

# Court Correspondence

News from Sundridge Park Lawn Tennis & Squash Rackets Club

## AGM Appointments

We are delighted to announce that Syed Hussain has been voted in as our new Chairman. Although a recent member, Syed has the skills and approach that amply qualify him to help us move the Club forward in the coming year. See below for Syed's personal statement. We are planning a consultation exercise to help us prepare a club development strategy; this will help us focus our energies in the next few years. Syed welcomes your ideas.

We welcome Mariska Adamson back to the Main Committee as Social Chairman. Mariska is keen to ensure that we have a broad range of social events in the next 12 months, some appealing to families and our Juniors and others which we promise will be a child-free zone. If you have ideas for events or, better still, can help organise one, please speak to Mariska.

Back on the team are Richard Whichello (President), Bob Wilson (Treasurer), Dick Ward (Tennis Chairman), Vince Grima (Squash Chairman), and Martin Hamilton-Sharp (Bar Chairman).

We are grateful to Nan Casey for her work as Social Chairman in recent years, and to Chris Arnheim, Charlie McArdle and Mary Davies for their continuing work as Trustees. We thank Phil Ashton for stepping in as a temporary Honorary Secretary.

We still have vacancies for Hon Secretary and House Chairman. If you would like a non-committal chat about these roles, speak to any member of the Main Committee or Simon in the office.

## Syed Hussain

I have been a member since May 2008, playing both squash and tennis. My wife, Ismath, also became a tennis member this year. My daughter, Aamena, has been taking weekly coaching lessons at the Club from Richard, through her school, for a number of years.

My professional background is a range of senior positions in Marketing, Sales and Product Development. These have been at well known brands such as Sky, Yahoo and Dell. I would say my biggest strengths are being able to get on with a wide range of people and remaining calm in stressful situations.

My approach will be very much one with a team-led philosophy. I will place a high priority on understanding quickly the real, day-to-day issues across the wide range of Club activities. This will encompass not only the key areas such as coaching, courts, bar, social events and membership growth/retention, but also the more mundane but equally important stuff like showers, heating, etc.



November 2009

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**Lawn Close,  
Garden Road,  
Bromley Kent BR1  
3NA  
www.spltsrc.co.uk  
020 8464 9106  
(Club Office)**

## Squash

### Prima Donnas Receive a Thrashing

*Vince prepares for the AGM, a rare sighting of and insight into the minds of the Brothers Grimm and shock revelations of honeymoon frolics! Oh, and PrimaDonnas get trashed...Tuesday 17th November*

“Shocking, VinthePrint, absolutely shocking! You - our beloved and revered squash chairman missing out on supporting SPARKS finest due to having to chauffeur HID to some yoga class or other”. “Yep, afraid so”, replied VtP, “think it must have been too obvious that I was enjoying meself at the club, playing bit of sport and keeping fit - thought HID would be appreciative but Oh, No...enjoyment not permitted...so on chauffeur duties...and, Phil, seriously, also need to spend time working out what I’m going to say tomorrow @ the AGM...all those squash members being there; have to put on a good performance.”

“Squash members...attending an AGM? Don’t be ridiculous VtP, most of them think that AGM stands for Arsenal Game Midweek...anyway, just spout out the usual.”

“Teams using Palace as role model...” (seeing Vince’s puzzled expression, I explained further) ...”mtm”...(seeing Vince’s still puzzled expression I explained further) ....”heading for mid table mediocrity”...(yet still seeing our beloved and revered Chairman’s puzzled expression I explained further) ...”finishing halfway...neither good...nor bad...like, you know...” (thinking of a printing analogy)... “like...well...like your proof reading...”

“Still struggling to put out teams...last minute call ups...and when we put a team out, usually get trashed...”

which was uncannily like Tuesday evening’s match...

### Primadonnas v Bromley Cricket club

Rich ‘GoldenBars’ Hailston, ‘Overseer of the City’s financial markets and partly responsible for the state we’re in’ stepped up to the plate with a mini report of the games I missed:

#### Team trashed 5-0

Billy was a bit out classed and lost 3-0 pretty quickly at 2. Ollie had an absolute marathon (no surprises then!) but after coming back from 2-0 down, he lost

3-2- to which I can add that his oppo last time out had a really close match with GingerNuts, so Ollie ‘The Stalker’ was quite rightly chuffed at his performance. Pete also had a close game at 4 but lost 3-1 (e.g. 10-9 in the 4th and 8-8 in one of the other games)

I was privileged to see Justin on the Richard Jones Court, looking to me, rather out of sorts and off the pace but according to fellow team mates : “Actually playing quite well, Phil...best we’ve seen him for a long time...yet still managing to lose 3-1.”

But surely the match of the night was The Overseer’s fine display on The Brian Booth Court, against a skilful oppo carrying a bit of weight (but looking svelt when compared to our very own Girth, Iron Man of the Veldt) and intent on taking up as much of the court as possible.

Sighting the Brothers Grimm and aware of their prowess as fine squash players...in their heyday that is ....I sought their advice. “Old Rich- doesn’t call for many lets does he?” “Never has done , Phil... too much of a gentleman...but moves really well, really fit. Why”, declared Stef, in his typically modest and unassuming way, “just think ...with my brain and skill...and his legs...he’d be one hell of a player...”

“Wise words Stef”, I concurred, “so true...and possibly unbeatable with the addition of Girth’s tactical nuance...”.

But despite intense and continuous verbal encouragement from the massed gallery, Rich managed to lose 3-2 at 5, - in his words : “I won the 4th 9-8 (chose 1 pt at 8-8 and match point down - that wasn’t popular I hear?!?!?) but to no avail in the end!”

Still - at least the Overseer turned out at the last minute so immune from scathing comment... in this report anyway....at yet another defeat.

### The After Party

A rather subdued gathering , not surprising really due to their woeful performance, tucked into Nan’s fine nosh and talk naturally turned to The Padang Dinner on Saturday 21st in aid of the victims of the Indonesian Earthquake... “promises to be great... authentic Indonesian tucker from Sri Owen, known as the Michel Roux of Asian cuisine...”. A general realisation that we needed to buy more Prince racks from Peter Nicols as otherwise our privileged front row seats at next year’s Canary Wharf Squash Open would be in jeopardy....and thoughts about

## Squash

our beloved and revered Chairman's performance at the AGM...

"Know that Phil's given him bullet points but knowing him he'll forget his glasses...and his notes...and revert to the tried and trusted formula...."

"Not...", we all chorused in unison... "Surely not... the old favourite, the one that goes:

"Green Oasis... best ever mates...Jan the kids...so so lucky...came from nowhere...worked 28 hours a day...great bunch of squash mates...don't know what I'd do without you all"(sob, sob)

At which point Bambi passes round the Kleenex...

How we laughed, tears rolling...nay streaming down our cheeks...as another glorious night of defeat ended in uncontrolled and uncontrollable laughter...

Oh and the shock revelations? That was just a tease to make you read the report...but, if you want to find out more read Ollie the Stalker's 'Thank You' card on the squash noticeboard!

Phil with thanks to Rich 'GoldenBars' Hailston  
'Overseer of the City's etc etc'

## Racketball Racket Gone AWOL

Did you borrow a racket from the bar? Please return it. Thanks.

## New Members

Welcome to Sundridge Park if you have recently joined us! We recruit two or three new members most weeks. If you have friends who may be interested, do remind them what we offer. Prospective Member Packs are always in the rack in the Clubhouse, so help yourself. These are regularly updated with the latest prices and coaching programmes. Thanks.



### Junior Squash

group sessions  
Wednesday evenings & Saturday  
mornings

with Coach, John Barry  
07957 373402

## Junior Squash

The club has ruled that all Juniors playing doubles squash MUST now wear goggles, unless supervised by the coach.

Juniors who play in external events are required by England Squash to wear goggles for singles matches. We would like to encourage their use at the Club.

Squash goggles are widely available from web sites, and we are now selling Wilson goggles at the bar for £15 (cost price). For further information, please contact John Barry (07957 373402).

## Tennis

### Ron Brain Tournament

**Sunday 13th September**

Ron sadly passed away a year ago on the courts he loved playing on. At the suggestion of Matt Doran and many others it was deemed a nice idea to hold a tournament in Ron's memory

And so 20 people, including Ron's daughter Rae, took part in the action.

Five rounds of seven games then took place. At the conclusion Isobel Jarrot was the winning lady and Ricky Jordan the winning man (after a close fought battle against Dick Ward, with whom he had tied).

The trophy was presented by Ron's wife, Valerie and it was nice to have her in attendance.

The cup used was the Sundridge Park Centenary Trophy, kindly donated by Stephen Johnson the previous year.

A big thank you to all who took part including many of Ron's friends.

Thanks also to John and Margaret for dealing with the score sheets.

The sandwiches and cakes were thoroughly enjoyed and contributed to an enjoyable yet poignant afternoon.

## Tennis Coaching

**To discuss joining group lessons  
or  
private coaching please call**

Jake: 07974 741430

Richard: 07886 182571

Jade: 07909 711536

### British Tennis

Thanks to everyone who is already signed up to British tennis and affiliated to our Club.

If you are not a British Member please sign up NOW at <http://www.lta.org.uk/britishtennismembership/>

Membership is free until at least February 2012.

Remember to promote BTM to your club members. It is free to



all members of affiliated tennis clubs. All members who sign up now will be contributing to your clubs Wimbledon ticket allocation for 2010. Each affiliated clubs allocation of tickets for the 2010 Championships will be based on the number of club members who have signed up to BTM as of 30 November 2009.

### Family Night

Every Friday 6:15-7:15 for fun tennis for the Juniors. The 1st Friday of the month is food night; watch out for full details.



## Club Administration

### How to Contact Us

**Club Administrator**—**Simon Tyrrell-Lewis** on 020 8464 9106 (weekday mornings only, usually 9am-1 pm)

**Steve Johnson** — in person at the Club

**Other members**— please use the phone list in the clubhouse, or log onto the website and access the secure area with your password, where you can see the phone contact numbers.

**Lawn Close, Garden Road, Bromley  
Kent BR1 3NA  
www.spltsrc.co.uk  
020 8464 9106 (Club Office)**

### Lost Property

A large collection of clothing, shoes, racket bags is now in the office. Please contact Simon to claim any items that are yours. He will dispose of the remainder soon.

### Advertise in Court Correspondence

Reach nearly 500 adults and 140 children; take out an ad in this newsletter, published six times a year.

Style	Price Per Issue
Full Page	£12
Half Page	£5
Quarter Page	£3
Quarter Page Landscape	£3
Eighth Page	£2

Please speak to Simon for more information and a form.

### Thanks

Many thanks to all the contributors to this issue.

### Copy Date for Next Issue of Court Correspondence

**Copy date for the February issue: 31st January**

Please submit material by email to Simon at the Club email address

sundridgepark@tiscali.co.uk

## Groundsmans Corner

### Grass Court Renovation

After a lot of hard work from Steve Johnson, Don Weir, John Bland and Dick Ward, the work to scarify, reseed and topdress the courts is now completed. Thanks for all the hard work.

### Fencing

We now have much smarter fencing down the alley, with a new gate into the Golf Club carpark; this will be used for machinery access and for deliveries.

### Tarmac Courts

These courts have now been cleaned. We are getting quotes to have these courts treated to protect the surface.

### Clay Courts

We have topped up the clay on the courts, and they have had a clean. We are awaiting a response from Trevor May regarding the area at the back of Court 10. \*\*\*\*PLEASE REMEMBER TO DRAG THE COURTS AFTER USE!!!\*\*\*\*

### Trees

Terry the Tree Man has been hard at work pruning and removing dead and dying trees. We will be re-planting in some areas to reinstate screening.

## Padang Cuisine Evening

The evening in aid of people affected by the earthquake in West Sumatera was held on 21st November. It raised £709.50; Mariska raised a total of £1400.

This money is already being spent on a baby bed, scales and other equipment for a gynaecologist's clinic, sewing machines, water treatment equipment as well as chickens for agribusiness to produce eggs.

The earthquake that struck Western Sumatra on 30th September destroyed whole towns and villages, killing thousands. This was a tragedy but the devastation was particularly heartfelt by Mariska Adamson, whose father's family roots are from West Sumatra, her father being born in 1899 in a village not far from Padang with her sister-in-law who came from the area too.

As Mariska says: "My half-brother was a paediatrician in Jakarta and he left her a widow several years ago. It is one of their four daughters who is now volunteering in the stricken area. She has asked for donations and this is why I am contacting everyone. The road between Padang and Bukittinggi is destroyed and so are the surrounding villages. The people who survived need food, clothing and shelter. £1 goes a very long way - it can buy food for four days."

Well, not only did club members respond by con-

tributing generously but we also thought that it would be a great idea to have a fund raising dinner sampling Padang cuisine which is renowned throughout Indonesia.

We were fortunate in that Mariska is a good friend of Sri Owen who has taught Indonesian cooking, ran an Asian delicatessen and written several award winning and highly praised cookery books. Sri kindly agreed to cook and on the night turned up with her husband and several charming assistants to serve a clubhouse full of expectant diners.



And what a feast it was! Udang Goreng Balado- fried prawns with caramelised onions and chillies, Sumatran chicken curry, Beef Rendang - all delicious, freshly prepared and taste sensations! Better, much better than any restaurant, and washed down with chilled wine and foaming

pints of Steve's well cared for cask ales or cool lager!

To cap it all, prizes generously donated by Sri, Mariska and star prizes of dinners at The Raj Moni and The Crown were raffled and the evening continued long after the dinner was over, with pleasant chat and lots of laughter.

Definitely, as we all agreed on the way home, "A feast to savour and one that will long live in the memory!" as well, of course as raising much needed funds for the Earthquake victims.




**The Crown**  
46 Plaistow Lane  
Sundridge Park  
Bromley BR1 3PA  
020 8466 1313  
dine@thecrownatsundridgepark.co.uk  
www.thecrownbromley.co.uk

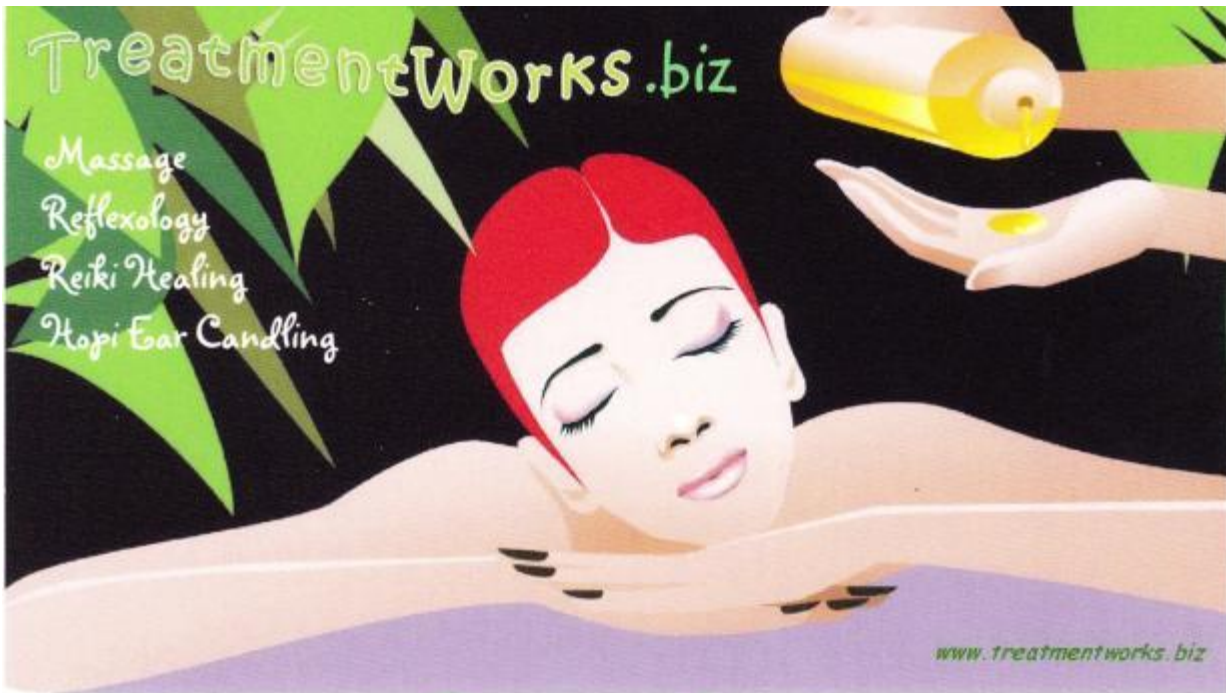


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020 8466 5561  
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www.rajmoni-bromley.co.uk

CONTEMPORARY INDIAN RESTAURANT

Many thanks to all those present, those who couldn't attend but bought raffle tickets in advance, Mariska, Sri and her helpers and Vince for obtaining the star raffle prizes generously donated by The Raj Moni and The Crown.

Phil Ashton



Brian and Lin

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## Club News

### Windows

We have had the vandalised windows in Squash Courts 1 & 2 replaced, as well as the two large windows either side of the Clubhouse French doors.

### No Rolling Stones

We are soon to have a new front door to the clubhouse. We are going to fit a hook so it can be held open at busy times. Please stop using stones to hold the door open as this will damage the door. And please tell your children too!

### Other Work...

The stairs and ceiling in squash court 4 have now been refurbished.

### Mens Showers

The floor has now been relaid; we are sorry that this took so long. Apologies again to the ladies for having to share your facilities.

### Visitors Book

If you welcome a playing visitor to our Club, please make sure that your visitor is recorded in the Visitor's Book; this is essential for cover under our Public Liability Insurance. And please put the appropriate fee for each visitor in the new box next to the Tennis noticeboard. Thanks.

### Network

Thanks to a donation from a member, we now have computer network cabling between the office, clubhouse and squash courts plus a wifi transmitter in the clubhouse so we have a reliable signal. To use it, the network key is 'sundpark'. The signal is good all the way up the central lawn. Thanks also to Steve Spinks for tunnelling through the ceiling to get the cables in place, and to Don Weir for helping too.

### Off Our Trolley?

Norman O'Regan has given us a moveable trolley/ladder at the cost of a charitable donation to Macmillan Cancer Care, and with the help of Ed Jarnot who provided a van to move it. It has already proved useful with the network project. So thanks!



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## Social News

### Events for your Diary

- December
    - 12<sup>th</sup> Family Disco
    - 5<sup>th</sup> Dick Ward's Xmas meal
    - 31<sup>st</sup> New Years Eve Party
    - 19<sup>th</sup> Tennis Xmas meal
    - Eddie Thompson Squash Invitation Doubles (tbc)
  - January
    - 23rd Quiz Night
    - Wine Tasting Evening (tbc)
  - February
    - Valentines Disco (tbc)
    - Race Night (tbc)
  - March
    - 6th Simon Hopper Band
- BBQs or Hot Food  
1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each month

### Disco Equipment

With money raised from food sales we have bought some portable disco equipment - an amp and speakers, stands and a pair of lighting units.

This can be used for any events where the number of attendees likely does not cover the cost of a professional DJ,

### Family Disco

In September we had a great night for the Club; over 70 people enjoyed the family disco, including over 30 well-behaved kids. A great spread was laid on and all for £6 adults £3 kids.

We made just over £90 profit from ticket sales and the bar took over £500. A big 'thank you' for all the help, including Vince for the posters, Sue & Simon in the kitchen and Teresa for collecting the money.



## Family Disco

Saturday 12th December  
7:30-11:30pm

£6 adult   £3 child

With light buffet

**Tickets available now at the Bar**



### Amazon Let You Down?

The easy answer: get your friend or loved one membership of our Club with a Sundridge Park Winter Season Voucher valid Jan 1st-March 31st.

**Get yours from the Club office *now***

**£40**

