



## East Dorset Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club



# Net-News

Edition No. 2 September 2008

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### DATES for the DIARY

#### Early September

Junior Championships – see noticeboard for details

#### 1<sup>st</sup> November

Fireworks Party



#### 20<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Carols

Don't forget ...

**Café 8** is open for breakfast, lunch and tea serving up some proper homemade food. So why not give it a try - Tuesday, Friday and Saturday.

The recent Club Dinner Dance at Parkstone Golf Club was a great success, and raised an extra £200 from events during the evening.

## Introduction

Welcome to this our second edition of Net-News, the newsletter aimed mostly at the tennis section of East Dorset LT&CC. I say mostly because we're also very happy to include news items that benefit all members and sections of the club.

The summer has almost gone (well, what bit of summer we had anyway) and if you haven't been to the club for a while you are missing out on some fantastic tennis and social events. You can read elsewhere in this newsletter about what's happened since our last edition, but suffice to say the club has really thrived this year, with numbers of members up and many initiatives ongoing to improve facilities. We all know that the club can be slow at getting things done at times but there are some great developments in the pipeline.

One of the not so pleasant aspects of the club are the occasional stories of rude and inappropriate behaviour that have surfaced this year, between members. I would urge everyone to remember that all members have an equal right to use the facilities, and if you have to take issue with someone, it's often the softer touch that reaps the biggest reward.

If you have anything to go into future editions of Net-News please send to the Tennis Committee via [patandjudith@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:patandjudith@hotmail.co.uk)

**Enjoy your tennis!**

### Watch Out Watch Out ..

A couple of members have had items stolen whilst at the club – please remember to keep your valuables close to hand and don't leave them on display in cars

## Club Grounds

At least we have managed to get some play on the grass this year, after last year's washout. I think we will all agree the courts have weathered well this year, despite getting a real hammering during the Ladies County Week. Adam reports last winter's weather was very good for growth on the lawns. Let's hope we get some traditional better weather in September and can continue the grass court season for a little while yet. Thanks to Adam for his work in keeping the grass courts going.

Our botanical boffin Clive Richardson has secured some assistance for planting around the grounds. Check out the bank between the croquet lawns and Astro courts 2 & 3 - it looks great. We have teamed up with Chestnut Plant Nursery who are providing some expert advice for us on planting. Chestnut Nursery is a registered charity based in Poole, which aims to improve mental wellbeing through the healing nature of horticulture. They are open to the public and have offered a 'great' deal for all East Dorset members – just mention you belong to the club when you visit. With the centenary year approaching, there is a real desire to continue our horticultural activities but we are almost totally reliant on the generosity of members to supply plants and/or financial assistance. So if you can help please speak to Clive, Jean Humphrey or Bob Taylor.

You may also have noticed that we have a new notice board on the hut by court 1 so keep an eye on that – it is for tennis specific issues that affect use of the courts i.e. up and coming matches, cleaning programmes etc

## Coaching Matters

The tennis section at the request of some members is trying to organise a SINGLES BOX LEAGUE. This is to start at the end of the summer season on a Thursday evening and Sunday. We would like an indication of the numbers of members that would be interested in taking part. Just think - it will give you something to focus the mind and keep you fit during the Autumn. If you fancy it contact

**Brian on 07930 454764.**

Brian and Sam's first structured adult and junior coaching programme during the early part of the year proved very successful. However once the summer camps are completed and the kids are back to school, further coaching commences week of 15<sup>th</sup> September so you need to get booked now. Contact

**Brian: 07930 454764 Sam: 07780 786401**

Don't forget Brian can get some great deals through Millets for the whole range of tennis equipment – so before you purchase ring him.

Also don't forget Sam can do that re-string for you.

## 100 years old

As we all know by now, the Club has its Centenary next year. To mark the occasion we are pulling together a programme of events to celebrate throughout next year that will be published in the coming months together with a documented history of the club and photographs.

To give you a taster we are organising an Exhibition Event at the club with Peter Fleming and Jeremy Bates, and also arranging a visit to the new and hugely impressive LTA National Training Centre at Roehampton.

But as always we do need help with all of this so if you can spare some time and want to help or have any ideas please make contact: tennis Judith Spark : croquet Peggy Nutland : bridge Lupita

## **Situations Vacant - Match Teas**

After many years Karen is no longer able to do the match teas. A big thank you from everyone goes to Karen for all her time and effort. SO we are now seeking that special person to produce teas for weary worn-out tennis competitors. The teas will continue to be shared with Café 8 but it does offer the opportunity to make a little extra income. Please submit CV and tender! **only joking**, if you think you can assist and fancy giving it a go please speak to the tennis committee or email Judith [patandjudith@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:patandjudith@hotmail.co.uk)

### **A couple of new Initiatives ...**

#### **Tennis Section Mentors**

We have had so many new members in the last couple of years we thought it might be useful if we were able to assign a **Mentor** to each new member.

The intention is to help them during the early stages when joining the club so they get the best possible introduction and assistance to the club and its facilities. All we need is a list of friendly tennis members to volunteer to take someone under their wing as and when required.

I'm sure we can all remember when we were new to the club and everything seemed very unfamiliar, so how about giving a little back?

#### **Club Day Co-ordinators**

In an attempt to ensure that the Saturday Club Day sessions run as smoothly as possible we are looking for volunteers to act as **Club Day Co-ordinators**.

It wont be an arduous task - just make yourself available on your allotted day to welcome and help new members and keep things running smoothly. We hope to develop a 'new members' pack for Club Day that will also help.

If you regularly play Saturday Club Day then please consider putting your name down. The more names we can get the easier the scheme will be to run.

For this and the Mentor initiative please speak to the tennis committee or email Judith [patandjudith@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:patandjudith@hotmail.co.uk)

#### **Natwest Tournament**

The first week of August saw the Club full of juniors, playing the annual Natwest tournament. And despite the weather conspiring against us, the week was a huge success with the largest entry for many years. Well done to all that helped and contributed towards this prestigious event.

#### **YOUhome National Vets Tournament**

In July we staged the fourth National Vets Grass Court tournament, sponsored this year by YOUhome. Another very successful week was enjoyed by over 40 veterans, many of whom definitely belied their age! Congratulations to Maggie and helpers on another terrific tournament.

Your feedback on any aspect of the club is appreciated  
Please contact Judith at email: [patandjudith@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:patandjudith@hotmail.co.uk)