



WHAT'S BEST – West Heaton Advertises Tennis Squash Bowling & Even Social Trivia

Welcome to the tenth edition of the new bi-monthly newsletter which will keep you up-to-date on what has been happening at West Heaton and publicise forthcoming events

October 2014 – Edition 10

BOWLING SEASON ENDS ON A HIGH

The bowling teams have completed their season with results as follows:

- Mens 1st team** – won 12 lost 6, 3rd in Div D Stockport & District League
- Mens 2nd team** – won 1 lost 15, 9th in Div C Cheadle & Gatley League
- Mixed team** – won 7 lost 9, 5th in Div B Stockport Workshops League
- Mens A team** – won 8 lost 10, 7th in Div 2 Alderley Edge & District League
- Mens B team** – won 9 lost 7, 7th in Div 4 Alderley Edge & District League
- Ladies team** – won 4 lost 10, 6th in Div B Cheadle & District League
- Vets team** – won 9 lost 11, 9th in Div 3 Cheadle & Gatley League

LOOKING FOR A CHRISTMAS PRESENT?

West Heaton is working with Monkhouses to provide a new range of sportswear. The designs have been agreed by General Committee and feature a choice of logos – tennis, bowls, squash or just the Club name. There will be a range of garments, either white with a blue & gold logo, or dark blue with a white & gold logo. These will be on display and available for purchase via the website or at the club on the following dates:

- Thursday November 6th 8.30pm- 10pm
- Sunday November 16th 1pm- 4pm
- Sunday November 23rd 12pm- 4pm - Ticket sales & lunch
- Monday November 24th 9pm to 10pm (Bowling AGM, item on the agenda)

ALL CHANGE FOR GENERAL COMMITTEE

General Committee has agreed to have fewer and shorter meetings. Committee members will produce short update reports in advance, so that the meetings can focus on real discussion.

We have Exec meetings in between and keep the communication going by email and phone.

General Committee is the key decision-making body for the Club. It comprises the President, Vice President, Immediate Past President, Hon Sec, Hon Treasurer, Subs Sec, an Officer and rep from each section.

We hope these changes will encourage other people to step forward to be on General Committee. If you want to know any more, ask Chrissie or any of the Committee members.

ANNUAL TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Congratulations are due to the winners below from the annual tennis tournament and also to the Tennis Committee for organising the schedules, the handicaps, the weather and the end of tournament presentation evening.

- Ladies singles** – Lucy Jones
- Mens singles** – Richard Meadowcroft
- Ladies doubles** – Liz Jordan & Nic Humphries
- Mens doubles** – Richard Meadowcroft & Martin Sharman
- Mixed doubles** – Julie Woosey & Tony Grundy

TIME FOR A DRINK?

In an effort to reduce overheads, General Committee has decided to reduce the times that the bar is open in the winter (1st Oct - 31st March). We have looked at the days when the usage is low.

The new opening times are as follows:

- Monday closed, unless there is a winter league tennis match or meeting in the diary.
- Tuesday 8pm to 11.15pm
- Wednesday 8pm to 11.15pm
- Thursday 8pm to 11.15pm
- Friday 8pm to 11.15pm
- Saturday closed (except for functions)
- Sunday 1.30 to 4pm

Please note that if there is nobody in the Club at 10.15pm on a weekday, the bar will close early.

THE HEIGHT OF FASHION



On a Friday towards the end of September over 100 people crammed into the Pavilion to witness West Heaton's own fashion show. The event had been organised by Una Goulding, ably assisted by her daughters Hannah & Ruth, and featured outfits from 2 local outlets : Moo boutique & Empire Menswear. The models were 12 slightly nervous members who bravely strutted their stuff down the catwalk and helped the club raise £845 for this year's charity The Christie.

COMING UP.....

Friday Nov 7th from 8pm – First Friday featuring Rory Ellis and The Whiskey River Boys - £8

Saturday Nov 8th from 6pm – Bonfire night

Saturday Nov 22nd - 7:30pm – West Heaton X-Factor

Sunday Nov 23rd from 1pm – Tickets on sale for Christmas dance & New Years Eve

Friday Dec 5th from 8pm – First Friday

Saturday Dec 6th from 8pm – Third quiz night

Saturday Dec 13th 8pm - Christmas Dance – Live Music from Joel Harding, plus hotpot - £15

Wednesday Dec 17th from 8pm – Christmas draw

Christmas Eve – Carvery lunch from 1pm; carol singing from 7.30

New Year's Eve – 7:30pm Ian Hayward DJ, Luxury Buffet - £25

GETTING TO KNOW YOU.....

Each newsletter will end with a light-hearted article to help you get to know some of the key people at West Heaton.



This month we focus on **Mike Gibson, the President's Consort & Social Committee rep.**

How long have you been a member of West Heaton?

What's Best October 2014

Nearly 35 years. I joined when I moved to the area in 1980 and the chap I bought my house from introduced me to the Club and gave me a key to the back gate. To become a member in those days involved an interview with the President (then Graham Stephens) and a game of tennis with the Tennis Chair.

I regularly played social tennis and squash and soon became a member of the Social Committee, not only helping to organise events, but also performing in sketches. I was honoured to be the Club President in 2000/2001

Tell us a bit about yourself and your family

I was born in Bury and lived at Radcliffe Hall Post Office where my mother was the postmistress. I studied at London and Liverpool universities and worked at Burnley and Trafford Councils before moving to the private sector, helping to establish a planning consultancy in Manchester.

I am married to Chrissie, our President. We have two children, Beccy and Paul, both of whom were keen junior tennis players. Paul was a member of the Club's junior squash team and helped prepare the food in the days when we had an in-house chef. Beccy is Marketing and Events Manager at Chaophraya in Manchester and Paul is a Product Designer in Cambridge.

Are you in employment and, if so, what do you do?

I advise people how to add value to their land and property and help them to realise their development proposals by getting planning permission for them – in other words I'm a Town Planning Consultant. I'm a Director of Connectivity Associates Ltd, a company that Chrissie and I run from our home.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

Chrissie and I enjoy walks – both urban and rural - that involve places of natural and heritage interest. We particularly enjoy exploring cities, at home and abroad, and getting away from the main tourist attractions. I sing bass in the Manchester Community Choir and am particularly looking forward to performing in the Central Library this Christmas. I also enjoy helping the Club. I was pleased to put my professional skills to use in the Club's major development project between 1998 and 2003. I am currently a member of the Social and General Committees and particularly enjoy the table tennis every Tuesday.

What is your favourite TV programme?

I enjoy watching a good drama series, such as 'Happy Valley' and 'Our Zoo', wildlife documentaries which never cease to amaze, and travelogues such as the Michael Portillo train journeys.

What is the best thing about West Heaton?

There are many good things – local, inclusive, friendly, a variety of sporting and social activities and a comfortable bar lounge – but the best would have to be it's where I met Chrissie, now the President.

If you could pick someone from the past or present to have dinner with, who would you pick?

David Attenborough. He has such a wealth of knowledge of the natural world, so much experience of every part of the globe and such a great way of putting the information across that he would never cease to be interesting dinner company.

Tell me one unusual fact about yourself

Many years ago I was skilled in the art of bell-ringing and my efforts at traditional change-ringing in my local parish church could regularly be heard at services and wedding ceremonies.