1981/82

At the 1981 annual general meeting the office of president was re-introduced and the members

elected Alan Reginald Walter Jones, Justice of the Peace, Fellow of The Royal Institution of Chartered

Surveyors, to the post.

Alan Jones had been a member of the club for forty one years, honorary treasurer from 1948 to

1951, a committee member from 1951 to 1959, captain from 1959 to 1976 and an honorary life

member since April 1976.

He had been organiser/referee of the Preston Tennis Tournament numerous times, chairman of the

tournament committee from 1962 to 1973 and was elected honorary life tournament president in

1976.

He founded Fulwood’s open junior tournament in 1969, was referee of the same for several years

and was a member of the Society of Lawn Tennis Referees.

He had been a member of the council of The Lancashire County Lawn Tennis Association since 1967,

president in 1975 and chairman from 1977. He was awarded honorary county colours in 1975 – the

first Prestonian to be awarded such colours.

He had also been a member of the council of The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) from 1975, had

served on numerous LTA committees and was the LTA’s representative on the Lawn Tennis

Foundation (the charitable arm of the LTA) in 1979 and 1980.

Alan Jones excelled as a football administrator too – he was a board member of Preston North End

Football Club from 1971, chairman from 1973 and was elected a life member of the club on his

retirement from the board in 1982.

He would win, in 1982, the Lancashire Evening Post “Service to Sport” award and, in 1999, was

appointed a Member of the Order of the British Empire for services to the community, especially

sport.

Alan Jones won Fulwood’s HP Bee Trophy five times, and between 1947 and 1976 won twenty eight

events in the Preston Tennis Tournament. He played in three finals of the Lancashire Club

Championship for the Roscoe Trophy, including that which Fulwood won in 1956, and was a semifinalist in the Lancashire men’s doubles championship in 1966.

Fulwood was, and had long been, unarguably, one of the top tennis clubs in the county (i.e.

Lancashire, Greater Manchester and Merseyside). And the camaraderie was second to none. Many

outstanding Fulwoodians had contributed to this excellence during the ninety years of the club’s

existence, none so much as Alan Jones. He was one of the most outstanding Lancastrian lawn tennis

player/administrators in the history of the game and it was a great day for the captain in particular,

and the members in general, when he consented to be the president of the club.

\*

The Fulwood Lawn Tennis Club

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1981/82 (RWB)

Bill Robertson was elected a vice-president. He had been a committee member from 1955 to 1974

and match secretary from 1959 to 1965. He had also served as secretary of the Preston Tennis

Tournament committee.

Robertson would be remembered by some Fulwood members as the leader of mountain walks in the

Lake District during the club’s annual “Barmen’s Weekend”. He would certainly be remembered in

this role by barman Roy Bassnett, an acrophobia sufferer, for it was Robertson who rescued Bassnett

from the face of Nape’s Needle, on the traverse of Great Gable, during one such walk!

Jean Hodgson – another member who had given, and would continue to give, great service to the

club – was elected vice-captain, combining the role with that of subscriptions secretary.

Another important election in 1981 was that of club secretary John Baron to the Northern Area

Committee of The Lancashire County Lawn Tennis Association. Baron was the fourth Fulwood

member to serve the county association.

\*

There was distinction on the courts too. The men’s 1st team, made up entirely of Prestonians, was

unbeaten in Fylde League matches and won the championship. The team comprised David

Croasdale, Stephen Hazelwood, team captain Stuart Henderson and David Murtagh.

The men won the Lancashire League third division too, and were promoted back to division two.

Their opponents, home and away, had been Blackburn Northern, Brierfield (Nelson), Holme

(Nelson), Penwortham and Werneth (Oldham).

The ladies’ 2nd team won division five of the Fylde League.

\*

Stephen Hazelwood held on to the James Dewhurst Trophy in the men’s singles championship. New

member Bernadette Eyre won the ladies’ event. Miss Eyre was destined to play an exceedingly

important part in the reinvigoration of Fulwood ladies’ team tennis.

\*

For the convenience of the members a new entrance hall was constructed at the north end of the

clubhouse and the bar area was re-arranged and re-carpeted. Another big expense in 1981 was the

laying of a new tarmacadam surface on the car park, similarly the provision of a new floor in the

gentlemen’s dressing room. An interest-free five-year loan by brewers Daniel Thwaites & Co Ltd

helped the committee to cover the cost of these improvements.

\*

The Fulwood Lawn Tennis Club

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1981/82 (RWB)

PRESIDENT

Alan R W Jones JP

\*

CAPTAIN/CHAIRMAN

Roy Bassnett

\*

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

D G Bee (1968)

R H Beetham (1968)

J Brown (1974)

Alan R W Jones JP (1976)

\*

VICE-PRESIDENTS

T C Nicholson JP (1955)

L P Thornber (1965)

Mrs L P Thornber (1965)

Mrs R H Beetham (1976)

N Hough (1977)

E Parkinson (1977)

Miss B E Miller (1978)

K M Sanderson (1978)

Mrs A R W Jones (1979)

W N Robertson (1981)

\*

VICE-CAPTAIN

Jean Hodgson

HONORARY SECRETARY

John Baron

HONORARY TREASURER

Mervyn Edwards

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Mark Belderbos

HONORARY SUBSCRIPTIONS SECRETARY

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The Fulwood Lawn Tennis Club

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1981/82 (RWB)

David Jones

Patricia (“Pim”) Jones

Mildred Myerscough

Bill Noblet

Andrew Powdrell (co-opted April 1981)

Mike Williams (junior liaison secretary)

\*

MEN’S 1ST TEAM CAPTAIN

Stuart Henderson

LADIES’ 1ST TEAM CAPTAIN

Mildred Myerscough

\*

HONORARY AUDITOR

Paul Clegg FCA

The Fulwood Lawn Tennis Club

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1981/82 (RWB)

1982/83

Ladies’ 2nd team captain Val Hough was elected vice-captain of the club for 1982/83.

\*

The times when junior members were permitted to play were extended again. They could now use

the courts up to 9 p.m. on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, and up to 7.30 p.m. on Mondays,

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. (They did, however, have to give way, on request, to any

adult member). There is a copy of the junior bye-laws, as at February 1982, overleaf.

\*

A ladies’ 3rd team was entered in division six of the Fylde League, making eight Fulwood Fylde League

teams altogether. Five of the eight finished the season in either first or second place in their

division, including the men’s 2nd team, winners of division two.

The men’s team in the Lancashire League finished runners-up in division two and were promoted to

division one.

To mark the fiftieth anniversary of the first fixture with Broughton & District Lawn Tennis Club a

men’s match and a ladies’ match were played at the Broughton ground. Neither Fulwood nor

Broughton has a record of the outcome of either match. In all probability Fulwood won the men’s

match and Broughton the ladies’.

The downside to all the team tennis played was that the demand for courts exceeded the supply!

\*

Sixteen-year-old Jane Williams was club ladies’ champion. The men’s champion was left hander

David Murtagh, a veteran of twenty! Murtagh was another of coach Mike Farrington’s pupils to

figure prominently in tournaments and team tennis.

\*

Substantial repairs to the courts and perimeter netting, costing £1450, were put in hand by the

grounds sub-committee. The work was done by En-tout-cas. (The average annual cost, from the

mid-seventies to the mid-eighties, of keeping the courts, grounds and buildings in good repair was

£2500, being about half of the average annual subscription income).

At about the same time a court re-surfacing fund was established with the intention that moneys

would be set aside each year towards the cost of laying new courts. This was to prove to have been

a wise and timely move.

\*

At the 1982 annual general meeting – the ninetieth such meeting – the members had approved the

committee’s proposal that there be a new class of membership to cater for those who might like to

play winter-only tennis at Fulwood. The subscription was set at £16 - £12 less than full-playing

membership – and thirteen newcomers joined the club as 1982/83 winter members. More were to

The Fulwood Lawn Tennis Club

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1981/82 (RWB)

follow suit; some soon switched to full-playing membership.

Fulwood was one of the few clubs in the county, and the only club in the district, with year-round

facilities.

\*

By popular demand the annual dinner dance was held at the Clifton Arms Hotel, Lytham, one of the

Fylde coast’s premier hotels. The members were grateful, as before and subsequently, to long-time

dinner secretary John Baron for his impeccable management of the event. Baron was promoter,

organiser, master of ceremonies and toastmaster, all par excellence. His table plans and associated

calligraphy were works of art.

\*

The Fulwood Lawn Tennis Club

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1981/82 (RWB)

BYE-LAWS RELATING TO JUNIOR MEMBERS

February 1982

1 MEMBERSHIP

Junior Members must not be more than eighteen years of age. On attaining eighteen they will be

invited to transfer to Full-Playing, Country, Student, Winter or House Membership. (Junior Members

under ten years of age must be the children of members and must be accompanied and supervised

by an adult member whilst at the Club ground).

2 AVAILABILITY OF COURTS

Junior Members may play at the following times (but, on request, must give precedence to any adult

member):

Monday to Thursday up to 7.30 p.m.

Friday, Saturday and Sunday up to 9.00 p.m.

Junior Members must leave the Club ground within fifteen minutes of the end of their playing

session.

3 CLOTHING

White tennis clothing and footwear should be worn on court at all times, except during the knock-up

and in exceptional weather conditions when tracksuits (of any colour) may be worn.

4 FLOODLIGHTS

Junior Members may only use the floodlights if an adult member is present.

5 CLUBHOUSE

When a Committee member, the barman or an adult person nominated by the Committee is on duty

Junior Members may be admitted to the clubhouse but must leave by 7.30 p.m. or at the end of

their playing session whichever is the sooner unless an extension has been granted by the

Committee. (At no time may Junior Members buy or be supplied with intoxicating liquor).

6 BICYCLES

Bicycles must be left in the car park (access via Highgate Avenue only).

7 VISITORS

Junior Members may not introduce visitors.

The Fulwood Lawn Tennis Club

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1981/82 (RWB)

BYE-LAWS RELATING TO JUNIOR FULL-PLAYING MEMBERS

February 1982

1 MEMBERSHIP

Junior Full-Playing Members must not be more than eighteen years of age. On attaining eighteen

they will be invited to transfer to Full-Playing, Country, Student, Winter or House Membership.

(Junior Full-Playing Members under ten years of age must be the children of members and must be

accompanied and supervised by an adult member whilst at the Club ground).

2 AVAILABILITY OF COURTS

Junior Full-Playing Members may play at any time.

3 CLOTHING

White tennis clothing and footwear should be worn on court at all times, except during the knock-up

and in exceptional weather conditions when tracksuits (of any colour) may be worn.

4 FLOODLIGHTS

Junior Full-Playing Members may use the floodlights.

5 CLUBHOUSE

When a Committee member, the barman or an adult person nominated by the Committee is on duty

Junior Full-Playing Members may be admitted to the clubhouse but must leave by 7.30 p.m. unless

an extension has been granted by the Committee. (At no time may Junior Full-Playing Members buy

or be supplied with intoxicating liquor).

6 BICYCLES

Bicycles must be left in the car park (access via Highgate Avenue only).

7 VISITORS

Junior Full-Playing Members may not introduce visitors.

The Fulwood Lawn Tennis Club

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1981/82 (RWB)

PRESIDENT

Alan R W Jones JP

CAPTAIN/CHAIRMAN

Roy Bassnett

\*

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

D G Bee (1968)

R H Beetham (1968)

J Brown (1974)

Alan R W Jones (1976)

\*

VICE-PRESIDENTS

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Mrs L P Thornber (1965)

Mrs R H Beetham (1976)

N Hough (1977)

E Parkinson (1977)

Miss B E Miller (1978)

K M Sanderson (1978)

Mrs A R W Jones (1979)

W N Robertson (1981)

\*

VICE-CAPTAIN

Valerie Hough

HONORARY SECRETARY

John Baron

HONORARY TREASURER

Mervyn Edwards

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Mark Belderbos

HONORARY SUBSCRIPTIONS SECRETARY

Jean Hodgson

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Colin Avery (co-opted July 1982)

Neil Cartwright

Anne Dickinson

George Dickinson

Christine Gravell

John Gravell

Eric Hall

David Jones

Patricia (“Pim”) Jones

The Fulwood Lawn Tennis Club

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1981/82 (RWB)

Frances Kellett

Mildred Myerscough

Andrew Powdrell (co-opted April 1982)

Mike Williams (junior liaison secretary)

\*

MEN’S 1ST TEAM CAPTAIN

David Croasdale

LADIES’ 1ST TEAM CAPTAIN

Mildred Myerscough

\*

HONORARY AUDITOR

Paul Clegg FCA

The Fulwood Lawn Tennis Club

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1981/82 (RWB)

1983/84

Patricia (“Pim”) Jones, chairman of the events sub-committee and secretary of the open junior

tournament was, additionally, elected 1983/84 vice-captain. Mrs Jones was the second Welsh

person in four years to hold the office of vice-captain, Mervyn Edwards (1980/81) being the other.

\*

Another rule change was made, this time to allow the admission to membership of children under

ten years of age, one or both of whose parents was also a member. The subscription was set at the

token figure of £1.

At about the same time “short” tennis equipment was purchased for the use of very young members

and a juniors coaching fund was established. The fund would allow there to be subsidised

professional coaching of junior members, including free courses for those under twelve years of age.

\*

The men’s 1st team had mixed fortunes. They played in division one of the Lancashire League, with a

team comprising three pairs, against Albion (Ashton-under-Lyne), Bamford (Rochdale), Burnley,

Liverpool CC, Manchester Northern and St Annes-on-Sea. The standard proved too high for them

and the team was relegated. However they had some consolation in the Fylde League, with a team

of two pairs, finishing runners-up to champions St Annes-on-Sea, by one point.

The men’s 3rd team won division four of the Fylde League.

The boys’ team, mentored by Mike Williams, won the Fylde League Boys’ Division, having won all

eight of their matches. The squad comprised L F Banister, J G Brown, A J Marshall, A T W Robison,

I A Taylor and S J Williams (Mike Williams’ son).

\*

Alan and Kath Jones’ younger daughter Alison was one of the members of the Lancashire ladies’

team which won promotion from group two of The Lawn Tennis Association County Cup Grass Court

Championships to group one. Lancashire’s men’s team was already in group one so both teams

would be at Eastbourne – by tradition the group one venue – in 1984, the year of Lancashire’s

centenary.

Miss Jones was Lancashire mixed doubles champion in 1983, with partner Mark Rushton of Burnley.

\*

David Murtagh and Jane Williams retained the James Dewhurst Trophies in the men’s and ladies’

singles events in the annual tournament. Thirteen-year-old new member Lincoln Banister won the

boys’ event. He was an extremely gifted player.

\*

The 100 Club was still going strong. There were one hundred and two members. In excess of £5000

The Fulwood Lawn Tennis Club

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1981/82 (RWB)

had been raised since Neil Hough launched the 100 Club in 1970. All the profits had been channelled

into the Tennis Club to help finance ground and clubhouse improvements.

\*

The Fulwood Lawn Tennis Club

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1981/82 (RWB)

PRESIDENT

Alan R W Jones JP

CAPTAIN/CHAIRMAN

Roy Bassnett

\*

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D G Bee (1968)

R H Beetham (1968)

J Brown (1974)

Alan R W Jones JP (1976)

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\*

VICE-CAPTAIN

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HONORARY SECRETARY

John Baron

HONORARY TREASURER

Colin Avery

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Mark Belderbos

HONORARY SUBSCRIPTIONS SECRETARY

Jean Hodgson

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Neville Buckley (co-opted December 1983)

Anne Dickinson

George Dickinson

Christine Gravell

John Gravell

Eric Hall

Valerie Hough

David Jones

Frances Kellett

The Fulwood Lawn Tennis Club

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1981/82 (RWB)

Mildred Myerscough

Andrew Powdrell

Mike Williams (junior liaison secretary)

\*

MEN’S 1ST TEAM CAPTAIN

Neville Buckley

LADIES’ 1ST TEAM CAPTAIN

Mildred Myerscough

\*

HONORARY AUDITOR

Paul Clegg FCA

The Fulwood Lawn Tennis Club

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1981/82 (RWB)

1984/85

Match secretary Christine Gravell was also elected vice-captain and would combine both roles for

two seasons.

\*

Thanks to Mark Belderbos the club was able to arrange with Preston Borough Council that the lease

of the Watling Street Road ground be extended to 2011. The terms were preferential.

\*

Nine senior Lancashire, Greater Manchester and Merseyside clubs were presented with a

commemorative pennant by The Lancashire County Lawn Tennis Association, in connection with the

association’s centenary celebrations, in recognition of the loan of facilities to the association over

many years and the hosting of county matches and tournaments. The nine clubs honoured in this

way were Fulwood, Blackpool South Shore, Blundellsands (Liverpool), Lostock (Bolton), Manchester

Northern, Markland Hill (Bolton), St Annes-on-Sea, Southport Argyle and Vagabonds (Liverpool).

The association held its centenary ball in Liverpool. Jim Cochrane, president of The Lawn Tennis

Association and centenary president of Lancashire, was in the chair. R E H (“Buzzer”) Haddingham,

chairman of The All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, was guest of honour. Lancastrian Alan

Mills, Wimbledon referee, was also present. The association had invited Fulwood, being an affiliate

member, to take tickets for the ball. The club’s party, headed by Alan Jones, chairman of Lancashire,

comprised thirty members.

\*

The men’s 1st team had a poor year and finished next to bottom in the first division of the Fylde

League.

Mentored by Mike Williams the boys’ team swept all before them again. They were unbeaten in six

matches and won the boys’ division for the second successive year. Fulwood’s boys had not lost a

Fylde League match since 1982. The 1984 squad comprised T K Bala, L F Banister, J M Coupe, M S

Regan and I A Taylor.

\*

Club president Alan Jones kindly donated a trophy, and gave permission for the trophy he had

donated in 1969 to be re-silvered and re-engraved. They were to be known as ‘The Alan R W Jones

Trophies’. They would be presented to, and held for a year by, the winners of the men’s and ladies’

level doubles events in the club tournament. The first holders were David Croasdale and Stuart

Henderson and Vicky Hinnells and Brenda Pickburn.

The winners of the 1984 singles events were Stephen Hazelwood and Jane Williams. It was the third

win in a row for Miss Williams.

\*

The Fulwood Lawn Tennis Club

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1981/82 (RWB)

In December 1984 Lincoln Banister went to Portugal with thirty five other promising under sixteen

year olds from the north west, north east and south west regions, on a tennis tour sponsored by The

Lawn Tennis Association. He had taken another important step up the tennis ladder.

\*

The Fulwood Lawn Tennis Club

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1981/82 (RWB)

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Anne Dickinson

George Dickinson

John Gravell

Valerie Hough

David Jones

Patricia (“Pim”) Jones

Frances Kellett

Don Melling (co-opted June 1984)

The Fulwood Lawn Tennis Club

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1981/82 (RWB)

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Paul Clegg FCA

The Fulwood Lawn Tennis Club

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1981/82 (RWB)

1985/86

Chartered Accountant Paul Clegg retired as honorary auditor in 1985. He had provided highly valued

audit services to the club for nine successive years. His place was taken by David Preston.

David Jones was elected treasurer and George Dickinson took over from Jones as bar secretary.

The 1985/86 committee comprised nineteen members altogether – ten men and nine women – and

included five of the six men’s and ladies’ team captains.

The pool of volunteer bar staff, traditionally all-male, by now included lady members.

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A “pay-as-you-play” pool table was provided in the clubhouse, primarily for the pleasure of young

members. It proved highly popular during the open junior tournament, refereed again by honorary

life member Jim Brown, when large numbers of young people were on the club premises all week.

The cash taken at the table was to be split 50/50 with the table’s owners.

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It was in 1985 that Mark Hough, one of Neil and Val Hough’s sons, discovered during school

coursework that the club had been founded in 1892, not in 1891 as had previously been believed.

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At the beginning of the Fylde League season there were three Fulwood men’s teams in the top two

divisions – the 1st team in the first division, the 2nd and 3rd teams in division two. No other club had

three such highly placed teams. The 1st team went on to finish runners-up to St Annes-on-Sea again,

but the 3rd team finished at the bottom of division two and were relegated.

The ladies’ 1st team sank to an all-time low – next to bottom of ladies’ division two and relegated to

division three. The ladies’ 3rd team won division five.

The boys’ team, mentored once again by Mike Williams, won the boys’ division for the third

successive year. The team comprised J M Coupe, J J M Noblett, P J Singleton and F E Worden.

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Fifteen-year-old Lincoln Banister won the Preston Tennis Tournament men’s open singles event. He

was the youngest ever to do so and only the second Prestonian. (The other Prestonian was Fulwood

member Neville Jones, Alan’s brother, who won in the late 1950s on return from national service in

the Royal Air Force). Banister beat Roy Whitehouse – twice a runner-up in the county championship

– in the final.

Banister was already an established junior county player and he had played for the North West

region. He was ranked in the top fifty under eighteen year olds in Great Britain.

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1981/82 (RWB)

David Murtagh won the club men’s singles, for the third time; Bernadette Halton nee Eyre won the

ladies’ event again, the previous time in 1981.

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The lack of competitiveness of the ladies’ teams had become an embarrassment. Enter first team

player Bernadette Halton, a sports teacher by profession, and a tennis coach, with a rescue plan.

The plan was developed by Mrs Halton, club captain Roy Bassnett, secretary John Baron,

committeeman Mike Williams and the ladies team captains. It received the unanimous backing of

the committee and resulted in Mrs Halton being invited to take over the captaincy of the ladies’ 3rd

team, to be composed of herself and the club’s up-and-coming young players, picked on merit.

Selection for the 3rd team would have priority over selection for the 1st and 2nd teams.

The 3rd team would be playing in the fourth division of the Fylde League in 1986 and Mrs Halton’s

target was to take it to the first division (overtaking, as likely as not, Fulwood’s 1st and 2nd teams on

the way) and into Lancashire’s first group inter-club knock-out competition for the Liebert Rosebowl.

The Halton initiative would be the chrysalis for a most astonishing turnround in the fortunes of

Fulwood ladies’ team tennis: not only did they reach the said first group, they won it! – five times in

a row! – they were Lancashire champions from 1992 to 1996!

\*

On the finance side of the club’s affairs it was noteworthy that many of the 1972 £100 members’

loans had, by the 1985/86 financial year end, been kindly converted into donations.

It had been club policy since 1970 that sufficient income should be raised from subscriptions to

cover day-to-day expenditure, leaving profits generated by fund raising activities available for the

purchase of major items. Costs had risen relentlessly ever since and subscription levels had been

lifted accordingly. The subscriptions for 1986/87 were to be as follows (1970 subscriptions in

brackets):

Full-playing members - £40-00 (£5. 0s. 0d.)

Country members - £26-00 (£2. 10s. 0d.)

Student members – by arrangement with the membership secretary (£2. 10s. 0d)

Winter members - £20-00

Junior members - £20-00 (£1. 10s. 0d.)

Junior members under ten years of age - £4-00

Junior full-playing members - £26-00 (£3. 10s. 0d.)

House members - £10-00 (10s. 0d.)

It was no coincidence that the subscriptions were favourable when compared with those at other

senior clubs, for example at Blackpool South Shore LTC and at St Annes-on-Sea LTC.

The club’s finances were in excellent order and the court re-surfacing fund had a balance of £11400.

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1981/82 (RWB)

Prior to the start of the 1986/87 season there was the biggest re-shuffle of officers since 1976:

Roy Bassnett, a member of the committee since 1969, treasurer from 1970 to 1975, vice-captain

1975/76, captain and chairman since 1976, retired. Bassnett had also served as honorary secretary

of Preston Tennis Tournament (of which he was a trustee) and, for eight years, as a member of the

council of The Lancashire County Lawn Tennis Association. He was presented with items of

glassware as a memento of his service to the club and was elected an honorary life member – the

highest honour the club could bestow. Bassnett was only the sixth honorary life member in the

history of the club, the others being J Peak (1926), Derek Bee (1968), Bob Beetham (1968), Jim

Brown (1974) and Alan Jones (1976). The Friday evening “regulars” at the Fulwood bar gave a

supper party for Bassnett and his wife Margaret, in the clubhouse, and presented them with a set of

“antler” luggage.

The combined role of captain and chairman was split. John Baron, a member of the committee

since 1972 and the longest serving secretary in the club’s history was elected captain. Further

recognition of Baron’s outstanding service to the club would follow: in 1988 he too was elected an

honorary life member.

Mike Williams, junior liaison secretary since 1981, was elected chairman (and would, later, serve as

president).

1985/86 vice-captain Christine Gravell took over from John Baron as secretary. The office of vicecaptain was left vacant.

David Jones, whose wife “Pim” was also a member of the committee, was re-elected treasurer.

Mark Belderbos, a member of the committee since 1972 and membership secretary since 1973

retired. Belderbos, a solicitor by profession, had also provided valued legal services to the club and

much wise counselling. He was elected a vice-president.

1982/83 vice-captain Val Hough was elected membership secretary. The Hough family had by now

been represented on the committee for nineteen consecutive years.

Jean Hodgson was re-elected subscriptions secretary. During her period of office from 1976 Mrs

Hodgson had so far collected subscription moneys totalling in excess of £50000. Recognition of Mrs

Hodgson’s outstanding service to the club would follow: she was elected an honorary life member in

1990.

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1981/82 (RWB)

PRESIDENT

Alan R W Jones JP

CAPTAIN/CHAIRMAN

Roy Bassnett

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HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

D G Bee (1968)

R H Beetham (1968)

J Brown (1974)

Alan R W Jones JP (1976)

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VICE-PRESIDENTS

T C Nicholson JP (1955)

L P Thornber (1965)

Mrs L P Thornber (1965)

Mrs R H Beetham (1976)

N Hough (1977)

E Parkinson (1977)

Miss B E Miller (1978)

K M Sanderson (1978)

Mrs A R W Jones (1979)

W N Robertson (1981)

\*

VICE-CAPTAIN

Christine Gravell

HONORARY SECRETARY

John Baron

HONORARY TREASURER

David Jones

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Mark Belderbos

HONORARY SUBSCRIPTIONS SECRETARY

Jean Hodgson

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Sue Basterfield (co-opted July 1985)

Eileen Brown (co-opted April 1985)

Neville Buckley

George Dickinson

Caroline Fell

Mike Halewood

Valerie Hough

Patricia (“Pim”) Jones

Frances Kellett

The Fulwood Lawn Tennis Club

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1981/82 (RWB)

Don Melling

Mildred Myerscough

David Preston (co-opted April 1985)

Mike Williams (junior liaison secretary)

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MEN 1ST TEAM CAPTAIN

Stuart Henderson

LADIES 1ST TEAM CAPTAIN

Mildred Myerscough

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HONORARY AUDITOR

David Preston

The Fulwood Lawn Tennis Club

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1981/82 (RWB)

1986/87

New captain John Baron had made it clear to members that after his long service as secretary it was

not his intention to offer himself for re-election as captain so many times as had some of his

predecessors.

The new structure of captain and chairman was to prove successful, with Mike Williams in charge of

day-to-day activities and focusing on team and club play.

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A new juniors’ committee was established and plans were made for a disco and a winter rota for

juniors’ night.

\*

It was a very creditable year for Fulwood teams in the Fylde league, with the ladies’ 1st and 3rd teams

winning promotion and the boys’ and girls’ teams winning their respective divisions. A mixed team

was also to be entered next season.

\*

Following the resignation of coach Mike Farrington, who had taken up a full-time teaching post,

Bernadette Halton and David Shaw were appointed in his place, with the latter having responsibility

for juniors.

\*

In an attempt to prevent unauthorised persons using the courts shoe tags were issued to paid-up

members.

\*

At Alan Jones’ instigation a new event was held at the end of October – President’s Night. It

comprised of a hot pot supper, wine and live band. It was a great success.

\*

A sad note was the death of staunch member Barbara Miller, a vice-president. Her particular

interest in the organisation of the ladies’ and girls’ teams, as non-playing captain, was to be

commemorated by the purchase of two silver-plated cups for the junior tournament, to be inscribed

the Barbara Miller trophies.

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1981/82 (RWB)

1987/88

The club was particularly delighted to acknowledge the contribution over many years of staunch

members Eric Hall and Mike Watson by electing them vice-presidents.

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The committee welcomed Paul Finnerty and Brian Taylor into their ranks.

\*

A new tournament – The Volkswagen Ratings Singles Tournament – was held in the autumn and

attracted competitors of all standards from various parts of the country, as well as giving Fulwood

members an opportunity to compete in a national event.

\*

Essential work in the form of replacement of the clubhouse roof covering was carried out and there

were the first stirrings of interest in resurfacing the courts.

A boost to these thoughts came following sterling work by Mark Belderbos LL.B. in the form of a

letter from Preston Borough Council offering a new 25-year lease at a very favourable rate of £250

per annum from 1 August 1988, to be reviewed every 5 years thereafter but only in accordance with

the cost-of-living index.

\*

Alan Jones, who had been president of the club since 1981, had indicated his wish to stand down.

His outstanding work for the club was acknowledged at the annual general meeting. No new

president was elected.

As indicated at his election, captain John Baron also stood down, after 25 years as a member. He

had held many positions at junior and senior level including social secretary, bar secretary and club

secretary for 12 years. He was elected an honorary life member.

Although the committee favoured the separate positions of captain and chairman it was considered

appropriate that Mike Williams should hold both, with Mike Halewood as his vice-captain.

Pim Jones was elected a vice-president in recognition of her service to the club since 1977