

March News 2018

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Our Tennis Club

Meeting

AGM - Reminder

Annual General Meeting of Davenport Lawn Tennis Club will be held in the Pavilion on **Tuesday 13th March 2018 at 7.00pm. Please attend.**

Come and hear what's what and to ask questions following on from reports. Find out who is nominated and voted onto the General Committee. Hear about membership subscriptions for 2018/19. For those who have not attended before it is not usually a long meeting and the bar will be open afterwards.

Social tennis will follow on after the meeting completes.

Minutes from the 2017 AGM, the annual accounts and the reports from the club sub-committees will be available at the meeting and will be available to download from the club website afterwards.

Any member who is unable to attend the AGM but wishes to comment should email the Honorary Secretary on david.sykes95@ntlworld.com

Court Renovation News

Dave Longden



Although Astroturf is regarded as one of the best all year round tennis playing surfaces, it does come at a price. The base of our courts is tarmac, with a thick Astroturf carpet on top. The first carpet we had was laid in 1997, was a very good quality, and Thorntons, the company that laid it, gave it an expected lifespan of 10 years. In fact although we had some rejuvenation work it wasn't replaced until it was over 12 years old.

Our present carpet was laid in 2009, and although we requested the same specification, we have always felt the quality to be inferior.



It has needed considerably more costly maintenance, and starting on March 5th, (weather permitting) due to baseline compaction

and the carpet fibres fusing together we are again having a specialist company to rejuvenate courts 1, 2, and 3. This involves removing all the sand infill from the carpet, separating the fibres, and replacing with fresh sand. The work is scheduled to last 5 days, and to give you some idea, the cost of this is around £9000.

Work to repair the 2 faulty floodlights was due to take place on the 27th February. Unfortunately, the weather has thwarted our plans so we will try and get this done as soon as we can.

All being well the courts should be in first class condition for the start of the new season.

Seamless Change Over

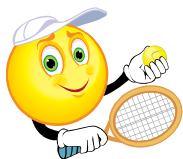
Many thanks go to Tom Longden who has been an excellent Club Captain this year. He has worked tirelessly to make things run smoothly and has achieved a great deal. He is now stepping down from both from this position and from the General Committee. The committee are sorry to see him go and acknowledge Tom's strong contribution over the last year.



The new Club Captain for 2018/19 will be Ruth Connor. Ruth has played a very active part in the club over a number of years and not only captains our very successful ladies 3rd team but also

is involved in the tennis committee; the social committee; and has been on the General Committee for the last year. The General Committee are delighted that Ruth has agreed to become our Club Captain.

New Members



Welcome to the following new recruits to the club.

Junior: Owen Birkett and Luca Howe

Hope you enjoy joining in the play and events at DLTC.

New DLTC Website Launched!!

You might have noticed a change to our clubs website. It's had a makeover. If you haven't already take a look. Many thanks go to those who volunteered their efforts to undertake this. The people responsible for getting the new website up and running are: Neil Henry, Pat & David Elliott, Jim Gibbs, Ruth Connor and Martin Bush. The lead from the General Committee has been John Harrison. There are going to be new photos to go on the site and we would welcome feedback from the club members. There are still some changes and tweaks to take place. If you see anything on the site that you think needs fixing then please contact David Elliott via email: david.elliott@angenay.com

Tennis Camps – Easter, Whit and Summer Holidays

Dates for 2018:

9-13 April

29 May – 1 June

30 July – 3 Aug

13 – 17 Aug

28 – 30 Aug

Bookings NOW OPEN!

Fun, action packed tennis camps aimed at all abilities. Half days, full days, early drop offs and late pickups available. Suitable for ages 4-16yrs.

No need to worry about the weather as the camps run regardless of rain or snow. We offer indoor activities if the weather prevents us from being outside.

Tennis Camp Application form can be find in the clubhouse and on the website under the Coaching Page.

A Message from our Coach Ben



Junior Teams this Summer

If you're interested in being part of the Junior Teams this summer and you haven't told me please let me know ASAP. I'm keen to get as many of the juniors involved this year.

We have the following teams entered into the North East Cheshire League:

- U13 Boys 1
- U13 Boys 2
- U15 Boys 1
- U15 Boys 2
- U18 Mixed

In addition to this I'm looking at arranging matches for U10 against local clubs. Other events to look out for this spring:

- Tie Break Tens Tournaments
- LTA Quorn Family Cup
- LTA Road to Wimbledon Singles
- Junior/Senior Doubles



THE ROAD TO WIMBLEDON



Dates will be out as soon as possible.

Winter League

Winter League matches have continued for our four teams. Below are the results from Jan and Feb.

January and February Fixtures

First Team				Results
28	Jan	Hale 1	Away	Win
4	Feb	Brabyns 2	Home	Win
7	Feb	Prestbury	home	Draw
Second Team				
28	Jan	Heyes Grove 1	Away	Lost
4	Feb	Ryecroft	Away	Lost
19	Feb	Knutsford	Home	Draw
23	Feb	Lymm	Home	Win
Third Team				
24	Jan	Cheadle Kingsway5	Home	Lost
4	Feb	Fallowfield Darley	Away	Win
Fourth Team				
18	Jan	Macclesfield 4	Away	Draw

There are more matches to play in March and the Winter League doesn't end until end of March so we will announce final positions in the leagues in the next Newsletter.

Summer Team Tennis

Matches start in April. Once again we have 8 teams: 3 ladies and 5 mens.

The Captains for 2018 are:

- Ladies 1st team – Sara Sotoudemeher
- Ladies 2nd team – Emma West
- Ladies 3rd team – Ruth Connor
- Mens 1st team – Chris Townend
- Mens 2nd team – TBC
- Mens 3rd team – Nathan Scarll
- Mens 4th team – TBC
- Mens 5th team – Barry Stead

Coaches Tip of the Month

How to be effective with your first serve and encourage your partner to poach?

Serve consistently with your first serve. If you miss a lot of these, your partners effectiveness as a poached could diminish. This is because picking off first serve return at the net is easier than picking off second serve returns and also because your partner may get tired of all the “false starts”.

Serve mostly down the “T” from the deuce court (especially to a right hander). This cuts down the angles as well as forcing the receiver to play an awkward inside out backhand – your partner should be able to pick it off! Serve plenty at the body on the ad court.

Make sure your partner knows where you’re aiming the serve!

For help on this or any other coaching information contact Ben now on 07966 973901 or bbushtennis@yahoo.co.uk.

Social Tennis

The March schedule so far for social tennis is as follows. What out for email announcement confirming 17th onwards.

Date	2.00pm Start	Organiser
3 rd March	Organised tournament	Ben
10 th March	Social	TBC
17 th March	TBC	
24 th March	TBC	
31 st March	TBC	
7 th April	The Marjorie Turner Opening Tournament	

Note: Thanks to everyone who opted-in to the 2018 Wimbledon Ballot - we reached a record total of 139 members at the closing date! This should secure a few more tickets for us to offer to members in the coming weeks.

Ladder and Box Leagues

Tony Morse



Box League

At the time of writing six of the ten Boxes in the current round of Box League have been played. Play has been affected by bad weather, especially in the last week of February. Also, court maintenance is taking place in the first week of March. Consequently, the finishing date for the current round has been extended from end-February to mid-March, since there is insufficient time for another round before the summer competitive season starts in April. Players seem to have enjoyed playing their Boxes, and despite some confusion have been able to call in substitute players when one Box member has been unavailable; you can use any player as a substitute, but ideally someone of a generally similar standard makes for a better game. As a reminder to those who have not yet played, the player in fourth position (player D) should normally initiate agreeing to a suitable date and time to play, so check the sheet again and get going when you can. Good luck to players in the remaining Boxes, and well done to those who have played. See you all again in September!

Singles Ladder

Tom Longden has retained his position at the top of the ladder, with Stuart Hammond in second place and Hayley Millington in third. Only two challenges have been played since last month’s report; one was successful - Nathan Scarll overtook Iain Taylor - and one was not - Tom Longden repelled Stuart Hammond’s effort to dislodge him from top spot. Well done to those who participated. However, we need ideas on how to make the ladder attractive to more players and to encourage more activity next September.

Any suggestions on Box League or Singles Ladder should be emailed to tony_morse@btinternet.com

Other Club News

Condolences

Members will be saddened to hear of the death of a former playing member, David Murray.

David's son, Shaun, who will be well known to many members, has reported to us that his father passed away last week. David may be best remembered as a very able Quizmaster, hosting our Quiz Nights for a number of years.

Our sympathies go out to Shaun and the family.

In Memory

Over the years, and particularly in the years that lead to the club establishing its current clubhouse there have been a few members who have gone the extra mile for the club and beyond. Some are remembered in the names of tournaments and others for those of us with long memories remain close in our hearts. The General Committee agreed that we should mark these peoples contribution to the club in a lasting way, and to have 'Memorial Plaques' honouring those members who contributed significantly to the Club in their lifetime. To this end a small sub-committee has been established to agree criteria and to decide upon past members that will be given a memorial plaque within the club.

The first one to be agreed is Dorothy Elliott who joined the tennis club in 1948, introduced by her twin sister.

Along with Harold & Nadine Bagshaw and Marjorie Turner, she was involved with the money raising efforts to fund the building of the new pavilion in about 1954.

She became secretary of the club, in about 1956 or 1957 and she remained secretary until the early 90s. Club Secretary in those days also included the current function of Membership Secretary.

She also played team tennis during the 50s and 60s

She was a member of the catering committee for many years along with Nadine Bagshaw and Marjorie Turner.

She was made a life member for her services to the club and sadly died from cancer in 1997 at the age of 83.

Quiz Nights

The Friday evenings start at 8pm, with supper, price £3. Just two more to go. Everyone welcome. Dates for your diary: **9 March; 13 April**



Food Evenings

The last food evening of the season will be a **St Patrick's Supper held on Saturday 17th March**, 8pm for 8.30pm and will cost £10 per head. There will be potato cakes with smoked salmon and cream cheese to start followed by Irish coddled pork served with colcannon and peas. For pudding there will be baby black velvet cakes with ice cream.

If you'd like to come please sign the list posted on the clubhouse noticeboard or email sue.beales1@ntlworld.com



Coffee Morning

This takes place on the third Tuesday every month with the same format of £1.50 entry for tea/coffee and biscuits, with the proceeds going to charity. Come and enjoy a coffee with local residents. Open to all.