

Chair's report 2017

It doesn't seem possible that a year has passed since last year's AGM, time really has flown during what has been a busy twelve month period. I must start by thanking all committee members for their input, without your efforts the club would not be the success it is and we would not be able to support the wide range of activities that members are able to enjoy.

As a club we have a history of, to use a very modern phrase 'inclusivity', balancing the interests of all members so that no particular group or activity dominates and the current committee have very much continued in this vein, as I think will be appreciated when considering this year's highlights.

Quiz Evening Our annual fund raising event was the quiz run by the Henery families. With a great new larger venue of Cringleford School, the event was a tremendous success with 100 people entering in fourteen teams and total funds of £822 raised-a record amount and attendance, so an enormous thank you to Catherine and the Henery team for their efforts.

Social Tennis Activities The number of social events which have grown in recent times continued with Gini Anderson and Jenny Hall our 'Social Team' organising monthly Social Serve Offs and regular Sunday afternoon Tennis and Tea events, the latter proving particularly popular with families. No review of social activities would be complete without mentioning the 'gazebo' which we acquired as a result of reduced availability of the pavilion. Whilst weather dependant, it has been a real hit in enabling members and prospective members to socialise close to the playing action on the courts, resulting in great enjoyment by all, with the evenings very well attended.

Wimbledon and RJL Knockout Tournament Jenny also organises the Wimbledon draw and the RJL knockout tournament played over the summer. 109 members took the trouble to 'opt in' to the Wimbledon Ballot boosting our allocation to 14 pairs of tickets at The All England Club in July. In the RJL tournament, 110 entrants competed in six events, with 66 matches played in the main draw (some were scratched through injury) plus 10 plate matches. A big thank you to Jenny for this and to Jenny and Gini for organising a great finals day which despite the chilly weather was attended by over 50 members, friends and family.

RJL Knockout Tournament Roll of Honour 2017		
Event	Winner(s)	Runner(s)Up
Ladies' Singles	Elissa Wood	Harriet Matthews
Men's Open Singles	Rob Hall	Neil Henery
Men's Over 40s Singles	Rob Hall V Neil Henery- To be played Rob currently injured	
Ladies' Doubles	Anna Linton/ Harriet Matthews	Gini Anderson/ Ann Starky

Mixed Doubles	Mel Bowen/Mark Reeves	Lauren & Ollie Henery
Men's Doubles	Rob Hall/ Oli Palmer	Paul & Ollie Henery
Mixed Doubles Plate	Nicki & Chris Mitchell	Rosanna Scott/ Tes Nayani
Men's Doubles Plate	Tom Dymoke/ David Burton	Troy Linton/ Jonathan Skoulding

Website This year's tournament proved to be the smoothest running for Jenny so far with great support from Chris Hardwick who designed and managed the draw on our website. Chris has been a bit of an unsung hero in relation to the website over the last twelve months providing invaluable technical input to Nicki Mitchell who has been gradually updating all of the content to make it our main information resource.

Coaching Over the summer we saw the baton passed in relation to Junior Coaching from 'head honcho' Nick Brewin to Lucy Brooks who is now our Coaching Coordinator. Lucy and the coaching team (Charlotte, Greg and Gill) now have around 50 youngsters taking part in over five sessions across Cringleford School and on our courts. Lucy and her team ran a number of successful summer multi-sport camps which included quick cricket, football and of course tennis!

Adult coaching continues to thrive with Anna Linton running the Friday morning Ladies group and Gill Ellis continuing with her popular Rusty Rackets for beginners and those returning to play after a period away from the game.

Sunday Club Tournaments Both summer cup tournaments were fully subscribed with Tony Gammage running a successful Waitrose Cup and David Stephenson an equally successful Challenge Cup. Winners of the Waitrose Cup were Fraser MacMillan and Ann Starky, with Ann also winning the Challenge Cup alongside Jonathan Skoulding and David Burton, the joint winning men.

Club Sessions Tuesday and Thursday night club sessions have been well attended and are carrying on into winter under floodlights. A big thank you to everyone who has helped out with the organising particularly Tom Dymoke and David Stephenson who have been heavily involved. A mention also to Jenny Chambers for organising the new tennis balls bench system which has greatly assisted the smooth running of club nights and matches. Monday and Saturday morning sessions continue to be very popular, with special thanks to Nick Brewin and Margaret Robins respectively for organising.

Membership Rosana Scott has done a sterling job as Membership Secretary chasing up late payers and really keeping on top of the fee income.

Each year we have a number of members who do not renew (due to injury or moving away for example) but this is balanced by new members joining. The club continues to run at a high level of over 230 members, around two thirds of whom are adults and around a third juniors. Fee income wise we are currently over £12,700 in subscriptions to date compared to £12,260 at 31 March 2017.

Facilities We have continued to invest in the facility to keep it in tip top condition, our major investment being in January when we had the floodlights completely overhauled and realigned with all the bulbs replaced at a cost of £3534 which should minimise maintenance for the next 4 years. The quality of the grass courts was disappointing this year and I'll be discussing with the Parish Council to see if we can achieve an improvement for next session.

Finances Steve Smith will provide the annual Income and Expenditure Report.

Club Development The club is in a strong financial position that allows us to consider further development options which the committee have started assessing. We will be consulting the Parish Council prior to developing any proposals further and subject to their feedback will consult members on our ideas.

Team Tennis We continued to run a good number of league teams and Harriet Matthews will report on these as Match Secretary.

Committee A big thank you to all committee members who have contributed over the last twelve months, without this support the club would not be where it is today- Hon Secretary Stuart Malone, Gini Anderson, Jenny Chambers, Nathan Dickinson, Gill Ellis, Tony Gammage, Jenny Hall, Jane Hendriks, Fraser MacMillan, Nicki Mitchell, Monica Roffey and David Stephenson.

Retiring members this year who have all provided valuable contributions- Catherine Henery, Mike Marshall, Harriet Matthews, Rosana Scott and Steve Smith.