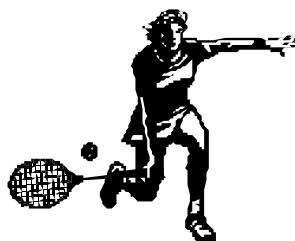


# ELSENHAM TENNIS CLUB



## NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2008

### HALF-PRICE MEMBERSHIP NOW AVAILABLE

Now is the time to remind your family, friends and neighbours that half-price membership will be available from 1st October. In addition to the fact that we have excellent facilities available and our prices are amongst the cheapest in the area in the first place, they can join from as little as £25 for the winter season for an adult (also paying £5 joining fee) or £7.75 for a junior under 18. How to join: call Petra on 01279 814667, see our website [www.elsenhamtennisclub.co.uk](http://www.elsenhamtennisclub.co.uk), email [mail@elsenhamtennisclub.co.uk](mailto:mail@elsenhamtennisclub.co.uk) or just turn up at club night or club afternoon.

### JUNIOR CLUB NIGHT – THURSDAY, 30 OCTOBER, 6 – 8PM

For all interested Juniors aged 10 and over, why don't you join us for a special junior club night to play with the adults under floodlights? Bring your racket and £1.

### WINTER TOURNAMENT IS STARTING IN NOVEMBER

It's going to be a Mixed Doubles round robin event, starting 1 November and finishing 29 February. The finals will be held last weekend in March. Entries are accepted from pairs as well as individuals as we will be able to team you up if you don't have a partner yet. Entry fee is £1 per person and the attached form (or email) and payment must be received by Petra, 26 Leigh Drive or Paul [paul@elsenhamtennisclub.co.uk](mailto:paul@elsenhamtennisclub.co.uk) by Sunday, 26 October.

### PERFORMANCE CLUB NIGHT IS CHANGING DATE

The committee has decided to trial a new date for Performance Club Night after half-term starting Friday, 7 November as usual at 7.30pm. Don't forget that as 27 October, both club nights will cost £1 to attend. James would like to make it clear that he expects your company for a drink in the Bowls Club afterwards.

### SUNDAY CLUB AFTERNOON

The committee has also reviewed the Sunday afternoon play. With the weather not having been kind this year, attendance was down so we would like to trial a system where you "declare" your interest the previous Tuesday during club night if you would like to play to avoid everyone coming at different times and then leaving disappointed.

### QUIZ NIGHT - SATURDAY, 25 NOVEMBER, 7.30 FOR 8PM AT BOWLS CLUB

Tickets are selling fast and furious so book your table (teams of 8 and £7 per head/brain). This includes a hot supper of beef bourguignon & jacket potatoes. We do have a licensed bar and the usual raffle. This is a substantial source of income for the club (and a load of fun) so please support us if you can.

### ETC CHRISTMAS PARTY - TUESDAY, 2 DECEMBER

The event of the year so put it in your diaries now. It's going to be a mix of tennis in the rain first accompanied by mulled wine and other goodies in the hut and the formal presentation of the cups and awards in the Bowls Club afterwards. James is insisting that Lyn should cook but we will see about that one.

### HOSPITAL CUP – THE FINALS DAY

(by the Hospital Cup Co-ordinator, our very own Paul)

The club was delighted to host the finals of this years tournament. Petra and I set a goal of a finals day running with military position and the envy of other clubs. This would have been a pipe dream had the club not have so many dedicated members. As well as the invited umpires, Hussain, Jeremy and Petrina took to the courts and did an absolutely fantastic job of keeping control of the finals. Off court; Lyn headed the food organisation with helpers including Vivienne, Elaine, Lorna and Di. Cakes were baked by many members and the ladies brought together a fabulous tea of sandwiches, quiches, sausage rolls and the cakes.

Everyone was most appreciative and with more food than could be consumed, no one went away hungry! Lorna and Linda also went out and about selling raffle tickets collecting nearly £100 between them, contributing to the £300 total. Other thanks have to go to Sam, Julia and Pete and everyone else who helped out and I've forgotten for making a memorable finals day run so smoothly.

In it's 65th year, this tennis tournament continues to raise money for the Saffron Walden and district hospital league of friends. Two members of the charity accepted a cheque for £400 at the presentation ceremony, but with numerous raffle tickets sold the money raised should be in excess of £600 this year.

The finals were this year held at Elsenham tennis club. On court first was the men's singles and featuring George Luther versus Alex Lupton.

George took the first set 6-3 and Alex the second 6-3. In a tense final set, the score was 4 all before George held serve to take the lead for the first time in the set and then took the final game to retain his title.

Saffron Walden's Sue Griffiths, the number three seed and Grove tennis club member played the number four seed Fiona Price, from Henham tennis club in the final of the ladies' singles. Sue took most of the key points in the first set and won it 6-1. The second set saw each player winning games evenly, eventually resulting in a tie-break. Sue edged ahead in the tie-break and eventually took the set and the title.

The men's doubles was the next final to be settled. As with the men's singles, the event featured the up-and-coming stars of the local tennis scene. The players, all aged under 18 years old, had swept aside all the seeded players to reach the final, Joe Hollis and Alex Lupton played Charlie Kirby and Ross Armorgie and they put on another fantastic demonstration of tennis excellence. Joe and Alex took the first set 6-3, while Charlie and Ross took the second 6-3. It was the first break of serve which gave the momentum required for victory in the third set, and it was Joe and Alex who took the chances and the won the title.

The ladies' doubles match featured number one seeds Sue Seibly and Sandra Ayres playing the number two seeds Daphne Lunnon and Nikki Penderis.

Daphne and Nikki who took the first set 6-4 and with it, much of the momentum of the match. They broke Sue and Sandra early in the second set and eventually took the match with a 6-2 victory and upsetting the number one seeds.

After the sumptuous afternoon tea, the mixed doubles completed the day's proceedings. Daphne and Nikki, having won the ladies' doubles, were back on court on opposite sides of the net. Daphne with partner Martyn Taplin and Nikki with partner Chris Hollis took to the court and immediately another fabulous match was born. Chris and Nikki took the first set 6-2. This energised the number one seeds who took the second set 6-1 to square up the match. The final set was yet another nail bitter with very little to separate the partnerships. It was last years winners, Martyn and Daphne, who used their Hospital Cup experience to pinch the final set 6-4 and retain the title.

All in all an excellent finals day. Again, many thanks to all members who helped and supported. It would have been nothing without you.

Note from the Committee: Paul has done a tremendous job running this prestigious event all summer and deserves a big thank you from all of us. All clubs and the charity itself were full of praise for both him and ETC.

**BIG THANK YOU PAUL**

## **CAPTAIN'S MATCH REPORTS – ESSEX SMALL CLUB LEAGUE**

**Winter Season:** The fixture meeting will take place on 20 October and we will be entering a Ladies Team in Division II, Men's Team in Division II and Mixed Team in Division I. We were actually promoted to Premier Division for the Mixed but declined to give more of our players the chance to participate.

The new fixture list will be available at the end of October so watch the space.

**Captainship is changing:** As of the forthcoming season, Paul will help Norman run the ESCL and will also continue to run our internal tournaments so he needs some help. Hussain has kindly stepped in and is taking over the Men's team for the Winter. Jamie who has taken on a job as special police constable has resigned from the Mixed so Petra will be running the Mixed team. Our thanks to both Paul and Jamie for all the hard work and effort they have put in. Lorna has been a brilliant Ladies captain in her (and ETC's) first season back in the league and will continue (we have not asked her yet but basically she has no choice)!

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

We have also discussed to hold different social events next year including maybe a trip to the theatre, punting on the river Cam, dog racing, midnight races, racing day, pizza evening? Any thoughts or ideas, please let us know.

However, we will definitely be going bowling again at the end of January as it proved to be very successful last year.

## **ETC T-SHIRTS**

You will have noticed that some of our players are looking rather smart these days wearing our club t-shirts. The next order will be placed at the end of October so don't miss out. For sizes available, see the order form (in the hut or on the website under "shop" or ask us.

## COACHING

We do have three qualified coaches available for all standards and age groups so if you would like some coaching, let Petra know (01279 814667 or [petra@elsenhامتennisclub.co.uk](mailto:petra@elsenhامتennisclub.co.uk)) and we will put you in touch. There are group and individual lessons for children and adults (for example juniors on Thursday pm or ladies on a Friday morning).

## INSURANCE ISSUE – VISITOR’S BOOK

There is a visitor’s book in the hut, red, on the table, you can’t miss it! We have all been far to complacent about this but please make sure that you sign in any non-members from now on as we have to comply with the LTA’s insurance requirements.

## ELECTRICITY COSTS – TOKEN FEES, CLUB NIGHT FEES & MATCH FEES

Just a reminder about the increase that’s necessary to our fees to pay for ever increasing electricity costs incurred by the club. Cost of tokens will be increased to £1.50 with effect from the end of the British Summer Time (26 October 2008). You are reminded that each token buys 35 minutes of time. Club night fees will both be £1 and match fees from £2 to £2.50 also from 26 October 2008, again to cover the ever increasing electricity costs.

## DIARY AND MATCHES

### Diary for 2008

Junior Club Night  
Quiz Night  
Winter Tournament  
Christmas Party

### Matches

Thursday, 30 October  
Saturday, 29 November  
Starting in November  
Tuesday, 2 December

Ladies Sawbridgeworth Match postponed due to weather  
Ladies Saturday, 11 October, 2pm at Henham

Mens/  
Ladies/  
Mixed Fixture Meeting on 20 October so matches will be  
Starting mid November.

### Weekly Occasions

Club Night Tuesday, 7pm – 10.30pm  
Performance Club Night Wednesdays until Oct, 7.30pm  
Performance Club Night Fridays as of November, 7.30pm  
Ladies Morning Friday, 10am – 11.30pm  
Club Afternoon Sunday, 2 – 4pm on demand

## ENTRY FORM – WINTER TOURNAMENT 2008/2009

I / We would like to enter the ETC Winter Tournament (entry fee £1 per person)

Name(s)

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Please return the form to Petra Studholme, 26 Leigh Drive, Elsenham by 26 October or email [paul@elsenhامتennisclub.co.uk](mailto:paul@elsenhامتennisclub.co.uk)  
Entry fee needs to be with us by that date!