SODBURY TENNIS CLUB

1954–2024

70

19–26 MAY 2024

SOUVENIR PROGRAMME

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENTS • TENNIS THEMED ACTIVITIES • AFTERNOON TEA
HOG ROAST • 70TH ANNIVERSARY PRESENTATION • EVENING PARTY

4 **KEY DEVELOPMENTS FACILITIES**

6 **KEY TENNIS ACHIEVEMENTS**

8 **AVON LTA AWARDS** 2023–24

10 **CELEBRATION WEEK SCHEDULE**
19–26 MAY

12 **CELEBRATION FUN DAY**
SUNDAY 26 MAY

14 **OUR CLUB** LEAGUE

18 **OUR CLUB** SOCIAL

20 **OUR CLUB** COACHING

22 **OUR CLUB** CLUB TOURNAMENT

LEGACY FOR THE FUTURE

The committee and I are warmly inviting members and friends of Sodbury Tennis Club to the 70th Anniversary Celebrations on Sunday 26 May 2024! We hope you can come and will enjoy reminiscing with friends over refreshments and playing tennis themed activities. Sodbury Tennis club has been innovative and purposeful throughout its 70 year history, the various committees over this time have been proactive in promoting STC as a club that focuses on participation for all, both competitively and socially.

Sodbury has much to celebrate over the years including the development of a high quality clubhouse and tennis facilities, a history of high sporting achievements and offering varied tennis programmes for everyone to enjoy. In the last two years Sodbury has received Avon LTA awards in recognition that the club is providing tennis facilities for children, successful coaching programmes and inclusive tennis for the community which is a real cause for celebration!

Finally, it is important to mention that the club would not be a success without the members and volunteers providing such a warm welcome. We are proud of our club which has a strong foundation built up over the years by past and present dedicated members and volunteers, which is a legacy for the ongoing success of the club.

Kathy Ryan
Chairperson, and the Committee

MOBBURY
TENNIS CLUB

KEY DEVELOPMENTS
FACILITIES

1954–1960s

14 May 1954 – Sodbury Tennis Club Formed at the Ridings with three tarmac courts with no lights and a basic wooden scout hut repurposed as the 'clubhouse'.

1980s

1983 – Flood lights for two courts

1988 – Courts resurfaced with porous tarmac

1990s

1991 – Cotswold Stone Pavilion built, opened by Christopher Reeve, actor.

1998 – Four courts resurfaced with acrylic artificial grass.

2010s

2011 – Kitchen refurbishment and start of Annual Club Charity initially funded by friday night burgers

2014 – Flood lights for Court four, opened by Steve Webb

2014 – Tiger Turf court surface laid

2018 – Clubhouse extended and refurbished opened by Chloe Ball-Hopkins, Para-athlete

2019 – LED flood lights

2020s to today

2023 – New games area for juniors resurfaced with Tiger Turf, new sports equipment and practice wall mural installed.

KEY TENNIS ACHIEVEMENTS

1970s

Longest Standing Members

Dale Curtis and Steve Mackereth joined the club in 1971 and members for 53 years! Dale won the mens singles in the club tournament in every decade of his membership until 2020s.

Bristol and District League Winners

Throughout the 70s the Men's 1st team won their groups on 5 consecutive years taking the team from group 7 in 1970 to Group 3 by 1974.

1990s

Mens 1st team Avon League Division 1 Winners for 6 years

Avon County Ladies Team Players

Julie Midgley 'Midge' and Liz Monaghan were the first ladies to represent Sodbury in the Avon County Team and also played in the National County Championships.

2000s

New Club Coaching Regime introduced in early 2000s.

Kathy Ryan was appointed coaching coordinator and along with many home grown and professionally qualified coaches, notably Steve Johnson, built a thriving junior club section.

Growth of Ladies Tennis

A positive drive by the committee to encouraged ladies tennis meant STC fielded many league teams.

2020s to today

Sodbury in Lockdown

Tennis was one of the first sports permitted during the pandemic. STC members didn't let the challenges dampen their spirits and the club came back with gusto!

AVON LTA AWARDS 2023–24

In general, Avon LTA award winners demonstrate 'Inspiration to others to volunteer, coach, officiate or to play tennis'. Sodbury is honoured to have received Avon LTA awards in both 2023 and 2024. LTA awards recognize Sodbury's hard work and achievements to provide tennis facilities for children, successful coaching programmes and inclusive tennis for the community.

2023 Club of the Year: Sodbury

'uses creativity to provide innovative tennis opportunities and works hard to create a positive and inclusive club'

2023 Unsung Hero Award : Kathy Ryan

'contributes to the success of tennis'

2024 Development Coach of the Year: Pete Caseley

'delivers a successful coaching programme that is creative, follows coaching frameworks, and is welcoming and inclusive'

2024 Connecting Communities Award: Sodbury

'provides opportunities for under represented people in the local community to access tennis that is safe, welcoming, accessible and inclusive'

2024 Unsung Hero Award : Abi Matthews

'a great role model and inspiration for other members'

AVON TENNIS
WINNER

CELEBRATION WEEK SCHEDULE 19–26 MAY

Earn House Points during the celebration week by participating at:

- As part of all your usual tennis club activities
- Gordon Runcie's 70th birthday tennis event and tea and bubbly on Sunday 19th
- Charity American Tournament on Friday 24th in aid of Make a Wish charity
- Final Celebrations event on Sunday 26th

HOUSE TEAMS

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

ROLAND GARROS

WIMBLEDON

US OPEN

HOW TO EARN HOUSE POINTS AT EVENTS

Social Sessions

- Any club social play session, walking tennis, match practice, court bookings etc
- 1 point for gaining 2 or more games in a set (full, short or tie break sets or Fast 4s)
- 3 points for winning the set
- Each player gains points, points awarded to both players in doubles

Coaching Sessions

- Coaches or event organisers leading the session will provide instructions.

Points

- See the Points Accumulator Boards in the club house
- Session champions will help record points gained. If no champion available, message results of the house name, points gained, and by whom to Mark Belcher (07785 615323)

Sodbury Tennis Club Bake Off

- Gain House Points for every cake entered. More cakes means more points!
- 2 points for every entry
- 3rd-5th place - 5 points
- 2nd place - 8 points
- 1st place - 10 points
- Cakes will be served at afternoon tea.
- Any monetary donations will be given to the club charity, Make a Wish.

CELEBRATION FUN DAY
SUNDAY 26 MAY

12:00	Opening Welcome Announcement Child and Adult / Parent Tennis Competition
13.45	Daytime and Walking Tennis Competitions
13.45	Test your serve with the speed gun
14.45	STC Bake Off - Bring a cake to share all entries earn points
15:00	Afternoon Tea and Cake
15.15	Tennis and Themed Competitions for all
17.15	Exhibition Tennis with a twist
17:00	Hog Roast
18.30	STC@70 Winning House Announced
Evening	Party celebrations with Disco

OUR CLUB LEAGUE

Competitive tennis is a feature of all sections of the club with adults and juniors playing league across the Avon Youth and National Leagues.

In true Sodbury style, members are proud to represent Sodbury in the leagues, have fun and socialise. The club is buzzing after matches with players and visitors enjoying burgers and the bar.

Avon League Summer 2023	Men	Ladies
Teams entered	8	6
Divisions	2 to 8	2 to 7
Adult players	53	40
Invited Junior players	6	5
Teams promoted	4	2

Avon Youth League Red ball, Orange ball, Green ball, Yellow ball teams	
Summer 2023	7 teams entered and maintained division positions
Winter 2023	U14 girls won Division 2 U18 boys won Division 2

Crop
AVON TENNIS
Men's Summer League
Best Partnerships
2023
WINNERS
Congratulations!
Dale Curtis &
Gary Chorley
AVON TENNIS
Men's Summer League
Best Individual
2023
WINNER
Congratulations
Dale Curtis
Sodbury LTC
AVON TENNIS
Men's Summer League
Best Individual
2023
WINNER
Congratulations
Gary Chorley
Sodbury LTC
LTA

‘fun and sociable’

‘vibrant club’

'wonderful tennis'

OUR CLUB
SOCIAL

Sodbury offers a range of social tennis playing opportunities including Open Club sessions, Annual Club Tournaments, American tournaments and box leagues for all members to enjoy.

Tennis is the core of Sodbury with the added benefts of socialising on and off the court. Sodbury prides itself on being a welcoming and social club which is appreciated by old and new members, and visitors to the club. Our amazing indoor and outdoor facilities make it easy to socialise, enjoy the bar and to have fun.

'my tennis family'

‘friendly and welcoming’

‘something for everyone’

OUR CLUB
COACHING

Coaching at Sodbury is thriving. The junior, inclusive and adult pathways have expanded, especially in the junior section which has doubled. Adults from beginners to advanced are also enjoying coaching and cardio tennis.

'inspired me to join the club' Adult Improver

'great fun' U6

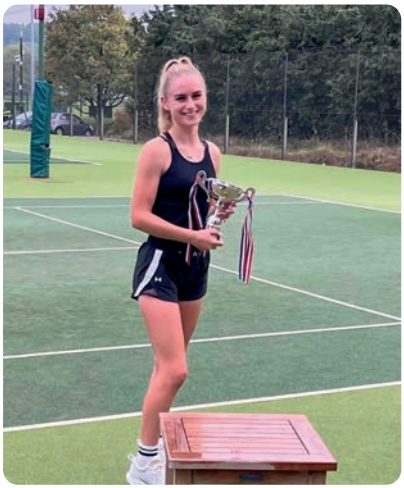
'buzzing' junior girl

'loves it' grumpy teenager

'Enjoy the suffering', 'no pain no gain'
Cardio tennis players

OUR CLUB
CLUB TOURNAMENT

Adult and Junior Club Tournaments are popular social highlights of the club calendar. Members and visitors come to watch the tennis and to socialise throughout the tournaments.



SODBURY TENNIS CLUB

70 1954–2024

Congratulations to past and current Sodbury Tennis Club members for creating a successful community club for future generations to enjoy. Here's to the next 70 years!

A big Thank you to the following:

Mark and Jan Belcher, Pete Caseley and Anna Webster for organising the Sodbury@70 celebrations, and the support of the Committee.

Liz Attwood & Jamie Bradford for putting together the souvenir programme.

Pete Caseley's Tennis Coaching, R.A Leslie and Co and Jordan Sports for generously sponsoring the events.

Pete Caseley's Tennis Coaching

R.A.Leslie and Co. CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

JORDAN SPORTS