

President's Report 2012

Alex Hamilton: 2012 was tragically overshadowed by the death of our much-loved president in October. He will be hugely missed not only for his work in the club but even more so as a friend to each of us. Club members raised £250 towards his and wife Pat's chosen charity, *Neuro Sciences Ward 40 H.D.U.*, in token of their deep respect for Alex

Open day: Held on Sun 15 April, attendance was similar to recent years with a small but enthusiastic turnout. Posters were put up in Asda, the library, the swimming pool and on our website thanks to Aenea and the event was advertised in the *Clochandichter* thanks to Sandra.

Website: Our smart and very well laid-out website continued to keep club members updated with current and historical information - many thanks to Aenea.

Club champs: In a season beset by bad weather and personal injuries we managed to complete 4 out of our 8 championships: The ladies doubles, the men's singles, the boys singles and the girls singles. We also have a winner and runner up for the Alan Tait trophy. The final of the ladies singles remains to be played with a deadline of the end of March. The gents and mixed doubles were started but not completed and there were insufficient entries for the boys doubles and for the President's trophy.

Referees room: Aenea instituted a system for storing new and old tennis balls during the year. This worked very well.

Club maintenance: Once again club members worked co-operatively to keep the courts in as good condition as the court's age permits. Thanks to Sandra for organising the moss clearance (and to the council for carrying it out). To Gordon for keeping the hedging and foliage under control. And to the chain gang who painted the lines under Alex's cheery leadership - how we will miss him! The gang of old helpers consisted of Arthur, Doug, John, Randall, Gordon, Les and myself.

Leagues: We had a ladies and men's team competing in the leagues this year but no youth's team. The season was beset by bad weather and injuries but when we were able to raise teams, they competed well but more of this from our team captains.

Bowling/tennis club liaison : The bowling club are still looking to transfer ownership of the clubhouse from the council to themselves and awaiting a response from the council.

Coaching: We are delighted that one of our members, Marsha Doran, has taken over the junior coaching. She ran three blocks of coaching for the kids. Weekly classes in April – June, a Summer Camp in August and an Autumn block of weekly lessons in September/October. During the course of the year, Marsha has taken the LTA First Aid and Level Two coaching qualifications, with some financial assistance from the club. We hope that Marsha will continue to coach the juniors for the next few seasons, providing some much-needed continuity in our junior support.

Thanks: Once again huge thanks to Aenea for her massive contribution, to Sandra for her sterling efforts as Secretary, to Marsha for coaching the juniors, to the team captains and to all club members who help to make the club such a friendly one. Also to Arthur for organising the old boys regular sessions.

Martin Walsh (Vice President)