the draw being made soon after the end of April. Please remember that there will be a one-off £2 entry fee (payable to Match Sec. Anne Bartlett) and that any entries made by members who have not paid their subscription or signed up to pay by Standing Order will have their names removed before the draw is made.

### COURT BOOKING

Court booking is now on-line. Please go to the DTC website and use the 'Book a Court' link. First time users will have to register. There are instructions in the clubhouse on how to use the newly installed computer in the clubhouse to make your court reservation.

### SUNDAY SOCIAL

Sunday morning social play has been in decline for a while now with no more than two courts being used most Sundays. From now on courts 1, 2 & 3 will be reserved for social play and the remaining courts will be available to book through the on-line system. If this becomes an issue, then please let any member of the committee know.

### THEFT FROM CLUBHOUSE

Finally, during a recent juniors evening it appears that a stranger wandered in to the clubhouse and used the toilet. Later, a purse and camera were found to be missing. Please be mindful when leaving your possessions in the clubhouse that the people around are known to you. If possible keep your valuables on your person and when playing take them on court.

*Enjoy your tennis*

## DUNSTABLE BOYS PIPPED IN MINI ORANGE TENNIS FINAL

**NICK BOYS** reports on the Mini Orange tournament held at DTC on March 18th.

Seven lucky competitors entered the arena and on a beautiful March afternoon and treated the watching parents and members to a display of determination and talent. The players were divided into two groups and all played a minimum of three matches.

Some were close... some not so, but the overriding memory for me will be the smiles on the faces as they played, whatever the result. After a fierce hour, the semi finals were ready to be played by three Dunstable players and one, Markus, from Newport Pagnall.

### SEMI FINALS

Markus played our own Connor Taylor and, despite Connor playing some great defensive tennis, Markus came through in straight tie breaks 7-2 7-1.

Next up was an all-Dunstable affair between the experienced

Aaron Sobanja and first-time orange tournament entrant Daniel Crosby. A match that lasted over 20 minutes and went one way and then the other eventually saw Daniel win in three tie breaks 7-3 2-7 7-3.

### THE FINAL

All the parents and competitors were eager to see the final and they were not disappointed. A tremendous battle, which may have been one match to many for Daniel, saw Markus claim the title 7-0 7-3. Well done Markus. Every player went home with a bag of sweets for their efforts, Markus getting two bags... and the first pick!

Thanks go to Ryan Sobanja and Ben Turley for umpiring the matches (they received sweets to) and the parents, who not only spent their money over the bar, but cheered everyone on that afternoon.

Richard Parker's curry night sounded great and made all salivate.



## A QUIZZICAL NIGHT WITH RON LYNCH

**JENNY MORGAN** reports on the recent quiz night presented by Ron Lynch and his glamorous assistant Marylin.

Held in the clubhouse on Saturday 19th March, nine teams were initially lined up to do battle, but this reduced to eight after some last minute withdrawals. The usual format for Big Ron's quizzes, eight rounds of questions with a break halfway through, saw the *I'm Spartacus* team of Jacqui, Steve, Sue and Dave collecting the first prize of a case of wine.

Then, in second place the *Captain's Table* team of Martin, AJ, Alan and Val, whilst at the other end of the scoreboard, picking up the consolation prize, *The Downsiders* team of Dennis, Pat, Steve and Jo.

Well done to all who took part and, as always, our thanks go to Ron and his lovely assistant Marilyn for organising a great evening. Watch out for another quiz later in the year.

## WIMBLEDON DRAW

The draw for this year's allocation for Wimbledon tickets will take place in the clubhouse on the evening of April 29th. We have 22 pairs of tickets to be distributed to fully paid-up members or those who have completed and signed a direct debit mandate for monthly payments.

A sign-up sheet should be up on the noticeboard by the time you read this.



## LATER MONDAY JUNIOR SESSIONS RELAUNCHED



We plan, starting at the beginning of April, to re-launch the later Monday night session (from 7-9pm). This will be a practice and social session giving all of our older Junior players the chance to practice some of the shots and techniques that you have been learning in the coaching sessions. The idea will be to run informal doubles short sets/tie breaks and rotate the players around to try to maximise the time on court. The sessions should be fun and informal and similar to our adult social nights

In order to be able to run these sessions, and make them free of charge, we would like to ask for some help. We already have some parents who give up their Monday evenings to be at the club and supervise what is happening to make sure all is running smoothly. We plan to draw up a rota that will mean that we can work around outside commitments and keep the sessions ticking along. If we could find some new volunteers then the frequency which all of the helpers need to be in attendance will decrease. If you would be prepared to give up a couple of hours on the occasional Monday please let Nick Boys or Phillip Moss know

By the way, there is also the opportunity on most Saturdays from 12-1pm, providing that there are not matches on all courts, to stay behind after the session and have a hit with a friend. Please take advantage of this as it will help you improve!

## RAISE FUNDS FOR DTC BY SHOPPING!

It's very simple - just visit Easy Fundraising to register and shop with over 2,000 well-known retailers like Amazon, Argos, M&S, eBay and many more. Whenever you buy something, the retailer makes a donation to Dunstable Tennis Club. They've helped other causes raise over £2,000,000 so it really does work. It won't cost you a penny extra to shop through easyfundraising and you can even save money with special offers and voucher codes. Plus, if you sign up before 30th April, they will enter you into their FREE PRIZE DRAW to win a 40 inch 3 D TV from Viking Direct. So please make a difference to Dunstable Tennis Club and take a look at Easy Fundraising today.

## MEMBERS HAVE A BALL WITH THE MAYOR



*Mr and Mrs Mayor*



*I'll have the Shoup*

Several DTC members attended the Major's Charity Ball recently, not least because Dunstable's most powerful man and his good lady wife are both also members. Asked to provide a report on the event, Anne Bartlett supplied a long list of people who were rather on the jolly side of life (not her words) by the end of the evening but we thought we'd spare their blushes by saying everyone had a great night and that Mayor and Mrs Mullany were paragons of virtue and hosted 'a splendid evening'.

## FRESH FACES GRAB WINTER LEAGUE SILVERWARE

The winter league came to a close in March with close finishes for the two trophies. In the race for the Nancy Tibbett Cup three players, all new to the winter league this year, tied for first place. By virtue of achieving more first places Ryan Sobanja just edged ahead of Renato Natale and Jordan Cornwall to take the cup. The final top nine with appearances in brackets were: 93 – Ryan Sobanja (11), Reg Natale (11), Jordan Cornwall (11); 90 – John Cardiff (11); 89 – Rob Haylock (10), Steve Hannan (11); 88 – Michael Tatham (9), Tony McMenamin (11) and Kieran McMahan (11).

With contestants gradually dropping by the wayside the Ladies' Trophy finished up as a contest between Jane Wigley and Frances McMahon with just two

points separating them going into the final round. Although Frances came out on top of a tough group with ten points Jane in sharing top place in her group so gaining nine points eventually took the trophy by a single point. The top six ladies were: 86 – Jane Wigley (11); 85 – Frances McMahon (11); 79 – Jenny Wright (10), Lynn Dorman (10); 78 – Anne Bartlett (10) and Debbie Wilkins (11).

Seventy six players played at least once although Reg probably played twice as many games as anybody else as he regularly filled in as a reserve at 11.00 after his 9.15 stint!

Because of the large number of unavailabilities for the final week we only had two divisions at 12.30. This will create a problem when we start again in October as there

are about fourteen 'regulars' at 9.15 and 11.00 who will be waiting to get back in.

As all those currently 'in possession' will take priority next time out unless people are prepared to play lower down in order to either play their way back up or hope to be fast tracked they may find that they will have a long wait to get back in.

In conclusion thanks once again to the organisers Kevin Drew, Andrew Riley and Debbie Wilkins who took their turn along with yours truly. Not forgetting also Dennis Stone as ever for providing the up to date league tables throughout the winter and Graham Morgan for including it on the web site (so I believe!). The winter league will restart on Sunday October 2nd.



## DARTS LEAGUE GOES TO THE WIRE

The nineteenth season of our internal darts leagues came to a close at the end of March with some very tight finishes.

Going into the final round of matches in division one just two points separated the top five with the leadership changing from one match to the next. Whilst chalking the final match Mike Bartlett had to watch his lead slip away along with his late Dad's trophy (The Reg Bartlett Shield) when Darren Snee just managed to edge past Cath Turner to take the title for the first time. After winning the men's knockout shield before Christmas Alan Gore suffered a loss of form to end up being relegated for the first time after a nineteen year run in the top division. For the statisticians amongst us during that time he had played against twenty two different first division opponents!

Despite some good performances Cath Turner accompanied him down after just one year.

In division two just one point separated the top five going into the final matches. The very last match between Liam Barton and Anne Bartlett would determine the destination of the trophy with both knowing that if either won they would take it whilst a draw would mean the 'chalker' Ian Fourmy would win his Dad's trophy (The Chris Fourmy Shield). In the end Liam was victorious so Ian, too, missed out on his Dad's trophy but had the consolation of returning to the first division as runner up along with Liam. David Bradshaw with just two draws will return to division three next year.

Although already having won division three after four rounds of matches Jacqui Crossley defeated AJ Webley in her fifth and final

match to take her unbeaten record to seventeen matches across two years in the last two leagues and ladies' knockout competitions. AJ's loss guaranteed that Mike Mullany would go up with Jacqui despite being held to a draw by Pat Stone in their final match. With the match between Mary Comb and Jenny Mullany postponed the relegation issue has still to be resolved.

With most of the 'crowd' having gone home by 11.15 Michael Sharpe (after waking him up!) and Stuart Hitchcock took their place on the oché to see who would take the fourth division trophy. All Michael had to do was to avoid defeat but this began to look a bit dodgy when Stuart showed good form in moving into a two leg lead. Michael clawed himself back into contention by taking the third leg so it all boiled down to the last leg. Stuart continued his run of form to win it and so winning his first trophy at the Club. Both will be promoted next year.

# DARTS TOURNAMENT RESULTS - 2010

## MEN'S SINGLES

GROUP A			P	W	F	A
Graham Morgan 2	Simon Ward 1	Simon Ward	3	2	5	3
Ian Fourmy 2	Jordan Cornwall 0	Ian Fourmy	3	2	4	2
Graham Morgan 0	Ian Fourmy 2	Graham Morgan	3	2	4	3
Simon Ward 2	Jordan Cornwall 1	Jordan Cornwall	3	0	1	6
Graham Morgan 2	Jordan Cornwall 0	<i>(Top two into quarter-finals)</i>				
Simon Ward 2	Ian Fourmy 0					

GROUP B			P	W	F	A
Mac Smitham 2	Alan Harris 1	Darren Snee	3	3	6	0
David Bradshaw 0	Darren Snee 2	Alan Harris	3	1	3	4
Mac Smitham 1	David Bradshaw 2	Mac Smitham	3	1	3	5
Alan Harris 0	Darren Snee 2	D Bradshaw	3	1	2	5
Mac Smitham 0	Darren Snee 2	<i>(Top two into quarter-finals)</i>				
Alan Harris 2	David Bradshaw 0					

GROUP C			P	W	F	A
Alan Gore 2	Michael Sharpe 1	Alan Gore	3	3	6	2
Mick Smitham 1	Jim Chandler 2	*Michael Sharpe	3	1	4	5
Alan Gore 2	Mick Smitham 0	*Jim Chandler	3	1	4	5
Michael Sharpe 2	Jim Chandler 1	Mick Smitham	3	1	3	5
Alan Gore 2	Jim Chandler 1	<i>(Top two into quarter-finals)</i>				
Michael Sharpe 1	Mick Smitham 2	* - Decided on head to head result				

GROUP D			P	W	F	A
Stuart Hitchcock 1	Dennis Stone 2	Dennis Stone	3	2	5	3
Mike Bartlett 2	Liam Barton 0	Mike Bartlett	3	2	4	2
Dennis Stone 1	Liam Barton 2	Liam Barton	3	2	4	4
Mike Bartlett 2	Stuart Hitchcock 0	S Hitchcock	3	0	2	6
Mike Bartlett 0	Dennis Stone 2	<i>(Top two into quarter-finals)</i>				
Stuart Hitchcock 1	Liam Barton 2					

**QUARTER-FINALS** *(Best of 3 games)*

Simon Ward 0 #	Jim Chandler 2	Alan Gore 2	Ian Fourmy 0
Darren Snee 1	Mike Bartlett 2	Dennis Stone 2	Alan Harris 0

**SEMI-FINALS** *(Best of 5 games)*

#Jim Chandler 3	Mike Bartlett 1	Alan Gore 3	Dennis Stone 0
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**FINAL** *(Best of 7 games)*

#Jim Chandler 3	Alan Gore 4 <i>(Champion)</i>
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(# - Late replacement)

## LADIES' SINGLES

GROUP A			P	W	F	A
Mary Comb 0	'AJ' Webley 2	Chris Chandler	2	2	4	0
Chris Chandler 2	Mary Comb 0	'AJ' Webley	2	1	2	2
Chris Chandler 2	'AJ' Webley 0	Mary Comb	2	0	0	4
<i>(Top two into semi-finals)</i>						

GROUP B			P	W	F	A
Lynda Gore 0	Anne Bartlett 2	Jacqui Crossley	2	2	4	0
Jacqui Crossley 2	Lynda Gore 0	Anne Bartlett	2	1	2	2
Jacqui Crossley 2	Anne Bartlett 0	Lynda Gore	2	0	0	4
<i>(Top two into semi-finals)</i>						

**SEMI-FINALS** *(Best of 5 games)*

Chris Chandler 1	Anne Bartlett 1	Jacqui Crossley 3	'AJ' Webley 0
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**FINAL** *(Best of 5 games)*

Chris Chandler 2	Jacqui Crossley 3 <i>(Champion)</i>
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## OPEN DOUBLES

**GROUP A**

Jordan Cornwall/Mary Comb 2	Mick Smitham/Anne Bartlett 1
David Bradshaw/Graham Morgan 2	Ian Fourmy/'AJ' Webley 1
Jordan Cornwall/Mary Comb 0	David Bradshaw/Graham Morgan 2
Mick Smitham/Anne Bartlett 2	Ian Fourmy/'AJ' Webley 1
Jordan Cornwall/Mary Comb 0	Ian Fourmy/'AJ' Webley 2
Mick Smitham/Anne Bartlett 0	David Bradshaw/Graham Morgan 2

*Winners: David Bradshaw/Graham Morgan; Runners up: Ian Fourmy/'AJ' Webley*

**GROUP B**

Mike Bartlett/Alan Harris 1	Chris Chandler/Jacqui Crossley 2
Simon Ward/Alan Gore 1	Jim Chandler/Lynda Gore 2
Mike Bartlett/Alan Harris 2	Simon Ward/Alan Gore 1
Chris Chandler/Jacqui Crossley 1	Jim Chandler/Lynda Gore 2
Mike Bartlett/Alan Harris 0	Jim Chandler/Lynda Gore 2
Chris Chandler/Jacqui Crossley 1	Simon Ward/Alan Gore 2

*Winners: Jim Chandler/Lynda Gore; Runners up: Simon Ward/Alan Gore*

**SEMI-FINALS** *(Best of 5 games)*

David Bradshaw/Graham Morgan 0	Simon Ward/Alan Gore 3
Jim Chandler/Lynda Gore 3	Ian Fourmy/'AJ' Webley 2

**FINAL** *(Best of 7 games)*

Simon Ward/Alan Gore 4 <i>(Champions)</i>	Jim Chandler/Lynda Gore 2
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# DARTS LEAGUE RESULTS AND TABLES - 2011

**DIVISION ONE**

	MB	AG	AH	GM	DS	CT	SW
M Bartlett	xx	3	3	1	1	3	3
A Gore	0	xx	2	1	0	2	3
A Harris	1	2	xx	3	3	3	0
G Morgan	3	3	1	xx	2	1	2
D Snee	3	3	1	2	xx	3	3
C Turner	0	2	0	3	0	xx	1
S Ward	1	1	3	2	1	3	xx

**DIVISION TWO**

	AB	LB	DB	IF	MS	DS	StD
A Bartlett	xx	1	3	0	3	-	2
L Barton	3	xx	3	2	3	-	0
D Bradshaw	1	1	xx	2	1	-	2
I Fourmy	3	2	2	xx	0	-	3
Mick Smitham	0	0	3	3	xx	-	3
D Simons	-	-	-	-	-	xx	-
D Stone	2	3	2	0	1	-	xx

**DIVISION THREE**

	MC	JC	JM	MM	PS	AW
M Comb	xx	0	*	0	2	3
J Crossley	3	xx	3	2	3	3
J Mullany	*	0	xx	3	1	0
M Mullany	3	2	1	xx	2	3
P Stone	2	0	3	2	xx	1
A J Webley	1	1	3	1	3	xx

\* - Match not played

**DIVISION FOUR**

	CC	JC	LG	SH	MS	MSm
C Chandler	xx	3	3	0	0	2
J Cornwall	0	xx	1	2	0	*
L Gore	1	3	xx	0	0	3
S Hitchcock	3	2	3	xx	3	2
M Sharpe	3	3	3	1	xx	2
Mac Smitham	2	*	0	2	2	xx

\* - Match not played

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
D Snee	6	4	1	1	15	7	9
M Bartlett	6	4	0	2	14	8	8
A Harris	6	3	1	2	12	10	7
G Morgan	6	2	2	2	12	12	6
S Ward	6	2	1	3	11	12	5
A Gore	6	1	2	3	8	14	4
C Turner	6	1	1	4	6	15	3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
L Barton	5	3	1	1	11	7	7
I Fourmy	5	2	2	1	10	7	6
Mick Smitham	5	3	0	2	9	8	6
A Bartlett	5	2	1	2	9	9	5
D Stone	5	1	2	2	8	10	4
D Bradshaw	5	0	2	3	7	13	2
D Simons withdrew							

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
J Crossley	5	4	1	0	14	3	9
M Mullany	5	2	2	1	11	8	6
A J Webley	5	2	0	3	9	10	4
P Stone	5	1	2	2	8	11	4
M Comb	4	1	1	2	5	9	3
J Mullany	4	1	0	3	4	10	2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
S Hitchcock	5	3	2	0	13	5	8
M Sharpe	5	3	1	1	12	5	7
C Chandler	5	2	1	2	8	9	5
L Gore	5	2	0	3	7	10	4
Mac Smitham	4	0	3	1	6	9	3
J Cornwall	4	0	1	3	3	11	1

**DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUR NEW WEB SITE EVERY DAY FOR ALL THE LATEST NEWS AS IT HAPPENS - [www.dunstabletennisclub.com](http://www.dunstabletennisclub.com)**

