

## Chairman's Newsletter October 2009

As we have now come to the end of another successful season, with more members and even better results, it is time to reflect and also perhaps look forward to some winter tennis!

As most of will be aware, the **Annual Dinner** and presentation of awards is to be held on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2010** at Pike Hills Golf Club near Copmanthorpe. Further details later, but please make a note in your diaries and make the effort to attend what, I'm sure, will be a very good evening.

The other very important date for your diary is the **AGM on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November** in the **Clubhouse at 7 pm**. After eight years as Secretary, Pauline Connolly is stepping down and offers to take on this role would be welcome. A nomination paper is also attached to this newsletter if you wish to put your name forward for a place on the Committee.

A new innovation this winter is in the form of club 'days' – working on the same principle as club nights - on Wednesday afternoons from 1pm and Saturday mornings from 10am. This is on a 3 month trial basis so just turn up! Another innovation, organised by Gary Payne, is a men's winter league using two courts on a Sunday morning.

**Results:** The 1st mixed team, who gained promotion to Division 3 last year, finished fourth, the 2nd team finished second in Division 7 and gained promotion, the 3rd team finished top of division 10 and were promoted and the 4th team remain in Division 11. The ladies 1st team finished third and remain in Division 3, whilst the 2nd ladies team finished top and have gained promotion to Division 5. The latter team is to be particularly commended as a total of eighteen different players represented the team! The men's team remain in Division 5. A more comprehensive summary of the season is to be found on the club website [www.info@artc.org.uk](http://www.info@artc.org.uk), ably updated by Geoff Bullock.

Our junior members continue to enjoy their tennis under the guidance of Chris Howat, with coaching taking place on Sunday afternoons, as well as the club nights during the summer term. To gain experience an under 14 boys team played in the York league this year which will hopefully continue next summer.

Ian Illingworth, as well as the vast amount of work he puts in on the court maintenance, has done his usual excellent job of organising the tournaments, which were very well supported. The winners of the tournaments are as follows:

Spring Harlequin – Emma Almgill and Adrian Shakeshaft  
Spring Cup – Chris Hanby and Paul Harrison  
Junior Harlequin – Jack Swarbrick and Freddy Vahey  
Parent and Child – Suzanne and Jamie Webb  
Ladies doubles – Emma and Marilyn Almgill  
Non League Cup – Debbie Chapman and Geoff Steel  
Dennis Hudson – Marilyn Almgill and Paul Dadvar

As a result of an upgrade of the electricity meter, we are now in need of a small number of kitchen units to replace the ones that had to be removed. If anyone is upgrading their kitchen and has any units, including a sink unit, and would be happy to donate them to the club, we would be very grateful.

Unfortunately there is one sour note to end the story of a successful season. For a number of years, a spare set of three tins of new match balls has been kept in a cupboard in the clubhouse. These were put there in case of the emergency of a team captain forgetting to take the balls for a match. However, when this happened and an emergency tin was required, it was found that all three tins had been opened, the new balls removed and replaced with old used balls. We are a trusting club and it is a very sad occurrence that someone has stolen club property, especially as good 'used' balls are sold to members at only £1 per tin.

Finally, don't forget the AGM - and put your name forward if you feel you can help the Club,

Best Wishes, Ann