SEPTEMBER 2022

Stoffmontone Squash Club

www.stormontltsrc.com

Summer of Sunshine

Welcome to the 2022/23 membership year.

What an extraordinary summer of sunshine and warmth. I have never before known the main reason for match cancellations to be excessive heat. Finals Day was extremely hot too; huge credit to the finalists for keeping going, especially Alex Minogue-Stone, the 2021 men's singles holder who successfully defended his title in addition to playing in both the men's doubles and the mixed doubles finals. Congratulations too to all the other finalists – see page 2 for

results and pictures. Special thanks to Kevin James for safely firing up his barbecue and giving us a splendid spread afterwards.

After the last two difficult years, it is nice to report that a full season of matches was possible for the Club's seven tennis teams and two squash teams, great too that the hospitality which is such an important contributor to their conviviality was possible. Our teams enjoyed some success in the leagues – congratulations to our Ladies Third Team on their promotion and to our 1st Squash Team which as I write is top of Division 3 and at serious risk of promotion to Division 2 occupied by teams from some of the strongest squash clubs in London. Enjoy Simon's mischievous piece on page 6 and details of tennis results on pages 3.

I am also delighted to report that over the summer our tennis coach, Paul Salter, won the Grass Courts Vets National at Wimbledon and played in the winning England Team at the Four Nations Cup. He now has an ITF world ranking of 23 for Vets. Raising our play to that standard remains a challenge!

If it were not for the warm weather, the loss of gas for the Club's heating systems for the last two months would have been miserable. This year, it was merely inconvenient, for which apologies. I am pleased to say that we are back in action. The repairs were difficult and delayed, but thanks to Dinny Ravet, we managed to find contractors able to rebuild the wall alongside tennis court 2 and relay the gas pipe beside it to the pavilion.

We have some significant facilities' improvements ahead. An immediate priority is conversion of the light meter system for both the squash and tennis courts from coins to card reader. This should make for easier use and much greater flexibility. Other improvements will include redecoration of the exterior of the Club and refurbishing the squash courts (10-12 October).

Regrettably, progress at St Luke's remains stalled. This too is a high priority given the deterioration of the court surface. Haringey Council say they have approved the terms of the Section 106



agreement we would inherit on acquisition of the court, but the documentation seems to be stuck with their lawyers. Once the acquisition is made, we will be in a position to deal with the tree root incursions into the court and relay the surface. Other changes at St Luke's, such as automation of the gate and construction of a refuge, will hopefully follow as soon as practicable.

The conversion of the Club to a company limited by guarantee (CLbG) has become urgent. The principle of conversion was strongly endorsed by members at two Annual General Meetings and we need a corporate vehicle capable of holding the St Luke's lease. Also, new legislation means that we need to transfer title to the freehold land we own at Lanchester Road into a corporate vehicle, ideally the same one. As I have noted before when talking about the CLbG, we will need to hold a special general meeting of members of the Club, an EGM, to approve the terms of the transfer of the Club's assets and liabilities, the Constitution of the CLbG and the appointment of the Board of Directors. The basic assumption is that the new structure will be as similar as possible in culture and operation to the existing Club, but there will be some detail to work through to achieve this. The detail will be explained in a circular which we will email to members before the EGM.

The Membership Application and Renewal Form is attached. Please return it as soon as possible and take advantage of the 10% discount on renewal by 1 October. We have kept the increase in subscription rates to under 5%, notwithstanding much higher inflation. Regrettably, floodlight fees for the tennis courts and squash court fees for heating and lighting will have to increase in October to reflect the quadrupling of electricity and gas prices. We will keep the increases as low as we can.

As I note each year, Stormont is a private members' club so what we do is entirely with the interests of members in mind, having regard to the local community in which we operate and seek to cooperate. If there are improvements or changes you would like, please let me (07802 608580) or any Committee member know.

TENNIS

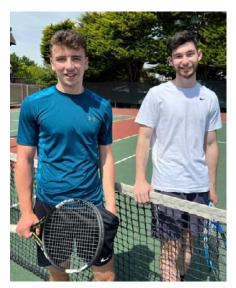
FABULOUS FINALS DAY



Another Fabulous Finals Day with good competitive tennis and delicious food.

Last year it was hot but this year was even hotter. Playing tennis in the heat wave was tough.

Some spectators got burnt but the players survived.



Alex Minogue-Stone beat his mate, Callum Conway-Shaw, in the Mens Singles Final 6-3, 6-4. Callum said it was just too hot for him

With only a short break, Alex and Callum were back on court but this time playing together in the Men's Doubles. Thom Gould and Nick Ruff were their worthy opponents. Alex and Callum had match points in one of Thom's service games but weren't allowed to close it out. It went to the wire with some fantastic rallies. Nick and Thom won 3-6, 7-6, 7-6.



The Ladies' Singles Final was between Wendy Levin who came out of retirement having won 18 finals over 28 years and Izzy MacCallum, the defending champion, playing in her third final. Izzy played beautifully from the start. Wendy struggled to find her form. The second set was closer but Izzy attacked ruthlessly and out ran Wendy. 6-0, 6-4.

Soon they were back on court, again as opponents. Izzy was joined by Harriet Grynfellt, Sally James partnered Wendy.

It's much easier to compete in a second match having won the first. Izzy and Harriet played aggressively and took the first set 6-2. Sally and Wendy fought back in the second but Izzy and Harriet won that 7-5.







The Mixed Doubles Finalists were then on court. Alex was up again, this time playing with Barbara Kalirai. Sally James and Fabien Zinsner have played together and, indeed, won quite a few times together. There were some lovely rallies. Sally and Fabien won 6-4, 6-1.

Umpires Jon, Tony, Keith, Hannah and Dinny were kindly assisted by line judges baking in the sun. Many thanks to the ball boys.

Then it was time for the BBQ which was beautifully cooked by Kevin. Great salads and desserts provided by the members.









TENNIS

TENNIS TEAMS

LADIES' FIRST TEAM IN DIV 1

We had a challenging season with holidays, injuries and work and social commitments affecting players availability. To not blow out second team players we ended up using 16 different players. Thanks to everyone who made themselves available, some at the very last minute. The standard is amazingly varied in Division 1 and actually in all the divisions, from a couple of stunning juniors, one only 11 years old, to some less athletic older players.

Our best win was 22-2. Our worst loss was 4-20.

Dinny played in all seven matches, Barbara, Sally and Sue played in five, Harriet played in four, Gina and Wendy played in three, Ping played in two and Cheryl, Hannah, Izzy, Janete, Jenny T, Polly, Sarah and Waed all played in one.

We finished comfortably fourth of eight in Division 1.

Dinny Ravet, Ladies' First Team Captain

LADIES' SECOND TEAM IN DIV 2

This was another good season and we retained our position in Division 2 with a very respectable fourth place. Twelve players contributed to this excellent result. Four people deserve special mention: we were delighted to welcome Wendy from the first team who helped gather points in early matches; Izzy won every set in each of her four matches; and in spite of their busy schedules, Sarah and Polly made themselves available for six of the seven matches, contributing to good results. Credit also goes to the five second team players who each played in three or four matches and helped to make this a successful season: Waed, Cheryl, Gina, Ping, and Patricia. Grateful thanks go to Susan and Jenny T who joined the team on a couple of occasions.

> Jeni Walwin Ladies' Second Team Captain

LADIES' THIRD TEAM IN DIV 6

The third team had a great season, despite covid, torrential rain and the heatwave. We lost only two matches and ultimately gained promotion (by the narrowest of margins). Thanks to Gina, Polly, Katharine B, Janete, Nyika, Jane D, Jane A, Jenny T, Amira, Patricia, Natasja and Julie Tucker.

Susan Carter, Ladies' Third Team Interim Captain

MEN'S FIRST TEAM IN DIV 3

Stormont Men's 1st Team had a tough summer season in Division 3. Three teams in the group emerged as particularly strong (Highgate Cricket 2, Bush Hill Park and Winchmore Hill) and we had five heavy losses, one draw and one excellent victory in our last match of the season against Our Lady of Muswell 2. This was enough to keep us from finishing bottom of the table, (that honour going to Muswell Hill Methodists 2), but sadly not enough to avoid relegation. Many thanks to Callum, Tim, Ash, Fabien, Gabriel, Andrew, Dan, Nick, Alex, Antonis, Josh, Everton, Simon, Marc, Alex L and Joel (making his debut for Stormont's teams).

Thomas Gould, Men's First Team Captain

MEN'S SECOND TEAM IN DIV 6

Men's seconds' summer season was all about solid mid-table consolidation following our promotion to Division 6, and we achieved this with ease. With some results still to be finalised, we are likely to end up in fifth place, a fair reflection of our performances which included some great wins, one draw, one tricky evening at Enfield Chase and a couple of narrow defeats. We only played six of our seven matches as our opponents failed to raise a team for the last one, and kudos to Josh for playing in five of them. Grateful thanks to my whole squad: appearances were four matches – Ash, Everton; three – Alex L, Antonis, Marc, Peter S; two – Dan, Colin, Thom; one – Andrew, Greg N, Joel, Simon Binns and myself.

Ian Lush, Men's Second Team Captain

MEN'S THIRD TEAM IN DIV 10

An enjoyable season concluded with a very respectable record of three victories and only one loss. However three draws scuppered our chances of promotion. Thanks to the 15 players who took to the courts for M3 and everyone who joined the Saturday practice sessions. The match squad included Alex, Ash, Bernard, Colin, David, Eric Lu, Greg, Ian, Jamie, John, Josh, Marc de L, Mark C, Peter, Stuart. It was fantastic to have some new faces in the team and we would welcome more. Please let us know if you would like to participate.

Greg Nowitz, Men's Third Team Captain

SATURDAY TENNIS TEAM PRACTICES

Ladies' team practices 12.00-14.00 Men's team practices 14.00-16.00

These are for people who play regularly in the teams. There is a rota. Please talk to Dinny if you would be interested in playing in the teams.

PLEASE DON'T WASTE ENERGY
ONLY TURN LIGHTS ON IF NEEDED
TURN LIGHTS OFF AND LOCK UP
WHEN YOU LEAVE



TENNIS TEAMS IN THE WINTER

WE RUN One Mixed Vets on Saturday and Sundays which now has an age limit of 40 and over on 31

Three Ladies December 2022 for both men and women.

Three Mens
We've also entered a new Mid Week Day Time League for 55 and over on 31 December 2022.
Two Mixed Teams
These matches will be played on Monday-Fridays. Start time between 10 am and 14.00. At
Stormont matches would likely be on Tuesdays or Thursdays with a 10 or 11am start.

In both of these leagues, matches comprise four rubbers:-

One Men's Doubles, One Ladies' Doubles and Two Mixed Doubles, the stronger pair must play as first pair. Each rubber will comprise two tie break sets. Sudden death deuce.

Please let Dinny know if you would like to be in the squads for either or both of these.

TENNIS CLUBTIMES
Wednesday 6-9pm and Sunday 10-1pm

TENNIS

Stormont Tennis Coaching Programme IUNIORS

Children's Classes to resume on the 5th September – 22nd October (7 week term up to half term holiday)

Junior Classes at Cherry Tree Wood courts starting on Saturday morning 9-12 on 10th September

Half Term camp 24th - 27th October

Then term starts again 31st October – 17th December (7 weeks)

ADULTS

Adult classes on Saturday mornings at Stormont 10-11am and 11-12pm to resume on the 6th September with usual weekly booking procedure.

Adult classes at Cherry Tree Wood courts starting on Sunday morning 9-11am on 11th September.

All details are on the website www.tptennis.net

TENNIS

Juniors

Course	Day	Time	Weeks
Teddy Tennis (Under 4s)		teddytennis.com	
Mini Red/Orange Transition (6-8 yrs)	Tuesday	3:45pm - 4.30pm	Per term
Mini Red Ball (5-6 yrs)	Friday	3:45pm - 4.30pm	Per term
Mini Orange (8-9 yrs)	Thursday	4pm - 4:45pm	Per term
Mini Transition (9-11 yrs)	Wednesday	4pm - 5pm	Per term
Mini Transition 2 (10-12 yrs)	Thursday	4:45pm - 5:30pm	Per term
Mini Green (10-12 yrs)	Tuesday	4:30pm - 5:15pm	Per term
Mini Transition (10-12 yrs)	Thursday	4:45pm - 5:30pm	Per term
Mini Green/Full Ball Transition (12-14 yrs)	Tuesday	5:15pm - 6:15pm	Per term
Yellow Ball 1 (15+ yrs)	Wednesday	5pm - 6pm	Per term
Yellow Ball 2 (13+ yrs)	Thursday	5:30pm - 6:15pm	Per term
12&U Boys Team Training	Friday	4:30pm - 5:30pm	Per term
Girls Teen Training	Friday	5:30pm - 6:30pm	Per term
16&U Boys Team Training Number of weeks vary per term. Please check on the booking	Saturday	4pm - 5pm	Per term

Adults

Course	Day	Time	Weeks
Reliable Ralliers	Saturday	11am - 12pm	Ongoing
The Four Fundamentals	Saturday	10am - 11am	Ongoing







Paul Salter (right) and Seb Jackson winning the Grass Court Vets Nationals at Wimbledon 2022.

Last term the club coaching programme attracted a high of 96 children attending classes after school and it is my aim to try to build on this going forward. I was due to have a new coach starting this term but, unfortunately, he is now unavailable for September, however, we are hoping he can start from the October half term. Finding quality coaches is proving to be a difficult task.

The programme has expanded slightly as we have been able to take advantage of some extra hours available at the newly resurfaced courts around the corner in Cherry Tree Wood.

We hosted an open day of tennis there on 19th of June as part of the East Finchley Festival.

We handed out over 400 flyers on the day and big numbers were in attendance for over four hours of free tennis for all ages. Many thanks to the Organisers for allowing us to host and to the assistant coaches, Izzy and Talia, who made the day possible.

All details of classes are available on the coaching website <u>www.tptennis.net</u>

Paul Salter, Head Coach



Stormont won the under 16 Boys' Middlesex League. Here's the team celebrating with pizzas

tpttennis.net +44 7958 903 021 stormontltsrc.com

Following a busy Summer term for squash coaching we've had a quiet Summer holiday. However, that means we will be back and busy again in the autumn term in early September, this time with more programmes than ever.

Our **junior programme** starts in full on 6th September with our regular sessions for beginners to advanced players. We will also be working with England Squash to deliver a Squash Stars programme.

Squash Stars is our brand new, unmissable junior programme for kids aged 5-11 starting on 9th & 10th September. This six-week programme encourages your child to collect stardust in skills such as hand-eye coordination, racket work, movement, balance, and match play. For just £42, your child will get six sessions and a kit bag which includes a racket, ball, tshirt and goggles. Each session will be led by our trained leader and will give your child the chance to explore, play, and make friends in a fun and safe setting. We want to help them soar in every aspect of their life and that starts with a positive experience with sport. If you'd like to sign your child up, visit squashstars.co.uk

We also introduce a number of **adult sessions** in September including a Mixed Ability Squash 57 (racketball) session which is funded by England Squash. These sessions are designed to ensure that everyone of every ability from across the community can access the sport and more importantly our club. These sessions are completely free and will start on Tuesday 13th September for six weeks. If you know of any community groups who would be interested in taking part please contact us.

Vickie Prow





Let's Play Squash!

Mixed Ability Squash

Want to try a new sport and make friends? Come along to our FUN adult beginner squash 57 sessions

Tues: 11 - 12pm Free!! Free!! Starting Tuesday 13th September 2022





Adult Beginner Squash

Starting every Tuesday & Thursday from 13th September 2022 (6 week block)

Tues: 10 - 11am

Thurs: 7 - 8pm

£10/£15 week by week

Venue:

Stormont Lawn Tennis & Squash Racket Club 13 Lanchester Road, London N6 4SU www.stormontltsrc.com

> **Booking essential: Contact Vickie Prow** 07796181286 admin@playsquash.org or visit www.playsquash.org

Stormon











JOIN OUR JUNIOR SQUASH PROGRAMME **AUTUMN TERM 6TH SEPTEMBER - 17TH DECEMBER 2022**

Tuesdays

- 4 5pm Beginners
- 5 6pm Beginners/Intermediate
- 6 7.30pm Advanced Academy (invitation only)

Wednesdays

- 4.30 5.30pm Beginners
- 5.30 6.30pm Development/Intermediate
- 6.30 7.30PM Intermediate/Advanced

Fridays

- 4.30 5.30pm Beginners
- 5.30 6.30pm Development/Intermediate
- 6.30 7.30pm Intermediate/Development

Saturdays

10 - 11am Beginners/*Squash Stars

11 - 12pm Development/Intermediate

No sessions during October half term

TERMLY PRICES - 14 Weeks

£125 MEMBERS (NON MEMBERS £160)

£200 ADVANCED ACADEMY) Fees payable to: Play Squash 30-96-26 22867560

Booking is essential

First session FREE for new players All equipment provided

Join at any point - termly cost pro rata

Held at Stormont Lawn Tennis & Squash Racket Club, 13 Lanchester Road, London N6 4SU

www.stormontltsrc.com

Bookings: Contact Vickie Prow 07796181286 admin@playsquash.org or visit www.playsquash.org for information







STORMONT SQUASHERS SUCCEED SUPERBLY

The upper echelons of Stormont squash have enjoyed a fantastic run of results through the summer season. Established first team Ruffs have been joined by our junior coach, Adam Edge, to form an unstoppable squash triumvirate which has driven a wedge through many rival teams in Middlesex Division 3. At time of quilling we are top of the league and will be fighting for promotion in our final couple of matches.

Thanks to team regulars Louis Hodge and Alfie Lake for putting in great efforts this season, and for second-team faithfuls Stuart Miller, Puneet Mehta, David Breslin, Mikes King & Fenner-Evans and Zach Moss for stepping in when required. Whilst we're definitely trying to win all our matches, we also enjoy the social side of things, including sampling some exotic cuisines at the other clubs, or even David's superb cooking at Stormont. This is set to continue in the winter, and we're always excited to welcome new players into the fold, so don't be shy!

Simon Ruff, 1st Squash Team Captain

WEDNESDAY CLUB NIGHT SQUASH

- Coach-led Club Night every Wednesday with Brendon Mounter
- Resumes 9 September 7.30 9.00pm
- Great fun and everyone improved last year

RENEW NOW

Renew NOW and before

1 October

and get 10% off

and ensure you are

a member of lovely

Stormont for

22-23

Members charge £5 per session, non-members £7.50

Free play 9 - 10pm (once new light meters installed)

See you there

ROLLER COASTER SEASON

Our summer season looked quite relaxing at first. Placed in a division with just two other teams, one would have been forgiven for looking forward to a summer of Pimms in the garden and the occasional 5K run. It didn't quite work out that way though, three divisions were condensed into one and we've been treated to a roller coaster season with some of the best squash teams in the next two divisions.

Stormont 2 have held their own though; with three wins and some incredibly close defeats, we look to finish the season mid table, which given the opponents should really earn us promotion to Division 5 in the winter. We'll see if we can convince the league to share our same optimism!

We've again benefitted from great squad depth, with many players coming through and a competitive set of box leagues keeping us all on our toes. Many thanks to Mike (FE), Puneet, Daniel, Zach, David, Lee, Zen, Meenal, Stu, Adam, Nat, Daniel and Sam for their excellent work this season. Looking forward to the winter!

Mike King, 2nd Squash Team Captain



DINNY RAVET (Membership, Coach, Ladies' Tennis Captain, Maintenance)

POLLY GLEGG (Committee Secretary)

KEVIN JAMES (Bar)

SALLY JAMES

BERNARD LO (Welfare including Young Persons Protection and Data Protection)

JON PRICHARD (Maintenance)

PATRICIA PRICHARD

SIMON RUFF (Men's Squash Captain, Webmaster)

ROY SEGER (Treasurer)

VAL WUTTKE (Newsletter)

THOM GOULD (Men's Tennis Captain)

TEAM CAPTAINS

Squash First - Simon Ruff Squash Second - Mike King Men's Tennis First - Thom Gould Men's Tennis Second – Ian Lush Men's Tennis Third - Greg Nowitz Ladies' Tennis First - Dinny Ravet Ladies' Tennis Second - Jeni Walwin Ladies' Tennis Third Interim - Susan Carter Mixed Tennis First - Sally James Mixed Tennis Second - Dinny Ravet Veterans Tennis - Dinny Ravet

Maintenance

Covid

