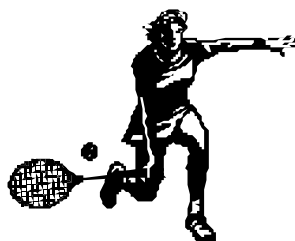


# ELSENHAM TENNIS CLUB



## NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2009

### JUNIOR CLUB NIGHTS – TUESDAY, 14 APRIL 2009 AND TUESDAY, 26 MAY 2009

We are challenging all 10 and over to join us for our junior club night from 6 – 7.30pm on half term Tuesday again. Just bring your racket, £1 for the floodlight fee and show the adults how it's done.

### SPRING CLEAN DAY – SATURDAY, 25 APRIL STARTING AT 10.30AM

We need all our members to join in and help us prepare for the Open Day. We want to trim back the brambles, cut the lawn and there are other odd jobs to be done. Jacky is on a real mission to spring clean the hut and would like some additional hands to help her. Please note that we now possess proper cups, plates and cutlery for matches as well. Jacky is also buying a new kettle.

### OPEN DAY – SATURDAY, 2 MAY 2009, 1 – 4PM

We will be holding our Open Day so we need everyone to turn up and join in for a bit of fun and show potential members what ETC is all about. We will be having a speed gun, kid's tuition and some fun games (never mind some PIMMS and great food). Our Open Day coincides (on purpose) with the Bowls Club Open Day so why not pop over into the Bowls Club for a quick game or a pint or two or three. Invite your family, friends and neighbours to join us and the Bowls Club for the day (playing tennis or bowls is not mandatory, you can just come for the social bit).

### EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING, WEDNESDAY, 13 MAY AT 8PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL, ROOM UPSTAIRS.

In order to approve the new ETC constitution following on our discussions with our members at the AGM, we are holding an EGM. Please find attached the final version. Also, we will be holding our Wimbledon ticket ballot at the end – so definitely worth attending, see below for details.

### INTRODUCING – THE NEW CHAIRMAN AND COMMITTEE .....

As some of you will know a new committee was elected at the AGM. Firstly, let me introduce myself, Mike Stiles, and the other members of the committee and give you contact details for each of us:

Mike Stiles (Chairman)	The Maples, Green Road, Rickling Green	01799 543495
Petra Studholme (Secretary)	26 Leigh Drive	01279 814667
David Verlander (Treasurer)	7 Broom Farm	01279 814227
Jacky Booth	5 The Maltings, Broxsted	01371 870763
Paul Burt	23 Sunnyside, Stansted	07973 543 808
Alex Drake	South View, Park Road	01279 812881
Jeremy Drake	South View, Park Road	01279 812881
Elaine Wyld	30 Leigh Drive	01279 817608

Secondly, I would like to record my thanks to Jeremy, as outgoing Chairman, for all his hard work on behalf of the club during the last three years. We are very pleased that he has agreed to remain on the committee and we will undoubtedly be making good use of his experience over the coming year. Lastly, I would like to stress that we will always welcome comments and suggestions from club members. So, please feel free to talk to me or any other committee member if you have ideas for improving any aspect of the club's activities. *Mike*

### SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE – FEES UNCHANGED FOR ANOTHER YEAR!

Can we remind everyone that the subscriptions are now due? Our fees remain unchanged from last year. However, if you want to become an associated member of the Bowls Club (open to adults and juniors), you need to specify this on the form and pay an additional £5 per person. The additional £5 cost will be paid for you by ETC. We offer the lowest fees in our area and have excellent facilities available to us – so all to play for. Why not encourage your family and friends to give it a try?

A copy of the subscriptions form is attached for your convenience. Dave would like payment by end April at the latest please.

### WIMBLEDON TICKETS

The ballot will take place during our EGM on 13 May as mentioned above. This year the LTA has changed both the basis of allocation of tickets to clubs and the rules for conducting the ballot. The good news is that this has resulted in ETC being allocated more tickets! If you wish to have your name included in the ballot, please read through the rules set out in the attached document and then complete and return it to Petra by 10 May.

### TENNIS COACHING

Our very own Paul Burt (qualified instructor) is setting up lessons for juniors (8 – 16 years) on a Saturday morning. For more info or to register your interest, phone Paul directly at 07973 543 88, email [paul@trub.net](mailto:paul@trub.net) or [www.trubnet](http://www.trubnet).

## HOSPITAL CUP – DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, 17 APRIL

We're coming up to the entry deadline for entry into the Hospital Cup (17 April). So get your entries in now (only via our club representative Paul with full payment) for the following competitions:- Men's singles, Ladies' singles, Men's doubles, Ladies' doubles and Mixed doubles. Entry is only £3 per person. The draw will take place the following Monday. Just as a reminder, the final's day is at Stansted on Saturday, 19 September.

## WINTER TOURNAMENT

Deadline is the end of April so no excuses – all matches to be played by then otherwise Paul will get cross!

## ESSEX SMALL CLUB LEAGUE

### Ladies:

The Harlow away match was conceded by the opposition so we won that one 16:0.

On 21 March, Elsenham Ladies played a home game against Stebbing. Jenny Williams and Jacky Booth, Lyn Segar and Petrina Lees enjoyed success in the warm sunshine and won the match 9-7. After that, we moved into the bowls club for tea, sandwiches, scones and cakes. It was an excellent afternoon.

Last Match of the season at home against Henham on 29 March: Well we did it, we won 13-3 we all (including the Henham team) had a great time. Di Suckling and Petrina Lees played really well together and won their sets. Lorna Yeadon and Jacky Booth played well too despite losing too many of their service games at the beginning but got their act together finally through determination.

Summary from our captain: A lovely result for the last game in the season.

From the committee: Well done to the ladies team and Lorna in particular, she is doing a fantastic job.

### Men's:

Harlow at home. On a bright, sunny and breezy morning we greeted the Harlow team who arrived a few minutes early. Our teams comprised of Mike Stiles and Peter Bunting, and Jeremy and Hussain together. Hussain started his first rubber with an ace and were soon 40-0 up. Then promptly lost the game. That seemed to set the pattern. Game after game they had game points but converted very few. They lost the first rubber 4-6,2-6. Mike and Peter seemed to be having long rallies and finished 4-6,6-6. It was the only point ETC salvaged. In the reverse rubbers Jeremy and Hussain fared even worse against the weaker pair and lost 2-6,1-6. Mike and Peter also lost 4-6,1-6. Next year we have to make sure we get our revenge as we have lost both matches against Harlow this year.

Mike Stiles, Derek Smith, Grant Anderson and Paul Burt came together to play the men's match at Stansted. Stansted were fielding a young pair and a senior pair all of whom were strong players. In the first round of matches Elsenham lost all four sets. Grant and Paul squandered a number of games that they really should have won; but the net was not their friend and continually sucked the ball in. Derek and Mike played some consistent tennis but as in the first two sets the opponents proved too strong. Grant and Paul won 1 and lost 1 set in the second half bringing the final score 14-2. It was a friendly match and everyone enjoyed themselves and a few key points could have shown a different score line.

Note from the committee: Thank you Hussain for leading our men's team.

**Mixed:** Our next away match at Stansted produced the best out of Paul Burt and Julia Studholme and mother and son team Harrison and Petrina Lees. In his first match ever for Elsenham, Harrison proved that playing with your own mum is not so bad after all. After a wobbly start where they lost the first two sets, they definitely got the upper hand in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> set winning both of them convincingly. Paul and Julia were on top form winning all their sets comfortably. The end score was 12:4 to ETC.

Our next match was away to Stebbing: Derek Smith / Lyn Segar and Ben Stiles / Jenny Williams tried very hard but this match in particular showed that we currently don't have enough practice playing as teams so we went down 0:16. We must encourage all our team players to take advantage of team practice nights to get to know each others game, not just to work out the opposition.

Sawbridgeworth away: Lyn Segar / Alan Verlander and Lorna Yeadon / Grant Anderson played against a strong Sawbridgeworth side losing 3:13. The end score by no means reflected the performance as most games were incredibly close, going to deuce over and over again. But all in all a very encouraging and most enjoyable evening for all players.

## WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

**Club Night** – every Tuesday from 7pm until the lights go out – costing you £1 only. The social part starts in the Bowls Club after that (entirely at your cost).

**Performance Club Night** – Every Friday, 7.30pm onwards and James expects everyone in the bar afterwards.

**Club Afternoon** – Sundays from 2 - 4pm - the social "family" club session where all standards come to play. No charge. This is now only running if we have enough members declaring their "intention" to turn up (basically check who's up for a game).

**Ladies Morning** – the ladies meet on a Friday from 10am for some coaching by Monica, some not so serious tennis and plenty of gossip. Monica is only charging £4 for 1½ hours of coaching – excellent value and great fun. All standards are welcome.

## DIARY FOR 2009 (so far)

### Events Update

Junior Club Night

Open Day ETC and Bowls Club

EGM

Junior Club Night

### Dates

Tuesday, 14 April 2009, 6 – 7.30pm (before regular club night)

Saturday, 2 May 2009, 1 – 4pm

Wednesday, 13 May 2009, 8pm at Memorial Hall

Tuesday, 26 May 2009, 6 – 7.30pm (before regular club night)

### ESCL Matches

Mixed

Thursday, 16 April, 7pm against Thaxted

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