



Chairman's Report

@AGM

Monday March 5th 2018

2018 has been a very positive year for the club and I would like to thank the club's officers, committee members and members for their contributions over the last 12 months.

Membership is at its highest level since 2011. This was stimulated by a successful British Tennis Weekend Open Day held in May. The event was well publicised locally and we had a good turn out on the day. Steve Brown did a magnificent job coaching the youngsters who turned up but thanks should also go to Joan Curran, Anne Flecchia, Graham Berry, Sue Broadhurst, Anne Caven and Phil Leahy for organising and assisting at the event.

Club competitions were arranged by Joan Curran and Graham Berry and members participated for all trophies with the exception of Ladies' Singles and the pre Wimbledon plates. Winners were presented with their trophies at a very well attended dinner/presentation evening held in La Piazza in November. Many thanks to Joan Curran for organising this event.

A number of themed days were arranged from Cheese & Wine, Chocolate, Strawberries & Cream, Pimms in the summer to Mulled Wine & Mince Pies in December. A special thanks to Joan Curran for her work in organising these events and thanks also to all who helped and all who attended. These events helped to create a friendly, inclusive atmosphere at the club and were all good fun.

Many thanks to Graham Berry for organising our participation in the Vale of Mowbray League. Finished 3rd. Well done.

Coaching with Geoff Thomas was arranged in the spring and again in the autumn. Thanks to Sue Lussey for organising this group coaching.

Phil Wylie coached approximately 15 adults/juniors during 2017. We tried to arrange coaching for junior members and there did seem to be some interest but unfortunately we couldn't get the numbers to form groups.

Other events of note during 2017 include the following:

- i. The courts were treated and re-painted in June to prevent excessive algae growth.
- ii. A new club logo and website were developed by Anne Caven at a cost of £30. Thanks to Anne for many hours of development.
- iii. 3 Club Signs with the new club logo and web address were erected in May. Thanks to Anne Flecchia and Graham Berry for organising the printing and erecting the new signs.
- iv. Thanks to Sue Broadhurst for organising the PAT testing and maintaining the first aid box.
- v. The first Members' Guide was produced and circulated to all members in April 2017. A copy of the guide can be found on the club website and on the clubhouse notice board. This will be updated annually.
- vi. All members were encouraged to become members of British Tennis. It is free and the more members we have, the more Wimbledon Tickets will be allocated to the club. We had 3 pairs in 2017.
- vii. An induction form for new members was introduced so that new members are familiarised with club processes and welcomed into the club by a committee member.
- viii. Thanks to Dave Ryder, Phil Leahy, John Dickinson, Graham Berry, and Paul Kipling for maintenance work done on the clubhouse and boundary wall during 2017.
- ix. A Safeguarding and Welfare Policy was developed and added to the Member's Guide in October 2017. More work is required in 2018 in this area in keeping with the LTA guidelines.
- x. A new court booking system and visitors' payment system was introduced. An on-line booking system was considered but it was thought un-necessary at this time.
- xi. Phil Leahy and Anne Flecchia were appointed as Trustees of the club in January. We now have 4 trustees, David Crapper, Sue Lussey, Phil Leahy and Anne Flecchia.

Finally, 5 Challenges and Goals for 2018:

- 1** Tuesday and Wednesday club sessions are an outstanding success with up to 20 members attending regularly. We want to continue to encourage as many members as possible to join in ALL club sessions - Weds afternoon and Saturday afternoons as well as the midweek morning sessions. We also want to encourage entries for the club competitions including the ladies' singles tournament. We have a new ladies' singles group open to all abilities who are practicing weekly (weather permitting!) so perhaps some competitors there! We are also hoping to introduce friendly matches between local clubs as well as the Vale of Mowbray league.
- 2** Arrange another open day similar to our successful British Tennis Open Day in May 2017 to promote the club and increase membership in 2018. We currently have 98 members from age 5yrs to over 70yrs (70 adults) and a target of 120 members (90 adults)
- 3** Further develop ways to familiarise and encourage new members. The inductions help but a monthly new members' session from say 10.00am to 12.00 noon on a Saturday might further encourage inclusivity for all age groups. Any suggestions welcomed.
- 4** Develop the provision of coaching at the club for all categories of members with Geoff Thomas, Phil Wylie and other coaches if available.
- 5** In 2018, we must ensure that the club is always a welcoming, inclusive environment where all members, all ages and all abilities can enjoy a game of tennis. 2017 has been a very good year in this respect. Let's have another enjoyable year of tennis in 2018.

Kevin Caven
Chairman