

Ashby Castle Lawn Tennis Club
Annual General Meeting
22nd November 2018
The Clubhouse 7:00pm

1) 30 members attended the meeting.

Present: Bob Williams, Malcolm Worth, John Milner, Roland Cotton, Ken Ikin, Janet Hall, Di Sinfield, Dave Forster, Claire Bridges, Pat Ford, Gill Mathias, Lisa Sayner, Gail Roylance, Rob Slack, Alan Geddes, Julie Guzder, Alex Guzder, Gray Hetherington, Chris Hawkins, Peter Wood, Phil Huntley, Jane Huntley, Jan Braithwaite, Jane Cotton., Callum Pardoe, Justin De Vere, Catherine Gough, Katie Higson, Ian Randon, Mike Briggs

Apologies: Pat Drinkwater, Mike Drinkwater, Sue Arrowsmith, Jim Shearer, Ruth Shearer, Anne Haigh, Martin Fitch, Muriel Bouttier, Patrick Poon, Robert Shields, Gill Russell, Doreen Brown, Tom Hall, Tom Redfern

2) Resignations from the Club

There were no resignations.

3) Minutes of the last AGM

The Minutes of the last AGM held on 23rd November 2017 were proposed as a true and accurate record by Gill Mathias, and seconded by John Milner and carried by the meeting.

4) Chairman's report – Gray Hetherington

We started this year with a Murder Mystery. The victim was seen at the Club, but only once. The chief suspect, who was seen prowling round the Clubhouse on several early mornings, confessed more than once to attempted murder on his part, but in the absence of a body could not be charged with any criminal offence. The whole episode caused considerable alarm to several of our members and to them this last year may well be remembered as "the Year of the Rat".

Following the invasion of our premises and our stringent efforts to rid them of the miscreant rodent, the Committee called on members to assist in the big Saudi style clean up and help was readily offered. This brings me to one of my themes of the past twelve months – volunteering. A Club such as ours, run by a Committee for the benefit of all members, depends not only on its Committee members, but also from time to time on the willing volunteers for such activities as our annual open days, disabled coaching sessions, the occasional working parties, catering for Tournaments and many others. I hope that next year's Committee will find time to draw up a list of those club members who are willing, when asked, to step when needed. I hope, too, that you will all consider what part each of you can take in the many-faceted activities throughout the year and will continue to volunteer when needed.

Last winter, we experienced increased flooding of our courts. Led by our Grounds Co-Ordinator, Bob, we investigated the causes and took action on several fronts. An enhanced schedule of court maintenance is now in operation, equipment has been bought and some pruning of the trees and other vegetation alongside Court 4 is planned to allow more light and air to reach the courts at that end of the site.

Each year the LTA invites nominations of our more meritorious members for various awards. These must be made by the end of November. Please consider doing this. More on this subject later.

In December, several of our members attended the Dan Maskell Tennis Centre in Loughborough to watch the final match of the Fallows Cup, a competition for junior teams in Leicestershire. Although Ashby has won the Plate competition more than once in the past, we have never held the cup itself, so far as I am aware. This year our team of Angus, Talia, Max and Marleyyna reached the final. They performed admirably, but lost to Leicester Forest East by the narrowest of margins. Congratulations to them for a magnificent campaign.

In December and January, snow stopped play on occasion, emphasising the LTA's current drive for more indoor courts. Nick Cox has agreed to pursue our own vision in this respect and I hope that sometime in the future, his exploration of the possibilities of some provision at this Club will bear fruit.

In the meantime, we entered a new indoor league for the first time as we may hear later.

One of the many tasks of your Committee is to keep abreast of, and comply with, the many statutory and other regulations which govern our activities. You will be relieved to know that among the work done in pursuance of that aim has been the installation of a new fire alarm system, researched and installed by Robert Shields. Much of our compliance depends on the vigilance and common sense of all of us., so, for instance, if you find a moldy, half used pack of pate or anything else past its "use by date" in the fridge, please take the initiative as you would at home – this club belongs to us all.

There have been "ongoing issues" (to use the current description of unresolved concerns) including our inadequate car park and the repair of the drive leading to it. Hopefully, progress will have been made by the time of the next AGM. In any average year at this Club, too much has happened to report on in detail, so I shall finish with a few of my own personal favourite memories.

First are the visits of Danny Sapsford to our Club, initially to train volunteer helpers in our Coaching for the Disabled sessions and then at our Open Day to coach our own members. I shall long remember his enthusiasm. Then we have seen the welcome addition to our calendar of regular social tournaments organised by Pat and Mike. The annual TLL Awards evening was particularly memorable this year. Finally, I have been impressed by the introduction of Clubspark which promises much for the running of the Club.

On that note, I end my report.

Gray Hetherington, Chairman 2018-2019

No questions

5) Treasurer's Report – Mike Briggs

Detailed accounts and financial report circulated to members prior to the AGM. Mike explained the key points regarding:

No questions

6) Men's Captain's report – Dave Forster

7) Ladies Captain's Report – Gill Mathias

8) Coaching report – Alex Guzder (incorporating the Junior Coordinator's Report of Callum Pardoe)

9) Memorial Trust Fund

Ken advised that the Memorial Trust Fund would be in action over the coming season helping out various juniors. Ken then thanked the club for the substantial donation given to Rona's Oncologist towards a specific piece of equipment which has now been purchased and is in use.

Ken presented the Volunteer of the Year award to Roland Cotton who has always been willing to help and support the club over many years.

Roland thanked the club for all its support following his illness.

10) Proposals

A proposal was put forward by Mike Briggs that at the next membership subscription drive, the members be encouraged to rejoin but also to contribute an additional £10 to support the Memorial Trust which aims at promoting greater skills, and pride in the club

Motion was proposed by Mike Briggs

Motion seconded by Ken Ikin

This was voted in unanimously

11) Election of Officers and Committee

Dave Forster was proposed as President by the Officers and voted in unanimously by those present.

The Club Coach and Trustees continue their terms of office.

The following members were eligible for election and were elected unopposed:

Chairman	Gray Hetherington
Treasurer	Pete Wood
Secretary	Claire Bridges
Men's Club Captain	Chris Hawkins
Ladies' Club Captain	Gill Mathias
Membership Coordinator	Ian Randon
Junior Coordinator	Callum Pardoe

Female Representative	Gill Russell
Welfare and Child Protection Officer	Lisa Sayner
Match Secretary	Muriel Bouttier
Press and Social Media Coordinator	Katie Higson
Grounds Coordinator	Bob Williams
Clubhouse Coordinator	Liz Richards
Male Representative	Robert Slack
Health and Safety Coordinator	Greg Moore
Bar Steward	Julie Guzder
Social Tennis Secretary	Mike & Pat Drinkwater
Provisioning Officer	Martin Fitch

The Club Coach is Alex Guzder

The Trustees of the club are as follows:

Trustee	Robert Shields
Trustee	Ken Ikin
Trustee	Janet Hall
Trustee	Bernard Noble
Trustee	John Collier

12) AOB

Ken Ikin – thanked all for their support throughout this difficult and sad time. Monies raised and donated to the oncologist were reported and the future Memorial Trust outlined.

The Meeting closed at 20:19 hours

Ashby Castle Lawn Tennis Club
Accounts - Year Ended 30 September 2018
Income and Expenditure Account

		2018	2017	Change 2018 over 2017
		£	£	£
Income	Notes			
Membership Subscriptions	1	38,283.00	35,621.34	2,661.66
Match Fees		2,352.00	2,201.00	151.00
Tournaments: Net Income	5	957.51	899.66	57.85
Bar, Kitchen and Drinks/Snack mcs: Net Income	2	925.54	1,410.92	(485.38)
Floodlights		456.50	719.99	(263.49)
Sponsorship/Grants		0.00	0.00	0.00
Social Events/Fund Raising	3	331.00	1,756.66	(1,425.66)
Coaching Income	6	6,815.93	5,807.39	1,008.54
Miscellaneous Income	4	3,879.88	660.50	3,219.38
Bank Interest		15.75	5.17	10.58
Total Income		54,017.11	49,082.63	4,934.48
Expenditure				
Affiliation & Team Fees		1,510.00	1,868.00	358.00
Balls		1,946.63	1,485.00	(461.63)
Cleaning and Waste Removal		2,714.66	2,714.57	(0.09)
Electricity		4,196.98	4,350.10	153.12
Rates - General/Water		587.61	380.51	(207.10)
Grounds Maintenance-Labour		3,792.52	4,259.26	466.74
Post/Print/Admin Costs		268.81	120.06	(148.75)
General Repairs/Maintenance	7	2,478.24	1,796.02	(682.22)
Courts and Lighting Refurbishment	8	17,110.00	6,322.50	(10,787.50)
Insurance		1,124.38	1,053.54	(70.84)
Coaches Services		4,315.08	3,898.84	(416.24)
Unrecoverable VAT		3,361.14	7,614.87	4,253.73
Miscellaneous	9	1,993.19	2,350.23	357.04
Total Expenditure		45,399.24	38,213.50	(7,185.74)
Net Income Before Depreciation		8,617.87	10,869.13	(2,251.26)
Depreciation of Fixed Assets		8,625.00	8,678.00	53.00
Net Addition/(Reduction) to Reserves		(7.13)	2,191.13	(2,198.26)

Ashby Castle Lawn Tennis Club
Accounts - Year Ended 30 September 2018
Balance Sheet

	Notes	2018 £	2017 £
<u>Assets</u>			
Clubhouse, Courts etc	13	108400	115018
Stock-Hot Drinks and Snack Machines		857	658
Bank Accounts: Current		36038	41971
Sinking Fund-Courts Replacement	10	40000	30000
Sundry debtors	11	2275	2554
Total Assets		187570	190201
<u>Liabilities</u>			
Loans	14	30500	35500
VAT Payable		1902	5242
Sundry Creditors	12	6868	1152
Total Liabilities		39270	41894
Club Net Assets/Reserves		148300	148307

2018 AGM report

This year we had another very successful season in the junior summer leagues. The highlights include the 8&U team winning Div. 1, the 9&U team winning Div. 1, the 10&U team winning Div. 1, the 12&U A and B teams finishing 1st and 2nd in Div. 1, the 12&U girls winning Div. 2, the 14&U boys A winning Div. 2 as well as the 18&U boys team finishing runners up in Div. 1. Because of these results, we have won the Leicestershire junior club of the year award for the first time. This will be presented at the junior awards evening this Saturday as well as at Loughborough on Saturday 8th December between the Ladies and men's British tour masters finals. If any members would like to go to the finals and see us collect the award, please let me know as we can claim free tickets.

We also had a successful county championships, the highlights in the Leicestershire event were: Hanna Lyko winning the 8&U and 9&U girls singles, Tilly Bennion winning the 10&U girls singles, Harry Bell and Joe Murphy finishing 1st and 2nd in the 10&U boys singles and Angus Osborne finishing runner up in the 18&U boys singles and doubles. The Derbyshire highlights were: Toby Sanders winning the 8&U boys singles, Ffion Davies finishing runner up in the 8&U girls singles, Jess Peel winning the 10&U girls singles and doubles, Bethan Davies winning the 12&U girls doubles, Harry Cooper finishing runner up in the 12&U boys doubles and Dylan Hadley winning the 14&U boys doubles.

Also, well done to the following players who all represented their county this year: Hanna, Jacob, Jess, Harry, Joe, Sophie, Tilly, Olivia, Talia, Bethan, Thomas and Dylan. A great achievement and well deserved by all of them. Will Cross won the club stage of the road to Wimbledon and then finished runner up in the county finals so qualified for a training day at the All England club delivered by Tim Henman which was a great experience that he thoroughly enjoyed.

To celebrate these achievements, we are holding the annual junior awards evening on this Saturday, 6pm at Packington memorial hall. All members are welcome, if you'd like a ticket, please let me know.

As Gray mentioned earlier on, we have been delivering disability tennis sessions throughout the summer to groups from choices for life in Coalville as well as other local centres. Some of these sessions have had club members volunteering to help which has been a huge help and much appreciated by the coaches and players. We hope to get these sessions going again in the new year so please look out for any information if you'd like to get involved.

We ran our 4th trip to Cardiff in August for the weeklong grade 3 tournament and again it was very successful. In total we had 24 players aged between 10 and 15 and 6 coaches / helpers. The players were brilliant on and off the court and had lots of fun as well as winning several of the events. We are planning the same trip next year and it's looking like we'll have a greater number wanting to go. Players from other local clubs have been in touch asking whether they can join us as they've heard good things.

At the beginning of the year, I applied on behalf of the club for us to become an LTA recognised Local Player Development Centre for players aged 10&U. We were one of 8 clubs or centres in the Midlands to be selected and we started in September. This means that talented, local players are encouraged to join and train at Ashby and are given funding to do so. The club are also given funding to deliver sessions in primary schools with the hope of attracting new 10&U players to the club. So far we have developed links with many of the Ashby schools and are continuing to do so.

Finally, a thank you the rest if the coaching team for their work throughout the year and the committee for their continued support of the coaching section and juniors.

GOOD EVENING LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

I AM GIVING THE REPORT AS LADIES CAPTAIN, BUT FIRST AS ORGANISER OF THE COMMUNITY FUND RAISING DAY I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE INVOLVED WITH THE ORGANISATION OF THE DAY.

ALSO, THE FUND RAISING EVENTS ORGANISED BY VARIOUS TEAMS MADE THE FINAL TOTAL £5,253 WHICH WAS DIVIDED BETWEEN HOPE HOSPICE, PANCREATIC CANCER AND THE RE-FURBISHMENT OF THIS ROOM.

THIS HAS BEEN AN EXCELLENT SEASON FOR MOST OF THE LADIES TEAMS AND I WOULD TRULY LIKE TO THANK THE CAPTAINS FOR THEIR IMMENSE SUPPORT – THESE ARE KATIE HIGSON, JULIE GUZDER, PAT DRINKWATER, MURIEL BOUTTIER, KATHERINE PILBRO, DAWN HUNT, CLAIRE BRIDGES AND VAL ROBINSON.

**LADIES REPORT FOR OUR 8 LADIES TEAMS – WHICH INCLUDE:
AEGON, 2 LEICESTERSHIRE TEAMS, 3 BURTON TEAMS & 2 VETS
TEAM**

**THE AEGON TEAM STRUGGLED TO GAIN ENOUGH STRONG
PLAYERS TO MAINTAIN THEIR PLACE IN THE NATIONAL LEAGUE
AND THIS YEAR RE-JOINED THE REGIONAL DIVISION AFTER THE
MAGNIFICENT PROMOTION TO THE NATIONAL LEAGUE LAST YEAR.
CAPTAINED BY Katie HIGSON.**

**ALL TEAMS SECURED THEIR PLACES IN THEIR CURRENT DIVISIONS
HOWEVER, THE TWO HIGHLIGHTS WERE THE PROMOTION OF:**

LADIES 2nd LEICESTERSHIRE TEAM UNDER THE CAPTAINCY OF PAT DRINKWATER WHICH GAINED PROMOTION AND ARE NOW IN DIVISION 2.

ALSO OUR VETS 1 TEAM CAME TOP OF DIVISION 2 AND ARE NOW PROMOTED TO DIVISION 1 UNDER THE CAPTAINCY OF CLAIRE BRIDGES.

THE LADIES 1st LEICESTERSHIRE TEAM UNDER THE CAPTAINCY OF JULIE GUZDER FINISHED 3rd OUT OF 10 IN THE 1st DIVISION WHICH IS THE BEST FINISH FOR MANY YEARS.

BURTON B FINISHED 3RD IN DIVISION 3 WHICH WAS AN EXCELLENT RESULT AFTER PROMOTION FROM DIVISION 4 LAST YEAR. THIS WAS CAPTAINED BY KATHERINE PILBRO.

THE OTHER TEAMS BURTON 1, 3 AND VETS 2 REMAINED IN THEIR DIVISIONS.

THE MIXED TEAMS HAD AN EXCEPTIONAL SEASON -

THE MIXED BURTON

DIVISION 1 FINISHED FIRST – JULIE WAS CAPTAIN AND THIS IS AN OUTSTANDING EFFORT. DIVISION 1 OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE MIXED LEAGUE FINISHED A VERY CLOSE 2ND – IN FACT ONE POINT BEHIND THE WINNERS AND WAS ALSO CAPTAINED BY JULIE

IT WAS ALSO AN EXCELLENT SEASON FOR THE LEICESTERSHIRE MIXED 3RD TEAM. THEY WERE IN DIVISION 4 AND HAVE GAINED PROMOTION UP TO DIVISION 3 BY FINISHING IN 2ND PLACE. ABLY CAPTAINED BY MURIEL BOUTTIER AND DAVE FORSTER

ALL THE OTHER MIXED TEAMS STAYED IN THEIR DIVISIONS.

BURTON MIXED B - DIV 2 FINISHED 4TH STAYING PUT IN THE DIVISION. PAT DRINKWATER CAPTAIN

AND MIXED C DIVISION 4 FINISHED 3RD STAYING PUT WITH MIKE DRINKWATER AS CAPTAIN

MIXED 2ND TEAM LEICESTERSHIRE
FINISHED 3RD STRUGGLED TO GET PLAYERS ON WEEKENDS SO
STAYED IN THIS GROUP BUT HAD BEEN PROMOTED LAST YEAR.
CAPTAINED BY ESTHER SLEIGH

WINTER LEAGUE 2017

LADIES DIVISION 2. LYING 2ND AT THE MOMENT. CAPTAIN JULIE
GUZDER.

LADIES DIVISION 8 HAVE WON 4 AND LOST 2 WITH 1 MORE MATCH
TO PLAY. 3ND IN THEIR GROUP WITH BECCA RILEY AS CAPTAINING.

I WOULD REALLY LIKE TO THANK ALL THE CAPTAINS AND PLAYERS
FOR THEIR SUPPORT MAKING MY ROLE SO EASY.

BUT MY THANKS PARTICULARLY GO TO MURIEL, WHO HAS BEEN A
ROCK WHEN I HAVE NEEDED CLARIFICATION!

I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH EVERYONE AGAIN NEXT YEAR.
THANK YOU.

I would enjoy standing before you as my last act as men's captain to inform you of across the board promotions in Leicestershire and Burtons men's leagues, unfortunately I won't be doing that, but a strong season never the less.

Thank your first to the dedication from all men's team captains, particularly to Alex and to the other coaches who have assisted with team selection and solid tennis advice, and to Muriel Claire and Gill for fixtures organization and keeping me within the regulations, and to Gray and again Alex for that motivation and words of encouragement in the height of the season when it all seems just a little too intense.

So to the tale of the season, with consultation we decided to continue with our full complement of Burton and Leicestershire teams although accepting we would be under pressure for players.

Burton men's League.

Burton B division 6 finished 3rd of 5 teams winning 2 and drawing 4 matches, using many players new to matches, under Mike.

Burton A division 2 equal on points to the 2nd place finishing 3rd of 8 winning 3 and drawing 8, under Wayne.

Our burton teams won 97 sets losing 84.

Burton mixed League.

A team in division 1 3rd behind Etching Hill A and Netherseal A with 7 wins and 1 draw from 12 matches, under Julie.

B team finished 5th in division 2 with 2 wins and 4 draws, very tight in the middle of the league and could easily have been 3rd, under Pat.

C team finished 2nd in division 4 and hoping for promotion under Mike.

Our mixed Burton teams won 165 sets losing 130

Leicestershire men's league.

5TH team in Division 7A finishing 5th very close to 4th with a 50% win rate, setting a solid base for a rising team, well done Patrick, Gray.

4th team in division 4B finished 9th of 10 after a meteoric rise through the divisions in the last 4 years with Chris.

3rd team in division 3A finished 8th of 10, my boys perhaps feel we have reached a level we can maintain but not better.

2nd team in division 2 under extreme difficulties of getting the right quality of players having lost so many to Uni, Callum and Adie did fantastic but couldn't keep them up.

1st team in Premier division didn't manage to stay up but Alex already has a plan in place to regroup and rebuild, onwards and upwards.

Our Leicestershire teams won 126 sets losing 270.

Leicestershire mixed league.

3rds in division 4A a great finish 2nd behind David Lloyd Narborough, under Muriel.

2nds in division 2 finished bottom and unable to complete the season.

1sts finishing 4th in division 1 but equal on points with Charnwood in 3rd place, under Julie.

Our Leicestershire mixed teams won 54 sets losing 58

Winter league.

Decision was to enter just the 1 team with Chris in group 5 played 4 of 7 matches so far currently 5th.

Indoor winter league

Is due to start late November, participants welcome.

Seniors national.

Current decision for men at least is not to enter a team predominantly due to potential travel distance.

Despite often huge challenges in raising teams our men's captains only failed to raise teams on 3 occasions playing some 70 matches, and our mixed team scrubbed 2 and played 39, I would like to think we can maintain all of our current teams and extend participation beyond our 76 men's players used in senior teams this year of which 8 were new to senior men's tennis and continue to bring through Alex's juniors who have shown great attitude and skill where they have made that step up to senior tennis.

The men's teams played 6,362 games winning 2,758, and our mixed played 3,122 winning 1,623, a heck of a lot of tennis and a huge amount of pleasure with just a smidgeon of pain in defeat but absolutely no regrets expressed by any of our players win or lose who all represented our club with pride and sportsmanship.

I have lost count over the last 4 years as men's captain of the compliments paid by opposition players who visit our club and praise our facilities, attitude and particularly our junior membership and coaching programs, perhaps amongst all the noise we can sometimes forget what a strong club and terrific sporting venue this is that we can all be proud of.

Thank you