



# Newsletter

issue: October 2019



**Acton Cup winners 2019**

## Club wins Acton Cup

The Acton Cup is one of the region's most prestigious trophies, a knock-out competition between 32 clubs in the North East Cheshire tennis league. Played over the course of the season it involves ladies' and men's singles and doubles as well as mixed doubles. Prestbury reached the final and then triumphed over teams from 'The Northern' in a thrilling 3-2 victory. It is some 44 years since the club last won this trophy, a huge achievement. Club President Doreen Armstrong added... "we demolished the dominance Bramhall Lane have long held over this event, our team showing tremendous talent and endurance before a very supportive group of friends and families".



## ... and the Rose Bowl too!

Our mixed doubles players Sean Sivewright and Olivia Brown also scored a success earlier this summer when they beat Hale 7-4 in the final of the Rose Bowl trophy at West Heaton



### Lighting Up

The floodlights on courts 7 and 8, which have been somewhat unreliable in the past, are to be replaced with LEDs. As well as reducing running and maintenance costs the new lights will give the courts a better and more uniform light coverage. Following their installation we hope to obtain planning permission to do the same for the lighting on courts 4, 5 and 6.

Provisional date for installation is 21st October, it is hoped court closure will be limited to just one or two days.



### Something different for Christmas?

How about an unusual but thoughtful gift this Christmas for those hard-to-choose-for friends and relatives?

A year's subscription to the Club lottery costs as little as £12 per year by direct debit with a **monthly top prize of £70** plus four smaller prizes. Double up to £24 per year and the odds of them winning increase by 100%!

So instead of that annual gift card, why not help support the club and at the same time give someone a quirky but thoughtful gift this Christmas? it's easy to do, just email [Richard](#) for details.



### Another Christmas suggestion...

As well as treating others, why not treat yourself and book a date in your diary for our Winter Ball on Saturday 30th November, to be held this year at Prestbury Golf Club. Full or part tables can be booked - further details to follow.

### Clubhouse murals



The new clubhouse is being decorated with a series of bespoke murals painted by two local artists at a (very) concessionary rate, for which we are most grateful. The tennis-themed murals are bright, modern, friendly and energetic - appropriately reflecting the culture and personality of the club!



### Quiz Night

One more date for your diary is our Autumn quiz night at the clubhouse on Saturday 9th November, 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. You can book in as a team of 4 - 6 people or just come individually and team up on the night.

Tickets £10 per person to include Ploughman's Supper.

Further info / tickets from [Lesley Cain](#)



### Men's Vets winners

A magnificent men's veteran's final saw Martin Prescott & David Cooper partnered against David Partington & Tim Hazelhurst in which octogenarian David and Martin finally triumphed in a competitive set following thirty two 'round robin' elimination games.

JUNIORS



### Autumn half-term tennis academy

Jon is running a junior tennis academy in the half-term week from Tuesday 29th - Thursday 31st October. Costing just £25 per day, including lunch, each session combines coaching, shot practice and competitions with an emphasis on action-packed fun. Choose from full or half days (morning or afternoon) and either one, two or three day participation.

For further info contact Jon on 07702 814351 or email him [here](#)



### Under 10's - events and competitions

26th October 3.30pm - 5.00pm....**Monster Smash**

16th November 1pm - 5pm.... **"World Tour Finals" Matchplay**

14th December 4.00pm - 6.00pm.... **2019 Christmas Party**

Further info can be found on the [website](#)

or contact Jon on 07702 814351 or email him [here](#)



### "East v West"

Head coach Jon Cain set up this 'East v West' competition in which 6 players were selected from 6 clubs representing their side of the county.

50 players competed over three venues, with four players from Prestbury selected for the Cheshire East Team: Rosie Hague, Annabel Pearson, Evie Adinkra, Evie Wilde , Isaac Whenman, George Barnes and Jack Belford

NOTICEBOARD

## Ladies Veterans Tournament

The annual competition will take place on **Saturday 20th October**, with registration from 1.15 for a prompt 1.30pm start.

Format is on lines of a 'Round Robin', changing partners along the way.

An entry fee of £3 payable on the day will go towards The Christie Charity.

Entrants must admit to being 45 or over!

Please let [Steve Bowman](#) or [Lesley Cain](#) know before Friday 18th if you plan to attend

Tea and cakes around 4.30pm following prize-giving

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## Wimbledon 2020 ticket allocation

The LTA has started the process for allocating tickets for the 2020 Wimbledon Championships.

Club members with LTA membership should receive an e-mail from the LTA inviting them to "opt-in". Please do so. Even if you are undecided or can't go, the fact you opt-in increases the number of tickets the club receives!

Members not yet affiliated to the LTA or new members, joining the LTA is an easy process and "lite" membership is FREE. To join and Opt-in [apply here](#).

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## Backhand clinics

Head coach Jon Cain is holding a number of backhand clinics this October:

### **Sat Oct 12th, 11.15am**

1 hour workshop for 1-hand backhand players

Cost £9 (members) £12 (non-members)

### **Sat 19th Oct, 11.15am**

1 hour workshop for 2-hand backhand players

Cost £9 (members) £12 (non-members)

for more info contact [Jon](#)

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## TEAM REPORTS



## LADIES' TEAMS REPORT

### **Ladies 1<sup>st</sup> Team (Division 1)**

Captain – Fran Taylor : A massive congratulations to Fran and her team for gaining promotion to the Premier Division by finishing second in their league. They got off to a slow start losing their first two matches, but then gathered momentum and convincingly won all eight of their remaining matches. Next year may prove more challenging but, now that the squad has been strengthened by the addition of a couple of younger, talented players, I feel sure that they will be up to the task and we can look forward to very competitive tennis.

### **Ladies 2<sup>nd</sup> Team (Division 1) :**

Captain – Felicity Barker : Unfortunately the 2<sup>nd</sup> team found the going more tough in Division 1, having been promoted from Division 2 last year. There were some very competitive matches, where results could have gone either way, but unfortunately the team has been demoted back to Division 2. However, hopefully the players can build on their experiences and enjoy a more successful season next year.

### **Ladies 3<sup>rd</sup> Team (Division 2) :**

Captain – Debby Snow : The 3<sup>rd</sup> team had a similar experience to that of the 2<sup>nd</sup> team. They were promoted from Division 3 last year, having finished top of that league, but struggled this year and will be demoted back to Division 3. Again, they achieved a number of close results, and hopefully enjoyed the matches and gained experience which will pay dividends next year.

### **Ladies 4<sup>th</sup> Team (Division 5) :**

Captain – Caroline Wild : There were only 4 points separating the top 6 teams in this division. Caroline's team finished 4<sup>th</sup>, losing only two matches out of eleven played, and narrowly missed gaining promotion to Division 4. This proved to be a very competitive league and there is all to play for next season.

### **Ladies 5<sup>th</sup> Team (Division 6) :**

Captains – Helen Croxford and June Lally : the 5<sup>th</sup> team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in their division, only one point behind the team placed second and so, like the 4<sup>th</sup> team, narrowly missed out on promotion. A total of 13 ladies played in the team, giving several ladies the opportunity to play competitive tennis.

So, a season of mixed fortunes, but hopefully everyone enjoyed the opportunity of playing competitive tennis. The winter league will start in a couple of weeks time – the format is mixed doubles – so, if there are any new members who would like to be considered for a place in one of the teams, please contact either myself, [Jane Mackay](#) (ladies) or [Hamish McHarg](#) (men).

## LADIES' TEAM CAPTAIN REPORT

I have enjoyed being 1<sup>st</sup> team captain for the last two years at Prestbury LTC. In January 2018, I stated our team's objective for that summer was to "land mid-table". When questioned about the possibility of getting into the Premier League, I said that could be in the three-year plan. With the recent arrival of two very talented players (Olivia Brown and Hannah Lorquet) and everyone's support, we have achieved it sooner, which is fantastic! We had 14 players contribute to the success of the first team this summer, so thank you to all, who played. I relished the camaraderie in our team; everyone really enjoyed themselves in matches, despite some challenging weather conditions. We played in hail in early April, had three weeks of non-stop rain in June and endured a match against local rivals Macclesfield on the hottest day on record. *(Thanks to Feng the Macc gang were very well fed on the night of their confirmed relegation.)*

The icing on the cake has been our winning the Acton Cup. Again, what an amazing team-effort! Well done to Pedro Ocana and Nick Baglin, young Ben Nichol, (who kept his head in a tough singles battle against Hannah Lorquet's brother at the Northern), the undefeated mixed pairing of Olivia Brown and Sean Sivewright and to Jennifer Grayston and Hannah Lorquet.

*Other players, who participated in the Acton Cup, were Felicity Barker, Fiona Fosbury, Hannah Atherton, Feng Eales, Connor Moran, Grant Lithgow, James Leather & Ross Smith.*

Well done to the men for winning the premier league four years running! And, of course, to Olivia Brown and Sean Sivewright for winning the Rose Bowl. What a season!

Jane Mackay (overall ladies captain 2019), Alison Moores (overall ladies captain 2018) and Felicity Barker (2<sup>nd</sup> team captain) – thank you for the excellent support! It really was appreciated.

All the very best to Jen Grayston and team for the 2020 summer season in the Premier League!

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## MEN'S TEAM CAPTAIN REPORT

A fantastically successful season from the men's teams capped off by another stunning performance from the first team. Having won the premier league last season the pressure was on to retain the title. And they did with some style - blowing the opposition out of the water. Over the course of the season they won 102 sets and lost only 18! WELL DONE!

The second team had a bit more of a torrid time in division 1, with only the one win in nine but securing three crucial draws to give them just enough points to hang in there - including a hard fought end of season finale against Cheadle Kingsway to ensure that extra point to stay out of the bottom two and be up for the fight again next season.

A big thank you to Grant Lithgow for captaining both first and second teams again this season.

The fourth team were lucky enough to get promoted to join the 3rds in division 4. This made for an interesting rivalry. The 4th team having secured some early wins enjoyed being above the 3rd team for much of the season, but in the end the 3rds secured those extra wins towards the end of the to ensure they stayed a a point ahead of the 4ths. Both teams ended on a respectable mid-table position.

Thanks to Tim Walton (3rds) and David Smith (4ths) for captaining once again.

The 5th team were unfortunate in losing their captain Martin Sadler early season, due to illness. Nigel Moss and Gerry McKenna, stood in to take over the captaincy between them. With the top two teams running away with the divisions the 5ths achieved a very creditable 4th place. Thanks to Gerry and Nigel for their hard work and hopefully Martin will be fit to return to the fray next season.

All in all creditable performances all round, hopefully everybody enjoyed a bit of competitive play with a bit of good tennis on show at all levels.

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