

President's Report 2013

Alex Hamilton: We still remember our much-loved president of 2012 and although he is no longer with us we now have a fine trophy bearing his name which will go to the winner of the men's singles championships for last year and for the years to come.

Open Day: Held on Sun 14th April, weather was dry, turnout was reasonable in relation to previous years, we had the old ball machine working and a BBQ thanks to Gary. To all who helped many thanks.

Family Fun Day: 8 Sept. By all accounts and judging by the photos this new event was both enjoyable and blessed with good weather. Thanks to all those who gave up their time to make it so successful.

Coaching: 2013 was undoubtedly our most successful year to date. From the opening of our season in April until now, coaching has continued virtually without break between blocks. For this we have our energetic and admirable coach, Marsha Doran, to thank. The coaching has been directed mainly towards younger players which is exactly as it should be for the future of our club. A new introduction this year was 'tots' tennis' to encourage pre-school children. We would like to thank Dave Lindsay, who Marsha recruited to help for part of the season but the biggest thanks of all are due to Marsha herself for breathing so much new life into our club. I will leave Marsha to fill in any details I may have missed.

Leagues: We had a ladies and men's team competing in the leagues this year but no youth's team. I'll leave it to our team representatives to summarize their respective seasons.

Club champs: Unlike the previous season we had a beautiful summer last year so we can't really use that as an excuse for not completing some of the championships. The reality was that we managed to complete 4 out of our 8, exactly the same as in 2012: the ladies doubles, the men's singles, the boys singles and the girls singles. We also had a winner and runner up for the Alan Tait trophy. The final of the ladies singles remains to be played with a deadline of the end of March. The gents and mixed doubles were started but not completed and there were insufficient entries for the boys doubles and for the President's trophy.

Social tennis: This year saw its welcome return on Thursday evenings, thanks to Marsha for organising and to Gordon for his help.

Maintenance of facilities: Once again club members worked co-operatively to keep the courts in as good condition as their age permits. Thanks to Sandra for organising the moss clearance (and to the council for carrying it out). To Gordon for keeping the hedging and foliage under control. And to the chain gang of helpers who kept the courts clean (Arthur, John, Randall, Gordon, Les and myself). Thanks also to John for overseeing (with ingenuity, the right tools and a lot of muscle power), the installation of new net-posts. Gordon McCulloch put in a great effort to tidy up the referee's room and provide a hugely improved storage system for the club's equipment.

Website: Our smart and very well laid-out website continued to keep club members updated with current and historical information - many thanks to Aenea.

Thanks: Once again huge thanks to Aenea for her massive contribution, to Sandra for her sterling efforts as Secretary, to Marsha for coaching the juniors, to the team captains and to all club members who help to make the club such a friendly one. Also to Arthur for organising the old boys regular sessions.

New Presidency: I will be standing down this year and would like to wish my very worthy successor good luck and my support in the months ahead.

Martin Walsh