

GREAT AYTON TENNIS CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 1170990

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2017-01-05

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 16 The Dorkings
Great Broughton
Middlesbrough
Cleveland
TS9 7NA

Phone 07899988101

Email greataytontennisclub@gmail.com

Website <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/GreatAytonTennisClub>

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE THE PROMOTION OF COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN HEALTHY RECREATION IN PARTICULAR BY THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR THE PLAYING OF TENNIS.

Activities: Community participation in healthy recreation particularly by provision of tennis playing facilities: (1) Teams playing in the Cleveland League (2) Coaching provision for all inc. Cardio fitness sessions (3) 2 of 5 courts with floodlights to allow evening play in winter (4) A range of low cost flexible membership options, web & social media presence (5) Fund raising to further expand accessibility

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Amateur Sport, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- North Yorkshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£22,080	£21,568	-	-
2024-12-31	£21,687	£22,352	-	-
2023-12-31	£22,090	£14,671	-	-
2022-12-31	£20,973	£13,587	-	-
2021-12-31	£38,808	£23,814	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Allan Paul Dixon	Chair	2023-01-10
David Joy		2023-03-28
Denise Essex		2018-02-27
Helen Cole		2025-11-11
Marian Matthews		2018-02-27
Sarah Jane Dixon		2023-01-10
Sid Blackmore		2018-02-27
Theresa Brentnall		2024-09-12
Wayne Stephenson		2018-02-27

GREAT AYTON TENNIS CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 1170990

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statement

For the year ending 2025

Reference and administration details

Charity Name	Great Ayton Tennis Club
Other names charity is known by	GATC
Registered charity number	1170990
Charities principle address	16 The Dorkings, Great Broughton, Middlesbrough, TS9 7NA

Names of the GATC management team including charity trustees

	Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Date last (re)elected (Trustees Only)
1	Sid Blackmore	Trustee	AGM 2024
2	Theresa Brentnall	Trustee	AGM 2025
3	Helen Cole	Trustee	Appointed 2025 seeking member ratification at AGM 2026
4	Allan Dixon	Chair	AGM 2025
5	Sarah Dixon	Trustee	AGM 2025
6	Denise Essex	Hon Secretary	AGM 2023
7	David Joy	Trustee	AGM 2023
8	Marian Matthews	Trustee	AGM 2025
9	Wayne Stephenson	Trustee	AGM 2024
10	Barry Adamski	Treasurer	(non-trustee)
11	Joanne Joy	Welfare Officer	(non-trustee)
12	Irene Reah	Membership Officer	(non-trustee)

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document	Constitution adopted 5th January 2017 (last amended 21st March 2024)
How the charity is constituted	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Governance	<p>The club complies with Privacy (GDPR) legislation introduced in 2018. Furthermore the club is an LTA registered venue and has in place policies to include Safeguarding, Diversity & Inclusion and Whistleblowing.</p> <p>The club has a trained Welfare Officer who oversees safeguarding in the venue. The Club Rules and all policies are highlighted to new members; displayed on the club noticeboard as well as being available to all on the GATC website.</p> <p>All coaching staff including assistants undertake Criminal Records Bureau checks and are required to maintain relevant Emergency First Aid and Safeguarding Training in line with LTA accreditation.</p>

Welcome

2025 has been a busy year for the club; we've had a number of notable successes as well as challenges. Operating as a charity doesn't shelter us from the significant cost of living rises we have seen in our general operating expenses and we are conscious that many families rightly consider carefully where their own reducing discretionary spend is best directed. We are therefore grateful to all members who view their annual membership as a positive and continue to consider GATC as adding value to their lives.

As we committed to at last year's AGM, the management team started work during this year on the priorities which, as indicated by you in our survey, are important for the club. This involves a huge amount of time and effort from the trustees and is the type of commitment given that generally goes unseen. This included, but was not limited to:

- Carrying out detailed analysis (linking with the LTA, the Yorkshire Region, Outside Agencies etc) and creating a detailed club development plan.
- Developing an engagement plan to link with local schools and colleges to drive junior participation.
- Obtaining an LTA grant and short term loan to fund secure gate access to the courts, which will remove the need to use padlocks. This will facilitate the club being able to offer limited 'pay and play' facilities on courts 4 & 5 as well as provide the ability to offer court access to schools and local organisations who provide accessibility services. The gate system will link with our existing court booking system and provide 'one off' access codes valid at the time of the court booking.
- Sponsoring Wayne Stephenson to complete his LTA coaching accreditation in order to support the work being done to identify and expand our junior player population
- We have reached out to many 'holiday accommodation' providers in the local area to investigate whether they will support offering access to the pay and play facilities through our club and have had a positive response.

On a broader note, we obtained a grant to support a trial of Pickleball, which will happen at some point during 2026, had a record number of attendees at our annual Open/Family Morning, and received a grant from Seniors Tennis GB/LTA to encourage seniors participation in tennis, which is being used to support our incredibly successful Rusty Rackets initiative. Congratulations to Anne Simpkins on being the first recipient of our Rusty's 'Most Improved Player' Award.

As well as holding a wide array of club championships, It was also very positive to include a Ladies Singles Championship for the first time in 5 years; thank you to all participants.

We have started 2026 with an emphasis on expanding our social media presence, so consistent messages and branding will be seen across Facebook, Instagram and X (Twitter), where we will continue to share the latest news stories appearing on the club website as well as looking to broaden knowledge of the club, its activities and its members.

We once again undertook some significant 'non annual' maintenance to ensure some of the longer standing property issues were made good. Details of these are included in our sections on maintenance and finances below.

Finally and as always, thank you to all the trustees, club captains and other volunteers for their commitment and time, without which the club could not function in its current form and last but not least the members for their continued support of Great Ayton Tennis Club.

Allan Dixon
Chair of Trustees

Membership

For 2025, no changes to fees were made across all our membership categories.

The club continued to offer free memberships for our infant category.

Overall membership numbers reduced slightly during 2025, although overall membership income increased slightly for the year. A breakdown of our membership numbers within each category are:-

	2025	2024	2023
Adult	114	109	123
Family	50	62	63
Guardian	6	5	5
Infant	12	12	6
Junior	17	21	33
Student	6	9	7
Honorary	8	8	9
Total	213	226	246

Club Tennis and League Teams

As can be seen in the following notes, Great Ayton continued to offer a wide range of playing opportunities from social play as well as teams competing in the Cleveland and Northern Premier League.

- Social play continued weekly on two afternoons/evenings and also on a Saturday morning, where there is also a designated court for accompanied juniors.
- Coffee and Croissants continued to be an attractive proposition on the first Saturday throughout the winter months.
- Thanks go to Wayne for organising the Club Championships this year. There were strong entries in all categories, the eventual winners being Sophia Wild (Ladies Singles), Dan Harley and Jonny Shields (Men's Doubles), Ollie Hindle (Men's Singles), Richard Graham and Joanne Joy (Mixed Doubles), Sophia and Luana Wild (Ladies' Doubles).
- The Newhouse Trophy took place with Leo Lyons and Luana Wild retaining the title.
- Rusty Rackets had a very strong and committed attendance throughout the year meeting on a Thursday morning where Denise Essex continued to provide invaluable support and encouragement. Huge thanks to Denise. An autumn visit to Danby tennis Club for a friendly tournament followed by breakfast in the Fox and Hounds, a Christmas tournament at Tennis world and a Christmas lunch to round off the year reflects the positive social aspects of this group. Not only have the players improved their tennis skills but this group are always keen volunteers for helping to run club events.
- We had a particularly successful campaign across all our teams in the Cleveland League which can be seen in our final league positions below.
- Particular congratulations to our Ladies A team for winning their division with a special mention to Joanne Joy, who ended the season winning more 'points' than any other player within that division (nearly 100 individuals).

In 2025 GATC fielded:

- 11 teams in the Cleveland Tennis League
- Men's A also participated in the National Premier League
- Men's A participated in the Cleveland Cup

<i>Team</i>	<i>League</i>	<i>Captain</i>	<i>Division</i>	<i>Position</i>
<i>Ladies A</i>	<i>Cleveland League</i>	<i>Miriam Fawcett</i>	<i>Division 2</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Ladies B</i>		<i>Claire Sheridan</i>	<i>Division 2</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Ladies C</i>		<i>Irene Reah</i>	<i>Division 4</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Men's A</i>		<i>Wayne Stephenson</i>	<i>Division 1</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Men's B</i>		<i>Kev Rowley</i>	<i>Division 1</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Men's C</i>		<i>Wayne Stephenson</i>	<i>Division 4</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Men's D</i>		<i>David Joy</i>	<i>Division 6</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Mixed A</i>	<i>Mixed League</i>	<i>Richard Graham</i>	<i>Division 2</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Mixed B</i>		<i>Craig Sheridan</i>	<i>Division 3</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Vet's A</i>	<i>Vets' League</i>	<i>Jane Bourne</i>	<i>Division 1</i>	<i>split 2025/6</i>
<i>Vet's B</i>		<i>Claire Sheridan</i>	<i>Division 2</i>	<i>split 2025/6</i>

Particular thanks to all team captains for their selfless management of the squads and to all players who represented the club during the season.

Social Events and Fundraising

Once again the club ensured that our offering to members extends beyond purely providing courts for play. Members of our social committee again dedicated their time to plan and manage a number of events providing important opportunities for social interaction for members and friends.

- Quiz nights (February and November) at The Royal Oak continued to be extremely popular with tickets selling out almost before they were published! A special mention to quizmasters David and Jo Joy. These events provide a welcome boost to club funds.
- The change of time from afternoon to morning for the annual Family Day proved to be a very successful move drawing in a record number of people.
- The Strawberry Tea was on the calendar for July; on this occasion we were treated to live music by club member Al Aithchison. Over £240 was raised for club funds.
- The annual BBQ was held in June. Approximately 50 people came along to enjoy the sun, the tennis and the food.
- £367.49 was raised through *easyfundraising*. This is an ongoing initiative bringing in a regular income for the club.

Coaching

LTA Accredited coaches, Mark Barras and Nic Weschenfelder, continued to support GATC by offering sessions for both groups and individuals.

Adults

- Take up for Group Adult sessions (beginner and intermediate) remained strong with coaching on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, floodlights enabling the groups to continue all year round.
- The well attended, popular Saturday morning Cardio group helped to improve fitness and have fun at the same time.
- Coaches also provided 1:1 coaching for Adults & Juniors.

Juniors

- Coaching for junior groups was also supported with several groups each week throughout the year.

Maintenance

Keeping the grounds, court facilities and the club house in good order is vitally important for our club. These annual tasks - big and small - are overseen, and in many cases carried out by Sid Blackmore. Sid has a number of people who he can call on who assist him in this role. Thank you to all who have contributed.

Courts

- Following annual cleaning, courts 4 & 5 were repaired and repainted to remove damage caused by the overhanging sycamore tree and now look really smart. The offending tree was, after obtaining necessary legal permissions, cut back to prevent overhanging of the courts and proximity to the floodlight tower.
- Courts 1,2 and 3 were power washed again in the spring and have been almost completely free of pooling and playable all year round, which is a huge step forward compared to two years ago. Correct maintenance of all courts will be required in the spring of each year to keep them safe and flood free.
- Some minor cracking of the playing surface has been noted, and remedial action will be needed in the next year or two.

Grounds

- At the Parish Council's request, we have cut back some of 'our' bushes and overhanging tree branches along Levenside to better facilitate the grass verge cutting by the council.
- Larger more visible signs have been installed at the entrance to the car park.
- Some parts of the perimeter fence were in poor condition due to trees falling on them and wind damage during storms. The fence has been repaired and supported where necessary.

Facilities

- A new double outside socket has been installed above the water tap to enable the ball machine to be used on courts 1,2 & 3. Unfortunately, the ball machine is broken and is away being repaired. When it is returned, any member wishing to use it is requested to seek instructions in its use, as it is more complicated than the old one (which is still available) and can be damaged by misuse.
- As we have anti-frost heating in the clubhouse, to prevent damage to the water system (this activates automatically at 5 degrees C by a thermostatic controller), may we remind members to **ensure they close the clubhouse door at all times during colder weather** to minimise the cost of electricity in the winter months.

Community Links

Great Ayton continued to link with the wider community.


- The annual visit from Marwood infants school took place in the summer organised by Sara Papworth.
- An away day to Danby Tennis Club took place in September where Denise organised a friendly tournament followed by breakfast in The Fox and Hounds.
Thanks to Denise and Barbara for helping.
- A lovely sunny evening in July saw Great Ayton host Danby Tennis Club for a friendly match in July. Irene devised an interesting format with men's, ladies and mixed games being played.
Thank you to Irene.
- A pilot visit involving 10 service users from Beyond Boundaries - a North Yorkshire-based community organisation supporting adults with learning disabilities, people with mental health challenges and school groups was hosted in September. The afternoon was enjoyed by all and provided the club with valuable insight to help shape future inclusive provision.

Treasurers Accounts Summary & Report


Income and Expenditure Account 1st January 2025 - 31st December 2025

Balance 1st. January	2024	2025			
Current Account	£35,205.91	£3,836.58			
Cash	£39.38	£386.48			
Saving Account		£30,356.67			
Total:	£35,245.29	£34,579.73			
Income:	2024	2025	Expenditure:	2024	2025
Subscriptions	£15,466.00	£15,638.00	Subscription fees	£339.36	£372.16
Easy Funding	£232.27	£367.49	Loan repayment	£1,666.66	£833.32
Donations/Grants	£680.25	£800.00	Solicitor	£1,391.00	£0.00
Lights	£895.00	£644.00	Utilities/Council tax	£1,304.71	£2,125.48
Match Fees/Balls	£960.05	£1,209.00	Admin./Domestic	£10.25	£73.91
Coaches	£1,288.20	£1,166.80	Rent/Insurance	£1,055.11	£2,674.75
Court Hire	£0.00	£30.00	Balls/Equipment	£2,374.09	£899.32
Fund Raising	£1,693.17	£1,815.17	League fees/LTA	£970.00	£1,040.00
Miscellaneous	£125.00	£10.00	Website	£405.12	£0.00
Premium Account Interest	£346.67	£399.50	Grounds/Courts Maintenance	£12,547.52	£12,904.58
			Miscellaneous	£288.35	£644.55
Total Income:	£21,686.61	£22,079.96	Total Expenditure:	£22,352.17	£21,568.07
Income - Expenditure:	-£665.56	£511.89			
Balance (ex.loan)					
Current Account:	£3,836.58	£4,269.60			
Premium Account:	£30,356.67	£30,756.17			
Cash:	£386.48	£65.85			
Total	£34,579.73	£35,091.62			
Outstanding LTA loan:	£833.35	£0.00			
Net end of Year Balance:	£33,746.38	£35,091.62			

John Harrison
Auditor


12/1/26

Barry Adamski
Treasurer


12/1/26

Treasurer's Report for 2025

The Club started the year with a balance of £34,579.73, which was down on the previous year by over £600.

The main sources of income continue to be from subscriptions, coaching and fund raising.

Although income from lights and match fees/balls totals more than £1,800 this is off set by the cost of electricity for the lights and the purchase of balls for matches.

For the second year there was a drop in income from the lights which, even allowing for the accounts being closed on 31st December which is mid winter, it appears playing on dark evenings might be losing its appeal.

The social committee continued with an outstanding effort and raised over £1,800.

The main expenditure was on maintenance of the grounds and courts. For the second year this has been more than a half of the Club's annual expenditure and it seems this will be the case in future years.

Solicitor's fees and website costs no longer apply and this year the final payment of the LTA loan was made.

The final balance for the end of the year was £35,091.62. Whilst this might seem sufficient to run the Club it is not much of a reserve when the annual turnover is increasing each year and is now more than £22,000 with the net income being only a few hundred pounds. Faced with ever spiralling costs the net income could be negative although with the proposed subscription increases and the possibility of income from pay as you go that hopefully will not be the case.

Barry Adamski (treasurer)

GREAT AYTON TENNIS CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 1170990

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statement

For the year ending 2024

Reference and administration details

Charity Name	Great Ayton Tennis Club
Other names charity is known by	GATC
Registered charity number	1170990
Charities principle address	16 The Dorkings, Great Broughton, Middlesbrough, TS9 7NA

Names of the charity trustees who manage GATC

	Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Date last (re)elected
1	Allan Dixon	Chair	Appointed during 2022 and ratified at AGM 2023
2	Denise Essex	Secretary	Appointed during 2023 and ratified at AGM 2023
3	Barry Adamski	Treasurer	(non trustee)
4	Wayne Stephenson		AGM 2024
5	Sid Blackmore		AGM 2024
6	David Joy		Appointed during 2023 and ratified AGM 2023
7	Marian Matthews		Appointed during 2018
8	Sarah Dixon		Appointed during 2022 and ratified at AGM 2023
9	Theresa Brentnall		Appointed during 2024 - seeking ratification at AGM 2025

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document	Constitution adopted 5th January 2017 (amended 21st March 2024)
How the charity is constituted	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Governance	<p>The club complies with Privacy (GDPR) legislation introduced in 2018. Furthermore the club is an LTA registered venue and has in place policies to include Safeguarding, Diversity & Inclusion and Whistleblowing.</p> <p>The club has a trained Welfare Officer who oversees safeguarding in the venue. The Club Rules and all policies are highlighted to new members; displayed on the club noticeboard as well as being available to all on the GATC website.</p> <p>All coaching staff including assistants undertake Criminal Records Bureau checks and are required to maintain relevant Emergency First Aid and Safeguarding Training in line with LTA accreditation.</p>

Welcome

Great Ayton Tennis Club continued to plan and provide a range of activities throughout 2024 to promote the participation in tennis from both the local and broader community. We continue to offer not just opportunities to maintain fitness and provide access to healthy physical activities, but aim to support mental health wellbeing also, with our popular range of social activities.

By providing a programme of coaching for varying abilities, opportunities for social play as well as a chance to play competitively in League Tennis, the club provides for a broad spectrum of players and their needs. This rich and balanced membership is a strength of our club, and it is indebted to the commitment of the many volunteers who invest a significant amount of time, thought and energy to make this possible.

This has been a challenging year on a number of fronts, with our running costs continuing to increase as well as a need to address some significant maintenance activities with the courts and our grounds in general. On a positive, court performance is in a better place than the previous year and further work will continue in this regard. Also after a number of years with the club not having a formal lease in place, this has now been signed by all parties to provide some security for the next 10 years at least - this also brought a large legal bill which is itemised in our accounts summary at the end of this document.

Looking beyond 'our borders', an annual visit to Danby Tennis Club is now a much-anticipated event, as well as the well-established summer visit from Marwood Infants School.

And, finally, to conclude the year we issued a survey to understand what was important to members and their views on how the club should move forward. The trustees believe frequent communication with members is essential to ensure they remain informed about what is happening with the club.

Thanks to all the members for their continued support of Great Ayton Tennis Club.

Allan Dixon
Chair of Trustees

Membership

For 2024, membership fees increased by around 10% for the various categories offered following an extended period with no increase. The club continued to offer free memberships for our infant category and our two categories of junior membership (under 16's) were combined to a single price, which represented a slight cost increase for the original younger group and a cost reduction for the original older group.

Overall membership reduced slightly during 2024 although overall membership income remained static for the year. A breakdown of our membership numbers within each category are:-

	2024	2023
Adult	109	123
Family	62	63
Guardian	5	5
Infant	12	6
Junior	21	33
Student	9	7
Honorary	8	9
Total	226	246

Club Tennis and League Teams

From a tennis perspective, Great Ayton continues to offer a range of opportunities for members to take part in our own club social sessions and competitions as well as fielding a number of teams within the Cleveland League against local tennis clubs.

- The Club Championships took place with Finals Day held on a lovely sunny afternoon with Matty Loving and Kev Rowley providing excellent entertainment for the spectators. Kev Rowley taking the honours after a finely fought match. Due to difficulties with players' prior commitments. The Mixed and Ladies finals were not played.
- The Jacqui Foster Tournament took place in September on a fine day and the Newhouse trophy followed.
- Tuesday and Friday evenings (and during the darker winter months, afternoons) continued to be designated for Club Tennis.
- Saturday morning social play continued, being especially well attended on the first Saturday of the month when Coffee and Croissants were served. Denise Essex also occasionally organised fun Whistle Stop tournaments on these days. We now also prioritise court 5 for juniors to play at this club session to encourage participation
- The well-established Thursday Morning Coffee Group remained popular with on court support from Denise Essex and a few 'extra curricula' trips were planned to include an outing to Whitby and further afield to the Edinburgh Fringe in August. The now regular morning at Tennis World at Christmas and a Meal out in December rounded off the year. [Special thanks to Denise Essex who continued to inspire and encourage the Thursday Morning Coffee Group aka Rusty Rackets](#)

In 2024 GATC fielded:

- 11 teams in the Cleveland Tennis League
- Men's A also participated in the National Premier League
- Men's A participated in the Cleveland Cup

Team	League	Captain	Division	Position
Ladies A	Cleveland League	Miriam Fawcett	Division 1	6
Ladies B		Louise Rayner	Division 1	8
Ladies C		Irene Reah	Division 3	6
Men's A		Wayne Stephenson	Division 1	2
Men's B		Kev Rowley	Division 1	6
Men's C		Martin Press	Division 4	7
Men's D		David Joy	Division 6	6
Mixed A	Mixed League	Richard Graham	Division 2	1
Mixed B		Craig Sheridan	Division 2	6
Vet's A	Vets' League	Jane Bourne	Division 1	split 2024/5
Vet's B		Craig Sheridan	Division 2	split 2024/5

Particular thanks to all team captains for their selfless management of the squads and to all players who represented the club during the season.

Social Events and Fundraising

Once again the club ensured that our offering to members extends beyond purely providing courts for play. Members of our social committee yet again dedicated their time to plan and manage a number of events providing important opportunities for social interaction for members and friends.

- Quiz nights (February and November) at The Royal Oak continued to be extremely popular with tickets soon selling out and also boosting club funds.
- A Family Day in May brought in a good crowd enjoying a cardio session with Nic Weschenfelder, which proved very popular and a fabulous selection of cakes were donated rounding off the afternoon.
- Strawberries and cream were on the calendar in July which was the perfect companion to the red-hot day!
- The annual BBQ was held in September. Although a little later than usual, it was very well attended.
- Easyfundraising continues to provide welcome extra income throughout the year. In 2024, £232 was raised through this initiative.

Coaching

GATC coaches Mark Barras and Nic Weschenfelder continued to offer sessions for both groups and individuals.

Adults

- Take up for Group Adult sessions (beginner and intermediate) remained strong with coaching on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, floodlights enabling the groups to continue all year round.
- The well attended, popular Saturday morning Cardio group helped to improve fitness and have fun at the same time. Cardio session, mainly to improve fitness, continued on Saturday mornings.
- Coaches also provided 1:1 coaching for Adults & Juniors.

Juniors

- Coaching for junior groups was well supported with several groups each week throughout the year.
- Junior coaching continued on evenings along with Tennis Camps held in the school holidays.

Maintenance

The maintenance team headed up by Sid Blackmore were very busy throughout the year. After focusing on the Club Hut in 2023, the majority of the maintenance in 2024 related to the grounds and courts. [An enormous thank you to Sid for the many hours dedicated to the club.](#)

- Deep cleaning of Courts 1,2 and 3 early in the year was successful and improved the ongoing drainage problems. Whereas during the previous year these courts were unplayable from October for a number of months, other than during periods of significant rain 1, 2 & 3 have been used throughout the year. Courts 4 & 5 also benefited from a deep clean to significantly reduce moss caused by overhanging trees and remained more safely playable all year round. A cleaning programme will be carried out annually to all courts to continue to provide improved performance and availability going forward.
- The laurel hedges were significantly cut back to a manageable height and width to enable Eric (the gardener) to maintain them. This was a significant piece of work that should not be required to repeat for many years.
- Local Authority permission was obtained for and a particularly problematic sycamore was cut back from overhanging court 5.
- A number of rotten trees have had to be removed as have others which had been blown down in the gales.
- The thermostatic controlled anti frost heating solution has removed the threat of frozen pipes etc.
- By request, additional solar lighting has been installed from the car park to the club house.

Community Links

Great Ayton continues to link with the wider community.

- The annual visit from Marwood infants school took place in the summer organised by Sara Papworth.
- An away day to Danby Tennis Club in September. This included social play followed by breakfast in The Fox and Hounds. Thanks to Denise and Barbara for helping.

Treasurers Accounts Summary & Report

Great Ayton Tennis Club					
Income and Expenditure Account 1st January 2024 - 31st December 2024					
Balance 1st. January	2023	2024			
Current Account	£27,776.32	£35,205.91			
Cash	£49.74	£39.38			
Total:	£27,826.06	£35,245.29			
Income:	2023	2024	Expenditure:	2023	2024
Subscriptions	£15,158.02	£15,466.00	Subscription fees	-	£339.36
Easy Funding	£284.33	£232.27	Loan repayment	£1,666.66	£1,666.66
Donations/Grants	£56.00	£680.25	Solicitor	-	£1,391.00
Lights	£1,036.00	£895.00	Utilities/Council tax	£997.34	£1,304.71
Match Fees	£994.00	£960.05	Admin./Domestic	£71.33	£10.25
Coaches	£1,610.30	£1,288.20	Rent/Insurance	£1,053.04	£1,055.11
Court Hire	£0.00	£0.00	Balls/Equipment	£1,079.82	£2,374.09
Fund Raising	£2,936.50	£1,693.17	League fees/LTA	£945.00	£970.00
Miscellaneous	£15.00	£125.00	Website	£526.80	£405.12
Premium Account Interest	-	£346.67	Grounds/Courts Maintenance	£8,258.93	£12,547.52
			Miscellaneous	£72.00	£288.35
Total Income:	£22,090.15	£21,686.61	Total Expenditure:	£14,670.92	£22,352.17
Income - Expenditure:	£7,419.23	-£665.56			
Balance (ex.loan)					
Current Account:	£35,205.91	£3,836.58			
Premium Account:	-	£30,356.67			
Cash:	£39.38	£386.48			
Total	£35,245.29	£34,579.73			
Outstanding LTA loan:	£2,500.01	£833.35			
Net end of Year Balance:	£32,745.28	£33,746.38			

John Harrison
Auditor

Barry Adamski
Treasurer

Treasurer's Report for 2024

The Club started the year with over £35,000 which, as in the previous year, was an increase of the order of £7,000.

The main source of income continues to come from subscriptions which after paying ClubSpark fees amounted to £15,126.64.

Income from the lights and from coaching was lower than in 2023 which may have been due to bad weather limiting evening coaching.

The social committee and members continued to work hard and raised £1,693.17. A significant contribution to Club funds.

During the year there were "one off" expenses such as buying the ball machine, heaters for the hut and solicitor's fees for the lease.

There were also payments which will re-occur every few years and need to be saved for. Such payments include hedge cutting, tree trimming and deep cleaning of the courts, which this year came to over £9,000.

Because of these payments we ended the year with expenditure exceeding income by £1,012.23, although this was reduced to £665.56 when the savings account interest of £346.67 is taken into consideration.

The Club ended the year with a total of £34,579.73.

Barry Adamski (Treasurer)

GREAT AYTON TENNIS CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 1170990

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statement

For the year ending 2023

Reference and administration details

Charity Name	Great Ayton Tennis Club
Other names charity is known by	GATC
Registered charity number	1170990
Charities principle address	16 The Dorkings, Great Broughton, Middlesbrough, TS9 7NA

Names of the charity trustees who manage GATC

	Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Date acted if not for whole year
1	Allan Dixon	Chair	Appointed to Trustee Jan 2023 and to Chair at AGM 2023
2	Denise Essex	Secretary	Appointed to Trustee Feb 2023. Ratified at AGM 2023
3	Barry Adamski	Treasurer	
4	Wayne Stephenson		
5	Sid Blackmore		
6	David Joy		Appointed to Trustee Feb 2023. Ratified at AGM 2023
7	Marian Matthews		
8	Sarah Dixon		Appointed to Trustee Jan 2023. Ratified at AGM 2023
9	Tim Ryan	Chair	Resigned Q1
10	Irene Reah		Resigned at AGM
11	Martin Press		Resigned Q2

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document	Constitution adopted 5th January 2017
How the charity is constituted	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Governance	<p>The club complies with Privacy (GDPR) legislation introduced in 2018. Furthermore the club is an LTA registered venue and has in place policies to include Safeguarding, Diversity & Inclusion and Whistleblowing. The club has a trained Welfare Officer who oversees safeguarding in the venue. The Club Rules and all policies are highlighted to new members; displayed on the club noticeboard as well as being available to all on the GATC website. All coaching staff undertake Criminal Records Bureau checks and are required to maintain relevant Emergency First Aid and Safeguarding Training in line with LTA accreditation.</p>

Welcome

2023 for Great Ayton Tennis Club was a busy one!

GATC proved again that it is a welcoming club and strong membership numbers are reflected in the 2023 figures. A positive culture runs strongly through the club and there is a firm commitment to ensuring that members have the opportunity to play at club sessions, Thursday Morning Coffee, represent the club competitively in local leagues and simply play along with family and friends.

A much longed for Club Hut refurbishment was completed in 2023 and this facility has enhanced provision offered by GATC.

A full audit was undertaken of all required club policies with updates approved at the end of the year. It was agreed these would be formally adopted from 1st January 2024.

Many hours have been spent in negotiation regarding the lease, which expired in 2017, placing the club in a position of risk. By the end of the year the terms of a new lease had been agreed and a solicitor appointed to finalise the documentation and to liaise with the landlord's solicitor.

Migration to the LTA's membership and website platform (ClubSpark) continued during the year and concluded with the transfer of membership data from our old website in order to carry out our membership renewals for 2024, including the option to pay by card or direct debit for the first time. This move has given the club a much improved and modern website whilst also saving significant costs. The ClubSpark website should be the first port of call for all members and potential members to keep themselves up to date on club activities. During 2024 the court booking system will also move to the ClubSpark platform.

Volunteers again worked together in all aspects of the club life: looking after the grounds and clubhouse, organising and helping with social events on and off the courts, captaining teams as well as ensuring the club fulfils its LTA requirements. So, thanks go to all involved.

And, finally, thanks to all the members for their continued support of Great Ayton Tennis Club.

Membership

Membership remained robust during 2023 and it was agreed to keep the annual membership fees the same as in 2022

	2023	2022	2021	2020
Adults	174	188	220	153
Juniors	72*	73	94	55
Total	246	261	314	205/8
New members	35	66	117	-

Adults include Honorary, Senior, Guardian, Students18+. Juniors include under 18's and Freebies (under 5/6 i.e. pre Y2 school year)

* For 2023 the figure only includes actual members and not non-members who only attended camps/lessons

Preview of style change: From 2024, reporting will be based upon the membership package individuals have joined under

	2023
Adult	123
Family	63
Guardian	5
Infant	6
Junior	33
Student	7
Honorary	9
Total	246

Social Events and Fundraising

- A Quiz in February was followed by the Big Bash in March, Prosecco Day in June, Strawberry Tea and a BBQ in July. The last social event of the year was another Quiz at the end of September.



- A new fundraiser was held in September – A Call My Bluff Evening. This occasion was hosted by club member Mike Sharman and proved to be very popular and was greatly enjoyed by all those who came along.



Call My Bluff Evening – a full hall of members and friends.

- Easyfundraising continued to provide extra income throughout the year. In 2023, £452 was raised through this initiative.
- A membership raffle also helped funds along.



- *Thursday Morning Coffee Group on their Awayday at Tennis world in December*

A special thank you to the Social committee (Marian, Irene, Amanda, Denise, Sarah & Rachel) for all their hard work during the year.

Club Tennis and Teams

Club Tennis - another very positive year on the courts for GATC with an abundance of playing opportunities.

- The Club Championships took place with Claire Sheridan and Jo Joy victorious for the Ladies and Denise Essex and Mark Huggins gaining the honours for the Mixed competition. Unfortunately, the Men's Doubles was not able to be finished owing to players' commitments.
- Tuesday and Friday nights (and during the darker days, afternoons) continued to be designated for Club Tennis.
- To cater for those members who work, a Saturday morning Club Tennis session was introduced. From December it was agreed that the first Saturday of each month would include either a competition or coffee and croissants.
- The Jacqui Foster Tournament took place in June.
- Thursday Morning Coffee Group went from strength to strength, and it wasn't unusual to see all five courts in use. This weekly session, under the guidance of Denise Essex, has helped beginners improve to a point where they felt confident to join in Club sessions. The social aspect of the group also flourished with a Christmas outing to Tennis World, with two hours of activities, followed by bacon rolls and mince pies. [A special thank you to Denise Essex who continues to inspire and encourage the Thursday Morning Coffee Group.](#)

Great Ayton Tennis Club continued to establish links with other clubs, namely Danby Tennis Club and Castleton Tennis Club...

- On a sunny morning in September, a dozen or so regulars from our Thursday morning Social Tennis Group, visited Danby Tennis Club. The weather played its part, with a sunny warm day, which made the stunning views even more attractive. Some excellent tennis was played and our hosts at Danby could not have been more hospitable. Everyone enjoyed a picnic afterwards and one or two (or perhaps more!) enjoyed a glass or two of prosecco - not the designated drivers of course.

[Thank you to Denise, Barbara and all those who helped make a very enjoyable day happen.](#)



- The second event was also in September with a Ladies Friendly v a combined Danby and Castleton Team. Again, the weather was kind with warm sunshine. Four couples took part from each team. The result was a diplomatic draw. It was great to see families staying to support this event. Thanks to the organisers.

And also, a strong link with our local school continued with Marwood School taking over the courts for their annual visit in the summer term. [Thanks to Sara Papworth and helpers on the day for organising.](#)

Teams

In 2023 GATC fielded:

- 11 teams in the Cleveland Tennis League
- Men's A also participated in the National Premier League
- Men's A participated in the Cleveland Cup

GATC achieved outstanding success winning both The Cleveland Cup and The Cleveland Autumn League



Congratulations to the Great Ayton Men's A Team who were victorious in The Cleveland Cup beating Eldon Grove 6-0 in the final.

Team	League	Captain	Division	Position
Ladies A	Cleveland League	Jane Joughin	Division 1	6
Ladies B		Louise Rayner	Division 2	2
Ladies C		Irene Reah	Division 3	5
Men's A		Wayne Stephenson	Division 1	2
Men's B		Wayne Stephenson	Division 1	6
Men's C		Martin Press	Division 4	5
Men's D		David Joy	Division 6	6
	<i>Mixed League</i>			
Mixed A		Miriam Fawcett	Division 1	5
Mixed B		Craig Sheridan	Division 3	2
	<i>Vets' League</i>			
Mixed A		Jane Bourne	Division 1	2
Mixed B		Craig Sheridan	Division 2	4

Particular thanks to all team captains for their selfless management of the squads and to all players who represented the club during the season.

Coaching

[Our thanks go to our coaches – Mark Barras and Nic Weschenfelder](#). GATC was able to provide a comprehensive range of coaching sessions for adults and children, both for individuals and groups. It has been good to see all groups making progress, as well as many members from these groups starting to organise their own sessions and coming along to club sessions.

Adults

- A Cardio session, mainly to improve fitness, continued on Saturday mornings. This family session was popular but inclement weather reduced the opportunities to get together.
- Group Adult coaching sessions expanded in response to demand with both beginner and intermediate standards catered for throughout the year. Numbers increased in 2023 with adult coaching on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.
- Coaches also provided 1:1 coaching for Adults & Juniors.

Juniors

- Coaching for junior groups was well supported with several groups each week throughout the year.
- Junior coaching continued on evenings along with Tennis Camps held in the school holidays.

Maintenance

The maintenance team headed up by Sid Blackmore were very busy throughout the year. [An enormous thank you to Sid for the many hours dedicated to the club.](#)

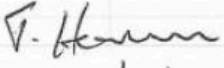

- The major achievement in 2023 was the interior refurbishment to the Club Hut. With reconfiguration of the space; a new kitchen; flooring and decorating, we now have a much-improved space for members' needs – making drinks, match teas and meetings. And ...of course; sheltering from the rain!
- Complete internal rewire to club hut
- New path laid to store, new store door fitted and painted
- New refurbished tennis ball machine purchased
- Two rotten and unsafe cherry trees removed



The Ladies 'c' Team having tea in our newly refurbished hut after playing a match against David Lloyd.

- ★ Courts 1,2 and 3, although professionally cleaned, continue to exhibit water retention issues with many days lost. This has been reported to Fosse (the company who carried out the installation work) with a request for an inspection and diagnosis of the underlying issue.

Treasurer's Accounts Summary & Report

Great Ayton Tennis Club					
Income and Expenditure Account 1st January 2023 - 31st December 2023					
Balance 1st. January		2022	2023		
Current Account		£19,922.02	£27,776.32		
Cash		£518.06	£49.74		
	Total:	£20,440.08	£27,826.06		
Income:		2022	2023	Expenditure:	2022 2023
Subscriptions		£14,367.50	£15,158.02	Loan repayment	£833.33 £1,666.66
Easy Funding		-	£284.33	Level 4 coach	£1,443.00 -
Donations/Grants		£2,387.24	£56.00	Utilities/Council tax	£1,107.91 £997.34
Lights		£1,045.00	£1,036.00	Admin./Domestic	£104.97 £71.33
Match Fees		£860.00	£994.00	Rent/Insurance	£927.81 £1,053.04
Coaches		£1,678.10	£1,610.30	Balls/Equipment	£1,797.42 £1,079.82
Court Hire		£15.00	£0.00	League fees/LTA	£1,415.00 £945.00
Fund Raising		£619.98	£2,936.50	Website	£1,902.70 £526.80
Miscellaneous		£0.00	£15.00	Grounds/Courts Maintenance	£3,925.61 £8,258.93
				Miscellaneous	£129.09 £72.00
Total Income:		£20,972.82	£22,090.15	Total Expenditure:	£13,586.84 £14,670.92
Income - Expenditure:		£7,385.98	£7,419.23		
Balance (ex.loan)					
Current Account:		£27,776.32	£35,205.91		
Cash:		£49.74	£39.38		
Total		£27,826.06	£35,245.29		
Outstanding LTA loan:		£4,166.67	£2,500.01		
Net end of Year Balance:		£23,659.39	£32,745.28		
John Harrison Auditor	 15/2/24			Barry Adamski Treasurer	 15/2/24

Treasurer's Report for 2023

The club started the year with just under £28,000 which was an increase of £7,000 over the previous year.

The main source of income continues to be from members' subscriptions which amounted to over £15,000. Also an outstanding effort by the social committee, supported by many members and non members, raised £2,900 for club funds. Other income came from the coaches, £1,600, and from payment for the lights, £1,000. Part of the income from lights has to be off-set against an increase in electricity bills.

A large part of expenditure continues to go towards rent, utilities, insurance etc.. However, £4,000 was spent on the much needed refurbishment of the hut and £2,000 on cleaning courts 1,2 and 3, which along with the cutting back of the laurel hedges brought the total expenditure to over £14,600.

The club finished the year with just over £32,700 when the outstanding LTA loan of £2,500 is taken into account.

Future Expenses

The state of the poroflex courts is a cause for concern and it will probably cost a great deal of money to improve their drainage.

The renewal of the lease is still under discussion but once agreed the annual rent will increase to £1,000.

The hut's roof is beginning to show signs of age and probably will need some maintenance work done to it.

Further work is planned to cut back the laurels.

The cost of utilities, equipment and general maintenance has increased.

It is with regret, therefore, that the trustees have had to increase subscriptions in order to cover future costs.

However, with the introduction of the running of the club's website and subscription payment through Club Spark it is hoped money can be saved. This, along with the continued support of members means there can be no doubt that the future success of the club is assured.



Barry Adamski (Treasurer) 12/0/2/24.

GREAT AYTON TENNIS CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 1170990

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statement

For the year ending 2022

Welcome

2022 for Great Ayton Tennis Club was a busy one!

The ethos of the club is to provide a welcoming and supportive environment for players of all ages and abilities. And reading the report below you will see that we are well on the way to achieving this goal.

Hard work from the maintenance team to improve the access to the courts (the start of the programme to become a more inclusive club), junior members gaining certificates in an LTA Youth Leaders Course, the success of the Men's first team and the first season for Men's D team reflect the Club's commitment to providing tennis for all.

Thursday Morning Coffee Group is now well established with up to 25 members attending. If the weather stops the tennis, it certainly doesn't stop the socialising – when the group meet up for coffee at The Royal Oak instead.

Testament to all the achievements in 2022, GATC was awarded Highly Commended in the Club of the Year category at the annual Yorkshire Tennis Awards event.

Sadly, Jen Barron who coached both adult and junior groups decided to move on at the end of the year. We wish her well.

It's quite astonishing to think that the club is run by volunteers – a dedicated group who work tirelessly ensuring the smooth running of the club.

And so, to the members. It's the members who make our club what it is – a welcoming and vibrant place where the standard of tennis continues to improve. Thank you.

Trustees

Dr Tim Ryan

Irene Reah

Barry Adamski

Wayne Stephenson

Martin Press

Sid Blackmore

Marian Matthews

Richard Graham

The Trustees are pleased to present their Annual Report together with the Financial Statements for 2022

greataytontennisclub@gmail.com

Charity No. 1170990

Membership

After the huge interest in membership in 2021 - primarily due to tennis being a sport that was an acceptable socially distanced activity during the pandemic - 2022 was always going to be challenging with regard to membership numbers.

In order to counter any expected dip in membership it was agreed to maintain the annual fees, offer free coaching sessions to members and promote the in-house Mixed Winter League.

However, as you can see below, although overall numbers declined, the club gained 66 new members. Looking back to 2020, where a more realistic comparison can be made, the club membership continued to attract new members with an increase of 30% , with many commenting on the friendly atmosphere.

	2022	2021	2020
Adults	188	220	153
Juniors	73	94*	55
Total	261	314	205/8
New members	66	117	-

*plus 32 juniors who didn't join but attended Youth Start coaching

Adults includes Honorary, Senior, Guardian, Students18+

Juniors include under 16's and Freebies (under 5/6 i.e. pre Y2 school year)

Social Events



The annual summer BBQ remains a popular fixture in the calendar while the newly established Thursday Morning group enjoy their Christmas get together at Tennis world.

- Annual BBQ. In July the club held its annual BBQ which welcomed new and long-standing members.
- Open Day – Another very successful event with a range of activities (cardio, ball machine, juniors).
- Prosecco Day

Club Tennis and Teams

Club Tennis

- The Thursday Morning Coffee Group, catering for those just setting out or to those preferring a gentler game, continued to flourish under the guidance of Denise Essex. The session concludes with a little competition and a coffee. With encouragement and support some of these players now join in with club sessions.
- Two afternoons / evenings continued to be set aside for Club Sessions where the standard has continued to rise with convivial but competitive tennis.
- Good use of the floodlights enabled the inaugural Winter Mixed League to conclude with the division winners announced at a New Year Mince Pies and Mulled Wine afternoon which was very well attended. Thanks to everyone taking part and in particular Tony Smith and Denise Essex for organising.
- The Newhouse Trophy took place on a sunny summer afternoon- Jeanette and Phil taking the trophy home.

Teams

In 2022 GATC fielded:

- 10 teams in the Cleveland Tennis League.
- 1 team in the national Premier League
- 1 team in the Cleveland Cup

Team	League	Captain	Division	Position
Ladies A	Cleveland League	Jane Joughin	1	7
Ladies B		Julie Wilson	2	5
Ladies C		Irene Reah	3	6
Men's A		Wayne Stephenson	Division 1	1
Men's B		Wayne Stephenson	Division 1	4
Men's C		Martin Press	Division 4	4
Men's D		David Joy	Division 6	7
	Mixed League			
Mixed A		Miriam Fawcett	Division 1	5
Mixed B		Craig Sheridan	Division 2	5
	Vets' League			
Mixed A		Jane Bourne	Division 1	
Mixed B		Craig Sheridan	Division 2	4

Particular thanks to all team captains for their selfless management of the squads and to all players who represented the club during the season.

Coaching

Our thanks go to our coaches – Mark Barras, Jen Barron and Nic Weschenfelder. GATC was able to provide a comprehensive range of coaching sessions for adults and children, both for individuals and groups.

Adults

- Group coaching for beginners and intermediates increased in 2022. The Wednesday night adult coaching group was proving so successful that an extra session was added.
- Grant funding was used to trial coaching as a freebie to members on a Tuesday evening (claimed back through the 'Making a Difference' grant) in order to maintain new members from last year and improve their game. Wheelchair users attended this group and other less able members, with view to improving skills through coaching. It was also a good session to introduce new members to the Club. From October this session continued with members paying weekly.
- A Cardio session, mainly to improve fitness, was advertised to members and non-members. This proved very successful as it was for all ages and abilities and as many as 17 or 18 attended each week. It was also nice to see families enjoying playing tennis together at these sessions. After such a long spell of lockdown, exercise proved important in improving the mental health and wellbeing of the local community.
- A more advanced session took place for members who wanted to keep fit through the winter and improve skills and technique was also introduced to help maintain membership.

Juniors

- Coaching for junior groups was well supported with several groups each week throughout the year.
- A number of juniors had individual coaching.
- In the spring a half hour LTA Tots Initiative (5 years and under) was set up, 10 or 12 attended every week.
- Jen visited the local primary Schools and offered the LTA scheme for schools (£250 for them to pay her to run sessions within school). This was a good opportunity to offer the Youth Start Programme to pupils, which in turn encouraged kids to take part in YS at the Club, hence the new members increased.
- LTA Youth Leaders Course. In March Jen took 7 of our Junior Members to Tennis World to take part in an LTA Youth Leaders Course. This is recognised nation-wide and helps juniors to assist coaches, gain confidence on court and establish many skills that help in organising and running a tennis session. All players passed and got their certificate.
- Holiday Camps - a couple of these boys with the Youth Leader's Course Certificate helped to run the Easter Camps. Camps were held during the school holidays catering for a wide range of ages and abilities.

Maintenance

The maintenance team headed up by Sid Blackmore were kept very busy throughout the year.

- The car park and path to the clubhouse were resurfaced with improved accessibility.
- An external noticeboard has been placed on the club hut.
- Many hours were put in throughout the summer painting the outside of the club hut.
- Motion activated lights have been fitted to corners of the clubhouse to ensure safe passage.
- The problem of court 3 holding the water continued making it unplayable at times. The club purchased rollers and a sponge roller for players to use to remove excess water. Unfortunately, Fosse was unable to clean the *poraflex* courts when the club wanted due to snow. This was frustrating for all.
- Tree lopping and general grounds maintenance.

Fundraising

Fundraising has not yet recovered to pre pandemic levels.

A new fundraising initiative was proposed by Sarah Dixon who kindly volunteered to investigate opportunities for the club. Her first initiative was for the club to join **Easyfundraising**. In simple terms, when members sign up and make an online purchase, the company donate to the club.

A membership raffle and BBQ also raised funds.

Financial review

The club started the year with funds of just over £15,000, once the LTA loan of £5,000 was taken into account. The main source of income continues to be from members' subscriptions which was £14,367.50 from over two hundred and fifty members. New members continue to be attracted and are welcomed by such activities as Thursday morning social tennis which caters for members of all abilities. Following two years of covid restrictions fund raising got underway again and £619.96 was raised during the year.

A grant of £2,263.25 (Making A Difference) was obtained from Hambleton District Council and went towards increasing membership and providing more coaching.

Other incomes were from the lights and match fees, but these have to be considered against increased electricity costs and the cost of balls/league fees respectively.

A large portion of the expenditure is unavoidable and is made up of utility bills, rent and insurance. Maintaining the website was expensive, £1,902.70, and this year ground maintenance was higher than normal because the path from the car park to the clubhouse was improved to aid wheelchair users. It has become apparent that courts 1,2, and 3 will need to be regularly cleaned which will cost over £2,000 each time they are done.

The overall profit for the year was £7,385.98 which gave total end of year funds of £23,691.14. The club house needs revamping and there should be a sinking fund for future repair of the courts. However, with now more opportunity for fundraising and the new initiative of "easyfundraising" the club should be better placed to meet its future financial needs.

Governance

The club complies with Privacy (GDPR) legislation introduced in 2018. Furthermore the club is an LTA registered venue and has in place policies to include Safeguarding, Diversity & Inclusion and Whistleblowing.

These policies are displayed on the club noticeboard as well as being available from the members area of the GATC website. A full review and updating of all our policies are planned for 2023 and will be updated prior to the 2024 financial year commencing.

All coaching staff undertake Criminal Records Bureau checks with the LTA and are required to maintain relevant Emergency First Aid Training. GATC had access to the support of a welfare (safeguarding) official from the local Hutton Rudby Tennis Club during part of the year but were delighted to appoint our own trained Welfare officer, Richard Graham during 2022.

Great Ayton Tennis Club

Income and Expenditure Account 1st January 2022 - 31st December 2022

Balance 1st. January 2022

Current Account £19,922.02
Cash £518.06

Total: £20,440.08

Income:

Subscriptions £14,367.50
(188 adults, 73 juniors)
Donations/Grants £2,387.24
Lights £1,045.00
Match Fees £860.00
Coaches £1,678.10
Court Hire £15.00
Fund Raising £619.98

Total: £20,972.82

Expenditure:

Loan repayment £833.33
Level 4 Coach £1,443.00
Utilities/Council tax £1,107.91
Admin./Domestic £104.97
Rent/Insurance £927.81
Balls/Equipment £1,797.42
League fees/LTA £1,415.00
Website £1,902.70
Grounds/Courts Maintenance £3,925.61
Miscellaneous £129.09

Total: £13,586.84

Income - Expenditure: £7,385.98


Total:	£27,826.06
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Current Account: £27,776.32
Cash: £49.74
Total: £27,826.06


Outstanding LTA Loan: £4,166.67

Balance	£23,691.14
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John Harrison
Auditor


6/2/23

Barry Adamski
Treasurer


6/2/23

GREAT AYTON TENNIS CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 1170990

Accounts

Great Ayton Tennis Club

Trustees Report to Charity Commission for 2021

The objects of the CIO Great Ayton Tennis Club are the promotion of community participation in healthy recreation in particular by the provision of facilities for the playing of tennis.

In our 2020 report we set out our goals for 2021, subject to Covid-19 on going restrictions, all of which have been achieved, as follows, with more details appended.

- (1) That all members of the Club (Juniors and Adults) should receive regular coaching particularly new members: New coaching team for the youngest "Tots Tennis" (5 and under) to the oldest "Walking Tennis" plus more keep fit tennis classes ("Cardio" tennis). We expanded our coaching team to provide coaching options all week (previously 1 evening and Sunday morning) and put in place Coaching Contracts for 3 coaches.
- (2) The Trustees planned to keep subscriptions affordable and achieve both good membership retention and membership growth in 2021: Membership reached an all-time record of approx. 300 (including honourees), up from 200 (33% Juniors in both cases).
- (3) The Club would provide more internal competitions and social tournaments: e.g. successful floodlit internal Winter mixed competition introduced, ensuring full use of new floodlighting on courts 4,5.
- (4) The Club aimed to field at least 9 teams in the Cleveland League (achieved) and to successfully conclude our participation in the National Winter League for men (our NWL team was ranked in the top 38 clubs in country before they had to withdraw). 3 teams in the Cleveland League won promotion to higher divisions (Ladies C, Mens B & C teams). Several juniors are now playing in the senior's teams.
- (5) That the Club should continue to plan for more all year-round tennis and inclusive tennis. Planning consent obtained for floodlighting our remaining 3 unlit courts. First wheelchair users in our history coached by recruiting disability qualified level 4 coach, Jen Barron.
- (6) The Trustees undertook regular LTA Healthchecks as a guide to self-improvement and as most clubs continually seeks volunteers to become Trustees and take on the key roles such as Club Secretary.

The above was partly enabled by the Club successfully applying for £5000 grant funding from the Hambleton District Council Communities "Making a Difference" Fund: the objective to increase the amount and standard of tennis playing with enhanced promotion and including the provision of free coaching lessons by Jen Barron. This aimed to both help her to get established and earn a living and provide activities the club has not previously been able to offer. This included providing an LTA Youth Start programme, Camps open to all Junior Members and non-member friends of our Juniors over the half term holidays, disability coaching and 4 weeks of free coaching lessons for all members who wanted them.

As a result of our new coach being trained in disability coaching the Club has offered wheelchair tennis for the first time in our history. The Club now has the challenge of improving access to our facilities planned for late '22 / early '23. She has also introduced walking tennis for those elderly members who thought their tennis days were over and Tots tennis for those previously considered too young / small. One of our Junior members with a walking disability was helped by Club members contributions to a Crowdfunding fund set up by her family for a life changing operation which we hope will result in her coming back to tennis.

The Club was able to provide coaching and playing opportunities to Joel Gibson (former U16 NE England Juniors singles champion) when the indoor courts at the Sunderland Puma Tennis Centre were unavailable due to Covid restrictions. His level 5 coach came from Sunderland to coach him and was available to the Mens 1st team - high-quality spectator tennis was enjoyed by the members. He is on a path to professional tennis playing at the SotoTennis Academy in Spain.

In general, we believe the Club membership numbers increased in 2021 due to a variety of factors (a) the Club keeping fees low, (b) increased promotion, (c) providing incentives and new tennis playing activities, (d) tennis being automatically socially distanced and the public looking for healthy activities to keep fit whilst other activities (going to cinema, pub etc) were restricted, due to Covid-19.

In Oct 2020 a new initiative was identified to cater for the oldest generation and for people on shifts needing daytime play. A tennis and coffee morning drop-in on Thursdays was introduced in 2021 and quickly reached 12 regular members and has been growing since. Particularly attractive to newly retired members, some are long serving, including former high achievers and committee members in their day, who have formed groups of similar ability wanting company, a friendly game and a chat afterwards. These members are just as important to the Club as the young high ability members.

The financial status of the Club is reasonably healthy with reserves of £15,440. There are several non-recurring income and expenditure items not typical of a "normal" year as can be seen in the supplied Audited Accounts for 2021. The main source of income is membership subscription fees (£15,440). The use of the new floodlights (£982 income excludes electricity cost) is by pre-purchased tokens at £6 / hour (£4 / hour for coaching) that is a new income source. Coaching contracts have also been introduced. This includes the coaches providing, quarterly, a proportion of their income as a contribution (£1755) to maintaining the facilities. Government help during Covid-19 and the "Making a Difference Grant" (£18,483) has been much appreciated. Fundraising events such as quizzes, tombolas, wine & cheese party, cake stall etc are a traditional income source which has been restricted to external events during Covid-19. Pay as you Go for non-members was not allowed by the Club in 2021. This is expected to be reintroduced in a limited way in 2022.

Future investment policy follows the recommendations of the Lawn Tennis Association and best practice for sustaining the Objects. Regular court cleaning is a significant annual cost with less frequent full repainting. Floodlight installation on courts 1,2,3 is likely to be delayed until 2023/24 depending on the supply situation of the main cost item LED panels. In 2022/23 the club aims to refurbish the clubhouse and install a disability toilet suitable for external wheelchair access and improve wheelchair court access and pathway quality from the carpark. There are clearly a number of uncertainties to be considered regarding future investment options and the need to rebuild a sinking fund. The success of Padel tennis at other Clubs and the desirability of at least one covered court are coveted by members and under regular review.

Dr Tim Ryan
Chair & Trustee
Great Ayton Tennis Club

Appendix
"Making a Difference" Grant Deliverables

APPENDIX

“Making a Difference” Grant Deliverables

(1) Measurable Outcome or Deliverable 1 – working hours / week

- Jen Barron’s working hours / week have increased from 6 -10 from 2020 to April 2021 and during the project from 10 to on average 16 hours / week. The goal of 20 hours looks achievable.
 - Monday 2pm-8pm, Tuesday 4-8pm, Thursday 4-7pm, Friday 4-6pm, Saturday 9am-12pm
- This improvement has come about partly through the LTA Youth Start scheme that is accessed, booked and paid online to the Club’s Stripe account by parents via the LTA Clubspark system. Many of the Juniors then joined the club and Jen’s junior programme enlarged by adding more orange and green ball sessions. Other children were recruited from half term “camps” and Facebook advertising from her own personal Facebook account and the Clubs and linked by our page on the Visit Great Ayton website (see later). The camps are responsible for a significant amount of the growth in the Clubs Junior membership. Her Tots programme is expected to lead to future Juniors. Similarly, the LTA Schools initiative.
- The Club has offered free coaching using the grant that has attracted adults and led to membership and further lessons once they have got a taste for tennis playing. As requested by Hambleton DC we have offered discounts to low income applicants.
- Jen has benefitted from being able to use our new LED floodlights. We discount their use by coaches from £6 to £4/ hr / court to encourage coaching which the coaches recover from their coachees. In the case of free coaching under floodlights that cost is included in the claim.
- For the next months which will largely be January to April Jen’s intent is to run more Team Challenge events from the LTA and more fun junior competitions on a weekend. There is also an opportunity to start more disability work through the help of Ian (our first ever wheelchair tennis player and his contacts).
- The increased promotion has also benefitted our other professional coach who indicated he didn’t have additional capacity for more coaching in 2021 but has managed to find some.
- More detail about the activities supplied by Jen is given later

(2) Measurable Outcome or Deliverable 2 – The Club and the coach have a mutual interest in growing and retaining members

- A target of 300 -400 members was set and we are delighted (and surprised) that at 294 we are only a few short of 300; or 50 above our all-time record of 250 set in 2005 when juniors and families were also at a high level. There is always some loss each year. The goal is to gain at least as many members as are lost each year.
- Our aim in 2022 is to keep our membership fees competitive (identified by sampling as a key factor for some) and thereby achieve retention and further growth by enhancing our facilities and activities and by trying other membership categories learnt from other Clubs like a membership category that includes membership and 10 coaching lessons at a price less than if bought them separately.

- In 2021 the Club has obtained planning permission to floodlight the rest of our courts. That will further increase the attractiveness of the Club and ability to provide all year-round tennis including for our neighbours at the north end of Hambleton who have no floodlights.

The Trustees are preparing (with LTA encouragement) to apply for a 10-year LTA loan to fund this investment which as a condition requires us offering “pay as you go” court hire to non-members. It has been agreed with the LTA that this could be limited to the currently floodlit courts. The LTA believe pay as you go will help attract new members and finance the loan repayments. The Trustees have agreed that the affordability decision will be based on membership retention going into 2022. Account has to be taken of the need to rebuild a sinking fund for the future.

(3) LTA Healthcheck

The measures at the start of the project were:

- Financial Stability self-assessed as 4: 5 is our target in the time frame of the project; no change some risk if take LTA loan - approach cautious
- Governance 3: already improved in 2021 to 4, target 5; risk recruiting and keeping skills of Elected Trustees
- Membership Growth 2/3: target 4/5, growth surprised us reassessed as 4
- Member retention 2/3: target 4/5, uncertain going into 2022 assessed already seen improvement to 3
- Court & programme utilisation 3: target 4/5. Increased activities range introduced by Jen Barron reassessed as 4.

(4) GATC has a track record in helping with disability (Community Asset) that has been significantly widened by Jen who specialises in disability tennis

We now have two wheelchair users (Jen qualified to coach them) who have become Members since Jen arrived, they came to us by word of mouth through a new member this year. She is certainly making the Club fully inclusive and has developed a good relationship with the players.

Next year Jen will be creating a group solely for wheelchair users due to the success of the coaching sessions. Jen currently coaches SEN students at Middlesbrough College and sometimes plays with the Visually Impaired in Middlesbrough.

There are many opportunities for more to be offered at Great Ayton and Jen is in talks with the LTA about creating more classes suitable for disability players next year. Jen has a very positive relationship with the LTA and promotes many of their initiatives which are designed to encourage more people to play tennis within their community.

She has also approached Yatton House, our local school for special needs children and adults, meeting with the manager and introducing herself to the learners. A relationship has been established and coaching will commence next year 2022.

(5) Encouraging tennis playing and increasing Junior members

The Club successfully implemented the new LTA initiatives Youth Start (YS) and Youth Schools. Jen ran Camps through the school holidays, engaging as many as 12 in any one group. She ran these Camps on Tuesday, Wednesdays Thursdays and Fridays. Under 8's was 10am until 12 noon and 8- to 12-year-olds from 1pm until 3pm. This was in addition to Junior coaching provided by our other coaches on Wednesday evenings and Sundays and individual lessons.

The kids and many parents who stayed to watch loved it and commented on how lively the club had become since Jen's arrival. Other members of the club who were downplaying tennis remarked how lovely it was to see so many new kids enjoying themselves

(6) Boosting membership and coaching at Great Ayton Tennis Club

- Currently 294 members, nearly 100 more than last year.
- Growth across all age groups
- 78 members make up 19 families
- Breaks the record in 2005 of 205 members when family numbers were also high.
- If (big if) most of these members can be retained in 2022 and the same growth formula works again we will achieve our aim of 300-400 members.
- The grant has enabled more professional promotion of all our new activities on both our website and the Visit Great Ayton website with links to regularly updated Facebook and Instagram sites (see later). An LTA Clubspark website to be added by 2022.

(7) Integration of beginners into social evenings

The Club has introduced a 'New Beginner' class on a Tuesday night which links into Club Social Evenings. Jen runs this from 6pm until 7pm (on courts 4 and 5) and then Club Members who play on courts 1, 2 and 3 volunteer to go and mix in with the beginners. This is beneficial all round as the beginners get to know other club members without feeling intimidated and Club members (of a higher standard) don't have their games interrupted by weaker players

(8) Introducing tennis earlier and helping mum's health and fitness

- For age 5 and under, Jen introduced a Tots Tennis group (45 minutes) with on average 8 little ones attending each week for £3 per child.
- The parents enjoyed watching and chatting, a bit of a social gathering and we have raised enough interest for a couple of these parents to attend a Cardio group 5 till 6 on Tuesday nights (£3).
- Cardio tennis is very beneficial for keeping fit and promoting the club within the community. Numbers have been very high and there has been a variety of players in age, ability and fitness level. This class is very inclusive for those who would like to get fit and have fun too.
- Nic Weschenfelder has continued to provide more demanding Cardio classes on Saturday mornings

Great Ayton Tennis Club

Income and Expenditure Account 1st January 2021 - 31st December 2021

Balance 1st. January 2021

Current Account £5,428.12
Cash £18.47

Total: £5,446.59

Income:

Subscriptions £15,697.00
(204 adults, 88 juniors)
Donations £123.00
Lights £982.00
Match Fees £198.00
Coaches £1,754.50
Yorkshire Tennis refund £550.00
Stripe Payments 980.44
Grants £18,483.00
Miscellaneous £40.00

Total: £38,807.94

Expenditure:

Sports Facility £2,604.00
Loan repayment £10,000.00
Level 4 Coach £3,268.40
Utilities/Council tax £791.14
Admin./Domestic £77.55
Rent/Insurance £783.00
Balls/Equipment £506.15
League fees £250.00
Website £1,277.50
Grounds/Courts Maintenance £4,026.33
Miscellaneous £230.38

Total: £23,814.45

Income - Expenditure: £14,993.49

Total:	£20,440.08
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Outstanding LTA Loan: £5,000.00

Balance	£15,440.08
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John Harrison
Auditor

J. Harrison
24/5/22

Barry Adamski
Treasurer

B Adamski
24/5/22

Great Ayton Tennis Club

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