



**Lydney Tennis Club AGM**  
**Monday 14th November 2022 @ 7:30pm**  
**Chair's Report**

Welcome everyone to Lydney Tennis Club AGM. I'd like to start my report by paying tribute to our President, Maisie Hoggard. Maisie sadly passed away in September. Maisie was a long standing honorary member of our club and had participated for many years both as a player and committee member. Maisie only retired from playing tennis in her 80's in 2017. Unfortunately I never had the pleasure of knowing Maisie but have been asked many times when playing league matches how Maisie is and if she is she still playing? She was clearly held in high regard and many had fond memories of her.

We welcome our new President, Martin Godwin. Martin has been a member of our Club for many years and also chaired our Committee. Martin is an honorary Member of our club for the dedication and time he has given to the club over the years and we are delighted that he has agreed to accept this position.

I'm pleased to report that this last year has been much less eventful than previous years with no natural flooding disasters or pandemics to disrupt our enjoyment of the club. It has been another year of great progress and development of the club so we have plenty to celebrate. Speaking of celebrations, it's almost quietly passed us by but this year marks the 70th anniversary year of Lydney Tennis Club. The club opened in 1952 with 4 red shale courts and 2 grass courts (yes six courts! where two of them went is something of a mystery to be solved...) and apparently the first clubhouse was an old double decker bus! It's incredible how much the club has changed and developed over the decades and this is testament to the volunteers and members of the club who have driven the club forward to be what it is today. To celebrate our Platinum year we will be launching a new logo for the club to be displayed on a new sign and on our website. We will also look to mark this event with a celebration at our next awards evening.

We have had another busy year in which we have made great progress in developing the club. We have had all of the fencing replaced, the practice wall has been repaired and repainted, the sides and rear of the club have been paved as well as many other small improvements to the grounds and clubhouse. A special thanks to Cath for her continued hard work in overseeing much of the work and for Rach and Cath for their amazing fundraising efforts and securing much needed funds to make these improvements happen. Our next project is to extend the decking in front of the clubhouse. We will continue to push for further improvements to the club and will be reviewing our action plan for development in the new year.

The club has also gone from strength to strength with its members this year and our Head Coach, Rach has worked hard developing and leading a fantastic coaching team. The coaching program for both adults and juniors is thriving and this is reflected in a record number of teams in our Gloucestershire league with many new players joining the teams. We've also had a successful box league running for Women's doubles, Men's doubles and Men's singles. A big thank you to Cath for all her hard work in organising these box leagues. Our Monday evening Social night is

well attended as well as the men's practice evening. Rach also does a great job of posting on Social media to raise the club profile and there are many WhatsApp groups for all members to communicate, share results and celebrate or commiserate the ups and downs of tennis. It all contributes to developing an inclusive, supportive and positive culture within our club which is so important.

We've enjoyed some great Tennis social events this year, including a Jubilee Triples tournament, an American doubles Tournament, Service box Tournament to name a few. Many of these social events as well as some held off the courts involve some kind of fancy dress which always adds to the fun! We've also held our annual Club Championships which were a great success. A big thankyou to Jason organising the event.

I would like take this opportunity to thank Rob Lewis, our Treasurer, who is standing down this year. Rob has done a fantastic job of looking after our finances and has played a pivotal role in obtaining the funding for resurfacing our new tennis courts. Thankyou Rob for giving up your time and expertise to support the club. You will be missed.

We are fortunate that we have several new members stepping up to join the Committee including a new Treasurer and I would like to take this opportunity to welcome them and thank them for joining the team!

In conclusion, 2022 was an exceptionally good year for the club. Both on and off the Courts great steps were made to improve the club and I think everybody should be proud of what has been achieved. Let's see what we can achieve in 2023!

**Karen Geelhoed**  
Acting Chairperson