

# Hartswood Newsletter

18<sup>th</sup> February 2022

## Winter 2021/2022



Dear Member

We hope you've managed to play some tennis during what's been a fairly mild Winter so far, although Storm Eunice may have stopped some of you playing today! Here are some Club updates from the past few months and information about forthcoming activities.

### Tournaments and Dates

#### Hartswood Tournaments

**American Doubles** will resume from **March 19<sup>th</sup>**.

Please sign up on Eventbrite if you're interested.

#### Handicap Tournament

Entries will open on 4<sup>th</sup> March (entry deadline 8<sup>th</sup> April) with the Tournament starting on 15<sup>th</sup> April. Details of how to enter will be on the website over the next few weeks. Finals Day - Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> June.

#### Summer Tournament

Entries will open on the 15<sup>th</sup> April (entry deadline 16<sup>th</sup> May) with Finals being on 17<sup>th</sup> September.

Categories for both Tournaments will be: Men's and Women's Singles and Doubles, Mixed Doubles.

For the Summer Tournament additional categories will be: Vets Women's and Men's Doubles (minimum age of either player is 40; combined age of players must be 100++) Vets Mixed Doubles (minimum age of either player is 40; combined age of players must be 100++) and a new category: Super Vets Women's and Men's Doubles - both players must be 60 yrs old and above.



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## Charity Tournaments

### Upper Room



Christian is once again very kindly running a Ladies Tennis Tournament in aid of The Upper Room. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the charity - it feeds the homeless five days a week, provides employment support, and has an award-winning ex-offender programme which teaches ex-offenders to drive.

The Tournament will be on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March from 9.15am (9.30am start) until 12.30pm, at Hartswood. Tickets are £22.15.

Please book as a pair if you can and email [fiona.cook@theupperroom.org.uk](mailto:fiona.cook@theupperroom.org.uk) with your partner's name. There is an Eventbrite Link which Fiona can share with those interested.

### Macmillan Cancer



The Macmillan Cancer Ladies Tournament will be on the Wed 11<sup>th</sup> May from 9.30am until about 2/3pm and includes lunch. More details to follow.

## Updates from Women's Club Captain

Congratulations again to Amanda Fassone for securing the highest number of votes to become the Women's Club Captain. Amanda has already secured her Summer Team Captains:

1st Team: Jo Sellar and Charlotte Mullarkey, 2nd Team: Fiona Cook, 3rd Team: To be confirmed after the trials, 4th Team: Jasna Paul and 5th Team: Constance Craig Smith

Trials for the Womens' Second and Third Teams will take place on Thursday 17 March at 6.30pm. Please sign up in pairs, where possible, by emailing Amanda at [womenscaptain@hartswoodtennis.co.uk](mailto:womenscaptain@hartswoodtennis.co.uk).

Christian is running team training on Thursday evenings for selected squads (£10 per person). Please see the calendar for dates and email [womenscaptain@hartswoodtennis.co.uk](mailto:womenscaptain@hartswoodtennis.co.uk) for sign up from 1pm on the Friday before the training.

Amanda would love to hear from any women not currently in a squad who might be considering playing for a team in the summer. Ladies are very welcome to sign up for team



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training or to contact Amanda with any questions. With five women's teams entered in the Middlesex Summer League, there really is a place for everyone.

## Update from Men's Club Captain

Nick Warshaw continues in his role as Men's Club Captain and has also secured his Summer Team Captains: 1<sup>st</sup> Team : Andrew Birse, 2<sup>nd</sup> Team: Tom Holmes, 3<sup>rd</sup> Team Rennie Pilgrem, 4<sup>th</sup> Team Fergal O'Mullane, 5<sup>th</sup> Team, Alan Cameron.

**Trials for Team 2 and Team 5 will take place on March 10<sup>th</sup>**

## Wednesday Club Tennis

Wednesday Club tennis sessions have recommenced will be the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month from 6.30-8.30 pm. Players need to be weekend club tennis standard.

## Clubhouse and Grounds

### Court Maintenance

The Courts have all had their Winter moss treatment and pressure washing. The Tree Surgeon has completed the work on the 2 lime trees in the shed area and will be returning on the 23<sup>rd</sup> February to cut the ash trees in the car park – so there will be no car park access on this day.

The floodlight bulb on Court 5 is will be replaced shortly but requires us to hire a scissor lift.

We are investigating new floodlights to replace the current ones with LED lights. This process will require planning permission and we'll update you on progress in due course. New windbreakers will be installed over the coming months.

### Clubhouse

We're pursuing the installation of solar glass double glazed doors for both upstairs downstairs. In addition new fast heating units will be installed.

## New Club Access Control System

The eagle eyed amongst you will have spotted a new PIN pad on the main gate and mysterious black boxes with flashing lights next to all the clubhouse doors. These are for a new electronic access control system which is being gradually turned on, door by door, as we fix snagging issues. This is all operated by smartphone: in due course (probably late February) you will get an email about how to install the software, and thereafter all you have to do is tap the access panel with your fingers and it will check for a valid smartphone nearby (in your pocket or bag) and unlock the door / gate.



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Please email [it.officer@hartswoodtennis.co.uk](mailto:it.officer@hartswoodtennis.co.uk) if you do not use a smartphone and need a key fob instead. As part of this work a new webcam was fitted; you can see a live view of the courts in the members area of the website

## Social Update

Thanks to Manita Khuller for organising the Christmas Tennis Party (seems ages ago now!) and to everyone who joined in with the fun. We're planning a Summer BBQ so look out for dates on this



## Pop Up Shop- March 19<sup>th</sup>

This year we're teaming up with [Bassline Shop](#) who will be promoting their range of Dunlop tennis rackets, shoes, balls and accessories in their pop up shop. In return Bassline donate a number of tennis balls for our club tennis sessions so we do hope you'll support them.

## Membership Update

As we've mentioned before, membership is now full and we've stopped taking people onto the waiting list which now stands at 250. With so many waiting to join, it's important to let us know if you wish to leave. This year we won't be sending any physical reminder letters out so please contact the membership secretary [membership@hartswoodtennis.co.uk](mailto:membership@hartswoodtennis.co.uk) if you no longer wish to remain a member.

We are however reviewing if we can offer a small number of weekday memberships to those on the list.

## Coaching Tip

When two players are at the net, and you are at the baseline, two good target areas are: hard through the middle (exploiting split second indecision by the two volleyers) or with a confident lob over the volleyers either to the backhand side or over the smaller player.



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## Welfare

We're delighted that Brenda Thacker has agreed to be our new Welfare Officer and will join the Committee in due course, Thanks to Anna Bhandari who has been fulfilling this role as well as Clubhouse Officer over the past 12 months

## Committee News

### Social Secretary and 3<sup>rd</sup> Team Captain: Manita Khuller

Manita Khuller, who has been our Social Secretary as well as 3<sup>rd</sup> Team Captain for the past 4 years has decided to resign from the Committee. Manita has steered the 3<sup>rd</sup> team from Division 6 to Division 4 and has been a key component of the team's success. As Social Secretary she has organised some amazing parties with inspired catering choices, and we will all miss her input and thank her for her time on the Committee and as 3<sup>rd</sup> Team Captain.

**We're delighted to welcome 2 new members to the Committee.**

### Bar Officer: Donna Hart



I was born and brought up in Chiswick and have never left! I am a qualified Montessori teacher and have spent the last 30 years working with children in local schools. I am married with 2 girls, one in her second year at Bath University and the other going through the dreaded GCSE's this summer. I became a member of the Park Club 17 years ago and treated myself to my first tennis lesson. I was completely hooked and loved the game. I worked my way up to play in one of the teams which I then captained for 4 years.

I joined Hartswood in 2016 and have loved playing both the social and team tennis for the last six years. I try to play three or four times a week and really enjoy the weekend social which is a great way of playing with other members. As the days get longer and warmer, I look forward to opening the bar and sharing a glass of rosé or two on the terrace after we play. I am delighted to be able to join and support the committee in my role as bar officer.

### Women's Club Captain: Amanda Fassone



I am delighted to be taking on the new committee post of Women's Club Captain. Thank you to Christine, Jasna and Andy for organising the voting process and thank you to everyone who voted. It has been a busy few weeks since taking on this role as now is the time to organise the fixtures and establish captains and squads ahead of the summer season, which starts in May.



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Huge thanks must go to Nick Warshaw for the help he has given me to get me up to speed on what I need to be doing and many thanks also to Christian Gallan who will play a very important role, helping to run the trials and advising on squad selection.

I previously served on the committee as Club Secretary, and I am delighted to be back on the committee in this exciting new role. I work full time at a school in Hammersmith as the Academic Administration Manager and am lucky enough to have three children who all enjoy playing tennis. Family doubles is my favourite pastime!!

I think we are all very lucky to be part of such a great club as Hartswood. If you have any ideas or suggestions on how you think women's tennis at Hartswood could be improved, please do let me know ([womenscaptain@hartswoodtennis.co.uk](mailto:womenscaptain@hartswoodtennis.co.uk)).

