

REPORT ON ALDERSHOT & FARNHAM TENNIS TOURNAMENT HELD AT ALDERSHOT TENNIS CENTRE ON SUNDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2006

The sun shone on the players at the Aldershot Tennis Centre last Sunday when the tennis centre hosted the final of the Aldershot & Farnham Tennis Tournament organised by the Aldershot & District LTA.

Both singles matches lasted for 3 sets. The Men's was a repeat of last year's final with Number 1 seed Gary Stanford (Aldershot Tennis Centre) pitched against his doubles partner Steven Bozas (Aldershot Tennis Centre). There was some powerful hitting from Bozas and some classy touch play from Stanford, and the first two sets saw only one break of serve in each set. Although Stanford held his serve in the final set, Bozas soon had a 3-1 lead and eventually romped home the winner 6-4, 4-6, 6-2

The Ladies Singles was between Betty Maitland (Haslemere and Bourne) and Julie Ketteringham (Merrow). An interesting score line to this match. Maitland was unable to get a single game in the first set and Ketteringham was very much in charge. However the 2nd set brought a change of fortunes as Maitland broke Ketteringham in the first game of the 2nd set and then held her serve and her nerve to win this set. From 3-3 in the 2nd set, it was Maitland all the way, as she won every game after that to take the match 0-6, 6-3, 6-0.

Later in the afternoon David Gill and Matt Marlow (Camberley) battled against Bozas and Stanford. The first 4 games of both sets resulted in a 2-2 score line, but in each set after that Bozas and Stanford notched up their game to take the doubles trophy 6-2, 6-2.

In the 1st set of the Ladies Doubles, Cathy Craggs and Julie Ketteringham (Merrow) met some tough opposition in Margaret Fish and Laura Williams (Camberley). There were plenty breaks of serve and the set was decided on a tie break which went to Craggs & Ketteringham. Unfortunately, although there was some fine play, Fish and Williams struggled in the 2nd set, and Craggs and Ketteringham won 7-6, 6-1

It seemed to be a day for three set matches as Lewis Fletcher and Catherine Graham (Brightwells) played Alan Chalmers and Laura Williams (Camberley) in the mixed doubles. Despite the stylish play of Graham, she and Fletcher lost the 1st set 6-3 and were soon down 3-1 in the 2nd. Undaunted they battled on, picked up their game and came out winners. 3-6, 6-3, 6-2.

In the Vets section last years winners in the Men's Doubles - Graham Dickson and Bill McIntosh (Farnborough) soon found the pairing of brothers Kerry and Paul Stanton (Camberley) too strong for them. It was a dropped serve by Paul Stanton that gave the opposition their only game. Stanton & Stanton won 6-1, 6-0

The Ladies Vets Doubles between Ann Bell with Ann Holloway (Farnborough) against Anna Dawson & Liz Jukes (Brightwells) was a game of very long rallies and good retrieving, so the score line of 6-0 in the 1st set to Bell and Holloway did not really give a fair indication of the game. The 2nd set was very closely fought and Dawson & Jukes battled well to take this on a tiebreak. After 2 1/4 hours and an unfortunate leg injury for Dawson, Bell and Holloway won. 6-0, 6-7 6-2.

In the Mixed Super Vets last year's champions, Keith Morris and Judy Sauter (Brightwells) were keen to retain their title. However, the husband and wife pairing of Ian & Marilyn Sharpe (Wrecclesham) had other ideas and after a tight first set the Sharpes won it 6-4. It was the nudge that Morris and Sauter needed as they upped their game and took the next 2 sets with only a loss of 4 games. Morris and Sauter won. 4-6, 6-2, 6-2.

An excellent day of tennis, well supported and applications form for next year will be available at your local club or to download from the website from about April 2007.

www.aldershotdistrictlta.com/tournaments

Information on the separate junior tournament to be held in 2007 will also be available about the same time on the web site.