



The Millennium Cup Organising Committee
C/o Tennis Interlink Limited
48 Braeside, Beckenham, Kent BR3 1SU
Phone 020 8249 3366
Fax 020 8249 5669
Email Tenlink@msn.com

Press Release
For immediate publication
4 June 2001

Telford Park LTC Whitewash Woodfield Grove in Second Tie

Telford Park Lawn Tennis Club, smarting from a 3-6 loss to Wigmore Lawn Tennis Club two weeks ago in the Millennium Cup, pulled out all the stops to whitewash Woodfield Grove Tennis Club at the weekend 9-0, despite some spirited opposition from the home team and encouragement all round from a group of local supporters.

It was the second tie of the round robin league of the inaugural friendly inter-club competition between the three tennis clubs in Streatham.

Involving players of all ages, the Millennium Cup was conceived by Woodfield Grove to foster goodwill between the clubs, provide new competitive opportunities for members and to promote the game to the wider community. The initiative is supported by a grant from the Millennium Festival Awards for All programme.

In the opening round of singles matches, Telford Park's David Maule and Alison Reeves comprehensively overcame Peter Sefton and June Hanby by the same score of 6-1 6-1 each in the Men's 45 & Over and Women's 40 & Over categories. Emma Tillson, however, found herself pushed to a second set tie-break before being able to close out her open Women's Singles match against Woodfield Grove's Sarah Nelson-Smith 6-1 7-6.

In the second round, the two junior players fielded by Woodfield Grove, Emma Corbet-Milward and Edward Jones, were seconded from Telford Park as the club's junior programme currently only serves beginners.

"The Millennium Cup is spurring us on to develop our junior programme and we hope to attract teenage players over the coming year." Explained Woodfield Grove's Captain, Christelle Bourgois. "We are delighted to have Emma and Edward representing us and it just shows what a great spirit this competition is being played in."

Fifteen-year old Emma, a Junior Champion at Telford Park, faced her twin sister Alexandra Corbet-

Milward across the net, but was unable to handle the conditions as well and it was Alex who scored the 6-2 6-2 win in the 16 & Under Girls Singles.

In a much closer encounter, Nshan Mnatsakanian had to fight hard to overcome Edward Jones 6-3 6-4 in the 16 & Under Boys singles to give Telford Park an unassailable 5-0 lead in the tie.

In the Men's Singles, Tim Clarke got off to cracking start against Woodfield Grove's David Platten only to find himself edged out of the second set by a player finding his form. He held his nerve, however, and re-established his supremacy to win 6-1 3-6 6-1.

In the third round of open doubles matches, Woodfield Grove's Christelle Bourgois & Sarah Nelson-Smith sped to a 4-1 lead before succumbing to Telford Park's more experienced pairing of Barbara Greenwood & Emma Tillson 7-5 6-1 in the ladies event, while Rod Pearson & Tim Clarke saw off a spirited challenge from David Platten & Gareth Fernandes 6-4 7-5 in the men's.

The mixed doubles, the final match of the day, saw Woodfield Grove taking their second set off the opposition when Roger Berlyn & June Hanby won a closely-fought opener in the tie-break. This galvanised the Telford pair of Rod Parker & Alison Reeves into action and they eventually came through the winners 6-7 6-3 6-2 to complete the trouncing 9-0.

"It was much closer than the scores suggest." Remarked Telford Park's Team Captain Rod Parker afterwards, "We are thrilled to get the result though!"

Tournament Director Barbara Wancke commented: "The Millennium Cup excludes players already competing in their clubs' first teams so it offers a great opportunity to other aspiring competitors at the various age levels. It is now clear that Woodfield Grove's team needs match experience and I am sure they will be putting in more court time in preparation for their next encounter with Wigmore."

The third tie of the round robin league takes place between Woodfield Grove and Wigmore on Saturday 28 July from 10.30 am at Wigmore LTC, 43 Becmead Avenue, SW16, while the final between the two top finishers in the league will be held on Saturday 22 September 2001 at a venue to be decided.

The Champion Club will win the perpetual Millennium Cup trophy, on display for the first time at the weekend, for one year.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Barbara Wancke on 020 8249 3366

4 June 2001