

# *The Backhand*

Winter 2009

The Newsletter of Worcester Lawn Tennis Club



Our new Chairman  
Roger Wilson

With Ray stepping down from the Chairman's role and moving into the role of President, the Committee were very pleased that Roger Wilson accepted his nomination and subsequent election into the post of Chairman of the Club. Roger, pictured above, is a popular member of the Tuesday morning group but as an off peak member did not get the opportunity to come to Saturday, or evening social sessions. However as Chairman he will become a full member and will be a familiar face to the unfortunate ones who never get to play on a Tuesday morning. Roger has been a great asset to the Committee in the past 12 months and I know that we will continue to keep the club heading in the upward direction.

The other new executive committee member is Stephen Hampson. Stephen was elected to the post of Treasurer after volunteering to take on that role. I was very pleased to have somebody willing to come forward as volunteers can be hard to find.

The new Committee is very strong with all the roles filled (sounds like a bakers shop) we have a captain for Men's, Ladies and Mixed teams too. This is a first for quite a few years. Page 2 contains all the committee members and their roles.

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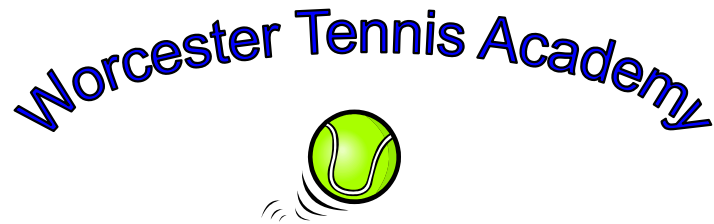
YOUR NEW COMMITTEE

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<b>NAME</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>ROLE</b>
RAY NEEDHAM	PRESIDENT	NON-COMMITTEE
ROGER WILSON	CHAIRMAN	HEAD OF COMMITTEE CLUB DEVELOPMENT COMPLAINTS
PHIL HAWKINS	HON. SECRETARY	CLUBHOUSE BOOKING COMPLAINTS BUSINESS PLAN CLUB DEVELOPMENT LTA LIAISON TOURNAMENTS BACKHAND MAGAZINE
STEPHEN HAMPSON	TREASURER	ACCOUNTS
CHRISTINE REECE	MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	MEMBERSHIP
PAUL COWARD	MEN'S CAPTAIN	MEN'S TEAMS
NATHALIE LEA	LADIES CAPTAIN	LADIES TEAMS UNDER 7 COACHING
BEV HAWKINS	MIXED CAPTAIN	MIXED FIXTURES MIXED TEAMS
BRIAN FIELDHOUSE	GENERAL COMMITTEE	BAR CLUBHOUSE GROUNDS
JOHN HAYDEN	GENERAL COMMITTEE	EVENTS
LINDEN HORSBURGH	GENERAL COMMITTEE	JUNIOR CO-ORDINATOR COACH LIAISON
JELENA PETROVIC	GENERAL COMMITTEE	WEBSITE
NICKY WILSON	GENERAL COMMITTEE	MEDIA LIAISON
DEBBIE WINFIELD	GENERAL COMMITTEE	EVENTS
LORNA YELLAND	GENERAL COMMITTEE	MINUTES
<b>NON-COMMITTEE</b>		
JONATHAN BRADSHAW	HEAD COACH	COACHING PROG. JUNIORS
NICK AYLETT	CLUB COACH	AS ABOVE
JOHN CHIDLOW	CLUB COACH	SCHOOLS OUTREACH
CHLOE MILLS	CHILD PROTECTION	CPO ROLE
JAN MASON		LADIES FIXTURES
RICK KNOWLES		MENS FIXTURES
ADAM HILL		

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Even though its getting a little bit colder, our coaching programme keeps going strong!

We have Christmas Holiday Camps for Junior's of all ages and abilities taking place at Worcester Lawn Tennis Club from 21st – 23rd December 2009.

Looking ahead to the New Year, we have both Junior and Adult coaching courses commencing the **week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> January 2010**. We have Junior courses on Tuesdays and Fridays, with Adult beginner and improver courses on Wednesday evenings.

All of our courses are detailed on our website: [www.worcestertennis.co.uk](http://www.worcestertennis.co.uk). All application forms can be downloaded from our website. Alternatively, as with all our courses now, all "full course" bookings booked via our website will be eligible for a £5 discount. However, please note, places will be limited and places will be allocated on first come, first served basis – so please be quick to secure your place!!

Looking back over the past 12 months, we've had another bumper year both in terms of the number of individuals attending coaching – but also the success and progress our juniors continue to show.

Looking at tournament results in particular over the last year in the junior section, we've had another fantastic year as a club. In particular, focusing on the Junior County Closed Championships held at the end of the summer, our congratulations going to the following:

- Kirsten Campbell-Ferguson (not pictured) won Under 8's girls
- Josh Wares finished 4th Under 8's boys
- Kate Horsburgh won under 9's girls
- Georgi Cupper finished 3rd in under 9's girls
- Ruth Horsburgh won under 12 singles, under 12 doubles and runner up under 14 mixed with Ben Tolhurst
- Katie Cupper got to the quarter finals of under 12 singles

Our congratulations go to all those mentioned above and congratulations must also go to their committed and supportive parents!

We hope 2010 will be just as successful.... With hopefully no rain and a long warm, dry summer!

Happy Christmas from us all – hopefully we'll see you all on a tennis court at some point in 2010.

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It was **OKEY DOKEY** in Okehampton!  
Massive thanx to Mitch for yet again doing the biz when it counts.

When do I mean I hear you say, well in November for the annual soiree into Devon. Much red wine and beer was drunk which left certain members **AND YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE!!!** with hangovers and a late breakfast on Saturday. The rain lashed down and the wind caused damage to the hotel. Did we mind? Not a chance, with all the indoor courts and other activities there was always something to do. Mitch organised 36 of us to go, which was a record attendance and there were 3 Okehampton virgins. They were Paul Coward, Trish and Tony Mann. Paul got stuck in and organised volleyball, which was enjoyed by all who took part.

Trish and Tony renewed their vows on the Badminton court and also had a go at Bowls. Things didn't quite go to plan as neither of them could get their ball to turn in the correct direction. It kept going the wrong way. Hilarious for us but more than a little frustrating for both. Never mind they did have a go at 10 pin bowling and had a blast. Charles Robinson won the Lord of the Manor title as he entertained a select group. Back to the hangovers! Pictured below are most of the group, taken on Sunday but there are some missing who were possibly making good use of the dry weather and hitting the fairway, or the rough, at the nearby golf course.



A motley crew if ever there was. If I have whetted your appetite for next year, keep an eye on the events board as Mitch advertises the trip in the summer.

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2009**

**7.30pm 'til midnight**

**Bring some food a list is displayed**

**Ticket price £6.00**

**Disco, dancing and kids are welcome!**

## FRENCH EXCHANGE

**11-13 JUNE 2010**

**Last year Mitch and Chris went to Le Vesinet with myself and Bev and had a proper good weekend. We were treated to a continental breakfast at the tennis club and a barbecue lunch with more than a little wine. Mitch is organising a return trip from Le Vesinet on the weekend of 11 – 13<sup>th</sup> June.**

**There will be events organised over that weekend and we are looking for hosts for Friday and Saturday nights.**

**If you feel that you would like to share the experience with tennis players from France please let Mitch know. If you cannot help as a host we will be looking for people to help play socially with the visitors.**

**If you have any items you want included in The Backhand magazine, please contact me via e-mail at:**

**[Philhawkins99@sky.com](mailto:Philhawkins99@sky.com)**

**As you can see it can be of a serious nature.....  
Or Not!**

**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**