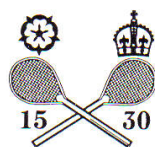


THE ROYAL TENNIS COURT

Hampton Court Palace



NOT IN MY BACK YARD!

NICK WOOD DEFEATS ROB FAHEY AS RTC TEAM
TAKES NATIONAL LEAGUE BY STORM

REPORT: PAGE 4

The Winter Newsletter 2008
Number eighty-six

chairman's chat

While all is gloom and doom for the economy, at least we have our great game to take our minds off the problems, albeit temporarily. Just think of the ecstasy of a brilliant victory off a disadvantageous handicap. It does wonders for the spirit.

I am sorry to report that Simon Barker, our club champion, has decided to come off the board due to the pressures of work combined with his commitments to his young family. I fully understand his position, which he made clear to me on his appointment, and would like to thank him for a major contribution over the past 18 months. Simon is an outstanding player with a wealth of knowledge about our game and I very much hope that in a few years' time he will feel able to resume his membership of the board. I have no doubt he will be invited to do so.

I am delighted to let you know that the board have decided to institute a new competition for "junior club champion". It will be played off level handicap and will be open to all under-25s and will, I hope, demonstrate our commitment to the younger members of the club. This is very much Nick Wood's initiative and he has other plans to encourage juniors to take up our game, wholeheartedly supported by the board.

We would like to make a real occasion of AGM day – 17 May 2009 – so please put this in your New Year's diary. We will aim to play the final of the Lathom Browne Cup on this day, as well as the final of the Barker Camm Cup.

Sadly, marginally more members have passed on in the past 12 months than we have recruited new members. A fast track to full membership has been

introduced by the membership committee, so please be generous in letting your friends and acquaintances in on the joys of our game.

A gentle reminder that we still don't have the email addresses of all our playing members. We need these in order to disseminate news quickly and for members to take advantage of spare court opportunities through the weekly tennis diary. Please let the professionals know if you have an email address of which they are not aware or, for that matter, if your email address has changed.

Finally on a light-hearted note: towards the end of the dinner party the host innocently and out of the blue asked his guests if they could remember who said: "I have a dream". His guests immediately responded: "Martin Luther King". Drawing them further into the game, he then asked them who said: "My kingdom for a horse". Again they responded as one: "Richard III".

His final question proved trickier. He asked, who said: "Defeat is OK". There were a number of ingenious responses, but no one got it right. The answer of course was "Nelson Mandela's chiropodist".

Happy Christmas.



Peter Ohlson

CLUB NEWS ● CLUB NEWS ● CLUB NEWS ● CLUB NEWS

Court lights

No longer can members blame the lighting conditions for those missed volleys – the tennis court lights have all been serviced and the defective lamps replaced – thanks to the bright sparks at Chelsea Electrical.

Court repairs

Tennis court repairs and the repainting of lines are proposed to be undertaken towards the end of the year.

Cellars

The cellars under the club rooms have been cleaned and cleared



out of debris, while racking has been erected for the storing of marquees etc. (Thanks to David Seelig.)

Roof retiling

Historic Royal Palaces have now postponed the retiling of the tennis court roof and major

external repairs and decoration until September 2009 – subject to available funding.

Pro's shop

The pro's shop has been decorated and a new display board fitted showing a new range of quality tennis clothing. (More details in pro's news, page 7.)

Men's showers

The previously leaky men's changing room showers have been serviced by Bristan (the manufacturer) and now appear to be working properly.

Julian Sheraton-Davis



The RJC

Annual

Carol Service

in the Chapel Royal

Monday 15 December 2008 at 7.30pm

*Followed by mulled wine, mince pies
and Christmas pudding in the club*

Tickets: £15

Available from David Seelig

24 Forge Drive, Claygate, Esher, Surrey KT10 0HR

There will be a car park charge for the event – but it will be £2 instead of the normal £3.50. On entering the car park, please show the man on duty a ticket and pay him £2. When you leave, the exit barrier will be up.

Fahey humbled as RTC top

Nick Wood leads the RTC charge in the National League as Cambridge's world champion

It was a great night of tennis when the RTC played their first Premier League home game of the season against Cambridge in October. Even though Nick Wood and Ben Matthews were playing near the top of their form, Cambridge had the nigh-unbeatable eight-time world champion Rob Fahey at No 1, so we knew from the start that it was going to be a tough fight.

Ben opened proceedings in front of a full house against Mark Hobbs. Early on it looked as though Ben had the upper hand, but then some strange errors gave Hobbs the fourth game to love and it was tied at 2-2. Hobbs won the next game, and then in the sixth game he set chases of first gallery and three yards. From the hazard end Ben showed he meant business, beating both chases and winning the game with stylish force to tie the set 3-3.

He won the seventh game with another force to stress the advantage of home court. But Hobbs would not lie down and the eighth game was a real tussle, with Ben finally getting to serve with two weak chases: last gallery and second gallery. Though he saved the first chase with a fine serve, two errors in the following rallies put Hobbs at game point. He whacked the next serve into the net to bring up the first deuce but won the next point with a force. Ben saved it with beautiful low cross-court backhand to force a second deuce. Ben hit the grille to take advantage but Hobbs countered with another force, bringing about the third deuce.

Ben again had the advantage with another great low cross but was thwarted when Hobbs hit a winner to force the fourth deuce. Ben remained focused, went ahead with a drive to the

grille and then finally took the game with an unreturnable volley.

At 5-3 it finally appeared that Ben was on his way, but Hobbs took the next game as Ben twice drove returns into the net. At 5-4 it appeared there would be a lot of nail biting, but Ben took control of the tenth game from the start and went on to win to take the first set 6-4.

Hobbs took the first game of the second set after three deuces to show the vocal RTC supporters that he was far from finished, and then exchanged games up to 3-3. This, we thought, was going to be a long night. Ben took the next two games in short order to lead 5-3 but Hobbs put up a huge fight in trying to save the set with four deuces. Ben had match ball after three deuces and served a double fault to force a fourth deuce but atoned for that with a drive to the winning gallery to reach match ball again, and Hobbs kindly put the ball into the net to end the set 6-3 and put RTC one up.

The temperature rose as Nick Wood and Rob Fahey knocked up. Nick is playing exceptionally well: in the French Open two weeks earlier he had had match ball against Camden Riviere in the semi-finals only to miss the dedans by an inch. Riviere recovered to win the match but then lost quickly in three sets to Fahey in the final.

Nick started off positively here, moving faster than you could think possible. His reactions were sharp enough to return the nastiest of bounces



and spins. He won the first game after two deuces but Fahey took the second. The third game showed Nick going for his shots with confidence and he won the first point with three forces before inducing an error from Fahey. His forcing off the main wall had Fahey in trouble and Nick was soon 2-1 up.

The fourth game got down to some really wonderful tennis, with Nick setting chases on the first two rallies – nearly a yard worse and second gallery. Fahey won the first chase but Nick found the grille to save the second and then hit the grille again to go 30-15 up. Fahey found the net with his return of service and Nick led 40-15. Fahey won the next two points to force the first deuce and Nick, caught napping by a cannon-like drive, was forced to hit the ball through his legs – straight into the grille. Prolonged laughter and applause. Right there Fahey must have realised that it wasn't his day.

There was another deuce but Nick hit the winning gallery again with ease to take the game and lead 3-1.

This report is already too long and as, much as I would like to continue the blow-by-blow account (I have all my notes!), I can report that Nick's shots were all working while Fahey, who can normally hit the grille with his eyes shut, could find neither the grille nor the dedans, and frustration started to show. Nick's backhand cuts from the hazard end were wicked in their speed and accuracy and this certainly helped him on his way to a 6-3 first-set victory.

The second set was completely different. It appeared as though Fahey decided to move up a gear and from the



An in-form Nick Wood (above) beat Rob Fahey (far left), while Ben Matthews (left) won his singles before he and Nick added a doubles win over Fahey and Mark Hobbs

Photographs by Murray Glover

league

leaves empty-handed

first rally he dominated. He hit a few grilles and found the dedans, but many of his forces were an inch off, rocketing off the bandeau to give up a bad chase. He still won the set 6-1, though, to get the nail-biting going again.

However, this was to be Nick's night, and the roars of encouragement played their part (he said later) in helping him to perform so well. He took the third set by the scruff of the neck, grabbing the lead in the first game with another wonderful force and kept up the pressure, winning that game, coming back from 15-40 down to win the second game as well, rushing through the third to win to 15 and taking the next to lead 4-0.

The supporters got noisier and happier and, it appeared, Fahey got redder in the face with suggestions that he was tiring. He won the fifth game after setting a fine chase of two yards, but although he fought hard in the sixth game to get to game ball, Nick forced the deuce, set two less than sparkling chases (last gallery and better than second gallery) but still gained the advantage and eventually the game.

Fahey again picked up his game to go 40-0 up, and although Nick took the next two points he found the net to give Fahey the game.

It was now 5-2 – was this the Fahey comeback? The tension was high. Nick took the first point. Fahey hit two grilles in a row to lead 15-30. (No more nails to bite). Nick set a chase of two yards and then worse than second gallery. All change. Fahey failed to beat the first chase: 30-30. Nick won the next point: 40-30, match ball. We all tried not to breathe. After a rapid exchange of shots, Nick got his racket on the ball, which spiralled high in the air and came down into the grille. A spectacular finish to a historic victory. Nick had won it 6-2 and had beaten the world champion. Five minutes of prolonged applause, and bloody well deserved, too.

It was no surprise that Nick and Ben, their confidence sky-high, would win the doubles, which they did with an 8-3 scoreline. A great evening at the club and when word gets around, tickets for future home games should go within minutes. **Martin Bronstein**

Wood's Words

IN ALL my years (and it has been quite a few now), I always hear the same old line: "Why is my handicap not improving?"

There is no simple solution but the answer is easy – we all reach our own natural level of play with the skills that we have been blessed with and with the amount of effort that we put in to improving those skills. To improve our handicap we must improve our play, and to improve our play we must improve our skills.

Whereas most players try to hit the ball harder or put more cut on the ball, the professionals learn more control and accuracy, and only through this will your game get better. The areas to focus on are: movement around the court, shot selection and racket control. Move well around the court and

Head professional Nick Wood on how to improve your handicap...

the shot selection becomes more obvious; choose the correct shot and the more racket control you will have – and with that, you will find more accuracy.

A huge percentage of shots are about getting the ball back and placing it so that our opponents can't attack – ie over the net with two bounces before the back wall. Only once you have an "easy ball" do you try a winning shot.

It may sound like a sales pitch, but the only way to really improve is to have regular lessons. Within these lessons, you can work on fundamental aspects of technique until you are able to retrieve shots effectively from most situations. Every member of the Royal Tennis Court could improve their tennis simply by sorting out racket preparation (and that tip is free!)

RTC website relaunch

Some of you will have already noticed the new look of the club's website, which has not only had an aesthetically pleasing redesign (see right) but has also expanded massively.

Now surfers can not only find out details about the game in general and the history and facilities of the RTC, but members can also check out the latest results from club competitions, National League matches and professional tournaments. There's even a very useful calendar of upcoming events.

This is all down to the magnificent work of Martin Daly, who deserves great praise for his efforts. If you haven't discovered the site yet, go to www.royaltenniscourt.com now.

National League latest results

Since that memorable win over Cambridge (see left), Nick and Ben have followed up with wins over Seacourt and Cambridge's second team...

5 November: RTC bt Seacourt 3-0

Nick Wood bt Daniel Jones 6-2 6-1
Ben Matthews bt Luke Danby 4-6 6-3 6-4
Wood & Matthews bt Jones & Danby 8-1

13 November: Cambridge 2 lost to RTC 1-2

David Woodman lost to Nick Wood 6-3
4-6 1-6

The screenshot shows the homepage of The Royal Tennis Court website. It features a navigation bar with links: HOME, THE GAME, THE CLUB, CALENDAR & FIXTURES, CONTACT & LINKS, NEWS. The main heading is 'The Royal Tennis Court' with the subtitle 'Hampton Court Palace'. Below this is a portrait of a historical figure and a 'Home' section with a welcome message and a brief history of the court.

The screenshot shows a section of the website titled 'de Laszlo Bowl'. It lists professional players and their records for various years. The list includes names like T. Carew Hunt/Jo Mason, Nicola Cavill/Sara Parson, and others, along with their respective years and scores.

Jamie Douglas bt Ben Matthews 6-5 2-6
6-3

Woodman & Douglas lost to Wood & Matthews 5-8

PREMIER LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	Pts
Royal Tennis Court	4	4	26
Cambridge 1	5	3	22
Cambridge 2	2	1	9
Seacourt	3	1	6
Prested Hall	2	1	5
Petworth House	4	0	2

The Newport 'I Can' tour

... As in 'I can... at least I think I can... yours!' An RTC trio go west and test their livers

RTC mustered three competitors – Oliver Buckley, Virginia Fisher and Peter Flood – for the Newport Handicap Doubles, which took place in late June. Billets for all three of us were kindly provided by Skip Elliott, a member of the Newport club who lives a short walk from the court, which was a great bonus.

We all caught the same flight into Boston and, since we arrived together, thought it might be economical to hire a car. This might have been true had Oliver Buckley not forgotten which side of the car his steering wheel was on and crashed the car into a kerb in Boston at enough speed to dig a large hole in one of the tyres.

We arrived at the Elliots' in time for a cook-out and cocktail party in honour of our arrival. Many luminaries of the Newport club attended – only about half of whose names had been forgotten by OB since the previous year's tournament. The Brits busied themselves making brain-numbing cocktails for our hosts in a heroic attempt to handicap the home pairs. In place of the usual vodka, we applied liberal quantities of 95% pure grain alcohol. The difficulty of our task, however, was typified by a formidable elderly Newport lady who took a large swig of one of these, shook her head sadly and asked me: "Is there actually ANY alcohol in these things?"

Although handicapped, the tournament is divided into three groups – A for under-20s, B for 20–40s and C for the rest. Virginia and Peter played as a pair in the C grade, while Oliver was teamed up by the club with David Enstone – a fellow Brit with a squash background now living near Newport. The RTC team and Skip Elliott arranged to have breakfast with the Enstones before the tournament began at 9am.

Both pairs put in respectable performances and won most of the matches in their groups that day.

Evening took us to the Castle Hill restaurant to thank Skip for his excellent hospitality. This did not, however, lead to the early shower and bed to which we are all accustomed. Several bottles of excellent wine were produced chez Elliott and we were

taken to a previously unknown part of the house where a games room had been set up. Oliver and Virginia variously retired some time after 2.30am since neither of us could see straight and we were in danger of damaging the green baize of the pool table. What a pair of lightweights!

There is a strong tradition of heroic feats of drinking by RTC touring sides and it should be a matter of record that the only RTC member on this occasion to uphold this tradition was Peter Flood. Skip managed to put himself to bed around 4.30am, but Peter, inspired and unable to content himself with the pitiful performances of his team-mates, continued to roam the house glass in hand until about 5.30, when loneliness clearly got the better of him. What to do? Wake somebody up, of course – me, as it happened – so we spent a pleasant hour or so discussing the feet of clay of various public figures and watching the sun rise before eventually retiring.

Fortunately, my first match on Friday was quite late in the morning. Sadly for Peter, his wasn't. Over most details of this match it is probably fairest to draw a discreet veil. A flavour can perhaps be gleaned from the statistic that apart from service, Peter managed to get two balls over the net. Quite how he managed even this will have to remain one of those secrets that heroes of many wars prefer to keep to themselves.

The afternoon game was better as Peter now only had to aim at one ball at a time, but sadly he and Virginia did not qualify for finals day. OB and David Enstone were extremely lucky as non-qualifiers, to be awarded a wild-card



Doubles action at the Newport club



Oliver Buckley, Virginia Fisher and Peter Flood practising hard

entry to the semi-finals on Sunday as best of the also-rans, but lost this fairly convincingly to the eventual winners.

Friday night was filled by a cocktail party with extensive canapés at the hotel next to the club. Saturday was our day off to explore Newport. Skip gave us a comprehensive tour of the island, with views of the major mansions the town is famous for. In the evening, we had the tournament gala dinner at the New York Yacht Club. A superb buffet dinner followed drinks and ended with professional comedians, a band, and the traditional harmonica duel between members of the Newport club.

Finals on Sunday were followed by an invitation from John Murphy – incoming President of the Newport club – to join him for an afternoon's sailing on a classic 12-metre yacht. These vary in size, none of which bears any relation to 12 metres – they are mostly about 75 feet long. They were the stalwarts of the America's Cup until superseded by the J-class. Around 14 of us went, with a professional crew of four, and spent a very pleasant afternoon sailing around Newport Bay in a decent wind.

Tournament entry this year was down from the previous year, which is a shame. It is an excellent tournament at a great court and the players and organisers are a terrific bunch. I hope that this plug will encourage more RTC players to go in future years. Plus it has not escaped me that statistically, the more people we have entering, the more chance we have of bringing home the silverware...

Oliver Buckley

News from the pros

By Nick Wood

National League

On behalf of Ben and myself I would like to thank you for all the support we have received during our National League campaign so far.

We kicked off the season with a fantastic win over the Cambridge A team of Rob Fahey and Mark Hobbs, a crushing 7-0 to the RTC team. We were then on the road, firstly to my old back yard of Petworth, where we again managed a seven-point haul, and then on to Cambridge B for another five points to add to our booty.

On 28 November we set off to Prested Hall for the final match for this part of the season. We will post the dates for the next part of the season soon.

Please come along to watch our home matches – they have proven to be great evenings and the support given has assisted in bringing the best out of both Ben and me. Thank you.

Australian Open

Ben and I are hoping to travel to the Australian Open in Melbourne at the end of January. For Ben this is a great opportunity to gain experience, and for me it's a chance to gain points to qualify for the next World Championship in 2010.

RTC shop – fresh stock

We now have a new fresh range of RTC clothing in stock, including polo shirts, shorts, track tops and pants (various styles and colours), dry fit T-shirts, ¾ ladies' shorts, long-sleeved tennis shirts and shoes ideal for real tennis. Manufacturers Grays are now manufacturing a pink, lightweight racket for ladies – I will have one in stock soon for you to check out.

Browning Cup

Ben, Stef and I will all be competing at Holyport in this very enjoyable handicap event for professionals from 8–12 December. If you want to see if I can give owe 30, rec ½ 30 and still win, then come along to support – I suspect I'm going to need it!

Near miss at British Open

As I write this, I am midway through my British Open campaign at Queens.

Sadly I lost to eventual winner Rob Fahey in an epic five-set semi-final (he was there for the taking but I lost my way during the final set, d'oh!). My partner Camden Riviere and I are through to the final of the doubles, so there is still hope for some silverware to bring back to RTC.

Ben had a crushing first-round win but came up against an in-form Steve Virgona in the second round, while Stef had a string of great matches to nearly get through the qualifiers. Stef's game has really improved and we hope to keep helping him to continue his progress.

And finally...

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Stef, Ben and Les for being such wonderful people to work with. They have proven to be excellent colleagues. All the pros would like to wish the members of RTC a merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

Nick Wood

CLUB NEWS ● CLUB NEWS

RTC club nights

A new addition to the RTC club calendar this winter is a couple of club nights: Saturday 20 December and Saturday 24 January.

The planned format is as follows...

- Mainly doubles, with the organiser to balance the pairings as far as possible with some handicap adjustment
- 30 minutes per session, including knock-up
- When players come off court they give their names to the organiser, so as to be included for the next available game
- Players of all handicaps will be welcome
- Friends of members who wish

to try out the game will also be welcome (with a supplementary cost of £2 for club racket hire)

The evenings will run between 8pm and 11pm. The cost to members who want to play will be just £6 for the whole session, including lights.

The aim of the evenings is for members to come along and have a hit in a relaxed atmosphere, with no pressure on their handicaps! The evenings are ideal for new members who want to get to know the club, how to score, play doubles etc, as well as a chance for members to socialise with each other.

If the experiment turns out to be a success, then the club may well arrange regular monthly club nights through 2009.

Editor's note

While most of us have been busy dumping "easy" forehands into the net, losing night pennant matches and making early exits from the Lathom Browne (or is that just me?), it has been a hectic time on court for our professionals.

While Nick Wood and Ben Matthews have taken control of the National League, including a spectacular win over a Cambridge team led by Rob Fahey (see page 4), there was another outstanding effort by an RTC member: Karen Hird confirmed her arrival at the very highest level of the game at the French Open in Bordeaux, dispatching Claire Vigrass in her semi-final before giving the all-conquering Charlotte Cornwallis the fright of her life by winning the first set of the final.

Is the era of Fahey and Cornwallis coming to an end, hastened by RTC's finest? We shall see.

Thanks again to all newsletter contributors for their help, and merry Christmas to you all. **Simon Edmond**

RTC make most of B&B stay as rain falls

Home side prevails in several tight matches to notch up a convivial win over a visiting Bristol and Bath

On a relentless November day, bilious sky turning to drizzle then drenching the chill in Tennis Court Lane, RTC took battle with Bristol and Bath in a traditional-style club match for the handicapped. With nothing at stake except such pride as our worthy team have left, we gallantly struggled for six hours protected from the stormy ravages around the Palace.

John Yarnall raced to an early lead until B&B's Peter Probyn tenaciously overhauled him to win 8-7 on the penultimate point of a cliff-hanger. Victoria Carew Hunt used her highly accurate side-wall service to get a convincing win over Angela Reichardt. The Carew Hunt genes, bolstered by the adrenalin of Victoria's win, jolted Nick to an equally convincing win over Nick Ponsford, and Peter Flood was not to be outdone, racing to an 8-1 victory over Trish Morris.

In the doubles John Yarnall fulfilled his earlier promise with some fine attack, overcoming the opposition and the rooted indolence of his partner 8-4. Carew Hunt Flood (no hyphen or even comma) then faced tough opposition from a surprisingly fleet-of-foot Peter Probyn (new supercharged shoes) and Angela Reichardt but prevailed 8-4.

Victoria and David Glover worked harmoniously to defeat a strong pairing of Nick Ponsford and Trish Morris.

The final doubles match produced a contest matched only by the first singles, as David Glover, with only minimal interference from his partner, volleyed RTC from a parlous condition to contention in the final game. At that point injudicious interventions from your reporter left RTC stranded 8-7, leaving Anthony Sandow and Peter Jones with a happier drive home to Bristol.

It was altogether so much more enjoyable than the gloom of Tennis Court Lane, Peter Flood catering with flair, a hint of red and white liquids passing willing lips, and to cap it all RTC came home the winners by six matches to two. Hopefully we will repeat the event in future years but a winning marker has been laid down (and thanks to Ben Matthews, too, for such a long stint in the marker's box).

John Clark

Note: Our ace match reporter is unwell (or probably is – he's gone West). We had thought of asking him to report in absentia of the action as usual but decided on this one occasion that the report came from somebody actually at the match.

RTC Top Ten

Leading handicaps
November 2008

1. Dave Harms	6.2
2. Simon Barker	11.7
3. David Watson	12.7
4. James Sohl	14.8
5. Buster Mottram	17.2
6. Michael Bray	18.8
7. John Ward	19.9
8. James Watson	20.0
9. Mark McMurrugh	20.9
10. Guy Rawstorne	21.2

The Royal Tennis Court Newsletter

*is published four times
a year and welcomes all
contributions from members.
Please get in touch by
7 February if you have any
ideas for the spring issue*

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RESULTS

British Open

(Queens, 16-25 November)

First round: Rod McNaughton bt Matthew Ronaldson 2-6 6-4 3-6 6-3 6-2; Jamie Douglas bt Dan Jones 4-6 6-5 3-6 6-5 6-2; Andrew Lyons bt Tom Durack 6-1 6-2 6-0; Tom Weaver bt Peter Wright 6-5 6-2 6-1; David Harms bt Kevin Sheldon 6-4 6-4 6-5; Mark Hobbs bt Paul Knox 5-6 6-1 6-2 6-5; Ben Matthews bt Will Burns 6-0 6-0 6-1

Second round: Rob Fahey bt McNaughton 6-3 6-1 6-0; David Woodman bt Ricardo Smith 6-2 6-0 2-6 6-2; Nick Wood bt Douglas 6-2 6-2 5-6 6-5; Lyons bt Alistair McKeown 6-1 6-0 6-0; Camden Riviere bt Weaver 6-2 6-1 6-1; Mike Gooding bt Harms 5-6 6-4 6-3 6-4; Bryn Sayers bt Hobbs 6-2 6-5 6-5; Steve Virgona bt Matthews 6-0 6-0 6-1

Quarter-finals: Fahey bt Woodman 6-2 6-0 6-3; Wood bt Lyons 6-1 6-1 6-1; Riviere bt Gooding 6-3 6-2 6-2; Virgona bt Sayers 6-0 6-3 6-3

Semi-finals: Fahey bt Wood 6-1 5-6 3-6 6-3 6-3; Riviere bt Virgona 2-6 3-6 6-3 6-4 6-0

Final: Fahey bt Riviere 6-3 6-2 3-6 6-2

European Open

(MCC, 5-9 October)

Semi-finals: Rob Fahey bt Bryn Sayers 6-3 6-4 6-4; Camden Riviere bt Nick Wood 6-1 6-3 6-3

Final: Riviere bt Fahey 6-3 6-3 6-2

French Open

(Bordeaux, 15-21 September)

Semi-finals: Rob Fahey bt Bryn Sayers 6-2 6-1 6-4; Camden Riviere bt Nick Wood 5-6 4-6 6-5 6-2 6-3

Final: Fahey bt Riviere 6-3 6-0 6-2

Seal Salver

Quarter-finals: Brian Rich bt Graham Prain 9-2; Sue Haswell bt Tom Kendall 9-3; Peter Ohlson bt Mike Seymour 9-8; Bernard Weatherill bt Richard East 9-6

Semi-finals: Rich bt Haswell 9-7; Ohlson v Weatherill yet to play

De Laszlo Bowl

Semi-finals: Mark Elliot & John Sparkes bt David Jeffcoate & John Clarke 8-2; Tom Carew Hunt & Jo Mason bt Virginia Fisher & John Halliday 8-6

Final: Carew Hunt & Mason bt Elliot & Sparkes 8-7

Barker Camm Cup – F Grade

Semi-finals: James Pain bt Mike Shattock 6-1 6-5; Oliver Lewis bt Stephen Cronk 6-4 6-1