

Ealing Lawn Tennis Club newsletter

May 2010



Founded 1882

ELTC Mixed Team are Middlesex Champions!

Ealing have triumphed in the final of the Middlesex Mixed competition playing at home on Sunday 14th March 2010. Our opponents were the mighty Cumberland club and they looked to be on their way to victory when they managed to win the first round 2-1. Both Mili Shah & Simon Richards and Anneka Els & Alan Brown had been a set up only to lose out in the deciding third set tie breaks. However, things started to swing Ealing's way when we won the second round 2-1 making the overall score 3-3 going into the final round. Mili and Simon lost to the second pair, who were unbeaten all day, but Anneka and Alan won against the third pair which meant Rafaella Valentino & Sam Tirodkar had to win against

the Cumberland first pair, and they did so in style 6-2 6-4. This was definitely a team effort and captain Sabine Wong was very pleased with this result as it's the first time Ealing have won this

competition. Thanks also go to Claire Espinasse, Cleo Andrews, Hayley Baylis, Sasha Abraham, Laurent Wels and Richard Jones who all played in previous rounds of the competition.



Summer is Almost Here!



As of Monday 19th April, member play in the dome is free and court booking periods on all courts are for 45 minutes. During our Summer Season no courts can be booked in advance. Our grass courts will open in May. We have a wide range of social, competitive and team tennis organised for the Summer. There's also plenty of social events on offer for members to attend.

The Last Ball' Film Premiere, Saturday 8th May!



Club member, Simon Richards, has been filming events at ELTC to make his documentary, "The Last Ball". The fundraising premiere is on Saturday 8th May at 7.00pm.

I'm a television editor by profession but I had never directed a documentary and when I started filming in March '04 I had no idea that it was going to take five years!

My idea was to film the transition from the old clubhouse to the new one and some of the other changes that were going on. For example, after nineteen years we were getting a new coach, Chris Sordyl; Gham Patel had decided

to sell his grocery shop and become a tennis coach; his son, Ravi, had dreams of becoming a top player and Will Leach found himself in charge of our grass courts even though he had virtually no experience.

I filmed a lot - four finals days, two of the three "last" balls, a karaoke night, one AGM, two EGMs, one demolition, an opening night party, and the first ball in the new clubhouse! Not surprisingly it has taken me over a year to edit it!

The premiere is a fundraising event and tickets are free but you will still need to sign up on the notice board in the lobby as soon as possible.



Team Tennis

We are fielding seven Mens and four Ladies teams in the LTA Middlesex Summer League. The first Mens match is a home fixture on Monday 3rd May for our Mens 7th Team against Old Actonians 1st Team. All matches start at 6:30pm and each team plays seven matches between the beginning of May and early August.

This year's Team Captains:

- **Men's 1st** Alan Brown
- **Men's 2nd** Simon Richards (for the first 3 matches)
- **Men's 3rd** Marc Payling and Christian Derrick
- **Men's 4th** Iain Britton
- **Men's 5th** TBC
- **Men's 6th** David Sogan
- **Men's 7th** Mike Ward
- **Ladies' 1st** Sabine Wong
- **Ladies' 2nd** Takako Arii
- **Ladies' 3rd** Korin Harvey
- **Ladies' 4th** Becky Newby

Team Practices will continue every Sunday evenings at 5:45pm.

Although team squads have been more or less assembled, if you want to participate in Team Tennis contact our Women's Team Tennis boss Takako Arii at t.ariii@btinternet.com or our Men's Team Tennis boss Marc Payling at marc_payling@hotmail.com

2010 Annual Club Tournament

Entry forms will soon be available for our annual club tournament. This will be the 116th running of this tournament, which must be one of the oldest and largest in the country.

There are junior, adult, veteran, open and handicap events. It all comes to a head at Finals Day at which over 100 spectators regularly attend. The year's Finals Day is Saturday 17th July.

Social Tennis

Organised play will continue throughout the Summer every Sunday from 2:30pm. Organised social tennis also takes place every Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1:30pm to 4:30pm and at Club Night every Wednesday from 6:30pm.

Upcoming Social Tournaments:
Monday 31st May: Spring Bank Holiday Tournament
Monday 30th August: Summer Bank Holiday Tournament

Grass Courts

Will Leach, our Head Groundsman, tells us that the earliest we can enjoy grass court tennis will be around the middle of May. The snow lying on the courts for days in the

Winter caused problems on the new grass grown on the base lines, so remedial work was needed in March. How the weather performs in the next few weeks will also determine when the grass courts will open.



Head Groundsman Will Leach (right) and Part Time Groundsman John Hawthorn.

See the latest news at
www.ealingtennis.com

Wimbledon 2010 Ticket Draw

Entry forms will be displayed as from 15th April in the clubhouse. The draw will take place on Sunday 10 May at 3.00pm in the clubhouse

Only Members of British Tennis (Registered before 9 May 2010) can apply for Tickets

All tickets are sold in pairs. Cost per pair. Only one pair of tickets will be issued to any applicant.

- All tickets must be collected in person, as they must be signed for and your British Tennis membership number provided, in accordance with LTA regulations.
- Please pay by debit card or cheque on receipt of your tickets (made payable to Ealing LTC).
- You may only enter your name TWICE in any combination of court or day.
- If you are unable to attend the actual draw, you can collect your tickets from me at the club on Wednesday 12 from 6.30pm or Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 May, between 2pm and 5pm. If the tickets have not been collected by Sunday 16 May, they will be offered to the reserves unless alternative arrangements for collection have been agreed with the organiser.
- 2 reserves will be drawn for each available ticket on the night of the draw. In the case of tickets becoming available to a reserve, you will be contacted.
- The following membership categories can enter the draw: Full, Full 65+, First team, Midweek, Midweek 65+, Midweek (Day), Country, U30, U26 & Students, Unemployed, Dormant, Honorary life member, Honorary member and juniors aged 9 and over.
- Any winner of a pair of tickets in the draw that is under the age of 16 on the date of the draw must have permission from a parent / guardian in order to purchase the tickets and must be accompanied by an adult when he / she attends. This must be provided when collecting the tickets.
- If for some unforeseen reason you are unable to use your tickets, please return them to the organiser for redistribution.

A list of successful applicants will be displayed on the notice board by the evening of Monday 10 May.

If you have any further questions, please contact Janice Coulthard: 020-8993 7166 / 07803 922 246 or janice.coulthard@ntlworld.com

Development Plans

The club has had a number of constructive discussions with the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) about how the club's playing facilities might be developed and how the LTA might be able to support these developments financially.

Although plans have not been finalised, the club Management Committee's preferred option is to replace the dome, lighting and court surface; convert part of the back bank to three all-weather floodlit courts; and to floodlight courts 5,6 and 7.

The Management Committee will of course consult widely and publicly with the members before any decisions are made.

ELTC Easter Bunny Tournament - April 2010



We had passable weather and a reasonable turnout and only two no-shows (you know who you are). For a change we had more men than ladies so two of the chaps got to have a read of the paper during each round. We played 8 games in each of 5 rounds and with a number of close scores it wasn't easy to guess who would make the final. In the event it was Gordon and new member Ash to play with Cheryl and Rita. After playing 7

games in both combinations we had a clear winner on the men's side – Gordon – but three more games had to be played to establish Cheryl as the winning lady. The next battle was over the prizes – who would get Lucy the Lamb, Max the Bunny, the two Hens or Stuart Little? All amicably sorted out, trophies handed over, drinks downed.

Now we can look forward to the next one day tournament which will be on May Bank Holiday

2010 Social Diary Highlights

Friday 30th April Swing Night and Cocktails in the Bar

Saturday 8th May 'The Last Ball' Premiere

Friday 28th May 'The Last Ball' Second Showing

Saturday 19th June Summer Ball: Caribbean Theme

Saturday 11th July World Cup Final BBQ

Saturday 17th July ELTC Finals Day

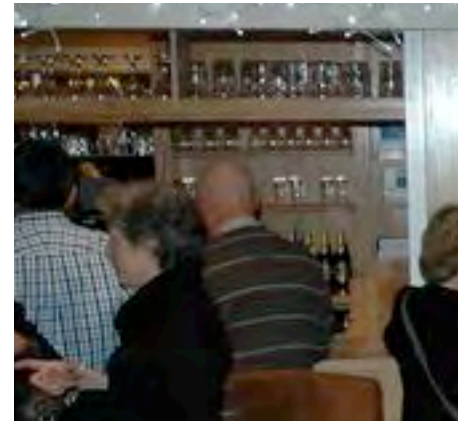
Saturday 11th September End of Season Party

WiFi is now available in the Clubhouse

Bar Volunteers Wanted

We have a team of club members who voluntarily work behind the bar one day a month. However we could do with more members volunteering.

Please contact Victor Wong if you are interested at victor_wong@btinternet.com



Ealing Lawn Tennis Club Junior News Spring 2010

The Boys 11U team had a fantastic winter, winning Middlesex West Division A! The team consisted of Demetri Smith, Hugo Altman, Hans Manku and Joey Roberts. They played, much of the time, in freezing conditions and did not lose a single rubber throughout all their fixtures! These included matches against bigger clubs than Ealing such as Esporta Northwood, Lensbury and David Lloyd Heston. The perfect record of 12-0 wins was confirmed after an exciting singles rubber between ELTC's Demetri Smith and DLH's Alex Chan (who is ahead of Demetri in county rankings) on Sunday 28th March. Well done Boys 11U!

The Mixed 13U team also played very well this winter – but were beset by problems with the weather, leading to several cancellations and postponements. However, they had some good wins – especially against



Hurlingham on a cold January morning. Well done to Ryvan Winter, Louis Tsiattalou, Paloma Pradere and Caroline Chmaj Hanford.

The new term of junior coaching is starting the week beginning 19th April and the juniors can also look forward to much competitive play in the coming months - including the Road to Wimbledon (the national 14U challenge),

ELTC's Junior Members Tournament and AEGON Team tennis. For the first time, ELTC have had a junior team accepted into the Premier Division of the AEGON team competition in the Boys 18U category; good luck to Ravi Patel, Akash Arora, Jamie Sordyl and Callum Kempe – and to all our other junior teams (Mixed 8U, Mixed 10U, Boys 12U and Boys 14U) playing over the next three months.