



### Introduction

Hi everyone and a big WELCOME to our new members!

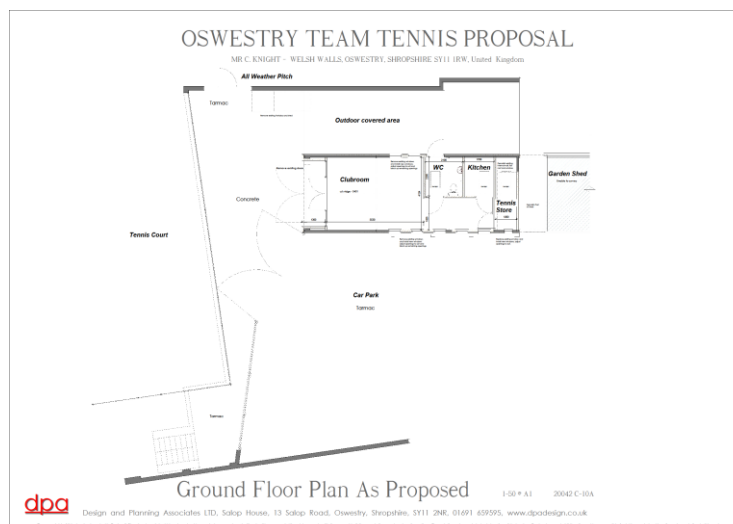
Hope you have all had a great summer whatever you were doing, and now enjoying being back at OTT. I hope you recognise this young lady, and were fortunate enough to watch what she achieved two weeks ago in USA! It was truly an epic performance for eighteen year old Emma Raducanu, a very special player. She has turned women's tennis upside down with her success in winning the US Open Singles. I saw her play last year in "Battle of Brits" when seventeen, and thought she looked rather promising, but never thought this would be possible in such a short space of time. Emma's comment "Believe in yourself and all things are possible" seems a nice way to start my newsletter!

### • Our Clubhouse Proposal with your HELP!

I hope you have read the email I sent you a few days ago about our clubhouse and how with your help, we can turn our dream into reality. This is our vision, and I hope all of you will want to buy into the idea of converting the workshop to our dream clubhouse!



The drawings above and below are part of our Clubhouse feasibility study submitted to Cae Glas Park Management Group in June, moved on to Oswestry Town Council in July and then finally approved by Cae Glas Park Charity in August. It has therefore been quite a journey for our trustees and parent group, so many thanks to all of you for getting us to this stage.



As you will have seen in my recent “clubhouse” email, we would like to have your support for the scheme and layout, and we welcome any feedback /ideas that you may have to help finalise our plans before we go for planning permission. At Club Celebration Day on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October around 4pm, there will be a “presentation” when Gavin Porritt – our Design Consultant from DPA Ltd and I will be there to talk about the proposed clubhouse design and try to answer your questions.

We need to put together a realistic and achievable plan including obtaining the necessary finance to fund the conversion and maximise our tax position as a registered charity. We already have £40,000 available (thanks to Mike Markham’s – our former Head Coach generous donation of 20k in his will) against the estimated cost of £100,000 (March 2021 prices). I believe that working together; we will find ways to bridge the funding gap and achieve our dream. This will be very much a community effort and I fervently hope you will want to support the club in whatever way you can... This is your clubhouse and we need all of you to take ownership of this scheme, and take pride in what will be created for the betterment of our club and its members.

**We therefore need to form a Clubhouse Project group so if you are interested in supporting our club in this constructive way, please get in touch with me ASAP, so that we can come together to start the planning process. My contact details are at the end of this newsletter.**

- **Club Welfare Officer position – Paula Jones**



I would like to thank Emma Spelman for her time in this role for our club. It was not an easy time with the pandemic and lockdowns whilst in this role, so your work and involvement was very much appreciated. I would like to welcome back Paula Jones into this role which she occupied from 2015 to early 2020. It should therefore be easier for Paula to fill this position than a newcomer as she has already had much experience in this role. A big Welcome then to Paula!

Paula Jones

- **Shropshire and Welsh Championships 2021**



Left to right :- Guy Welti/ Matt Weaver, Alfie Edwards and Owen Critchell/ Garmon Evans

Tennis Shropshire held its Junior County Championships at the Shrewsbury Club. The Welsh Championships were also held at Wrexham at the same time. Four of our OTT players performed very well to take a number of County titles in singles and doubles.

In Shropshire, Alfie Edwards aged 11 and now ranked 46 in the country in his age group, enjoyed a particularly successful week winning the 11& under singles title & doubles and the 12& under singles title & doubles.

To cap a fine week, Alfie also won the achievement player of the week.

Matt Weaver, who is also a member of the Shrewsbury Club, played in the U16 Singles and won this event and reached the semi final of the U18 singles. Guy Welti then combined with Matt to win the U16 doubles and reached the semi final of the U18 Doubles.

Meanwhile in the Welsh Championships played in Wrexham, Garmon Evans did very well to be a semi finalist in the U18 Singles, and runner up with Owen Critchell in the U18 doubles.

Erin Oakley and Reuben Thomas also took part so well done to them on their efforts.

- **Volleywood 2021 deferred until April 2022**

At our meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> September, our Parent Group considered whether we should go forward with running our annual event in November at Oswestry Cricket Club. After much discussion we reached a consensus that to run it might not be safe to go indoors with so many members together, and so it was decided to defer it until April 2022, when hopefully we will know more about Covid limitations. It was therefore decided to move our Annual Awards ceremony outside to our Club Celebration Day – see below.

- **Club Celebration Day – Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October 1.30pm – 5pm**

We have not had one since 2018, as it was unfortunately cancelled in 2019 due to adverse weather and in 2020 it was not possible with covid restrictions, so it will be great to bring this event back into our club calendar. Ben and Blake are putting the afternoon's fun activities together, so please look out for their promotion! This will be our first proper social event since the start of the pandemic, so I do hope you will be able to take part or come down to support our activities. I would remind you that around 4pm we will have our clubhouse presentation which will bring you up to date before we have our annual awards ceremony.



Hattie Leslie Miller

Nia Christoforou

- **LTA Coach Education**

Further to my article in Summer 2021 newsletter, our congratulations go to both Nia Christoforou on passing Level 2, and to Hattie Leslie Miller on passing Level One. OTT is very proud of both of you and your achievements, and I am sure you will both be fine role models, wherever you take your new skills.

### **Coaching Update**

- Great start back to coaching after a summer holiday filled with plenty of tennis. We had a great turn out each week to our holiday programme which ran for all 6 weeks of the summer holidays.
- Now we are back, we have welcomed many new faces to the club and hope to have more after Emma's amazing win. Her influence on the youngsters has been noticeable with many of the kids playing some beautiful tennis and showing great positivity.
- We have 3 more weeks until October half term, in that time our 1 free lesson for new players will still be available, so please pass on the word to anyone who wants to give tennis a go. Perhaps friends or other family members might fancy getting involved in this wonderful sport. Just check out what we have to offer on the website and send us a message.
- I would like to remind everyone that we are still following covid guidelines which have been sent to everyone, as well as being on the entrance to our courts. So please read them and follow them for everyone's safety.
- Keep enjoying your tennis and pushing yourself to improve each week, the more time spent on court the stronger you'll get. Tennis is made for 2 or more people, so invite someone from your tennis group or school, and have a game, you can practice what you have learnt and have fun. Don't forget to bring your playing card and get the park keeper to sign each time you play, so that once you have played 6 times, you get a free half-hour lesson from Blake or me.

Ben Judd – Tennis2You

- **Membership Fees 2021/22**

It is this time of year when your annual fees are due. Thank you to many of you who have already paid up very promptly. If I could encourage you, if you have not already paid the fees to do so, that will save Blake Strefford and myself an enormous amount of work.

## Joint tournament at Oswestry Tennis Club and OTT – Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> August



Our two tennis clubs in Oswestry combined for their first social tournament together. The tournament was organised by Gary Edwards of Oswestry Tennis Club, and Ben Syrett-Judd, of Oswestry Team Tennis, involving 28 players from the two clubs and was played on both club's courts, each side of Cae Glas Park.

The participants were mixed together so that the junior members played with an adult member in doubles play in 2 round robin pools over the course of the afternoon, and were offered healthy refreshments to help maintain their energy levels. The event was so successful that a repeat is being organised for Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October.

Many thanks go to Oswestry Community Games who sponsored the event.

### Love, Set, and Match!!!!



Our sincere congratulations go to Bronwen and Martin on their wedding day that took place on July 17<sup>th</sup>. That they took to our courts to celebrate their wedding day was very special for them and us, a most unusual way to use our tennis courts but how nice! The happy couple attend our adult coaching sessions on a regular basis with Ben Syrett Judd.

- **Covid rules**

I am well aware that people are now more relaxed about Covid with lockdowns fortunately becoming a distant memory, but Covid is still here in our community, so please continue to follow our covid rules, which are still relevant to all of us and helping to preserve our wellbeing .

Clive Knight – Trustee/ Chairman



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