

Chairman's Report

Welcome to the Summer season. Let's hope by the time you read this, the tennis players among you will be on court in pleasant spring conditions.

It is good to note that we were generally able to continue playing tennis throughout the winter, a large programme of leagues matches was (largely) completed, and few games were lost to ice and snow and none to Covid. Congratulations to the first squash team, ably captained by Simon Ruff, on their promotion to the dizzy heights of Division 2. His entertaining report is on page 5.

It was hugely frustrating that the squash court heaters failed for periods in December and January, some of which coincided with a very cold patch that made the courts unplayable. We eventually managed to solve the main problem by replacing the multiple thermostats in each court – my thanks to Dinny Ravet for her labours to achieve this and apologies to squash players that it took a time to find the solution.

Everyone will have noted the successful introduction of electronic card readers for the tennis and squash lights and heaters. There were a few teething troubles caused by the weakness of the GPS signal the meters use to process payments, but these were resolved in a couple of weeks. If anyone wonders what the new pyramid-shaped contraption is by the ventilation control panel in the squash court gallery, it is the special antenna which supercharges the GPS signal.

The card readers arrived at the peak of the energy price hikes. Members will have been less enthused that we had to put up meter prices, but at least the new system gives us the flexibility to be responsive to energy price movements, whether up or down. We were lucky in one sense: thanks to Roy Seger, our Treasurer, our fixed price gas contract lasted until November and he held off fixing our next contract until prices had come back down from their peak. That meant we did not need the anticipated further increase in meter prices in December. We will monitor usage and costs closely over the next few months and see what adjustments we need to make.

Progress on our big projects has been disappointingly slow. The good news is that Anchor, the owner of the St Luke's tennis court, has recently reaffirmed its willingness to sell the court to us. The bad news is that the process seems to take ages, and in the meantime, we are not able to resurface the court and raise the facilities to the standard we want there. We will do this as soon as we can.

The other big project is conversion of the club to a company limited by guarantee. This is more within our control, but the

restructuring committee is debating intensively how best to secure the assets of the club for future generations of members. The existing rules of the club already have what the lawyers call an "asset lock", very similar to a community interest company, so in the event of our dissolution, the surplus assets of the club would be split between the LTA and England Squash. That means there is no incentive to any member to wind up the club as has happened to several in the neighbourhood. Obviously, the last thing we want is for Stormont to be wound up or unwittingly to create any incentive for it, but we also want to ensure that in these remote circumstances, the rules do not potentially lead to the LTA and ES selling the land to the detriment of members and the local community.

Finding a route that the committee can recommend to the membership is taking longer than expected. Nevertheless, I remain hopeful that we will find one over the course of the next few months. In that case, we will convene an extraordinary general meeting and give members a chance to vote on the proposals which would be set out in a circular giving members sufficient detail to assess them fairly and reach their own conclusion on the wisdom of what is involved.

I am pleased to report that the financial position of the club remains robust, so we are well placed to make the investment that the acquisition and improvement of St Luke's involves. We will also continue our cycle of redecoration and refurbishment at Lanchester Road, albeit within the constraints of our existing facilities and the current difficulties in finding builders willing to take on the sort of jobs that need doing.

Our forthcoming AGM is on 19 April. I encourage as many of you as possible to attend. It is your chance to tell the committee what improvements you would like to see and for me and other committee members to explain what we have been doing on your behalf. The agenda is set out on page 2. Note particularly that Barbara Kalirai and Daniel Moreno have volunteered to stand as candidates to join the committee. I am pleased to confirm that existing committee members are putting themselves forward for re-election. My thanks to them for their labours on your behalf for the club. The meeting will be held in person in the Club House at 8pm.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

Tony Hulse, Chairman, 23 March 2023

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD. AGM Wednesday 19 April 2023 8.00pm in the Club House
details on page 2

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Stormont Lawn Tennis and Squash Rackets Club will take place on Wednesday 19 April 2023 at 8.00pm in the Club House.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting to be read and approved.
2. To consider, and to adopt, the Chairman's Annual Report.
3. To consider, and to adopt, the Financial Report.
4. Election of Officers and Committee Members for the coming year:
 - a. TONY HULSE (Chairman) (Maintenance, Restructuring)
 - b. KEVIN JAMES (Bar)
 - c. SALLY JAMES (Social)
 - d. BARBARA KALIRAI
 - e. BERNARD LO (Welfare, Data Protection, Restructuring)
 - f. DANIEL MORENO
 - g. JON PRICHARD (Maintenance)
 - h. PATRICIA PRICHARD (Restructuring)
 - i. DINNY RAVET (Membership, Ladies Tennis Captain, Maintenance)
 - j. SIMON RUFF (Men's Squash Captain, Webmaster)
 - k. ROY SEGER (Treasurer, Restructuring)
 - l. VAL WUTTKE (Newsletter)
5. To determine the subscription rates, entrance fees, guest fees and categories of membership for the year 1 October 2023 – 30 September 2024.
6. To approve the standard terms of the banking facilities used by the Club.
7. To renew the authority in principle to make the acquisition of the St Luke's tennis court from Anchor/Hanover and to authorise the Chairman to negotiate and the Committee to ratify (or amend if thought fit) the terms and structure of the acquisition.
8. Any other business and any other points which members would like the Committee to consider during the following year.

Nominations for the Committee should be sent by email before 17 April 2023 to the chairman – tony@hulse.cc – or the Committee secretary, Harriet Grynfeltt – hgrynfeltt@gmail.com .

Further background to resolution 7 is included in the Chairman's report on page 1.

Make your voice heard! Tell the Committee what improvements you would like to see.

Stormont Calendar 2023

- **APRIL 19 WEDNESDAY 8pm – AGM**
- **APRIL 23 SUNDAY 3 to 6pm – Nick Hanika Squash Handicap Tournament**
- **APRIL 23 SUNDAY – Closing date to enter Stormont Tennis Closed Tournaments**
- **APRIL 29 SATURDAY 10-2pm – ASK SAL Tennis clothing in the Club House**
- **JULY 9 SUNDAY 1pm – Stormont Tennis Closed Knockout Championship Finals from 1pm Barbecue from about 4pm.**
Stormont Closed Tennis Tournament is our club Knockout Championship Tournament (you must be a full member of Stormont). Ladies and Mens Singles, Ladies and Mens Doubles and Mixed Doubles. Entry forms are on the notice board downstairs between the squash courts.
Once the draws are up please arrange matches well before the play by dates. Book courts and bring balls. Only enter if you can play within play by dates and in the finals.

On 28 March 2023, Roy Seger, our Treasurer, lost his lovely wife Angela. Our thoughts are with Roy and his sons Robert and Oliver. Angela was an enthusiastic tennis player, long-time member and a committed team player.
We will always remember her with fondness and will miss her.



Occasionally play was not possible this year!

TENNIS TEAM NEWS

Huge thank you to all the captains who get teams out for practices and matches even at the last minute when illness or injury strike.

LADIES 1 IN DIVISION 1

Over the years in the floodlit league, Ladies 1 has fluctuated between Division 1 and Division 2. Several of the teams in this division, play in Premier or Intermediate in the summer, so they are pretty tough opponents. Barbara, Dinny, Harriet, Izzy, Sally, Sue and Waed always fought hard and we did our best. We will probably finish second from the bottom, and will therefore go down to Division 2.
Dinny Ravet Ladies First Team Captain

LADIES SECOND TEAM

At the time of writing, there are many matches still to play, so it is hard to predict our final place in Division 3. With nearly 50% of our sets won to date we would hope to remain here for the next winter season. Injuries, work and family commitments meant that many regular squad members have been unavailable for matches, so we are very grateful for early support from first team players and later involvement of others from the third team. Huge thanks to all of the following: Waed, Norma, Patricia, Katherine, Izzy, Harriet, Kremena, Polly, Ping, Jane D, Janete, and Susan.
Jeni Walwin Ladies Second Team Captain

LADIES THIRD TEAM

The third team has benefited from additional training sessions on Friday evenings with Paul, building our skills and team spirit. After some great tennis and hard fought games, with lots of close results, we remain comfortably in division 5. Thanks to Katherine Binns, Jane Drinkwater, Janete Smith, Amira Kohler, Jenny Taylor and Jane Ackroyd.
Susan Carter Third Team Captain

NB

St Lukes padlock code

This is written at the bottom of the confirmation email of your booking. Please take the padlocks in with you for safe keeping and lock up afterwards. Please take your rubbish home. The code does change periodically.



MEN'S FIRST TEAM

Stormont Men's 1st Team had their work cut out to stay competitive in the rarefied air of Division 2 this winter. A lot of our core players weren't available or were injured, but our new coaching assistant, Dan Shaw, emerged as an absolute hero, playing in all six matches and winning 11 sets out of 24 played. I can't overstate how big his contribution has been, and his positivity off court has been a huge boost to me all season. Sadly, even he wasn't able to save us from relegation and we finished second from bottom, but with our heads held high after good wins against Highbury and Bounds Green. Thanks to Alex M-S, Fabien, Antonis, Tim, Nick, George, Callum, Ash, Josh, Everton and Dan T for their contributions.
Thom Gould Men's First Team Captain

MEN'S SECOND TEAM

For the fourth winter in a row, the Men's Seconds have flirted with relegation from Division 5, and as I write with one match to play our fate is again in the balance. This is despite the very best efforts of our squad, led by Ash and Dan T who are ever-present in the six matches so far, with Josh having played three, Everton two, and single appearances from each of Keith, Marc and Gabriel de Leuw, Colin, Tim, Jamie B and myself. Our best result (so far!) came at home against long-standing rivals Conway, and we also had good performances against Muswell Hill Methodists and Brackendale. Thanks to all who have played and also came to the Saturday practices.
Ian Lush Men's Second Team Captain

MEN'S 3 WINTER SEASON

We started Division 8 in fine form, winning our first match 16-0 and I was already dreaming of promotion. However that proved to be a false dawn and we found ourselves pitted against a number of strong opponents. Winning sets was very difficult. M3 finished with two victories which might not be enough to escape relegation. Our squad welcomed Ed, Geoff and Gregory and said goodbye to Eric Lu. Thanks to Alex, Colin, David, Ed, Eric, Geoff, Greg R, Gregory P, Howard, Ian, Jamie, John, Marc I, Mark C, Peter, Simon and Stuart. All the support, both at practice and in matches, was very much appreciated.
Greg Nowitz Men's Third Team Captain

COME AND ENJOY OUR NEW DAYTIME CLUB TIME TUESDAYS 10am - 12 noon

The perfect opportunity for those who can't make evening or weekend club times or would like more social tennis.
Starting 18 April. Contact Gina Titheridge.
All welcome.

MIXED 1 TEAM

This winter has been a season of rearranged matches. However, in January, we managed to play the highlight match of the season, a battle of the first and second teams, as both mixed teams are in the same division this year. It was a fun match followed by full supper (not just soup!)
Fabien, Sally, Thom, Izzy and Dan Shaw played the majority of the matches with Waed, Hanna, Barbara and Ash to help us sit comfortably in the middle of the division.
Sally James Mixed 1 Team Captain

MIXED 2 TEAM

Both our Mixed Teams in the same division has been a bit of a nightmare. Sangeeta said "Please keep separate squads for the two teams", which we endeavoured to do. And of course the idea of a second or third team is to give different people a chance to play. Mixed 2 used Amira, Barbara, Dinny, Harriet, Polly, Sue, Goddard, Waed, Alex, Leach, Colin, Dan Shaw, Dan Taylor, Everton, Gabriel, Josh, Tim and Tony Hulse. We fought but will go down.
Dinny Ravet Team Captain

OVER 40'S

We trashed some teams and did ok against others. Delightful to play against people who love playing tennis and enjoy a sociable nibble afterwards. We will finish second. We were represented by Barbara, Dinny, Harriet, Norma, Sue, Wendy, Waed, Antonis, Colin, Everton, John, Keith, Mark and Tim.
Dinny Ravet Team Captain

OVER 55'S

Our debut season in the Over 55's has been an enjoyable addition to the competitive calendar and we're looking forward to the next season in September. The format is two sets of Mens/Ladies doubles followed by two sets of Mixed doubles for a four person team. We got off to an inauspicious start with two rained-off games and our last two have also had to be rescheduled. In between we've had some good close games that haven't earned as many points as we deserved. Despite that, following our excellent win over our near neighbours, Wood Vale, with one match to go we currently sit fifth out of eight, having overtaken Highbury who have already played all their matches. Big thanks and congratulations go to Norma, Jenny, Patricia, Jeni, Sally, Gina, Dinny, John, David, Greg and Mark.
Colin Cooper Over 55's Team Captain

TENNIS

JUNIOR SUMMER TENNIS TERM, JUNIOR CAMPS AND ADULT CLASSES ARE ALL AVAILABLE ONLINE AT www.tptennis.net INDIVIDUAL CLASSES AND SMALL PRIVATE GROUP LESSONS CAN BE BOOKED DIRECTLY WITH ME ON 07984349767

Rates for 1hour private sessions (shared up to four) people – £50
Adult groups £12.50 (60 mins)
Adult groups £15 (90mins)

Junior classes £10 a week* (45mins)
Junior classes £12.50 a week* (60mins)

DATES FOR EASTER CAMPS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Mon 3rd April - Thur 6th 9am-12pm for school years 2-6 / 1pm -4pm for years 7-10
Tues 11th April - Thurs 13th Same times etc

SUMMER TERM TENNIS:

Monday 17th April - 27th May (Half Term 29th May - 3rd June)
5th June - 15th July (Summer hols 21st July - 1st Sept)

Summer Camps to be confirmed at Stormont and Cherry Tree Woods

To book all classes visit the coaching website
www.tptennis.net



Paul Salter
Head coach
Stormont LT&SRC

Dan Shaw has joined Stormont's Tennis Coaches Team

Thanks for the lovely welcome from the many members I have met over my first few months at Stormont. I have been playing and coaching for many years, having first picked up a racket aged four. I began coaching in Derby as an assistant coach helping build up the junior programme. When I moved to Manchester for University, I continued coaching across parks and clubs. It's been great coaching the juniors and adults here at Stormont alongside Paul. As the summer approaches I look forward to seeing many more of you at the club.



Dan Shaw



CLUBTIMES

SQUASH

WEDNESDAYS 7.30-9pm

Coach led Drills and Skills and Games cost £5 members plus extra £5 for non members

TENNIS

TUESDAYS 10am-12 noon (see page 3)

WEDNESDAYS 5-9pm

1 court from 5pm

2 courts from 6pm

We need more people to come along later to keep it going for those who can't get there early.

SUNDAYS

10-13.00 Organised doubles.



SQUASH

Firsts Finish Fantastically

The Stormont first team, for years known as the poor man of Europe, has thrown off the shackles of mediocrity, and instead now emits the cackles of superiority. Having secured promotion into Division 2 last summer, the team now looks almost certain to do the same this winter. A wise oracle (who shall remain nameless, let's just call him T. Hulse) warned me to reflect on the parable of Icarus. Instead I prefer to focus on the CD of Nelly Furtado, and I'm delighted to see S1 fly like a bird.

I'd like to claim that the team's strong performance in recent times is due to superb leadership and inspirational match reportage, but the truth is that



Adam Edge's sterling efforts, playing at no.1 throughout this winter season, have made a crucial difference to our fortunes. With Ruffs at 2 and 3, and Alfie Lake and Louis Hodge bringing consistent reliability to the team's tail, we've only rarely had to borrow players from the second team (thanks to Puneet, Zach and Mike FE for stepping up to the soup bowl).

We're all looking forward to some challenging matches over the next year; it's great to see lots of squash being played at Stormont these days generally, as well as a real esprit de corps in the teams, if not yet an esprit de lotus in the Stormont car park.

Simon Ruff First Team Captain

Squash Second Team

The second team had a good showing this year. In a division characterised by two extremely strong teams at the top, we can take pride in being 34 points clear of the bottom two, evading the "relegation" zone by a pretty strong margin. Uxbridge continue to be our achilles heel, taking 37 points for just three and rearranging an away game on the day of a tube strike!

A shout out to all those who've played this season. Everyone's playing amazing squash and on this trajectory we should back ourselves in the summer. Many thanks to Puneet, Stu, Mike Fenner-Evans, Tony, Zach, David, Sam, Lee, Sunil and Zen.

Thanks particularly to those who stepped in to organise food and drinks over the winter when I couldn't. It clearly went well as someone from Uxbridge took the time to exclaim how good the food was when they visited; that must have been a Toff's week!

In that vein, all that's left to say is so long and thanks for all the fish!

Mike King Second Team Captain



@playsquash1



Learn to play squash, improve your skills and have fun!

Tuesdays

Starting 18th April 23

10 - 11am Beginners Squash

11am - 12pm Squash 57/racketball
(6 week block)

Tuesdays

Starting 18th April 23

7 - 8pm Beginners

(6 week block)

**£50 members or £65 non members if booked
for 6 consecutive weeks
£10/£15 week by week**

**First session free to new participants
and equipment provided**

**Join at any time pro rata rates applied
for block bookings**

Venue:

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

**Booking Essential: Contact Vickie Prow 07796181286
admin@playsquash.org or visit
www.playsquash.org for information**



CLUB NIGHT SQUASH

Join us on
Wednesdays 7.30-
9.00pm with
Brendon Mounter,
our superb squash
coach and cheer
leader!
£5 a session for
members.

AGM Wednesday 19 April 2023 8.00pm in the Club House details on page 2

JUNIOR SQUASH

ANOTHER BUSY TERM FOR THE PLAY SQUASH TEAM AT STORMONT.

During the spring term we have offered Fortismere and Tetherdown Schools introductory sessions for new junior players and we have been working with England Squash and Middlesex to deliver the Squash Stars programme. Squash Stars is an exciting programme to introduce players aged 5-9 yrs to a programme of squash which is out of this world. Participants pay just £42 for 6 weeks and receive a full squash kit of racket, goggles, t-shirt, bag and ball.

From April we have had to make slight adjustments to the times for our Wednesday sessions starting at the later time of 5pm for beginners and the new time of 6pm for intermediate players. Players who have been attending the 5.30pm and 6.30pm on a Wednesday should attend the new time of 6pm. We will do our best to accommodate all players at other sessions if these times do not work for you.

We will be running junior camps over the Easter holidays on 3rd, 4th, 13th and 14th April. See our poster for times and booking details.

Our **Adult Programme** continues every Tuesday during term time for beginners and returning players. These sessions are delivered by our newly qualified level 2 coach Daniel Moreno.

Vickie Prow



PLAY SQUASH IN NORTH LONDON THIS SUMMER TERM

JOIN OUR JUNIOR SQUASH PROGRAMME Summer Term 2023 • 18th April - 22nd July

Tuesdays (13 weeks)
Starts 18th April
4-5pm Beginners
5-6pm Beginners/Intermediate
6-7pm Advanced Academy-Invitation only

Wednesdays (13 weeks)
Starts 19th April
5-6pm Beginners
6-7pm Intermediate

Fridays (13 weeks)
Starts 22nd April
4.30-5.30pm Beginners
5.30-6.30pm Development/Intermediate
6.30-7.30pm Intermediate/Advanced

Saturdays (13 weeks)
10 - 11am Beginners
11-12pm Intermediate

£125 members/£155 non members (1hr)
No sessions during May half term
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

Venue: Stormont Tennis & Squash Club.
13 Lanchester Road, London. N6 4SU
www.stormonttsrc.com



Play Squash!

Easter 2023 Junior Squash Camps

Come and join us Easter for squash, fitness and fun

When:
Mon 3rd & Tues 4th April & Thurs 13th & Fri 14th April 23
9.30am - 12pm: Beginners/U11 yrs
1pm - 3.30pm: Intermediate/11yrs+

Where:
Stormont Tennis & Squash Club
13 Lanchester Road, London. N6 4SU
www.stormonttsrc.com

Equipment provided

Entry fee £25pp per day/session
Places limited, book early to avoid disappointment

Booking essential - contact:
Vickie Prow 07796181286
or admin@playsquash.org
Fees payable to: Play Squash 30-96-26 22867560

Stormont
www.facebook.com/StormontTennisSquashClub [@StormontTennisSquashClub](https://twitter.com/StormontTennisSquashClub) [@StormontTennisSquashClub](https://www.instagram.com/StormontTennisSquashClub)



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

Meenal Desai battled to the finals of our Autumn handicap tournament, the Ruff Cup, again this year but couldn't quite hold off an in-form Mike Fenner-Evans.



AGM
Wednesday
19 April 2023
8.00pm in the
Club House
details on page 2

