

HERTS TENNIS

Another great year for Herts



Davis Cup Tour comes to Herts

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Herts LTA 200 Club

200 Club winners HERTS LTA 2015-2016

OCTOBER

£40	141	Mrs P Danks
£30	127	Mr M Corrie
£20	112	Mr M Knee
£10	19	Greenwood Park TC
£10	196	Mrs D Walker

NOVEMBER

£40	40	Codicote TC
£30	198	Mr M Bowler
£20	274	Mrs B Hayward
£10	19	Greenwood Park TC
£10	104	Miss A Toogood

DECEMBER

£40	169	Mrs J Marlow
£30	43	Mrs P Danks
£20	173	Mr R Greenwood
£10	263	Mr P Bart
£10	7	Mr T Adamson

JANUARY

£40	211	Mr M Corrie
£30	55	Mr M Knee
£20	199	Mr M Bowler
£10	116	Mrs V Harris
£10	15	Mr J Banham

FEBRUARY

£100	210	Mrs P Hall
£40	265	Mrs P Danks
£30	95	Greenwood Park TC
£20	75	Mr L Rapa
£10	195	Mrs A Mulé
£10	114	Mr M Knee

MARCH

£40	59	Mrs P Danks
£30	162	Mrs E Mann
£20	196	Mrs D Walker
£10	234	Mr I Duncan
£10	203	Codicote TC

APRIL

£40	230	Mr I Duncan
£30	265	Mrs P Danks
£20	207	Mr M Bowler
£10	272	Mr J Stone
£10	101	Mrs C Morris

MAY

£40	170	Mrs J Marlow
£30	79	Mr N Aves
£20	222	Mrs A Allard
£10	195	Mrs A Mulé
£10	31	Mr R Sneesby

JUNE

£40	65	Mr A Robinson
£30	170	Mrs J Marlow
£20	67	Mr A Sheridan
£10	123	Mrs G Sampson
£10	232	Mr I Duncan

JULY

£40	19	Greenwood Park TC
£30	111	Mrs S Astley
£20	56	Mr M Knee
£10	43	Mrs P Danks
£10	123	Mrs G Sampson

AUGUST

£100	43	Mrs P Danks
£40	175	Mr M Bowler
£30	47	Codicote TC
£20	196	Mrs D Walker
£10	11	Mr P Seymour
£10	248	Mrs P Danks

SEPTEMBER

£40	94	Mr N Lockett
£30	210	Mrs P Hall
£20	220	Mrs A Allard
£10	56	Mr M Knee
£10	5	Mrs C Ayling

Hertfordshire Lawn Tennis Association '200' club standing order mandate

To _____ Bank

Postal Address _____

Please pay	Bank	Branch Title	Sorting Code Number
	HSBC	Harpenden	40-23-11
For the credit of:	Beneficiary's Name		Account Number
	Hertfordshire Lawn Tennis Association '200 Club'		31233556
the sum of	Amount in figures	Amount in words	
	£		
commencing	Date of first payment	and thereafter every	Frequency

and debit my/our account accordingly

**PLEASE CANCEL ALL PREVIOUS STANDING ORDER MANDATES IN FAVOUR OF THE
HERTFORDSHIRE LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION '200' CLUB AND '500 CLUB'**

Account to be Debited _____ Account Number _____

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone Number _____



In 1952 the Harpenden Open Tournament had Wimbledon stars playing in the event. World No 1 and current Wimbledon Champion Louise Brough won the Ladies Singles.

Front cover

The Davis Cup comes to Hertfordshire as part of its UK tour.

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of Herts Tennis and they accept no responsibility for the accuracy provided by the contributors.

Welcome to the annual Herts Newsletter

Following Great Britain winning the Davis Cup in 2015, a tour of the country with the Cup itself was planned. Hertfordshire welcomed the cup in two places on Sunday 18th September. The University of Hertfordshire was the venue for the County to display all types of tennis. Thanks to Carole Draper from the Herts office, and the coaches and volunteers from the clubs, a fantastic day of all types of tennis from mini tennis, cardio tennis, normal tennis, fastest serve etc was provided. There was even a bouncy castle for the very young children to enjoy whilst parents were enjoying taking part in the tennis. Late in the afternoon the Davis Cup moved to St. Albans shopping centre, and this gave all the shoppers the chance to see the trophy that the GB team had done so well to win.

The County started this year with Cluster Meetings. These are meetings in five areas of the County for the benefit of clubs. At each meeting there are approximately 12 clubs represented. The object is to tell the clubs what Herts Tennis can do for them and for them to tell us what they need. These have been very successful and if any clubs have not attended they would be well advised to do so in 2017.

Also held each year is the regional Forum for Clubs, this to inform clubs of LTA schemes that can help your club progress. Herts Office or the region will advise clubs of the dates for 2017.

Inter County Week this year resulted in some fantastic performances. The Men in Group 1 in Eastbourne, missing a couple of their star players, finished a fantastic 2nd. The Ladies playing in Havant in Group 2 managed to win every day to receive promotion to Group 1 next year. The pairing of Amanda Elliott and Emily Arbutnott won 15 out of 15 matches, thus helping the team considerably. This is a fantastic effort no matter which group you are in.

You will see later in the newsletter that Herts Tennis has

many new schemes in place to get more people on a tennis court, some of which have some funding available.

The Great British Tennis Weekends (Play Tennis For Free) held this year proved very helpful in getting new members to clubs.

Once again you will be able to read about the success of our juniors. We now have free County Training for some of the players. This is done in conjunction with their personal coaches. Our thanks go to all the coaches who work with the teams and travel with them to matches.

The Men's and Ladies County Doubles leagues continue in strength, the numerous junior leagues, the Aegon team Tennis are well managed by Sarah Tricks and Lee Evans and we thank them for their efforts.

Herts Schools as ever are organised by Pam Burrage and her Committee and we thank them for the huge contribution they make.

Another new addition to the Herts calendar is the Awards Dinner. Held this year we invited all the LTA county nominees and partner to a dinner. The LTA scrolls were presented plus an extra gift on behalf of Herts Tennis. The dinner is being repeated in March 2017 to celebrate the 2016 winners of the LTA county awards plus several extra awards being designed by the County. It is anticipated that some 100 people will be invited - those involved in the prizes and also some invited members of clubs.

We have decided that the Herts Executive should be renamed the Herts Management Committee. This group of people work hard on behalf of the County and are all volunteers. My thanks to all who served this year for all the hard work and time they put in

2017 will be a special year for a member of the Herts Management Committee as Martin Corrie will become President of the LTA. We wish him a prosperous three years in office.

Trevor Adamson, President

Cluster Meetings

In 2016 Herts Tennis introduced Cluster Meetings. But what are they??

The County has been divided into five areas allocating approximately 12 clubs per area. Clubs are then asked to attend a meeting to discuss what Herts Tennis can do for them and what schemes are available for the clubs to use.

We have held seven meetings so far this year and all clubs who attended have said how beneficial it is to be able to talk about ones club in a smaller group. As a result of these meetings we have recruited a volunteer who is going to try to improve Club School links. New Herts School-Club Co-ordinator Sue Birchall is developing a map across the county to identify which primary schools are currently linked to which clubs and where there are opportunities to form new links to schools.

A Primary School-Club Link funding scheme has been set up

and leaflets were handed out promoting the £200 grant available for taster sessions at Primary schools not currently linked to a club. Contact Sue at suebirchall_33@hotmail.com for details. Discussions and ideas regarding the 3-pair leagues, introducing software to make the club captains job easier, Junior County Closed event, should we have seniors events as well, ways to keep your club members more involved, and try to get more people to volunteer.

You can see the initiatives available to your club on page 5.

HERTS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2017

Trevor Adamson	Chairman
Helen Elliott	Secretary
Martin Corrie	Treasurer
Carole Draper	Office Manager
Lee Evans	
Bridie Amos	
Janet Corrie	
Trevor Adamson	President



Hertfordshire Lawn Tennis Association was founded in 1921.

Herts Awards



Graham Fish



Alfie Rushton



Langley TC



Yvonne Shredder



Angie Gunn

Herts Tennis Awards Dinner

In 2015 The Lawn Tennis Association instituted eight awards in different categories. The object was to get Clubs and or their Members to nominate people in the various categories. It also required a short CV as to why people were being put forward.

There was firstly a County selection, the winners of this went forward to the Regional selection and then finally to a panel to select the National winners.

Herts tennis decided it would be a good idea to start having a County Awards dinner on an annual basis. So in 2015 we had a dinner at Harpenden Golf Club for the winners plus a few extra awards decided by the County.

A great evening was had by all.

2015 Winners

COACH AWARD

YOUNG VOLUNTEER AWARD

CLUB AWARD

VOLUNTEER AWARD

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

DISABILITY TENNIS AWARD

COMMUNITY TENNIS AWARD

Graham Fish

Alfie Rushton

Langley

Yvonne Shredder

Angie Gunn

Gosling

Letchworth

In addition there were County awards to:-

10 YEARS AS LADIES COUNTY CAPTAIN Sarah Donovan

10 YEARS OF CAPTAINING JUNIORS Steve Shea

OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO SCHOOLS TENNIS Pam Burrage

OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO TENNIS ESPECIALLY HERTS TENNIS Sue Wolstenholme



Sue Wolstenholme



Pam Burrage



Steve Shea



Sarah Donovan



Letchworth TC



Gosling

Herts Tennis over the last year has set up various opportunities for both clubs and club members to have the chance to progress in both areas at NO COST.

Check out this list and see if you or your club could benefit.

GIRLS IN TENNIS.

Up to £200 grant to any LTA registered Hertfordshire Club who organises a girls only free fun day, led primarily by females. This must be followed up by the setting up of squads to keep the newcomers in the game.

WOMEN INTO COACHING.

A further £200 grant to support the training of a female coach Level 2 or above or a £100 subsidy towards a level 1 (max of two applications for Level 1 funding per club).

We are planning to run Level 1 and Level 2 courses to be run during school hours over a 6 week period. One day a week for six weeks. This is aimed at Mums or those not able to attend weekend courses.

CLUB GRANTS AND LOANS.

Herts Tennis is offering Grants of up to £1000 to four-court or smaller clubs who need a little extra help to improve their facilities to possibly improve their chances of more members.

We also offer loans of up to £5000 interest free. This is repayable over five years or less and again to help all clubs who are improving their facilities.

NEW PLAYERS AND POSSIBLY CLUB MEMBERS FROM SCHOOLS.

A new initiative is starting in 2017. A representative from Herts will be consulting coaches to see where they are dealing with schools. Having established which schools are not being serviced, we shall try to assist a local coach in approaching the schools with a view to offering free lessons to anyone interested in trying tennis. Herts Tennis will pay for the lessons approx. £200 is available for the coach when

pupils from the school sign on. Contact Herts Office for more details.

PLAY TENNIS FOR FREE. (GREAT BRITISH TENNIS WEEKEND).

Most clubs will be aware of the GBTW, when you invite people to come to your club one weekend and try tennis and see what your club is like. They should be fun days for all the people who come. The sum of £200 is available to your club if you participate. It does work in getting new members so if you have not yet tried it do so in 2017. LTA advertise when it is happening. Contact Herts Office for the weekends planned.

AWARDS DINNER.

The LTA last year started an awards scheme whereby you as a club member could nominate someone who has done great work in your club for an award. All the details are on the LTA website as to how to nominate. As a result Herts LTA held an awards dinner (see page 4) to celebrate those people who have won the LTA County Awards (it then goes to Regional and then National). It was a great success so next year in March we are having another dinner to celebrate those who have won the LTA County Awards section plus a few special awards decided by the County.

CLUSTER MEETINGS.

Herts Tennis would like to think that you all know about our Cluster Meetings. We have divided the County into 5 areas and the chosen the clubs in those areas. The idea is that 12 or so clubs come to meeting to hear what Herts Tennis can offer their club and also for Herts Tennis to know what clubs require for the County. It is important for your club to be involved. There is once a year a meeting organised by the Region which explains what the LTA can offer clubs.

Congratulations Martin Corrie



2017 will be a special year for both Martin Corrie and Herts Tennis.

Martin becomes President of The Lawn Tennis Association for the next three years, and this is the first time Hertfordshire has had this honour. Martin is married with three sons, two of whom have

achieved International success at performance level and the third is a recognised member of the coaching team at an LTA High Performance Centre.

Not only will Martin be President of the LTA but he is also on the Board of the International Tennis Federation and is also Treasurer of Tennis Europe.

He is also on the Committee of Management of the Wimbledon Championships.

He has represented Herts at junior, senior and veteran level from 1970 onwards.

Believe it or not he is still working and is Senior Partner in Hicks and Company Chartered Accountants and is Chairman of i-Financial Services Group.

All in Herts Tennis wish him well.



To be President of Hertfordshire Lawn Tennis Association you needed a title. The first President was The Earl of Lytton.

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THE SPONSORS OF HERTS LTA AND ASSOCIATED EVENTS

Slazenger
Pentland Group

Outdoor Plus
ICAP Plc
Deal Agency

Sport Bookmakers
Ltd
CJS Consultants

And to the variety of other companies and organisations who generously support Tennis in Hertfordshire in a variety of ways.

People and Clubs

Thank you Jenny for all your help

Sadly Herts Tennis has lost the services of Jenny Thomas. Having served the County in many ways over the past 37 years Jenny has decided to take a well earned rest.

In 1979, along with Sue Miller, she introduced short tennis (mini tennis) into Herts. Jenny Marlow and Jennifer Keates became part of the team and Jennifer ultimately took over the voluntary role. Jenny remained involved with Herts juniors as a member of the Herts Junior Committee, a member of the Herts Schools Association and BTCA Herts Committee.

In 1984 she completed the highest coaching award and took the role of Director of Tennis at Queenswood School. In 1990 she accepted a part time role as County Development and Coaching Officer for Herts.

Following 12 years at Queenswood, she left and became the Herts County Performance Officer, a post she held for three years. She has been a member of the Herts Management Committee and a Councillor representing the LTA on The LTA Tennis Foundation.

She represented Wales at tennis from 1979 to 1984 and played 23 years at County Week representing Northumberland and Herts. She also played over 35 and 40 events for Herts.

She became a selector for Herts Ladies County Week teams and along with Janet Corrie became joint ladies captains a voluntary post held for seven years. Herts Tennis says a sincere thank you for all your efforts.

She is also an LTA Tutor delivering coaching awards, which she is still continuing to do.

Beach Tennis

On a slightly different note Beach tennis was played in Verulamium Park. The Herts pairing of Stuart Foster and his partner Gemma Sgariglia won the Mixed Doubles in the 2016 British Open Beach Tennis Champs. There was more success when Stuart Foster and his partner Dave Reed represented GB at the European Beach Tennis Champs in Bulgaria.

FILA Senior Open British Indoor Championships

Staged at the home of Herts Tennis at Easter, Gosling hosted its first ITF Senior world ranking tennis event, co-sanction by the LTA. Senior players aged 35 to 80 from 16 countries played for ITF World ranking points over 6 days of competition.

The event proved hugely successful with over 300 competitors making it one of the most successful first-time ITF Seniors events ever staged. Local Herts premier club Harpenden was well represented with Bridie Amos winning the Women's 45 Singles and Herts No.1 50's men's player David Shann making the Men's 45 Singles Final losing to top seeded Mark Rowe who is also a former Herts player.

The successful collaboration between Senior Tennis Great Britain, Herts Tennis and the Gosling Academy looks to have secured the event as a permanent fixture of the ITF Senior Tour with prospective dates for 2017 being April 10 to 16th. It is hoped that the format will be expanded in 2017 to include a qualifying event prior to the main draw to increase local Herts participation further.

Wheelchair Tennis

Marc Francis is one of the disabled tennis players in Herts. He trains at Gosling which is the Hertfordshire disability hub for tennis.



Marc Francis at Gosling Stadium

Marc was inspired to play tennis after watching the Paralympics in London 2012.

His main reason for starting was to give a structure back to his weeks and to challenge himself to regain his fitness. As well as achieving those two elements he has gained so much more from the sport including the chance to travel to new countries, meet new people both in England and from other nations and to achieve a world ranking of 220.

From coaching him through the four years it has been great to see the development Marc has shown within his tennis but also what the sport has brought to his life and the opportunity to experience new things. Marc also has had the chance to give back to the sport and work with our younger players at the centre and help in attracting new wheelchair players to the game.

On a personal note working with Marc and other wheelchair players has given me a new look at the sport and improved my coaching skills and increased opportunities within the sport."

Phil Martin - Academy Coach & Disability Outreach Coordinator

Bovingdon TC

Bovingdon Club have held the 'Bovi Tennis Fun Day' It was designed to be a girls in tennis day and about 20 girls participated.

The girls had a couple of hours of great fun and had some expert tuition. They all appeared to enjoy the event, as did the parents who sat in the sun watching. The feedback from the parents was very encouraging. Thanks to Emma and her team of Emmy, Frankie, Kirsty, Izzy and Zara.

With the co-operation of all interested parties the future event can grow into one of the most significant events on the ITF Senior calendar especially given the excellent indoor facilities at Gosling.

Herts Tennis would like to thank Title Sponsors FILA and all those that helped organise the event and all the competing players for their support. We look forward to seeing a strong Herts Senior player turnout in 2017.

The results of Herts players are as follows:-

Men

50 plus Singles Winner Mark Rowe, runner up David Shann
50 plus Doubles Winners Mark Rowe and David Shann
75 plus Doubles Winners Mike Potter and Leon Fattall

Ladies

45 plus Winner Bridie Amos
60 plus Doubles Winners Joy Allsopp & Gill Dickey

Mixed Doubles

60 plus Winners Neagle Cathcart & Gill Dickey

Herts Ladies

Summer County Week 2016

After a tough 2015 in Eastbourne, we were looking forward to travelling to Havant with an exciting team of younger players who are the next generation of Ladies county tennis in Hertfordshire.

We were excited about the week ahead and knew that as always, every day would be important in our aspiration to win this group, and gain promotion back to group 1. Our first day was against a tough Middlesex Team and we had two new pairings out with Georgie Walker making her debut in the summer county cup line up. After the first two rounds, a couple of tight three set matches, a win after being match point down, we were 3-3 going into the last round. The girls fought hard and took 2 matches in the last round to clinch a 5-4 win and a great start to the week!

On day 2 we were up against Yorkshire who had suffered a 7-2 defeat to Cheshire the day before. Our spirits were high, as was the temperature, and before we knew it, round one was over with two matches going our way. The next round saw Mollie Crouch & Kat Whiteaway battle through a fantastic 3 set match, but just falling shy of the win. Both Emily Arbuthnott & Amanda Elliott and Jen Brown & Kat Dearing won both their matches to put us in a strong 4-1 position going into the last round. The girls were obviously motivated by the evenings BBQ, a special the club kindly put on for us, and finished the last round fairly easily with another two wins on the board taking us to a 6-3 final result.

As we headed into day 3 we faced Berkshire, a county we hadn't come across in recent years and who remained undefeated as we were, until this point. We took our traditional morning team selfie and brought out our bright pink tops for what we aptly called 'power Wednesday'! Little did we know that this day wouldn't finish until just before 8pm, and after four matches that went to the full three sets. An exhausted but happy team finally won 5-4 and made the most of a late night Chinese buffet in an attempt to refuel for day 4.

Day 4 was an important day for us as a win could mean

staying in group 2 at the very least. However, it would be far from easy for us as Cheshire had only dropped six matches all week so far.

With a slightly depleted team due to a couple of unforeseen circumstances, we needed to use our fantastic teamwork to do our best. In true Herts style, we rolled up our sleeves, added in some fresh legs as Holly Bagshaw had now joined us. After round one we were trailing 2-1. We reminded ourselves we'd come back from being down before, and this was no different. We tied matches at 3-3 going into the last round, and with everything to play for. With a renewed sense of energy and Jen resting her body (and not her voice!) it was time to give it our all. What a last round it was...Emily & Amanda finished a close match to win their 12th rubber of the week whilst the veterans of the team Holly and Alissa Ayling battled away but came short losing 7-5 in the third set. In a tense match which had swung both ways, Mollie & Georgie Walker (a new pairing for the day) claimed the 5th match taking us to a victorious 5-4 win.

It was the last day, we were top of the leaderboard playing against E. Scotland who no matter our match result, would face relegation. Today was finishing as champions of the Group, and an opportunity for Amanda & Emily to join the 15-15 club. At this point, I was so impressed by the passion to want to finish off this fantastic week and the team kept their energy high right through until the last ball was struck. We defeated E Scotland 9-0 and celebrated the achievement of two of our very own joining the very prestigious 15-15 club (winning every match all week) - well done Amanda & Emily!

As always we want to thank the girls for being part of a team that we are so proud to captain. Every year we are so proud of how the ladies work together on and off the court, and the dedication each and every one of them brings to making our county the best it can be. Thanks to all the supporters who travelled down during the week, and those who stayed with us for each of the 5 days - we really do appreciate it!

Well done to **Emily Arbuthnott, Alissa Ayling, Holly Bagshaw, Jennifer Brown, Mollie Crouch, Katharine Dearing, Amanda Elliott, Georgie Walker & Katherine Whiteaway.**

Here's to 2017 in group 1 again - we are looking forward to it already!



Some of the 2016 Ladies Team with Trimble the mascot

Herts Teams Reports

Herts Ladies Winter Cup 2015

Last November we had some work to do regain a place in Division 1 after being demoted to 2. We had a home crowd on our side as we arrived at Gosling ready to win win win! With a good mix of experience and youngsters, we felt we had a great team to take us back to Division 1 in Bath for 2016.

On the Friday we were raring to go and took on local Buckinghamshire. They're always a tough county we face regularly at Summer County Cup so we knew we needed a good start. Rosie Carr and Danielle Latter got us off to a flying start with wins at 5 and 6, this continued and we gathered momentum as Georgie Walker, Mollie Crouch, Amanda Elliott and Emily Arbuthnott all got wins on the board. We were 6-0 up already, wow what a team. We mixed up our doubles pairings and brought in some experience – it worked well and before we knew it we were at dinner reflecting on our 9-0 win!

Feeling fresh we were feeling positive for our clash with South Wales on Saturday. Most matches were fairly quick; we were 5-1 up after the singles however we had 3 of our girls playing through tough 3 set battles. Again, we had success with our doubles pairs and a surprisingly early finish for the Herts girls, taking the win 8-1.

Onto the last day and a head to head battle with unbeaten

Northumberland would see a win take us back up to the top division and a loss see us remain in division 2. We had everything to play for and a confident team up for the challenge.

Northumberland on paper were strong - they had depth in their team and a couple of players at the top who were in good form; we knew this was going to be harder than originally thought. We mixed up our singles team from previous days to match experience with youth against their players. We got a great start going 4-0 up quickly, however their strength at the top showed and we were quickly sitting at 4-2 after the singles. This is the stage when you think it's easy, we only have to get 1 rubber from the doubles, but being ahead is never easy and when they had a strong team we really had to battle hard in all 3 matches. After many long rallies, fighting spirit and great home support, we managed to pinch a doubles rubber when we were 4-3 up overall. And that was it, a 5-3 win and promotion to Bath division one for 2016.

A fantastic team effort from the girls as always, well done to **Emily Arbuthnott, Alissa Ayling, Holly Bagshaw, Rosie Carr, Mollie Crouch, Amanda Elliott, Danielle Latter, Katharine Dearing, Claire Ricketts & Georgie Walker.**

Alissa Ayling & Katharine Dearing, Ladies Captains

Herts Mens

Summer 2016/Winter 2016

Traditionally our summer and winter 'seasons' are divided into two sections – Friendly Fixtures and County Championships with our Fixtures leading into their respective Inter County championships.

Last summer proved different, with 3 Fixtures confirmed against Cambridge and Oxford Universities and Essex County, only one was able to be played, that one being against Oxford University on their home courts.

While quantity of Fixtures therefore couldn't be claimed, the one match played was of high quality with a nail-biting result going in Herts' favour 5-4. The singles round was split 3-3 with special mention to Charlie Broom, Lewis and Neil Roskilly for getting the 3 'W's, and with thanks for a great effort to our other singles players, Sam Price, Harvey Shackleton and Sebastian Zepeda losing narrowly their singles.

The doubles pairings of Neil and Lewis Roskilly, and Sam Price and Harvey Shackleton secured the needed two rubbers to gain the overall Win for Herts, and it was almost a clean sweep, but in the end Charlie and Seb went down 6-10 in a third set Champions Tie Break.

Special mention must go to, John Leach

who normally turns out for Herts but this year he is playing for GB in the Padel World Cup being played in Lisbon. Congratulations to John for his selection.

The AEGON Summer Inter-County Cup

Devonshire Park, Eastbourne – July 18 - 22nd, 2016

Surface: Grass

The Herts Men were returning to the grass courts of Devonshire Park, Eastbourne and the elite Group 1 for the 12th consecutive year with a great track record built up over those years, including 5 national titles won and 4 Runner's Up.

Our Summer 2016 team consisted of:

Neil Bamford, Charlie Broom, Ed Corrie, Tom Corrie, George Coupland, Ben Davis, Lewis Roskilly and Neil Roskilly.

There's no doubt that over the years, Group 1 has shown that all counties can produce outstanding players who are often current or recent full-time professionals, including having played Davis Cup for GB and Wimbledon along with other major tournaments around the world, but who will still come out for their counties when available.

No better illustration of that came several years ago when on Day 3, Herts faced North of Scotland, and aside from pulling out a memorable 5-4 win when tied at 4 rubbers all, North of Scotland

had Jamie and Andy Murray playing for them.

By the time we arrived at Eastbourne last summer, and while we had a very solid team, it wasn't starting with many established pairings, and it would only be the competition itself that would confirm whether we were strong enough to remain in Group 1.

As it turned out, not only did we fare very well, by Day 5 we were the only undefeated County having secured wins over South Wales, Derbyshire, Essex and Surrey, with a win against Kent on the Friday needed to secure another national title. We thought we had the very best shot in that the planning of the team which included Ed Corrie joining for the last two days.

But what couldn't be predicted was the unexpected and wonderful opportunity that was offered to Ed, to train in Spain one-on-one with Andy Murray over several days, including those last two days at Eastbourne. Such an opportunity for Ed couldn't be declined.

But Day 5 without Ed proved a big task for our team – they had battled long and hard to secure 4 straight wins, with each of our players contributing to them.

Special mention must go to Neil Bamford achieving 13 straight wins with two partners, Lewis Roskilly and George Coupland. Had Bammy partnering George been able to capture the remaining two

rubbers against Kent, the LTA would have had to be checking their record books to see if any player has ever achieved the Perfect 15 in Group 1 three times, as Neil had already achieved the perfect 15 in Group 1 on two previous occasions.

But for Bammy and the Herts team, victory on Friday slowly ebbed away in Round 2 when an inspired Kent team took all 3 rubbers putting them 5-1 up and becoming the 2016 national champions, our Herts Men Runners-up.

My personal thanks goes to each member of the Herts 2016 team, who came to Eastbourne to compete as hard as they could, and by the end of the week, every player had contributed substantially, and while we were just beaten at the very end, I believe the results achieved, surprised many of our supporters and opponents – thank you Herts Men.

I'd also like to congratulate Charlie Broom in making his debut in last Summer's County Cup and hope there will be many future campaigns that he will be part of for Hertfordshire.

The AEGON Winter Indoor County Cup - Group 2

Friday, November 25 through
Sunday, November 27

VENUE: The Wirral Tennis and Leisure Centre, Valley Road, Birkenhead, Wirral, CH41 7EJ TEL: 0151 606 2010

When I took on the captaincy of the Herts Men (now 28 years ago!) we were in Group 6, and over the years we took a slow but always upward climb which eventually found us competing in Group 1.

When we did get there we went on quite an incredible run of seven consecutive national titles without a single loss – 21 wins in a row. But that run came to a sudden end and now for the 3rd straight year we're in Group 2, losing promotion last year by one rubber.

This year the team was:

Aljaz Bedene, Ed Corrie, David Rice, George Coupland, Josh Rose, James Wilkinson, James Thomas and Hamid Hejazi

... there's no doubt without any

unexpected change of circumstances between now as I write this Report and the Winter Cup, we should be feeling very confident of competing for the Group 2 title and promotion back to Group 1.

Special congratulations are offered to both Josh Rose and James Wilkinson who will each be making their debut for the Herts Men. I hope it will be hugely successful and enjoyable for them.

Finally, our teams have always been about the players, who have always shown their passion and desire to be part of a 'team' playing for their county, something that is so different for the touring professional month after month. And when they do come out for the team, this is always noted and deeply appreciated by me, as well as all those who are the Herts LTA.

Long may that Herts 'spirit' be handed down year upon year upon year.

COME ON HERTS!

Jeff Wayne, Herts Men's Captain



The 2016 Mens Summer County Cup team

New Addition...



Holly Valerie Bamford was born on 9 Sept 2016 at 20:54 at Chelsea and Westminster hospital.

Mum (Nele), dad and daughter are all healthy and doing very well. In a period of time when I was also moving jobs to dukes meadows

(assistant director of tennis) holly was born 12 days early before due date.

Life has changed but for the better. We're both extremely happy and fantastic to have our own family. Hopefully Holly maybe another Herts player in the making :) We're all very thankful for all the kind messages.

Neil Bamford

Davis Cup Tour

Following the superb performance of Great Britain in winning the Davis Cup in 2015, the LTA decided that it would promote the game of tennis by having the actual trophy on display around the country.

Hertfordshire chose to have the visit in September. There were, in the end, two venues for the cup. Firstly at the University of Hertfordshire in Hatfield where the cup arrived at 10am and inside the venue was a fantastic opportunity for people to try tennis, normal tennis, mini tennis, cardio tennis, how fast can you serve, or play with a coach. There was even a huge bouncy castle for the very young to play in whilst older children and parents tried all the activities.

Herts coaches and other volunteers worked really hard to give playing opportunities, and it was pleasing to see so

many visitors enjoying this fun day out. No doubt there will be in hundreds of households a picture of the cup with the family members.

It was only sad that on that very afternoon GB lost in the semi-final of the 2016 event.

At 3pm the cup moved to St. Albans City Centre and the shoppers on that Sunday afternoon had the chance to try a little mini tennis and of course get a picture with the trophy.

Well done everyone in Herts who assisted in this great day.

Clubs supporting the Trophy Tour were:-

Batchwood, Berkhamstead, Bishops Stortford, Cassiobury, Croxley, Gosling, Harpenden, Redbourn, Salisbury, Hitchin Boys School, Hoddesdon, Langley, Legends, Letchworth, Leverstock Green, Radlett, Royston, T Rex Tennis, Tennis Tots SW Herts, Welwyn and west Herts & Watford.

Performance & Results

Hertfordshire Junior County Team Report 2015 – 2016

It has been another successful year for our juniors with numerous successes across the age groups from the mini's through to the under 18s. We saw five teams qualify for County Cup national finals, our under 18 boys and under 18 girls promoted to the top national division and we successfully defended both the Lionel Cox Trophy and Under 9 Orange Festival Championship.

This year the LTA has introduced a County Cup Race where the performances of counties at both Junior and Senior level are being recognised. Points have been allocated after each county cup event and this year has seen Herts lying second nationally on the overall County Leader Board which is a fantastic achievement.

Results

Under 18s Girls Division 2b Promoted to Group 1	Winners
Under 18s Boys Division 2a Promoted to Group 1	Winners
Under 14 Girls County Cup 7th nationally	National Finalists
Under 14 Boys County Cup 3rd nationally	National Finalists
Under 12 Boys County Cup 7th nationally	National Finalists
Under 10 Girls County Cup 5th nationally	National Finalists
Under 10 Boys County Cup 2nd nationally	National finalists
Lionel Cox Trophy	Winners
Under 9 Orange Festival	Winners
Under 9 County Cup	Runners-up
Under 8 Red Inter County	Runners-up

County Cup

The under 18's kick started the 2016 County Cup competition with fantastic performances from both the Boys and Girls teams who won their divisions to gain promotion to the top league for the 2017 event which is being held in Bath in February.

18U Boys results:

8-1 v Cheshire, 6-3 v South Wales, 5-2 v Dorset.
Team: Harvey Shackleton, Charlie Broom, Matthew Carroll, James Wilkinson, Jake Penny, Joshua Rose and David Stevenson. Captains: Jamie Evans and James Buswell.

18U Girls results:

5-4 v Kent, 6-3 v Sussex, 7-2 v Staffordshire.
Team: Emily Arbuthnott, Georgie Walker, Danielle Latter, Amelia Campbell, Arabella Moen, Indianna Spink, Rosie Carr, Mimi Bland. Captains: Sammie Williams & Sam Bruce.

14U Girls - 7th nationally.

Team: Arabella Moen, Indianna Spink, Sophia Underwood, Mineli Cooray, Annabel Davis, Rachel Cranley,

Rebecca Ahearne-Smith. Captain: Teresa Lilley.

14U Boys - 3rd nationally.

Team: David Latter, Joel Pierleoni, Oliver Tarvet, Oliver Broomfield, Dominic Ross, George Carter.
Captain: Tim Walter.

12U Boys - 7th nationally:

Team: Christopher Smith, Sam Harris, Ben Feltham, Joe Randall. Captain: James Thomas.

The 12U Girls – Joint 2nd in qualifying group:

Team: Anya Kotecha, Catherine Hodge, Dascha Brazier, Ekua Youri. Captain: Ian Zellner.

10U Boys – 2nd nationally:

Team: Freddie Simpson, Elliott Lowe, James Carter, James Styles, Callum Scott, Captain: Greg Quesnel.

10U Girls - 5th nationally:

Team: Hannah Read, Mafalda Lozano-Almela, Erin Pearce, Alzane Hopwood-Martin. Captain: Sammie Williams.

9U team came runners up in their group just missing out after a close match against Essex.

Team: Camran Riaz, Henry Best, Jack Groves, Marelie Raath, Erin Pearce, Hephzibah Oluwadare.

Captains: Andre Mouskides & Sammie Williams.

East Region U8 Championships - Runners-up

Herts Under 8's East Region Runners-Up Team: Girls.

Hephzibah Oluwadare, Tamara Kuti, Emily Roberts, Evelyn Siemens, Erika Whyte, Scarlett May Matthews. Boys. Daniel Bennett, Boris Deller, Samuel Hahn, Edward Dunn, Spencer Bramwell, Gabriel Hall. Captain Monica Beccera.

U9 Orange Festival County Tournament – Winners

Team: Erin Pearce, Ben Lim, Alexander McKenzie, Theo Mcilvenna. Captain: Andre Mouskides

Lionel Cox – Champions

The Lionel Cox event is a popular fixture in the county events calendar which sees 10 counties field a team of 3 boys and 3 girls in each of the 9U, 10U and 12U age groups competing over a 2 day weekend. Herts are proving to be a dominant force in this annual event and 2016 proved to be another great year with superb individual performances and a fantastic team spirit resulting in Herts once again lifting the trophy.



2016 Lionel Cox winners

Hildon 12 Counties - 3rd Place

The Hildon 12 Counties Championships is an annual event involving five age groups from 10 – 18 years. This year's competition involved 480 players with 720 matches played from October 2014 through to March 2015 with each of the Counties age groups results combined. Herts were again in Division 1 and competed against Yorkshire, Leicestershire and Cheshire. Despite the defending champions Yorkshire putting up a brave battle they couldn't match our team's efforts in every age group which contributed to Hertfordshire being crowned champions!

Individual Successes - our Pros 2015

The Hildon 12 Counties Championships is an annual County Team competition where the U10's are part of the same team as the 18U's – each age group competes on weekends between November to March with points totalled together to determine overall finishing positions. The event this year saw 720 singles played and since the start of the competition in 1992 there have been 18,500 matches played. Herts as defending champions were competing in Division 1 which proved to be a tough league and competition was fierce. On the final day of the competition there were 10 three set matches out of the 24 matches played. Yorkshire were dominant throughout and went on to win the competition, Herts came 3rd overall just three points behind Essex who finished in 2nd place.

This years competition has already started with our under 14's giving Herts a good start in Division 2A with wins in both the boys and girls event.

The 2016 - 2017 season will see Herts Tennis continue to make a substantial contribution to player development. As well as financially supporting teams competing in events across the country Herts Tennis also fully funds extensive county training for players at under 8 through to the under 18s. This year we have timetabled over 60 training sessions giving over 140 players the opportunity to access regular quality practice with players of a similar age and standard.

I would like to congratulate all the players, captains and parents who have contributed to Hertfordshire's successes and Herts Tennis very much looks forward to seeing you in action both in training and competition over the next 12 months. **GO HERTS!**

Teresa Lilley - Herts Junior Teams Manager

**For up-to-date information
on Herts Tennis visit
www.hertstennis.co.uk**



**In 1923 the Herts League was formed.
Entry fee was one shilling (5p)**

Lionel Cox Results

Team	Result	Players	Captain
9U Boys	1st place	Theo McIlvenna, Alexandra McKenzie, Nicholas Fisk.	
9U Girls	1st place	Jody Neveling, Erin Pearce, Marelie Raath.	Sammie Williams.
10U Boys	2nd place	Freddie Simpson, Elliott Lowe, Callum Scott.	Greg Quesnel
10U Girls	1st place	Hannah Read, Mafalda Almela-Lozano, Alazne Hopwood-Martin.	Tony Staley.
12U Boys	1st place	Oliver Tarvet, Christopher Smith, Sam Harris.	James Thomas.
12U Girls	1st place	Catherine Hodge, Anya Kotecha, Alexandra Gamzakova.	Ian Zellner.

Hildon 12 Counties Results

Team	Result	Players
10U Boys	1st place	Sean Neveling, Fabio Nestola, Elliot Lowe, Matthew Sands
10U Girls	3rd place	Hannah Read, Mafalda Almela-Lorenzo, Scarlett Best, Chloe Ions Captain: Sammie Williams
12U Boys	1st place	Andre Raath, Oliver Tarvet, Sam Harris, Ben Feltham
12U Girls	2nd place	Annabel Davies, Natalie Wagner, Alice O'Neill, Alexandra Gamzakova Captain: Ian Zellner
14U Boys	4th place	Daniel Martin, Louis Gibbard, Max McIlvenna, Reece Farrow
14U Girls	2nd place	Rachel Cranley, Annabel Davis, Sophia Underwood, Rebecca Ahearne-Smith Captain: Tim Walter
16U Boys	2nd place	Joshua Rose, Zeke Kelly, David Latter, Michael Jalpota
16U Girls	2nd place	Danielle Latter, Mimi Bland, Jasmine Dedakia, Emily Ineson Captain: Greg Quesnel
18U Boys	1st place	James Lee, Carl Pearce, Zeke Kelly, Michael Jalpota
18U Girls	2nd place	Danielle Latter, Alexandra Hildreth, Rosie Carr, Mimi Bland Captain: Ian Zellner

Performance and Results



Oliver Tarvet with Jon Meredith.

Oliver Tarvet Crowned Boys 12U National Tennis Champion

Batchwood Tennis Academy star Oliver Tarvet was crowned National Champion at the prestigious LTA Nike 12U Winter National Tour Finals over three days of competition at the National Tennis Centre, Roehampton.

In the final he met in form Louis Davey of Cornwall who started solidly to build an unassailable 5-1 lead and ultimately the first set 6-3 after a mini fight back from Oliver. This galvanised Oliver to come out all guns blazing in the second set and the start of a magnificent fight back from the St. Alban's boy with a noticeable increase in intensity and focus. This added aggression paid dividends with the score delicately balanced at 5-4 when Oliver broke Louis's serve to steal the second set 6-4. With the spring back in his step Oliver dominated the third and deciding set to take the Title 3-6 6-4 6-1.

On the way to final Oliver despatched Durham boy Harry Cookson 6-0 6-0 in the first match in the round of 16 on Friday. On day two second seed Harry Lazell from Warwickshire was a notable scalp in the quarter final 6-4 6-2, followed by a top performance against third seed Roan Jones from Shropshire 6-4 6-1 in the semi.

Batchwood Head Coach Jon Meredith commented, " Oliver is reaping rewards from his excellent work ethic and commitment to improving his game. He has fantastic fighting spirit and is a very smart match player. His next stage is to develop weapons on top of this excellent base."

Herts County Closed winners and runners-up 2016

Event	Position	Name(s)
Open Womens Singles	Winner	Rosie Carr
	Runner Up	Alexandra Hildreth
Open Mens Singles	Winner	David Stevenson
	Runner Up	James Wilkinson
18U Mixed Doubles	Winners	Alexander Carter & Rebecca Ahearne-Smith
	Runners Up	Peter Hale & Nicole Voss
18U Girls Doubles	Winners	Alexandra Hildreth & Arabella Moen
18U Boys Doubles	Runners Up	Rachel Cranley & Indianna Spink
	Winners	David Stevenson & James Wilkinson
18U Girls Singles	Runners Up	Alexander Carter & Josh Curwen
	Winner	Arabella Moen
18U Boys Singles	Runner Up	Indianna Spink
	Winner	David Stevenson
16U Girls Doubles	Runner Up	Max McIlvenna
	Winners	Rebecca Ahearne-Smith & Annabel Davis
16U Boys Doubles	Runners Up	Zoe Craven & Maisie Tomlinson
	Winners	Josh Curwen & Alexander Watts
16U Girls Singles	Runners Up	Alex Playfoot & James Weller
	Winner	Arabella Moen
16U Girls Singles - 16U Girls Consolation	Runner Up	Annabel Davis
	Winner	Maisie Tomlinson
16U Boys Singles	Runner Up	Emily Ineson
	Winner	Josh Curwen
16U Boys Singles - 16U Boys Consolation	Runner Up	Luis Varela
	Winner	Alexander Carter
14U Mixed Doubles	Runner Up	George Noble
	Winners	Dominic Ross & Maisie Tomlinson
14U Boys Doubles	Runners Up	Matthew Ronayne & Catherine Hodge
	Winners	Andre Raath & Oliver Tarvet
14U Girls Singles	Runners Up	Lewis King & Fabio Nestola
	Winner	Rebecca Ahearne-Smith
14U Boys Singles	Runner Up	Annabel Davis
	Winner	Oliver Tarvet
12U Girls Doubles	Runner Up	Andre Raath
	Winners	Catherine Hodge & Hannah Read
12U Boys Doubles	Runners Up	Sofie Pickard & Leah Riza
	Winners	Fabio Nestola & Sean Neveling
12U Girls Singles	Runners Up	Lewis Lamont & Fernando Varela
	Winner	Catherine Hodge
12U Boys Singles	Runner Up	Scarlett Best
	Winner	Christopher Smith
10U Girls Singles	Runner Up	Fabio Nestola
	Winner	Hannah Read
10U Girls Singles - 10U Girls Consolation	Runner Up	Erin Pearce
	Winner	Charlotte Slack
10U Boys Singles	Runner Up	Kashish Bhasin
	Winner	Freddie Simpson
10U Boys Singles 10U B Extra	Runner Up	James Carter
	Winner	Max Garvey
9U Girls Singles	Runner Up	Sasha Temple
	Winner	Hephzibah Oluwadare
9U Boys Singles	Runner Up	Kaela Laming
	Winner	Henry Best
9U Boys Singles 9U Boys Consolation	Runner Up	Camran Riaz
	Winner	Harry Moss
8U Girls Singles	Runner Up	Pavana Nrshinga
	Winner	Hephzibah Oluwadare
8U Boys Singles	Runner Up	Erika Whyte
	Winner	James Hedge
	Runner Up	Kaaviyan Pradhaban

Aegon Team Tennis Hertfordshire 2016

Although the number of matches played rose by 1% in 2016, this was not as good as in other Counties. The issue remains the same, when teams are entered those entering them do not comprehend the commitment they are making to the dates. Some clubs are more of a problem than others and I will be inviting them to meetings before the entry deadline to discuss how best they can improve their performance in 2017 which might include reducing the number of teams entered.

Despite this 82% of matches were played .

Batchwood, Gosling, Royston, DL Hatfield, Radlett, Cuffley, Brookmans Park, Welwyn, Letchworth, Bishop Stortford, St. Albans, Elliswick, Orchard, Harpenden, DL Bushey, Moor Park, Chorleywood, Greenwood Park, Rickmansworth, Hoddesdon, Leverstock Green, Langley, Potters Bar, Berkhamsted, Wheathampstead, Odyssey, Codicote, West Herts, and Broxbourne all won at least one division. It is really good to see how many clubs are represented.

Herts Winter Singles League

Last season finished well despite the very wet winter. Winners were Harpenden, Barnet, Radlett, Sawbridgeworth, Letchworth and St. Albans. Entries were launched later for

Herts Individual Successes 2016

MEN/BOYS (as at Nov)

Aljaz Bedene - GB no 4 ATP singles. 3rd Rd French Open.



Ed Corrie - GB no. 5

Ed Corrie - GB no. 5 ATP singles 278. R/U Drummondville 50K. Final of 3 25K futures. Last rd Qs at Wimbledon singles and doubles. Highlights - win over Michael Berrer 119 and invited to train with Andy Murray at Nadals new academy in Majorca.

Ryan Storrie - GB no 22 ITF 18U No 27. Junior Wimbledon singles and doubles, injured during rd 2. Title ITF grade 1 in Umag, R/U grade 1 Belgium. Highlight - win over Felix Augur Aliassime no 2 ranked ITF.

Charlie Broom and **Harvey Shackleton** selected for Men's county team Group 1 Eastbourne. Both off to USA universities. Harvey to join Lewis Roskilly at Boise State and Charlie to Browns.

Finn Bass - ITF 18U 86. LTA 16U 1, 18U 5. GB Summer Cup team Qualified for Finals. Junior Wimbledon singles and doubles. Warm up partner for Raonic and Andy Murray for Wimbledon.

Joshua Rose - ITF 18U 348. Two Titles ITF grade 4 in Netherlands and Dublin.

David Stevenson - LTA British Tour Glasgow S/F.

Daniel Martin - LTA grade 2. 2 Titles 14U and 16U. Joel Pierleoni - TE 14U 139.

Oliver Tarvet - LTA grade 1 title, grade 2 title. S/F grade 1 masters and final doubles.

Theo McIlvenna LTA grade 2 9u title NTC.

2016/17 whilst we looked at the Chiltern League format. It was decided to return this to its original format of doubles only, although we know that this meant some clubs did not enter solely because there would not be ratings wins for the players.

Chiltern League

The Chiltern League is an entry level competition for those new to competition and for whom their rating should not be important. As a result of this we launched a younger age group in the WSL to provide for the 14U age group. This has resulted in fewer entries in the 16s.

Herts Junior Summer League 2016

The Junior League ran from June to August with 19 clubs fielding 100 teams and giving over 300 players the opportunity to compete for their club. Mini tennis was included for the first time this year, following the same format as Team Tennis. Junior team players each played a singles and a doubles rubber. Congratulations to the following clubs for winning one or more divisions:

Bishops Stortford, Elliswick, Greenwood Park, Letchworth, Leverstock green, Moor Park, Radlett, Royston, St. Albans, Townsend and Welwyn.

Sarah Tricks & Claire Thandi

LADIES/GIRLS (as at Nov)

Katy Dunne - GB no 8 WTA singles 316 R/U Toowoomba 25K.

Emily Arbuthnott - GB no 14 WTA singles 558 R/U Las Palmas De Gran Canaria 10K.

Winner of 15 rubbers at County Week Gr 2 partnering Amanda Elliott.

Started at Stanford University in August.

Georgina Axon - GB no 32 ITF 18U 94 LTA 18U 6. Two ITF grade 4 singles titles and 3 doubles titles. Junior Wimbledon singles and doubles.

GB Summer Cup team.

Started at Auburn University.

Georgie Walker - GB no 50 LTA18U 19.

18U Nationals grade 1 singles QF doubles, SF grade 2 singles R/U doubles title.

Joanna Garland - GB no 58 ITF 18U 220 LTA 18U 22 16U 7. ITF 18U Green Max Cup 2 titles.

LTA grade 2 British Tour Paddington singles title.

Indiana Spink - TE 14U 443 LTA 14U 4

LTA grade 1 14U Nike singles title. Grade 2 16U 2 titles. 14U Nationals grade 1 doubles title.

Arabella Moen - TE 14U 283 LTA 14U 6.

14U Nationals grade 1 Q/F singles and doubles.

LTA grade 2 14U singles titles Bath and Scottish Open.

Rachel Cranley - TE 14U 1394 LTA 14U 22.

Annabel Davis - TE 14U 539 LTA 14 U 42.

Mineli Cooray - TE 14U 753 LTA 14U 32.

Sophia Underwood - TE 14U 396 LTA 14U 78.

Hannah Read - LTA grade 2 10U title Scottish Open.



In 1950 there were 170 entries in the Herts Junior Championships.

Seniors Tennis

Mens 35s

With over three decades of membership of the Herts tennis family, I was caused to reflect upon the way in which members of our tennis family welcome new members as long lost brothers and draw them into the fraternity. The team this year comprised three members who had graduated from the 'Jeff Wayne' Academy and three who, since maturity, joined us from South Africa, Lancashire and Essex. Resplendent in the new look azure Herts uniform they all pulled together towards the common goal.

On the court, as well as off it, this was a real team effort with everyone playing a significant role. We dominated the singles each day, Johan Prins' first serve continuing to look much more suited to the German autobahns than the retirement resort of Eastbourne! Hamid Hejazi added steel at number two singles, winning both of his matches without dropping more than two games in a set! The doubles combinations kept the opposition (as well as our own team members!) guessing: Bramwell and Walter; Hejazi and Walter; Rosso & Walter, Rosso & Prins and Bramwell & Prins all combining to good effect and helping us to seal what were, ultimately, comfortable wins.

Having beaten Derbyshire 4-1 on the first day and Hants & IOW by the same score on the Saturday we knew that two rubbers against Berks would be enough to give us the Group 2A title. With both singles in the bag by early afternoon, the two elder statesmen of the team kept firing to make us undisputed champions of the group with three wins out of three! Three days, three wins and now our third attempt at the Group One title beckons...

Special mention should go to our new recruit, Venki Sundaram, who was so committed to his pre-event preparation that he injured himself training two days before the event and, as a result, was only able to contribute from the sidelines.

The team (in alphabetical order) – Simon Bramwell, Hamid Hejazi, Johan Prins, Len Rosso, Venki Sundaram and Steve Walter.

'Rocky' Bramwell

Mens 45s

The 45 men had a good season with all the regular players contributing towards each match result. David Shann at No 1 singles was the most consistent player and with help from Gurunder Chhina, Neil Grassick Robert Slack and David Reed they finished in a mid table position. Thanks to all who played and in particular to all those who made the long journeys to the northern outposts.

David Reed

Mens 55s

2016 was a strong year for the Herts 55+ team. All four matches were won and as a result came top of the division. This means they are promoted back to Division 1. Thanks to the players, who all played in every match, for their commitment. **The players were Terry Johnson, Paul Thompson and Ian Portal.**

Steve Clay

Mens 60s

The 60s team was very pleased to retain its position in Group 1. Two wins were achieved against Essex and Yorkshire and unfortunately three defeats. Due to injuries nine players were involved in the matches. Stuart Walker made a winning debut against Essex.

Bob Birchall and Neagle Cathcart had a very strong year for the team.

David Stanton

Mens 65s

As players get older there tend to be more injuries and so less players to select from.

The 65s team was very short of players this year with two of the strongest players not available for the whole season. For three matches it was necessary to call upon players from the 70s team. After three defeats relegation was looking likely but an emphatic 5-0 win against Norfolk and a hard-fought 3-2 win against Suffolk saved the day. Finally we finished 3rd in the Group.

Tom Parsons

Mens 70s

Having been relegated from Group 1 last year the team had to play in the doubles only Group 2.

We won 4-0 against Devon and followed this with a 4-0 win over Dorset. The winning continued with wins over Cambridge 3-1 and Avon also 3-1. The team worked hard throughout the winter and before each match on the surface the match was going to be played on. **Malcolm Fraser and Peter Morton** remained unbeaten winning eight matches, as did **Doug Cleese** winning four. The other members of the team **Barry Skelding, Rex Poulter and Alan Roberts** all played their part in a very successful season.

Malcolm Fraser

Overview of Seniors

It is thanks to the captains of all the age groups for their hard work and ensuring that all our matches were played.

The final results were:

2016 Match Results					
	Played	Won	Pos.	2016 status	Captain
45+	3	1	4	div. 1B	David Reed
	2 teams did not play all their matches				
55+	4	4	1	div. 2A	Steve Clay
	Top and promotion from five team division				
60+	5	2	4	div. 1B	Dave Stanton
65+	5	2	3	div. 2A	Tom Parsons
70+	4	4	1	div. 2B	Malcolm Fraser
	Top and promotion from five team division				
75+	5	4	2	div. 1B	John Barnett
80+	Awaiting details - friendlies only				Keith Sharples

Ladies 35s

Team: Bridie Amos, Kate Borthwick, Kate Gowar, Kelly Simkin, Sian Southwell-Sander.

Hertfordshire had a massively successful three days in Eastbourne and came away winners of their group!

Day 1 saw a 3-2 victory over Kent. Sian, playing at number two in the singles, came back from 5-2 down in the first set to win in straight sets

Kate Gowar, playing at number one, won her debut match in the 35's beating her Kent equivalent convincingly.

Kelly (also making her debut in the 35's and a return to Hertfordshire tennis) partnered Bridie in the doubles and came up against a very strong Kent pair, who they took all the way to a championship tie break.

Unfortunately Bridie hurt her calf badly on the final point, an injury which would keep her on the side lines for the rest of the event.

So with our doubles team having to 'give' their second match to Kent - the overall score was 2-2 going in to the deciding fifth rubber.

Kate and Sian came through in straight sets and a 3-2 victory was secured, much to the annoyance of Team Kent!

Day 2 was another tough day at the office and another 3-2 win, this time over Lincolnshire.

Kate Borthwick partnered Kelly in the doubles and Kate Gowar and Sian played the singles matches and doubles again.

Again, Herts were 2-0 up after the singles which meant we just needed one of the three remaining doubles to win.

Day 3 and Herts were to battle with Cambridgeshire.....Herts playing for promotion and Cambridgeshire fighting to avoid relegation.

Play started at midday due to some early morning rain and the decision was taken that all groups would only play 3 matches rather than 5.

Sian and Kate won their singles matches and Kate and Kelly won their doubles resulting in a 3-0 triumph for Hertfordshire.

Huge thanks to all the team - girls you smashed it! - a special mention to Kate Gowar who was undefeated over the three days.

As a team we would also like to say thank you to all the supporters and family members who got stuck in to the Eastbourne spirit. Here we come Group 2 in 2017

Please can anyone who would like to put themselves or anyone else forward for team selection next year please email the County Office.

Sian Southwell-Sander

Ladies 40s

It has been another excellent season for the Ladies County 40s side with the team winning three out of five matches overall, thus maintaining our positioning in Division 1 for 2017.

Victories were over Notts (4-1), Yorks (3-2) and Sussex (3-2), both the latter being closely contested games involving several 10 point tie break deciders. Our loss to Middx (2-3) was another

very closely fought game which could have gone either way and although we only claimed one singles victory in the Bucks game (1-4) two of the doubles matches were very tight.

Hertfordshire's final placing in the group at fourth was tough to take, but with final positions being decided on 3 teams sharing the same number of rubbers, it goes to show that every game counts!

It was great to have the added strength of Sian Southwell-Sander making her debut for the team this year, but my thanks go to all the other team players who committed to the matches, namely; **Bridie Amos, Delphine Rive, Olga Blecher, Jenny Webster, Miranda Hosking, Pippa Parkes, Sarah Ward.**

Sarah Ward (Herts 40's Captain)

Ladies 50s

Ladies 50's county matches in Division One were generally very well contested and the majority of the rubbers were nail biting close. Winning our first three ties against Hertfordshire and Worcestershire, Surrey and notably Essex (which we had never beaten before) put us top of the group for a while. We then narrowly lost to Hampshire and Leicestershire and eventually finished as group one runners up to Essex. Having gained promotion last season, this is a creditable result.

My thanks to the incredibly supportive and positive players whose inspired and gritty tennis produced a memorable and exciting season. Those who represented the team are **Judith Allnutt, Wendy Job, Wendy Cottenden, Margaret Shahmir, Rowena Tott, Anne Hems, Wendy Randall, Emma Wilson, Jane Walker and Claire Booth.**

Claire Booth

Ladies 60s

Herts Ladies 60's have once again completed a season of excellent tennis played with a great team spirit. Unfortunately we were at the losing end of too many championship tie-breaks which resulted in 5 closely fought match defeats. We will have to do battle in Division 2 next season.

Our two away matches were certainly matches of contrast. A day trip to Edinburgh was a highlight of the season with a five-hour match of first-class tennis, notably with Gill Dickey just losing out on a three-hour singles match. With Janet Corrie & Alison Allard also having a tie break loss the 4-1 defeat could easily have been turned around. The following week our trip to Bournemouth was a very different matter. Extreme weather and flooded courts meant that we had to decamp to park courts and contest a match in virtually unplayable conditions. We soldiered on and completed the match after several breaks for rain, and came away with another 4-1 loss.

Our 3 home matches were against Notts, Hereford & Worcs and South Wales. Joy Allsopp, Gill Dickey and Trisha Rayner must be commended for their long, closely fought singles matches and although we lost all three matches, we had the opportunities to come away with match wins.

Alison Allard (Captain), Joy Allsopp, Janet Corrie, Gill Dickey and Trisha Rayner

Alison Allard

Seniors Tennis

Ladies 65s

Hertfordshire over 65's Ladies had a good set of matches winning 3 and losing 2. We, in fact, won 20 rubbers and lost 20 rubbers! Clearly we are in the right division where we came 3rd.

We were blessed with good weather for the outdoor matches but had to play one indoors on a very hot day! When we were hosted, we felt well looked after and we hope those who came to us felt the same.

Huge thanks goes to the squad who were supportive, committed, responded quickly to email requests and messages – what a difference that makes for the person organising!

Those who played this year were **Pam Burrage, Pam Hall, Jenny Madden, Lorraine Oliver, Chris Robinson, Sheila Vaughan and Debbie Walker.**

Jennifer Israel



In 1953 there were 84 tennis clubs in Herts. In 1960 there were 89 clubs and 54 schools affiliated. By 1975 it had dropped to 71 clubs but schools increased to 71.

Herts 3-Pair Summer League

2016 was an exciting year for the Herts 3-pair competition, with a new winner of the Men's championship, a close race for the Ladies' crown and plenty of really excellent competition throughout the divisions. We also saw clubs taking up the gauntlet thrown at them through wording agreed at last year's AGM to rearrange matches where the opposition were having genuine difficulties fielding a team. As a result walkovers were down by a third on 2015.

The overall titles were won by Letchworth 1 (Ladies) and Welwyn 1 (Men). Letchworth's win shouldn't come as a massive surprise – despite facing extremely strong competition each and every season they have now won the competition a staggering 9 years in a row. This year was a good example of how they have made the competition their own as they managed to come out on top in two extremely hard fought 5-4 matches against the ever improving Gosling and perennial rivals, Harpenden. Well done on a fantastic achievement, Ladies!

By contrast, the story in the Men's competition is one of a long wait finally coming to an end. Welwyn have been a longstanding participant in the Championship division, even finishing as runner-up for the last two years, but this is the first time that they have won the competition. Huge congratulations therefore go to everyone involved at the club. In next year's top flight they will be joined by the winners of Divisions 1a and 1b, Berkhamsted 1 and Harpenden 2. Berkhamsted's Ladies were in no mood to be outdone by their men and they return to the Ladies Championship division after the briefest of sojourns in Division 1a, where they will be joined by the winners of Division 1b, Radlett. Congratulations go to all four teams on their achievement as well as to every other divisional winner and promoted team.

So a good season and some real positives, but despite last

Ladies 70s

After a few years when the County has not fielded an Inter-county team we are back! We have played against Middlesex, Buckinghamshire, Essex and Gloucestershire and came third in our group. The matches have all been reasonably close with the Essex match having four Championship tie breaks! Middlesex won the league. The Herts players were **Janet Morgan, Dilys Buckley, Miranda Dubberley, Annabel Alcock, Meta Kelly, Claire Brittain and Jennifer Israel.**

It has been delightful to receive the great support and enthusiasm of both the team and of all the other members of the Squad in joining in practices, playing and catering!

In addition this year we have started an interclub over 70s Ladies league, to add to the very successful Seniors inter club league in "younger" age groups. It was played in the spring months on a shortened Rubber basis as an experiment, and again has resulted in lovely matches with (dare I say it) players of a certain age, sometimes no longer playing in the main league, who showed they can still pull out all the shots!

If you or anyone you know would be interested in the County Team or a club 70s team please do not hesitate to get in touch with me for next year.

Jennifer Israel

year's survey results – in which the majority of respondents told us to leave the competition's format alone – for many of you I know there are still more questions than answers about the competition's future. Without doubt that is a valid concern – the number of teams entering has continued to dwindle – and it would be negligent of us to rely on what were quite marginal survey results, sit back and do nothing. The competition is unlikely to survive if that happens. The survey told us there was a genuine desire to continue with a high quality 3 pair competition – which I'm sure you will agree is great news – but the message to look at a shorter format is getting louder.

While this year is seen as a little too early to come to you with a proposal to make any such changes (on account of the survey's results), my plan is to follow the matter up next year through a further questionnaire which will be dedicated to seeking your help and support on moving forward positively on this critical issue; the length of matches. By flagging this up now it allows you a full year to consider the matter. Please do that within your clubs so that when I ask for your feedback next year it is representative of everybody with an interest in the competition.

Finally, I would like to thank everybody who has helped to make this season's competition a success. That's you if you're a captain or a match secretary, or if you attended the fixtures meeting or inputted results. But it's particularly you if you picked up your racket and took part. You make the competition what it is. Please stick with us. With your help and support we'll get it right.

Lee Evans



In 1922 the first Inter-County Events were held, but with only four Counties. Herts did not win a match.

Hertfordshire Mini Tennis Winter Team League 2015-2016

Finals Day - Sunday 20th March 2016

The Mini Tennis League was once again very successful with 80 teams entering into the Red, Orange and Green Events.

The league offers all standards of club based Mini Tennis players the opportunity to enjoy team competition with their friends in their club environment.

The club players are able to play in the qualifying events to gain valuable experience and the successful teams move forward to the Main Draw and compete against some of the most able Mini Tennis players in the County.

The standard of tennis on display on Finals Day was outstanding and the match scores were very close.

The results were as follows:

RED MAIN DRAW

Winners Batchwood Red Buffalos

Runners Up Gosling Red 1

3rd Place Langley Reds

4th Place Gosling Red Rockets

RED CONSOLATION FINALS

Winners BSLTC Red 2

Runners Up Harpenden

ORANGE MAIN DRAW FINALS

Winners Batchwood Orange Bulldogs 1

Runners Up Gosling Orange Stars

3rd Place Orange Legends

4th Place Letchworth Orange Lobbers

ORANGE CONSOLATION FINALS

Winners Harpenden 9&U

Runners Up Royston Orange Ninjas

GREEN MAIN DRAW FINALS

Winners Batchwood Greens

Runners Up Harpenden 10u

3rd Place Green Legends

4th Place Letchworth Green Lobbers

Jennifer Keates

Herts Inspires Tennis

HIT for short is a new programme to support another tier of Hertfordshire Tennis Clubs. Harpenden, Langley, Legends and Letchworth Clubs are being supported by Herts Tennis. The venues were selected based on their commitment to developing performance players and making 'their better players better'. Each of the venues has pitched for funding based on an agreed programme of activity.

The players on both Pathway to Tarbes and HIT Club Programmes have the opportunity to join forces and compete in The Hertfordshire Inspires Tennis Red Tour.

The players compete in the HIT Grand Slam and Major Tour Events throughout the year and the final celebration of the tour is the Hertfordshire Junior Championships at the end of August.

The Management Committee of Herts Tennis is committed to supporting Hertfordshire Tennis Clubs and their players.

Each of the Pathway to Tarbes venues and the HIT venues are holding open days to introduce the programmes to everyone in Herts Tennis including clubs. Details will be announced shortly.



In 1952 Elaine Watson won the Girls Singles at Junior Wimbledon.

Pathway to Tarbes

In 2007 representatives from Herts Tennis, Batchwood and Gosling tennis venues decided to form a partnership and develop a talent identification and development programme. The name Pathway to Tarbes indicated the group's ambition to offer opportunities for players to achieve International playing standards. Herts Tennis has supported the programmes at both Batchwood and Gosling with £20,000 of support each year since 2007.

Keen and enthusiastic players are offered the opportunity to join a structured tennis pathway which realistically guides the players and their parents on the right path to achieve peak performance. Pathway to Tarbes delivers good value within a fun, competitive, respectful environment to develop courage and excellence in tennis.

Tarbes is a small town in south west France which hosts Les Petit As which translates into English as 'Small Champions'. This event is a premier junior tennis tournament for players aged 12-14 years. It is often considered to be the European equivalent of the Junior Orange Bowl in Florida USA due to the high number of international players that it attracts.

The event has seen a number of its champions go on to become slam winners, including Rafael Nadal, Michael Chang, Martina Hingis and Kim Clijsters. Due to the relatively restrictive age range, few players have won the title more than once, although Hingis and Timea Bacsinszky have both done so. Most recently Spanish player Carlos Boluda became the first boy to do so. Andy Murray was runner up in 2001 as was Liam Broady in 2008.

Both centres have players that are competing at the highest levels of the game and indeed in the recent round of LTA review meetings of the performance venues the programme at Batchwood headed up by Jon Meredith has been acclaimed as the venue with the best 12 and under programme in the country.

Indianna Spink, who joined the Pathway to Tarbes programme at Gosling when she was six years old, was the first Pathway to Tarbes player accepted into the draw at Tarbes.

Pathway to Tarbes is an open-door programme and any player from Hertfordshire clubs can be nominated by their club coach to attend an open day each term to try for a place on the programme. Currently players born 2008 or later are welcome to apply.

Jennifer Keates



In 1933 Herts LTA Junior Champs were played at Radlett with 38 girls and 20 boys. How times have changed!

Herts Schools 2016



2016 Mini Orange Tournament competitors

This year we have organised:

- Secondary Teachers Course
- Primary Teachers Course
- Primary School competitions: Mini red, orange, green and yellow
- Secondary School Competitions: Year 7 Boys and Girls, Nicola Mabbitt (Leagues Year 8,9 and 10), County Schools Doubles U14 and U18.

The whole programme has been challenged by the weather and we are both pleased and relieved to have only lost one event (mini red Potters Bar). I have been pleased to meet Bridie Amos and through her work with clusters we have more Primary Schools than ever before. Herts tennis has supported us by providing tennis balls for our competitions, courts and a brilliant coach for our Secondary Teachers Course and indoor courts for our Mini Red Welwyn event when rain would have stopped play. Thank you for your support – it helps us to grow schools tennis in Herts.

Our Mini Red has developed from a single event into a league for the first time – a competition for the Fulton Trophy (thanks Herts Tennis for organising it for us!). We had 12 teams, 48 players at the mini orange. We didn't turn any team away, but 12 is absolutely the maximum we can cope with at one event.



In 1931 there were 8 schools affiliated to Herts LTA.

We always need umpires at our Primary School events. Local schools often help out. Verulam School has provided umpires for mini orange for the past eight years. In the past we have tried unsuccessfully to work with Oaklands College. There are opportunities here for co-ordinating with those training Tennis Leaders and Competition Organisers- we can give practical experience and on the spot training.

Primary School Programme

Mini Red Competition

The tournament is aimed at more experienced Mini Red players with ratings of (Red3) or higher. This is important as less experienced players can represent their school in the Hertfordshire School games programme.

16th June at Cassiobury Tennis Club Watford

Thursday 16th June wasn't looking too promising weather wise, in the end it wasn't a problem as the sun made an appearance. Four teams entered, Abbot's Langley School, Cassiobury Infants & two teams from Cassiobury Junior School. All the teams played each other in ten-point tie breaks, with Cassiobury Junior 1 beating Abbot's Langley in a close battle with many long rallies.

The children were then given the option to play some singles .

Certificates were presented to everyone & parents were thanked for umpiring.

Cassiobury 1 & Abbot's Langley were also invited to the County Final on 29th June.

Mini Red Welwyn

We had to move this competition indoors due to the weather. Thanks to Herts tennis for providing us with courts at Gosling. We had 10 pairs from five schools local to the Welwyn Area. The teams were divided into two boxes of five and played in a Round Robin doubles format. Each team played one further match each to decide their final standings. The standard of play was excellent with many close matches. All the children conducted themselves well both on and off the court and had an enjoyable afternoon of tennis. All players were awarded certificates with the winners & runners up each receiving a medal.

Winners: St Marys Welwyn

Runner up: Codicote

Our thanks go to the teachers & parents who umpired the matches.

Mini Red Finals

The winners and runners up of the two mini red competitions played in a Round Robin format in the inaugural Fulton Shield. The matches were close and exciting, and play ended with a three-way tie. We counted up the matches between the schools and Abbots Langley School beat Welwyn St. Mary's by two points. Cassiobury came 3rd by one point and Codicote just a couple of points behind them. A fantastic final! Well played everyone!

Mini Orange

New date due to rain!



On the 5th July, a record number of schools and players came to St. Albans Tennis Club to play in an orange team event. There were eight schools, 10 teams and 48 players which made a highly competitive and enjoyable afternoon's worth of tennis.

There were 4 boxes and each of the pairs fought hard to gain as many points as possible for their teams in five group matches. Aldwickbury and Roundwood, who were new to the event this year, made some impressive wins, with Welwyn St. Mary's and Codicote also performing well. Wheatfields, who were hoping to win a fourth title were also proving strong alongside Sherrardswood who also put in some good performances. High Beeches, St. Albans High School, Broxbourne and Cassiobury all had great matches and had some great results. Once all 10 rounds had been played, the play-offs were decided. Roundwood Murray and Aldwickbury were in the final, with Aldwickbury just winning to become the new champions. Codicote came in 3rd with a close match against Welwyn St. Mary's .

Thank you very much to the Verulam umpires and St. Albans Tennis Club for letting us use the venue.

Mini Green Tennis, 8 June 2016

The weather was kind to us as Broxbourne LTC was overrun with 21 pairs of girls/boys competing in the County Mini Green Doubles. A high standard of play and determination was demonstrated by all players but after 9

rounds the boys final culminated in Berkhamsted 1 (Barney & Alex) beating Fairfields Junior, Radlett (Ben & Frank) . The girls' final was played between Berkhamsted 1 (Millie and Georgina) and Berkhamsted 2 (Attie & Caris) with Berkhamsted 1 coming out on top. A clean sweep for Berkhamsted! Other awards included best forehand (Marelie, Wheatfields Junior, St. Albans), best backhand (Edward, Welwyn St Mary), best serve (Georgina, Berkhamsted) and determination (Alex D Berkhamsted).

Yellow Ball

This year the year 6 yellow ball tournament was held on Thursday 19th May, at The Royal Masonic School for Girls. The boy's tournament went ahead and the standard was excellent. The boys played a round robin tournament over the two hours and all boys played exceptionally well, and I hope enjoyed the afternoon. The competition was tough and in the end we had a very close competition. In 3rd place was **Z. Bowman** and **B. Roberts** from Broxbourne, in second place was **S. Gildersleve** and **J. Carter** from York House, and the winners of the county tournament were **I. Raath** and **M. McCree** from Wheatfields school. Well done boys for another excellent standard of tennis and we look forward to seeing many more of you next year!

Teachers Course

All booked at Broxbourne Primary School through Helen, our Committee Member. However on the day the tutor did not

attend. Lots of correspondence and an apology! All the teachers who attended got the bags of equipment plus a £50 voucher for the inconvenience. The course was rearranged but not everyone could attend (notice was given Sunday for Wednesday and no supply cover provided. The original organiser was not even told about the rearrangement). Ali Cope is not keen to send coaches into the remaining schools as she is developing a new programme to train coaches to teach in schools. We are confident that lessons have been learnt and hope that the remaining schools will be offered an opportunity for some training shortly.

Secondary School Programme

Teachers Course

This was held at Gosling with the support of Herts Tennis. David Lawlor was lead coach and Pam Burrage assisted. This meant we were able to cover the differing needs of teacher attending. We had 8 schools, 12 teachers. We used the new TF teaching materials which are excellent. We used a workshop format with teachers encouraged to develop the activities and to identify learning outcomes. David also provided some low key, but important technical input. All the teachers were very appreciative. A slight problem with getting the course onto the Hertfordshire Grid for Learning impacted on the numbers - we could accommodate more teachers next year.

Continued on back page...



Year 7 Girls

The Year 7 girls doubles tournament was held on Tuesday 21 June and as usual featured two divisions; Division 1 for experienced players with District, Team Tennis and/or club experience and Division 2 for players who have been learning tennis at school this term. It was lovely to welcome Monk's Walk and Rickmansworth School to the tournament for the first time.

The format was timed matches giving all the girls a great deal of match play against different opponents and it was great to see the improvement in play throughout the evening. Division 2 was played as a round robin with Monk's Walk finishing in 2nd place and Haberdashers' in 1st place. In Division 1 there were 2 pools with play-offs to determine each pair's final finishing position. The final featured both St. Albans High School pairs and congratulations to their Number 1 pair who won 6-1 to finish as overall winners.

Boys

Boys Tournament at Habs

An excellent evening's tennis with over 40 boys participating from schools all over the county.

The experienced tournament was won by a very talented pair from Sandringham school Chris Smith and Ryan O Sullivan. They beat Habs pair Kabir Mehotra-Bhatia and Karan Chopra in a high-quality final.

It was a good evening all-round for Sandringham who clinched the

inexperienced competition by beating Aldwickbury in the final.

County Schools

Boys

The Boys Tournament was held at Welwyn Tennis Club mid week for the first time. This led to a big increase in numbers, 9 schools U18 and 14 in U14. This is the only competition Herts Schools run on a knockout basis so there was a main draw and a Plate Competition.

U14 Winners: Haberdashers
R/Up : Parmiters

U14 Plate Winners: St. Albans Boys
R/Up: Monks walk

U18 Winners: St. Albans Boys
R/Up: Parmiters

U18 Plate Winners: Chancellors
R/Up: St. Albans Boys

Our thanks to Welwyn Tennis Club for hosting the Boys Tournament.

Girls

The County Schools Doubles Tournament took place on Friday 24 June at St. Albans High School for Girls and was entered by a disappointingly small number of schools – St. Albans High School for Girls, Haberdashers, Berkhamsted and Chancellors. Despite the low entries some excellent tennis was played and in the U14 tournament Berkhamsted beat St. Albans High in the final on a deciding tie-break. In the U18 age group, a round robin was played with St. Albans High finishing as winners and Haberdashers as runners-up. A great afternoon of tennis! Another

think about dates next year!

Nicola Mabbitt Trophy

The Nicola Mabbitt Trophy is our most popular competition with three age groups – Year 8, Year 9 and Year 10. Local leagues are established in six areas of the county: North Herts, Potters Bar, Dacorum, East Herts Watford and St. Albans. Watford also runs a Year 7 competition and a Division 2 Competition as well. Over 900 students are involved every year and in St. Albans the competition is so popular that two leagues are run, with a semi-final before the County Finals. The short set doubles format is very practical and provides excellent match experience for our target students – those with ratings below 9.2.

Many thanks to Queenswood School for hosting the Finals. 35 teams, 140 players, 108 matches. Each team played in Round Robin boxes against the other winning teams in their age group, the boys on the artificial grass and the girls on the clay. It was a fantastic afternoon of tennis and we beat the rain (just!). However the finals were a major organisational challenge this year. The boys' competition was redrawn four times in the space of three hours. The players and staff had an excellent afternoon of tennis and the Organisers went home to a large glass of wine!!

Girls Winners: Year 10: Haberdashers, Year 9: Haberdashers, Year 8: Presdales.

Boys Winners: Year 10: Simon Balle, Year: 9 Haberdashers, Year 8: St. Clement Danes.

Pam Burrage

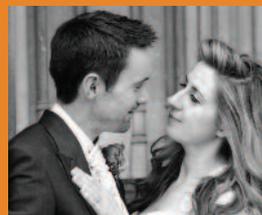


In 1937 Kay Stammers (Herts) was ranked No 2 in Great Britain.

Become a friend of
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Congratulations to Herts Coach and County Team Captain



James Thomas married
Sophie in February and
they honeymooned in Bali.

Everyone at Herts Tennis
wishes them a very happy
future together.