

Dear Members,

This is my ninth chairman's report. This club continues to have a great reputation as a friendly club, and it is supported by kind and hard working committee members. Never forget we are all unpaid volunteers. Along with other members, they are a great help to the club. So to all of you, many thanks. We will keep these formalities short so we can enjoy the evening as a wine and cheese party. Thank you to the Penneys for letting us borrow their house to hold the event. And to them plus Jude, Emily, Martine and Kate for providing the food and drink.

**In the past few years** we have achieved a lot:

- We rebuilt the courts and fencing to their present excellent standard
- We were involved in the refurbishment and creation of SPACE and outer SPACE, giving us access to a third court plus toilet and changing facilities.
- We set up a formal 24 year lease with Mole Valley Council. This has become hugely important as their planners look for land on which to build more housing.
- We incorporated the club as a limited company.
- Our new website is fully up and running. It is not easy to maintain, but better than the previous one. It has attracted a good range of enquiries and several new memberships.

**This year** has had plenty of challenges and achievements. Highlights include:

- An additional social event last year was Finals Day in October, which was a success, so we are repeating it this year, on 23<sup>rd</sup> September. I should thank Chris Vosper and Pam Wilkinson for organizing the tournaments. They have kept well to schedule this year, and I can announce the ladies' winner and runner-up: Emily and Martine!
- The American tournament was an enjoyable day, so thank you Mike Kay. The MVDC chairman attended it and was made welcome. (He was also taken aside by several members who had agendas to push to him, so saw less tennis than he might have done)
- Club matches: We are fielding two men's teams: the mens' first team has been promoted twice and still holding their own. Men's 2 has also done well. The other club teams remain where they feel most comfortable, in the bottom divisions. My thanks to all the captains for their organization.
- The courts were washed and anti-moss treated in the Spring. Contractors then carried out painting and binding, so the courts are looking great this year.
- The hedge was cut both by club members and MVDC contractors who left it unfinished. Under pressure they returned to the job and still left a mess. John Prestwich took it in hand and straightened the whole thing perfectly.
- We have attracted a significant number of new members. We are particularly pleased to welcome several under forty who are taking an active part in club sessions
- We have been much involved with South Bookham Space to realise its ambition to add an additional kitchen/seating area which would benefit our club. Our members have run a quiz, an auction of promises and a terrific summer ball. The club has contributed £7,500 to their costs and some members made additional donations.
- Sean Watson provides junior and adult Tuesday lessons as an independent coach. He has a dedicated following and his numbers continue to increase. Our chief coach Malcolm Cooper is ably managing the Friday teens' sessions and some adult coaching.
- We felt the effects of vandalism again. A visiting player was wounded by a missile which drew blood from his leg. This was fired by a catapult. Through Facebook, more incidents

were discovered. The police were actively involved, though there was no conclusive result to their efforts.

- Our club gained good publicity from Village week. We ran a stall at village day, and organized the quiz for 18 local groups. It was a success and voted just the right level.
- Our Facebook site is reaching a large number of people – 609 for the latest post.
- Tod has posted a data privacy policy on the BTC website: BTC is GDPR compliant

### **Club Membership.**

Keith Gatford now handles new and renewed memberships and Tod Wilson the membership database. Membership numbers are good. Depending on who you include we have 100 – 160 members of which around 60 are under 18. Jeremy Thomas is looking after the Wimbledon tickets and LTA affiliations. The ticket allocations went smoothly this year.

We are rebuilding our finances after creating our brilliant new facilities, with the added expenditure of supporting SPACE's new extension. We therefore had to increase our charges.

Fees for this year 2018-19 for existing/new members:

Family:	£158 / £175
Adult:	£99 / £109
Intermediate:	£30 / £33
Junior:	£30 / £33
Mini:	£15 / £17

Publicity was at a lower level this year. We had a stall at the Bookham Village Day, run by Mike Kay. He had enough help from members to make it an enjoyable and successful day.

### **Finance**

Patrick Maddison is our treasurer, so our thanks to him for that. We have £25,000+ in the bank, though when unrealisable assets are taken into account we appear to be better off than that. While this is a good contribution towards the next major expenditures, we are not complacent. Our contributions to SPACE's building work is an added pressure. Our thanks also to Lawrence Vosper for agreeing to continue to audit and sign off the accounts.

### **Maintenance**

This year there has been a steady fall of leaves, guano and moss onto the courts. We had the courts power washed, painted and binded. This work was done earlier in the season with prior notification and mindful of the neighbours. We had no complaints . Trevor, Mike K, Lawrence P, Malcolm, Jeremy, John Prestwich and others have been most helpful with their hedge trimming, leaf blowing, weeding and sweeping.

### **Tournaments**

Pam, Chris and Mike had a successful year running the tournament and competitions. With the advent of a finals day, the players kept more to their schedules last year and this. .

We already know the 2018 ladies' winner and runner-up: Emily and Martine! Congratulations to both of them.

## Club competition Winners in 2017.

Event	Winner(s)
Men's singles	<i>Daniel Bourne</i>
Men's Doubles	<i>Tim Jones &amp; Chris Watney</i>
Ladies Singles	<i>Emily von Reibnitz</i>
Ladies Doubles	<i>Kate Savin &amp; Janet Harrison</i>
Mixed Doubles	<i>Helen Cooper &amp; Daniel Bourne</i>
American Men's	<i>Chris Browning</i>
American Ladies	<i>Lesley Browning</i>
Adult Most Improved	<i>Caroline Penney</i>
Junior Most Improved	<i>Ryan Bedford</i>

### Matches

We now have two men's teams. Bookham 1, captained by Chris Watney and newly promoted (again!), has done well in its new league. Bookham 2, captained by Chris Browning, has some good results. The ladies' team was captained this year by Kate, with Leslie Browning running the mixed team. The vets team was led by Jeremy. Thank you to these team captains for organizing the matches.

### Coaching

We provide coaching for adults and juniors of all ages from five years old. Sean Watson provides junior and adult Tuesday lessons as an independent coach. He has a dedicated following and his numbers continue to increase. Our chief coach Malcolm Cooper is ably managing the Friday teens' sessions and some adult coaching.

### Social Tennis

Our club is definitely not just about tournaments and matches. We have a whole range of sessions, both scheduled and informal, to provide something for everyone. On Sunday mornings and Thursday evenings we have club sessions. Thursday evening is more for the match standard players, while we have Monday evenings for our improvers, an especially sociable crowd led by Deirdre. These sessions will run throughout the summer and into the autumn. On Wednesday and Friday mornings there are the 'ladies who lunch', who converse and play simultaneously, plus an occasional guest male who gets invited along. There are gentlemen's tennis sessions on Saturday mornings for league player standard. These have been very popular and have gone some way to winning promotion. And yet more sessions on other days. There is a weekly schedule of the full list on our website and Facebook.

There is a new 'La Manga' style social doubles session being planned. More details to follow.

**If anyone in the club feels a bit left out** of the social tennis, please contact a committee member and we'll be happy to put you in touch with other members and suggest a session for you.

### Social Events

Bookham Tennis Club is a sociable place to be. We had an excellent February meal and prize giving event. Sandie Chambre led the team with Jude, Mike and many other helpers producing great food and a great atmosphere in the SPACE. We are looking forward to the next one. Thank you Sandie for agreeing to do it again.

Our all day American mixed tournament in September involves 16 players who partner each other as mixed doubles for a series of short sets. This is always great fun and an excellent social occasion, with spectators joining the players for the conversation and the food.

This year in September we will be having a tournaments finals day again. It will be accompanied by tea, coffee and snacks, so do come along and enjoy the event.

We have also had a quiz and a summer ball in aid of the SPACE expansion, both excellent and enjoyable occasions.

### **Bookham SPACE Expansion**

South Bookham SPACE, which provides our changing and post match facilities, are working on a first floor extension. This is exciting news as it would provide a bigger area for team meals and other informal social occasions. We are doing what we can do to help the venture succeed.

### **Committee Members 2017 - 18**

We have a vacancy for social secretary. Please volunteer to keep us going. There is a great team of helpers, so you'd be ably supported. We are also pleased to welcome any other members who would like to help on the committee.

This year's committee is :

<b>Chairman</b>	Tod Wilson	<b>Club Coaches</b>	Sean Watson, Malcolm Cooper
<b>Treasurer</b>	Patrick Maddison	<b>Men's team 1 Captain</b>	Chris Watney
<b>Company Sec</b>	Jeremy Thomas	<b>Men's team 2 Captain</b>	Chris Browning
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	Keith Gatford, Tod Wilson (members DB)	<b>Ladies' team Captain</b>	Kate Savin
<b>Council &amp; SPACE Liaison</b>	Trevor G-W, Jeremy T Chris Watney, Chris B	<b>Mixed team Captain</b>	Lesley Browning
<b>Court Maintenance</b>	Lawrence P, Trevor G-W Tod W, Mike Kay etc	<b>Vets' Captain</b>	Jeremy Thomas
<b>Social Secretary</b>	TBA	<b>Publicity</b>	Mike Kay, Trevor G-W, Keith G

### **Other Responsibilities:**

<b>Safeguarding</b>	Janet Harrison	<b>Winter Social</b>	Sandie Chambre
<b>Tournaments &amp; Prizes</b>	Mike Kay (American), Chris V / Pam W (Others)	<b>Health &amp; Safety GDPR</b>	Richard Rees Tod Wilson

### **Website and Facebook**

Our website is [www.bookhamtennisclub.org.uk](http://www.bookhamtennisclub.org.uk). It is well laid out and full of useful information. Do visit it!

We also have a presence on Facebook,

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Bookham-Tennis-Club/166965733457146>

which is regularly updated. Do log on and 'Like' it. Let us know if you want to add content, we are delighted to receive all pictures and information.

T Wilson (Chairman) August 2018