14A Westbourne Road | Edgbaston | Birmingham | B15 3TR



WELCOME to your monthly e-newsletter - keeping you up to date with team results, club news, and upcoming events.

This e-newsletter is proudly sponsored by **The Plough Harborne**







Club news

Clay Courts

We are very pleased to have Courts 9 & 10 back up and running after their winter hiatus. The House & Grounds Volunteers and Moss Removal team have worked diligently on the clay courts over the last few months. Work started in November as the moss and algae started to show. In early Spring, the moss team/volunteers started scraping the green stuff and shifted over



a ton of material (manually and wheel-barrowed) to the bottom car park area. The process took several days and required much effort from all involved.



The resurfacing work was completed in mid March, with thanks to our outside contractor Clay Court Services who arranged for the pallets of clay to arrive from Italy. The nets are now back up, ready for play!

Many thanks to the moss team, HGV and everyone who pitched in to get the task done.

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Clay courts are great playing surfaces for developing players. Softer on your knees and joints, they offer a slightly slower bounce and have a greater response to spin. In playing terms, you get longer rallies with less impact on your body, giving you the opportunity to improve stamina and racket skills.

Please could all members remember to brush the clay courts after each booking slot. To keep them in top condition, the best method is to brush them in a circular motion from the outside inwards (rather than from side-to-side). Brushing must include the whole

court including far ends and tramlines to keep the moss at bay.

All-weather court upgrades

Following the generosity of members who have taken up the offer of a 10-year subscription, we have been able to move forward with the plans to upgrade Courts 11&12 to a hard court surface for year-round play. The order has been placed with the contractors (Fosse) and we hope that work will start at the beginning of June (tbc). This is an exciting and ambitious opportunity to take our Development Plan to the next stage and increase the number of all-weather courts to ensure greater playing time for our members over the winter months.

Welcome to new members

Thank you to everyone who has renewed their membership for 2022. In addition, we offer a warm welcome to new members Will Smith, Steven Sanchez, Jideako Okwujiako, and Oliver Craven, who have joined us in the last month.

Free manure

The ongoing maintenance of our grass courts means that there is a surplus of grass cuttings at various stages of decay that would make good garden manure/ mulch. Available to anybody, free for collection. Contact Ram at the H&G team for details.

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House & Grounds update

The next House & Grounds volunteer session will be on **Saturday 2nd April** 10am-12noon (please come for however long you can spare). We are planning a few light jobs:

- Move remnants of clay from Courts 9&10
- Check clay courts tidy up and refresh
- Check shale courts for any moss, debris etc. Help Ross refresh shales
- Fix cladding on water tank on clubhouse roof
- Tidy up any weeds

No skills required, just bring gloves. Any time you can spare to help improve YOUR club would be greatly appreciated.

Bar opening times (winter months)

- Monday closed
- Tuesday after social tennis (guide time 8.30-10pm)
- Wednesday after social tennis (guide time 8.30-10pm)
- Thursday after social tennis (guide time 8.30-10pm)
- Friday possibly after social tennis (guide time 7.30-9pm)
- Saturdays 9.30am-1pm
- Sundays 2-5pm



Bar volunteers needed

As a community-led tennis club, we are run entirely on a voluntary basis and rely on our members to contribute their time and skills both on and off the court. We invite members new and old to get involved and join our friendly team of

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volunteers. We are especially looking for bar staff to help out on evenings and weekends (opening times above) and for occasional one-off events. No experience required - all training will be given. There is no expectation for volunteers to sign up to a regular commitment, just to offer an evening or afternoon at a time convenient for you. Please contact the Bar Steward, Jenny Morton, to express your interest: jennymorton23@gmail.com.

Quiz winners

Congratulations to the winning team "Do Not Resuscitate", who narrowly won a nail-biting tie-break in the Archery Spring Quiz on Friday 18th March. Seven teams entered and it was a close contest throughout, with ever-changing teams vying for the top of the leaderboard position. Special thanks to Charlie for organising/ arranging the quiz, ably assisted by Sue, who also made the samosas.



Playing guidelines

Please refer to the website for the latest guidelines for booking and play.

Visitor fees

Members are welcome to bring visitors down to the club up to three times in the year. Visitors are allowed Monday-Friday until 4pm and anytime weekends. For insurance reasons, all visitors need to be signed in by a member. The sign-in book is located just inside the front door of the clubhouse (access is permitted for this purpose during weekdays). A visitor fee of £5 (adult) or £3 (junior) is <u>payable in advance</u>.

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Tennis news

St Patrick's Cup



Congratulations to Janine Saini and Jack Longshaw, winners of the 2022 St Patrick's Cup, which took place on Friday 25th March. Well done also to the finalists: Jayjay & Yuki, Lynne & Robin, Emma & Anthony, for a great evening of tennis.

Thank you to Danielle and Adam for organising such a successful event over several weeks of adverse weather!

Team tennis

The regional leagues start on 3rd April with our Men's 1st team at home against Ombersley. We then have another 51 matches scheduled over the summer, ranging from 8-and-unders to adults. Fixtures are available on the club noticeboard and on the <u>website</u>. We hope to see many of our members playing and supporting the teams as we enjoy the warmer weather.



ITF success

Congratulations to Hazel Coop, who was runner-up in the over-35 Ladies' Singles category at the recent ITF tournament in Prague. Well done also to our Head Coach Tom Barton, who with his partner Tibor Kovacs was runner-up in the over-30 Men's Doubles in the same tournament.

Box Leagues

The Spring Box Leagues are now underway, with the deadline of 16th May. Contact Holly at hollyberry-13@hotmail.com to be included in the next round.

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League Results: February 2022

Ladies					
Date	Team	Venue	Opposition	Players	Result
Sun 6th	Helen Cole Winter League Div B	Away	Ardencote	Catherine Edwards & Jayjay Parker, Jane Wilton & Nicole Metje	W 8 – 0
Sat 12th	Helen Cole Winter League Div B	Away	Streetly	Catherine Edwards & Jayjay Parker, Danielle Harvey & Jenny Morton	W 6 – 2
Sat 19th	Helen Cole Winter League Div B	Home	Kings Heath	Sophie Richardson & Janine Saini, Maggie Lindsay & Danielle Harvey	w/o W 8 –
Men					
Date	Team	Venue	Opposition	Players	Result
Sat 26th	1st - Warks Winter League Div 1	Home	Solihull Tennis 1	Ross Fendick & Tom Holland, Adam Cerkeliunas & Ethan Calder	D 4 – 4
Sun 27th	2nd - Warks Winter League Div 2	Away	Beechcroft 2		
Mixed					
Date	Team	Venue	Opposition	Players	Result
Sat 26th	2nd - Warks Winter League	Home	Birmingham Medics	Jayjay Parker & Prasanna Sivakumar, Jenny Morton &	w/o W 8 –

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And the winners are....

100 Club Results: February 2022

1st Prize - £50:

• No. 50 – Mike Kerslake

Runners-up - tube of tennis balls:

- No. 46 Jenny Morton
- No. 13 Guy Charlton
- No. 7 Karsten Scholer

Winners will be contacted by Sue in the usual way.

The EA<S 100 Club is a monthly draw with a prize of £50 and several tubes of tennis balls up for grabs for the lucky winners. We are now inviting participants to purchase their number(s) for 2022. If you would like to participate, it is very simple to join:

- Contact Sue Chopra at choprasc@aol.com or 07751 334153
- Pick a number between 1-90 and Sue will advise if it is free/ available
- The number(s) will then be allocated to you and entered into future draws

The cost is only £3 per number per month (£36 for the year).

You can either make an annual one-off online payment, or set up a monthly standing order to cover your number until the end of the year, whichever is more convenient for you.

All monies, after payout of prizes, go towards the Club's Development fund.

Join now to be in with a chance of winning £50!

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Upcoming events

The monthly club calendar (including team fixtures, organised group sessions and coaching timetable) can be accessed on the <u>website</u> under the events tab.

Thursday 7th April, 7.30pm

Book Club: *The Promise* by Damon Galgut

Sunday 24th April, 2pm-5pm

End-of-Month Mix-In

With tea and cake! We are looking for volunteers to bake and donate for the April mix-in. Please contact Veronica (email below) for details.

Saturday 14th May, time tbc

Games Afternoon

An afternoon of fun & games suitable for all the family!

28th July - 8th August 2022

Commonwealth Games Barbeque Evenings

A series of BBQs held in conjunction with key events in the Birmingham Commonwealth Games – dates tbc

September 2022 (date tbc): Curry & Karaoke Evening

October 2022 (date tbc): Archery Autumn Quiz

Saturday 6th November 2022 (time tbc): Bonfire & Fireworks

December 2022 (date tbc): Festive Cocktail Evening

For further information on joining the book club or other social events, please contact Veronica on <a href="mailto:eventwise-

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Easyfundraising update

Easyfundraising: support our club while shopping online

If you are a regular online shopper, please do consider signing up to Easyfundraising to help support our club and raise funds. Easyfundraising works in tandem with over 3,300 big name retailers, such as Amazon, Sainsbury's, Argos, John Lewis, M&S and Booking.com.

It's very easy to sign up and support our cause; here's how:

- Go to https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/edgbastonalts/
- Click on Support this cause
- Create an account, either by using Facebook or email
- Enter your personal details and then Create my account
- Proceed to shop via Easyfundraising website or App.
- Almost there.... why not add the donation reminder to ensure that you get a prompt every time you go onto a retailer's site who will donate money to the club.

As of Thursday 31st March, we have raised £351 and have 25 supporters!!

Got something to share?

If you have any exciting news or updates to share with the club and members, please do not hesitate to contact us at ealtscommunications@gmail.com with your content and we will be more than happy to add to our next newsletter.

Follow us on <u>Twitter</u>
Like us on <u>Facebook</u>
Find us on <u>Instagram</u>