

SEPT 2023

Bramford Smash

Bramford Tennis Club Newsletter



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Thirza Dod (Welfare Officer)

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Graham Chappell

Welcome to our first club newsletter. We hope to publish these about once per quarter so do let us know if there are any topics you are particularly keen to hear more about. In each news letter, we will focus and introduce a specific member of your club committee. We start off this first edition with Thirza Dod (Welfare Officer). Welfare and safeguarding are important issues for us all and as a club we are committed to meeting the highest standards. Thirza leads in this area for us so please take the time to read her bio at the end of this newsletter and get in touch if there's anything you would like to discuss. Details of the wider committee team can be found [HERE](#)

on other matters, we are busy submitting improvement proposals for our facilities and are currently awaiting the outcome of a number of funding bids which we hope will allow us to introduce a retractable lighting solution to court 1 and an improved clubhouse/storage unit.

It's been really rewarding to see the increase in adult social play over recent months through the two clubnight sessions that are now up and running and its also great to see our club gain the **LTA Youth Recognised Venue Award** for the excellence of our junior coaching programme. We are one of only six clubs in the entire country at present to have gained this standard so a big thanks to Carl Douglas, our coach for getting us there.



SOCIAL TENNIS

SIMON BAREHAM

Hi, Simon here and together with Loren we organise two adult member clubnights on Tues and Fridays from 7.30pm. These sessions are not coach led and so are aimed at players who are already able to serve and rally using standard yellow tennis balls. If you are interested just contact us via the club email bramfordtennisclub@yahoo.com and we can add you to the relevant WhatsApp group. Look forward to seeing you on court.

SOCIAL EVENTS

JO MARSHALL

Hi, its Jo and I've recently joined the club committee as social secretary. I'm also a captain of one of the ladies teams. My aim over the coming months is to create a number of fun social events (not necessarily tennis related) but all designed to bring people together in a fun and friendly social atmosphere. I've recently sent a survey out to members to try to capture feedback on what social events your are most interested in. The survey can be accessed at [Bramford Tennis Club Social Events Survey](#).



A Message from our Welfare Officer - Thirza Dod

I'm Thirza and am the key contact point for any welfare related matters in the club. Like Jo, I also captain one of our ladies teams and am also a teacher at a local primary school. As the club's welfare officer, you can be assured that I regularly undertake specialist safeguard training and also ensure that anyone else working at the club who comes into contact with children or vulnerable adults also goes through the same level of training and conforms to all DBS standards. Feel free to contact me for an informal chat if you want to know more



PROJECT SMASH

ALI SPARROW

Hi, my name is Ali and my role on the committee is to act as the grants officer. Working closely with the chair and the coach and wider authorities including Bramford Parish Council we have structured a detailed and phased improvement project to upgrade the club facilities over the next few years. You can find all the documentation relating to the project in the [grants section](#) the club website.

COACHES CORNER

CARL DOUGLAS

Hi, I'm Carl and am the Head coach at Bramford Tennis club, running a busy programme of adult and junior coaching. All ages from 4 to 18 are catered for in our award winning junior programme (LTA YOUTH) and we also run additional 1:1 can group coaching sessions for adults based on demand and will shortly be advertising our next Adults Tennis Xpress course. All details and can be found on the [Carl Douglas Coaching website](#) or contact me directly using the details at the end of this newsletter



Key Email Contacts

Bramford Tennis Club- bramfordtennisclub@yahoo.com

Welfare Officer - bramfordwelfare@gmail.com

Social tennis - bramfordtennisclub@yahoo.com

Coaching - hotshottennis@outlook.com

MEET THE TEAM



BRAMFORD TENNIS CLUB - WELFARE OFFICER

THIRZA DOD - WELFARE

My family and I are members of Bramford Tennis Club and I regularly play here, often attending club events with my children.

We really enjoy playing tennis, and I believe in making sure it is safe and inclusive for everyone.

As the clubs welfare officer you can be assured that I regularly undertake specialist safeguard training in order to keep my skills and knowledge up to date and that I also ensure that anyone else working with children or vulnerable adults at our club e.g coaches also meet all the latest LTA safeguarding requirements.

If you have any concerns or if you just want to talk to someone about wider welfare issues, then please contact me confidentially using the details below. Alternatively you can contact one of the other agencies listed on the right of this poster

CONTACT DETAILS

Thirza Dod - Welfare Office
Email: in confidence to
bramfordwelfare@gmail.com



THIRZA DOD



OTHER AGENCIES

The following agencies can also be contacted:

NSPCC Helpline
0808 800 5000
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>

Childline Helpline
0800 1111
<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

Police (emergencies only)
999

