



# January 23 Newsletter



## **WELCOME 2023!**

It's an exciting time at Merrow as we welcome in 2023.

As you are hopefully aware 2023 is our centenary year and we have lots of events planned!

In the last week we heard that we were successful in our appeal against the refusal of the planning application for our 7th court. We will now ask for quotes for building the new court.



# NEW DOUBLES LADDERS

The mixed singles ladder is running successfully and so we have now developed a Mixed Doubles ladder, Ladies' Doubles ladder and Men's Doubles ladder. If you want to join any of these please email Dave on

[merrow-ladder@hotmail.com](mailto:merrow-ladder@hotmail.com)

and he will get you set up on tennistrungs the software we are using.

## Estates

The following improvements are being made to the premises in the next few months:

- New hand dryer in the ladies
- The heaters in the cloakrooms will be replaced.
- The drains to the toilets will be relayed.
- The fences and gates around the courts will be repaired or replaced. The hitting wall will remain in place for the time being while an alternative is considered.
- Power brushing and court maintenance will take place on **Tuesday 7th March**. Therefore there will be limited court availability at times on this day.
- Repair some of the floorboards in the clubhouse.
- We will be asking companies to quote for building a 7th court.

# STRATEGY QUESTIONNAIRE

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Many thanks to the 197 members who completed the strategy questionnaire. The Strategy Committee will be looking at the answers in more detail to develop a strategy for the club for the next 3 to 5 years.

Here is a summary of the responses that were given:

*Merrow LTC has **loyal members, of a relatively high age, the majority of whom are active, regular players who like to play social tennis.***

Merrow's **friendly atmosphere** is by far the most mentioned reason why people join/stay with MLTC. Other attractive aspects are our club tennis options, coaching and box league.

Our **club sessions are highly appreciated**, yet there is **room for improvement** to increase the satisfaction level with the sessions and increase the attendance. As club sessions are one of the key 'features' of our club, we should think of ways to improve the club sessions.

Although **Social life** at MLTC is mostly rated as 'good', there seems to be **room for improvement**. The number of open comments regarding more socialising after tennis suggests there is something to be done here .



The **floodlights and the tennis balls** (although the provision of these is rated highly) are **two areas for attention**, given the scores & the open comments. Other areas to improve are the clubhouse itself, the terrace, parking & lighting. There are some comments regarding clay courts (limited but not to be ignored).

The new clubhouse with its improved changing rooms & shower area are much appreciated. There is clearly room for improvement though **to make the clubhouse & terrace more cosy and appealing for socialising.**

There seems to be nearly **50% of members who do not want MLTC to grow its membership** versus 11% who think we should. Respondents express their appreciation for the friendliness of the club and worry expansion might change this. There seems to be **quite a lot of support for attracting/doing more for juniors**, respondents acknowledging we are an 'aged' club.

There's **quite some support for making social life more vibrant** at Marrow, with a significant group of respondents though who are neutral about this. Lastly, there's **high support for expansion of our facilities** if there would be an opportunity to do so, with quite a few mentions for **padel**.



## Coaching

If you are interested in joining the spring term coaching programme there are still some spaces available.

Please contact Jorge on [munozejorgemartin@yahoo.com](mailto:munozejorgemartin@yahoo.com) to check availability.

## DOGS

Please remember that dogs are **not** allowed in the clubhouse



Come and join us for our annual

## *Curry & Quiz Night*

Entrance is **£14** per person and includes food.

The bar will be open for members to buy drinks.

Please email Alison on [merrowtc@gmail.com](mailto:merrowtc@gmail.com) to sign up. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

**FRIDAY 3RD FEB**

**Quizmaster: Peter O'Donoghue**

7.00PM DOORS OPEN  
7.30PM QUIZ STARTS  
8.00PM CURRY SERVED





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# MLTC AGM

**TUESDAY 14TH MARCH 23  
AT 7.30PM  
IN THE CLUBHOUSE.**

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**Please do join us for the AGM.**

**We need 20 members at the  
meeting to be quorate.**

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There will be a welcome drink for  
members on arrival.

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We are always looking for new Committee members. If you would like to know more about what is involved please speak to **Adrian Rees or any of the other committee members**. A nominations sheet for Committee Members for 23-24 will be put on the noticeboard in February.



This is to certify that  
**Merrow Lawn Tennis Club**

is an LTA Registered Venue 2022-23

Your tennis venue meets the LTA's Safeguarding Standards, a building block to ensure a safe and inclusive venue. This means that you have the following in place:

- A Safeguarding Policy that is communicated to everyone at the venue
- A Diversity & Inclusion Policy that is communicated to everyone at the venue
- A trained Welfare Officer that oversees safeguarding at the venue
- All appropriate volunteers & staff have undertaken a Criminal Records Check
- The venue undertakes an Annual Risk Assessment
- All level 2-5 coaches at the venue are LTA Accredited

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Lloyd'.

**Scott Lloyd**  
CEO, LTA

Tennis  
SCOTLAND

TENNIS  
WALES & CYMRU



**23rd**  
April

**Vintage Tournament**

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**1st**  
July

**Centenary Marquee  
Event**

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**15/16th**  
July

**Junior Event**

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**11th**  
Nov

**Black Tie Event  
at the County Club**

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