

THE WARWICK BOAT CLUB LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE 113th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

will be held in the Club Pavilion
on Wednesday 27th January 2016 at 7.30pm.

AGENDA

1. To read the Notice convening the meeting.
2. To receive the Annual Report and the Accounts for the year ended 30th September 2015.
3. To consider, and if thought fit, pass the following resolution:

‘Warwick Boat Club Membership Rates for the year 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 shall be:

			Annual	Monthly
Club	Adult	All sports	£391.00	£32.58
Club	Senior (Over 75)	All sports	£245.00	£20.42
Club	Young Adult (22 to 30)	Tennis, Squash and Bowls	£102.00	£8.50
Club	Intermediate (12 to 21)	Tennis and Squash	£76.00	£6.33
Club	Junior (8 to 11)	Tennis and Squash	£56.00	£4.67
Club	Starter (under 8)	Tennis and Squash	£26.00	£2.17
Tennis	Adult		£342.00	£28.50
Tennis	Student in Full Time Further Education		£31.00	£2.58
Rowing	Adult	(includes Boat Levy of £45)	£260.00	£21.67
Rowing	Junior	(includes Boat Levy of £35)	£250.00	£20.83
Rowing	Student and Junior (14 to 17)	(includes Boat Levy of £35)	£107.00	£8.92
Rowing	Cox	(includes Boat Levy of £25)	£105.00	£8.75
Rowing	Summer Student		£61.00	n/a
Bowls	Adult		£96.00	£8.00
Squash	Adult		£214.00	£17.83
Social	Adult		£82	£6.83

Notes on Membership Rates:

- i. Club Members wishing to start to row are required to attend a Learn to Row course for an additional fee of £60.
 - ii. Family Discount of 10% applies to one adult plus another adult or child, or children at the same household, but does not apply to the Student in FTFE category.
 - iii. Country Discount of 50% applies to members whose main residence is over 50 miles from the club.
 - iv. Life membership is available free of charge on application after 40 years of continuous membership.
 - v. Age qualification is as at 1st April. If joining or renewing an age restricted membership class, please give your date of birth.
 - vi. Discounted rates apply for performance tennis players with a national ranking – details on application.
 - vii. Corporate membership is available - details on application.
 - viii. All subscriptions to be paid online, by Direct Debit, by cheque or by debit/credit card at the club. In each case, please return the renewal invoice remittance slip to WBC by 31st March 2016. We encourage annual or monthly payment by Direct Debit, which incurs no premium over other payment methods.
 - ix. Please notify any resignation, change of circumstances, change of category, etc. clearly on the remittance slip or by email to admin@warwickboatclub.co.uk.
 - x. An administration charge of £20.00 will apply to all new full paying adult membership applications
 - xi. Visitors Fees are £3.00 per visit, up to a maximum of 3 visits per year’
4. To consider, and if thought fit, pass the following resolution to update the Articles of Association of the club:
 - a. To clarify the roles of the President and Vice-Presidents by extending article 16 of the Articles of Association as follows:

‘On retiring, the Club Captain will be appointed a Vice-President of the Club. This appointment will end if the individual ceases to be a member of the Club. The President and Vice-Presidents do not need to be re-elected at each A.G.M.

The President will be appointed from the Vice-Presidents by consensus from a group including at least a prior President, the retiring President and the Club Captain. The President will normally only serve one period of office, for which there is no fixed term. For continuity, it is best that the President and Club Captain do not both retire at the same A.G.M. On retiring, the President will again become a Vice-President.

The President and Vice-Presidents have no executive powers, all such powers being vested in the Committee, as per these Articles. The President will chair the Annual General Meeting and any Extraordinary General Meetings, if available.

The President and the Vice-Presidents give the Club continuity and corporate memory and may provide advice and feedback to the Club Captain and The Committee. There is no obligation for any such advice to be accepted but it is good governance for The Committee to consider it.

Whenever there are issues to be resolved, it is important that the President and Vice-Presidents keep their communications with The Captain clear and transparent.'

5. To elect Officers and Committee for the ensuing year.

Captain	Mike Rigby
Treasurer	Martin Lusby
Tennis	Peter Grant
Juniors	Graham Kensett
Squash	Tibor Szolnoki
Rowing	Jon Martin
Bowls	Peter Boardman
Membership	Fiona Singer
Grounds	Bob Ellis
Pavilion	Tony Baker
Catering	Libby Newman
Social	Aaron Corsi
Marketing	Vacant

6. To elect members of the Bar Committee for the ensuing year.

Members	Mike Rigby
	Jon Martin
	Martin Lusby

7. To appoint Inspecting Accountants.

8. The President will present the Centenary Plate to a Club Member who has made an exceptional contribution to the club over the past twelve months.

9. To transact any other ordinary business of an Annual General Meeting.

Registered Office:
33 Mill Street
Warwick, CV34 4HB

J.C.M. Alty
Captain
6th January 2016

THE WARWICK BOAT CLUB LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2015

CAPTAIN'S REPORT

This year has seen a major improvement to the club with the completion of the project to floodlight tennis courts 1, 2 and 6. The clear sporting benefit of this improvement to our facilities, is matched by the more unified feeling of the club with the lighting extending up to the pavilion. I would like to thank Tony Baker for his huge personal commitment to complete this project even after he finished his term as Tennis Captain. The improvement to our facilities will stand testament to his hard work for many years to come.

Less visible, but in a similar area, we have upgraded the lighting on one squash court with LED panels. We have budgeted for the other court to be upgraded during 2016. Our Squash Captain, Tibor Szolnoki, has lead this project with enthusiasm, ably assisted by Andy Campbell and others. This project is a good example of how we as a members' club can fund the improvement of our sporting facilities while also benefitting from the skills and contribution of our members to keep costs down.

Investment in our sporting facilities remains our primary objective. This require us to generate an excess of income each year. Our main income is from membership subscriptions. This year, we propose to raise adult membership rates by just 2% and have kept the junior rates unchanged. Remember, all of our membership categories entitle you to also join the Warwick District Council Leisure Facilities at approx. 75% discount. The Council sports membership offers sports that we do not – including gyms, pools and classes. It is a great value offer.

As part of updating our membership systems, we have changed our direct debit service to a company called GoCardless. To simplify our membership administration, we are keen to get as many members as possible onto the new system. I'm pleased to say that in recognition of the reduced costs and improved retention for the club, we have decided that monthly direct debit payments will no longer have a surcharge applied. This means you can now choose to pay monthly by direct debit and pay exactly the same amount as if you had written a cheque for the whole total at the beginning of the year. Please note that when you choose to pay by direct debit, you are still committing to pay the full annual fee for your membership – if your direct debit fails, we will invoice you for the outstanding amount.

You will notice that we have changed our membership rates to now show the monthly cost as well as the annual sum. This is because other local clubs already use this presentation and we expect many members will wish to budget monthly and pay by direct debit. Although your current membership runs until the end of March, you can help the club by signing the direct debit mandate online now. No money will be taken until the new membership year begins in April and you will be notified by email of the amount that will be debited each month. If you expect to renew your membership in April, please sign up now by visiting GoCardless using the link shown on our website and completing the online form. Remember you will not pay a penny until you are notified and all payments are covered by the Direct Debit Guarantee.

A development that has affected every member this year is the introduction of the access card system. This project was driven by two different requirements – to improve the security of our pavilion and to provide more flexibility in our membership management. The removal of the previous door code that was known to all members and to many lapsed members, visitors, suppliers, etc. means we now have a more secure clubhouse. The use of individual membership cards means we will soon be able to renew individual memberships annually on the anniversary of first joining the club, rather than renewing all memberships in March. I know that changing a long established system can be frustrating and that it was easy initially to forget your membership card or leave it in the changing room when playing etc. However, I hope it has now become routine to use your card to access the clubhouse. We are just starting work on the second phase of this project, which will secure the pedestrian gate on the drive, the squash courts and the office door.

I would like to thank all the members of staff of Warwick Boat Club and all the coaches and volunteers who contribute to running the club. Without your efforts, we would not be able to operate as we do with successful participation of our teams and squads in competition at many levels in all of our sports. Thank you for your hard work.

Unfortunately, several members of the club have passed away this year. I will not name them as each is known, loved and remembered by their family and friends at the club. Although their passing is sad, we can pause for a moment to recall the contribution they made to our enjoyment of sport at Warwick Boat Club. In all our sports through participation at any level, it is the intensity of competition, the development of skills and the support of team members that can form friendships that last a lifetime.

If you are a car park user, please remember the rules regarding use of the drive. We work hard to maintain good relations with our neighbours on Mill Street, but these are easily set back by members who break the rules. Please remember that you may only use the WBC car park with a car weighing less than 1,800kg and when displaying a WBC car park permit. We have recently invested in a new online service that allows us to look up a car weight from the

registration number. This means we will be policing the weight limit more accurately and will contact you if we find your car is over the weight limit.

Please do not enter the drive if there is already another car on it or if the red light is illuminated showing the car park is full. Please keep your speed down on the drive and be cautious when emerging across the pavement at the top of the drive. Please stop if there are pedestrians on the drive and let them walk clear before proceeding. If you are on foot, please use the Banbury Road entrance for your own safety. Finally, please remember that we do not allow dropping off or pick-ups in Mill Street as it is too narrow and has limited turning space. Please use the St Nicholas Park car park and the Banbury Road entrance instead.

As you may know, after four and a half years, I am standing down as Club Captain at this year's AGM. My enthusiasm and commitment to the club are undiminished, but I believe it is important to change the club officials periodically to maintain fresh input balanced with experience for continuity. During more than twelve years on the General Committee, I have learned about organisation through consensus, finance on a budget, good governance and that people are supportive and prepared to help when asked. I'm going to try to spend a bit more time on my home DIY list and get back to flying light aircraft, but will still be involved at the club, in particular looking after our various IT systems. I would like to thank everybody who has served on the club committees during my captaincy, it has been a real pleasure working with you.

I'm delighted that Mike Rigby has agreed to stand for election as Club Captain. His experience, energy and natural talent for encouraging change and development will mean the club is in good hands. I encourage you to attend the AGM, to vote for Mike as Club Captain and to support him and the club for years to come.

As our accounts for the year show, we have continued to invest to maintain our beautiful club as a prestigious venue for sport and socialising. I hope you are able to make full use of these facilities throughout the year. I hope to see you at the AGM and at the club during 2016. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or suggestions.

James Alty
Club Captain
captain@warwickboatclub.co.uk

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Summarised Income and Expenditure and Balance Sheet are included with this notice and there have been significant changes in the last year.

The initial brief was to provide more detailed information to the General Management Committee (GMC). To do this cash accounts were produced each month. These detailed the movements in the Club's various bank accounts. The Club was involved with twelve different accounts. For this year the Club will use five, a main current account, an interest bearing account (not that much interest is earned), a Rowing account, a Bowls account and a PayPal account. For good reasons the social account is not included in the Club's figures.

The cash accounts have been converted into the financial accounts as shown. Other changes mean that the comparisons between the last two years need explanation.

A policy decision was made to reflect the fact that annual subscriptions cover a period that extends six months after the current financial year end (one reason for moving the financial year end to March). The effect is that Subscriptions Income at £128k is £95k less than the Subscriptions cash received. The £95k appears as a Current Liability on the Balance Sheet.

The change to cash accounting was accompanied by a re-coding of income and expenditure items and changing certain categories. Also included were the Rowing and Bowls current account balances. Both these sections handle the items that directly relate to their activities.

After taking advice it was decided to write back an historic creditor provision of £27k.

Excluding the "exceptional" items the Excess of Income would have been £54k which compares to the £30k the previous year.

Capital expenditure during the year totalled £34k the major items being on Boats £19k and the Squash boiler £7k. The year end cash was £300k but that quickly reduced with the payment in October of £34k for the new floodlights

Until next year's subscriptions are received the cash balance will continue to reduce and the budget shows a low point of £188k in February (another reason to move the financial year end).

Much as reporting on the past is important so too is looking ahead at the future cash resources. Tennis has advised that it is likely to be ten years before court resurfacing is needed and that expenditure could be £200k. That sum needs to be provided for over the years. Rowing has advised boat replacement expenditure of £100k over the next eight years. The Club needs to have a Contingency reserve.

There are two main projects that are under consideration, the Boat House (£100k) and the Club House Phase 2 (£200k). If the Club continues to generate £65k per year then it is realistic to envisage the Club will have the resources to do both projects between 2018 and 2020.

Last year was a year of change and involved a considerable workload. Louise deserves much credit for meeting the challenge in her positive and encouraging way. There are still changes needed this year, the subscription database, a new till for the bar and a new accounting system. Challenges indeed.

Martin Lusby

Treasurer

treasurer@warwickboatclub.co.uk

TENNIS CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Tennis at Warwick Boat Club is still in very good shape and again our success can be measured in many ways not just winning matches and trophies but taking part in the many tennis activities we promote at the club.

Our social mix ins held 4 times a week and managed by our tennis manager and head coach Gavin Henderson have attracted large numbers of members to play social tennis, we have had over 80 members turning up to play tennis on Saturdays and Wednesday evenings, much thanks to Gavin for his hard work in making this so successful.

We sadly said goodbye to Will Mason and Daniele Frankish they will be missed by us all, Will for his contribution to the men's teams and also his role as a tennis coach and Daniela for her contribution to the ladies 1st team, between them they have won both the open singles, doubles and mixed doubles in the club tournaments over the last few years. The good news is that we appointed a new tennis coach Booby Brooke, a Yorkshire county player, at the end of the summer and he has settled in very well.

Our junior section continues to strive with a number of young players coming into the teams. On a National front Harry Lazell continues to make his mark representing GB in the under 12 team. Many thanks for all the hard work our coaches Gavin, Jenny, Harry and Bobby our coaches put in to promoting junior tennis at the club. Our junior coordinator Graham Kensett along with Paul Martin are working on a number of new incentives to promote junior and family tennis at WBC and Graham also captains the Men's 5th team in which he always includes least 2/3 juniors in the team each week.

Our facilities have been improved with the installation of floodlights on courts 1,2 and 6 which give members the opportunity to just turn up and play during the winter months. We are also encouraging more coaching sessions for the team players and singles to be played with extra capacity we now have. We have purchased a tennis ball machine and video camera to assist us with tennis skills at all levels.

Next summer members will be able to book courts 6 to 10 online during weekdays and weekends, this will be for a trial period and we will review in September 2016.

Helen Simpson our Ladies team captain decided to step down at the end August and I would like to thank her for all hard work for the ladies teams during the last 4 years, Jane Robbins has now taken on this role and will be supported by Viv Spencer in the year ahead. Geoff Sault and Robert Pocknell continue as Men's captain and vice captain thank you both for the work you have done in the last year.

Men's tennis has begun to stabilise during the last year, the National men's over 35 team played in the European Championships. Our winter league team captained by Joe Nero won promotion, Carl Norton won county over 55 championships. Robert Pocknell took part in the World Veterans Championships in France. In the Coventry leagues 2 of our teams were relegated but the men's 1st team after a slow start finished 3rd in the premier league and the men's 2nd team just missed out on promotion to division one.

The club tournament had the largest entry in recent years; the highlight was the men's singles final in which Will Mason beat Hugh Jaques in three exciting sets.

Ladies tennis at the club had a solid year in Coventry Leagues, the first team where runners up in Division one. The Ladies over 60's team played in the European Championships in September and have qualified again this year, a number of players played for the county at various age groups and some as captains and Jenny Waggott played for the GB over 70's team in the world championships.

Thank you also to Libby Newman and her team for providing all the match suppers, Saturday teas and Wednesday night suppers it is really appreciated.

We have a strong tennis committee for the year ahead with our aim of making your tennis at WBC competitive, enjoyable and fun.

Peter Grant

Tennis Captain

tennis@warwickboatclub.co.uk

SQUASH CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Since the last annual squash report, the section has been busy with a number of projects designed to improve and upgrade the facilities for our squash playing membership. In July 2015, the squash courts were given a much needed refurbishment which smartened up the playing environment to quite a considerable degree and was well received by all the squash members. The second part of the refurbishment project, the replacement of the existing fluorescent lighting with state of the art LED panels is almost complete, and already we can see courts that are as good as or better than any other club's courts in our part of Warwickshire. The final piece of the programme is tweaking the court heating so that it functions reliably, a number of issues are still to be resolved to our satisfaction. The installation of two de-stratification fans will greatly assist in maintaining a comfortable playing environment. All these measures have a price, but due to improved efficiency, the running costs are reduced and will, over the course of the next five years, more than pay for itself.

Membership.

Although the squash only membership is slightly down on the previous year, I think it is fair to say that across the club as a whole, we have the same or perhaps slightly more actual squash playing members. The court booking system statistics indicate that we are more or less on a par with the previous year, my feeling is that we are busier than ever. The one disappointment is a clear lack of junior squash playing members, it would appear that it is difficult to motivate youngsters to take up squash, although a small group of youngsters are engaged in some squash coaching on a Saturday afternoon with our coach Jonathan Peak.

Competitions.

As in previous years, the two main section competitions are the Spring open and handicap competitions for both squash and racketball, and the Autumn team handicap competition. Both are popular and reasonably well attended, although stretching over a number of weeks can cause logistical problems for some entrants. The main in club event is the ongoing summer and winter leagues, with the injection of some new blood is looking healthy, though racketball would like a few new faces to add variety.

Club teams.

The Warwickshire league is the main inter club competition, both summer and winter leagues for the men's 1st. and 2nd. The ladies team only play in the winter league. During the past eighteen months a men's 3rd. team has been formed to play outside the Warwickshire league on an ad hoc friendly basis between our near neighbouring clubs, though slow to start, it is picking up steam and proving to be popular. Last year our 1st team was promoted to division 3 and is currently doing very well, likewise the 2nd team gained promotion and is finding the going quite hard in division 5 as the general standard is a step up on last year. The ladies team play in division 2, their main issue is the lack of new younger players to come into the team, and hence it can be difficult to raise a reasonably strong team to compete with some of the much larger clubs in the league. Racketball does not run a club side and only play in the club's internal leagues. It appears that many of the other clubs in Warwickshire are finding that racketball is gaining in popularity and in robust good health. It requires someone to take the initiative and see if a team would be viable. The pressure on our limited court availability makes it extremely difficult to factor in any additional teams, however, the arrangement with Warwick school to use their courts at a very generous discount, means that the 3rd. team matches and team training does not impinge on the general playing members ability to find courts to play on.

Finances.

Traditionally the squash section has always run on a deficit in terms of revenue generated against ongoing expenditure. It seemed appropriate that the gap between income and expenditure be narrowed and hence a number of measures were put in place to achieve this end. The court booking fee has remained the same for over three years and it seemed reasonable that this fee should be raised. Although in percentage terms the raise was substantial, it is still the case that our fees are as cheap as or cheaper than any club in the Warwickshire league. With a fairly expensive programme of improvements we do need to keep on top of our finances and ensure the club is well funded and able to meet all its commitments.

In conclusion I would like to thank all those members who give of their time, to help in whatever way possible, to make the squash section run smoothly and benefit all its members.

Tibor Szolnoki
Squash Captain.
squash@warwickboatclub.co.uk

CAPTAIN OF BOATS REPORT

2015 was a good year for the Rowing Section.

The membership is healthy with 115 members and another 20 in the process of joining. As in previous years, the Section experienced quite a churn of inexperienced members which can be attributed to more people wanting to give the sport a try rather than committing to it for life. Once members are established they tend to remain for many years, which is very positive.

In competition the Section had a good year with the number of wins up to 37, the highest since 2007. There are several crews who are of a standard to race on the national and international level, chalking up some good results: the double scull of Paul Gosling and Andre Delahaye won in the 'C' category at the World Masters Championships in Hazewinkel and then took second place at the Pairs Head in London; the coxed four of Tom Grinstead, Jon Martin, Andrew Collett and Chris Bailey coxed by Alison Tonkin took the category 'A' gold medal at National Masters Championships; a WBC crew of Lucy Rogers, Sammy Dartnall, Philip Tonkin and Andrew Collett took the gold medal in the Mixed Relay event at the British Indoor Rowing Championships; and a WBC eight also set a new course record in the Mixed Intermediate 3 category at the Boston Marathon.

The Section's fleet is in good condition, although it presents a continual maintenance challenge to the volunteers who do the work. Two new Janousek double sculls were purchased to replace ageing boats and several sets of new oars were added to the inventory. Two boats have been identified for professional refurbishment at the beginning of 2016 which will help extend their life.

Safety is of paramount importance, and the Section takes this very seriously both on and off the water. The year has not been without incident, and although most have minor consequences the Section continues to strive to reduce the number and severity of incidents and to promote safety awareness amongst its members. Off the water, the purchase of a new mobile racking system for the small boat house has improved the storage of a number of boats, reducing the risk of a lifting injury and making them easier to manoeuvre (thus making them less prone to handling damage).

Junior rowing activities re-commenced during the year after a break of many years. Presently this takes the form of a Satellite Club with Kings High, although it is not exclusive for KH pupils. 2015 has been quite tentative whilst numbers and demand have been assessed, however in the new year it is planned to re-introduce a WBC junior rowing squad and have further conversations with a couple of local schools. The first 'Rowing Summer Camp' which took place over a week of mornings in late July was well received.

The 2015 Warwick Regatta was a superb event, delivered by a committed team of volunteers as usual. The number of entries was very high, with 135 crews racing in 40 events, including a Championship Fours event unique to Warwick, run by special permission of British Rowing, which drew a good entry. The Club received a large number of compliments about the event from visiting competitors, umpires and spectators, many of whom are expected to return next year.

Jon Martin
Captain of Boats
rowing@warwickboatclub.co.uk

BOWLS CAPTAIN'S REPORT

The 2015 year went well overall, although several matches had to be cancelled due to weather and a number of opposition teams letting us down. Some of our bowlers have enjoyed playing for South Warwickshire and taking part in County and Local Competitions. An enjoyable tour to Bournemouth took place in May 2015, and we look forward to our trip to Tenby in May 2016. The greens at the Club have bowled consistently well, although looking a little the worse for wear by the end of the season.

Several new members have joined the club during the year. The Academy has again proved popular in providing coaching to enable newcomers to develop and progress, and they are encouraged to join some of our more experienced bowlers at the Friday Afternoon Gala, and then on to Club Matches and Competitions. Thank you Coaches for your dedication and patience. We will continue to progress this process in 2016 and encourage more members to join us, as unfortunately we do have some of our more experienced bowlers no longer able to play, either due to health issues or simply moving out of the area.

In 2015 the Ladies played 19 friendly matches, the Men 21, with 8 Mixed matches also played; we ended up losing more matches than we won, but nevertheless a very satisfactory season. The Internal Competitions were well supported, with some excellent matches played in the right spirit, the winning trophies being presented at the Annual Dinner in November. The Warwick Town Triples event was again very well run and much appreciated by all those taking part; one of our teams reached the final, but ended as runner-up. The Ladies v Gentlemen trophy, played over 3 matches, was won by the Ladies; a notable achievement as this is only their fourth win since the competition started in 2000. Several other Sunday triples events took place, including the Mark Easton Trophy day (again with excellent weather), which as usual were enjoyed by those attending.

The Ladies continued to play in The Stratford Herald League, with the A and B teams finishing mid-table of Division 2, and the C team at the bottom of Division 3; with other playing commitments it is difficult to run 3 teams, and the decision has been taken to only enter 2 teams in 2016. Having been newly promoted to Division 2 in the Courier League, the Men found the opposition considerably stronger, and finished one from bottom, and will be returning to Division 3 in 2016.

The Bowls Section had a very well attended pre-Christmas get together on December 20th, which has now become an annual fixture. Several more social events have been planned by the section for the early part of 2016. We look forward with enthusiasm to the start of our new season in April – may the weather be kind to us!

Peter Boardman

Bowls Section Captain

bowls@warwickboatclub.co.uk

PAVILION CAPTAIN'S REPORT

The clubroom and bar area has been redecorated during December, and this process will be extended to the ladies changing room. The carpet has been renewed with a more suitable material, which hopefully will last longer and be more resilient to stains and wear.

A process of replacing the light bulbs with low energy ones has been undertaken over the year and the energy contracts have been renegotiated to obtain better prices. The telephone contract has also benefited from better terms, as has the waste disposal contract. A new water heater has been purchased for the kitchen and this has also benefited by an energy saving device, in the form of a time clock so it does not run 24/7.

We are now paying a substantial amount more for water than we did in the past, so it is important that we save as much water as possible. To help this, a water miser has been fitted to the men's toilet facilities. One ladies cloakroom basin has received a great deal of attention, as there was a leak from it, which took a considerable time to find. New non-concussive taps have been fitted, so this should have solve the problem and also save energy and water. We are now conducting our own PAT tests for our electrical equipment.

We are investigating the use of acoustic materials to try to deaden the sound in the pavilion area, especially when there is a meeting.

The outside of the pavilion is like the Forth Bridge, and it is a constant battle to keep the wood protected. The new tennis floodlight control box on the corner of court one will be painted green in the spring.

The car park entrance has received attention by removing and painting the signs. They have all been repositioned together and a new post box installed, just outside the control barrier.

I would like to thank John Mahoney for his excellent work and commitment during the year.

Tony Baker

Pavilion Chair

pavilion@warwickboatclub.co.uk

GROUNDS CHAIR'S REPORT

Early in the year a new fence was erected on the boundary between the back of the squash courts and the rear garden of Mrs Smith's house on Mill Street.

A major project, begun in 2014, was completed in January. The boundary wall between the squash courts and the rear garden of 25, Mill Street was dismantled because it was leaning and considered to be dangerous. The row of Cupressus leylandii trees in our neighbour's garden was clearly pushing the wall over so they were removed after the old wall had been taken down. A new wall was built and the costs shared between Warwick Boat Club and the Stephensons who own 25, Mill Street.

We cultivated the narrow border in front of this new wall. On 2nd April we planted a range of perennials and shrubs in this border. They were selected for their ability to thrive in the shaded conditions in front of the squash court's entrance.

In January, dead limbs were cut off the oak tree in the car park. The timber was sawn into logs and sold to club members.

On 26th February 20 tonnes of Breedon gravel were delivered to the club. This gravel was used to re-surface the Banbury Road drive and to fill in depressions in the middle of the main car park. We should like to thank Tony Baker with his help with this project.

A fine, 4m high English oak tree was planted at the edge of the Banbury Road bank in a gap between the laurels. It was planted to commemorate Tom Smeaton, past Captain and President.

The path-side lights required attention on several occasions during the year. Mark helped the electricians replace junction boxes underneath the riverbank lights where water had penetrated the units and caused the lights to fail. On several occasions during the year working parties sorted the equipment and materials behind the squash courts that had accumulated over the years. We should like to thank Tony Baker and Tibor Szolnoki for their hard work in re-cycling materials and disposing of unwanted equipment.

Avonmore Associates utilized their expensive and specialised equipment to help in maintaining the bowling green which, as usual, was intensely used during the season. Mark swished and cut the bowling green at least 6 days a week between April and October.

I should like to acknowledge Mark's fine efforts in maintaining the grounds and sports facilities and helping with many functions during the year.

Bob Ellis

Grounds Chair

grounds@warwickboatclub.co.uk

SOCIAL CHAIR'S REPORT

2015 has been a wonderful social year at Warwick Boat Club and 2016 will continue to maintain great events.

I would like to say a special thank you to Libby Newman for stepping onto the helm, holding the social vessel straight and narrow over the last year while still maintaining her demanding role in Catering. Thank you to the committee members who have supported Libby at the events and helped to organise such a varied year at the club. An individual thanks goes to Peter Grant for continuing on the social committee as the treasurer while taking over as Tennis Captain and supporting the social section.

There were numerous social activities again at WBC last year we had a number of events which attracted members and friends. The events ranged from discos, fashion shows, quizzes, summer BBQ's, visits from Santa Claus to live music

events. The warm summer again encouraged many organised and impromptu BBQ's, and the club was hired out to members for a number of private parties, business meetings and special events.

Thanks also have to go out to all of the staff at Warwick Boat Club as none of the Social events happen without the staff. The friendly faces of the bar staff ensure that the Bar and Café are welcoming places to enjoy before or after playing sport and even just to pop down for a drink. There have been a few changes over the last year with the arrival and departure of Stuart and Gary our clubhouse managers and thanks go to them for helping the club. There are the unsung and unseen heroes in the background, changing lightbulbs, moving tables, ensuring that the clubhouse is clean and ensuring that the finance and admin is done for private member hire events. John, Mark, Janet and Louise ensure that the Clubhouse is a welcoming and social place for all members and their guests to enjoy.

Our current social committee for 2015/2016 is below:

Aaron Corsi - Social Chair, Libby Newman, Jenni Fuller, Mark Needham, Gill Kingscote, Ken Butler, Mary Lou Milner, David Wall, Andy and Patrick from Rowsoc, Simon Perkin.

We are looking for more members to volunteer to assist us on the committee and would value some more faces and ideas to help us organise and run the events. There is not a large regular commitment in time as we only meet once a month for an hour, but we do like to spread out the workload on the social nights to run the events.

The club pavilion is also hired out to members for private parties, dinners and wedding celebrations together with raising money for charities, it is extremely good value with rates starting at £100, we have several recommended club caterers and they can provide a wide range of food to suit all tastes, please do contact admin@warwickboatclub.co.uk for more information.

I am looking forward to our main social events in 2016, they are noted below; we would also welcome any ideas and suggestions from all members for future social events and activities:

Saturday 5th March - Start of Year Party
Friday 11th March - Fashion Show in Aid of Charity.
Saturday 23rd April - Spring Party
Saturday 25th June - Party
Saturday 13th August - WBC Summer Fete
Saturday 20th August - Post Rowing Regatta party
Saturday 10th September - Tennis Party
Saturday 15th October - Autumn Party
Saturday 3rd December - Christmas Party
Sunday 11th December - Children's Christmas Party
Sunday 18th December - Club Christmas Lunch

All tickets for these event will be available for purchase online via Eventbrite this year so you can purchase your tickets well in advance. This should give us a more efficient way of controlling numbers at the events and save cost of printing tickets etc.

The main elements of some of the events have yet to be decided so if you have any suggestions for entertainment / themes for the events then please get in contact.

Aaron Corsi
Social Chair
social@warwickboatclub.co.uk

CATERING CHAIR'S REPORT

This Year has been busy. All sections of the club have extensively used the Kitchen and Catering facilities.

Our Summer Match Suppers (both Squash and Tennis) were catered for early in the year by Sarah Fuller from Tastebuds, but she unfortunately has had to have time away from catering due to ill health. We wish her well and look forward to more of her catering in a few months' time. She also catered for several Private events early this year. However, Mark and Claire Edwards have cooked for the Men's Squash Suppers over the winter months and I have cooked for the Ladies. Norma Clarke has catered for the bowling section and the Christmas Lunch at the Club. As well as providing some delicious cakes for some Saturday Teas.

We have used various Caterers for both the Section and Private events over the year: Gourmet Foods, Sue Dalby, Bon App and Sarah Simon. All provided delicious meals and we thank them.

Earlier in the year Gary Shaw our Clubhouse Manager at the time provided 'all day catering' for a Corporate Event and Sarah Simon did the same last month.

The kitchen has been stretched this year as ever. It is used daily and Wednesday Suppers and Saturday Teas are proving to be as popular as ever. Volunteers are often difficult to find but those that do, provide welcome meals and teas....Thank you.

Barbara Whitbread stepped down from helping me organise the Wednesday Supper Rota and she is greatly missed. Her enthusiasm and organisational skills made it all happen seemingly effortlessly but I know it took up a lot of her time. Thank you Barbara. Val Reed helped me for a few weeks but found her own personal schedule too demanding for her to continue. I am looking for a replacement.....? Pam Anderton is helping with the Saturday Tea Rota. An enormous help.

Since Aaron left as Club house Manager we have had two others who have been at the club but sadly neither felt the job was quite for them. We have no Clubhouse Manager at the moment so the Cafe is only open on Saturday mornings. It is very popular with Tennis Players, Rowers, visitors and friends. Lucy Rogers (our Bar Manager) organises the Rota and many thanks to Jane, Heather, Rachel, Lucy, James, Aaron and Georgina who all put in 'hours' to provide delicious coffee and croissants for everyone.

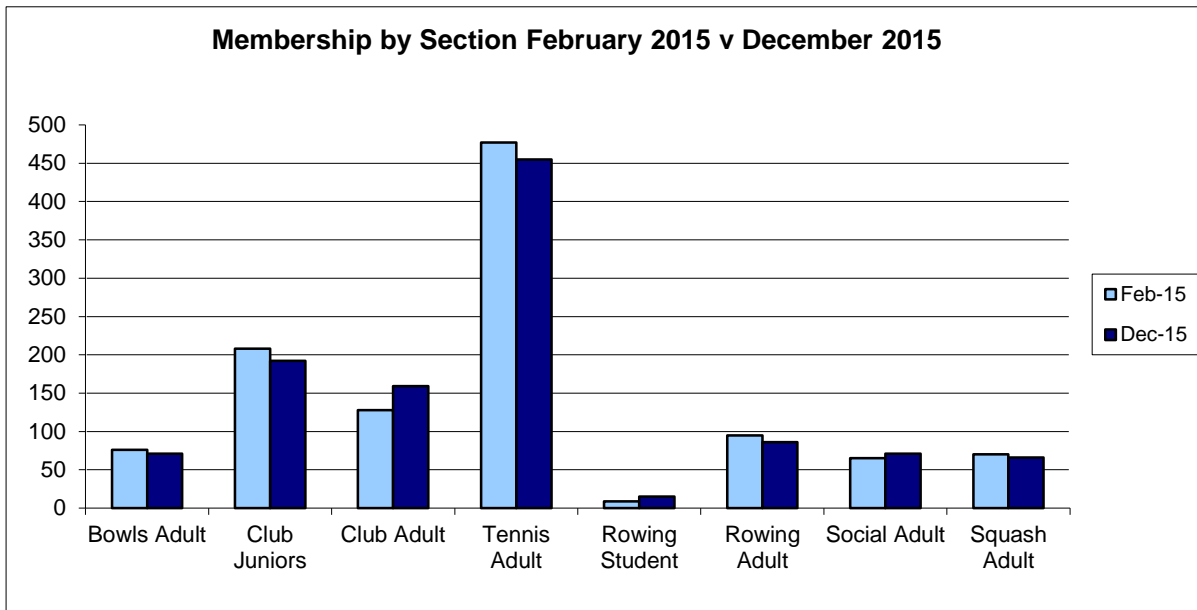
Most of the events at the club need catering of some description from Curry to Fish and Chips to 3 course meals. Each section has kindly communicated with me so that events don't clash and the Kitchen is kept to our high standard. We have a hygiene inspection annually and have yet again managed to keep our 5 Star Rating.

I would like to thank everyone who uses the facilities at the Club for their consideration in helping to look after the Kitchen. Especially Janet for all her cleaning, washing up and endless good humour. To John for changing light bulbs and painting walls. To Mark for being around to move tables. To Tony for his work with the PAT test and fitting the new water boiler. And Louise Street in the office for her constant communication with me over Private Functions and general Club and Kitchen use.

Libby Newman
Catering Chair
catering@warwickboatclub.co.uk

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

Membership Type	Paid This Year	Paid Last Year	Change This Year
Bowls Adult	71	76	-5
Club Starter (age under 8)	17	14	3
Club Junior (age 8 to 11)	41	56	-15
Club Intermediate (age 12 to 21)	112	116	-4
Club Student in FTFE	22	22	0
Club Young Adult (age 22 - 30)	70	53	17
Club Adult	64	54	10
Club Senior	25	21	4
Tennis Adult	455	477	-22
Rowing Student	12	3	9
Rowing Summer Student	3	6	-3
Rowing Adult	82	93	-11
Rowing Cox	4	2	2
Social Adult	71	65	6
Squash Adult	66	70	-4
----- Grand Total -----	1115	1128	-13



Overall membership numbers are currently down by 1% (last year was down by 2%). Active sporting membership is down by 11 this year (1%). Previous year down by 39 (3%). This represents a 5% reduction over the last 2 years. Numbers in the Club Junior category are also down.

We are, however, attracting more younger members in the Young Adult category - numbers up by 17 to 70 which is very encouraging. These figures do only represent the first nine months of our year and as there is a steady stream of enquiries about membership throughout the year, we still expect people to join in the next few months. We hope to end the membership year about level with last year.

We will be encouraging members to pay their subs by Direct Debit as it will spread the administrative burden on the club. We would like to draw members' attention to the fact that using this method of payment will incur no extra charge.

My thanks go Louise Street the Club Administrator for her vital day-to-day work on membership matters and in particular for providing the General Committee with up to date figures and historical comparison charts throughout the year.

Fiona Singer
 Membership Secretary
membership.secretary@warwickboatclub.co.uk