

# TIEBREAKER

13

The Magazine of Bucks Tennis

June 2010

## National & International success for Bucks Youngsters

### Toby Martin Wins Aegon U18 Grand Prix Masters Title

CONGRATULATIONS to Bucks 18&U No.1, Toby Martin, who beat Joe Mills / Sussex 6-4, 6-3 in the Final of the Grand Prix Masters event at Roehampton in February.

Toby joined the TeamBath Tennis Academy last September and attends Ralph Allen School. He is on the LTAs AASE

programme and currently ranked No.8 in the country at U18.

His parents, who live in Chesham, acknowledged the help and support of Bucks County

Tennis and Chesham Bois Tennis Club where Toby started playing over ten years ago, and are pleased with his increasing progress. Barry Scollo, Director of Tennis at TeamBath, was quick to praise the 17 year old student. "Toby has played simple, effective tennis. He has done the basic things so well and consistently. Young players sometimes lose sight of this and it can lead to overplaying, confusion and errors."

### Bucks Junior Tennis Ace competes on international stage

14 year old Christopher Pearce from Milton Keynes flew the flag for British tennis reaching the final of the AEGON Junior International 16&U event in Roehampton from 27th March – 3rd April.

Chris joined a group of talented British juniors competing at the Tennis Europe event at the LTA National Tennis Centre. He trains at Tennis Midlands International High Performance Centre and is part of the LTA's AEGON FutureStars programme which recognizes and supports some of the best juniors in the country.

More than 70 players from across Europe competed. Entry is based on ranking and Chris earned his place at the event following a successful season on court.

### 17 year old Bucks player Laura Deigman

travelled around Africa picking up precious ranking points.

In February she won the Grade 5 tournament in Kenya and the following week travelled to Algeria where she was runner up in the singles and won the doubles.

She played a Grade 2 tournament in Potchefstrom, South Africa reaching the last 16. Following this she competed in Pretoria. Laura is a 4.2 and has moved up to 263 in the ITF rankings. Laura recently received a wild card in to the Qualifying for her first professional tournament, a 50K event at Nottingham. Apart from enjoying playing on grass and the whole experience Laura gained four WTA points and £185 prize money for her two wins before being beaten in the final of the Qualifying Competition.



### Barney Smith makes great strides in Bressuire, France

After being selected for a two player GB team to compete in the 11&U European event in Bressuire, France Barney made excellent progress in the event reaching the semi-finals of the singles and the finals of the doubles.



## New Tennis Development Manager

My name is Rob Ellis and I am both excited and enthused to be the new Tennis Development Manger of Buckinghamshire.

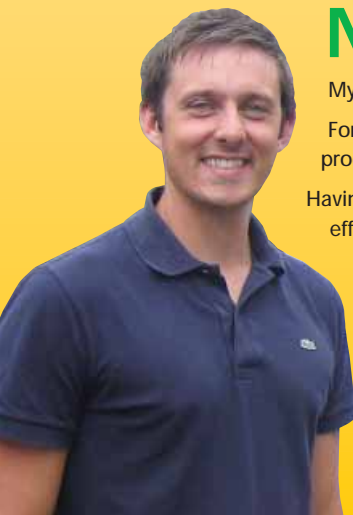
For the past 10 years I have worked within the commercial sector of tennis, including managing and growing successful tennis programmes at the Harbour Clubs in Chelsea and Notting Hill and most recently at David Lloyd in Cambridge.

Having played competitively for Lincolnshire as a junior, I understand the importance of regular competition and therefore my efforts will be focused on increasing and improving competition throughout the County for Juniors and Adults alike.

I am committed to helping Clubs improve their facilities in order to make the sport more attractive and accessible. I also have a large role to play on improving School-Club links to enable us to get more children into tennis.

I feel that these areas of focus will not only help grow the sport and aid us in producing future champions but also improve the 'Tennis Experience' for anyone who picks up a racquet!

*I look forward to seeing you on court sometime soon!*



## Girls U14 County Cup - Group 2 at Batley 1-3 May 2010

Captained by Emily Quin, the Bucks squad consisted of Hollie Davies, Alice Patch, Malikhah Mitchell, Georgie Sanders, Beth Marriott and Annabel Westermann.



**1st Day v Lancashire:** A tough day against strong opponents but team morale remained high throughout. Georgie at No.4 singles lost to a harder hitter and, despite an impressive start, Malikhah/No.3 lost in three sets. Alice achieved the day's only win for Bucks at No.2 singles in three sets and although Hollie/No.1 played long rallies she was beaten in two sets. Beth/Annabel as No.2 doubles pair had some close games but lost in straight sets while Alice/Hollie at No.1 contested an epic doubles, finally losing 12-14 in the deciding match tie-break. Lancs. won 5-1

**2nd Day v Cheshire:** Following Georgie's unfortunate injury Annabel took up the No.4 singles spot. She still had belief at 2-5 down in the third set and commendably won her match 7-5, 2-6, 7-5. Malikhah lost to a very consistent opponent in straight sets. Alice fought back to a second set tie-break from 2-5 down, but lost in two sets. Hollie won her match convincingly by 0 and 2. Despite valiant efforts both Malikhah/Annabel and Alice/Hollie lost their doubles in two sets. Cheshire won 4-2

**3rd Day v Essex:** The Bucks Team meant business! Although Annabel could not quite clinch the No.4 singles, Malikhah at No.3 started and finished strongly with a 6-2, 2-6, 6-1 victory. Alice was focussed throughout her No.2 match for a convincing 6-3, 6-2 win and Hollie confidently closed out the No.1 singles 6-2, 6-4. Malikhah/Annabel served impressively and, combined with excellent net play, won in straight sets. Alice/Hollie cruised to victory with some exciting rallies and interceptions. Bucks won 5-1

Finishing third meant that Bucks remain in Group 2 and will have another try at gaining promotion to Group 1 next year.

## Boys U14 County Cup 1-3 May 2010



Despite an atrocious weather forecast there were few rain delays and play was possible on all three days at Edgbaston.

**Day 1 v Lancashire,** with similar ratings to ours. Bucks came through an epic battle on the clay winning by 8-4 overall.

Scores as follows:

- No.4 Singles Calum McKinlay (8.1) beat Ross Watson (8.1) 6-3, 5-7, 6-3
- No.3 Singles Luke Williams (7.2) lost to Robert Edwards (7.2) 4-6, 7-6(5), 6-1
- No.2 Singles Alex Fage (7.2) beat Charlie Hutchings (7.2) 6-2, 6-3
- No.1 Singles Jo Tingey (7.1) lost to Ross Mackenzie (7.1) 4-6, 1-6

Our experienced second pair, McKinlay/Fage, played attacking tennis and took control of the net to win 6-4 6-1.

Although Tingey/Williams were No.1 in the order they lacked doubles experience with each other. Despite this they showed great character and bravado to win the deciding match tie-break 10-8.

**Day 2 v Oxfordshire** who were stronger than Bucks on paper and in performance, by winning overall 10-2. The scores were as follows:

- No.4 Singles Calum McKinlay (8.1) lost to Ben Smith (7.2) 0-6, 4-6
- No.3 Singles Luke Williams (7.2) lost to Charlie Naylor (7.2) 6-4 6-7(5) 2-6 - a dogged, battling three-hour match.
- No.2 Singles Alex Fage (7.2) lost to Ryan Brough (7.1) 4-6, 7-5, 4-6 - another hard-fought match, in which Alex displayed character and determination.
- No.1 Singles Jo Tingey (7.1) lost Giles Waterson (6.2) 3-6 0-6

James McCord made his debut, paired with Luke Williams in the No.1 doubles match, but their opponents were too strong, winning 6-2, 6-0.

The second pair, Fage/McKinlay, put in a solid performance to win the only rubber for Bucks by 6-4, 2-6, 1-0 (6).

**Day 3 v Warwickshire** who completed the event without losing a rubber, or even a set to any of their three opponents, were deserved champions of Div.2B and duly promoted. James Marchant played his debut singles and was paired with McCord for the second doubles match. Bucks and Oxon stay in Div.2 and Lancs were relegated.

## Aegon 10&U County Cup - Boys at Northwood Middx. On 29th/30th May



With confidence high after positive training sessions, the team of Zack MacQueen, Krishna Chintamreddy, Ollie Lomax and Elliott Buckle relished their challenge, but all four opposing counties included some national standard players!

A rain-soaked Saturday saw our boys lose all the matches against both Herts and Gloucs, though they came close in two singles rubbers, especially with Elliott's titanic battle v. Gloucs. On Sunday Ollie came remarkably close to grabbing that first win with a spirited display against Oxon, though ultimately losing the Deciding Match Tie-break. The final match was against Middx, the strongest team in the group. Zack provided some cheer for the supporting parents (and coach!) with a remarkable fight-back to one set all. A nerve-wracking tie-break ensued, with gruelling rallies from the back of the court and match points for both players, but sadly Zack lost 15-17.

The team learned a huge amount from the weekend, particularly continuing to make balls, especially under pressure. It was great to see four smiling faces at the end of some tough experience.

*(Extracted from report by Tom Edis/Team Captain)*

## Aegon 10&U County Cup - Girls

The Bucks team, Amelia Barton, Lauren King-Sparke, Lauren McKinley and Imogen Scarles played at the White Horse Tennis Centre, Abingdon on 29th/30th May and had to begin against Middlesex on indoor courts as the heavens had opened during warming up.



Lauren (McK) at No.3 won her match 4-2, 2-4, 10-3 and Imogen quickly took control for a 4-1, 4-1 victory at No.2. Lauren (K-S) won a hard-fought contest at No.1 by 2-4, 5-4(8-6), 10-5, to complete a great start for Bucks.

Amelia played No.3 against Oxon and won 3-5, 4-2, 10-6 before Lauren (McK) took the No. 2 singles 5-3, 4-0. Lauren (K-S) beat the Oxon No.1 by a convincing 4-1, 4-2. Good doubles ended the first successful day with Lauren K-S and Imogen relieved to come through as 0-4, 5-4(8-6), 10-6 winners against Middlesex and Lauren McK, paired with Amelia, beating Oxon 5-3, 5-3. Captain, Jo Head, was very happy with the fighting spirit on court, illustrated by Bucks winning all six of their tie-breaks in eight matches on the first day.

It was dry on Day 2 so the girls played Gloucs on clay courts outdoors. Lauren McK served very well to win 4-1, 4-0 in the No.3 singles and Imogen at No.2 hit winners from all round the court for a 4-0, 4-0 victory. Finally the No.1 singles opponent had no replies to Lauren K-S who won her match 4-1, 4-0.

This was a promising start but the team knew that their last match, against Herts, would be the toughest of the weekend. Lauren McK (No.3) won 4-1, 5-3, and Imogen started the second match impressively to take the first set. Her opponent then found her feet and took the match to a Deciding Match Tie-break and a 0-4, 5-3, 10-3 win. Lauren K-S found the Herts No.1 a big step up from her previous opponent and was beaten 4-1, 4-1.

Lauren McK and Amelia played some solid doubles at the net against Gloucs, eventually winning 5-3, 4-2. As Herts were 2-1 up after the singles Lauren K-S and Imogen needed to win their doubles to take the tie to a Tie-break shoot-out and a final chance to win the Group, but an accurate Herts pair beat them 4-1, 4-0 and were therefore overall winners of the Group.

All the players performed well and Lauren McKinley was unbeaten in her four singles and two doubles, seeming to surprise herself!



## 10&U Girls Win Lionel Cox Trophy at Queenswood

TEAM SQUAD: Amelia Barton (Halton), Lauren King-Sparke, Lauren McKinley (Halton) and Imogen Scarles (GXBL) Due to unpredictable weather on 1st/2nd May all the matches were played as one short set. Amelia Barton won the vital rubber to beat Cambs. 2-1 but because their second opponents, an Allstars team of reserves from other counties failed to materialize, Bucks received a walkover. They beat Essex 2-1 the next day with Imogen Scarles playing (and winning!) her first match since recovering from a shoulder injury.

Against Norfolk in the Final it was 1-1 after the Laurens' matches, but Amelia clinched a tense set 5-4 to give Bucks a great first place. All credit to the girls for keeping their focus during long delays.

BOYS 10&U LIONEL COX TROPHY TEAM SQUAD: Elliott Abdey, Theo Kontos and Zack MacQueen (Tennis Works) Bucks lost to a very strong Cambs. Team 0-3 before beating Northants. 2-1. Their remaining group match had to be played indoors and despite heroic displays by the boys they lost 1-2 to Herts. and finished third in their box. A play-off against Norfolk (at 3rd place in the other group of four teams) resulted in three tight matches, but Norfolk edged Bucks aside 2-1.

*(Based on report from Tom Edis)*



**The Bucks AEGON 18&U Girls County Cup team** captained by Jemima Hayward at Taunton 19-21 February achieved promotion from Div.4A to Div.3 for 2011. The squad consisted of Alex Clark, Hollie Davies, Claudia Marsala, Heather McNeill, Tor Pisani, Grace Russell, Kathryn Sharples and Sarah Spanswick.

## Promotion for both 18U County Teams

Dictionary definition of swan: waterbirds with long flexible necks, short legs and webbed feet. Ours are different!

### BUCKS SWANS ARE FLYING UPWARDS AGAIN



The Bucks AEGON 18&U Boys' County Cup team captained by Sam Butler at Gosling, Welwyn Garden City 19-21 February achieved promotion from Div.3A to Div.2 for 2011. The squad consisted of James Gammell, Josh Golding, Akash Kansagra, Dean Kelleher, Jamie McKinnon, Tom Miller, Anthony Parkin and Stuart Pugh.

Day 1 v Devon: Bucks raced to a 4-0 lead but were then pegged back and it required a good comeback from the No.3 doubles pair of James Gammell/Josh Golding to complete a 5-4 win.

Day 2 v Lincolnshire: An easier ride, with Bucks brushing aside their opponents by seven rubbers to two.

Day 3 v South Wales was set to be a tense promotion battle between the two unbeaten teams. Dean Kelleher at No.6 singles got Bucks off to a great start with a convincing win against a highly ranked player in his own age group, but four successive singles losses followed. The team's fighting spirit saw Stuart Pugh win a three-setter at No.1 singles and the third doubles pair - James and Josh - secure a match tie-break 10-8. Only 3-4 down now!

Tom and Jamie played some inspired doubles at No.2, with vital interceptions by Tom and ran out 6-0, 7-6 winners. The No.1 doubles pairing of Stuart and Dean took a close first set and when the second set went to a tie-break both successfully raised their levels, with Dean hitting a couple of juicy lobbs on big points. 7-5 in the tie-break meant a 5-4 overall win and promotion to Div.2 for Bucks.

## Adult & Child Tournament at Halton Tennis Club

27 pairs entered Halton's Spring Adult & Child Tournament on Bank Holiday Monday. There was a great family atmosphere all day, despite some of the matches having to be played in the unseasonable cold/wet weather.

7 pairs competed in the Mini Red using sponge balls and mini tennis rackets. Everyone played each other and the winning pair was father and son Mark & Joshua Bright who won all 6 matches. The runners-up were James & Joel Good



In the Mini Orange Competition Paul & Daniel Dean won, with Andrew & Ben Howell runners-up. There were 5 pairs in the Junior Green competition, with very some close matches but Andy Maclean & Lauren McKinlay were undefeated winning all 4 matches. The runners-up were Becky & Elliott Abdey.

10 pairs entered the open competition and were divided into 2 groups of 5. In the Final the winners of Group 1, Steve & Ben Willis, played the winners of Group 2 Bridget Andreas and Sean Strong and after an extremely tight game, Steve & Ben won 4-3.

Day 1 v Devon, who had a lot of depth in their team but Bucks put in a great performance. Claudia, Tor and Hollie all won their County Cup debut matches with further singles wins by Kathryn and Heather. Team veterans Sarah, Kathryn and Heather displayed some magical doubles points and destroyed the opposition. Grace and Claudia lost a close match at No.3 doubles in a Deciding Match Tie-break so Bucks won the day 7-2.

Player of the Day was Kathryn for a superb inside out backhand drop shot.

Day 2 v Dorset: Claudia was replaced by Tor in our No.3 doubles pairing and she and Grace gave a gutsy performance to win a Deciding Match Tie-break 10-6. Bucks showed no mercy in winning the day 9-0.

A special thanks to senior team members for providing the evening's entertainment - an awards event including song, dance, balloons, laughter and tears!

Day 3 v Avon: A shoot-out between the two undefeated teams and time to bring in our secret (not quiet) weapon, Alex Clark, who was only allowed to play one singles following a back injury.

Tor's 12 year old opponent at No.6 pulled out after the warm-up. 1-0 to Bucks!

There were many deuces at 3-3 in her first set at No.5 singles when Claudia hit a gutsy drive volley to take the lead and then won ten of the next twelve games. 2-0 to Bucks.

Sarah's opponent had a blinding start to lead 4-1. Showing true Bucks spirit Sarah reeled off the next five games to take that set and with some beautiful backhands won the second set tie-break. 3-0 to Bucks.

Heather, against a stronger player on the day, came second in a fighting performance. 3-1 to Bucks. Alex was pumped up and served beautifully against a nationally ranked opponent. She stayed calm during some lengthy games and then became more aggressive to take control of the match. 4-1 to Bucks.

Kathryn played nationally ranked Dominique Covington but quickly gained the first set and a 3-0 lead in the second. Her opponent's game suddenly switched back on and she levelled at 3-3. Spectators gathered and Bucks Swans were right behind Kathryn. Both girls displayed some high quality points, trading backhands, but eventually Kathryn prevailed, winning 7-5.

Bucks 5-1 - WINNERS OF GROUP 4A AND PROMOTED!

The girls supported each other well and we had fun. Now, Heather, Kathryn and Sarah are wished good luck with their senior tennis and University lives.

# Memories of Men's County Week 50 years ago

**In July 1960 I was selected for the Bucks team and we made our way via the highways and byways (no motorways then) to Felixstowe. I followed after the others as my club, Rio from High Wycombe, had a crucial top division shield match against Slough Hard Courts.**

We practised on Sunday and then following a lunch of all the wrong types of food walked the short distance from the Highcliffe Hotel to the courts for a 2.30 start. Our equipment comprised 2 rackets (Slazenger No 1 or Dunlop Maxply Fort - one strung in gut and one in nylon in case of bad weather), one fairly thick long sleeved sweater, Fred Perry shirt and shorts, green flash shoes and a towel. No track suit, tennis bag, medical aids, drinks, bananas, or change of kit. Other differences back then were leather grips (some over 5 inches girth) which required regular roughening on the net wire and a pocketful of sawdust, white balls, and of course long sets.

My knees were knocking as we took to the courts for our first match against Devon and then, as if I wasn't nervous enough, I discovered Barry (Weatherill) and I were playing Mike Sangster (a semi finalist at Wimbledon the following year) in the first round! We failed to make any impression there but we did win our other two rubbers to win the match 5/4.

Of course we all know how teams are picked. I was arguably the weakest player in the team but because we had won two how could we be dropped. And so began 7

straight years of partnering Barry. He taught me to be confident of winning; to get to net at every opportunity and even tried to get me to bury the overheads. I tried to teach him a topspin lob with limited success.

In 1960 we managed to stay in Group 5 which was considered an achievement as we had been promoted from Group 6.

County Week was considered a holiday as most players had regular jobs with 2 weeks holiday per year. Consequently we went from Saturday to Saturday, occasionally making the mistake of a swim in the sea prior to a match. The LTA paid half the hotel cost and the players were involved in fund raising activities (a dance, raffles) prior to County week.

Although equipment and attitudes to fitness have improved, structural changes to County Week have been very few. It remains an excellent opportunity for young players to develop a winning game with an emphasis on net play.

I wish our teams of 2010 the best of luck, the men at Hunstanton and the ladies at Eastbourne. I hope to visit both, imagining running down the lobs and putting away the smashes with them.



## Taking Tennis Back to School

**More tennis in schools is vital to raising the profile and level of the game in this country. Much work is being done to help schools deliver tennis as part of the National Curriculum. As a Tutor, CHRIS HOLLAND describes the available training courses:**

**Primary Schools Teachers Course:** The rationale for this 3-hour course is that teachers have good communication and organisation skills, but may lack the right equipment and enough tennis knowledge to teach large groups in small spaces - possibly thirty children on a badminton court. Each school attending a course therefore receives 30 rackets, 60 balls, a portable net, and a set of inter-active DVDs which can help to deliver quality lessons. Instructions are given on using the DVDs, utilising space effectively and scoring a mini tennis match. The feedback from teachers has been very positive and about sixty schools in Bucks have received equipment bags so far.

**Secondary School Teachers Course:** This new 3-hour Course is about to be launched in the county, with DVDs covering lessons for different age groups, plus advice on ranking players, cross curriculum ideas using maths and history, and how to run intra- and inter-school matches. Equipment can be bought through the LTA at a 40% discount. Area Partnership Development Managers organise the training, or please contact the County Office for details.

**Tennis Leaders Tutors Course:** Local schools and clubs are encouraged to send teachers on this 4-hour course, which enables them to deliver the Leaders Award to pupils aged 13-16 years. The core module is organisation and communication. Students can then select from buddy hitter, competition assistant or media and web design, depending on their interests. It is an ideal stepping stone for those interested in a coaching pathway to UKCC Level 1 (at 16) and UKCC Level 2 (at 17). Please ask your PE staff about it. For information on Coaching Courses e-mail Chris at [nostringsattached@msn.com](mailto:nostringsattached@msn.com), or call 07773333768



**Mike Francis (County Week 1960 – 1984 May 2010)**

Picture County Week team 1960

Standing left to right – Barrie Williams, Ted Reeve, Max Smith, Barry Weatherill  
Sitting left to right – Doug Timms, Mike Francis, Ken Morris, Aubrey Weatherill  
(manager and chairman of selectors). Absent – Des Scannell

# A Buck Thrives In Brooklyn!

By Nate Chura

These days 34-year-old Buckinghamshire native, David Webley, shuffles off to work at The Heights Casino in Brooklyn, U.S.A. Not to be confused with the giant slot machine industry made famous by Las Vegas, this casino is a tennis and squash country club in the heart of historic Brooklyn, New York. It also happens to have the distinction of being the oldest indoor tennis club in America, and in recent years has produced some of the country's top junior athletes.

When American tennis great Don Budge won the first ever "grand slam" (all four major tournaments in one year), he did so at the U.S. Tennis Championships at Forest Hills in 1938. Throughout that extended fortnight which saw torrential storms and record rainfall in the New York metropolitan area, Budge sharpened his legendary aim at "The Casino".

Since the club's founding in 1904, many players, both professional and amateur, have passed through its doors, each with their own unique stories. Webley started his voyage at the Casino in 2000 and hasn't looked back since.

"I felt at home living in New York immediately," says the ten-times Buckinghamshire County junior champion. "I love the diversity and the positive attitude of people living here. I enjoy being anonymous, yet it's so easy to meet

people, if you want. Also I have my brother and close friends living here, too, which helps." Webley began his love affair with tennis at the Haddenham Lawn Tennis Club, but it was at Gerrards Cross where he met his most influential coach, Andy Scholfield. Webley achieved a career high junior ranking of No. 12 in the UK, reaching two National finals in the process. However, at the age of 17 hopes of a successful career on the pro tour were dashed as a wrist injury sidelined the former-junior South region No.2. But his fortune changed with a scholarship to Armstrong Atlantic State University in Savannah, GA, where he managed to play four years on a highly successful team, consistently ranked in the top 10 National rankings. After graduating with a degree in psychology, Webley turned to the game he knew best.



So far, teaching abroad has been a seamless transition for the buck. "I feel like I can bring my different experiences and knowledge to The Casino," says Webley. "Tennis is so universal, yet differs in many ways from country to country, how it is taught and how it is played." At the end of the day, Webley credits his well-rounded British upbringing in equipping him with the necessary skills to succeed in "The Big Apple".

"Growing up in Haddenham had a large influence on me," he admits. "It gave me a sense of community and looking out for people. Tennis has opened many doors for me. My parents always supported me with my tennis, and for that I will always be grateful. I'm never late, thanks to my mum's insistence on getting everywhere an hour early!" Thanks mum.

## Bucks LTA 'Meme Griffiths' Award

Calling all clubs, coaches, volunteers, players and officials on the tennis scene in this county.

We now request nominations for the 2010 Award, to mark an outstanding single or long-term contribution to tennis in Buckinghamshire, by an individual or individuals. The inaugural Award was to Jemima Hayward/Julia Bone, Bucks Ladies' first pair, who were unbeaten in their fifteen matches in Group 1 during the AEGON Summer County Cup at Eastbourne in 2009.

Please nominate your choice/s in a short letter to Mrs Mary Crowshaw, the Secretary of Bucks LTA. All nominations will be considered by the Bucks LTA Executive Committee and the winner will be presented with the perpetual salver at our county AGM on 15th November.

The closing date for nominations is 1st September 2010.

## "Very Funny, Very English..... A Real Road-Movie of a Book"

**Introducing 'THE SERVER' by SPENCER VIGNES: If you like playing or talking tennis, laughs, travel, have ever owned a 'Moggie, or enjoy music/literary/film references, with bits of history slipped in, you will love this book - and might wish to toast the author with a pint of ale as you read it!**



Inspired by the 1971 film 'The Winner', in which Burt Lancaster swims home via the 'river of pools' through the back gardens of suburban Connecticut, Spencer, journalist and 'average' player, drove from Sussex (boyhood home) to Yorkshire (adult home) in his 1969 Morris Minor, stopping at 148 tennis courts en route and challenging anyone to a game.

His resulting publication, 'The Server', was listed for the William Hill Sports Book of the Year Award, 2003 and reviewed by John Inverdale as 'A sideways, exuberant and perceptive journey through the underachieving world that is English tennis'. It describes the people Spencer met or played (such as a man in a wheelchair, a drug addict, an 81 year old grandmother) and the places he visited (including Bucks), not to mention his thoughts on the state of our domestic game in the 21st century. (It has improved since 2002, Spencer!)

This entertaining book is now available @ £5.99, including post/packing. Anyone requiring a copy - which can be signed by the author on request - should call 07956-951144 or e-mail: [spencervignes@hotmail.com](mailto:spencervignes@hotmail.com)  
(Mine came by return of post - Frances Charlton)



## John Golding – Tennis Operations Manager, East Region

I joined the LTA early in 2009 and am delighted to have been appointed Tennis Operations Manager for the East Region. I officially started at the end of March and since then have enjoyed getting to know the area and spending plenty of time in Bucks, both in the County Office and out and about at Clubs.

Before becoming Tennis Development Manager in Oxfordshire & Berkshire I spent over 10 years working for Esporta as Racquets Manager, heading up and coaching large Tennis Programmes in Manchester and North London. I hope that this variation in the demands of my previous work will give me opportunities to support LTA staff and Volunteers throughout the East Region.

One of my first tasks was to appoint a replacement for Abbie Lench, Bucks TDM. Whilst it is always a challenge to replace someone of Abbie's quality I am delighted that we have appointed Rob Ellis to the role. I am confident that he will be a great asset to tennis in Bucks and I look forward to working with him and the rest of the Bucks team and to meeting many people involved in tennis in all capacities throughout the county.



## Mini Red - 8 Counties Event

Bucks joined Cambs, Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Herts, Beds and Northants for this U8 competition at Odyssey, Stevenage in February. Each of six team members competed against their seven opposite numbers in timed 10-minute matches, with a deciding point played if scores were level when the buzzer rang. Top girls' team, top boys' team and best overall county of combined wins were their goals.

The girls were in action first and Bucks was represented by Darcey Roe, Orla Grady, Hannah Krasner, Alice Taylor, Pallavi Dadarkar and Lily Majewski. They drew 3-3 with Norfolk and felt positive after winning more points overall. A strong Herts team beat Bucks 6-0, but Hannah was as close as 12-14 at the buzzer and Pallavi at 10-13. Cambs beat us 4-2 but we achieved a 3-3 draw with Northants.

Next up were Essex and Suffolk who both beat Bucks 4-2. The Beds team only had 3 players so our numbers 4, 5 and 6 could only sit and watch. Our first two players battled well but lost, so up stepped Hannah at number 3 to win and ensure a 4-2 score for Bucks in the last match. Equal on wins with Cambs but having won more points overall put the girls in fifth place.

The Bucks boys' team was Ferdi Maintzer, Aidan Bengier, Matthew Blood, Thomas Hattam, Finn Hudson and Victor Busschop. The

first four matches against Norfolk were won or lost by one point but strength throughout the Bucks team saw Finn at 5 and Victor at 6 gain convincing wins and help Bucks to a 4-2 score. Ferdi at No.1 got us off to a good start against Herts by winning 14-12 but despite close scores Bucks were beaten 4-2. We also lost to Cambs 2-4 in close matches but won them against Northants for a 5-1 win. Bucks battled hard but succumbed 1-5 to a very tough Essex team. 3-3 draws were achieved against both Suffolk and Beds. Bucks boys took fifth place with twenty wins and a special mention goes to Victor Busschop who won all seven of his matches for this county.

Jo Head was the team manager and thanked all the parents for their support on the day, as well as Jamie McKinnon of Chesham Bois Tennis Club who did a fantastic job umpiring the matches from 9.30am to 6.30pm!



## Mandeville School Sports Partnership Mini Red

The winners of the three qualifying events met at Aylesbury tennis Club on Thursday May 27th to contest the Aylesbury Vale District Finals. Each school team had four players, two boys and two girls. Each team played against each other and after some close matches the results were 3rd Wendover Junior School, 2nd Haydon Abbey and in first place Haddenham Junior School.

The Haddenham team of Owen Williams, Jamie Higgins, Olivia Steel and Olivia Bartholomew will now represent AV in the County play offs to be held in June.



### Finlay Barrett won the Hertfordshire Winter County Tournament on 21/02/10

After qualifying through the round robin stages, in the semi finals he beat Charles Taylor (Camb.) and in the final he beat Ben Moore (Leics.)

### James Gregory 8, played excellent tennis to win the recent County Tournament for Orange players at RAF Halton.

James who trains at GXLTC Academy had some very tight matches but eventually won the final 7-5, 7-4 against Ben Stoker.



### Jack Chapman won the Finchley Manor junior open tournament on 9th April.

The lovely trophy is his favourite as it is the biggest he has won!

It was reported in February's edition that Oliver Levi beat Thomas Schmidt in the U14 final at the RAF junior tournament when in fact Thomas beat Oliver 5-7, 6-4, 10-4. We apologise for this error.



# Village club celebrates and anticipates more progress

IVER HEATH on the southern edge of Bucks is looking forward to another good year. Its TRS mini Red team won their winter league in 2009 to enjoy the rewards of red T-shirts and medals, a £200 bag of equipment and £200 for extra coaching and the subsequent TRS mini Orange team won its winter league in 2010, with a further cash prize! The Mini Tennis Kids Zone which was completed in Sept. 2007 is busy and the three full tennis courts were resurfaced this Spring, ready to welcome a free 'return to sport' 10 week course for adults, financed by South Bucks District Council, and employing the club's coaches.

Iver Heath LTC is very near to achieving Clubmark status. On the middle Sunday of Wimbledon it will celebrate that tournament with an open morning for all ages on the courts - followed by strawberries and cream, of course! - And football skills fun in the basketball court behind its clubhouse, in honour of the World Cup. The next development project will be a sturdier storage building than the last metal one (unfortunately vandalised by local youth), thus releasing valuable space in the office and changing rooms (currently full of coaching equipment).

What's not to be enthusiastic about this season? Some of the older team guys have to prepare their bodies with assorted braces before playing -and take medication afterwards -whilst the younger guys have injuries or heavy work-loads and the ladies are struggling a bit with unforeseen circumstances hitting availability. Otherwise the club is full of beans and hoping to capture some new members from the public course and its own open morning.



## Youngsters take to tennis in Stony



On Saturday 8th May, junior players from the age of 4 years old met at Stony Stratford Tennis Club to 'have a go' at tennis and possibly win a year's free membership. The children were invited to the event through leaflets in schools and it was their opportunity to visit one of the best clubs in Bucks and see what Stony Stratford Tennis Club has to offer... The session lasted for 2 hours and was run by Head Coach, John Skinner and Academy Coach, John Cavill. All players took part in tasks to test their coordination, balance, ball skills, racket skills, movement and match play.

Head Coach, John Skinner, said, "It was great to see many new faces and to speak with the parents about the benefits of tennis for their children. Everyone can learn a lot from tennis and we look forward to seeing all the players again soon." To find out more about Stony Stratford Tennis Club and the programmes they provide, contact John Skinner on 07989 096194 or visit [www.ssltc.co.uk](http://www.ssltc.co.uk)



## Milton Keynes Lauren Armstrong wins title at LTA Grand Prix.

Eight juniors from across the region met at David Lloyd Hertford on Sunday 28th February to compete in a Grade 3 U9's event.

9 year old Lauren competed in the Round Robin stages qualifying for the semi finals by winning 2 of her 3 matches, losing only to Destinee Martins (Middx) who had been unbeaten for 6 months.

In the semi- finals she played Essence Martins, who is Destinee's twin sister. Lauren won this match and beat Destinee in a very close final 6-10, 10-7, 10-7. She is now one of the top 5 UK U. 9 players.



## Newport Pagnell Mini Red Tournament

On Friday 4th June 2010 Newport Pagnell Tennis Club hosted a Mini Red LTA Tournament run by club coach Sue Evans. The sunny weather and the 25 matches played resulted in a great day for both participants and spectators.

The final was between Louis Cooke from Newport Pagnell Tennis Club and Callum Cawsey from Luton and Vauxhall Tennis

Club and the winner was Callum.

Sue would like to say a big thank you to all the boys who participated and congratulate them all on their conduct and competitive play and also to all the family and friends, who came to watch, support and help umpire.

Newport Pagnell Tennis Club look forward to hosting more LTA Tournaments in the future.

## Mini Tennis Tour Leaderboard-Summer 2010

All players competing in the Mini Tennis Club Tour at U8/Red, U9/Orange or U10/Green will be awarded points towards an online 'Leaderboard'.

All Mini Tennis Grade 5 events within the Bucks summer schedule will count towards the Leaderboard. Players may enter as many events as they wish and all results will go towards their final total. At Grade 5 players will receive 10 points for every match they play and receive an additional 40 points for every win. The winner and Runner-up will receive medals.

You can follow your progress on line by going to [www.lta.org.uk/In-Your-Area/Buckinghamshire/Competitions/Juniors/Aaegon](http://www.lta.org.uk/In-Your-Area/Buckinghamshire/Competitions/Juniors/Aaegon) Summer Leaderboard results. At the moment the top 3 are as follows:-

**Red** 1 Hannah Krasner GXBL,  
2 James Perks GXBL,  
3 Tommy Davies Chesham Bois.

**Orange** 1. Harry Jordan Esporta,  
2. Edward Crowston GXBL,  
3. Daniel Cochrane GXBL.

**Green** 1 Theo Kontos Chesham 1879,  
2. Emily Honor Stony Stratford,  
3 Meera Kumar MK Ace Tennis.

## Easter Mini Tournament at Gerrards Cross Bull Lane



Glorious Easter weather attracted a large entry to GXLTC Mini tournaments with ages ranging from 6-9 years. All players had at least 5 matches followed by some friendly doubles.

The Orange event saw two very close semi-finals. Harry Jordan (GX) beat Sasha Southgate (GX) 10-9, and Dan Cochrane (GX) beat Sophie Ivansky (Iver) 10-7. In the final Harry was victorious beating Dan 10-5.

In Red 8&U in the semi-finals, Hannah Krasner (GX) beat Angus Johnston (GT Missenden) 10-7 and Tom Hatton (GX) beat Kimi Kehedra (Berks) 10-8. In the final Hannah beat Tom 10-9.

Andy Scholfield said "it was great to see so many girls taking part".



# Winter Singles League launched in Bucks

This new competition for Clubs was started last Autumn to replace the Aegon (old NCL) competition.

The Competition format is 2 singles rubbers and one doubles rubber, each of 2 normal tiebreak sets but with the addition of a Professional tiebreak if each rubber finishes 1 set all. This means that there is always a match winner and 3 points are awarded for a 3-0 win and 2 points for a 2-1 win. Results of course count towards players' ratings.

Despite the fact that the competition had to be organised very quickly there was a high number of entries which resulted in sufficient teams for 2 divisions for both men's and ladies.

## How your club finished:

Ladies 1	Played	Won	Lost	Points
GXBL	5	4	1	11
Gt Missenden	5	4	1	11
Stony Stratford	5	4	1	10
David Lloyd HW 1	5	2	3	5
Halton	5	1	4	3
David Lloyd HW2	5	0	5	0
Aylesbury	0	0	0	0

defaulted

GXBL winners as they beat Gt. Missenden

Mens 1	Played	Won	Lost	Points
Stoke Park	5	5	0	13
David Lloyd HW 1	5	2	3	6
Stony Stratford 1	3	2	1	5
Aylesbury	2	1	1	2
David Lloyd HW2	2	0	2	0
GXBL	2	0	2	0
Halton	1	0	1	0
High Wycombe	0	0	0	0

withdrawn

Only the results of matches played have been recorded. Walkovers have been disregarded.

For the 2010/11 competition the Bucks website will be used for results. Entry forms will be sent out this summer at the same time as the Winter Vets. The competition will be played from October to March.

The winning teams of this winter's competition will receive certificates which will be presented at the 2010 AGM.

With the inaugural competition having had a successful start in the worst winter for years lets hope that the competition flourishes in future years.

Peter Renouf

Ladies 2	Played	Won	Lost	Points
Stoke Park	3	3	0	9
Burnham	3	2	1	6
David Lloyd HW3	3	1	2	2
Beaconsfield	3	0	3	0
Chesham 1879	0	0	0	0

defaulted

Mens 2	Played	Won	Lost	Points
Great Missenden	6	6	0	18
Wolverton	4	4	0	10
Hazlemere	5	3	2	8
Horsenden	5	2	3	6
Magnolia Park	7	2	5	4
Stony Stratford 2	3	1	2	3
David Lloyd HW3	4	1	3	2
Burnham	4	0	4	0
Ch 1879	0	0	0	0

defaulted

## Milton Keynes Tennis League 2009/2010

The Winter tennis League came to a successful conclusion with 46 teams taking part representing 19 different clubs.

The Winners of Division 1 were Stony Stratford A closely followed by Gilpin and Milton Keynes A.



## The Summer season is now in full swing.

Our teams are working hard, junior coaching on Sunday mornings is being enjoyed and we launched a very exciting NEW JUNIOR CLUB NIGHT on 21st May from 5pm – 7pm every Friday

Bucks Adult Education continue their tennis courses on Tuesday mornings during term-time. These are proving very popular and the coach Tom is helping everyone to improve. [www.weltc.co.uk](http://www.weltc.co.uk)

## Bucks Indoor Tennis Centre Open Day 12th September 2010.

10am-4pm  
Free coaching sessions  
Free Matchplay  
Meet the celebrities.



Hear about the new programme of events with Luvtennis @ BITC. To receive your free invitation, email your details to [info@luvtennis.net](mailto:info@luvtennis.net). Your details will be entered into a draw to receive a free coaching session.

## Barbara Deardon

Barbara Deardon a long-standing member of both Tring and Halton Tennis Clubs has died at the age of 90. She was an amazing lady who played both Tennis and Golf well into her 80's.

## Pride in Aylesbury Awards 2010

Friday 14th May at Aylesbury Civic Centre the Pride in Aylesbury Awards 2010 were held.

Ricky Groves of EastEnders and Strictly Come Dancing fame was the Special Guest and welcomed all the nominees.

Aylesbury Tennis Club was awarded the Community Project of the year and Sue Dunn who spearheaded the project received a beautiful glass trophy and certificate.



## Halton Tennis Centre Host 12 & Under Tournament 21st February 2010

Halton High Performance Centre hosted a Grade 4 12 & Under Tournament on their Indoor Courts, which was sponsored by the RAF Careers Service.



The boys event was a 2-way knock-out draw, with each player guaranteed 4 matches over the 2 days. The main-draw Semi-Final featured two Halton players - Ben Hedger and Nicholas Smart. Ben

played the No. 1 seed Mark Konieczny (Chesham 1879) but in spite of a good fight Mark had the edge and won 6-3 6-4. Nicholas was up against Michael Silvester, who had travelled from Dublin for the tournament. Michael was more consistent and won 6-2 6-4. The Final between Konieczny and Silvester was extremely close with some very long rallies. At one set all it needed a 10 point tie-break to decide the match which Michael Silvester won 2-6, 6-3, and 10-6.

The Girls played a round-robin, with the winners of each box playing the Final. Laura Hope, who trains at Halton, played a marathon match against Molly Hawker. Laura won the first set 6-4 but Molly won the second in a tiebreak. In the deciding tie-break there was nothing to separate the girls for several points until Laura eventually secured a 12-10 win.

The RAF generously supported the event, with all the players being given "goody" bags and the finalists presented with extra gifts. Sgt Simon Williams from the Motivational Outreach Team (South East) RAF Careers Service presented the winners and runners-up with their prizes and trophies.



## AEGON Halton Everyball International Tennis Europe 16&U Tournament

Sunday 29th August to Saturday 4th September 2010  
For further information visit [www.tenniseurope.org](http://www.tenniseurope.org)

### & Grade 3

## Halton Everyball International Under 12 & U14 Tournament

Sunday 29th August to Wednesday 1st September 2010  
[www.lta.org.uk/competition\(BUC112\)](http://www.lta.org.uk/competition(BUC112))



Phil Hill (Tournament Director) mob: 07900107953

Halton Tennis Centre  
Chestnut End, Chestnut Avenue  
Halton Village, Nr Aylesbury, Bucks, HP22 5PD  
Tel: 01296 623453

[www.haltontennis.co.uk](http://www.haltontennis.co.uk)  
[haltontennis@btinternet.com](mailto:haltontennis@btinternet.com)



Halton Tennis Centre is delighted to be staging this event for the first time; we hope you will join us for high quality matches set in the idyllic surroundings of the Chiltern Hills and rural Buckinghamshire.

### BUCKS LTA SENIOR RESULTS & FIXTURES

Date	Age Group	Division	Opponent	Home/Away	Win/Loss	Score	Venue	Team
30/04/2010	O65 Men	Div 1a	Herts	Home	Won	3 - 2	Aylesbury	Mike Francis, Derek Baker, Robin Smith, Richard Clarke, Roger Keeley
16/05/2010	O40 Ladies	Group 1			Lost	2 - 3		Susie Hall, Alison Longfield, Ani Slaughter, Linda Rennie
23/05/2010	O60 Ladies	Div 2	Devon	Away	Lost	0 - 4		Pam Knight, Margaret Horner, Anne Pickard, Rosie Field
Saturday, June 05, 2010	O60 Men	Div 3b	Cambridge	Away	Won	5 - 0		Bev Wilson, Peter Linsell, Peter Henry, Richard Stewart
11/06/2010	O65 Men	Div 1a	Devon	Home	Won	4 - 1	Aylesbury 1pm	Mike Francis, Derek Baker, Robin Smith, Roger Keeley, Barry Wilson
18/06/2010	O65 Men	Div 1a	Lancashire	Home	Lost	3 - 2	Aylesbury 1pm	Mike Francis, Derek Baker, Robin Smith, Roger Keeley.
Saturday, June 19, 2010	O60 Men	Div 3b	Bedfordshire	Home	Won	4 - 1	Chesham 1879	Bev Wilson, Peter Linsell, Peter Henry, Stuart Mann
30/06/2010	O60 Men	Div 3b	Lincolnshire	Away	Won	3 - 2		Bev Wilson, Peter Linsell, Peter Henry, Stuart Mann
09/07/2010	O70 Men		Essex	Home			Halton 1.00pm	Captain Len Worley
10/07/2010	O55 Men		Herts	Home			BITC 1.00pm	Captain Ian Leek
15/07/2010	O40 Ladies	Group 2	Herts	Home			BITC 10.30am	Captain Susie Hall
16/07/2010	O65 Men	Div 1a	Notts	Away				Captain Mike Francis
19/07/2010	O65 Men	Div 1a	Hampshire&IOW	Away				Captain Mike Francis
<b>19th - 23rd July</b>	<b>Ladies Senior Team</b>	<b>Group 1</b>		<b>Away</b>			<b>Eastbourne</b>	<b>Captain Alison Longfield</b>
<b>19th - 23rd July</b>	<b>Mens Senior Team</b>	<b>Group 4</b>		<b>Away</b>			<b>Hunstanton</b>	<b>Captain Graham Tallyn</b>
25/07/2010	O55 Men		Devon	Home			BITC 12.00pm	Captain Ian Leek
31/07/2010	O55 Men		Middlesex	Away			1.00pm	Captain Ian Leek
23/08/2010	O60 Men	Div 3b	Berkshire	Home			Chesham 1879	Captain Bev Wilson
29/08/2010	O55 Men		Lincolnshire	Away			12.00pm	Captain Ian Leek
11/09/2010	O40 Ladies	Group 3	Hampshire&IOW	Home			BITC 1pm	Captain Susie Hall
28 -30 August	O35 Men	Div 4a		Away			Eastbourne	Captain Phil Hill
28-30 August	O35 Ladies	Div 3a		Away			Eastbourne	Captain Susie Hall
	O70 Men		Cheshire		Won	3-1		Len Worley, Alan Cantrell, Charlie Koish, Jasper Garnham
	O70 Men		Surrey		Won	5-3		Len Worley, Alan Cantrell, Charlie Koish, Jasper Garnham
	O70 Men		Hants		Won	5-3		Len Worley, Alan Cantrell, Charlie Koish, Jasper Garnham



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If you would like to be kept informed of future offers and events please email us, or fill in this slip and hand it in at reception. Your information will only be used by Luvtennis re: details of offers and events.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel no: \_\_\_\_\_

## Chesham Bois Junior Open Tournament

The 32nd annual junior tournament at Chesham Bois produced some stunning tennis, much to the enjoyment of local MP and Secretary of State for Wales, Cheryl Gillan, who presented the prizes on finals day. The highlight was a spectacular display of heavy hitting in the boys U18 final between number one seed Brad Marriott (Win Tennis) and Surrey's top junior, Adam Skalsky. Skalsky emerged the winner by 7-5, 4-6, 6-4.

The U16 event this year was won by Robbie Ridout (Win Tennis) who beat Bucks number one James Gammell in another close match, 6-3, 4-6, 10-5.

In the boys' U14 event Ryan Brough was too consistent for the higher ranked Adam Chan, while the U12 boys' final saw a repeat of last year's U10 event, with Barnaby Smith of Halton again the victor, defeating Sam Gough 2-6, 7-5, 10-8. Smith also claimed the U12 doubles title with Oscar Glenister and narrowly missed out on a hat trick when he and Nancy Jones (Chesham 1879) lost in the final of the U14 mixed doubles to Chan and Louise Ronaldson.

The boys U10 went to Oskar Galimardanov and the U9s to Nathan Fernandes.

In the U14 doubles event, Bucks' top pair of Alex Fage and Callum Mckinlay, lost in the closest of battles to fellow Bucks players Jo Tingey and James Merchant, 6-7, 7-6, 10-7.

The girls U18 event was won by Kathryn Sharples who had to dig deep in the second set, coming from 1-4 down to beat Claudia Marsala 6-4, 6-4. The U16 and U14 girls' events were dominated by Polina Novoselova, one of a Russian contingent who have been training locally. Novoselova, a left-hander with a superb attacking forehand, won both the U16 and U14 events.

The U12 girls was won by Surrey's Charlotte Calnan, the U10s by Imogen Scarles and the U9s by Esther Adeshina. The girls' U18 doubles saw Claudia Marsala and Hannah Russell win a close match against Victoria Pisani and Rebecca Tricks. In the U14s Louise Ronaldson added the girls' doubles to her mixed doubles title when she partnered Beth Marriott.

The final event of a great day's tennis was the U18 mixed doubles in which Kathryn Sharples, playing with Owen Richards, won the title 7-6, 6-3.

The awards for sportsmanship which are a special feature of the tournament went this year to Dean Michael Kelleher (Stackhouse Trophy) and Annabel Westerman (Gill Nunn Trophy).

As always tournament referee Sarah Tricks and her team ran a superbly well-organised tournament.

### Bucks Junior County Closed

At Chesham Bois Tennis Club  
23 August – 28 August 2010  
Ages 18 – 8 in age groups  
On Line Entries open 5 July  
See Bucks Website for more details

### BUCKS LTA COUNTY OFFICE PERSONNEL:

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Disclaimer: The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of Buckinghamshire LTA. The association accepts no liability for the accuracy of information provided by contributors. This issue of tiebreaker was brought to you by Frances Charlton and Margaret Wilson.

The next Tiebreaker will be published in October, if you have any articles you wish to be included please send them to the County office or e-mail margaretmwilson@hotmail.com by 10th September 2010.

Most articles and results shown in this issue can be viewed in full on the Bucks web site: [www.lta.org.uk/In-Your-Area/Buckinghamshire](http://www.lta.org.uk/In-Your-Area/Buckinghamshire)