

Hanney Tennis Club
Annual General Meeting
Held on Monday 21 February 2011
At Olde Hanney Room, Hanney War Memorial Hall

Present:	Michael Hutchings, Jim Gulliver, Sarah Kitt, Gina Davis, Lynn Carter, Jan Lewtas, David Smith, John Culley, Sheila Powell, Sue Bodimead, Anita Hutchins, Trevor Russell, David Corps Adrian Hodges, Tom and Karen Bradshaw, Joy Wilson, David and De Blomley.
Apologies:	Vivien Smith, Angela Cousins, Edith Craig, Clive Fewins, Ken Lewtas and Chris Noke.

Michael Hutchings chaired the meeting

Minutes of Last Year's AGM (held on 22 February 2010)
 These were approved (Proposed: David Blomley; Seconded: De Blomley).

Committee Reports

Chairman's Report

Michael Hutchings presented his report (attached to these minutes). All present expressed their thanks to Bob Wilson for all his hard work on the water and drainage project. Mike presented Bob with a bottle of his favourite whiskey as a token of the Club's gratitude. Lynn Carter has had a tough time recently with a family bereavement and a broken ankle. Mike presented her with a bouquet of flowers and wished her a speedy recovery. Lynn told how her mother loved coming to the club to watch the tennis and always believed that she was at Wimbledon!

Junior Trophies

At this point in the meeting the juniors arrived. Mike presented the winning junior, George Anstis, with his trophy, certificate and some tennis items. George's brother, Arthur came joint second with Rory Parsons. George was presented with a certificate and a selection of tennis items. Rory was not present, and the certificate etc will be handed on to him later.

Treasurer's Report

Jim Gulliver presented his report (attached). He requested that it would help him greatly if all monies were itemised and passed to him in an envelope. It was agreed that a stock of envelopes be kept in the Clubhouse for this purpose. Mike pointed out that we had sought grant aid for the recent works. None was forthcoming except for a very welcome £100 from the School House Charity. There will be no expenditure on keys next year because the club now has two complete sets, which will be used in alternate years. It was also noted that the LTA Affiliation fees will be much lower in the future because of changes in the way they are calculated. The £50 fee will no longer be payable to the Village Hall for use of the referee's toilet facility. Sarah agreed to write to the Village Hall to notify them and to return the key.

Maintenance Report

Bob Wilson presented his Maintenance Report (a copy of which is attached to these minutes). Lynn Carter wondered what had happened about chasing up the contractors about the problems on the court. It was agreed that too much time had now passed to follow this up, but that we would not use this company again in the future.

Membership Report

Gill Thompson presented her Membership Report (attached). There was some discussion about how we should be promoting the club. We have received no new membership through advertising campaigns in local newsletters. It was suggested that it would be worthwhile placing a notice in the Charney Chatter. Tom Bradshaw reported that there have been some enquiries via the website. It was agreed that word of mouth appears to be the best way of promoting the club.

It was proposed that all these reports be accepted.
 Proposed: David Smith; Seconded: John Culley. Agreed.

Team Reports
Reports are attached to these minutes

Men's A Team
 John Culley reported that it has been a tough year in the Summer League for the Men's A Team. They ended the year fifth in Division 5 – just avoiding relegation. The Winter League has also been hard because of the high standard in Division 2 and the loss of two key players. The team are currently third

from the bottom of the division. John thanked all those who have played over the past year.

Men's B Team

The team is in Division 11 in the Summer League. A total of 16 players have played in the various matches. The aim of enabling a large number of club players to play competitive tennis has been achieved. The team are currently in a vulnerable position in the Winter League – at the moment they are 11th out of 14 in Division 5. David expressed thanks to all who had played and in particular to his regular players.

Ladies' Team

Gina reported that the ladies are currently third in division 4 and are doing very well in this tougher division. She thanked both her regular players and to all others who had played.

Mixed Team

Gill Thompson read out a report, which Chris Noke had prepared.

Tom Bradshaw proposed a vote of thanks to all Team Captains.

Coaching

David Smith thanked the club for continuing to choose him as its coach. He has a very harmonious relationship with the club. He is very impressed with the standard of the new facilities. He thoroughly enjoys carrying out his coaching obligations as well as organising additional events such as the American Tournament. It was proposed that David be reappointed for the coming year. (David's report is attached to these minutes).

Proposed: Michael Hutchings; Seconded: Jim Gulliver. Agreed.

Club Sessions

Club sessions are still popular. Numbers dipped in the early winter to around four or six stalwart members but increased to around 10 or 12 in the New Year. Mike encouraged all members to attend club sessions. It was noted that David Corps and Jim Gulliver were the most regular Tuesday night players because they topped the winter tokens list. It was noted that juniors may attend club sessions, but that this is by invitation only. The Ladies Wednesday afternoon session was not well attended and was made available for a Rusty Racquets session. This also proved unpopular and Wednesday afternoons are now available for general bookings. Junior Club sessions have been quite popular but sessions are dependent on an adult club member being present to organise the session. Several members offered to help in this respect. David Smith is willing to use the ball machine in a junior session (for the older juniors). He is also happy to give a short master clinic for the adults. (Michael Hutchings' report is attached to these minutes).

Presentation of Trophies

The Classic Player of the Year Trophy was presented to Gina Davis.

The Ted Carter Trophy (for the player who had shown greatest improvement) was awarded to Adrian Hodges.

Nominations and Elections

Gina Davis has been on the Committee for around nine years and has elected to stand down this year. She was presented with a bouquet of flowers. Clive Fewins is also standing down from the Committee, but will continue to help with the newsletter.

The following Committee members were happy to stand again for a further year -

Chairman – Michael Hutchings

Treasurer – Jim Gulliver

Membership Secretary – Gill Thompson

Maintenance – Bob Wilson

Vice Chairman – Tom Bradshaw

Coach – David Smith

Secretary – Sarah Kitt

David Gahan agreed to join the Committee.

Proposed: David Blomley; Seconded: De Blomley. Agreed.

Radley Real Tennis Club

Whilst the meeting took a short break, Bob Wilson spoke about a proposed visit to Radley Real Tennis Club. This will take place on a weekday evening and many present expressed an interest in attending.

Membership Fees

The Committee recommended that fees remain the same as last year's because of the current financial situation.

Proposed: De Blomley; Seconded Gill Thompson. Agreed.

Maintenance Actions

Clubhouse Cleaning

There was some discussion as to whether the club should employ a cleaner. Most of those present felt

<p>that this was unnecessary. It was felt that that each group using the clubhouse should be responsible for making sure that it is kept clean and tidy at the end of their session. It was agreed that a notice should be put up reminding people of their responsibility. It was also felt that it might be helpful for a checklist to be put up which each group would sign-off on leaving the clubhouse. The possibility of paper towels was mooted. At the moment Karen Bradshaw is taking towels home and washing them and she is happy to continue to do this. The Committee will monitor the situation and address problems as and when they arise. They will also ensure that there is always a stock of toilet rolls and cleaning materials.</p>
<p>Hedge-Trimming It was agreed that this would take place on Sunday 22nd May from 12.00 onwards or from 9.00 a.m. onwards if a match is scheduled on this day. Around 12 volunteers will be needed for this. The rubbish will either be taken to the tip or burnt at a later date.</p>
<p>Other Maintenance Jobs on Bob's List He will seek volunteers and co-ordinate as appropriate.</p>
<p>Friendly Matches/Box League Friendly Matches - Gill Thompson has found it very difficult to encourage people who weren't already playing on a team to play in friendly matches. Nevertheless it was agreed that it is important that people who do not play in one of the teams play in these matches. It was agreed that we would continue with the friendly matches in the summer. One person would be responsible for organising one home and one away match with another club. Five of those present (Bob Wilson, Dee Blomley, Gill Thompson, Jan Lewtas and Mike Hutchings) volunteered to take responsibility, each for matches against one club, Michael Hutchings took their details and agreed to act as co-ordinator. Gill will ask all those renewing their membership on sign-up day whether they are interested in playing in friendly matches. There will be a box on the membership application form. The fees for home matches were agreed at £4 per player. Box League - David Smith is happy to continue with the organisation of the Box League. The current league will run until April and it will recommence in October.</p>
<p>Tournament Trevor Russell agreed to organise the tournament. Finals Day will be on Sunday 17 July. All members will be encouraged to participate.</p>
<p>Junior Club Volunteers A notice will be placed in the bus shelter encouraging volunteers to sign up.</p>
<p>Wimbledon Ballot The format will be the same as last year. If we are allocated tickets for the Junior Finals on Court One, these will be offered firstly to the winner of the Junior Trophy followed by the runners up.</p>
<p>Social Events The feeling was that any social event should be connected to tennis because tennis is the reason we all meet up. It was agreed that the club would hold an Adult/Junior Tournament on Sunday 4 September followed by a barbecue. It will be advertised beforehand in an attempt to attract as many club members as possible.</p>
<p>Booking Sheets It was agreed that whatever is booked on the booking sheets must always take priority but that if court space becomes available then it might be possible for others to play.</p>
<p>Sign Up Day/Newsletter It was agreed that email should be the principle means of distribution unless members have expressed the wish to have information in hard copy form when they signed up. Lynn Carter raised the question of whether the club should consider receiving payments electronically and Jim Gulliver agreed to investigate this further.</p>
<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>Tokens – David Gahan asked (on behalf of Clive Fewins who was not present) whether more people should be holders of tokens. Jim Gullivar, David Gahan and Gill Thompson were all willing to take on this responsibility.</p> <p>Notices in Bus Shelter - Sheila Powell asked whether notices had to be about tennis. It was agreed that the club would allow non-tennis related notices on an experimental basis for a year, but that each notice must be taken down as soon as the event it is advertising is over.</p> <p>Club Archives - Michael Hutchings wondered whether anyone was interested in becoming Club Archivist.</p>
<p>Date of Next AGM Monday 20 February 2011</p>
<p>The meeting closed at 9.45 pm</p>

Hanney Tennis Club AGM 21 February 2011

Chairman's Report

The 2010 -11 Season has shown considerable progress which will be highlighted in the individual reports given at the meeting. So I shall just give some main points.

Membership has held up well with about 130 members. A very welcome aspect is the large number of Juniors who are now actively involved, in a major part due to our coach David's encouragement. It will be a challenge to keep their interest into their late teens, when they will hopefully be adding new energy and skill to our teams. The Junior – Adult Tournament in September was a very enjoyable day ending with a BBQ on site. It is intended to repeat this annually, and also try to arrange some Junior Matches with other clubs. Another enjoyable competition for all to join in was the April American Tournament. Both tournaments run by David Smith with help from the committee. Trevor with the aid of George ran another successful club tournament, and Finals Day produced some extremely good tennis and exciting matches. Our teams have met with mixed success, but the matches are enjoyed by all participants who regularly keep the Club's profile high in the local LTA. The Ladies are showing what concentrated effort can achieve. A few friendlies matches, which give opportunity to all to participate, were played during the Summer, but we do need a co-ordinator for next year. Regular Club Sessions for Adults on Sunday morning and Tuesday evenings have attracted a varied number of participants – some being very well attended, others by only a few. Yet all are enjoyable. An innovation has been the Junior Club Sessions on late day-lit Tuesday afternoons, but these do need the volunteer help of members and parents to supervise activities. This year we replaced the Winter Floodlit League for surrounding clubs by our own intra-club Box League. The weather has upset this somewhat, but it has given opportunity to play singles one-set matches and is now in its second round.

Off-court, or rather on the side of the courts, the clubhouse has at last received water and drains! The long awaited toilet is installed – and very many thanks to Bob Wilson for arranging the work and for finishing off the panelling and decoration. What a relief! No more fighting with the padlock on the gate to the hall veranda! Bob has a list of more work that needs to be done – so PLEASE help by volunteering! On court we have new paint, looking very nice with clear lines to keep our shots inside! Of course all this has come at some expense, about £11,000 of our capital. There will be more expense to come in looking after the lights and eventually resurfacing the courts, so there can be no complacency.

Finally, many thanks to all the committee for their efforts in running the Club over the year. They have worked hard to keep the Club alive. We still need more volunteers to help with friendly matches and social events. It is a case of 'many hands', and certainly not 'too many cooks'! On a sad note we send best wishes to Lynn Cater on her bereavement, and wish her a speedy recovery from her unfortunate accident.

Michael Hutchings

Hanney Tennis Club
Treasurer's Report to the AGM
21 Feb 2011

It has been an interesting year from the financial point of view. Over the last few years we have, on average made a surplus of income over expenditure of around £3000 per year, which, on the face of it is quite a healthy situation to be in, and the result of which was that we started the year with nearly £21000 in the bank – which is quite enough for the treasurer to take a first class holiday. Of course, things aren't always just as they seem, and while we have gradually built up a healthy bank balance, this year a couple of relatively 'large ticket' maintenance and improvement items came to the top of the list for attention. These were complete re-painting of the court surfaces, at a cost of £3519, and installation of mains water and drainage, and – sheer luxury – a toilet in the clubhouse, at a total cost of £6803. The latter items were so expensive because of the requirement to run water and drains from a considerable distance to the nearest useable access points. Previous estimates of the price to install the toilet and services was between £3000 and £5000, which turned out to be a clear under-estimate; however, it is an expenditure which will not need to be repeated, and so can be treated as a truly 'exceptional' expense for this year only.

Mike pointed out in last year's report that we cannot afford to be complacent; there are several large items of expenditure that will become due over the next few years, which we will need to 'save up' for, so I hope that next year we can continue with the previously prevailing surplus of around £3000 per year, which will just about cover the known expenses. To enumerate, these expenses are estimated to be, approximately:

Court Cleaning £650 annual

Lights Cleaning £700 2011, and about every 3 years

Lights Replaced £3000 2018

Courts Re-surfacing £15000 2016

As you can see, a surplus on normal operations of £3000 a year barely covers these items. We would hope and expect to be able to attract some grant/sponsorship money for the largest of these, so we would not have to cover the complete costs ourselves.

Membership income, which is our largest source of funds has increased somewhat this year, from £4345 in 2009 to £5665 in 2010. Let's hope this trend continues.

Collection of guest and lighting fees still presents something of a challenge; these things don't usually involve large individual sums, but the totals can add up to a considerable figure. Please be diligent and prompt in paying up when asked.

Finally, my thanks to Mike for his support during the year (and his spreadsheet), and great thanks again to Lionel Cousins for trawling through the detail and checking it over.

Jim Gulliver, Treasurer,
Hanney Tennis Club. 19-Feb-2011

Maintenance Report 2010/2011

General running repairs and maintenance have continued throughout the year.

Many thanks to Ian Green for his on going grass cutting

The perimeter fence is looking tired in places -will it need replacing within 5 years?

We need more helpers for the Annual Hedge Clip. At Least 3 if not 4 hedge trimmers and minimum 8 people to clear up.

It is a great "relief" that the WC has been installed and we have hot and cold running water.(Have we informed Village Hall we no longer use the Refs wc.)

Some work is still required at the connection point on the West Hanney Allotments to provide proper covers to the underground stop taps.

Other major work this year has been the court cleaning and painting.

Jobs which require action

We could do with a working party for these items

1. Grass seeding of earth bank alongside track where drains dug.
2. Making good generally of grass between track and court where drains dug.
3. Provide insulation to pipes in clubhouse – maybe electric trickle heat wires
4. Re-proof/oil club house benches
5. Apply floor paint to clubhouse verandah(not done last year)
6. Remove unwanted items in Clubhouse.
7. Provide fittings to store umpires chair above "ball store area"
8. Provide wall mounted store cupd above kitchen sink.
9. Repair broken tiles on rear roof of shelter(long outstanding job!)
10. Remove soil to sides of clubhouse and extend gravel
11. Remove prickly shrub
12. Provide large non-slip mat in club house.
13. Covers to stop taps on West Hanney Allotments
14. The wind break screen rear of court 2 now looking tired may need replacing.

So quite a lot to do and volunteers needed for major items. Working party suggested on a separate day to the hedge clip.

Bob Wilson

Membership Report 2011-2011

Our membership is slightly up this year. We have 136 members compared to 119 last year. Of these 136 members, 89 are adult, three students and 44 are juniors. There is also a slight increase in the number of juniors from last year.

We have introduced junior club sessions and hope to encourage more juniors to play. Next season we hope to have some junior matches (matchplay for the older juniors) which David, our coach, will be organising.

Although we advertised the club in the Wantage and Grove newsletter we did not receive any new members via these publications. Several families who have recently moved into the village joined the Club. Information about the Tennis Club is always included in the Hanney Newsletter and also in the Welcome Pack given to new Hanney residents.

Gill Thompson
Membership Secretary

Mens A Team Report 2010/2011

As we near the end of the Thames Valley Winter League 2010/11 season I look back on the 2010/2011 A Team performance.

The summer league consisted of only 7 matches and these were spread over several months from April to August with long breaks between some matches. This is not ideal for trying to gain some consistency. Last season we played in Division 2, with the re-structure of the league we found ourselves playing in Division 5 of 12 Divisions.

The standard of the Divisions the A team now play in are good. There are no easy matches anymore. The key to doing well in both the summer and the winter league is that you need to be able to put out two strong pairs or you do get beaten. Unfortunately we lost Peter Ewing last season when he left to go to Australia and before the summer league started we also lost Paul Dyer who decided to play for Abingdon as they play in a higher Division to further improve his game. It was also agreed to run a Men's A and B team as well as the mixed so it was always going to be a struggle with the number of men to cover all these matches. In saying that we started the season well with a convincing 3 – 1 win over Witney. This was followed by another win over Kingston Bagpuize and a good draw at Oxford Sports. Sadly this was the only points we gained losing the final 4 matches. For most matches we had to field different pairings and some of these having never played together before. Thankfully the good start to the season enabled us to finish 5th out of 8 in the league.

It was not an easy summer league as I found myself on several occasions still trying to find players on Friday night for the match the following day. In saying that I would like to say a big thank you to all the players I used during the summer, especially those who stepped in at the last minute to ensure we were able to field two pairs each match. Hopefully the players who made the step from the B team to the A team enjoyed playing in Division 5 and that it has helped improve their game.

Sadly the winter season is proving to be as tough as I thought it was going to be. At this moment we are 3rd from bottom and having played more games than the team below us we will be lucky to avoid relegation. We have played 8 matches and sadly only managed one win losing the others by quite big margins. Fingers crossed we can pick up some points in the last 4 games and avoid the dreaded drop!!!

I just want to thank all the players yet again for playing for the A side this season in both the summer & winter leagues.

John Culley

20th February 2011

The **Hanney Mens B team** is once again finding Division 5 of the Thames Valley Winter League rather a challenge. We have struggled to field our strongest team and on one occasion, despite phone calls to everyone on my list who had expressed an interest in playing for the B team, only 3 players were available to play! We lost 5 consecutive matches before Christmas but in the New Year narrowly lost and then drew our last match. We will need some strong performances and winning results in our remaining 5 matches if we are to survive in Division 5 next winter.

The Summer League starts in April, please let the Club Secretary know when you are renewing your membership if you would like to be considered for club matches.

David Corps

Captain Mens B Team

Ladies Team We are in Division 4 Thames Valley Winter League. A total of 14 matches to play that end on the 2/4/11. We are placed third out of 15 teams with 6 wins, 1 draw and 2 loses, a total of 9 matches played to date. A big thankyou to my ladies for all there efforts it is not easy!

Gina Davis,

Captain Ladies Team.

Mixed Team Captain's Report

We started with a good win at Kings Sutton and an even better lunch, including strawberries and cream with Pimms. Guess who had to drive home a rosy-cheeked Mr & Mrs Bradshaw and a half a sleep Adrian (Noke).

After a win in the next match, your Captain was then laid up for the rest of the season. I am grateful to all who gave up their time, sometimes at short notice. My thanks go to David Corps, Heather McAlpine, Gina and Joe Davis, John Culley, Jan and Ken Lewtas and of course the rosey cheeked pair. Also to Alex Thompson who stepped in as a very late replacement to play an excellent game with his Mum, our current ladies champion, Gillian, beating a strong David Lloyd Team, who were fortunate to secure second place over Hanney, with a walkover against Portcullis, who could not raise a team. They of course, managed to get a team out against us AND got a draw.

We also drew against comfortable league winners, Witney.

I am pleased to say, although we finished third, we only lost one match. We will be meeting all those teams again, as they have now merged two divisions, which gives us a colossal ten matches this season. Any volunteers?

Chris Noke
Mixed Team Captain

Coaching and Competition update for Committee meeting 20th Jan 2011 and AGM 2011

We are enjoying a reasonably busy period with regards to coaching and preparing for various intra-club competitive opportunities at Hanney Tennis Club. I would like to bring everybody up to date with recent events and coaching at the club.

Currently the coaching scene is quite lively, with 2 children's groups and two Adults group's running. We have 8, 7-10 year olds and 6 over 10's receiving weekly coaching on Thursday afternoon's. 6 Adult's (2 more would be great to fill the course) on Monday evening's and 5 active(3 are having a break due to work commitments and injuries) Ladies on Thursday morning's.

As normal I have moved a number of my Mid-week junior groups from Wantage to use our courts when the clocks went back (1st week of November) I am using 1 or 2 courts between 4 and 6.00pm on Monday and Friday afternoon's to accommodate this. The committee has agreed to this again for the winter season and as I pay a court rental the club generates a reasonable income from this and ensures the courts are being well utilized.

The 1st mid-week box league has been completed with Mick Evans winning Div 1 and Jim Gulliver Div 2. A new league has just got underway; if any more members wish to participate in the next session (Mar-April) please let me know.

I will hopefully arrange a couple of friendly match for our juniors during the spring/summer season. If any of our juniors wish to be included, please let me know ASAP!

We will be running a couple of American tournaments for the adults, plus another adult-junior comp at some later stage. Full details will be announced nearer the time.

If anybody wishes to discuss coaching or competitive issues with me please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards
David Smith Club Coach.
01235 768204-07790813710.

Hanney Tennis Club AGM 21 February 2011

Report on Club Sessions

Attendance at Senior Club Sessions has varied during the year. Good (up to fourteen) during the summer months, a dip in the early winter (four to six), and an increase (up to ten to twelve) in the New Year. David Corps and Jim Gulliver topped the floodlight token charges, and so share the plaudits for attendance! We have had some excellent mornings and evenings, and some very cold ones this winter! It is an opportunity for all members, of all standards, to play and improve! Juniors may attend the adult sessions by invitation only. We look forward to them joining in as teenagers.

As the Ladies have tended to arrange their own sessions at other times - perfectly legitimately – the committee decided to make Wednesday Afternoon Sessions available for all ‘rusty racquet’ players to get back into the game. However even this did not attract the wary, so Wednesday afternoons are now open for general booking, until demand proves otherwise.

An innovation, met with some success, has been the Junior Club Sessions late on Tuesday afternoons. These do require a club member to organise the session, and a parent helper, for success. Please volunteer to take part – and bring along your Juniors! They will start again from 26 April to 19 July.

Times are, as usual:-

Sunday: Morning Club Session: 10.00-13.00

Tuesday: Late Afternoon - Junior Club Session: 16.30 to 18.30. (26 April to 19 July)

Tuesday: Evening - Senior Club Session: 19.00- 22.00

Michael Hutchings