

# Abingdon Lawn Tennis Club

## Newsletter – Autumn 2005



[www.abingdontennisclub.com](http://www.abingdontennisclub.com)

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# 1 Welcome from the Committee

Welcome from the committee to the Autumn 2005 newsletter. In this issue, we have items to bring you up to date with club events, with the team results, with the schedule of activities in the coming months.

## The 2005/6 Committee

Officer	Name	Telephone
President	David Howard	01235-526275
Chairman	Linda Boston	01235-847367
Secretary	Helen Asbury	01235-523635
Match Secretary	Jeremy Coles	01235-520483
Membership Secretary	Isla Smith	07974-796751
Treasurer	Carol Mitchell	01865-731001
Members	James Eastwood	01235-848360
	Stewart Green	01235-811673
	Kay Hunneyball	01235-525903
	Brian Mitchell	07940-917021
	Bev Woodcock	01235-530904

The nights may be drawing in but we can still expect to play lots of tennis over the winter. As a committee, our main focus of late has been on improving what we are offering to Juniors and I am pleased to report that George, our new Head Coach, is building up a good coaching programme, both for the young and the not so young. The OLTA (Oxfordshire Lawn Tennis Association) have appointed a new Club Development Officer, Ash Taylor, who is advising us about taking the club forwards.

It is heartening to see that we are attracting new members and we hope that those new players feel they have been made welcome and that their needs are being met. We are always open to new ideas, and naturally new blood is always wanted on our committee, so please do not feel daunted by the thought of perhaps joining us next spring. We do have lots of activities happening during the day and evening, many of which you will read about in this newsletter, but feel free to ask any of the committee members if you are unsure about what is on offer.

Linda Boston

## 2 Child Protection

The LTA recommends that all clubs should now only use LTA licensed coaches, and that all volunteers, coaches and club officials working within tennis who have regular contact with young people should be vetted. Further information is available on the LTA website. The club

needs to have a clearly displayed Child Protection Policy and an appointed Child Protection Officer who has attended a Best Practice Workshop and has completed a CRB (Criminal Records Bureau) disclosure. Linda Boston has now taken up this role and we now fully comply with LTA requirements as we have at least 3 members who have attended the workshop.

### 3 Court Allocation

Saturday	9am - 12.30 pm 1 - 5 pm	Juniors Matches	Coaching and play - up to 6 courts See notice board for details - most courts will be available for general play from 4 pm onwards.
Sunday	Up to 12.30 pm 1-5 pm	Unrestricted Matches	Courts on a first come basis See notice board for details - most courts will be available for general play from 4 pm onwards.
Monday	6 - 10 pm 6.30 - 8.15 pm 8.15 - 10 pm	Coaching Match Practice Match Practice	Coaching - 1 court Ladies - up to 5 courts Men - up to 5 courts
Tuesday	7:30 - 9 pm 6.30 - 10 pm	Coaching Clubnight	2 courts up to 6 courts - First and third Tuesday of each month a social competition for all levels of play (contact Linda)
Wednesday	9.30am - noon 6.30 - 10 pm	Ladies group Intraclub league	3 courts 6 courts
Thursday	6.00 - 7.45 pm 7.45 - 8.45 pm 6.30 - 10 pm 8.45 - 10 pm	Coaching Coaching Clubnight Court booking	Juniors up to 3 courts Adult up to 2 courts at least 3 courts see Club notice board
Friday	7.30 - 9 pm	Adult Improvers	Coaching/play - up to 3 courts

Please note that the allocation given above is for priorities. If, as is often the case, not all the courts are in use for the priority activity, then club members are free to use any available courts.

The teams get priority on Saturday and Sunday afternoons (see item 21 on page 11 for fixtures), but when matches are not being played<sup>1</sup> or have been completed, the court are available for general use.

<sup>1</sup>Details of match schedules can be found on the notice boards in the clubhouse.

## 4 Clubhouse Maintenance

Note from “Her Indoors<sup>2</sup>”

Two gripes:

1. Please note: *the bins situated by the clubhouse door are for recycling ONLY, not rubbish.* Rubbish goes in the bin by the kitchen sink. It is dispiriting having to separate slimy banana skins, dirty tissues, and discarded sandwiches from the plastic tennis tubes before taking them away. But do please put plastic bottles, washed, in the recycling bin, and any metal rubbish, including (clean) foil etc. in the metal bin.
2. Please would EVERYONE, *juniors included*, wash up and dry AND put away any cup/plate/glass they use. There is no washing-up fairy, sadly, so everyone is responsible for clearing up their own mess. Some mornings I have had to deal with up to 25 unwashed plastic cups.
3. The same goes for any other mess you might make, either inside the clubhouse or outside on or around the courts - please clear it up. The club does not employ cleaners, although it is (voluntarily) given a good going over most weeks, so please do your bit to keep it civilised. Cleaning stuff is kept under the kitchen sink, bin bags, towels, etc., in the kitchen drawers, vacuum cleaner and mop in the ladies cloakroom, court brooms in the gents.

OK, I can't count!

## 5 Abingdon Open and Preston Bowl



The Preston Bowl Competition and **Abingdon Lawn Tennis Club 2005 Open Tournament** took place from Sunday 14th to Saturday 20th August. Pictured to the left are the Club Chairman, Linda Boston, the Tournament Referee, Julia Freeman, the under 14 and under 16 girls champion, Ciara Kelly and the Abingdon Mayor, Alison Rooke at the presentation ceremony on the final day of the 2005 Open.

<sup>2</sup>Helen Asbury is the volunteer who gives the club its good going-over!

The Open was blessed with fine weather all week, apart from a couple of hours on Friday morning. The first day was the **Preston Bowl** competition for mixed adult pairs, and the rest of the week was taken up with **Junior** and the **Family doubles** competitions. There was a slightly larger junior field than last year, with 150 entrants in 15 competitions, plus entry into four extra consolation draws for first round losers.

Julia Freeman returned as Tournament Referee this year, and again managed the whole event admirably. Despite the fine weather she had some difficulty keeping matches on schedule because of the large number of long matches. However, by the end of Friday, the Family doubles had been completed and all the finalists had been decided ready for the Finals Day on Saturday 20th August.

Julia was joined by six assistants who acted as umpires and line judges for the Finals. In addition, the club was pleased and honoured to welcome the Abingdon Mayor, Alison Rooke, and her husband as guests of honour on the Finals Day. The Mayor enjoyed watching the play, and expressed her admiration for the competitive but sportsmanlike behaviour of the boys and girls taking part. ALTC thank her for helping to make Finals Day special for the competitors by officiating at the Prize-giving ceremony.

For full draw, results, list of sponsors and pictures, go to the [ALTC Open 2005 web page](#) and follow the links to [Sponsors](#), [Preston Bowl](#), [Family Doubles](#) or [Juniors](#) by clicking on the appropriate buttons on the button bar to the left of the page.

## 6 Croquet Cup

The Croquet Cup competition took place on Sunday 28th August. Eighteen players took part, and a good afternoon's tennis was played in lovely sunny weather. Pictured to the right are the runners-up, Linda Boston and Mat Cullen and the winners, Sylvie Casanova and Roger Bones.



## 7 John Reissland Cup

The John Reissland Cup competition took place on Sunday 25th September. Five courts were filled a round-robin competition of mixed doubles play. The winners, pictured to the right, were Helen Asbury and Brian Mitchell.

Helen said “We all had a lovely day!”. Brian commented “You’ve drunk it all! You didn’t leave any for me.”



## 8 Club Knockout Tournament Final

As now seems traditional, the Club Knockout Tournament failed to finish on Finals Day, with a number of the competitions over-running. Nearly all the competitions have now been played, and the results are as follows:

<b>ALTC 2005 Club Tournament Winners and Runners-up</b>			
<b>Event</b>	<b>Winner</b>	<b>Runner-up</b>	<b>Score</b>
Ladies Singles	Helen Asbury	Helen Crofts	6-2, 6-4
Under 21 Mens Singles	Matthew Cullen	Stewart Green	6-0, 6-4
Ladies Doubles	Val Casemore & Jacky Hummel	Dawn Torgersen & Pam Gordon	6-3, 6-4
Mixed Doubles	Tim Ramirez & Val Casemore	Jason Oliver & Dawn Torgersen	6-0, 6-3
Handicap Mixed Doubles	Joy Browning & Anders Markvardsen	Linda Porter-Goff & Roger Bones	7-5, 7-6

## 9 A Seaside Outing

A dozen players from Abingdon and Oxford City tennis clubs travelled to Westcliff-on-Sea tennis club on October 15th for an informal weekend of tennis and socialising. As with the Oxfordshire clubs Westcliff players have been entering the Penzance Open tournament for years and the trip was organised by Alex Wingent on the back of the friendships forged at that event. The weather was so ridiculously wonderful that we were in danger of renewing our summer tans, and a great time was had (with fortunately no recalls back home<sup>3</sup> for hand holding of mothers to be! A reciprocal invitation is a must, although our current clubhouse would not quite match up as a venue!

Jason Oliver

## 10 Club Nights

Club nights continue on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the winter, and all members are welcome. You just turn up and join in. The idea at club night is for players to mix with others rather than play pre-arranged games, so the more people who come, the more fun is had by all.

The first Tuesday of every month is a special club night where Linda Boston organises the handicap tournament between 7 pm and 8 pm. Everyone is welcome!

## 11 Ladies Team Practice

Since the beginning of October we have around 20 stalwarts who are playing very friendly, competitive tennis every Monday evening from 6.30 pm to 8.15 pm. The hats, scarves and fleeces are being rediscovered from last year and now that it is darker and colder we are trying to make sure that no-one is sitting out getting cold, so we try to keep the numbers in groups of four. We have some enthusiastic reserves who we can call on if anyone is unable to come. As players arrive they go on court with the aim of having 3 quick matches consisting of best of seven games. We then split into squads at 7.30 pm for a full set. It is a chance for Team Captains to sort out their pairings and an opportunity to check out the competition.

Contact [Kay Hunneyball](#) 01235 525903 for any information or feedback.

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<sup>3</sup>Ed: Jason and Pete deserted their pregnant wives for a weekend partying with the lads!

## 12 Winter Intra-Club League

The Winter Intra-Club League Fixtures began on the evening of Wednesday 6th October. The teams and fixtures have been posted in the clubhouse. If you would like to be added to the list of reserves, or would like to put your name down early for the new year section of the Intra-club league, then please contact Dennis Gordon.

## 13 OLTA Summer League Final Results for 2005

The final positions of the Abingdon OLTA Summer League teams is listed below. The ladies three pair team found the step from second to first division too large and had a tough season. The mens three pair team came a creditable third in the first division.

The ladies two pair teams had a good season; Congratulations to the ladies A team for coming top of the first division. The B team repeated last year's result and the C team narrowly missed topping their division. Last year's promotion for the mens two pair A team was promptly reversed this year, and the juniors in the mens B team came a good third. The most notable result for the mixed two pair teams was that Norma's C team came in ahead of Bev's B team.

A summary of the final positions is given below. Full results are posted on the clubhouse notice board.

<b>OLTA Three-pair Summer 2005 League</b>			
<b>Team</b>	<b>Captain</b>	<b>Division</b>	<b>Position</b>
Ladies	Helen Asbury	1	8/8
Mens	David Soanes	1	3/8
Mixed	Helen Crofts	2	7/8
<b>OLTA Two-pair Summer 2005 League</b>			
<b>Team</b>	<b>Captain</b>	<b>Division</b>	<b>Position</b>
Ladies A	Val Casemore	1	1/8
Ladies B	Lesley Barter	4	7/8
Ladies C	Carol Mitchell	6	2/7
Mens A	Stewart Pether	1	8/8
Mens B	Craig Amison-Smith	6	3/8
Mixed A	Roger Bones	1	6/8
Mixed B	Bev Woodcock	3	5/8
Mixed C	Norma Queralt	3	4/8
Mixed D	David Howard	4	7/7

## 14 Wednesday Friendly Matches

Mary Hensby continues her sterling efforts in arranging the Wednesday evening friendly matches against local clubs. This summer, a total of 20 matches were scheduled. One was abandoned because of torrential rain, and the results for the remainder were:

Won 7  
Drawn 2  
Lost 10

Friendly matches are a good way to gain some match experience, and we are keen to introduce further Club players into the friendlies squad. If you would like to take part next year, then get in touch with [Mary](#) (Tel: 01235 200098).

Mary extends her thanks to all who played, and looks forward to them taking part again next season.

## 15 Ladies Wednesday Morning Friendly Matches

Owing to a combination of rain, school holidays and difficulties raising teams on the day (either us or the opposition) we have had to postpone a number of matches this season, and have only just played our fourth. It is, thankfully, a very informal competition<sup>4</sup>, and although dates are allocated for matches, we can reschedule amongst ourselves as long as they are all played by February.

The standard, as usual, has been very variable, with some extremely challenging tennis and some fairly easy wins, (score so far: won 3, lost 1), but they have all been great fun, and enjoyable social occasions, with excellent lunches provided by the home team.

Please let me know if you would like to play in any of the remaining matches, usually Wednesday mornings,

[Helen Asbury](#).

Telephone 01235 523635.

## 16 Mens National Club League

The Abingdon Mens National Club League Team, captained by Pete Druett, remained unbeaten this season. They ended up winners of the Mens County Division 2, and look forward

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<sup>4</sup>Its all about nice gells getting together on a Wednesday morning for a jolly spot of tennis.

to next season in the County Division 1.

## **17 Winter 2005-6 Teams**

We have entered six mens and five ladies teams in the Thames Valley Winter Tennis League for the Winter 2005-2006 season. There is still room in the squads for further players, so if you would like to play a few winter matches, then let one of the team captains (see item [21](#) on page [11](#)) or the match secretary (Jeremy Coles) know. The winter teams are two-pair, and matches happen at roughly fortnightly intervals throughout winter.

## **18 Barn Dance**

Richard Smart has organised a Barn Dance, with proceeds going to a school in Uganda. It will be held in the John Mason school hall on Friday 25th November, starting at 7.30 pm. Tickets are £12 per head. Bring and share food and drinks. For more information and tickets, contact Richard on 01235-523324 or Norma Queralt on 07817-249783.

If you have cash, old shoes or old mobiles (with chargers) that you can donate, then it will all help Richard's fund raising efforts.

## **19 Tennis at Christmas**

Our Christmas social club night this year will be held on Tuesday 20th December, beginning at 6:30 pm; give that Santa Suit an early airing! Fancy dress is optional, with a prize for the best outfit. Watch out for details on the notice-board.

## **20 Tesco Vouchers**

The club is registered with the Tesco Sport for Schools and Clubs Scheme. There is a green box in the clubhouse. *Please* save your vouchers and place them in it so that we can use them towards equipment for juniors. We need as many as possible – 12 balls cost 220 vouchers!

The vouchers are available until 6th November, and must be redeemed by 15th January 2006.

## 21 Thames Valley Winter Tennis League Fixtures

All matches start at 1 pm unless otherwise stated.

### Mens team fixtures

Team Captain	Mens A - Prem David Soanes	Mens B - Div 1 Jason Oliver	Mens C - Div 2 Bev Woodcock	Mens D - Div 3 James Eastwood	Mens E - Div 4 Craig Amison-Smith 01235-534039	Mens F - Div 4 David Howard 01235-526275	Team Captain	
Telephone	07718-730470	01235-526279	01235-530904	01235-848360			Telephone	
<b>2005</b>							<b>2005</b>	
Sat 24 Sep	Oxford City A h						Sat 24 Sep	
Sun 25 Sep							Sun 25 Sep	
Sat 1 Oct	<b>N Oxford A h</b>	Ox City B a	<b>Bicester C h</b>	<b>Ox City D h</b>	Esporta B a	<b>Faringdon C h</b>	Sat 1 Oct	
Sun 2 Oct								Sun 2 Oct
Sat 8 Oct			Bicester B a					Sat 8 Oct
Sun 9 Oct				Benson A a				Sun 9 Oct
Sat 15 Oct						Bicester C a 10am		Sat 15 Oct
Sun 16 Oct							Norham Gds C a 10am	Sun 16 Oct
Sat 22 Oct			<b>Oxford Spts B h</b>			<b>Cholsey A h</b>		Sat 22 Oct
Sun 23 Oct				<b>Wychd A h</b>				Sun 23 Oct
Sat 29 Oct								Sat 29 Oct
Sun 30 Oct								Sun 30 Oct
Sat 5 Nov	N Oxford Ba			<b>Oxford Spts c h</b>	<b>Henley A h</b>		Sat 5 Nov	
Sun 6 Nov							Sun 6 Nov	
Sat 12 Nov		Bicester A a	<b>Oxford City D h 10am</b>		<b>Benson B h</b> Brackley B a	<b>Benson C h</b>	Sat 12 Nov	
Sun 13 Nov							Sun 13 Nov	
Sat 19 Nov	Oxford Spts A a	Witney B a	Abingdon D a	<b>Abingdon C h</b>			Sat 19 Nov	
Sun 20 Nov							Sun 20 Nov	
Sat 26 Nov						Watlington B a	Sat 26 Nov	
Sun 27 Nov							Sun 27 Nov	
Sat 3 Dec	<b>Witney A h</b>				Goring C a		Sat 3 Dec	
Sun 4 Dec				Witney D a		Oxford City E A	Sun 4 Dec	
Sat 10 Dec		<b>Norham Gds A h</b>					Sat 10 Dec	
Sun 11 Dec			<b>Wantage B h</b>				Sun 11 Dec	
Sat 17 Dec					<b>Banbury WE A h</b>		Sat 17 Dec	
Sun 18 Dec	Woodstock A a						Sun 18 Dec	
<b>2006</b>							<b>2006</b>	
Sat 7 Jan	Oxford City A a	<b>Oxford City C h 10am</b>	N Oxford D a	N Gdns B a		<b>Oxford Spts E h</b>	Sat 7 Jan	
Sun 8 Jan				<b>Benson A h</b>			Sun 8 Jan	
Sat 14 Jan		Esporta A a	<b>Norham Gds B h</b> Faringdon B a	Wych A a	<b>N Oxford E h</b>		Sat 14 Jan	
Sun 15 Jan							Sun 15 Jan	
Sat 21 Jan					Shiplake A a		Sat 21 Jan	
Sun 22 Jan							Sun 22 Jan	
Sat 28 Jan	N Oxford A a						Sat 28 Jan	
Sun 29 Jan							Sun 29 Jan	
Sat 4 Feb		<b>Thame B h</b>	<b>Witney D h</b>	<b>Faringdon B h</b>		Wheatley B a	Sat 4 Feb	
Sun 5 Feb							Sun 5 Feb	
Sat 11 Feb	<b>Woodstock A h</b>	Goring A a		N Oxford D a	<b>Henley B h</b>		Sat 11 Feb	
Sun 12 Feb						<b>D Lloyd h</b>	Sun 12 Feb	
Sat 18 Feb	<b>N Oxford B h</b>		<b>M'durham A h</b>				Sat 18 Feb	
Sun 19 Feb					<b>Bicester D h</b>		Sun 19 Feb	
Sat 25 Feb							Sat 25 Feb	
Sun 26 Feb							Sun 26 Feb	
Sat 4 Mar	<b>Oxford Spts A h</b>	<b>Thame A h</b>	Cholsey A a	M'durham A a		<b>Witney E h 10am</b> <b>Oxford Spts D h</b>	Sat 4 Mar	
Sun 5 Mar							Sun 5 Mar	
Sat 11 Mar					P Ris A a		Sat 11 Mar	
Sun 12 Mar		<b>Marlow A h</b>					Sun 12 Mar	
Sat 18 Mar	Witney A a		Oxford Spts c a	<b>Wantage B h</b>		Hanney B a	Sat 18 Mar	
Sun 19 Mar		Faringdon A a					Sun 19 Mar	
Sat 25 Mar							Sat 25 Mar	
Sun 26 Mar							Sun 26 Mar	

## Ladies team fixtures

Team Captain	Ladies A - Div 1	Ladies B - Div 2	Ladies C - Div 3	Ladies D - Div 4	Ladies E - Div 6	Team Captain
Helen Crofts	Val Casemore	Buzz Brown	Lesley Barter	Carol Mitchell		
Telephone	01235-760987	01235-525702	01235-520278	01235-550917	01235-550917	Telephone
<b>2005</b>						<b>2005</b>
Sat 24 Sep Sun 25 Sep		<b>Brackley 1 h</b>				Sat 24 Sep Sun 25 Sep
Sat 1 Oct Sun 2 Oct Sat 8 Oct Sun 9 Oct Sat 15 Oct Sun 16 Oct Sat 22 Oct Sun 23 Oct Sat 29 Oct Sun 30 Oct	<b>Oxford Spts 2 h</b>  <b>Bicester 1 h</b>  Marlow 1 a	Benson 1 a	Goring 2 a  <b>Banbury WE 1 h</b>  Mapledurham 1 a	Brackley 2 a  Colston 1 a  <b>Brackley 3 h</b>	Blewbury 2 a  <b>Henley 1 h</b>	Sat 1 Oct Sun 2 Oct Sat 8 Oct Sun 9 Oct Sat 15 Oct Sun 16 Oct Sat 22 Oct Sun 23 Oct Sat 29 Oct Sun 30 Oct
Sat 5 Nov Sun 6 Nov Sat 12 Nov Sun 13 Nov Sat 19 Nov Sun 20 Nov Sat 26 Nov Sun 27 Nov	<b>Kings Sutton 1 h</b>  Witney 1 a Blewbury 1 a	<b>Oxford City 2 h</b>  <b>Woodstock 2 h</b>	<b>N Oxford 4 h</b>  Chinnor 1 a	Oxford C 3 a Benson 3 a  <b>Kingston Bag 2 h</b>	King Bag 2 a  <b>Watlington 2 h</b>	Sat 5 Nov Sun 6 Nov Sat 12 Nov Sun 13 Nov Sat 19 Nov Sun 20 Nov Sat 26 Nov Sun 27 Nov
Sat 3 Dec Sun 4 Dec Sat 10 Dec Sun 11 Dec Sat 17 Dec Sun 18 Dec	<b>Portcullis 1 h</b>	Faringdon 1 a  Kingston Bag 1 a	Kings Sutton 2 a	Wychwood 1 a	Colston 1a	Sat 3 Dec Sun 4 Dec Sat 10 Dec Sun 11 Dec Sat 17 Dec Sun 18 Dec
<b>2006</b>						<b>2006</b>
Sat 7 Jan Sun 8 Jan Sat 14 Jan Sun 15 Jan Sat 21 Jan Sun 22 Jan Sat 28 Jan Sun 29 Jan	Cholsey 1 a  <b>Oxford Spts 1 h</b>	<b>Wantage 1 h</b> <b>N Oxford 2 h</b>  Oxford Spts 3 a	<b>Marlow 2 h</b>  <b>N Oxford 3 h</b>	<b>Blewbury 2 h</b>  <b>Witney 3 h</b>	Brackley 2 a  <b>Brackley 3 h</b>	Sat 7 Jan Sun 8 Jan Sat 14 Jan Sun 15 Jan Sat 21 Jan Sun 22 Jan Sat 28 Jan Sun 29 Jan
Sat 4 Feb Sun 5 Feb Sat 11 Feb Sun 12 Feb Sat 18 Feb Sun 19 Feb Sat 25 Feb Sun 26 Feb	N Oxford 1 a  Oxford City 1 a	<b>Cholsey 2 h</b>  Portcullis 2 a	Haddenham 1 a  Bicester 2 a	<b>Abingdon 5 h</b>	<b>Benson 3 h</b>  Abingdon 4 a	Sat 4 Feb Sun 5 Feb Sat 11 Feb Sun 12 Feb Sat 18 Feb Sun 19 Feb Sat 25 Feb Sun 26 Feb
Sat 4 Mar Sun 5 Mar Sat 11 Mar Sun 12 Mar Sat 18 Mar Sun 19 Mar Sat 25 Mar Sun 26 Mar	<b>Goring 1 h</b>  Woodstock 1 a 10am	Thame 1 a	Southfield 1 a 2pm  <b>Witney 2 h</b> <b>Watlington 1 h</b>	Watlington 2 a  Henley 1 h	<b>Witney 3 h</b>  Oxford City 3 a  <b>Wychwood 1 h</b> <b>10am</b>	Sat 4 Mar Sun 5 Mar Sat 11 Mar Sun 12 Mar Sat 18 Mar Sun 19 Mar Sat 25 Mar Sun 26 Mar

## 22 Junior Coaching

### Junior Fun-day



The Abingdon Club Coach George Chapman ran a Junior Fun-Day on Sunday 4th September. There was a good turnout, and it proved an enjoyable day for the junior players who came along to try out tennis. Several of the players enrolled on George's autumn coaching course, hopefully to mature into accomplished tennis players!

### Autumn programme

Day	Time	Event
Monday	7:15-8:15 pm	Under 18 squad training
Wednesday	4:45-5:30 pm	Mini Red 2 session
	5:30-6:30 pm	Mini Orange 2 session
Thursday	4:30-6:00 pm	Mini Orange 1 session
	6:00-7:30 pm	Mini Green 2 session
Saturday	10:30-11:30 am	Mini Orange 2 session
	11:30 am-12:30 pm	Mini Orange 3 session

We are now in week 5 of this term. We have coaching of the Under 18's squad on Monday evenings, extensive sessions each Thursday from 4.30 pm and on Saturday Morning for the youngest improver group. There is a total of 28 Juniors taking part in the 10 week programme, which is running very successfully, with a great deal of enjoyment shown so far.

Next term, the junior sessions will run at the same time. However on Wednesdays at 4.45 pm onwards I hope to have some coaching on offer and another session on Saturday Mornings. I haven't yet decided which level those sessions will run for, but information will be posted on the [coaching](#) web page as soon as a decision is made.

If you have any questions about coaching, then please contact me.

[George Chapman](#)

[george@abingdontennisclub](mailto:george@abingdontennisclub), Tel:07816-682077

## 23 Adult Coaching

Currently Bev Woodcock is running beginner/improver coaching on Friday evenings and drill sessions on alternate Tuesday evenings.

Jeremy Wood (Tel: 07765-403669) is available for more advanced individual coaching.

The rest of the coaching programme has not yet started, as George first got the Juniors up and running smoothly.

George runs an adult session at 7.45 pm Thursday and next term he will be looking to add session for other nights during the week if demand merits it.

### Adult Beginner/Improver Coaching



Bev and his coaching group.

The first course, held earlier in the year, was well attended, with as many as eighteen players turning out for the 8-week session. This course recruited three new members for the club. The second course, which started in October, has fourteen players, and, again, we hope to recruit players for the Club. The weather has been kind so far and we are running to time. The relatively high numbers on the course, particularly in the Autumn months, shows there is a need for these courses, and they can only benefit the club in generating new members. I encourage the better players to come to club nights as visitors, so please make them welcome if you are there. My thanks to the occasional club members that come to hit with the students, and to Angela Woodcock and my daughter Lee, who act as assistants each week.

**Bev Woodcock.**

Telephone 01235 530904.

## Club Drill Nights: Tuesday 7.30 pm

I have started Tuesday night drills for lower team members, and for those players not yet in teams. These are now every other Tuesday, so as to not interfere with the mini tournaments evenings run by Linda Boston, which prove very popular. These drills, however, are not well supported, which is surprising, and I ask myself why? It cannot be cost, as I charge the princely sum of £2. It cannot be lack of enthusiasm for tennis, as so many people are playing matches, Wednesday evenings, club nights etc. Is it through fear of failure?

Trying new things is always difficult, and it is much more comforting to stay with what you have been doing for years. But practice makes perfect *what you practice*, so even if your technique is not exactly right, regular practice will improve what you do.

How often do you actually practice your half volley, or your drop shot, or making interceptions at the net? Have you ever tried a top spin serve, or hitting with slice, or does fear of looking a failure prevent you? The Club has so many players who could lift their game with a little directed practice. I would have thought that an investment of 1 hour per fortnight, and £2, would be well worth a try. Just watching Mary Hensby's and Norma Queralt's new, aggressive volleying style last Wednesday tells me it is worth it!

Bev Woodcock.

## 24 Annual General Meeting

Another date for your diary is Thursday 23rd February 2006. This is the date of the ALTC Annual General Meeting. Plan to be there.

## 25 Membership List Update

*Note: This download copy of this newsletter available on the web site has membership list updates removed. Members requiring this can get one from [James Eastwood](#).*