

Welcome to the thirteenth edition of the quarterly newsletter which aims to keep you up-to-date on what has been happening in recent weeks and publicise forthcoming events at West Heaton Bowling Tennis & Squash Club.

### Summer 2015 – Edition 13

#### BEST YEAR EVER FOR SQUASH ?



Congratulations are due on arguably the most successful season ever for squash at West Heaton! Both the 1st and 2nd teams have been promoted after winning Division 4 South East and Division 5 South East respectively. The 1st team won the Div 4 play off with a fantastic 4-1 win against Cheetham Hill 3 on 2nd May at Fairways Lodge. It's fantastic to add new silverwear to the trophy cabinets in the newly refurbished bar lounge at the club.

The photo above shows members of the first team, Rob Lamb, Tom Shaw, Eddie Tasker (captain), Craig Alexander & Simon Whittle.

#### SUMMER BALL LUXURY RAFFLE

The Summer Ball will be held on Saturday June 13<sup>th</sup> and even if you are not attending, you can still help to ensure the success of the event by returning the raffle ticket counterfoils together with the money before Saturday night. There are still some tickets for sale and you do not need to be there on Saturday night to win a prize, so feel free to increase your chance of winning by buying additional tickets over the bar.

#### IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR

You should have received your annual subscriptions renewal letter in recent weeks. If not, don't worry – but do get in touch! The good news is that for the second year running there is no increase in the subscriptions. In addition social membership has been halved to just £24 per year. It does make Raymond Prior's life easier  
What's Best Summer 2015

if you can pay promptly or set up a standing order by the end of May.

#### ALL CHANGE AT THE TOP



Richard Meadowcroft took over from Chrissie Gibson as the Club President at the 142<sup>nd</sup> AGM. It will be a hard act to follow Chrissie's fantastic year which saw membership continue to increase, the bar refurbishment completed and over £5,000 raised for the club charity, the Christie. Richard set the challenge to all the members of trying to encourage a friend or neighbour to join the club, particularly focusing on the social membership where fees have been halved to just £24, ie less than 50p per week! Andrew Taylor was elected as the new vice-President - see the Getting to Know You section at the end of this newsletter. The past, present and future Presidents are shown in the photo above together with their partners.

#### ANYONE FOR GOLF?

Please note that the West Heaton annual Golf Competition (Ladies and Gents) will be held at Heaton Moor Golf Club on Friday 31st July and not 26th June as planned and as shown in the Club Handbook. This is an opportunity for any West Heaton member to take part in a handicapped golf competition followed by a dinner and prize-giving. You do not need to be a member of a golf club or have an official handicap. Details of how to enter will be communicated in due course.

## WHO CARES IF IT RAINS?



The new bowling canopy has now been erected and was immediately put to good use as a storm gave it a good “soak-test”. Thanks are due to Eddie Tasker, Alan Woosey and Pete Goulding for their handiwork.

## COMING UP.....

**Saturday June 13th from 7.30pm** – Summer Ball

**Saturday June 27<sup>th</sup>** – President’s Day – Tournaments from 1.30pm followed by tea at approx. 4pm. Note there is no evening event.

**Sunday June 28th at 1pm** – Family treasure hunt & BBQ

**Saturday July 11th** – Family DIY Wine & Dine from 7pm

**Sunday July 12th** – Strawberries & Pimms - Wimbledon Mens Final from 1pm

Note there are no First Friday events until October as it has a summer recess.

## 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 **Andrew Taylor, Vice President.**



### How long have you been a member of West Heaton?

It will be exactly 30 years when I take over as club president; hopefully that is long enough for me to have got to know how the club works!

### Tell us a bit about yourself and your family

I met my wife Jo at West Heaton almost 25 years ago and we were married soon afterwards. We have two delightful daughters, Sarah & Helen, who have attended universities at opposite ends of the country, namely Newcastle & Cardiff.

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

I trained as a civil engineer and specialized in projects designed to keep people from getting flooded. I will soon have the luxury of taking early semi-retirement and hope to improve the golf handicap!

### What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

I enjoy watching all manner of sport, although rugby union has always been my first choice. And for a number of years I have put something back into rugby by refereeing matches in the local Manchester league on Saturday afternoons. I also enjoy following steam trains round the country!

### What is your favourite TV programme?

Since I like sport and quizzes, Question of Sport has to be right up there, but I also thoroughly enjoyed Michael Portillo’s Great British Railway journeys..

### What is the best thing about West Heaton?

Our new bar, obviously!

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

I would choose the 19<sup>th</sup> century engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel, or from the present times Jonathan Davies, the Welsh rugby player.

### Tell me one unusual fact about yourself

Before moving into the Heaton I had over 20 different addresses in under 20 years!