



Hadleigh Tennis Newsletter 2011



For some time now we have thought that the club was established around 1911, we even have a plaque above our clubhouse door stating the date. So imagine our surprise when recently the historical article below came to our attention:

Hadleigh

Lawn Tennis - Hadleigh v Bildeston - On Friday the 8th a lawn tennis match was played between the Hadleigh Club and a team from Bildeston, at Hadleigh, when the home team won four sets to two. Mr H Kersey for Hadleigh and Mr Spilling for Bildeston played remarkably well. The following gentlemen took part:

Hadleigh

Mr Wm Kersey
Mr A Kersey
Mr H. Kersey
Mr P. Wilson

Bildeston

Rev. T.S. Harris
Rev. W. Forbes-Leith
Mr Spilling
Mr Waters

Mr A. Newman and Mr C. Hood officiated as umpires.

Bury and Norwich Post, Suffolk Herald- Tuesday 19 July 1881

From this historic newspaper article it appears that Hadleigh Tennis Club was playing tennis matches in 1881, 30 years earlier than we thought. The Club is at least 130 years old this year. This makes us one of the oldest tennis clubs in the country! A number of clubs claim to be the "oldest" tennis club, amongst them: Wimbledon (1877), Bexley, Kent (1880) and Cambridge University (1881). We are now obviously another in this prestigious mix.

We feel that 130 years of tennis in Hadleigh needs a celebration of some sort. This will also raise our profile in the community. Therefore, we intend to celebrate this historical and important event by re-enacting the 1881 tennis match between the gentlemen of Hadleigh and Bildeston. A team of gentlemen from Bildeston have readily accepted the challenge.

The event will take place on **Sunday 26th June 2011**, and start at **10.30**, running up to approximately **15.30**. This is the middle Sunday of the Wimbledon fortnight. The event will incorporate a Ladies match as well as the Gentlemen's Challenge Match. Ladies' tennis started later but was well underway by 1890.

The event will be further enhanced by incorporating the club's **annual barbeque, from 12.30**, as part of the celebration.

So please put Sunday 26th June in your diary NOW and make sure you can join in what will be another historic day for our club.

Website

Please check out our latest news and information at www.hadleightennis.org.uk

Club playing times

April – September Sunday mornings 9.00 – 12.00
Tuesday evenings 6.30 – 9.00
Thursday evenings 6.30 – 9.00

October - March Sunday mornings 9.30 – 12.00
Tuesday evenings 6.30 – 8.30
Thursday evenings 6.30 – 8.30 (Oct/Nov/Mar only)

Free Ad-hoc play for Club Members has been agreed with the TC but conditions apply, (see notice in club house).

Membership subscriptions (2011/12 season)

Senior Annual Membership	£100 (£90 if paid in April)
Student Annual Membership	£50 (£45 if paid in April)
Social Annual Membership	£5
Visitor's fee	£2

Events Calendar

Mixed Doubles	8 th May
Ladies' & Men's Doubles	5 th June
130 Year Bildeston vs Hadleigh Celebration Match & Club BBQ	26th June 2011
Ladies' & Men's Singles	10 th July
President's Day	4 th September
Christmas Dinner	9 th December

Committee Members

At the AGM the following Officers and Committee Members were elected for 2011.

Peter Richards President
Geoff Scott Chairman
Brian Dicks Treasurer
Paul Knowles Secretary
Trevor Rowland
Sarah Hawker
Liz Allan
Debra Young

Team Captains for 2011

Men's Captain	Jonathan Chown
Ladies' Captain	Sandy Claireaux
Mixed Captain	Debra Young

Team results 2010

Ladies

The ladies tennis teams enjoyed a successful season in 2009 leading to the promotion in both the summer and winter league. Unfortunately we found ourselves outclassed in the higher divisions, particularly in the summer league where we found ourselves at the wrong end of several 9-0 score lines. I don't think we won a single match. The winter league saw many close fought matches with not a lot to choose between the pairs, but unfortunately we have not generally been the winners on these occasions. I expect next season the ladies teams will be playing back down a division. Thank you to all who have played for the teams and provided wonderful refreshments. (Kate)

Thanks to Kate White for her captaincy. Kate has decided to step down as Ladies Captain after several years of successful service. The captaincy has been taken on by Sandy Claireaux.

Men's

Summer season 2010 went very well, we gained promotion to division 4 where we should get some really good games and came up against old friends like Barry Hunter (and won!). We had a strong core of players with people like Jonny Carr getting involved, but also had chance to give lots of matches to youngsters, and its worth mentioning particularly how useful Josh and Jack short have been, Jack has continued to play in the floodlit league and opposition often commented on Josh's consistency and potential in the summer league fixtures. In the floodlit league we were in division 1, but although we battled hard eventually we were regulated. The summer season will be good and I hope to continue giving youngsters like Josh some experience of match play and don't see why we shouldn't get promoted again so that the summer league position starts to match the winter league position. (Jonathan)

Jonathan Chown continues as Men's Team Captain.

Mixed

The mixed team played 8 matches in the Ipswich and District Summer League. The team won 5 and lost 3 closely. As a result the team moved up to Division 4. Thanks to all members of the team who played so well throughout the season. (Debra)

Debra Young continues as Mixed Team Captain.

Coaching and Juniors

Thanks to Johnny Carr and Lee Tweed who ran the Junior coaching arrangements in Hadleigh over the year. Both are now moving on - Johnny travelling and then to university, Lee to coaching pastures new.

Welcome – to Lawrence Oakely Ward who is taking over as the new Junior Coach. Lawrence used to be a member of the club and many of you will know him already.