THE ROYAL TENNIS COURT Hampton Court Palace





SUMMER BREEZE

KATY DOY RETAINS THE KING'S GOBLET SUMMER DOUBLES Read more on page 4

The Summer Newsletter 2016 Number 115

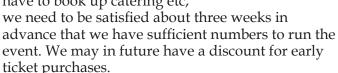
Chairman's Chat

You will be pleased to know that we sent our Patron, Her Majesty the Queen, a card for her 90th birthday on 21 April. The card was a picture of the outside of the Royal Tennis Court, the original having been painted by Claire Weatherill. My spies inform me that the card arrived at Buckingham Palace on time!

The Queen, as Patron of the Royal Tennis Court, sent us an invitation to attend the Patron's Lunch in the Mall on 12 June. Invitations were sent out to all members of RTC, and in the end eight RTC members and relatives, including Linda and myself, attended the event. It rained in the morning, but fortunately when the Royal Family walked along the Mall and greeted the partygoers the sun came out. When asked by Prince Harry where we had come from, we replied "The Royal Tennis Court at Hampton Court Palace". It was a fun day and I had a chance to chat to people representing curling, archery and croquet. It's just a shame that more RTC members did not attend.

While we are on the subject of attendance, I was naturally disappointed that we had to cancel this year's barbecue owing to lack of ticket sales. To have gone ahead would have resulted in a serious

financial loss (see page 4). A number of people said to me that they were going to buy tickets, but were leaving it to the last minute. Knowing how unsettled the weather has been this summer I can understand. However as we have to book up catering etc,



While we are primarily a real tennis club and not a social club, the social element has always formed an essential part of the club's wellbeing. On Saturday 1 October we will be holding our annual dinner and prizegiving, which will be on the court itself this year. I hope as many of you as possible will sign up as soon as tickets go on sale.

Then, on Wednesday 21 December, comes our annual carol service in the Chapel Royal.

Julian Sheraton-Davis

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM was held in May, with approximately 25 members in attendance. As well as the regular Chairman's Report, Treasurer's presentation of the accounts, and proposal for changes to subscriptions, Julian Sheraton-Davis was re-elected as Chairman and Michael Day joined the board. In other business, concerns were raised about the change in the Seal Salver to make it a two yearly competition, which the tennis committee agreed to revisit, and concerns that the De Laszlo Bowl had become too competitive. Also, Owen Saunders gave a review of the Professionals Development Fund, including explaining the proposed voluntary levy. The meeting was followed by the finals of the Barker Camm Cup and Harris Watson Trophy (see opposite).

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Doubles exhibition

Stef King and Ben Taylor-Matthews join Nick Wood, Chris Chapman and Josh Smith at 7.30pm on **Monday** 18 July for an evening of action (see opposite).

French Open

■ No sooner has the men's world title changed hands (see page 5) than the race resumes for a seat at the table to decide the 2018 champion. The French Open in Paris from 18-25 September offers significant points in the ranking race.

Annual Dinner & Prizegiving

◆ This year the club plans to bring the dinner to the court itself on Saturday 1 October. Tickets will be on sale soon.

COMING UP

RTC

18 July: Doubles exhibition (see left and p3)9 Sept: RTC v Wanderers (social match)1 Oct: Annual Dinner & Prizegiving

ELSEWHERE

9-11 July: IRTPA Doubles Championships (Prested Hall)

18-21 Aug: Pell Cup (doubles, Newport)

19-21 Aug: Junior Open Singles Championships (Queen's)

18-25 Sept: French Open (men's, Paris) **12-21 Nov:** British Open (men's, Queen's)

2016/17 schedules at RTC and elsewhere are still being finalised. Useful websites to find fixtures eventually are:

www.tennisandrackets.com

www.lrta.org.uk

www.irtpa.com

Special Kay rises and shines

Rising star Ed Kay claimed both club titles in little over an hour on AGM day

hose members who attented the club's AGM were treated to some top-class tennis afterwards, not least from Ed Kay, who is busy with PhD studies (and a lot of hard practice on court) in Cambridge but has made welcome returns to RTC for the Barker Camm Cup and Harris Watson Trophy.

Alas, injury prevented Nick Hatchett from defending the Barker Camm title he won for the first time last September. While Ed was an overwhelming favourite, Nick's absence opened the field up for other contenders, specifically Phil Dunn and James Sohl, teammates in the National League and Pol Roger Trophy and often doubles partners in the latter. James doesn't get to play very often these days and Phil took full advantage of any rust in the first set of their semi-final, taking it 6-0. Although James made much more of a fight of the second set, Phil was able to close it out 6-4 to reach the final.

The other semi-final pitted Ed against David Watson. You'd never have guessed there were a massive 13 handicap points between the two in a nervy first set, as the younger man produced a sequence of unexpected errors and David battled hard for every point. However, it takes a lot of effort to finish points off against one of the quickest movers on court you'll ever see, and it eventually took its toll on David. Ed pulled away to a 6-3 6-1 win that didn't really reflect how much he had struggled for form.

Phil always had a mountain to climb



Doubles finalists Peter Wright, Ed Kay, David Watson and James Watson

in the final, and although he made a rip-roaring start, unfortunately he injured his back early in the first set, handing the title to Ed. Thus Ed became, remarkably, the sixth different RTC club singles champion in the space of seven years.

Ed's work was far from done, however. He then teamed up with Peter Wright to defend their Harris Watson Trophy against the pair they had beaten in last year's final, David and James Watson. Both sides started off with intent, typified by a fierce volley from James to winning gallery past a ducking Peter. The fact that both Ed and Peter were floored when avoiding balls showed the pace at which the game was being played. Ed showed what a

weapon his volleying has become, especially when hitting winners from the service end. The first set stayed tight, with never more than a game in it until, at 5-4 up, Ed and Peter took the tenth game and the set.

In the second set, David elected to continue to receive Ed's railroad, with some success. However, James started to make errors off Peter's high side-wall serve. Ed grew in strength as the match went on, making some tremendous leaping volleys. Ed and Peter pulled away to 5-1 up and took their second match point to retain the trophy.

The game was played in a wonderful spirit, with all players recognising good shots, and was an advert for how to play high-class tennis in the right way.

• NEWS IN BRIEF • NEWS IN BRIEF •

Seal Salver

The tennis and tournaments committee is looking at changes to the format of the Seal Salver in 2016/17 in order to freshen up the competition. Keep an eye out for developments in coming months.

Wellington update

The new court at Wellington College is very nearly ready for play! While the court will open sooner, the official Opening Weekend will take place on 23–25 September, involving various competitive tennis and social events.



Tournoi des Trois Tripots

This three-court handicap doubles tournament in south-west France will take place on 29 September—4 October. Entries will close on 5 September. The three courts selected for 2016 are La

Bastide, Urrugne, and Bayonne.

Slightly further north...

Congratulations to RTC member Anne Balcerkiewicz (near left), who won the plate singles at the Paris Ladies' Handicap in May.

DOUBLES EXHIBITION

Don't miss the opportunity to welcome back RTC legends **Stef King** and **Ben Taylor-Matthews** as they return to Hampton Court for one evening only, joining the current professionals for an exhibition doubles match on Monday 18 July. The festivities start at 7.30pm and tickets are £10. Contact the pro shop for tickets or more details.

What Katy did – again

A different partner but the same outcome for Katy Doy, two-time King's Goblet winner

e all woke up to a dramatically different United Kingdom on the morning of Friday 24 June, with the realisation dawning for many that the nation would never be the same again. Just as we were preparing for the end of one relationship, however, the King's Goblet arrived to foster new partnerships and rekindle old ones through the challenging medium of handicap doubles tennis.

In keeping with the theme, last year's husband-and-wife winners, Giles and Katy Doy, decided to split up - thankfully only in tennis terms! Giles and his new partner did not make it through the group stage, but he was there on the final Sunday to support Katy, who had made it through her group with partner Sarah Lambie.

The Friday and Saturday group stages produced no end of tight matches, which were timed affairs ending when the 30-minute buzzer sounded. Several matches were decided according to whoever was ahead on points, with the games tally level. (Your correspondent was among the 'victims' of the format, losing his first two matches 5-5 and 7-7.)

Sunday's quarter-final saw some astonishing scorelines, not least the 23-1 victory of Scott and Sascha Levy (68, with Scott playing wrong-handed) over Robert Frost and his Leamington partner John Lillie (28). The father/ daughter combination's reward was a semi-final against Katy and Sarah (86), who had sneaked past Andy Anderson and Terry Marsh (58) by a narrow 6-5 margin. The Levys thus had to adjust to giving a handicap allowance rather than receiving a huge one as they had in the previous round, and although they made a fine fist of it for much of the match, a quick run of games went Katy and Sarah's way late on and a very tight encounter suddenly became a more comfortable 12-7 win to put Katy and Sarah into the final.

The other half of the draw also saw one close quarter-final and one thrashing. Nick Carew Hunt and Charlie Kearl (51) just scraped past Oliver Buckley and Dara Walsh (41) in a 5-5 thriller, while Hans Prottey and Paul Teuten (60) had no trouble dispatching Rob Butler and Mike Shattock (50) 10-2. Hans and Paul took









Nick Wood entertains the crowd at the presentation while new champions Katy Doy and Sarah Lambie wait patiently to get their hands on their new goblets and magnums of Pol Roger

control of the semi-final early on, with Paul providing a steady hand and Hans adding aggression from his forehand. Despite Nick and Charlie's best efforts, they couldn't close the gap enough, losing out 9-5.

Hans and Paul had to give rec 30-owe 30 to the ladies in the final, which means there's little room for errors. However, when these pairs met at the group stage the men had coped well with the handicap and won 7-4. Could they do it again?

The early stages were inconclusive, with both pairs having spells on top.

However, from 3-3 Katy and Sarah started to direct shots from the hazard end towards the dedans, making it very tricky for Hans and Paul to play error-free tennis. The match was still in the balance at 7-5, but then Katy and Sarah reeled off another run of quick games to take the match 15-8.

A successful title defence for Katy, then – now all she has to do is pick a partner for next year.

Thanks to all four pros, who calculated and marked perplexing handicap matches and provided culinary delights each day.

Club barbecue: a damp squib?

Infortunately the club barbecue had to be cancelled this year after a lack of tickets sold made the event unviable. Approximately 40 members and guests had signed up with two weeks to go, compared to a much higher number at the same time two years ago, when we last held the event.

The organisers plan the event based on 80-100 people attending, and if the actual number ends up being lower than this the event makes a financial loss.

Unfortunately we can't leave it until any later in the day to decide whether to go ahead, as too many commitments have to be made.

Feedback from members suggested that the end of June was a particularly busy time for members this year, and the continued bad weather wasn't putting people in a BBQ frame of mind. The plan is still to hold the barbecue in future years, so please remember to sign up early next year!

Owen Saunders

A brave new world

Camden Riviere took the game to new heights in ending Rob Fahey's 22-year reign

amden Riviere is the new champion of the world, having emphatically defeated Rob Fahey by seven sets to two at the National Tennis Club in Newport, Rhode Island.

Although the result was hardly a surprise after the American had dominated the tournament circuit for the previous four years, it still took a while for the realisation to sink in that Fahey was no longer the champ. The way he retained his title against Riviere in Melbourne in 2014 will rank high among the Australian's many remarkable achievements. This time, however, the challenger was on familiar ground and appeared physically and mentally stronger than before.

Day 1

In 2014 Fahey had been very slow out of the blocks indeed, and he knew he couldn't afford the same sluggish start again. As the two players settled in and probed for weaknesses in their opponent, the opening set seesawed its way to 3-3 before Riviere pulled ahead and took first blood, 6-4.

The challenger led all the way through the second set, pulling 3-0 ahead and holding on to take it 6-3. A two-set deficit doesn't necessarily mean panic stations in a 13-set match, but there's no question that there were worrying signs for Fahey – particularly the fact that he couldn't get his famed railroad going at all. The Fahey railroad had been a big factor in his 2014 success, and without that weapon he

was always on the back foot: Riviere was able to take his pick between sliding floor shots tightly into Fahey's forehand corner or forcing down the line beyond the reach of the champion's backhand. It's not as if he had to win points with one shot: the American's speed, defensive volleying and almost unbelievable retrieving skills mean a long rally suits him down to the ground.

The third set saw the challenger move up a

level with five straight games to take it 6-2. A 4-0 lead in sets, which many would consider irreversible, was in sight for Riviere. Fahey, however, doesn't lose the fourth set of world championship matches. He knuckled down to lead 4-2, was pulled back to 4-4 and then took the next two games to make the overnight score 1-3. A lifeline for the champ.

Day 2

Fahey needed to raise his game to match his challenger – but if anything it was Riviere who came out playing better than on day one. Set five went his way 6-2, and when he took the sixth set by the same scoreline the writing looked to be on the wall for Fahey.





Surely even he couldn't win six out of the next seven sets?

Never say never when Fahey is on court. From 3-3 in the seventh he hit a purple patch to take the next three games. The eighth and final set of the day was crucial – and at 3-3 and 40-0 Fahey looked to be moving ahead. But an almost unbroken run of points swept Riviere to the set and a 6-2 overall lead. He was one set away from his dream.

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There was to be no fairytale comeback, as Riviere controlled the set and took it 6-2 to become the first American world champion since 1976. The end of a remarkable era – and without question a worthy new champion.

Spring Night Pennant: Gregory's grille

To mark the men's world championship battle, each of the teams in the Spring Night Pennant was named after a recent world champion. It was perhaps a fitting tribute to the deposed champion, then, that Team Fahey (Simon Edmond, Simon Boorne, John Leach) narrowly topped the table after the round-robin stage, leaving Team Angus (Simon Fox, Dick Cowling, Michael Day) and Team Ronaldson (David Blizzard, Justin Gregory, John Dagnall) to fight for the other final spot. A 3-3 split in sets meant it came down to games won, with Team Ronaldson advancing by a 28-25 margin.

In the final, Team Fahey moved ahead 3-1 after four sets and the finishing line was in sight. Blizzard and Dagnall took the fifth rubber 6-3, meaning another 6-3 win in the final set would leave the match tied in sets and games —

but with Team Fahey's injured John Leach missing out (replaced by Paul Wright), a tie would be enough for Team Ronaldson by virtue of an extra bonus point.

Still, Simon B and Paul W moved 3-2 up to stand just one game short of closing the match out. The lead evaporated to 3-5, meaning the winner of the ninth game would take the title, regardless of who won the set. At 40 all, John D served on to the back penthouse, where the ball bypassed Paul and Simon B hit it firmly towards the backhand corner. Justin moved across and struck a perfect volley past Simon's desparing lunge and into the grille. Justin had been inspired throughout that last set, so it was a fitting way to clinch the title.

Despite the late hour, all the players tucked into a fine lamb tagine, courtesy of head chef Nick Wood.

National League

It's proving a busy summer of finals for RTC teams

et again the Royal Tennis Court has been a mainstay of the National League, with five of its seven teams reaching finals. As this edition went to press we had one title, with a chance of a second to come...

Division 1

No RTC team here, but a word of praise for our prodigal new club champion Ed Kay, who destroyed Darren Long of Manchester (handicap 0.6) in the final at Cambridge, before sealing the title for Cambridge by winning the doubles.

Division 2

With both semi-finals forfeited by the away teams, the RTC squad of Nick Hatchett, David Watson and Tom Freeman qualified for a final at Seacourt after finishing in second place. Nick in particular had a strong season until picking up an injury in the spring, and while David and Tom were competitive in the final down at Seacourt, the home pair continued their domination of the division to take it 3-0.

Division 3

This division has been a stronghold for RTC in recent years, and again they dominated the league to earn a home final berth against Moreton Morrell.

James Sohl got RTC off to the perfect start with a 6-0 6-2 demolition of Tom Lewis in the No 3 rubber. Next up were the No 1s, with Phil Dunn hoping home advantage would be the deciding factor as it had in his previous two meetings with Tom Bomford. Phil built up a 5-0 lead only to see Tom pull back to 4-5, but Phil then closed out the set. The next two sets saw Tom retrieving the ball much better and using the rackets boast to good effect, beinging Moreton back on level terms.

It all rested, then, on skipper Josh



Division 3 top dogs James Sohl, Simon Barker, Josh Smith and Phil Dunn

Smith in his first National League season (having been a non-playing captain last year through injury). Josh had been undefeated thus far, so his teammates were quietly confident. Against Ben Bomford (another rackets player), Josh used his tennis nous and speed around the court to deal with everything Ben had, and after sharing the first few games it was all one way traffic, 6-2 6-0. RTC lift the title for a third year in a row.

Division 4

A late-season rally earned RTC third place and a semi-final at Oxford, but injury and the strength of the home team saw them through to the final at Hatfield (won by the hosts).

Division 5

Simon Fox's team claimed second place in the table and then eliminated Canford in a long, tense encounter to earn a trip to Cambridge for the final.

Division 7

Names such as Doble, Wright and Shorey have struck fear through this division in recent years, but this season was a long, fruitless struggle.



The Division 8 combatants after the final at Moreton Morrell

Division 8

Peter Mather's team enjoyed a strong season, with the skipper leading from the front and the improving Simon Boorne and Scott Levy offering support. After a fine semi-final win at Middlesex, they fell at the last hurdle in the final at Moreton Morrell, despite another win for Peter.

Division 9

Isabel Candy and Saverio Campione both enjoyed successful seasons as Paul Newton's defending champions claimed second spot in an 11-team division. A semi win over Canford set up a final at Leamington, but the home team were too strong on the night.

NATIONAL LEAGUE TABLES

LEAGUE	TAE	3LE	S
DIVISION 2			
Seacourt RTC1	8 	8 .	57 37
Queen's	8	3	34
Oxford Leamington	8 8	4	33
Cambridge	8	1	18
Final: Seacourt beat R	TC 3-0		
DIVISION 3			
RTC2 Moreton Morrell	8 	6	50
Prested Hall	8	4	32
MCC Paris	8 8	3	27
Final: RTC beat Moreto		ell 2-1	
DIVISION 4			
Hatfield Oxford	6 6	5	32.
	6	2	29 23 14
Petworth Semi-final: Oxford bea	6	1	14
Final: Hatfield beat Oxi		U	
DIVISION 5			
Cambridge	8	7	51
RTC4 Canford	8 8	5	43 33
Hatfield	8	<u>4</u>	22
Holyport Semi-final: RTC beat C	8 anford :	2 2-1	21
Final: Cambridge v RT		,	
DIVISION 7			
Leamington Oxford	8 	8	<u>51</u> 41
Hatfield		5 5	41
Cambridge	<u>8</u> 8 8	3	28 16
Petworth RTC5	8	1	16 16
Final: Leamington bea	t Oxford	2-1	
DIVISION 8			
Moreton Morrell Middlesex U	8 8	7 5	47 44
RTC6	8	5	42
Oxford A Leamington	<u>8</u>	<u>4</u>	34.
Petworth	8	3	29
Oxford B Holyport	8 8	2	27 16
Final: Moreton Morrell		_	10
DIVISION 9			
Leamington A	8	7	45
RTC7 Canford	<mark>8</mark>	5	42 41
Middlesex U	8	4	38
Leamington B Moreton Morrell	8	4	35 32
Holyport	8	4	31

OTHER DIVISION FINALS

Final: Leamington beat RTC 3-0

Prested Hall

Newmarket

Oxford

Hatfield

Div 1: Cambridge beat Manchester 2-1
Div 6: Queen's v Paris

8

8

28

28

Aiming for a better life

The Chairman's Challenge saw a fundraising-inspired assault on winning openings

The Chairman's Challenge in April saw a group of members and guests take part in an enjoyable skills challenge in order to raise funds for two worthy causes: the British Uruguayan Society (BUS) and the RTC Junior Development Fund.

An impressive total of £1,600 was raised by the players, non-players and auction prizes. The total raised was split evenly between the two causes.

Twelve players (pictured) took to the court to compete and ulitmately the event was won by Paul Newton, Giles Doy and Richard Lewis. The on-court players were cheered and supported by other RTC members, BUS members and the Uruguayan ambassador and first secretary.

The BUS is a charity which raises funds for El Centro Karen, a nursery in the Uruguayan city of Salto that the late RTC member Graham Aston supported for many years (it is named in honour of his wife, who died in 1995). The money raised will go towards maintenance and improvements to the school buildings and equipment.

The RTC Junior Development Fund aims to encourage and improve playing



opportunities for youngsters in real tennis. The junior section at RTC is growing steadily, with more and more youngsters discovering the game and taking part in coaching sessions run by the professional team and IP Guillonnet.

In addition to the players involved, thanks must also go to Martin Bronstein, supported by his guitarist, for providing fantastic background music during the evening, and to Lesley Ronaldson and Nick Wood, who were on court all evening managing and scoring the the skills event.



PRO NEWS IN BRIEF • PRO NEWS IN BRIEF •

US Pro Singles

Shortly after the world title changed hands at Newport, both combatants were back in action at the US Pro Singles, which Camden Riviere has won every single year since 2010. Our own Chris Chapman, seeded fifth, moved into the quarter-finals with ease before coming up against world No 3 Steve Virgona. The two Aussies embarked on a battle royal, but despite one of the best matches of his life Chris just missed out on another semi-final berth, losing in four long sets.

Rob Fahey just held off an in-form Ben Matthews in a fiveset semi-final, while an injured Virgona had to concede against Riviere in the other half. The final saw the current and former world champion split two 6-5 sets before Riviere moved up a gear and cruised through the next two sets to retain his title.



World Doubles Championship 2017

The T&RA has awarded the 2017 World Championship Doubles to Prested Hall, Essex. This event will take place from 18-23 April 2017. The news is a big boost for the hotel and leisure centre (which also hopes to offer padel tennis in the near future) and for head professional Ricardo Smith, who is an excellent doubles player and rather a specialist on the Prested court. The reigning champions are the US pair of Camden Riviere and Tim Chisholm.

IRTPA Professional Doubles

Prested Hall has an immediate chance to get a taste for hosting doubles tournaments this summer – by the time you read this Chris Chapman should be well into his stride at the reincarnated IRTPA Professional Doubles Championship at

the Essex club. Chris and partner Rob Fahey are top seeds, with Ben Taylor-Matthews and home pro Ricardo Smith expected to be their strongest opposition.

French Open

The battle for world championship qualifying points for RTC's Chris Chapman and his rivals resumes on the lively floor of the Paris court on 18 September.

A puzzling game

Devotees of the Times's Listener crossword had to learn a thing or two about real tennis in May...

agle-eyed Murray Glover spotted a familiar theme in Saturday 14 May's Listener crossword (in the back of the Review section of the *Times*). The key term that eventually revealed itself across the middle of the grid was JEU DE PAUME, whose letters had to be converted in the grid to REAL TENNIS.

The words TAMBOUR, PENTHOUSE and DEDANS also appeared in the grid, and one had to draw lines in order to show the three penthouses. Letters deleted, to make dots for lines to be drawn, made up HAMPTON COURT.

Other thematic terms and references appeared in the clues, including CHASE, HAZARD, NEWPORT (location of the 2016 World Championship), DOOR, FALKLAND PALACE and COURT.

The crossword compiler was

HA	² L	³ A	K	⁴ H	⁵ S	⁶ F	0	R	⁸ S	E	⁹ T
10 T	Α	G	Т	Α	1	L	S	E	Т	N	Α
Α	12 C	Mp	0	М	М	E	N	D	Α	To	М
13 P	E	R	I	L	14 P	E	15 A	C	R	Α	В
16 E	R	Α	17 S	Е	18 R	19 C	R	A	N	20 K	0
N	²¹ T	Υ	P	Т	0	E	D	22 P	23 R	Α	24 U
25 T	Α	26 Y	R	Α	S	27 S	Е	28 A	Α	I	R
Н	²⁹ J	Е	U	30 D	Е	P	A	U	М	Е	U
31	U	Т	G	Α	S	32 A	N	G	S	33 T	S
34 U	N	I	35 T	36 T	37 A	R	38 P	Е	I	Α	39 S
40 S	Е	41 _C	R	E	Т	42 S	Α	R	43 T	R	Е
44 E	С	U	Α	D	0	⁴⁵ R	⁴⁶ R	E	Α	Т	Α
47C	0	N _C	С	0	N	U	Т	0	I	L	OU
48 _T	U	В	E	49 R	E	G	0	R	G	E	S
R _T	J	Α	D	Е	D	51 A	N	S	Α	Т	Е

someone who went by the pseudonym of "Mountain Ledges". A real tennis player, by any chance?

Real tennis on the box

ith the lawn tennis season bringing the great and the good to London for Queen's and Wimbledon, real tennis enjoyed some welcome publicity as a couple of experts in other fields took to the courts.

First, during the Aegon Championships, John Inverdale persuaded the three-times squash world champion Nick Matthew to try out our sport at Queen's. Although Matthew managed to figure out how to deliver a bobble serve, he didn't quite seem to pick up the game as

naturally as Roger Federer had when visiting Hampton Court back in 2005.

Then, during Wimbledon fortnight, BBC1's 'Just Call Me Martina' featured the lawn tennis legend trying the game out at Cambridge – and it soon brought Martina down to earth too (see right).



RTC Top Ten

Singles handicaps July 2016

	<i>y</i>	
1	Ed Kay	2.5
2	Peter Wright	4.3
3	Nick Hatchett	7.0
4	Charlie Crossley	9.5
5	David Harms	13.2
6	Phil Dunn	14.9
7	David Watson	16.0
8	James Sohl	16.1
9	Tom Freeman	16.6
10	James Watson	16.9

The Royal Tennis Court Newsletter

is published four times a year and the editor would love any contributions from members. Please get in touch if you have any ideas for the autumn issue, either via the professionals or by email at the address below.

Editor: Simon Edmond newsletter@ royaltenniscourt.com

Lathom Browne

The competition to find the club handicap singles champion has reached the semi-final stage.

In the quarter-final between the winners of grades A and B, Paul Wright (33) prevailed over Geoffrey Russell. He will now meet Owen Saunders (37), who needed two bites of the cherry to beat Max O'Hagan as Max edged a volley up into his eye while leading 6-4 in their first encounter. Ten games into the rematch the score was identical – but Owen then turned the tables to win a 9-8 thriller.

The other semi-final sees Joel Humphrey (56) having to give up a sizeable handicap to Giles Doy (75). Joel had a hugely impressive 9-2 win over Saverio Campione in the quarter-finals, while Giles edged out Alice O'Hagan 9-7.

RESULTS

Barker Camm Cup

Semi-finals: Ed Kay beat David Watson 6-3 6-1; Phil Dunn beat James Sohl 6-0 6-4. Final: Kay beat Dunn rtd.

Harris Watson Trophy

Final: Ed Kay & Peter Wright beat David & James Watson 6-4 6-1.

Lathom Browne Cup

Quarter-finals: Paul Wright beat Geoffrey Russell 9-5; Owen Saunders beat Max O'Hagan 9-8; Joel Humphrey beat Saverio Campione 9-2; Giles Doy beat Alice O'Hagan 9-7.

King's Goblet Summer Doubles

Quarter-finals: Katy Doy & Sarah Lambie beat Andy Anderson & Terry Marsh 6-5; Sascha & Scott Levy beat Robert Frost & John Lillie 23-1; Hans Prottey & Paul Teuten beat Robert Butler & Mike Shattock 10-2; Nick Carew Hunt & Charlie Kearl beat Oliver Buckley & Dara Walsh 5-5. Semi-finals: Doy & Lambie beat Levy & Levy 12-7; Prottey & Teuten beat Carew Hunt & Kearl 9-5. Final: Doy & Lambie beat Prottey & Teuten 15-8.

Spring Night Pennant

Team Ronaldson (David Blizzard, Justin Gregory, John Dagnall) beat Team Fahey (Simon Edmond, Simon Boorne, Paul Wright [sub]) 3-3: 6-2 1-6 4-6 3-6 6-3 6-3.

Men's World Ch'shp (Newport)

Camden Riviere beat Rob Fahey 7-2: 6-4 6-3 6-2 4-6 6-2 6-3 3-6 6-2 6-2.

US Pro Singles (Newport)

Semi-finals: Camden Riviere beat Steve Virgona 6-6 6-0 rtd; Rob Fahey beat Ben Taylor-Matthews 6-1 3-6 5-6 6-3 6-2. Final: Riviere beat Fahey 6-5 5-6 6-2 6-1.