Reports in advance of the MLTC Annual General Meeting 2026

7. Chair's Report

The last 12 months has been eventful for the Club, and we have achieved a great deal.

The Club's decision to change the legal status of Merrow Lawn Tennis Club (MLTC) to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), and the subsequent approval from The Charity Commission, was a significant achievement. The project commenced at an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) in November 2024 where it was unanimously agreed that the Club should pursue the proposal to convert to a CIO, albeit subject to final approval from members. Almost 12 months later, following a great deal of work steered by a sub-committee, and overwhelming support from members, a second EGM held in October 2025 authorised the Club to submit the CIO application form and draft constitution to The Charity Commission. Following approval later that month by The Charity Commission we are now finalising all the necessary administration to enable MLTC CIO to be effective from the 1st April 2026.

MLTC CIO will have nine Trustees including the current President, Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer to ensure the Club is carrying out its purposes according to its governing document for the benefit of members. The day-to-day affairs will continue to be managed by the Committee who we will elect later this evening, and from the 1st April will be referred to as the Management Committee. The running and administration of the Club will stay the same, but the legal and constitutional advantages will make it simpler to operate, and this benefits everyone.

The Club's finances continue to be healthy, and we are looking ahead to ensure monies are accrued for future major expenditure such as new floodlights and court resurfacing.

The Club has had significant problems over the last 12 months with the floodlights on Courts 4-6. The lights are metal halide, are difficult, and expensive to repair and replace. We made the decision to upgrade the lights and submitted an application to Guildford Borough Council (GBC) in September 2025, in line with Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) recommendations for clubs at our level, proposing an upgrade of the floodlights on Courts 4-6 to LEDs, together with the installation of intermediate poles along the net line. A specialist lighting company was consulted and produced the plans that were submitted to GBC; we await their decision.

As always we have been busy ensuring that our clubhouse, courts, and grounds are maintained. Works that some of you may not even notice include a water butt, a flue for Court 7, new garden waste enclosure, general fencing, and net repairs as well as tree maintenance.

The Club is now contributing to a greener world. We use almost 5,000 tennis balls each year: a great benefit for our members. But then what do we do with them? The Club now uses a company that collects the used balls and recycles them, both the cloth and rubber, into new tennis and padel balls and other circular products in a sustainable way.

The LTA carried out a safeguarding inspection during the year. The inspector was more than satisfied that our Club promotes a culture of respect, inclusivity, and safety and reflects the LTA's guidelines on safeguarding.

As usual we have many of the Club teams playing at all levels in external Leagues and, as an aside, we would like to encourage more members to step forward and join the teams. Congratulations to the Ladies C team playing in Division 3 of the Woking Winter League, who have recently come top

of their league with one game still remaining and will be promoted next season. Club members continue to enjoy playing in the Box League, the 'Inbetweeners' group continues with its own Club sessions and various Club competitions have also taken place this year, including the much-enjoyed parent/junior tournaments.

There has been an increase in social events from fun quizzes, a charity tennis day that resulted in a donation of £4,200 to The Fountain Centre, and Christmas events.

We currently have over 300 junior members and many of whom are in our successful coaching programme run by our excellent coaching team. Last summer the Club established a community project and took tennis into Merrow Junior School to give young people a tennis 'taster 'and encourage them to play the sport. This will hopefully be repeated this Summer and also at Boxgrove School.

The waiting list to join the Club is a huge reflection on its success and we attempt to admit as many new members as we can annually. Our success is a result of the amazing work done by all our volunteers, those on the Committee, and those who go about their tasks unknown. A huge thank you to you all and also to our members who ensure the Club continues to be a welcoming and friendly place to play all levels of tennis.

Thank you for a successful year.

Louise Blakeborough (MLTC Chair)
chairmerrowtennis@gmail.com

8. Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 December 2025

I attach the income and expenditure accounts and balance sheets of the Club for the year ended 31 December 2025 with comparisons for the previous 4 years.

a) Income and expenditure

The Club made a surplus of £51,739 in 2025. There were no major items of capital expenditure, and minor items have been charged against income.

Please note the following points:

- The accounts have been prepared on a cash basis which is consistent with previous years.
- Membership fees are 16% higher than last year because of the 2.5% inflationary rise in subscription rates and the increase in membership numbers (see membership report for details) which have resulted in more new joiner fees as well as more subscriptions being paid.
- Coaching income and expenditure is 11% higher than in 2024 as a result of an increase in coaches' and coaching fees from 1 January 2025 and a rise in the number of classes being run. The net surplus on coaching is similar to the previous two years. A good proportion of the gross surplus is paid out to coaches in bonuses. The labour market for coaches has not improved and we wish to retain existing and encourage new coaches to the Club.
- We spent a third on Pavilion repairs compared to the previous year. We plan to spend significantly more in 2026 to improve the ambiance of the clubhouse and bar area.
- Improvements are mainly the cost of the flue extension paid to Horizon. 2024 improvements costs were much higher as they include the new fencing, ball machine, shed, path and patio.
- Floodlight costs have risen significantly due to those on courts 4-6 needing regular repairs. This will reduce once the new floodlights are installed (see Estates Report).
- Tennis ball costs are higher this year as we now recycle used balls to reduce landfill.

b) Transition to CIO

The CIO will become active on 1 April 2026 and all income and expenditure will flow through this entity after that date. The Club's final trading period will be the 3 months to 31 March 2026. The change in year-end will align the financial and membership years to the same dates but as a result there will be no membership income in the 3 months to 31 March 2026 as this has all been recognised when received in 2025. It is estimated that a loss of ~£15k will be incurred in this 3-month period.

c) Bank accounts and General & Capital Fund

The Club's accounts at Lloyds, Metro Bank and Skipton Building Society held nearly £180,000 at 31 December 2025. These cash balances will be transferred to the CIO on 1 April 2026.
£14k of this year's surplus has been transferred to the General Fund to cover the anticipated loss for the 3-month period to 31 March 2026. The balance of this year's surplus has been transferred to the Capital Fund to contribute towards the cost of the longer-term estate plans as detailed in the Estates Report. There is currently insufficient funds to cover all of these projects and we will need to continue to accrue significant surpluses in future years in order to afford all the necessary work.

In the Capital Fund there is currently £158,843 which is roughly allocated as follows:

All numbers include 20% VAT	**Capital Fund £**		**Planned project date**	**Expected cost £**
New Green waste bin	2,000	For garden waste	2026	2,000
Clubhouse refurbishment	12,000	Upgrade to internal finishes	2026	12,000
Replace floodlights 4-6	42,000	Awaiting planning approval	2026	42,000
Resurface courts 1-3	44,000	Last done in 2015	2029	60,000
Replacement Fencing	4,800	Becoming brittle	2029	24,000
Replace floodlights 1-3	8,400	Replicate court 4-6 new lights	2029	42,000
Resurface courts 4-6	36,000	Last done in 2017	2031	60,000
Replace floodlights 7	2,400	New in 2023	2038	18,000
Resurface court 7	4,000	New in 2023	2038	30,000
Clubhouse future upgrades	3,243	Balancing figure	?	12,000
Total	**158,843**			**302,000**

100% provision has been made for projects planned to be implemented within the next year and a partial provision has been made for those planned in future years with a view to full provision being made from future surpluses in time for the planned project implementation.

The cost of the new floodlights for courts 4-6 (and courts 1-3 in 2029) will depend upon what planning permission is received and what solution we decide to implement. If this exceeds £42k then the additional cost will need to be funded from the surplus generated in 2026/27. This will reduce our ability to increase the provision for other future projects. It is therefore recommended that there is another small increase in membership numbers in 2026/27 to help cover this potential additional cost.

To maintain the required rate of surplus we also need to increase the subscriptions payable by members. This year we are proposing an average increase in line with inflation, about 3.8%, as on the schedule attached. It should be noted that this % is an average and that some subscriptions increase by a higher or lower % (e.g. over 75 – 17%, Social - 9%, Junior > 10 – 1.8%, Group coaching – 2.7%).

It is clear that at current rates of surplus the Club will be able to maintain the current standard of its facilities but there is not sufficient spare money for any other major plans

Coaching fees will remain the same for the Summer Term 2026 but it should be noted that a review of coaching is currently being carried out and its conclusions will be reported in due course.

So the matters for the AGM are: -

- Approval of the accounts
- Approval of the proposed subscription rates for 2026/7.

Sarah Parker
Treasurer
treasurermltc@yahoo.co.uk

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR 2025

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
INCOME	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Membership subscriptions	**105,460**	**90,709**	**86,135**	**80,073**	**82,852**
Match fees	0	0	0	10	40
Visitor fees	634	500	297	257	300
Tournament entry fees	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	222	65	295	98	17,620
Other income total	**856**	**565**	**592**	**365**	**17,960**
Bar income	1,889	1,963	1,864	1,719	526
Bar purchases	-1,498	-1,478	-1,378	-1,209	-432
	391	**485**	**486**	**510**	**94**
Coaching income	109,891	98,577	94,365	84,967	63,091
Coaches fees & admin	-106,699	-95,827	-91,583	-78,182	-49,063
Profit Share from Premier Tennis					
	3,192	**2,750**	**2,782**	**6,785**	**14,028**
TOTAL NET INCOME	**109,899**	**94,509**	**89,995**	**87,733**	**114,934**
EXPENSES					
Water & refuse	751	989	1,340	702	31
Pavilion admin	1,898	2,057	2,247	2,106	1,849
Insurance	2,472	2,687	3,071	2,358	2,358
Telephone	742	775	939	1,032	666
Electricity	10,049	8,800	4,875	3,846	1,701

Pavilion repairs	988	2,981	3,236	1,423	433
Premises total	**16,900**	**18,289**	**15,708**	**11,467**	**7,038**
Grounds labour	6,388	6,535	6,364	4,557	2,947
Grounds materials	3,997	2,895	973	1,228	788
Improvements	1,479	24,121	154,025	16,231	0
Floodlights	3,174	521	0	0	4,855
Online booking	1,008	1,008	876	864	864
Refurbishment of courts	2,359	2,106	1,726	1,752	5,392
Grounds total	**18,405**	**37,186**	**163,964**	**24,632**	**14,846**
Tennis balls	7,780	6,374	6,752	5,387	3,130
Affiliation fees	1,165	980	945	770	720
Administration	9,595	9,010	8,345	7,552	11,574
Corporation Tax	597	644	103	30	200
Entry fees	285	281	277	269	49
Engraving etc	452	445	276	619	168
Social events/marketing	1,134	1,185	12,711	3,157	145
Professional fees	2,513	0	0	1,500	3,522
Miscellaneous	1,791	1,920	4,633	2,003	8,233
Other expenditure total	**25,312**	**20,839**	**34,042**	**21,287**	**27,741**
TOTAL EXPENSES	**60,617**	**76,314**	**213,714**	**57,386**	**49,625**
NET INCOME	**49,282**	**18,195**	**-123,719**	**30,347**	**65,309**
Interest received (gross)	2,457	3,050	3,376	541	160
Transfer from Capital Fund	0	0	139,723		
OPERATING SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	**51,739**	**21,245**	**19,380**	**30,888**	**65,469**

BALANCE SHEET AS AT	31/12/2025	31/12/2024	31/12/2023	31/12/2022	31/12/2021
Capital Fund at start of year	121,000	99,877	210,800	100,738	80,738
General Fund at start of year	1,104	982	10,402	89,576	44,107
Total funds at start of year	**122,104**	**100,859**	**221,202**	**190,314**	**124,845**
Transfer from Capital Fund	0	0	139,723	0	0
Transfer to Capital Fund	37,843	21,123	26,800	20,000	20,000
Exceptional further transfer	0	0	2,000	90,062	0
Transfer to General Fund	13,896	122	19,380	30,888	65,469
Capital Fund at end of year	158,843	121,000	99,877	210,800	100,738
General Fund at end of year	15,000	1,104	982	10,402	89,576
Total funds at end of year	**173,843**	**122,104**	**100,859**	**221,202**	**190,314**
Represented by:					
Current account	33,507	1,225	3,802	54,205	53,983
Lloyds deposit account	76,843	56,170	4,471		
Metro Bank/Secure Trust	5,901	5,809	5,627	85,055	51,000
Skipton Building Society	63,464	61,772	89,603	87,270	86,784
Cash	4	4	4	4	4
Credits for coaching	-5,876	-2,876	-2,648	-5,332	-1,457
Total assets	**173,843**	**122,104**	**100,859**	**221,202**	**190,314**

Notes 1. Land and premises have not been included.

Proposed Fees for 2026-27

				Existing 2025-26	Proposed 2026-27
Adult	All Year (Standard)	A		**£282.50**	**£295.00**
	All Year (Couple)	AD	Standard rate less 10% for Co-habiting couple joining/renewing at the same time	**£508.50**	**£530.00**
	Midweek (Standard)	M		**£202.50**	**£210.00**
	Midweek (Couple)	MD	This rate is Standard less 10% for Co-habiting couple joining/renewing at the same time	**£365.00**	**£380.00**
	Over 75	O	Any member over the age of 75 on 1 April 2026 who has been a member for 5 or more years	**£150.00**	**£175.00**
	Under 25 / Student	AS	For members in Full Time Education (of any age over 18) and for members aged 18 to 24 inclusive (on 1 April 2026)	**£160.00**	**£165.00**
	Student Holiday	SH	Full time student living away from Merrow in term time. Allowed to play in holiday periods only	**£72.50**	**£75.00**
	Coaching (12 months)	C	This category allows coaching by MLTC approved coach only.	**£92.50**	**£95.00**
	Parent Helper	PH	For Parents who wish to play with their children only	**£57.50**	**£60.00**
	Social	So		**£27.50**	**£30.00**
Junior	Junior	JO	For players aged 10 to 17 inclusive on 1 April 2026, and those up to and including school Year 13	**£56.50**	**£57.50**
	Junior	JU	For players aged under 10 on 1 April 2026	**£28.50**	**£30.00**
Family	Family membership (with 2 playing parents)	F	Rate for two adults and all children under 18 on 1 April 2026 (and those up to and including school Year 13) living at the same address	**£550.00**	**£570.00**
	Family membership (with 1 playing parent)	F1	Rate for one adult and all children under 18 on 1 April 2026 (and those up to and including school Year 13) living at the same address	**£325.00**	**£335.00**

Joining fees

Adult		payable per adult/ Family with 1 playing parent	**£60**	£60
Junior		Junior/ Student/Parent Helper/ Coaching	**£0**	£0
Family		With 2 playing parents	**£120**	£120

11. Election of Committee

There shall be up to nine elected Committee Members and the Club Coach.

The Committee from 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026 were:
Matt Aitchison
Sue Beardwood
Gerry Black
Katie Brennan
Dave Clarke
Rachael Goodworth – Bar Manager
Julie Pearn – Welfare Officer
James Tufts
Eugenia Wachters – Match Secretary

The nominations sheet for Committee Members is on the noticeboard in the clubhouse. If you would like to nominate yourself for one of the positions, please add your name together with a proposer and seconder. The nominations will close on **Tuesday 3rd March.**

Also a Committee Member:
Head Coach: Jorge Martin Munoz

The Officers of the Club were elected at the 2025 AGM with their Term of Office being from 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2028.

MLTC Club Officers

President: Ian Campbell
Chairman: Louise Blakeborough
Secretary: Sue Beardwood
Treasurer: Jeff Saunders

13. General Business

a. Welfare Officer's Report

I'm pleased to report that the club has continued to promote a safe and welcoming environment for its members over these past 12 months.

The well-being and safety of all children, young people and vulnerable adults are the welfare team's priority. As such, the club does not tolerate any form of bad behaviour towards others per the safeguarding, anti-bullying and other policies and procedures we have in place to support this. We therefore encourage members to come forward and let us know of any concerns they may have so the welfare team can act without delay, and in accordance with LTA's **Safe to Play** campaign **– if you see something, say something.**

As anticipated, our inspection was carried out by the LTA earlier in the year and the feedback was very positive. The inspector was more than satisfied that our club promotes a culture of respect, inclusivity, and safety, reflecting the LTA's guidelines on safeguarding.
Key highlights:

- All coaches and committee members have completed required safeguarding training
- Club policies are up-to-date and available to all members on our website
- Members are updated regularly by newsletter to ensure we continue to promote safe practices and respect for all members

I am now stepping down from this role and am delighted to say Gerry Black will succeed me with immediate effect. Gerry has years of experience of working in the local education sector, with both children and young adults and I'd like to wish her all the best in this important role**.** I'm also pleased to confirm that Laura has agreed to continue as the Deputy WO alongside Gerry. Laura has been very supportive and helpful to me and I am very grateful.

It's been a pleasure serving the club as Welfare Officer and more generally on the committee and I'd like to thank the Chair, the committee, Alison and our fabulous coaching team for the part they all play.

Julie Pearn
Welfare officer
welfareofficermltc@gmail.com

b. Administrator's Report

- **Currently MLTC has 786 members** compared to 733 at this time last year. There were an additional 30 adult members admitted from the waiting list.

Category		Numbers Feb 2025 (2024/25)	Numbers Feb 2026 (2025/26)	Change from 2024/25	% Change from 2024/25
Adult full		131	135	+4	+3%
Adult discount (Couple)		50	58	+8	+16%
Midweek		28	33	+5	+18%
Midweek discount (Couple)		16	22	+6	+38%
Over 75s		14	18	+4	+29%
Student/ Under 25		3	7	+4	+233%
Student Holiday		6	15	+9	+250%
Family 2 playing Parents	Adult	26	30	+4	+15%
	Junior	25	30	+5	+20%
Family 1 Playing Parent	Adult	35	34	-1	-3%
	Junior	66	60	-6	-9%
Junior 10 or Over		149	158	+9	+6%
Junior Under 10		90	86	-4	-4%
Parent Helper		31	35	+4	+13%
Coaching		49	52	+3	+6%
Social		11	10	-1	-9%
Coaches		3	3	0	0
TOTAL		733	786	+53	+7%
Adults		403	452	+49	+12%
Juniors		330	334	+4	+1%
Adults with full court booking rights (incl. in total adults above)		303	337	+34	+11%

- A total of **113 members did not re-join on 1st April 2025**, 45 Adults and 68 juniors. Of the 45 adults that did not rejoin, **23 adult members** with full court booking rights did not re-join compared to 16 in 2024.
- Number of members that did not re-join in recent years:

	1st April 2025	1st April 2024	1st April 2023	1st April 2022
Senior Members	45	35	47	63
Junior Members	68	74	85	108
Total	113	109	132	171

- Currently there are **105 adults** on the waiting list which is similar to this time last year. From experience, not everyone on the waiting list will still be interested in joining when they reach the top. Last year we admitted 53 new adult members from the waiting list but we offered membership to those up to 112 on the waiting list. Therefore, roughly half were still interested

in joining when they came to the top of the waiting list. I have started to contact those on the waiting list to see if they are still interested in joining.

- We have not held an open day since approximately 2019.

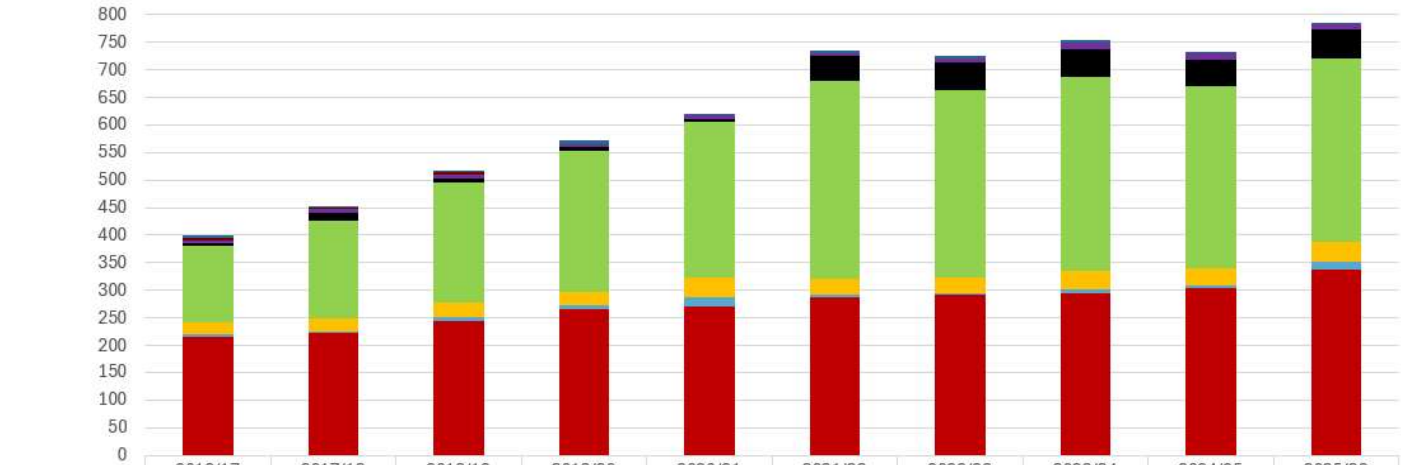
Using the information on the graphs on the following pages I would like to highlight the following points:

- Most adults remain to be in the 45-64 age group.
- The membership has almost doubled in the last 10 years growing from 399 total members in 2016-17 to 786 in 2025-26. In particular Junior members have increased from 137 to 334 and Playing Adults from 216 to 337 during this time. The number of Playing Adults would have increased further but the club put a limit on the number of adults with full court booking rights and has had a waiting list since 2020.
- This year there were 18 Over 75 members and in April 26 there will be 9 more members eligible for the Over 75 category. The Over 75s pay a reduced subscription.
- The number of Student Holiday members has grown from 6 in 2024-25 to 15 in 2025-26. It is good to see an increasing number of our junior members staying as members while they are away at University and hopefully they will convert to adult members in the future.
- In 2025-26 the club had similar proportions of female and male members compared to 2024-25.

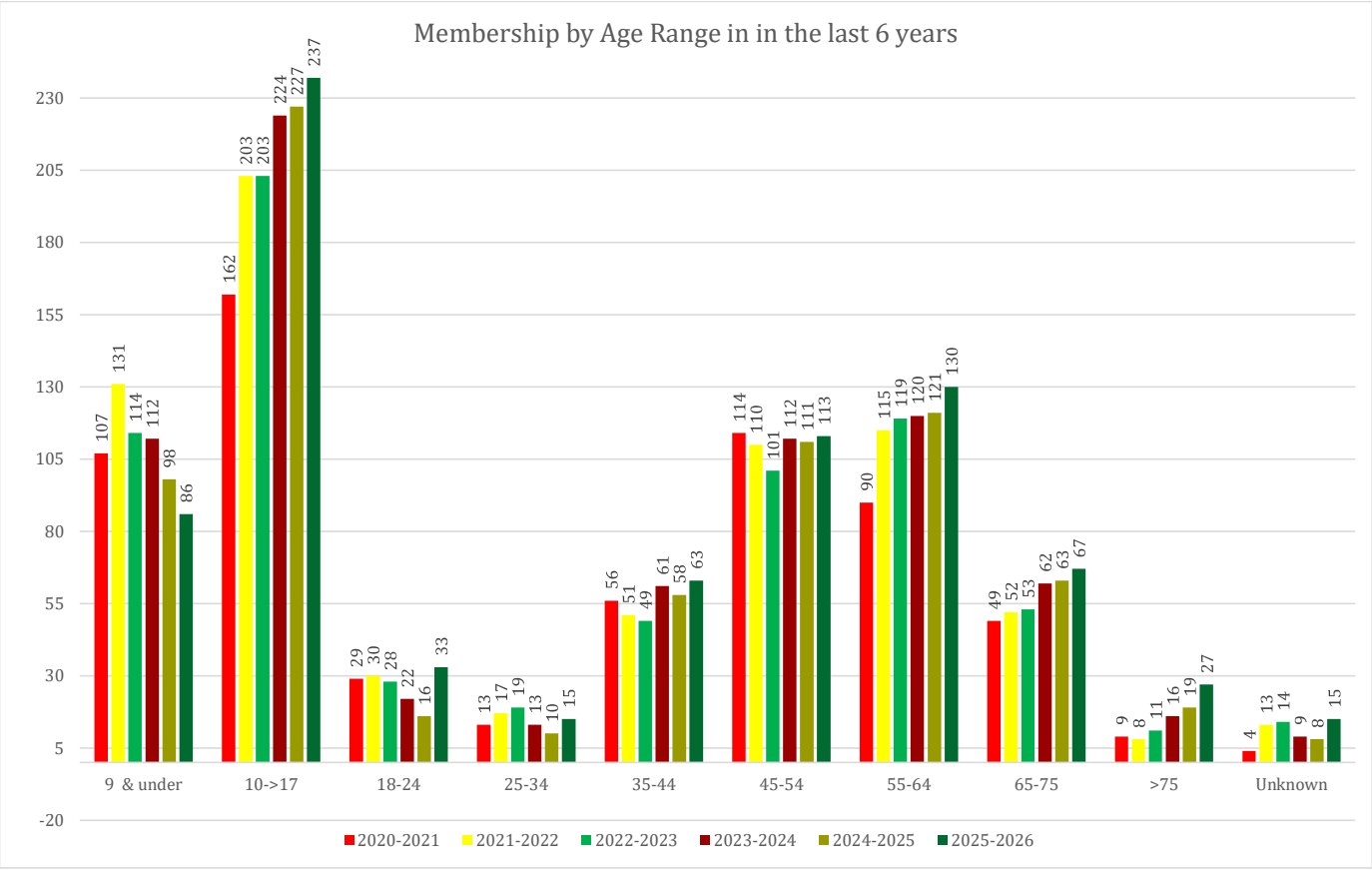
	2024-2025	2025-2026
Female Junior Members	49.5% (161)	49.4% (165)
Male Junior members	50.5% (164)	50.6% (169)
Female Adult Members	47.7% (189)	47.3% (214)
Male Adult members	52.3% (207)	52.3% (238)

Alison Faulkner
Club Administrator
merrowltc@gmail.com

Merrow Tennis Club 10 Year Membership Trend



	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
Coaches	5	3	3	6	4	5	5	5	3	3
Honorary	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Social	6	6	8	6	7	6	7	13	11	10
Coaching	5	16	8	6	4	46	49	51	49	52
Juniors	137	177	217	256	283	358	341	351	330	334
Parent Helpers	23	22	27	25	35	30	28	34	31	35
Students	4	4	7	7	17	3	4	6	6	15
Playing Adults	216	222	244	266	271	288	291	295	303	337


Membership by Age Range in in the last 6 years
230
205
180
155
130
105
80
55
30
5
-20
107
131
114
112
98
86
162
203
203
224
227
237
29
30
28
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62
63
67
9
8
11
16
19
27
4
13
14
9
8
15
9 & under
10->17
18-24
25-34
35-44
45-54
55-64
65-75
>75
Unknown
2020-2021
2021-2022
2022-2023
2023-2024
2024-2025
2025-2026

c. Estate Manager's Report

1. Key estate issues

The following are the key areas of focus for the estate:

a. **Replacement of floodlighting to courts 4-6**: an application has been made for Planning Approval for replacing the existing lighting solution with a brighter on-court solution, baffled to prevent light nuisance to neighbours. This solution, yet to be approved, includes additional lighting poles along the court centreline (along the net line) with 6.5m high poles (existing are 8m high) and would provide a more uniform and brighter lighting solution. Brief timeline:
   - Planning decision hoped for in April,
   - Tender process (prepare docs, tender, evaluation, governance): 6 weeks
   - Mobilisation: 4 weeks
   - Implementation – which will be disruptive to playing: 4 weeks.

   It will be key to agree methodology of working to minimise disruption to the members, but noting that some disruption is inevitable. (ps: following the recent debacle on court 4, it is essential that an appropriate methodology is agreed and then implemented to keep any disruption to a minimum).

   The timing of the disruptive implementation will need further discussion, once we have agreement to the way forward.

b. Upgrade to the internal finishes in the clubhouse: a proposal is being developed to improve the tired finished in the clubhouse.

2. Longer term estate issues

Over the next few years, we will need to plan, fund and implement the following 'projects':

a. Replacement of the court surfaces to courts 1-3 (2028/9) and 4-6 (2030/31)
b. Replacement of the fencing (2029/30), which is showing signs of distress and has become brittle.
c. Replace floodlights to courts 1-3 (2028/29)
d. Clubhouse upgrades and improvements.

3. Improvements

The following key areas of improvement have been implemented over the last six months:

a. Construction of a new waste enclosure to store garden waste for annual/biannual removal.

4. Maintenance and repairs:

Implemented over the last six months:

- Court maintenance to maintain quality of playing surface
- Repairs to floodlights to court 4 – see also below
- PAT testing for portable electrical equipment
- Replacement of security lighting by clubhouse
- Replacement of faulty floodlight switch to court 3
- Renovated security CCTV

Planned for the next six months, in addition to the normal running repairs and upgrades associated with the estate and the clubhouse, we will address:

- Potholes in the road – negotiations with Horizon Leisure and the Cricket Club are ongoing,
- Court maintenance will continue to take place twice a year.

5. Report on recent disruptive issues

a. Court 4: the specialist floodlight company attended site to replace the broken floodlights on court 4 (the decision having been taken that we could not wait for the construction of the new lighting solution). In replacing the floodlights, the specialist used a mobile cherry picker to gain high level access. When driving across the court surface the wheels of the cherry picker rucked up the court carpet, leaving the court unplayable. This was caused by them turning the wheels whilst stationery causing the wheels to grab the carpet as the wheels moved. This was entirely avoidable by the specialist. They are currently in the process of proposing how to rectify their damage.

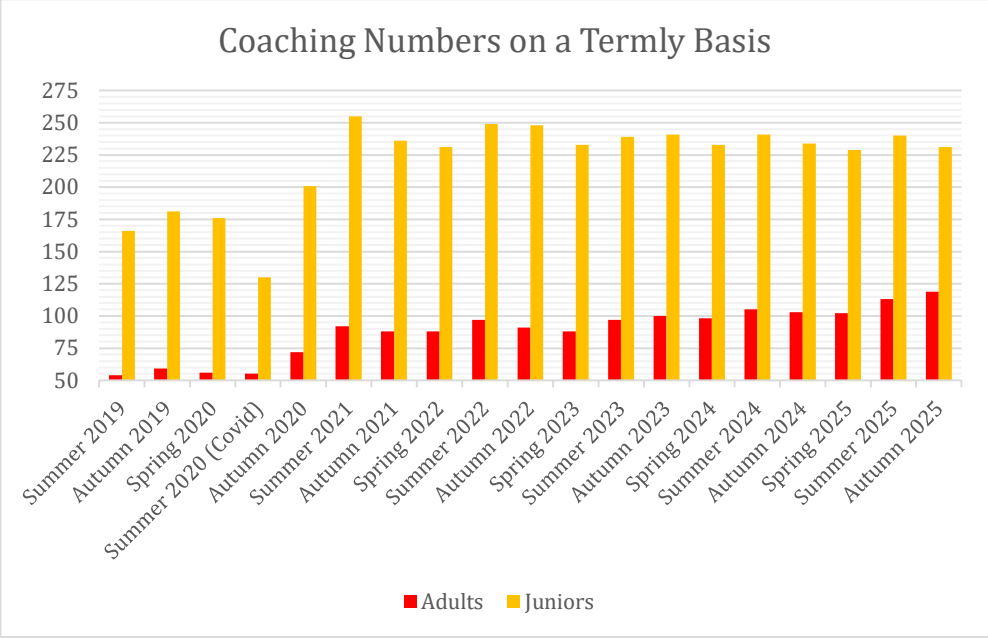
b. Court 1 fencing: recently, in the wet weather, a member slipped over during a game of tennis and slid under the fencing (in part). We have had a fencing specialist to review the fence and they are limited as to what they can do to repair the bent/displaced fencing due to its age and its brittleness.

c. Tree surgery: our neighbour to court 1 organised tree surgery for the tress abutting our boundary. This work is at their expenses. But the work made the use of court 1 unpayable on safety grounds. Sadly the neighbour didn't advise us in suitable time to properly warn members and rearrange court usage. They have agreed to tidy up after themselves.

David Luscombe
Estates Manager, Merrow Lawn Tennis Club
February 2026

e. Head Coach's Report

	Adult places filled per week/ total adult places available per week	Junior places filled per week/ total junior places available per week	**Total Number Attending Coaching**
End of Autumn 2025	119/124	231/245	**350**
End of Summer 2025	113/115	240/245	**353**
End of Spring 2025	102/115	229/245	**331**
End Autumn Term 2024	103/121	234/242	**337**
End Summer Term 2024	105/105	241/258	**346**
End Spring Term 2024	98/109	233/252	**331**
End Autumn Term 2023	100/111	241/262	**341**
End Summer Term 2023	97/100	239/248	**336**
End Spring Term 2023	88/95	233/250	**321**
End Autumn Term 2022	91/99	248/254	**339**
End Summer Term 2022	97/100	249/253	**346**
End Spring Term 2022	88/98	231/244	**319**
End Autumn Term 2021	88/93	236/249	**324**
End Summer Term 2021	92/93	255/261	**347**
Spring 2021	No coaching as club closed due to Covid		
End Autumn Term 2020	72/79	201/213	**273**
End of Summer term 2020 (Covid affected)	55/65	130/140	**185**
End Spring term 2020	56/66	176/216	**232**
End Autumn term 2019	59/72	181/204	**240**
End Summer term 2019	54/72	166/180	**220**



Coaching

I am delighted to let you know that for another season the coaching programme regarding numbers and groups is looking really good. Please see the coaching numbers on the previous page. The number of bookings for the Autumn term 2025 was higher than any previous Autumn terms and the bookings for the Spring 2026 are also higher than any previous Spring terms.

We will continue to maintain the high quality coaching through motivation, enthusiasm, commitment and professionalism.

As you all know Merrow LTC (committee and coaching team) is always looking ahead in order to maintain our leadership as a tennis club in the area. Therefore, looking at the age of the juniors that attend the coaching we might potentially have a drop in numbers in a couple of years' time. We have around 80 juniors aged between 14/16 years old. A big percentage of those juniors have been having coaching at the club for the past few years so it shows how good we are at keeping our juniors engaged with their tennis.

So, looking at the future we have a few plans in place in order to maintain the flow of new youngsters coming into the coaching programme through our outreach programme. This year we will be offering free tennis lessons in two local primary schools (Boxgrove and Merrow juniors).

The Junior Club Sessions are continuing to be a great success. There are now 4 groups, two 12&U groups, one 14&U and one Performance 16&U group. Special mention to the 16&U Performance group with quite a few of those juniors joining the box league and getting integrated into the social side of our club.

Looking forward to the summer term as well so that we can start organising friendly matches for our juniors with other local tennis clubs.

Jorge - Head Coach
munozjorgemartin@yahoo.com

f. Match Secretary's Report

WINTER 2024-25 & SUMMER 2025

Merrow has mens, ladies and mixed doubles league teams and our teams play across all divisions in 2 different district leagues (Woking, Chaucer) and the Wilson Surrey County league.
This report summarizes the results of our team league matches from the last winter (2024-254) and summer season (2025), with a brief mention of the currently ongoing winter season (2025-26).

As in previous winters, Merrow entered in winter '24-25 with 10 teams across 2 leagues (Woking & Surrey) and with 11 teams in summer 2025, across 3 leagues (Chaucer, Woking and Surrey). We also entered with a team of Merrow A players in the winter of 2024-25 in the Chaucer Knock-out tournament.

In the Winter 2024-25, **Merrow Mens B (captain Phil Burton)** brought home a c**hampionship** in Division 4 of the Woking league and they got promoted into Division 3 in which they are competing this winter ('25-26): **Congrats!**
Unfortunately, our Merrow Mens A team, playing in the Surrey league (Division 13), had a difficult winter due to player availability and ended last, leading to a relegation to Division 15 this current winter. And our Woking league Mixed C team also struggled last winter and were relegated into Division 4 this winter.
Our team of A players that entered in the Chaucer Knock-out tournament managed to win the first round but got knocked out by the 2nd seeded Woking team in very wet & windy weather.

In Summer 2025 we had 2 teams that become champion: in the **Chaucer league, our 2nd Mixed team became champion in Division 3** and in the **Surrey league, our ladies team won in Division 18**: **Congrats to both teams!**
Our Mens A team, that had been promoted into the Chaucer Premier Division last summer unfortunately could not maintain in this strong division and ended last, meaning they'll be playing in Division 1 again this summer (as will be our 2nd Mens team!). And our Ladies A team struggled in Division 5 of the Surrey league but managed to end second last, limiting the relegation with 1 division down to Division 6 this coming summer.

The winter season 2025-26 is still ongoing. Quite a few league matches have been postponed in January and February due to the endless rain (!) so most teams still have a few matches to be played, except for **Ladies C in the Woking league**, who somehow played all their matches and are already confirmed as Champions in their division: **Congrats ladies!**

Team Results Winter 2024-25
Woking league (weekend)

1. **Ladies A – Division 1** (captain Jenny Marlow) – ended 4th out of 7
2. **Ladies B - Division 2** (captain Delia Searle) – ended 2nd out of 7
3. **Ladies C – Division 3** (captain Alison Faulkner) – ended 3rd out of 7
4. **Mixed A – Division 1** (captain Eugenia Wachters) – ended 4th out of 7
5. **Mixed B – Division 3** (captain Helen Marlow) – ended 4th out of 7
6. **Mixed C – Division 3** (captain Sarah Luscombe) – ended 6th out of 7 (relegated to Div 4)
7. **Mens A – Division 2** (captain Richard Holberton) – ended 4th out of 7
8. **Mens B – Division 4** (captain Phil Burton) – ended 1st out of 7: **Champions!**

Surrey league (weekend)

1. **Ladies 1 – Division 15 (Amanda Miller) –** ended 3rd out of 6
2. **Mens 1 – Division 12 (Justin Hovington) –** ended 6th out of 6th (relegated to Div 15)

Team Results Summer 2025

Woking league (midweek)

1. **Ladies A – Division 1** (captain Delia Searle): ended 9th out of 11
2. **Ladies B – Division 2** (captain Alison Faulkner): ended 4th out of 10
3. **Mixed A – Division 2** (captain Julie Dickson): ended 3rd out of 6
4. **Mixed B – Division 4** (captain Sarah Luscombe): ended 3rd out of 11

Chaucer league (weekends)

1. **Mens 1** - **Premier division** - (captain Justin Hovington): ended 7th out of 7
2. **Mens 2 – Division 1** (captain Richard Holberton): ended 4th out of 7
3. **Mens 3 – Division 2** (captain Phil Burton): ended 3rd out of 6
4. **Mixed 1 – Division 1** - (captain Eugenia Wachters): ended 2nd out of 6.
5. **Mixed 2 – Division 3** (captain Helen Marlow): ended 1st out of 7: **Champions!**

Surrey League (weekends)

1. **Ladies 1 – Division 5 West** (captain Jenny Marlow): ended 5th out of 6 (relegation to Div 6)
6. **Ladies 2 – Division 18** (captain Amanda Miller): ended 1st out of 6: **Champions!**

Team league play would not be possible without our **team captains,** who work hard to get teams out for their matches (sometimes not so easy!), report match results (In time), liaise with the opponent's captain in case of bad weather and where needed, reschedule rained off matches: thank you all for the hard work! Also a big Thank you to **Alison Faulkner**, our club administrator, who takes care of all the court bookings and **Jo Bennett**, who was our loyal supplier of match balls for the captains until recently.

Anyone who is interested in Team league play, please do reach out to me (or any of the captains) at *e_wachters@hotmail.com* or have a chat with me @Merrow!

Eugenia Wachters,
Match Secretary Merrow LTC

g. Social Report

The past year was packed with activity, with a full calendar of events - nearly one for every month. In February, we held the first of our two annual quizzes (the second was in October), always a popular occasion and once again very well attended. The evening delivered plenty of laughter, delicious food, and some challenging questions.

In March we held a Doubles Surprise Tournament. In April and May, we welcomed new members through dedicated Welcome Sessions, while the summer months were dominated by tournaments. The season began with the Parent and Child Tournaments in May and June, followed by Club Finals Day on 22 June, the annual Junior Tournament on 6 July, and the In-Betweeners Tournament in September. Members aged 50 and over also enjoyed an additional competition with the Vets and SuperVets Tournaments which culminated in the Finals Day in October.

Several Saturday club sessions offered more than just tennis. During the summer, three sessions featured coaches providing on-court advice, and on the Saturday of the Wimbledon final, players enjoyed Pimm's with strawberries and cream. Even as winter approached, mulled wine and mince pies were served at a December session.

Two fundraising events were held in support of the Fountain Centre, an Independent charity offering vital services to individuals affected by cancer. The Summer Tennis Tournament in July was a fantastic occasion, raising an impressive £4,200. More than 100 members took part in a day that included tennis matches, an auction featuring artwork and holiday experiences, a cake sale, and the sale of tennis apparel. Attendees also enjoyed Pimm's generously sponsored by Seymours, followed by a BBQ and an evening of dancing. In December, a further £130 was raised when member volunteers prepared a Christmas lunch, with each attendee contributing a bottle for a raffle.

These activities require significant effort, and we extend our sincere thanks to all volunteers who contributed their time and energy throughout the year. From decorating the clubhouse and coordinating tournaments, to sourcing auction items, preparing food, working behind the bar, and even washing up, they have been essential to delivering such a successful and memorable programme of events. A special thank-you goes to Alison who has done an incredible job in ensuring that everything stays on track.

We welcome new volunteers. If you would like to get involved, please speak to a member of the committee.

Katie Brennan
Social
February 2026

h. Tournament Winners

Club Tournament Winners 2025

Women's Singles:	**Jenny Condick**
Men's Singles:	**Peter Morton**
Women's Doubles:	**Jenny Condick & Eugenia Wachters**
Men's Doubles:	**Kentaro Wada & Andy Williams**
Mixed Doubles:	**Jenny Condick & Andy Williams**

Bowl Winners 2025

Men's Singles:	**Jake Twelftree**
Women's Doubles:	**Anna Chalk & Jennie Maclean**
Men's Doubles:	**Justin Hovington & Jake Twelftree**
Mixed Doubles:	**Jo Bennett & Lee Myers**

Plate Winners 2025

Women's Singles:	**Rachael Goodworth**
Men's Singles:	**Jonathan Roodhouse**
Women's Doubles:	**Alison Birch & Delia Searle**
Men's Doubles:	**Phil Burton & Martin Vodden**
Mixed Doubles:	**Ashley Man & Graham Jones**

Vets Tournament Winners 2025

Women's Singles:	**Kirsten Williams**
Men's Singles:	**Joe Yu**
Women's Doubles:	**Helen Marlow & Kirsten Williams**
Men's Doubles:	**Darren Heath & Joe Yu**
Mixed Doubles:	**Eugenia Wachters & Richard Holberton**

Super Vets Tournament 2025

Women's Singles:	**Helen Marlow**
Men's Singles:	**Richard Holberton**
Women's Doubles:	**Alison Birch & Helen Farmer**
Men's Doubles:	**Colin Goody & Jaz Woodward**
Mixed Doubles:	**Alison Birch & Rob Lamble**

Junior Tournament 2025

Mini Orange:	**Ella Chiu**
Mini Green:	**Edward Morton**
Younger Age Yellow Ball:	**Holly Dodd**
	Naran Sripanya
13 & Over Yellow Ball:	**Ella Dodd**
	Miran Ipek