

# FIRST SERVE

Warsash Tennis Club, Osborne Road, Warsash, Southampton

[www.warsashtennisclub.net](http://www.warsashtennisclub.net)

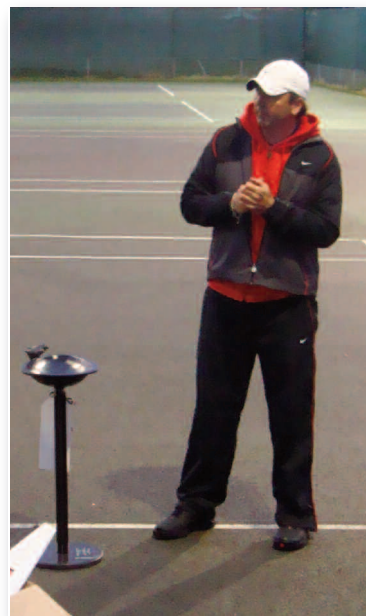
## NEW CLUBHOUSE GRAND OPENING SET FOR 12th JULY

Since December last year, when we reported that a large brick built clubhouse was beyond our financial means, we have received sufficient funding to enable us to proceed with a 12 metre x 3.6 metre portable building for which planning permission has now been granted. We have consequently ordered a suitable building that will contain a large (28 square metre) club room complete with modern kitchen units and two toilets, one with disabled facilities and the other with a changing area. We will refurbish the existing portacabin so that it can be retained as a store for the coach's equipment etc.

The new building is planned to arrive during the first week in July with foundations and drainage being installed by mid June. It is therefore planned that the new clubhouse will be officially opened at our Open Day on 12 July. This will be a fun event for all the family, with mini tennis, fun games, refreshments and stalls and an exhibition match taking place. This is a chance for us to promote our club within the local community and encourage new members to join. If you can help in any way, before or on the day, please contact Pauline Udal (01489 557930).

## COLIN'S LAST SESSION after 12 years at WTC

Colin sadly left us at the end of April to start his new venture at Hamble. He was presented with a stylish copper birdbath which was engraved with a message from the club and in his usual generous style, he donated £250.00 to the Breakthrough Breast Cancer charity from money raised on his behalf. A large group of members joined him on his last session and helped him eat this yummy chocolate cake!



## CARE OF COURTS IN HOT WEATHER

In view of the long-range weather forecast for this summer, it is worth remembering that the bitumen and surface coating will still be oxidising on the new courts to achieve their final hardness. Therefore, extra care and vigilance may still be needed in very hot weather. There is no guideline temperature that will cause softening as it is a mixture of several factors such as temperature, environmental location, shading, previous daily temperatures, rain etc. Therefore, if the surface softens and damage starts to appear, play should be stopped immediately to avoid serious damage.

The useful guide to a softening court is to depress several areas of the surface with your thumb; should the surface move under this pressure it is not recommended to play on it. This test should be carried out every hour during extremely hot weather. Please note: It is sometimes possible to cool a hot surface by hosing it down with cold water to allow play to take place.

Chris Cooté

Don't forget our  
*Summer Ball*  
Friday 5th June 2009  
Look out for photos in next edition of First Serve!

# COACHING CORNER

A great big thank you to Jenny Coleman who has been overseeing our coaching programme until our new head coach starts full time. She has been really enthusiastic about improving everyone's tennis at Warsash and we hope that she will be able to help out our coaching team in the future. To remind you there are these coaching sessions currently running at the following times:



- Saturdays 9.00 - 10.00am Mini Tennis Red and Orange
- Saturdays 10.00 - 11.00am Junior Coaching Squad
- Saturdays 11.00 - 12noon Junior Mix in Session
- Sundays 4.30 - 5.30pm Mini Tennis Green
- Mondays 9.15 - 10.45am Ladies Morning
- Mondays 4.30 - 5.30pm Junior Improver Squad
- Mondays 6.00 - 7.30pm Adult Intermediate/Improvers Session



## Up and Coming Juniors...

This month we feature Luke Mendez, another of our up and coming youngsters. Many of you will have already seen him around the club with his distinctive blond beach boy hair and dress sense.



However, behind all this is an accomplished tennis player able to crack down a hard serve or blast a powerful forehand. Much like a lot of today's players, Luke prefers baseline rallies where he can play to his strengths and he is also working on improving his backhand and volleying. A regular team player and helper to Colin, he has already proved to be a great asset to the club and has a great future potentially playing for our higher league teams.

## NEW HEAD COACH STARTS 23rd JUNE

After interviewing six very good applicants for our Head Coach vacancy we are now very pleased to announce that **Rob Norris will be joining Warsash as our new Head Coach.** He has coached juniors and adults for many years in the county and was also Racquets Manager at the Hampshire Club, so brings a great depth of experience to our club. He will be designing a new coaching programme for us over the next few weeks, so if you have any ideas or special requests for sessions then please let us know asap so that we can incorporate them. A few ideas he will be bringing to the club from his proposal to us are:

- To identify the current tennis programme that exists and then focus on areas which can develop.
- To communicate to members and committee to ensure all tennis needs are being met.
- To work towards goals that enable LTA clubmark status.
- Work with local schools to enable the club to achieve a good junior programme and network which will build the club and build a bigger membership (juniors and parents).
- Work closely to build strong relationship with the Hants LTA
- Holiday courses for all levels • Birthday Parties
- Junior Club nights • Junior tennis events on monthly basis
- Adult and Junior tennis leagues
- To build on the present Adult programme from Beginner to Intermediate and Team Match Practice Sessions.
- Adult sessions such as Tactical, Drill, Club Nights
- To attract sponsorship from local business

He is passionate about helping people develop and achieve their goals in tennis and his goal is to create a tennis environment which enables all ages and levels to be involved and be part of a great experience and we look forward to seeing him on court at Warsash very soon.

## SUMMER TOURNAMENT

Following the success of last year's club closed tournament, we are running 2009's over a longer period and this year includes a fun handicapped event. Ian and Pauline Udal are organising it again and it starts on Saturday 25th July and runs over the summer holidays. Entry to each event is £3.00 and because of the longer time frame, you can enter up to 4 events. Entry is open to adults and juniors but you must be a club member and available to play on 'Finals Day' 6th September. Strict deadlines will be in place for matches to be played by to ensure the tournament runs on schedule. Events for this year are: Mens Singles, Ladies Singles, Mens Doubles, Ladies Doubles, Mixed Doubles, Men's Over 45's Doubles, and Mixed Doubles (Handicapped). Look out for the entry forms sent out from 1st July 2009.

*There were no contributions to the 'Its Your Say' column this month... so I can only conclude that everyone is very happy!* EDITOR



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*Next Issue August/September  
Please send your contributions by  
27th July 2009 to pgudal@sky.com*