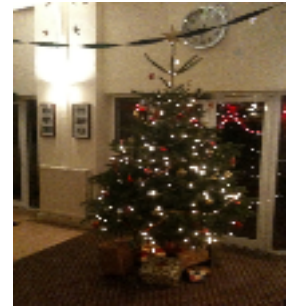


## Newsletter Christmas 2010

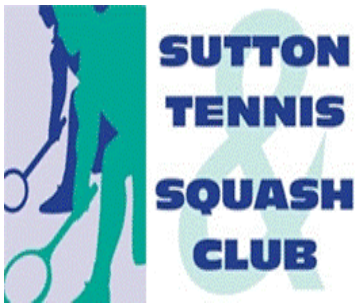
### Thanks Viv



STSC members will be aware that 2010 marks the end of an era as our Club Secretary for the last eleven years, Viv Mason, has decided to step down. Viv's hard work was recognised on Friday evening at a committee hosted event in appreciation for all those members, who have assisted the club over the past twelve months. Club Chairman, Chris Willis paid tribute to Viv's efforts over many years and presented a number of gifts in appreciation of her huge contribution to the club.

Club President, George Carruth also paid tribute to Viv – *when Viv took on the role of Secretary, she did it without previous experience of work within the club. Viv quickly found her feet and set about the tasks with much cheer and quiet efficiency. During the past eleven years the role of Secretary has expanded and Viv helped the club enter into 21<sup>st</sup> century electronic revolution with the introduction of the website and email communication with members. During Viv's tenure as Club Secretary, there have been many changes including resurfacing and floodlighting of the tennis courts and also refurbishment of the clubhouse. We have also seen the progression of the men's and ladies tennis teams with the men joining and being successful in the National Leagues. There has also been a surge in junior development in both tennis and squash activities. Viv has played a significant part in all those improvements. Viv and Tony have been loyal supporters of the Men's National League team at the finals in Bournemouth and we hope this will long continue. Having decided to take a well earned rest from committee duties we look forward to her with Tony in the relaxed surroundings of the clubhouse. I would personally like to thank Viv for all her hardwork, support and inspiration over many years.*





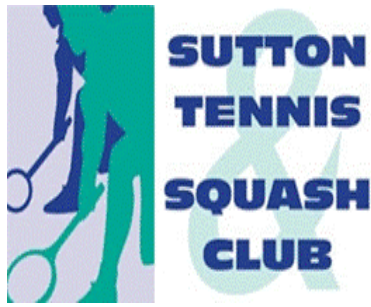
## TENNIS NEWS

### **Overview of tennis activity during summer 2010 by Steve Tiddy, Mens National Club League 1<sup>st</sup> Team Captain.**

*With three mens singles teams at National, Regional & County level, six mens teams competing at various levels in the Surrey leagues, two ladies teams competing in the Surrey leagues plus a host of members competing in individual events, the competitive teams remain vibrant. There are always issues regarding sufficient players to allow all of these teams to compete, but I can assure every captain that our fixture list is huge, when comparing STSC to many other clubs. We remain the only Club in the country to field three mens teams at their respective levels and our links to Reeds School and Sutton Junior Tennis Centre ensure a supply line of highly promising juniors. A huge round of applause should go to our Team Captains. These are Alastair Tiddy, Jason Smythe, Marcel Nadal, Parrish Pryce Williams and the infamous double act of Alan Baulch & Ian Jones. Our ladies teams underwent a transition with Jane Pepperell taking over from Gill Tiddy and Aisling Blagg taking over from Sue Lewis. With Jane now relocated to Cheltenham, Helen McGregor has assumed the captaincy role.*

*There is no doubt that running teams is harder than ever. It is worth reminding ourselves that Sutton is an Aegon designated Club, which allows separate dates for our mens teams in the summer, in order to help us fulfil our fixture list. Our summer season started in April and finished in late September. There were only two Sundays during this period that one of our teams were not playing. There were seven singles matches to fulfil plus a further five doubles matches. In addition, we were involved in the National 'play offs' and a long weekend in Bournemouth for the National finals. Therefore, I empathise with every Captain as I am acutely aware of the pitfalls you face. This challenge is also being faced by other neighbouring clubs and I have had informal chats with senior figures within Westside and Magdalen Park, who are unsure of how to address the massive increase in tennis matches. Players are being asked to play every weekend and the commitment that players have delivered is incredible. At a recent LTA meeting, I was under no illusion that we are evolving into a much larger and more coordinated fixture list to help bring tennis in line with their football and cricket counterparts. This will bring new challenges.*

**Editor's note: as Steve Tiddy is the author of this review, he has modestly neglected to mention his role and contribution during our 2010 summer tennis season. Steve continues to captain the NCL Mens 1<sup>st</sup> team and again took the team to finals weekend in Bournemouth. He also continues to play a pivotal role in tennis development within the club and is somebody that the respective team captains will turn to when finding it difficult to get a team out. Steve's powers of persuasion around this all too often debacle, never cease to amaze and a number of recipients of Steve's calls have reported coming off the phone wondering how to tell their partners that what started as a 100% NO has turned into 'I'm sure the match won't take long!**



### **Club Tournament 2010.**

We had a successful finals day with good quality tennis, but we need more players to enter. Please do not worry about your standard as the tournament is there to give everybody a taste of competitive tennis – it can only improve your game. If you don't have a partner for the doubles events then don't worry – just put **partner wanted**. We won't refer you to a dating agency, just simply find another player of a similar standard for you to enter with.

*In 2011, it is hoped that a Championship Dinner will also take place to compliment the tennis finals encompassing the presentation of the trophies. We hope to gain enough support from all areas of the club membership to make this a viable event.*

Club Champions for 2010 were:

Mens Singles Champion  
Runner up

Peter Morton  
Garth Furmidge

Ladies Singles Champion  
Runner up

Helen MacGregor  
Jane Pepperell

Mens Doubles Champions  
Runners up

Alastair Tiddy & Sam Butler  
Wayne Darroch & Jason Smythe

Ladies Doubles Champions  
Runners up

Kate Pryce-Williams & Jane Peperell  
Gill Tiddy & Helen MacGregor

Mixed Doubles Champions  
Runners up

Garth Furmidge & Helen McGregor  
Gary Davis & Gill Tiddy

Mens Veterans Singles Champion  
Runner up

Steve Lewis  
Sergei Lebedev

Mens Veterans Doubles Champions  
Runners up

Mark Cox & Alan Rutland  
Sergei Lebedev & Ben Walsh

### **Aegon British Tour Event**

Once again STSC hosted an Aegon British Tennis Tour Event with ATP world ranked players competing in both the Mens and Ladies Singles draw. This is the third year of the tournament, which has now attained top British Tour tier one status from the LTA. The Mens Singles draw numbered 83 entrants with top seed and world ranked 762, Mathew Illingworth from Kent losing in the semi-final to Somerset's Jason Marsalek, ranked 1737. In the other half of the Mens draw, Mathew Short from Kent ranked 1136 in the world comfortably made his way through to the final to meet Marsalek. I am sure that those of you who watched this match will agree that we were provided with high quality tennis with Mathew Short, who now trains in Florida, taking the title and a cheque for £750.



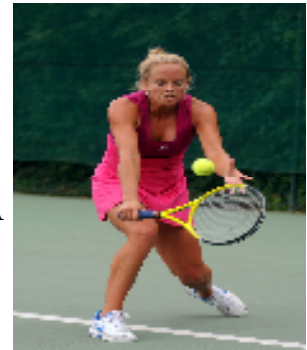
The Ladies draw saw 33 entrants compete for the £750 winner's cheque with top seed and world ranked 416, Emily Webley-Smith from Avon going up against world ranked 1065, Stephanie Cornish in the final. Miss Webley-Smith who had just returned from tournaments in Kazakhstan and Estonia lifted the Ladies Trophy.

In addition to the two showpiece British Tour singles events, the club also ran a number of junior events with entries from boys and girls between the ages of 8 and 14. ***We need more juniors for these events so parents please encourage your children to come along and give it a go in August, 2011.***

Many of the competitors and their supporters praised the atmosphere at the club during the tournament week with entertainment also on display in the clubhouse as well as on court and of course the regular high standard of catering carried out by Gill and Brad. The finalists were particularly impressed with the use of ball boys and girls for their matches along with the normal LTA officials. The boys and girls were club members who after only two practice sessions performed admirably under the expert guidance of Wimbledon ball girl and club member, Emily Darroch. ***If any junior member would like to volunteer for this prestigious role in August 2011, please drop me an e-mail.***

We are lucky to have the services of Cornwall based Tim Webster again in 2011 as Tournament Director, who I am sure will be ably supported during the week by his two glamorous assistants, Jenny and Chloe!.

***Pictured are the two winners in action – for more tournament photographs visit our website gallery ([www.stscsport.co.uk](http://www.stscsport.co.uk))***



### **Hawaiian Punch Tennis Tournament**

A fun day was had by all at this annual event organised once again by Alan Rutland and ably assisted by somebody resembling Richard Baroni!. This was a well supported event also involving members of the Squash Section – *it only takes the offer of a drink to push peoples physical boundaries!*. The final was the subject of live expert analysis from Tim Crowley & co and opened new fronts in the area of sports nutrition, where it was discovered that consumption of large quantities of punch does improve performance - our findings have been passed to the LTA over a drink!. The tropical trophy was won by Mel Baroni and a staggering Steve Lewis – *so what's new!*

### **Box Leagues**

This continues to be very popular for all standards of players, so if you wish to play some competitive singles matches against players of a similar standard then put your name down.



### **Gill Tiddy**

Don't be alarmed, she is still alive and kicking, even if Steve is currently doing all the cooking!. Gill recently sustained a serious fracture to her left wrist during a ladies 1<sup>st</sup> team match away at Esporta. The cast is now off and she is on the mend and in good spirits. I am sure we all wish Gill well and hope to see her at the club soon. Look out for Steve on the next series of *Hells Kitchen!*

***FINALLY ON THE TENNIS FRONT*** and with Christmas upon us, **Cardio Tennis Sessions** run by Head Coach, Gary Davis on a Tuesday night and Thursday morning are a must to work off the excesses of the festive season. All standards of tennis players are welcome as the focus is on cardio exercise, but with a tennis racket in your hand. It really is great fun and we need more members to come along, so when making those New Year resolutions, ***think Cardio!*** You can pay for a course or 'pay as you go'.

## **SQUASH NEWS**

It has often been said that the Squash Section could do with more members, well it seems that Sarah Taylor our former Squash Secretary ably assisted by Luke of course, have taken this to heart. On 10<sup>th</sup> November along popped Lilian Ruth Taylor into the world, weighing in at 7lbs 4ozs. Our congratulations to Luke and Sarah and their dedication to increasing the Squash membership is to be commended!.

Squash is currently not represented on the Management Committee, so if anybody would like to volunteer for this position, you are most welcome.

## **SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEWS**

I am pleased to report that new Social Secretary, Vanessa Stokoe and her team of Renata Gunn, Sally Crowley, Wendy Ferrell, Mel Baroni and Clive Gallyer are on the case.

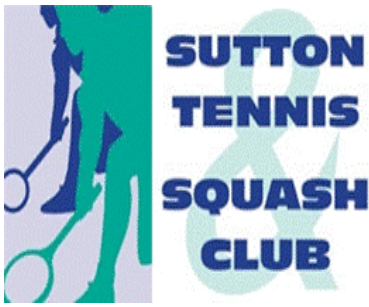
*Vanessa writes:*

*Happy Yuletide!*

*Thanks to all those who attended the Spanish Night. The Flamenco entertainment and food were fantastic and a good night was had by all. As you will see from the photographs taken on the night it was a well attended event, in fact a sell out and all entered into the Spanish spirit (or at least the Spanish vino!).*

*There are many brilliant events planned for the festive season and the Social Committee hope that you will enjoy all of them, some of them or even just the Christmas decorations in the Club House.*

*There has been a huge response to our **New Years Eve Elvis night** and all 150 tickets have sold like hotcakes. There is a reserve list behind the Bar with Brad & Gill, so if you would still like to come then there may still be a chance. Prices are £20 for members and £25 for non-*



members with children tickets costing £8 (5-11yrs) and £15 (12-17yrs).

The ever popular **meat and drink raffle** will take place on **Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> December**, raffle tickets available from Brad & Gill at the bar. Minced pies and mulled wine will also be available. The **Christmas card drop** will go ahead this year as usual.

The traditional **Christmas football (5 a-side)** tournament will also be held on the bottom tennis courts on 18<sup>th</sup> December. Sign-up sheets are on the notice board. For further details contact Head Tennis Coach, Gary Davis.

Look out for notices for the bi-annual **Burns Night** to be held in **late January, 2011**.

We have no major events planned at this point for the New Year, other than the usual round of ever popular quizzes and some jazz evenings, which will be advertised and the Social committee would like to extend the opportunity to all members to let us know what events would interest you?. Anything from bingo to beer tasting..... please put your suggestions into the STSC Committee e-mail.

Don't forget the Club House is available for **private functions** with booking via Brad & Gill.

Thanks for all the support from members for the social events and may this continue throughout 2011.

Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Vanessa & Team.

## **CLUB SPONSORS**

A big thank you must go to our sponsors whose financial support makes a big difference:

**Henry's Bespoke Tailoring Service from Hong Kong:** Henry will be returning to STSC in March, 2011 with all his materials and measuring tape. Both mens and ladies wear are catered for at very competitive prices for made to measure suits, shirts and coats.

**Cheam Felt Roofing:** for your free estimate ring Freephone 0800-917-1748

**The White House Dental Surgery**, 56 Brighton Road/2 Copse Hill, Sutton  
Tel : 02086420121

**Banstead Road Garage**, 70 Banstead Road, Carshalton Beeches  
Tel: 02086422242/02082412939  
All vehicles repairs and MoT's undertaken.



Apologies for the length of this newsletter, but there was a lot to cover since the Spring edition. If any member has any suggestions/ideas around marketing the club and attracting further sponsors please feel free to e-mail me at [steve@stscsport.co.uk](mailto:steve@stscsport.co.uk) or indeed any ideas or even complaints about the club in general then send an e-mail to [www.stscsport.co.uk](http://www.stscsport.co.uk)

*It just remains for all on the Management Committee to wish everybody a Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.*

**Steve Lewis**

**Marketing**