

# **NEWS**

June 2024

Welcome to the latest news and events for all our members.

#### **VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION – PLEASE READ!**

The Football Club at Willen Road is laying an Astroturf Pitch on the ground south of the stadium. Inevitably there will be some disruption for the next few months but we have agreed on measures which are primarily aimed at keeping everyone safe who uses the site. The works on the new pitch are due to start on 10th June and at various times there will be a great deal of heavy vehicle traffic entering and exiting the site. For safety's sake we have agreed that the current car park entrance should be used ONLY by construction vehicles for the duration of the works. The current car park will be fenced off so that there is no danger to the public.

The middle gate, which is a little further to the east along Willen Road, will be opened to allow other traffic using the recreation facilities to enter and exit. This gate leads directly on to the gravel car park, which is where the tennis parking will be for the time being. We have requested that signage at the usual gate should be erected to direct people to this new gate.

There is less football activity over the summer, although there are days when there will be events and friendly football matches. The weekend of 22/23 June is likely to be difficult as there is the youth football festival. However, the football club has arranged some other off-site parking to help. The construction company will clear the area of mud on a regular basis. However, please avoid taking mud and gravel onto the courts; it may be a good idea to arrive in different shoes and then change into tennis shoes at the courts.

I understand there may be some frustrations during the next few months but there does not seem to be any alternative while the football club facilities are improved.

## FRENCH TOURNAMENT

At long last the sun came out, just in time for the French Tournament on 2 June. The courts were full and there was some excellent tennis. It was a super friendly event and we were delighted that several new members came along for the first time. It was a victory for the England Team, although the French Team battled hard and were gracious in defeat. It was lovely to share a drink, nibbles and conversation afterwards. The next Tournament will coincide with Wimbledon on 7 July, so save the date (you can let

Jenny Spencer know on 07875 945307 if you want to play.)

## **CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS 2024**

The Club Championship competition is underway, with the draw made and distributed. The players in the different categories have until 28<sup>th</sup> June to play their first-round matches. The first-round losers will then be entered into the Plate draw and all the players will continue playing their rounds with losers eliminated at each stage. The finalists for the main draw and the Plate draw will play their finals on 22 September, so please put that date in your diaries to come down and support them all.

More players than ever are playing this year, almost half our adult members. Good luck everyone, and enjoy!

#### JOIN IN THE CARNIVAL FUN

The Newport Pagnell Carnival is taking place on the first weekend of July. As in previous years, we will be joining in the Parade on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July. The Parade leaves Tanners Drive, Blakelands, at 12 noon and travels through the town to end at Riverside Meadow. It's a great way to raise awareness of the Tennis Club and we will have leaflets to give out to the huge and supportive crowd along the route.

The theme this year is Heroes and Villains, so if you want to join in the fun we have chosen to dress as Minions, so blue bottoms, yellow tops, yellow hat with swimming goggles, or make your own costume (or if you would rather, just dress in tennis gear!). Everybody is welcome. Please contact Heather Simms to register your interest and for more information on 07905 18843.





## JUNIOR PLAYER OF THE MONTH

Lucy Poutays was chosen as the Player of the Month for April. Lucy works so hard in her lessons each Friday and regularly practices with her mum Faye. Together they won the Parent & Child tournament which took place in April. Keep up the good work, Lucy!

**STOP PRESS!** We can definitely call ourselves a growing and thriving Club. By the end of May we had 204 members, the highest level ever. In the last membership year, we did not reach this figure until the end of November. Over 45 per cent of our members are juniors, 17 years and under.