

THE
COLLINGWOOD
LAWN TENIS CLUB

FOUNDED
1921

This book is dedicated to all the previous members of the Collingwood Lawn Tennis Club especially the committee members who have sustained the club through some very difficult periods.

Without all the hard work undertaken in the past, the tennis club would have disappeared like many others and we would not have the fine facilities that I am sure future generations will enjoy.

Please accept my apologies if there are any errors, inaccuracies or omissions in the following pages.

October, 1978

**A.S. Carmichael
Honorary Secretary**

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COLLINGWOOD LAWN TENNIS CLUB
FROM 1921

1929

CHAIRMAN - E.L.F.Bitterman SECRETARY - A.C.Ritchie

The club was 8 years old in 1929 when the Eighth Annual General Meeting was held in the BATH HOTEL, Tynemouth. At this meeting the annual subscription was increased to £1.15.0d.

It was reported that the President, G.H.Miller Esq. and Mrs. Miller entertained the club to tea on 2nd July on the day an American Tournament was held.

Results

The Ladies Team were promoted to Group L.C.
The Gents Team were 6th in Group G.1.

1930

The financial accounts show an income of 1s - 6d from the sale of Club Badges.

On the 16th April, 1930 it was reported that the Trustees had granted permission to play tennis on Sundays on the hard courts.

Results

The Ladies Team were 2nd in Group L.G.
The Gents Team were 4th in Group G.1.

1931

General play was a "washout" owing to the extremely wet weather experienced this year.

The committee accounced the death of Mr.Chris Hughes an original member of the club who had captained the Mens Team on many occasions.

Results

The Ladies Team were 3rd in Group L.C.
The Gents Team were 2nd in Group G.1.

1932CHAIRMAN - F.W. ThompsonSECRETARY - C. Lucas

The eleventh A.G.M. was held in the Smoke Room in the BATH HOTEL, Tynemouth.

The Club Open Singles Challenge Cups were won by:-

Ladies	-	Miss B.S. Hughes
Gents	-	Mr. R.C. McPhee

The remaining £10 on the hard court loan account was repaid and the club is free from debt. There was a loss on the club dance of 4s. 6d.

Results

The Ladies Team were 7th in Group L.C.
The Gents Team were 2nd in Group G.1.

1933CHAIRMAN - L.D. VeitchSECRETARY - A.C. Ritchie

To publicise the club it was decided to erect a board on the gate opposite the Bath Hotel giving the name of the club and the Secretary's address.

Mr. Chadwick stated that he had been inviting various members of clubs which are closing to play on our courts with a view to enrolling them as members. There were 48 senior members and one junior member.

The club suffered the grievous loss in the death of Mr. J.F. Miller "Jim" as he was affectionately known, one of their hardest working members.

Results

The Ladies Team were 2nd in Group L.D.
The Gents Team were 1st in Group G.1.

1934CHAIRMAN - T.S. MillerSECRETARY - A.C. Ritchie

On the 6th April the Secretary read a letter from Mr. W. Hall asking if the club were interested in the tenancy of the Rackets Court. This proposal was abandoned due to the suggested high rental cost of £73.14.0d per annum.

Mrs. T.S. Miller and Miss A. Roxby were winners of the Tynemouth Open Tournament Ladies doubles beating Miss B. Leonard and Mrs. Jackaman.

Results

The Ladies team promoted to Group L.G.
The Gents Team were 1st in Group F.1. and were promoted for the second year.

1935

The Secretary reported that he had sold 15 dozen old balls to the Tyneside Rubber Co. for 2/3d per dozen.

Mr. Miller brought forward the subject of Culyer the groundsman and his wages of 25 shillings per week and asked what his duties were. After a discussion there was still some doubt and it was decided to discuss the matter more fully next year.

Results

The Ladies Team were 4th in Group L.C.
The Gents Team were 3rd in Group E.

1936CHAIRMAN - L.D.VeitchSECRETARY - J.N.Jackaman

Mr. Ritchie proposed that the club should advertise for members in "The Record" and "The Advertiser".

On 27th August, 1936 it was decided to defer the discussion on Culyer's duties to a later meeting.

In view of the low membership it was thought desirable that all older members of the club should make themselves agreeable to the newer members.

To raise money it was decided to hold Whist Drives in the Winter. The first was held at the CARLTON HOTEL, Tynemouth.

It was decided on the 19th September that Culyer's wages would be 2/6d per week in the Winter months after the 30th September.

In the Tynemouth Open Tournament K.G.A.Marsh beat C.P.Goldson in the Mens Open Singles 6-3, 6-3.

Results

The Ladies Team were 4th in Group L.G.
The Gents Team were 3rd in Group E.

1937CHAIRMAN - A.C.RitchieSECRETARY - J.N.Jackaman

It was decided to write to En Tout Cas Co. for the price of binding oil for the hard courts.

A new net for the Hard Court was purchased costing a guinea.

It was decided that two committee members interview Culyer the groundsman to outline the duties he was expected to perform in the 1938 Season.

Results

The Ladies Team were 7th in Group L.C.
and relegated.
The Gents Team were 3rd in Group E.

1938

Mr. Veitch suggested using used engine oil on a part of the court to see how it worked.

Miss S. Hughes and Mr. W. J. Robson were the winners of the respective Singles Championship cups.

Results

The Ladies Team were 1st in Group L.D. and promoted.

The Gents Team were 2nd in Group E.

1939CHAIRMAN - A.C. RitchieSECRETARY - E.C. Leighton

Mr. Leighton reported that Mr. Kane had informed him that the "Avenue L.T.C." would like two friendly matches at the beginning of the Season.

It was proposed that an alternative sport should be provided whilst waiting for courts and archery was suggested.

It was decided not to hold a President's Day this year - The next meeting was arranged for the 4th September, 1939.

The 2nd World War commenced on the 3rd September, 1939 and the above committee meeting was deferred until 24th October, 1939.

A test had been done on the hard court using Calcium Chloride and it was satisfactory. It was therefore decided to do the whole of the court.

Results

The Ladies Team were 5th in Group L.C.

The Gents Team were 1st in Group E and promoted.

1940CHAIRMAN - T. RobsonSECRETARY - E.C. Leighton

It was decided that members of His Majesty's Forces be elected Honorary Members of the club for the duration of the war.

It was reported with regret that a former member of the club, Flying Officer Douglas Hastings had been killed on active service.

Results

There were no competitive matches in the leagues this year.

1941

It was suggested that as wire netting for the courts was in short supply, Mr. Veitch should investigate the possibility of using old fish netting.

Tennis balls were extremely difficult to obtain and on the 10th September, 1941 Miss Abel produced samples of second hand balls and it was decided to purchase them at the agreed price.

Results

There were no competitive matches in the leagues this year.

1942CHAIRMAN - T.S. MillerSECRETARY - E.C. Leighton

It was proposed that Sunday play be allowed on the grass courts during the Summer Season until the end of hostilities - Sanction for this was to be requested from the Park Trustees.

The Secretary reported that the Hose Pipe had been stolen.

Results

There were no competitive matches in the leagues this year.

1943

Mr. E.C. Leighton reported that the Ministry of Supply had forbidden the manufacture of any new balls this year but old balls could be cleaned and reflat. The club stock was eight new balls and 24 used balls.

It was decided to advertise in the "Evening News" and "Evening Chronicle" for new and old balls.

To safeguard the balls it was decided that only 4 balls could be allocated to hard courts this Season. The other balls would be used on the grass courts so that they would last longer.

Owing to the club being without a Hose Pipe, Mr. Angus and Mrs. Leighton offered to lend their hose pipes to the club for the Season.

Results

There were no competitive matches in the leagues this year.

1944CHAIRMAN - Mr.A.W.AyresSECRETARY - E.C.Leighton

It was decided to send a book voucher for 10/6d to Mr. Ayres in appreciation of his services to the club.

Mr. Ayres promised to try and get 12 dozen tennis balls from America. All members who had friends in the Royal Navy or Merchant Navy were to ask if they could procure tennis balls from America or Canada.

As Priors Park is now being used by the Military, it is necessary for all members to have a pass to enter the club. These can be obtained from Mr.R.Phillips, Secretary to the Trustees.

The Treasurer, Mr.T.S.Miller stated at the A.G.M. that "he is a very lazy man and if all members will pay their subscriptions by 1st May, it will save him a lot of trouble".

It was decided to hold an American Tournament in aid of the Red Cross. Mrs. Heppinstall and Mrs.Darling beat Miss Robson and Miss Potts in the final. Both winners handed back their prizes to the Red Cross.

Results

There were no competitive matches in the leagues this year.

1945

On the 11th August a local press report states that "A Victory Tennis Tournament" was held at the Collingwood Lawn Tennis Club and that 80 entrants took part. The winners were Mrs. Darling and Mrs. Heppinstall who defeated W.Clark and Miss Leonard by seven games to five. Prizes were presented by Miss O.Ross.

A dance was arranged in December at the Grand Hotel which made a profit of £14.13.5d.

Results

There were no competitive matches in the leagues this year.

1946CHAIRMAN - T.S.MillerSECRETARY - E.C.Leighton

Mr. Leighton was asked to write to N.L.T.A. to ask about arrangements for league tennis this Season.

It was agreed to run two Ladies Teams and two Gents Teams this Season.

Mr. Leighton reported that he had received a letter from Dunlop Rubber Company stating that there would be an adequate supply of balls for the current Season.

The club approached Mrs. Hogg of the Bath Hotel to see if we could use rooms for changing for matches.

The club membership was reported at 71 on the 25th May and membership was closed.

It was agreed that teas for teams would be provided at Baxters and that players should pay 1/6d per head.

Mr. Leighton agreed to call at the food office to see if the club could obtain tea, sugar and milk, and a catering license was obtained for rationed foods.

Mr. Leighton suggested and it was agreed to purchase an Anderson Air Raid Shelter for the storage of tools etc.

C.Watts and J.Knox were selected to represent Northumberland but unfortunately J.Knox was injured and could not play.

Results

The Ladies Team were placed in group L.B.
The Gents Team were placed in group C.

1947

Mr.T.S.Miller informed the A.G.M. that the garden backing onto No.1. court had been obtained for the purpose of erecting a pavilion. This would be a prefabricated structure and scheduled as a temporary building which should come down in five years. It was agreed to proceed.

Mr.T.S.Miller arranged a guarantee from Lloyds Bank for £300 to allow the club to proceed with the erection of the pavilion.

Mrs.L. Somm won the club Ladies Singles. Mr.C.Watts won the club Gents Singles.

The grass courts were reported as being in poor condition due to lack of maintenance.

Results

The Ladies Team won promotion to Group L.A.
The Gents Team won promotion to Group B.

1948CHAIRMAN - T.S.MillerSECRETARY - Mr.L.Kane

Mr.A.Brook proposed that we write to the Trustees and state that we do not desire to take over the Priory L.T.C. Courts as they would not be fit for use until 1949. We should also enquire the terms for acquiring Mr.Ellison's court.

It was decided to admit to the club a limited number of junior members at a subscription of £1. Before becoming senior members they would be subject to the customary playing in test.

It was decided to create a Pavilion Loan Fund in units of £5.

An Extra-ordinary General Meeting was held in the Methodist Church, Tynemouth to increase the subscriptions as the funds of the club were exhausted apart from the pavilion fund and the committee considered that this fund should not be used for court maintenance. Subscriptions were increased to £2.10.0d per annum.

Mr. Leighton reported that cost of installing water in the pavilion was prohibited as local residents objected to tapping their pipes and the water engineer refused permission.

Miss D.Thomson and F.A.Millington won the respective singles in the club championships.

Miss J.Love reached the Semi-Final of the Northumberland (closed) Junior Championship.

Results

The Ladies Team were relegated.

The Gents Team won promotion to Group A for the first time in the club history.

1949

At the request of Tynemouth Corporation a Centenary Tournament was to be arranged at the Collingwood Lawn Tennis Club.

Calor gas lighting is to be installed in the pavilion.

As part of the centenary celebrations HMS BICESTER was visiting the area and after reading a letter from the Town Clerk it was agreed that the ships crew could use the courts free for the duration of their stay.

1949 Mr.D.Gilberg represented Northumberland at County Week and Miss J.Love represented the County Juniors for the second year.

Results The Ladies Team were promoted to Group A
The Gents Team won half their matches to stay in Group A.

1950 The club court in the previous year had been in a very bad condition and to give them more rest it was proposed to take over the bomb damaged courts of the Priory Park Club.

The secretary reported a slight decline in membership and that play on the grass courts would be delayed until mid-June.

The club decided to proceed with the scheme to build three hard courts at a cost of £600 on the bomb damaged area, the finance for this project to come from loans from members, already £300 has been promised.

Miss E.K.Williams represented Northumberland. She also won the club Singles Championship.

Mr.C.Potts defeated Mr.D.Gilberg in the Gents Singles. Messrs. C.Watts, D.Gilberg and F.Millington played for the County second team.

Results Both the Ladies and Gents team retained their position in Group A.

1951 CHAIRMAN - T.S.Miller SECRETARY - D.S.Unsworth

This year saw the completion of the 3 new hard courts, a great achievement in one year's work.

It was decided not to purchase the turf from Beverley L.T.C. who had also built hard courts.

Mr.D.Gilberg was selected as Captain of Northumberland, a great honour to the club. Mr.C.Watts also represented the County. Mr.L.E.Lawson reached the final of the Newcastle Cup in the County tournament.

Results Both the Ladies and Gents team retained their position in Group A.

1952

The club membership had reached the following level:-

57 Seniors, 4 Non-Playing

Mr.D.G.Gilberg and Miss E.K.Williams were both selected for the county and both won their respective singles events in the club championship.

Results

Both the Ladies and Gents teams were relegated from Group A.

1953

There was a slight decline in senior membership but the student and junior membership fell dramatically.

Mr.D.G.Gilberg defeated Mr.F.A.Millington in the Gents Singles and Mrs. Somm beat Miss J.Wilson in the Ladies Singles Final.

Results

The Ladies teams was again relegated.
The Gents team remained in Group B.

1954

The secretary reported a significant increase in membership from 87 to 108.

Mrs. M.Hunter won the Ladies Singles Championship beating Mrs. Somm in the Final.

Mr.D.G.Gilberg defeated Mr.A.Ridley in the Gents Singles.

Results

The Ladies Team was again relegated to L.D.
The Gents Team held their position in Group B.

1955

CHAIRMAN - C.A.Hargreaves

SECRETARY - D.S.Unsworth

It was reported that the trustees had pulled down the old pavilion on the junior grass court.

The treasurer reported that despite a reduction of 17 senior members, expenses had increased by £43 and that there was an excess of expenditure over income of £15.0.7d.

The Ladies Singles was won by Mrs.M.Hunter. Miss P.Neil was the runner up.

1955

Mr.D.G.Gilberg again beat Mr.A.Ridley in the Gents Singles Final.

Our President, Mr.L.D.Veitch and Mrs. Veitch were present to watch the Finals and generously provided teas during the afternoon.

Mr.D.G.Gilberg continues to play for the County and reached the Semi-Finals of the Northumberland Hard Courts Championships.

Results

Both the Ladies and Gents teams retained their positions in their respective groups.

1956CHAIRMAN - J.C.PottsSECRETARY - J.R.Cooke

It was agreed to employ the groundsman for 9 hours weekly from April 1st at £1.12.7½d per week.

Permission was granted to Mr.D.S.Unsworth for Tynemouth School to rent the hard courts for two afternoons per week from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. (This is the first record of our association with the King's School).

The club facilities were offered to the Captain and Ships Company of HMS BARROSA during their visit to North Shields from 11th to 16th May.

It was agreed to offer facilities of the club to the Ships Company of HMS THESEUS during their visit to the Tyne from 17th - 23rd July.

The Ladies Singles was won by Mrs.V.Dickson with Miss P.Boyles runner up and the Gents Singles by R.Athey with M.Adams runner up. (The holders were unfortunately unable to defend their titles).

A dance was held on Finals Day at the Grand Hotel when Mr. and Mrs. L.D.Veitch presented the prizes.

Results

Both the Ladies and Gents teams retained their positions in their respective groups.

1957

The secretary applied for petrol coupons for the lawn mower. Petrol rationing had followed the Suez invasion.

Three dances were held at the Grand Hotel thanks to the efforts of Mr. Mather and his Social Committee.

Miss L. Buglass and D. Appleby, two promising juniors, attended a Coaching Course held by Northumberland L.T.A. under Mr. Sid Evans.

Mr. C. Leighton was chosen to represent Northumberland at Junior Wimbledon and reached to second round of the Singles.

The success of the Junior Section reflects the hard work by Mr. and Mrs. Forrest, there are now almost 50 members.

Results

The Ladies Team missed promotion by .6%
The Gents Team retained their "B" Group position.

1958

It was agreed to improve the water supply to the hard courts and that the Water Company had installed a new main. The new standpipe to be supplied by Messrs. J. Bilclough.

The Priors Park subscriptions were increased as follows:-

Senior from £1.2.0d to £1.5.0d
Junior from 15.0d to 16.6d

It was decided to abolish the system of Playing in Tests in the hope that this will improve the number of members.

The secretary was authorised to obtain the use of the Corporation roller for the grass courts if it is not too expensive.

The Ladies Singles Champion was Mrs. M. Hunter
The Gents Singles Champion was D. Gilberg

Results

Both the Ladies and Gents Team retained their positions in their respective leagues.

1959CHAIRMAN - D.S.UNSWORTHSECRETARY - A.S.CARMICHAEL

The Northumberland L.T.A. approved a scheme of a levy of one shilling, per senior member of each club to be paid to the Lawn Tennis Association to improve national coaching and match expenses including the Davis and Wightman cups.

W.Bower and C.Leighton were congratulated on winning the South-North Doubles handicap.

As there was a probable deficit in the year it was decided that there would be no draw for the repayment of the Hard Courts loans.

D.G.Gilberg and C.Leighton represented Northumberland.

There was a major programme in the Priors Park to improve the playing fields and the grass court used by park members had to be destroyed.

The Ladies Singles Champion was Mrs.M.Hunter.
The Gents Singles Champion was D.Gilberg.

Results

The Ladies 1st Team retained position in Group L.D.
The Gents 1st Team retained position in Group B

1960

The lease between the Priors Park Trustees and the club had now expired and there was a proposal from Tynemouth School as follows:-

- (1) The school should use the hard courts for an hour or so each day.
- (2) The school should use the grass courts for cricket net practice.
- (3) That the Collingwood LTC consider moving to Billy Mill with the new squash club so that the school had the sole use of hard and grass courts.

The club replied that providing the school hired the courts, both items one and two would be acceptable.

After a long discussion, it was decided that with the long association with Priors Park (40 years) it would be to our advantage to remain.

A considerable number of meetings were to take place with the school and trustees over the next two years on this subject as the school attempted to take over the facilities of the club. Their proposal was that the members of the club use the courts during the evenings and weekends.

The Ladies Singles Champion was Mrs.M.Hunter
 The Gents Singles Champion was W.Bower

Results

The Ladies 1st Team were demoted to Group L.E.
 The Gents 1st Team were demoted to Group C.

1961

To negotiate with the school it was decided to appoint a committee of E.C.Leighton, D.G.Gilberg and A.S.Carmichael.

The club decided to approach the N.L.T.A. for assistance in our negotiations. Mr.L.D.Veitch, our President was also to be asked to help with the legal problems.

The Ladies Singles Champion was Mrs.M.Hunter
 The Gents Singles Champion was R.Armstrong.

Results

The Ladies 1st Team retained position in Group L.E.
 The Gents 1st Team retained position in Group C.

1962

CHAIRMAN - D.G.GILBERG

SECRETARY - A.S.CARMICHAEL

In March, 1962 an agreement was reached with the Reverend J.M.Nicholson on the use of the Collingwood courts during weekdays of the school terms by the King's School, Tynemouth.

The trustees were to pay half the repairs and maintenance costs of the club together with 50% of the rates on the courts.

We were very fortunate to negotiate such a good agreement as over the next few years the membership fell to uneconomic levels and no doubt the club would have failed if we had had to provide the total costs of maintenance.

Another important factor was that the King's School became very interested in tennis and were to provide the nucleus of both the Collingwood 1st Team ten years later and also most of the Northumberland Junior and Senior Men's County teams.

Mr. and Mrs. Veitch attended the finals and Mrs. Veitch kindly presented the prizes.

The Ladies Singles Champion was Mrs.M.Hunter

The Gents Singles Champion was R.Armstrong

Results

The Ladies 1st Team retained position in Group L.E.
 The Gents 1st Team retained position in Group C.

1963CHAIRMAN - R.FADINGTONSECRETARY - A.S.CARMICHAEL

The secretary reported that negotiations were taking place with Tynemouth Corporation to reduce our facilities from nine courts and one pavilion to four courts and one pavilion. These negotiations were successful and the rateable value was reduced from £195 to £110.

A dance was held at the Grand Hotel on 28th June at a price of 5/- per ticket. A profit was made of £9.8.0d.

The membership had fallen to:-

Seniors	19
Students	15
Juniors	5

The Ladies Singles winner was Mrs.M.Hunter
The Gents Singles winner was D.Gilberg.

Results

The Ladies 1st Team retained their position in Group L.E.
The Gents 1st Team were relegated to Group D.

1964

The membership fell even further to:-

Seniors	19
Students	8
Juniors	.9

This was a very serious position in the history of the club as the number of lady members was insufficient to raise one team.

The total expenditure on the club including balls was £106.5.4d and therefore the facilities were tending to deteriorate despite the hard work undertaken by the club members.

Despite this low expenditure there was a loss on the year of £1.1.4d.

Loans from previous members to the Hard Court fund of £161 were still outstanding with little hope of repayment.

The Ladies Singles Champion was Mrs.M.Hunter
The Gents Singles Champion was R.Armstrong.

Results

The Gents 1st Team retained their position in Group D

1965

It was decided that a determined effort must be made to attract new members especially juniors and a new class of family membership was evolved.

Cullercoats Methodists hired the junior hard court at a cost of £15 for the third year.

King's School Old Boys Cricket Club started to hire the pavilion for home matches at a cost of £6 and a long and useful association commenced. Geoff. Scarth, a long standing member of both the tennis and cricket club proposed this arrangement in March.

To attract junior members it was decided to employ Sidney Evans, the County Coach for eight weeks on Sunday afternoons for two hour sessions at a cost of 25/- per hour.

Authority was received from the Tynemouth Corporation Borough Surveyor, D.M.O'Herlihy for the continued use of the temporary pavilion until 1970.

The Ladies Singles Champion was Mrs.M.Hunter
The Gents Singles Champion was W.Lomas

Results

The Gents 1st Team retained their position in Group D

1966

The club were still buying tennis balls from the Tyneside Rubber Co.Ltd. High Bridge, Newcastle at a cost of 47/- per dozen.

For the second year expenditure exceeded income. This years loss was £5.12.5d.

The Ladies Singles Champion was Mrs.M.Hunter
The Gents Singles Champion was W.Lomas

Results

The Gents 1st Team retained their position in Group D

1967

The membership began to show growth:-

Family	9 (include 20 juniors)
Seniors	15
Students	7
Junior	11

There was a surplus of £53 of income over expenditure.

The Ladies Singles Champion was Mrs.M.Hunter.
The Gents Singles Champion was H.Wells.

Results

The Gents 1st Team were relegated to Group F

1969

CHAIRMAN - A.S.CARMICHAEL

SECRETARY A.S.CARMICHAEL

The club again showed a healthy financial situation with a surplus of £32.5.11d.

Doug. Unsworth continues to be our non-playing member and is of considerable assistance to the club in its relationships with both Priors Park trustees and the King's School. He defends the courts against all intruders!

Our one grass court has only survived the football, cricket and cyclists as a result of his vigilance.

The Ladies Singles Champion was Mrs. M.Hunter
The Gents Singles Champion was I.S.Carmichael

Results

The Gents 1st Team retained their position in Group F.

1970

For the first time since the end of the 1939/45 was, the clubs bank balance more than covers the outstanding debts including the loans from members for the Hard Courts. At last we are solvent!

We have had a period of ten years when every item of expenditure was strictly controlled and there had been little improvements to the courts or surrounds. Despite this, the hard courts remained in a reasonable condition as a result of the hard work done by the members - We often seemed to spend time working, not playing.

A new Ladies Singles Champion emerged this year when Miss S.James, one of our promising juniors defeated Mrs. M. Hunter after a reign of 16 years during which period she had only missed one final through injury.

Results

The Gents Singles Champion was I.S.Carmichael
The Gents 1st Team was promoted to Group E.2.

The spirit in the club has improved considerably and the better junior members are being encouraged to play with the senior members. The family membership has helped considerably.

Some of the junior members are now playing on the senior teams and are showing great promise. Such members are:-

Mr. I. S. Carmichael
 Mr. N. A. Carmichael
 Mr. N. Gilberg
 Miss S. James
 Miss G. Lomas
 Mr. W. Lomas
 Mr. N. Moat
 Mr. N. Nasser
 Mr. C. Purdy
 Miss F. Purdy

The Ladies Singles Champion was Mrs. M. Hunter
 The Gents Singles Champion was W. Lomas

Results

The Gents 1st Team were relegated to Group E

1968

The club is now on the road to recovery. Membership continues to grow:-

Family	8 (including 18 juniors)
Senior	28
Students	8
Juniors	<u>22</u>
Total	<u>84 members</u>

The club decided that the present members should accept the responsibility of guaranteeing the Lloyds Bank against overdrafts and the previous guarantors were informed.

Our President, Mr. L. D. Veitch in reply to our letter gave us his good wishes for the future success of the club.

The junior Sunday coaching by Mr. S. Evans is very popular and it is not uncommon for 30 juniors to attend each session.

The pavilion is insured against fire for £400 at a cost of 19/8d per year. It is now in a bad state and we often wish it might have burned down.

1971

Sunday afternoon coaching for juniors continues to be popular and the standard of their play improves significantly.

We are now entering a period when our junior players are to dominate all the local tournaments.

I.S.Carmichael won the Northumberland U18 Boys Open Singles Championship.

N.A.Carmichael is selected for National Coaching at the Crystal Palace.

The Ladies Singles Champion was Miss F.Purdy another of our promising juniors.

The Gents Singles Champion was I.S.Carmichael.

Results

The Gents 1st Team retained its position in Group E2.

1972

The old pavilion is still in use and KSOB Cricket Club redecorated the interior. The walls dividing the rooms are now in a very flexible state.

It was decided at the AGM that we should now offer to repay the loans made by previous members for the construction of the hard courts.

Many of these loans were offered as donations to the club to start a fund for a new pavilion.

Three of our junior boys were selected for the Junior County Team, a great honour to the club to provide half the team. They were I.S.Carmichael, N.A.Carmichael and J.F.C.Purdy.

In tournaments we were successful as follows:-

Cheshire	Boys U13 Singles	Winner	N.A.Carmichael
Cheshire	Boys U15 Singles	Runner Up	I.S.Carmichael
N'Land	Boys U14 Singles	Runner Up	N.Moat
N'Land	Boys U14 Doubles	Winners	N.Moat and C.Purdy
Durham	Boys U14 Singles	Winner	N.A.Carmichael
		Runner Up	J.F.C.Purdy
Durham	Boys U16 Doubles	Winners	J.F.C.Purdy and N.A.Carmichael

Results

The Gents Singles Champion was I.S.Carmichael
The Gents 1st Team were relegated to Group F2

1973

In this year we had a meeting with Mr.H.Dillon, Headmaster of The King's School and it was agreed that we should investigate the possibility of obtaining a grant towards a new pavilion in Priors Park at a cost of approximately £6,000. The balance of the funds to come from loans or other sources.

Miss F.Purdy was selected to represent the Northumberland Junior County in the girls team and J.F.C.Purdy and N.A.Carmichael represented the Junior County in the U18 Team.

In local junior tournaments we had the following successes:-

South North	U16 Boys Singles	Winner	N.A.Carmichael
Durham	U14 Boys Singles	Winner	N.A.Carmichael
Durham	U16 Boys Singles	Winner	N.A.Carmichael
Durham	U16 Boys Singles	Runner Up	J.F.C.Purdy
Durham	U18 Boys Doubles	Winners	J.F.C.Purdy and N.A.Carmichael

Neil Carmichael had the honour of being ranked No.10 in Britain in the Under 14 age group by the L.T.A.

The Gents Singles Champion was I.S.Carmichael

Results

The Gents 1st Team won Group F.2.

1974

A committee was formed to organise a carnival in Priors Park on the 29th June to raise funds towards the new pavilion - Kings School assured us of their support. This committee was as follows:-

<u>Collingwood LTC</u>	<u>KSOBCC</u>	<u>Kings School</u>
R.Brown	J.Gould	H.Dillon
A.S.Carmichael	G.Scarth	R.Palmer
H.Graham		
G.Milburn		
F.Stewart		
Miss J.Stoves		

This venture was highly successful and raised a surplus of £731 which was to considerably influence the grant that we were to negotiate with the County Borough of Tyneside.

The most interesting event was the Balloon Race where gas filled balloons were released in Priors Park and there were three prizes to those going the furthest.

We were all amazed when tickets were found and returned from Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Austria, West Germany, Denmark, East Germany and Poland together with a number of tickets from as far North as Berwick.

After much deliberation by the Geography Department at King's School, the following winners were declared:-

1st Prize C.Jones. 10 Grenada Close, Whitley Bay - Hungary
 2nd Prize W.S.Herd, 12 Rothley Way, Whitley Bay - Czechoslovakia
 3rd Prize G.Wilson, 7 Westfield Ave. Gosforth - Austria

Without the dedication of the masters and boys of King's School we could not have raised such a significant amount of cash.

N.A.Carmichael was selected to play for the Senior Northumberland County Team as he was still under 16 years of age. This was a great honour.

N.Moat, J.F.C.Purdy and N.A.Carmichael all represented the Northumberland Junior County.

In Junior Tournaments we recorded the following good results:-

South North	U16 Singles	Winner	N.A.Carmichael
N'Land Closed	U18 Singles	Winner	N.A.Carmichael
Durham	U16 Singles	Winner	N.A.Carmichael
	U16 Singles	Runner Up	J.F.C.Purdy
	U18 Singles	Winner	N.A.Carmichael
	U18 and U16 Doubles	Winners	J.F.C.Purdy N.A.Carmichael

The Gents Singles Champion was S.Prakash

Results

The Gents 1st Team won Group E2.

1975

A considerable number of meetings took place to obtain a grant for the new pavilion, we now had the following funds available:-

	£
Donations and Club Funds (incl.carnival)	1296
Loans from members	397
	<hr/> 1696
Grant required	4500
Estimated Pavilion Cost	<hr/> £ 6196

The following committee was elected to proceed with the plan:-

J.Cooke, J.Gould, G.Milburn, H.Graham, A.S.Carmichael.

J.Cooke was to act as architect and drawings and specifications were drawn up. Costs were rising monthly and we had to eliminate such items as showers.

A grant of £4,500 from the County Borough of Tyneside was obtained with Sports Council and NLTA support.

Building commenced early in the year by Stephen Easten Ltd. and by July all building work we could afford to pay for was completed and the members started painting inside and outside with the help of KSOB Cricket Club.

Our junior players continued to dominate local tournaments as follows:-

N/Land	U18	Closed Singles	Winner	N.A.Carmichael
Durham	U21	Singles	Winner	N.A.Carmichael
Durham	U18	Doubles	Winners	J.F.C.Purdy N.A.Carmichael
Durham	Mixed	Doubles	Winner	N.A.Carmichael

The Gents Singles Champion was N.A.Carmichael

Results

The Gents 1st Team won Group D.

1976

The membership of the club is now very healthy as follows:-

Family	16	(+ 33 juniors)
Seniors	10	
Students	5	
Juniors	28	
Total	92	

This resulted in a surplus of income over expenditure of £40.05.

All the work on the pavilion was completed. The complete surrounds to the courts were replaced in this year.

The juniors continued to enjoy the local tournaments and J.F.C.Purdy defeated N.A.Carmichael in the Semi-Final of the Durham U21 Singles, a great success after many years of effort. Unfortunately he lost to a Durham Junior County Player, Moody, in the final.

The club team of J.F.C.Purdy and N.A.Carmichael won the following doubles finals:-

N'land	U18
Durham	U18
Durham	U21

N.A.Carmichael won the U18 Singles Final at Durham, together with the U18 Closed Singles of Northumberland.

The Gents Singles Champion was J.F.C.Purdy.

Results

The Gents 1st Team failed to gain promotion as they lose to Beverley 9-9 on Rubbers 83-82 on games. Both clubs having won all their other matches.

1977

After many hectic years of hard work it was a good year to enjoy our tennis and this we all did.

Due to the increasing cost of coaching, it was decided that A.Starr and N.A.Carmichael would undertake Junior Coaching in place of S.Evans who had done many years of sterling service with very good results.

A disco was run by some of our junior members led by E.Dures and raised £13.80 towards furniture for the pavilion.

A Green Shield coaching course was organised for non-members by A.Starr on Saturday mornings and was well attended.

Neil Carmichael won the Northumberland U18 Closed Singles for the fourth consecutive year and represented the Senior County.

Results

The Gents 1st Team won Group C and were promoted, our fourth promotion in five years. Our juniors of the last few years are making an impact on a standard of play as well as winning most of their matches in the first team.

The weather this Season was the worst for many many years and seriously affected play. One advantage was that the courts were always well watered!!

Most of our best junior players are now at university and despite arranging all league matches late we were forced to play a weakened team - in our opening match with Tynedale and we lost. As Tynedale had won all their other matches by that time we missed promotion.

N.A.Carmichael represented the Senior County at Senior County week.

Mr.Leo Kane, a previous secretary of the club has now returned to Tynemouth and has rejoined the club as a non-playing member.

Leo has arranged a reunion of both previous and present members of the club to take place on Sunday, 15th June at 6 Front Street. The following were invited:-

President Mr. & Mrs. L.D.Veitch

Mr. & Mrs. Clarkson
Mr. & Mrs. A.S.Carmichael
Mr. J. Champney
Mr. & Mrs. A.Gilberg
Mr. & Mrs. D.G.Gilberg
Mr. & Mrs. R.Gilberg
Mr.H.Graham
Mrs.M.Hunter
Mr. & Mrs. Jobey
Mrs. J. Leighton
Mr. & Mrs. T.Millar

Mr. & Mrs. F.A.Millington
Mr. E.O'Brady-Jones
Mr. & Mrs. S.Prakash
Mr. & Mrs. J.F.Purdy
Mr. & Mrs. Scarth
Mr. & Mrs. F.Stewart
Mr. T.Spark
Mr. & Mrs. D.Unsworth
Mrs. D.Watson
Mr. C.Watson

Our strategy for the further development of the club falls under several headings and a few of our ideas are outlined below:-

1. MEMBERSHIP

Determined efforts must be made to encourage new members particularly juniors who must be given every encouragement including coaching and play with senior members.

They should form their own committee with guidance from the senior members to arrange social events, junior tournaments, and the organisation of all other junior activities.

We have demonstrated that an active junior club in the 1960s provided the best players in the County in the 1970s and we must build on this.

2. SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

The club must become more than a place where we play tennis a few times a week. There is a tremendous amount to be gained from creating an atmosphere where all members feel they are part of a large family. Dances, barbecues, rallies, parties, outings, jumble sales, bridge and table tennis are a few examples of the type of activities we should develop.

FACILITIES - COURTS

Our first plan must be to obtain the finance to convert our one grass court into an all weather court. This project must start immediately.

Dependent upon the speed of our success we must then convert the three hard courts to all weather courts. The costs will be high but it can be done. The quality of play will thus be improved, maintenance will be negligible and we will be able to have a greater utilization of the facilities.

FACILITIES - PAVILION

The standard of furnishings must be improved so that members can enjoy social activities in more pleasant surroundings. Again more cash will be needed.

FACILITIES - OTHER SPORTS

We are sure we could make arrangements with the Priors Park Trustees and the King's School to expand the facilities in the long term to include other sports such as squash, badminton etc.

PUBLICITY

This is the most important function of the club which we have neglected in the past. We must tell the people of Tynemouth of our success and we will then receive even greater support than we have had in the past.