

# THE ROYAL TENNIS COURT

## Hampton Court Palace



Photograph © Frederika Adam – see also page 2

## KAREN THE CONQUEROR

KAREN HIRD WINS FRENCH OPEN

*See page 2*

The Winter Newsletter 2009

*Number ninety*

# chairman's chat

The season is with us again and already lustre has been reflected on us by the victory of Karen Hird in the French Open. I know another club lays claim to Karen's loyalties but it shall remain nameless. Well done, Karen.

There is much going on in the real tennis world on which I will now update you. Prompted by the refusal of three clubs to pay affiliation fees to the T&RA on behalf of playing members who are not full members of the T&RA, the governing body has initiated two major reviews: the Hegarty review of the funding of the T&RA, and the Hopton review of the future of the game.

The Hegarty review is now well under way, although the conclusions will probably not be available until well into 2010. Our submission has focused on the imbalance between members' subscriptions to the T&RA, which have been forecast to be £99,000, and the excessive level of salaries and costs of the T&RA executive, which amount to £100,000. We consider that this is unsustainable. The management of each club is undertaken solely by unremunerated volunteers and we have recommended that this should be the model for the T&RA.

We have concluded that a combination of a significant reduction in the administrative overhead and the recruitment of volunteers would obviate the need for affiliate fees, and furthermore significant additional resources could be applied to the training and development of the professionals, support of juniors and general promotion of the game. We have, however, indicated our willingness to recommend to our "affiliates" the payment of a modest fee (£5 per annum) towards the operation and support of the online handicap system (realtennisonline.com), which we believe is of value to all our players.

The Hopton five-year strategic review is designed to look forward at the future of the game and the steps that need to be taken to ensure a vibrant future for real

tennis. It concentrates on the role that should be played by the T&RA rather than by individual clubs. As I write we are in the process of developing our response, which has to be submitted before the end of November, but I would still be delighted after this point to hear from members who would like to put forward ideas. I particularly hope that our lady members will let me have their perspective. Copies of the questionnaire to which we have been asked to respond will be available at RTC.

I am sorry to report that our honorary treasurer Robert Falkner has indicated his wish to stand down following the next AGM in May 2010. Robert has undertaken his role with consummate professionalism and dedication since 2005 and, among many other things, negotiated a favourable settlement with HMRC in 2007, established the basis on which we now remunerate the professional team and developed a comprehensive accounting system, which now includes all the minutiae of PAYE. We all owe him a major debt of gratitude.

However, I am delighted to let you know that David HMain, who is a chartered accountant and currently finance director of an aviation leasing business, has agreed to succeed Robert in May. David was co-opted to the board in July and will be proposed as a director at the AGM. Robert and David will work closely together in the run-up to the AGM to ensure a smooth handover.

I will look forward to seeing many of you at the Carol Service on 15 December and meanwhile wish you all a very happy festive season.

**Peter Ohlson**



## Karen stars in vintage Bordeaux event

October saw the first grand-slam event of the new season, with most of the world's top players descending on Bordeaux for the French Open. Among the questions on everyone's lips were: would Rob Fahey be able to reassert his authority over Camden Riviere, after having to retire while leading their recent European Open final? Could Ben Matthews build on his fine win in that tournament over his mentor? Could Nick Wood bounce back from that defeat? And would Karen Hird or Claire Vigrass take advantage of the absence of the injured Charlotte Cornwallis?

In short, the answers were: Fahey still reigns supreme; Ben pushed Camden hard in the quarter-finals but could not quite break him; Nick sadly fell victim to back spasms; and Karen won a thrilling

three-setter to claim her first grand slam title. The first of many, no doubt: hearty congratulations to Karen.

For those of us not able to be there, it was a pleasure to follow the action via online text commentary by some of the pros on paume.org – an innovation that I hope becomes common practice at the bigger events.

This picture of Rob Fahey and the one of Karen Hird on the front cover were taken in Bordeaux by Frederika Adam, who has spent the past few years photographing real tennis courts around the world (you can see much of her work at [www.frederikaadam.blogspot.com](http://www.frederikaadam.blogspot.com)). With a fine sense of timing, an exhibition



of her photographs, *First Gallery*, will be opening from 6–8pm at Middlesex University Real Tennis Club in Hendon on **Wednesday 2 December** – on the very evening that Nick and Ben will be taking on Rob Fahey and Rod McNaughtan in the National League. If you want to cheer on the RTC pros and enjoy Frederika's

work, email [murtc@btconnect.com](mailto:murtc@btconnect.com) or [frederikaadam@hotmail.com](mailto:frederikaadam@hotmail.com), or ring Ged Eden on 020 8422 6768 or Frederika Adam on 0771 046 3755. Dinner tickets are £20. If you can't make it that evening, the exhibition runs until February. *MURTC, 2 Campus Way, Hendon, London NW4 4JF*



*The RTC  
Annual  
Carol Service*

*in the Chapel Royal*

*Tuesday 15 December 2009 at 7.30pm*

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

Tickets: £18

Available from David Seelig

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

*Cheques, made payable to the Royal Tennis Court,  
should be sent to David with the application  
(please enclose stamped addressed envelope)*

# Hatchett wins junior title

*The rise in low-handicap youngsters led the club to add level singles and doubles contests to run alongside the Wollaston Cup – and it was a great success, culminating in a pulsating singles final*

**I**t was a busy day for Nick Hatchett when the junior championships were played back in September. He made the final of the singles and doubles championship as well as the Wollaston Cup. However, the final of the singles championship was such a monumental battle against Mike Bray that he had very little fuel in his tank to do himself justice in the other two.

Hatchett had beaten Oliver Watson 6-0, 6-0 in the quarters and knocked out Karen Hird 6-3, 6-2 in the semis to face a slightly fresher Bray, who only had to play a semi-final in which he beat James Watson 6-2, 6-4.

Hatchett was quicker to start to lead 3-1 but Bray settled down to level at 4-4 and then cruise easily through the next two games to win the first set 6-4.

The second set was a complete surprise as Hatchett raced through to a 6-0 win with Bray seemingly unable to offer any opposition. This set things up beautifully for a fiercely fought third set. They alternated games all the way to 5-4, with Bray leading. He took a 30-0 lead but Hatchett played superbly to win the game: 5-5. It was all down to the final game and the drama was rising all the time. It was Hatchett who just had the edge to win that final game for victory after 100 gripping minutes.

Nick Wood was watching and I am happy to quote his informed observations:

“Mike found his stride and rhythm early, retrieving well and playing a tidy game, good length and not much on the penthouse. Although Nick went down in the first set, he was gaining in confidence, striking the ball more and more positively as the match progressed.

“What happened to Mike in the second set is tough to say, but Nick took advantage, constantly looking to press on. Both players struggled to find good serves but were equally failing to take advantage of this when returning the serve.



Photographs by Martin Bronstein

*The improving Nick Hatchett, a happy man after defeating Mike Bray*

“Although neither player was performing to their best – maybe nerves of the big occasion – there were some very competitive and very impressive rallies, both striving to keep the floor shots low and find the targets when the opportunities were presented. When Mike knocked in two grilles to go 30-0 up at 5-4 in the final set it was a strong position to be in, but the competitive experience of his opponent was not going to allow him to cross the line. In fact Nick dug deep and played some clever backhands down the line from the service end to claw his way back.

In the final game it was Nick who played the more positive tennis, slightly assisted by a flick on the net tape. He pushed on through to win the inaugural junior level singles competition.”

## **Wollaston Cup**

In the final of the handicap singles, Hatchett faced a very determined Peter Mather, who made the most of the handicap: Hatchett at 20 had to give Mather, 47, an onerous 30-owe 15 in the one-set match. It was too much to ask of Hatchett after his first final and Mather ran out a comfortable 8-1 winner.

And so to the doubles final, with Hatchett partnering Bray against Karen Hird and James Watson. The two singles finalists won the first set 6-4, but James Watson is also a 20-handicap player and Karen has a wonderful match temperament. They continued to play solid tennis, knowing they had not been outplayed in the first set. Whether fatigue hit their opponents, nobody is saying, but Watson and Hird took the next two sets 6-3, 6-5 to win the title.

**Martin Bronstein**



*Chairman Peter Ohlson (who was unfortunately just ineligible to play in this competition) presents the trophies to Peter Mather and Nick Hatchett*

## De Laszlo Bowl

This year's event was hotly contested and was memorable for the quality of tennis that was played. For those unfamiliar with the de Laszlo Bowl, it is a fun doubles event for members of all standards, doubles with one addition to the rules – partners must stay on their side of the centre line (to stop poaching). This always offers great amusement to those watching and supporting from the dedans. The pairings are arranged – the highest handicap playing with the lowest, in the hope that the partnerships balance out.

At the beginning of the competition the pro team were finding it hard to pick the winners, as there were some high-powered partnerships. Out of 16 pairs Nicola Cavill & Victoria Carew-Hunt were



Photograph by David Glover

Nick Carew-Hunt, Ralph Cake, Helen-Frances Pilkington and Nick Edwards

my pick, Stef was backing John Halliday & Susie Falkner, and Ben opted for Owen Saunders & David Peregrine-Jones. Well, as you will see – what do we know?

Over two weekends the tennis improved dramatically as pairings began to gel. There were some imaginative solutions to combat the rule: charging the net; dangling over the line on tip-toes, some hopping and some just hoping the marker didn't notice. But those who flourished were the pairs that kept things simple – if the ball comes to you, hit it, if doesn't come to you then hope your partner hits it.

With a strong contingent of Carew-Hunts in the draw it was obvious the family were keen to return home with a winner's trophy! And so it turned out, with Nick and an in-form Ralph Cake growing into a formidable doubles pairing and making easy work of both their semi and the final. Not to say the losing finalists rolled over, – Nick Edwards & Helen-Frances Pilkington were also proving to be tough to beat, and their semi-final win was clinched 8-7 with some tremendously gritty play.

The Wimbledon neighbours proved too much for them, though. Nick and Ralph had obviously been discussing tactics and organised themselves very well to win the final in very composed fashion, 8-2.

## European Open – Lord's

A generation is on the edge of change. Ben Matthews, who has been training hard over the summer months, was brave and bold enough to walk on to court at MCC to compete against his coach, mentor and BOSS! Not only did he leave the court victorious, he won with the grace and professionalism of a sportsman. Hearty congratulations. (I'll be back!)

## British Open – Queen's Club

At the time of writing, your pro team are preparing for the premier event in the UK calendar, the British Open.

Sponsored once again by Neptune Investments, the event promises some great matches, a mix of the old and the new, champions and believers. Rob Fahey, still riding at the top of the draw, is the obvious target for all those below. Previous Open title winners Riviere, Gunn and Virgona – and the return of Male – make for a strong line-up, but nothing is certain when there are some very keen youngsters who are out hunting scalps.

## IRTPA National League – Sponsored by Shilton, Sharpe and Quarry

RTC started with a home win against the Queen's Club. Nick, struggling with form, was no match for Bryn Sayers, who played an incredibly impressive match (well, he must have done!). Ben, now

competing in a higher echelon of players, had a tough fixture against the canny and entertaining Andrew Lyons, who plays ambidextrously (did you notice?), making it difficult to find his backhand! Brimming with confidence and with the home court advantage, Ben was too much for Andrew, leaving the match level with the doubles to play. The RTC team won through, taking the overall match 2-1. Thank you to Richard G for noticing that I hit the winning shot – I like to do my part!

Two days later the next fixture was away to Seacourt, and Nick 'The Hypochondriac' Wood didn't journey south due to a painful knee. Ben stepped up to play against Chris Bray and Matt Ronaldson kindly agreed to play the second leg for RTC against Dan Jones. Both singles were lost but a point was salvaged in the doubles.

The National League brings the world's best players to your court. With such a high standard of tennis and a fine supper, it is an evening to be enjoyed. Thank you for all those who continually support the matches; it is much appreciated.

## RTC merchandise

After a delayed delivery from the USA, the new merchandise is now with the embroiderers and will be on the shelves in time for Christmas. Some items are a repeat of last season's top sellers and there are some new additions, such as skorts and sweat tops.

## Wood's Words

There are many targets to hit on the real tennis court – more than just the dedans, grille and winning gallery. Your target may be the hazard gallery (to win a point) or to drive for the backwall to beat second gallery on the floor.

Choosing the right target at the right time is an ongoing process. If you are not on the rough end of good shot that you can only retrieve, then you will be able to pick an area of court to aim at.

Often the chosen target is determined by the position you are in just before you strike the ball. If the ball is rolling off the penthouse you have time to position yourself for a multitude of shots – but choosing a target from a floor shot is determined by the ball position in relation to your stance, when there is not a lot of time to make the mind up. Generally the higher the

## Head professional Nick Wood on the art of target hitting

bounce, the more attacking your shot can be, so for shots below waist height I would recommend choosing a target on the floor of your opposition. If the bounce is higher than waist height then more options are available, such as cut shots to selected areas of the floor, guided shots for winning targets or a more aggressive force for the big targets such as the dedans.

It is very easy to get carried away by whacking the ball thinking that pace defeats all, but it is accuracy that wins every time. Pick your shot early, strike the ball with conviction and maintain your balance. If you end up off balance then you have chosen the wrong shot given the position, or you have been overzealous on pace. **Remember:** hitting the ball hard can be dangerous and should be done with care and accuracy.

# Your guide to the world's courts

Linda and Julian Sheraton-Davis offer handy tips for anyone playing real tennis abroad, beginning here with Washington and Philadelphia

**H**ave you ever thought about playing real tennis on courts in another country, but wondered about the whys and wherefores of doing it? Fortunately, some of your fellow RTC members will have been there before you, giving us a rich source of knowledge to tap into. Here's information on Washington and Philadelphia for starters, where the first thing to remember is that the game is called court tennis over there...

## Washington

*The Prince's Court, the International Tennis Club of Washington Regency Sport and Health, 1800 Old Meadow Road, McLean, Virginia 22102*

Phone: +1 703 556 8801

Website : [www.princescourt.com](http://www.princescourt.com)

email: [info@princescourt.com](mailto:info@princescourt.com)

This is the newest real tennis court in the USA, having opened as recently as 1997. The club is situated in McLean, a suburb to the north-west of the city centre. The public transport system to the suburbs of Washington leaves a lot to be desired, and bus and train routes are not close to the club. If you're not staying in McLean, the only real way to get to the court is by car, whether scrounging a lift with a friend or hiring a car or taxi. Thankfully there is good parking at the club.

There is a reasonably priced restaurant serving drinks and good food. Several hotels in the area are

listed on the internet if one wishes to stay nearby.

The court is the only one in the world with a glass main wall (see below). It is a little disconcerting to start with, but you soon get used to it, although you see the ball against it for many shots and will initially be conscious of the corridor, with its comfortable settees and memorabilia.



From the main entrance lobby you walk along a warren of corridors to the real tennis court. The court has been built upstairs and has been converted from a lawn tennis court at the end

of a row of indoor courts.

The head pro at the Prince's Club, Ivan Ronaldson, and his assistant, Phil Shannon, are very helpful. To book a court email in advance and they will find locals to play with you if required. There is a general mix-in on Saturday mornings to which anyone is welcome.

## Philadelphia

*The Racquet Club of Philadelphia, 215 South 16th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*

Phone: +1 215 772 1544

Website: [www.rcop.com](http://www.rcop.com)

email: [courts@rcop.com](mailto:courts@rcop.com)

The Racquet Club of Philadelphia is an opulent, traditional sporting club located in the city centre. It was established in 1889 in Walnut Street, just around the corner, but relocated in

1907. It is easily reached by subway, bus or taxi from train station with local and national connections. Exploring the main sites of the city by foot, bus and metro is easily done (purchase tokens from stations, newsagents etc before boarding the bus).

The court is located on the fourth floor, above the swimming pool. There are also three singles squash courts, a doubles squash court, a racquets court and a fitness centre. While staying at the club you can use all these facilities and can book courts through the friendly professionals, Rob Whitehouse, Steve Virgona and their assistants.

The club also offers excellent, comfortable accommodation available only to members, their guests or by reciprocal arrangement. This article is here to bring to your attention that, by being members of the Royal Tennis Court, we are invited to use this accommodation when visiting Philadelphia. There are en suite bedrooms or suites with bedroom, bathroom and sitting room. Breakfast is a small 'help yourself' buffet, and evening meals are available at the club at certain times and at other times by order from the restaurant opposite. The club is open 24 hours a day.

To learn more about the club and its facilities, go to its website, read the club info section and take a virtual tour. Should you wish to pay a visit to Philadelphia to play real tennis and stay at the club, contact the very helpful Derik Comalli, the guest relations coordinator, at [derik@rcop.com](mailto:derik@rcop.com).

## COMING UP

### RTC

5 Dec: Club Night

10 Jan: RTC v Manchester (social)

12 Jan: RTC 1 v Seacourt 1, Nat Lge

20 Jan: RTC 1 v MCC 1, Nat Lge

23 Jan: Hamsters v Hatfield

21 Feb: Hamsters v Leamington

### ELSEWHERE

2 Dec: MURTC 1 v RTC 1, Nat Lge

7-11 Dec: Browning Cup, Holyport

15 Dec: Queen's 1 v RTC 1, Nat Lge

22 Jan-2 Feb: Australian Open, Hobart

22 Feb-2 Mar: US Open, New York

## CLUB NEWS

### Cleaning services

We are looking at various options for future cleaning arrangements at the club.

If any member uses the services of a cleaner, would that member be kind enough to ask the cleaner whether she knows of a reliable hard-working cleaning lady who might be interested in working for the club – or even the cleaner herself (provided that it didn't affect her working for the member) – and let me know of any possibilities.

Hours would be 2½ per day, Monday-Saturday, ie 15 hours per week. There may well be some flexibility as to which hours are worked, the total number of hours worked and the days worked.

DAVID SEELIG

### Ian Coombes

Sadly Ian Coombes passed away on 5 October after a long battle with a brain tumour. Those who knew him remember a cheerful and positive man and a joy to play against.

# Clash of the titans

*Not content with one Lathom-Browne triumph each, recent winners Nicola Cavill and Oliver Lewis contested an intriguing 2008-09 final*

The wonder of the Lathom-Browne is that it brings the best out of the real tennis handicap system. The result is that as the autumn leaves fall and the struggle to arrange first-round matches begins, every single entrant can harbour dreams of emerging as a Lathom-Browne winner around ten months later.

At least, that was a nice theory until Nicola Cavill and Oliver Lewis sent it flying out of court. The LB winners of 2007 and 2008 brushed aside all pretenders to the throne again, resulting in a hotly anticipated final in which Nicola (off 39) had to concede rec 30-owe 15 to Oliver (58).

Pre-match debate among aficionados had shown divided opinion, with Nicola generally favoured as she had been playing far more often in the run-up. While Oliver was in the midst of a hectic family move to Munich (a long drive indeed from the nearest court), Nicola had been spending so much time at RTC that Richmond Council had started charging her council tax. Would all the practice pay off?

It was clear from the start that Nicola was (very sensibly) going to modify her game slightly, taking a little pace off her shots and allowing them a little more clearance than usual over the net. Conceding such a handicap, she could afford to give away very few free points. Early on the plan paid dividends, with Nicola claiming the first game from 0-40 down and strolling through the second game.

You don't win as many competition matches as Oliver does, however, without being able to perform at key moments, and in the third game he sent down a timely winning serve at 40-40 to open his account. After Nicola won the fourth, Oliver won another 40-40 point, this time finding the tambour – but that only spurred Nicola on. In the next three games she lost only one point, moving 4-2 ahead with a low crosscourt shot that grazed the net on its way to the base of the tambour, then 5-2 with a backhand to the grille and 6-2 with another grille.

Three games from victory, then – and only six points lost in the entire match so far. Nicola was giving away nothing,



*Above: Lathom-Browne finalists Oliver Lewis and Nicola Cavill. Below: Nicola receives the trophy from Stef King*

and though Oliver's retrieving was, as usual, far more solid than most players of his handicap, he just couldn't find a way to win points. He took the ninth game to 30, but Nicola then reeled off two more games, finishing both off with perfect backhand volleys, showing how a shot that had once been a weakness has now become one of her strengths.

At 3-8 Oliver required a miracle. He quickly reeled off the first of the six games he needed, and when he won two straight points to make it 5-8 Nicola must have been slightly concerned. But she needn't have worried – a couple of minutes later she dispatched a forehand on to the tambour and out of Oliver's reach for a 9-5 win. She had regained her title and continued her recent domination of the club's honours boards.

Nicola is clearly someone who relishes competitive action – so she must have been eager to pit her wits against a host of other clubs' handicap champions just two weeks later in the Chetwood Trophy. To find out how she got on, just look to the right...

**Simon Edmond**



## Savour that winning feline

*Nicola Cavill describes her weekend representing the club in the Chetwood Trophy*

Semi-final of the Chetwood Trophy. One set to six games. 5-5, 40-40. There are times when a bit of luck comes in pretty handy. Fortunately, I have spent the last four years putting in the groundwork with Bobs, and this was the moment to cash it in!

The Chetwood is a great tournament; everyone who is playing is already a champion, having won their club's handicap singles tournament (equivalent to the Lathom-Browne). So you are not only playing for yourself, but also for your club and its members. That gives an indication of the level of competitiveness.

Everyone was there to represent their club, and it was only rarely that you needed to ask where that was, as club logos were proudly displayed on kit bags, clothing and racquets. I have played this tournament before, but I don't think I'd really grasped that it's a pretty big deal. Many competitors were staying overnight, most had brought supporters along, and almost all stayed right the way through. It's fantastic to play with the dedans full of people offering positive encouragement throughout the matches – presumably to both sides, although I only heard half of it!

I was extremely lucky to be playing with home court advantage, although there was a point, as I watched the second consecutive ball bounce off the penthouse to ping backwards to better-than-half, when I did wonder if I was the one benefiting! It's more than the on-court advantage, though – I spend enough time around the court to know where everything is, from corkscrew to cat food. It's great to be able to represent, and win for, the host club and I'm delighted that I was able to be part of reminding everyone that RTC hosts a fantastic tournament – both off court and on.

And never mind crossing your path – if you want good luck, give Bobs a big hug!

# The magnificent seven

*RTC has begun its quest for the Brodie Cup, the inter-club knockout tournament for 30-plus handicaps*

**I**magine England without Botham in the '80s, without Martin Johnson in the '90s, or without Andrew Flintoff in the 2000s. This was the situation we found ourselves in as a cruel fixture clash meant that we took on Leamington without our talismanic captain, Richard East.

Fighting through this crushing blow, and with the dedans ringing with teary-eyed chants of 'Let's do it for the Skipper!', we advanced through the preliminary round of the Brodie Cup, seeing off Leamington 4-1.

First up was Robin Mulcahy in the 50-plus singles against Henry Bryan. Former medic Robin won his match in three sets, displaying a single-minded determination not shown by a doctor since Harold Shipman. After taking the first set, Robin lost the second as Henry found his rhythm. However, Robin's extensive tournament experience paid off as he induced errors from his less experienced opponent and moved him deftly around the court. The performance of the day. 1-0 to RTC.

Despite the absence of the captain, the East family were ably represented in the 30-plus singles by the less polarising member of the clan, John. He was soon into the groove, finding a great target area below last gallery and volleying crosscourt to chase three yards or better. Against the talented but erratic Simon Drake, John never let his foot off the gas and won in straight sets. 2-0 to RTC.

Next up was Richard Wear, fresh from his stag do the night before (respect

due). For some team members, a heavy bout of drinking before a match is considered more a prerequisite than a disadvantage. Richard is not one of these players, but he battled through his ethanoic haze to win the 40-plus singles in straight sets, using his underarm twist serve to great effect against Derek Harvey. 3-0 and an unassailable lead to RTC.

Nick Carew-Hunt and Ian Mathers in the 45-plus doubles. Where do I start? Watching this pair is car-crash television: excruciating but strangely compelling. They seemed to have inside information about an impending worldwide racket string shortage, using any part of their equipment other than their strings to propel the ball.

After heroically saving three match points, they failed to capitalise against tiring opponents and lost in three sets to Ian Steele and Hans Billson. This is a bit like struggling to stay awake for the first three hours of *Titanic*, only to then nip out for a cup of tea and miss the bit where the boat sinks. 3-1 to RTC.

In the 35-plus doubles, Oliver Buckley hand-held an error-prone Owen Saunders through a comfortable victory over Richard Starkey and Bill Slora. Oliver charged around like a one-legged gazelle (*just how much charging could a one-legged gazelle do? Ed.*), dispatching any loose returns with ruthless efficiency. 4-1 to RTC.

A impressive performance, which sets up a first-round clash against MCC.

**Owen Saunders**

## RTC Top Ten

Leading handicaps  
November 2009

1	Hugh Latham	2.4
2	Peter Wright	3.5
3	Robert Hird	5.0
4	Dave Harms	5.8
5	David Watson	11.7
6	Marcus Ward	12.2
7	Simon Barker	12.7
8	Nick Hatchett	16.3
9	Mike Bray	17.9
10	James Sohl	18.0

## 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 spring issue*

Editor: Simon Edmond  
simonrichardedmond@  
yahoo.co.uk

## RESULTS

### De Laszlo Bowl

**Quarter-finals:** John Dagnall & John Clark beat Susie Falkner & John Halliday 8/3; Nick Carew-Hunt & Ralph Cake beat Eric Butterworth & David Glover 6/8; Helen-Frances Pilkington & Nick Edwards beat Julian Sheraton-Davis & Robin Mulcahy 6/8; Owen Saunders & David Peregrine-Jones beat Nicola Cavill & Victoria Carew-Hunt 8/5

**Semi-finals:** Carew-Hunt & Cake beat Dagnall & Clark 2/8; Pilkington & Edwards beat Saunders & Peregrine-Jones 8/7

**Final:** Carew-Hunt & Cake beat Pilkington & Edwards 8/2

### National League

#### Premier Division

**RTC 1 beat Queen's Club 1, 2/1**  
Nick Wood lost to Bryn Sayers 0/6, 3/6; Ben Matthews beat Andrew Lyons 6/3, 6/3; Wood & Matthews beat Sayers & Lyons 8/6

**Seacourt 1 beat RTC 1, 2/1**  
Chris Bray beat Ben Matthews 6/3, 6/5; Danny Jones beat Matt Ronaldson 6/3, 6/3; Jones/Bray lost to Ronaldson/Matthews 3/8

#### Division 1

**RTC 2 beat Radley College 1, 2/1**  
David Harms beat Matt Ronaldson 1/6, 6/4, 6/3; Peter Wright beat Paul Knox 6/0, 6/1; Harms & Wright lost to Ronaldson & Knox 7/8

#### Division 2

**RTC 3 lost to Hatfield/MURTC, 1/2**  
Charlie Packham lost to Gerard Eden 0/6, 1/6; David Watson lost to Will Burns 3/6, 4/6; Packham & Watson beat Eden & Burns 8/5

**RTC 3 beat Seacourt 2, 3/0**  
Stefan King beat Charles Danby 6/3, 6/4; David Watson beat Adam Player 6/2, 6/1; King & Watson beat Danby & Player 8/5

#### Division 6

Oxford 4 beat RTC 5, 2/1

#### Division 7

RTC 6 beat MCC 4, 2/1  
Holyport 2 lost to RTC 6, 1/2

#### Division 8

Queen's Club 4 beat RTC 7, 2/1  
RTC 7 lost to Petworth 4, 1/2  
Canford 4 beat RTC 7, 2/1

### Lathom-Browne Cup

**Semi-finals:** Nicola Cavill beat Robert Frost 9/5; Oliver Lewis beat David Jeffcoate 9/5

**Final:** Cavill beat Lewis 9/5