

BETWEEN THE LINES

DECEMBER 2024

SOCIAL@HESWALLTENNIS.CO.UK

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Our Festive Heswall Lawn Tennis Club Newsletter!

As the holiday season approaches, we're excited to celebrate another wonderful year at the club with all of you. Christmas is a time for joy, relaxation, and spending time with loved ones—but it's also a great opportunity to squeeze in some tennis! Whether you're staying active between festive feasts or just enjoying some lighthearted rallies, we encourage everyone to make the most of the courts. However, with colder days upon us, please remember to play safely. Icy patches and chilly conditions can make things tricky, so dress warmly, stay alert, and put safety first. Here's to a festive season filled with fun and a brilliant start to the New Year.

Let's make 2025 a year to remember both on and off the court!



WINTER LEAGUE UPDATE

It has been an encouraging start to the winter league for Heswall teams, having played 4 of 14 matches.

Highlights so far are the men's C team sitting top of division 6, Jude Griffiths being top player in division 6, and the floodlit team sitting top of their league!

Availability is always up and down in winter and yet we have still managed to get competitive teams out each week. Thanks to everyone who has played so far and if anyone else is interested in playing then please contact clubcaptain@heswalltennis.co.uk



JUNIOR NEWS

Although our Friday Fun nights are now finished for 2024 there are still selected junior sessions taking place on a Friday night which includes our Junior Development group who are benefitting from playing competitive doubles with our adult members. The standard is excellent but more importantly it allows our juniors to benefit from our experienced adult members and the nuances of doubles tennis. They are well on the way to being able to contribute to our adult teams in the coming years. Thanks once again to Neil Elsbey and all of those adult members who offer to play with our future stars. Finally, our Junior teams are competing well in their respective leagues with some brilliant performances in all age groups by both the boys and the girls, hopefully we'll build on our success of last season and push for league winners across several age groups!

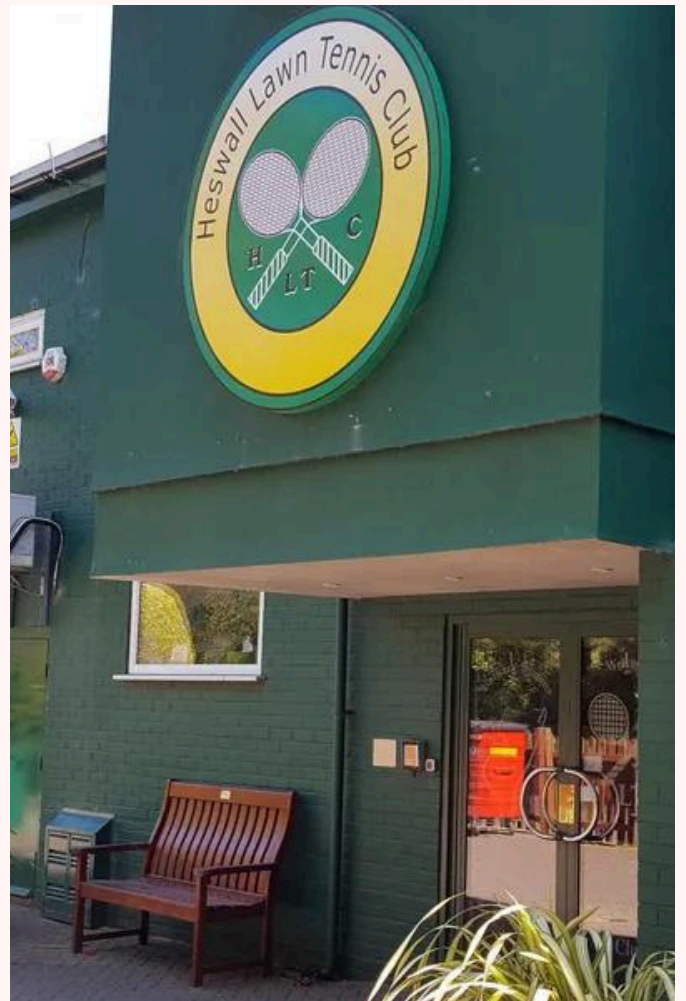
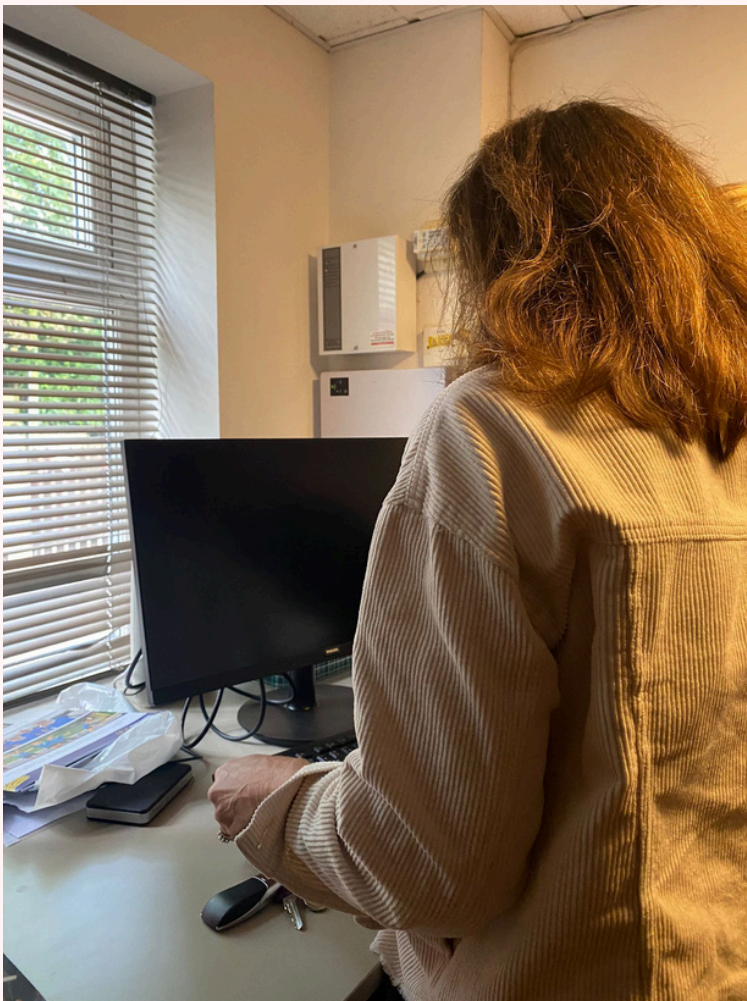
Membership Stats

We're over halfway through the membership year and thought you might be interested in some stats about our membership:

- We currently have 413 active members
- 34 have joined since July 1 this year
- 277 are adults (25 or over), 107 are Juniors (Under 18) and 29 are Young Adults (18-24)
- We have 10 social members
- Our oldest active (not necessarily playing) member is 93 and the youngest is 5 years and 11 months. The average age across all members is a little under 45.
- The revenue for this membership year will total a little over £69,000. 274 members have chosen to pay annually and 106 monthly. The other 29 are lifetime and honorary members.
- 169 of you have paid by Direct Debit, 205 by bank card and 10 by direct bank payment. The shift from bank payment to card has been very helpful, thank you

If you have any queries about your membership or want to check the data we have for you in our records, please contact me at membership@heswalltennis.co.uk.

Thanks for all your support!





Keeping In Touch

We have been trying to work out how best to keep our members informed and have decided the best way is by announcements in the HLTC WhatsApp community. Almost half of the members have already joined the community but if you want to be kept informed of what's going on, please join us at <https://play.heswalltennis.co.uk/whatsapp>.

We know that not everyone likes WhatsApp but our commitment to you is that we control the messages you receive. You won't see chats, bad jokes or holiday photos, just information that affects you – court availability, club events and clubhouse news.

If you have a WhatsApp tennis group that you'd like other members to know about, add it to the community and other members will be able to see it and ask to join. This is particularly helpful for new members who want to play and get to know us. More information at <https://play.heswalltennis.co.uk/WhatsAppFAQ>.

Requests for announcements you'd like to share with members can be sent to social@heswalltennis.co.uk.

HEATING THE CLUBHOUSE

Heating the clubhouse is a significant cost for us and has been very difficult for us to control. In November, we installed new smart controllers on the radiators which give us more control while ensuring that our clubhouse users aren't over-heating or freezing cold.

In general, we don't heat the clubhouse downstairs or the changing rooms but if you have a request for a time when you'd like the heating to be turned on, please let me know at bar@heswalltennis.co.uk.

Nigel



CLUB AND GROUNDS UPDATE

There have been several improvements around the club and grounds recently:

- The front of the clubhouse has been refreshed with a new coat of paint, greatly enhancing its appearance.
- The three small seats by the practice wall have been upgraded, with powder-coated frames and replaced wooden slats.
- New green screens sponsored by Propeller have been installed. To prevent them from acting as sails in strong winds, the bottom edges have intentionally been left unattached.
- Big thankyou to Propellor Properties - Wirral Estate Agents & Letting Agent for their support of the club providing essential nets - <https://www.propeller-properties.co.uk/>
- Investigations are ongoing to address the flooding issues affecting courts 7 and 8.

These updates reflect our commitment to maintaining and enhancing our facilities for everyone's enjoyment.



MEET THE TEAM

Name: Suzi Hassall

Role: Membership Secretary

What have you brought to your new role?

Support and encouragement to new members

When did you start playing tennis?

17

Are you a Lefty or a Righty?

Lefty

Favourite drink from the bar?

Glass of wine

When did you become a member of HLTC?

10 years ago

Contact: membership@heswalltennis.co.uk



Save The Dates

-Club Xmas party

Saturday December 7th

Doors open from 7pm for some festive fun, drinks and nibbles

-Mixed Bobble hat tournament.

Thursday 12th December 12.30pm. £5 entry



Club Kit

HLTC CLUB Kit can be tried on, ordered and paid for direct with Sportville in Greasby now - 231 Greasby Rd, Greasby, Wirral CH49 2PG

Bridge Success

The twice-yearly Bridge Tournament raised an impressive £789.00—a fantastic effort by Gilly and her co-organisers. It is much appreciated by everyone at HLTC.



Thanks to Our Grounds Volunteers

Thank you to all the volunteers who help keep the grounds in pristine condition!

Pictured above **Alison Bennett**

Darren Williamson

Debbie Peter

YOU CAN ALSO FIND US ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS AT:

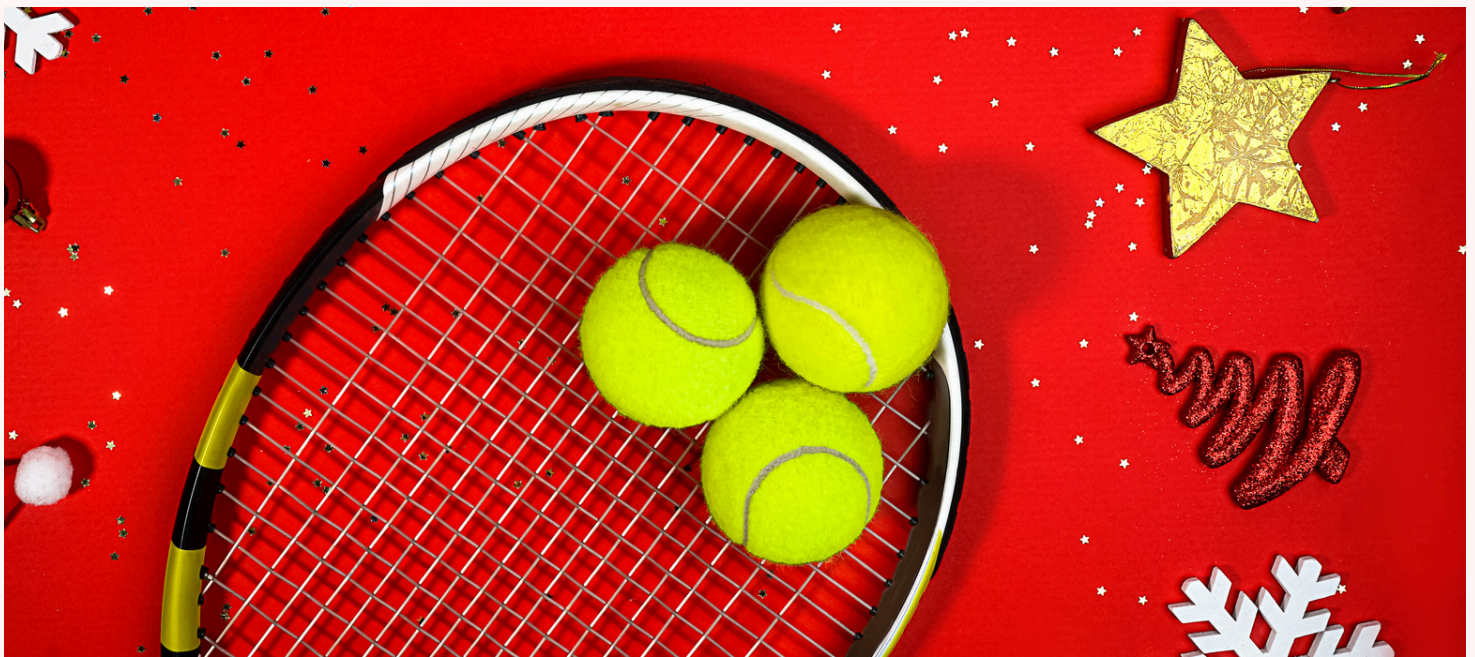
INSTAGRAM: HESWALLLAWNTENNISCLUB FACEBOOK: HESWALL LAWN TENNIS CLUB

Cheshire LTA Grant

Ten years ago, one of our members generously donated a defibrillator to the club. We recently registered it on the national database at <https://www.defibfinder.uk/> so that the emergency services are aware of it but, because it is inside the clubhouse, it has limited availability.

This month, with the help of a grant from Cheshire LTA, we purchased and installed an external cabinet at the front of the clubhouse. The machine is now available 24x7 to the local community and to the emergency services.

Defibrillator can be seen on the right attached to the front of the clubhouse!



HAVE A GREAT CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR!

As we close out this year, we want to thank everyone for being part of our wonderful community. Have a joyful Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year. See you on the courts in 2025!

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