

# **NEWS**

Edition Five - August 2023

Brought to you by STC Committee

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Stocksfield Tennis Club Guessburn Stocksfield NE43 70R

## IN WITH THE NEW!

With a lot of hard work from the sub-committee we now have our brand spanking new courts. Hopefully they have just about bedded in and everyone is enjoying the benefits. We would be



interested to get your feedback about the courts so please speak to one of the committee, or email us at <a href="mailto:stocksfieldtennisclub@gmail.com">stocksfieldtennisclub@gmail.com</a>. Special thanks go out to Mark, Jamie and Iain who have worked tirelessly towards the project.

## **QUIZ NIGHT**

Kim, Dexter, Jill and Liz did a sterling job organising the Quiz night which was our first proper social event post-Covid. It was great to see everyone together, enjoying themselves and testing that grey matter! We also raised a very respectable £432 for our club funds. Well done to all involved.



## FRIDAY EVENING SOCIAL TENNIS

We would really like to get more members using the courts more regularly. Therefore we are commencing a Friday social tennis evening where people can just turn up and play. This will start from next Friday 25 August between 6pm – 8 pm. The format will be very informal and it is hoped it will encourage members of all levels and abilities to attend. If you require any further information please contact Dan Mather.

## **CROWDFUNDING UPDATE**



116 supporters

What great members we have! Thanks to everyone who donated, organised events, attended events, donated rewards, begged and pleaded with people to donate rewards and generally pulled together to make our crowdfunding campaign a success.

In an unfortunate turn of events, we have had to return the donation received from Thompsons when we were unable to advertise their company on the courts. Blaming the committee's complete lack of planning application knowledge adding a dollop of naivety we have learned some hard lessons.

On the plus side, we did receive donations and rewards from other local businesses so special thanks go out to Essity, Serenity, Dessert Royale, Kirsty Taylor Goldsmiths, GO Local Food, The Racquet Man, Balls of Prudhoe, Nicky Jones Furniture, The Falcon, Shorts of Corbridge, Oli & Joes, Corbridge Garden Room, Sintons LLP, Stocksfield Golf Club, No 18 Boutique Salon, Pizza Pizza, No 22 Front Street, The Corbridge Larder, Corbridge Cookshop, Bywell Coffee Barn, Aramee, Gloria Restaurant, McGees, Peake Performance, The Wellington, IR Cleaning, MJ Forster, Matthew Charlton, MLR Cottages and Team Valley Group.

Thanks also go out to Stan, who organised the Balls Fish & Chips event as part of the crowdfunding appeal, and raised over £810 in the process! A great evening was had by all, especially with Mr Johnson's unique bingo number calling! It's a wonder anyone could call "HOUSE" with all the giggling and laughter!



Iain Stroyan arranged sportswear with the Stocksfield Tennis Club logo on as an additional fundraising source. We have had a lot of compliments from other clubs and passing neighbours on the striking designs and bold colour choices! We are still taking orders for branded tee shirts, hoodies and zip hoodies to continue raising money for the club. They come in both men's and ladies cut with various sizes and colours available. If you would like to order anything please contact Iain.

#### **Fundraising**

Since introducing Easyfundraising to Stocksfield Tennis Club in 2020 we have raised over £1,088. We have 33 registered supporters, however only 9 people have raised donations for us in the last 12 months.

If we could encourage all members, and their families and friends to sign up, imagine how much more we could raise simply by adding an extra couple of clicks on the mouse before starting our online shopping!

EVERYONE can help raise funds via Easyfundraising. Please **REGISTER HERE** and raise funds whenever you shop online.

Tennis-Point has been announced as the LTA's official retail partner for tennis, meaning your venue can benefit from exclusive discounts here.

Receive discounts on Dunlop products over £99 until the end of the year by using code LTAVENUE23.

Tennis-Point is an affiliated partner of Easyfundraising so as well as receiving a discount from Tennis-Point club will receive cashback too!

#### **Refuse Collection**

There is a bin collection timetable on the window of the clubhouse. For those members playing on a Tuesday it would greatly assist us if you could pull the bin out to the footpath for emptying on a Wednesday. Similarly, if you play on a Wednesday and notice the empty bin by the side of the road, please return it to the side of the club house. Many thanks for helping in this small way.

The committee would like to extend our thanks to Sarah Allen, who has undertaken this, and many other small tasks for us, over the years. Thank you for being such a good neighbour!

## **JUNIORS UPDATE**

#### League Matches - by Tom Geary

Just a little update on the juniors and the matches they played. We had a mix of matches covering red, orange and full ball, with some good wins and some close losses. The juniors loved heading to different venues and playing on different surfaces, as well as some home matches which I was proud to watch. A big shout out to Matteo , Hugo and Dylan who played all the ones they could and for everyone who played the odd match! They represented the club impeccably both through their tennis and attitude. The winter league is coming up soon too, and I'm hoping for similar teams. Thank you for the club's support.

#### Summer Camp

Over the course of 2 separate weeks Tom has had over 80 juniors attending his summer camps at Stocksfield Tennis Club. It's great to see so much interest from the juniors and to see the courts getting used so much!

## THE BIG SPRING CLEAN!

A huge shout out to all who got involved with the big spring clean. I think we can all agree that the clubhouse is looking great, to match our fabulous new courts.

Please be mindful of keeping the clubhouse clean and tidy and leave it in the same condition you would expect to find it in.











#### **Upcoming events**

**Club Championships** will be returning this year following a similar format to last year. Please register your interest with Mark Johnson ASAP. Juniors please let Tom Geary know if you would like to participate.

This is a great opportunity for members to play competitively but in a friendly environment, and meet other members who you may not normally see. Playing mixed doubles, we ask teams to arrange their matches according to their availability to try and keep it flexible but fun!

We aim to hold finals day along with a BBQ to continue our fundraising efforts. Date TBA some time in October.

#### Stocksfield Fair - 26 August

We plan to have a stall at the fair to raise the profile of the club. We are looking for donations for a tombola/raffle and volunteers to help set up/man the stall. We are also on the cadge to borrow a gazebo if anyone has one. If you have any other ideas on how we can make the day a success or would like to help out, please contact Dan Mather or Mark Johnson.

#### **Drag Net**

We have purchased a drag net to try and keep the courts clean and debris-free. Please get into the habit of using this before play to help with the longevity of our new courts.

### **And Finally**

Why should you never go to a tennis player for a confidence hoost?

They give back handed compliments!



## **OPEN DAY**

Our May open day had the sun shining and eager members ready to welcome newcomers. We had a few people turn up and join in, which was fabulous. We also had a couple of new members join remotely – unfortunately work took them to Greece, but that didn't prevent them getting in touch to take advantage of our special offer! We hope all of our new members are enjoying our fabulous courts.

Coach Tom and Sam "The Racquet Man" Stokoe were also on hand to assist. Sam's son, Harvey decided to give our "Banksy" a name. Say hello to.... George!



## **TENNIS SESSIONS**

Just a reminder of the sessions we currently run:

Monday: Ladies night, 7pm-9pm Contact Jill Lloyd

Wednesday: Mixed doubles 7pm-9pm Contact Louise Freeman

Thursday: Men's night 7pm-9pm Contact Mark Johnson

Friday: Social for everyone 6pm-8pm Contact Dan Mather

Saturday: Mixed social 2pm-4pm Contact Louise Freeman

Adult & Junior Coaching sessions Contact Tom Geary

#### **Visitors Fees**

Visitors fees are payable at £5 per visit (up to a maximum of 4 visits). Please send remittance to the club account with an email to <u>i.christer@btinternet.com</u> with visitor's details. The fees will be deducted from the membership fee should the visitor decide to join the club