

Welcome to the twelfth edition of the bi-monthly newsletter which aims to keep you up-to-date on what has been happening at West Heaton Bowling Tennis & Squash Club and publicise forthcoming events.

February 2015 – Edition 12

REFURBISHMENT UPDATE

Over recent days the long-awaited refurbishment of the bar-lounge has started. The refurbishment involves installing new sliding doors to the pavilion, re-upholstering the fixed seating, and the supply of new chairs and a new carpet. The aim is to brighten up the area and create more space. The work should be finished in early March so why not come down to have a look, and take advantage of the reduced prices at the bar? Details of an opening celebration will be announced shortly so watch out for this.

WEST HEATON LIVE!



Saturday Jan 31st saw the pavilion packed as a series of brave West Heaton members entertained the audience with a variety of acts. Solo singers, a guitarist, a dance routine, a comedy sketch and a children's choir all added up to a fantastic night's entertainment which raised £683 for the club's charity The Christie. Huge thanks to the Social Committee for organising the event, to Matt Jackson for compering and to the Reactions who provided the backing music.

TAI CHI

Wednesday evenings now offer an opportunity to try out Tai Chi at West Heaton. Tai Chi is an oriental discipline which features exercises to regulate all systems within the body, improving digestion, respiration and circulation.

The low-impact nature of the routines improves the condition of bones, joints, muscles and tendons as well as encouraging body balance, flexibility and co-ordination.

The Chen Style Tai Chi is suitable for people of all ages and levels of physical fitness. The movements can be performed slowly and gently for health and relaxation, or faster and more powerfully for fitness and self-defence applications.

There is a small fee for each session but there is no need to book – just turn up at 7.30 and give it a go.

QUESTIONS QUESTIONS QUESTIONS



Over the winter months a quiz night is held in the pavilion every month from October to March. The attendance has been steadily climbing to around 60 to 70 would-be egg-heads. For most it is all about the taking part rather than the winning but the picture above shows the January winners of the Gibson trophy

and cash prize. The final quiz of the season will be on Saturday March 14th so if you've never been why not come along and find out what you've been missing!

SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT US

There are a number of companies who have kindly sponsored adverts in the club handbook over the last year and we would like to encourage you to respond positively! So dig out your handbook and have a look at the adverts for:

- The Moorside Clinic
- Booth & Howarth
- A+ Services
- Thwaites brewery
- ASH Joinery & Developments
- Travel by Design
- New Savoir Faire
- Bramley Carpets
- Moffatt & Co

The new handbook will shortly be published; if you are interested in placing an advert please contact Alan Woosey to discuss our competitive rates.

COMING UP.....

Friday Mar 6th at 8pm – First Friday, featuring Henry Priestman and Loved-up Les. Tickets £6.

Saturday Mar 14th at 8pm – Final quiz night (quizmasters = Andy Taylor & Dave Sanderson)

Saturday Mar 21st at 8pm – President's Last Do – Soul & Motown night with hot supper. Tickets @ £15 from behind the bar or Social Committee.

Wednesday Mar 25th at 8pm – Club AGM

Friday Apr 3rd at 8pm – First Friday

Sunday Apr 5th at 2pm – Easter egg hunt

Wednesday Apr 22nd at 8pm – Wimbledon ballot

Saturday Apr 25th – Opening Day. Tournaments from 1pm and 80s/90s disco from 8pm

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 **Martin Sharman, Immediate Past President.**



How long have you been a member of West Heaton?

Nearly 30 years – you'd think my tennis should be beginning to improve by now!

Tell us a bit about yourself and your family

I was born in Stockton Heath, went to school in Manchester (MGS) and university in Liverpool where I studied English & French. I met Alison my wife at West Heaton and we will celebrate our silver wedding anniversary later this year. We have 2 daughters, Rachel & Emily, of whom we are extremely proud. Rachel is studying English & Creative Writing at Salford university, while Emily is currently on a gap year in Zambia & South Africa before starting at Leeds Beckett university studying Event Management. Both have worked at West Heaton behind the bar and in the kitchen during various functions.

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

I joined Ferranti Computer Systems from university as a technical author and have been there ever since. The company has been acquired or merged several times so that currently we are part of the Thales group, a global IT defence & electronics business. I work primarily at the office on Bird Hall lane in Cheadle but travel down to the London office once a week. My role as Resource Manager involves ensuring we have the right number of staff with the right skills in the right place – a tricky juggling act to achieve!

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

My main hobby has to be gardening, although it tends to be the triumph of optimism over reality as the crops or flowers never quite turn out as I would like them to. But the beauty of gardening is you can start all over again the next year! The family would probably say that watching any televised sport occupies a fair amount of time, although cricket, football & golf are the most watched. And I do get to play an odd game of tennis (in many ways) every so often.

What is your favourite TV programme?

As mentioned above, any sports programme is of interest but I also like QI and Pointless.

What is the best thing about West Heaton?

There are many things I like about the club and the 140th summer ball in my presidential year brought many of them together both in the preparations and the event itself. The way lots of people all mucked in together to set up a fantastic event showed West Heaton at its best. But the best thing about West Heaton would have to be that it is where I met my wife Alison.

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

As a good Evertonian I would really enjoy having dinner with David Moyes and looking back at the stability and success he brought to Everton. And then it would be fascinating to hear his views on what really went on during his time at Old Trafford, and the influence of player power on his demise.

Tell me one unusual fact about yourself

Having studied Russian at A level I can still just about hold a conversation in Russian and, bizarrely, still remember several obscure words. So if you ever need to know the Russian for a duck-billed platypus I'm your man!