

FIRST SERVE

Warsash Tennis Club, Osborne Road, Warsash, Southampton • www.warsashtennisclub.net

Winter Mix-In Sessions Review

Recently it been seen that not so many people are attending on a Tuesday night Mix-in Session. The regulars and the Committee are therefore trying to find ways of attracting more players and make use of all our courts. One suggestion is that Mix-in continues from 6.30–7.30pm, then from 7.30–9.00pm Colin uses the remaining courts for his coaching session that he currently runs at Cams Hill School. The downside is that it could get quite busy but the upside is that there will be activity and people at the club. Members who currently attend the Cams Hill session will be encouraged to come along early and mix-in for the first hour and thereafter people will have the choice of continuing with mix-in or paying to join the coaching session. Colin has offered to organise the 'fours' for the first hour and will lock up afterwards, which alleviates the need for a 'duty person'. Although we do want to make full use of the courts there is no intention to significantly reduce the opportunity for social free play on a Tuesday. We have so far had very positive feedback from members so the proposal is to probably do it on a trial basis over the winter months. Members will be told if and when the new format starts. If you have any comments or suggestions about any of the above please phone or email Karen Harrison.

MODULAR DESIGN FOR NEW CLUBHOUSE

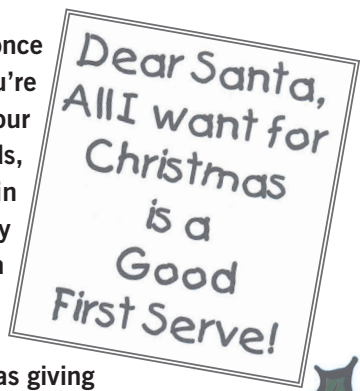
In the June/July *First Serve Newsletter* we reported the solution to providing foundations that would not destroy the adjacent trees had huge cost implications. Since then the estimates received for providing such a building have proved way beyond our means and the committee have consequently decided to go for a reduced sized building of modular construction.

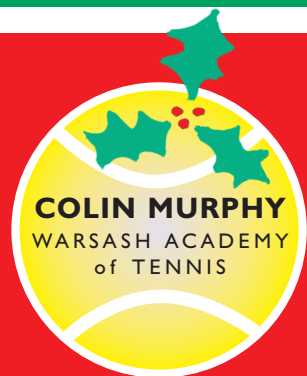
Competitive designs for this type of building have been obtained and we have bid for funding against these designs. To date we have been told that our bids meet the initial requirements and are now being processed with a view to funding being available to start work in Spring 2009. The planned building will be 12m long by 3.6m wide and finished externally to a high standard. Internally there will be toilets, a kitchen area and a large area with table and chairs for entertaining visitors. It is planned to retain the existing portacabin for storage of all the tennis equipment (or possibly obtain a replacement storage hut if funds permit). We are confident this approach will provide a cost effective solution and at the same time meet all of the club's requirements.



CHRISTMAS GIFTS ALL WRAPPED UP

The Christmas season is once again upon us so if you're stuck for gift ideas for your family and tennis friends, don't forget that Colin Murphy is able to supply you with all of your tennis related gifts. With a complete range of tennis, squash and badminton rackets, shoes, bags and accessories (and all with the promise of being able to match internet prices!) your Christmas giving has never been easier. See Colin for more information on 07801 422227.





COACHING CORNER

**23rd December
Christmas
Tennis
Camp**

9am - 12noon

£10.00 per child

(Please note that Camp is for half day only)

Lots of Tennis with qualified coaches throughout the morning and includes fun games of netball, rounders, football, all incorporating coordination skills. Held in a fun-based environment at Warsash Tennis Club. No need to book.

For more information on all your coaching requirements please call Colin Murphy on 07801 42227 or Jane Maloney on 07793 129314

**Nook & Cranny host
WTC Dinner Dance
17th January 2009**

Warsash Tennis Club is holding another 'Christmas in January' dinner dance at the popular local restaurant 'The Nook and Cranny' on the 17th January 2009.

Please book your tickets early (prices and entertainment information will be announced soon) and support this fun event. Well-known for its delicious and creative food, the Nook and Cranny has put together a delicious menu so be sure to get your ticket soon as places are limited. For more information please call Karen Downie on 01489 576207.

It's your call...

In every edition of *First Serve* we are now going to try to dedicate an area for your personal points of view on various Tennis issues. If you would like to contribute with your thoughts on a subject then email your copy to pauline.griffiths.mail@virgin.net. This month, **Gavin Lane** gives his wry observations on **Tennis Matches** as a newcomer to the game.

GAV'S GRUNT!

The question of when a match starts is something that puzzles me... I thought that if a match was due to start at 10am or 2pm then that was when the 1st serve of the 1st game would be



played. Having played competitive hockey for years, that is the way it has always been. How naive of me! When I was selected for my first 2pm match, I arrived at 1.30 only to find nobody there. Indeed at 1.55 all I could see was a man walking his dog in the park. I thought I was in the wrong place. Of course, a few minutes later players started turning up in dribs and drabs without a care in the world and we probably started warming up at 2.10. I have since learned that this is the norm and all matches are like this. Is tennis unique in this regard? If I am so much as a minute late for a tee time for a golf competition then I will be disqualified. Can you imagine the teams at Fratton Park or St Mary's ambling in to the stadium about 3pm and kicking off when they feel like it? Maybe we as a club should buck the trend? If we start matches on time, then they will finish earlier. Also, if as a team, we turn up 1/2 hour before our start time, will we not be better prepared and dare I say it, intimidate the opposition a little bit...? **GAVIN LANE**

**BRITISH TENNIS
MEMBERSHIP
UPDATE...**

Thank you to all those members who have taken advantage of the free membership to British Tennis. Our club currently has a total of 134 members (87 adults and 47 juniors) and 71 of us have joined British Tennis which will be what our 2009 Wimbledon ticket allocation will be based. We await to see how many are sent to us as the LTA add up the total of members in Hampshire and then will allocate us our proportion.

THANK YOU...

...to everyone who voted for Colin Murphy, Karen Downie and Pauline Griffiths (Udal) in the Hants & IOW County LTA awards in the Development Coach of the Year, Volunteer of the Year and the Press Awards categories respectively. We didn't win but it's great to be nominated.

Also, commiserations to Ailsa Brims who runs our web site... it was short-listed in the 'Best Sports Web Site' category of the 2008 Hantsweb Awards but unfortunately we didn't win it this year. Please continue to send Ailsa your match results for the web site and your news items to Pauline Udal for incorporation in next months newsletter so we can maintain our up-to-date and professional image for members and visitors.



CHAIRMAN

Martyn Woodward
01489 581320

CLUB SECRETARY

Karen Harrison
01329 239309

CLUB TREASURER

Kumi Coulthard
01489 576180

**FIRST SERVE
NEWSLETTER**

PG Udal
01489 557930

*Next Issue February/March
Deadline for copy 26/01/09*

