



CHAIR REPORT

52nd AGM 26th Feb 2026

I am going to begin the Chair's report referencing the end of last year's when I reported that the club was awaiting the announcement of the Norfolk Tennis awards. A few weeks later we were given a President's Commendation in the Club of the Year category which we collected at the awards evening in Cromer at the beginning of June. On Monday this week we were delighted to be awarded Norfolk Club of the Year 2025, we look forward to receiving the award at Cromer on June 3rd.

The club continued to grow in 2025. Membership reached 100 adults with an increase in women & younger members plus around 80 juniors. A large percentage of members engage with club activities; social sessions, club competitions, teams as well as utilising the courts at other times.

Katie Brooks has a range of junior coaching groups including some just for girls, the only such groups in Norfolk. She is assisted by Sam Howlett with his Saturday group & he has led our very successful Rusty Rackets courses which have been well attended & resulted in new members. In the autumn some junior teams entered county competitions with the 8s & Under winning on their second appearance. Pleased to announce that Katie has been named Coach of the Year by Norfolk Tennis.

There are now 4 club sessions each week to extend the offer to members + there is a monthly Women's session. A junior social session was trialled in the autumn & a regular monthly date is planned from late March. Members took part in a season long Singles tournament & Mixed Doubles, over the winter a Singles ladder has been well supported.

The Open Day just after Wimbledon had 40 attend, juniors & adults; several people subsequently signed up to Rusty Rackets and/or membership.

Four teams took part in the Norwich City League, 3 men's & a women's, over the summer. A team was also entered in the Veterans (50+) League. The mixed winter league team won promotion by topping their division, a second mixed winter league team has been playing this season. Big thanks to all captains, Owen Tudor, Mike Wonnacott, Peter Elphick & Mary Howell; it is not easy getting teams together.

I would like to thank the committee for their support; Roger Tudor does a lot in the background with the money & membership, Jerry Hazell covers Club House maintenance, Callum King administers the website, Mike Wonnacott has worked hard on the club tournaments & not forgetting the Christmas Dinner, Eleanor Jones has taken on the safeguarding role. Simon Spanyol decided to step down from the committee in August; during his time on the committee he was instrumental in getting the new clubhouse off the ground, instigating the Rusty Rackets courses, masterminding The Big Tennis Weekend open days to name but a few of the things he did & I would like to thank him for everything on behalf of the club.

Finally, the club only runs because members volunteer their time. So a plea for more members to get involved, there are a number ways you can do this plus there are LTA support tools to help. If you have a skill and/or some time, please talk to us.

Sue Lord
February 25th 2026