

## WINTER NEWSLETTER 2018

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### Welcome



Dear Neighbours,

Welcome to the Winter edition of our Neighbours' Newsletter, which aims to keep our neighbours and local residents up to date with a flavour of what is happening around the AELTC, our Community Sports Ground in Raynes Park and our charitable and local community arm, the Wimbledon Foundation.

Taking a moment to look back, I am pleased to say that The Championships was a success despite being one of the driest on record. Fortunately, we already had plans in place and in addition to 21 water fountains we installed extra bottle refill points around the grounds (total of 87), a move which had the double benefit of keeping spectators hydrated as well as encouraging the sustainable re-use of plastic bottles.

This year's Championships was also the first to be free from plastic straws as we took some early steps to make the event more sustainable. While in 2017 only 1.4% of waste at The Championships ended up in landfill, we want to do more in this area - and are committed to continuing to review our sustainability measures and practices across the business with the

ambition of completing a sustainability roadmap by next year's Championships which will outline, with targets, all our initiatives.

We have also welcomed constructive dialogue with several residents' associations which led to the implementation of some new measures designed to mitigate the impact of the event on those most inconvenienced by its footprint. This is important work for us and we'll be continuing our engagement with these groups, as well as those affected year-round by our programme of improvements, to see what more we can do in 2019 and beyond.

2019 already promises to be a busy year, not least as No.1 Court project heads towards completion. As a neighbour and a local resident of the AELTC, may I remind you that the best way to keep up to date with the Club, The Championships and the Grounds - including news and information about the Wimbledon Foundation, tickets and the public ballot - is to join *myWIMBLEDON* at [www.wimbledon.com/residents](http://www.wimbledon.com/residents).

For now, though, with the festive season upon us, may I wish you a very Happy Christmas.

Richard Lewis CBE, Chief Executive

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## No.1 COURT PROJECT HEADS TOWARDS THE FINISH LINE

Work has been progressing well in the third stage of the No.1 Court project aided by the warmer than average weather so far. All 11 roof trusses are now in position and the giant crane and one of the other tower cranes have been dismantled and removed from site. With the main portion of the building works scheduled for completion in February 2019, it's now a question of fitting the roof fabric and hooking up the motors. Once that's done, there will be a period of checking everything works as it should in readiness for its official test debut - A No.1 Court Celebration - on Sunday 19 May 2019. Ticket information for this event will be available in the New Year via *myWIMBLEDON* at [www.wimbledon.com/residents](http://www.wimbledon.com/residents).



The view on top of No.1 Court- all trusses securely in place

## FOUNDATION FOCUS

To date the Wimbledon Foundation has awarded grants and donations totalling £500,000 to more than 70 local community projects across the Boroughs of Merton and Wandsworth, including the Mayor of Merton's Fund, St George's Hospital Charity, Mitcham Town Community Trust and, especially relevant around this time of year, the YMCA Merton Winter Night Shelter.

Run in partnership by 14 local faith groups and a team of 300 volunteers, guests receive a hot nutritious meal, a warm dry place to sleep and support in getting back on their feet. 38-year old Rob, who spent 10 weeks at the shelter last winter, said: "The Merton Winter Night Shelter saved my life. If I had stayed on the streets, I would have had a relapse into drugs and alcohol, I know it. I can't thank the team enough for all that they have done for me."



Volunteers preparing a meal

The Foundation is currently taking applications (until 13 February 2019) for grants of between £500-£5,000 from its Community Fund, run in partnership with the London Community Foundation. As the name suggests, the purpose of the fund is to benefit the community, so if you are involved in charity or volunteer work – or have a friend who is – which focuses on disability, young people, BAME groups, older people or the unemployed, it would be worth exploring if a Community Fund grant from the Wimbledon Foundation can help. Find out more at [wimbledon.com/foundation](http://wimbledon.com/foundation) or follow @WimbledonFDN on Twitter and Instagram.

## INTRODUCING....THE LEARNING DEPARTMENT

Our Learning Department, jointly supported by the Museum and the Foundation, delivers activities both on site and in the local community. This year more than 10,000 people have engaged in activities and the team has delivered 16 free learning sessions to local schools.

### New family offer launched

In the October half-term the Learning Department launched a new experience for families called Tennis Time Travellers. Featuring an interactive multi-sensory backpack, Tennis Time Travellers encourages children to use their senses to discover curious objects in the Museum's unrivalled collection of tennis ephemera. The backpack will return during February half-term so keep an eye out for more information on Twitter @WimbledonMuseum or email [learning@aeltc.com](mailto:learning@aeltc.com).

### Southmead Primary takeover Museum

As part of Takeover Day, a national initiative run by Kids in Museums to help introduce children to historic institutions and give them meaningful roles,



Wandsworth-based Southmead Primary sent 60 Year 5 pupils to takeover jobs at Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Museum. Swapping age for enthusiasm, the pupils put on a special event for invited guests where they took on the roles of Tour Guides, Curators, Visitor Assistants and Press Officers. Guests included Chief Executive Richard Lewis who faced an interview with a twist led by the junior press officers.

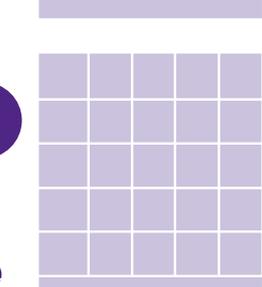
# AELTC COMMUNITY SPORTS GROUND AT RAYNES PARK

Our Community Sports Ground (CSG), Raynes Park, has quickly become a popular addition to the local area with activity and usage increasing on site and in support of both The Championships and other events.



**250**  
Children every week enjoy free term-time tennis coaching at local schools

**160**  
Young people from local schools hoping to become next year's crop of Ballboys and Ballgirls will undergo training on the indoor courts in February and March 2019



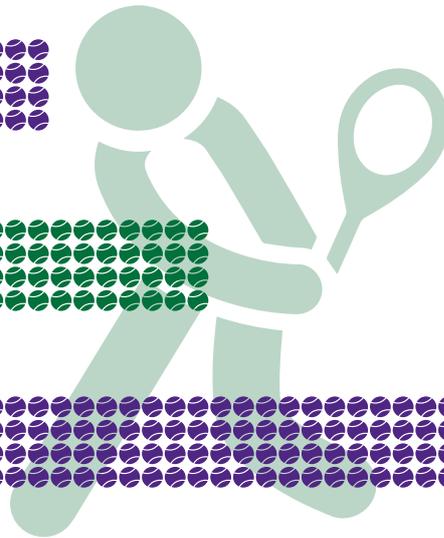
**100** Adult players take part in coaching courses, pay and play sessions and individual lessons



**180** Juniors per week play in the Community Tennis Programme



**440** Registered players on the Wimbledon Junior Tennis Initiative (WJTI) enjoy free coaching at the weekends



Junior tennis players in action at the Community Sports Ground



Visit [www.communitytennis.aeltc.com](http://www.communitytennis.aeltc.com) for more information

## WIMBLEDON PARK GOLF CLUB

In welcoming the decision of the members of Wimbledon Park Golf Club to vote in favour of our offer to acquire the Club, we recognise equally that there is some concern as to what we might do with the land. Pending court approval of the acquisition, the ownership of Wimbledon Park Golf Club will transfer into the AELTC group effective 21 December 2018. As per the terms of the acquisition, WPGC will continue to operate as an 18-hole golf course until 31 December 2021, with at least one further year as a 9- or 10-hole golf course on a rolling basis subject to a 12-month notice period.

In the meantime, as we begin to consider our wider plans for the land as part of a broader new Championships Master Plan and home to a world-class Qualifying Competition, we fully intend to

work with the local authorities and the local community to assist in the beneficial management of the parkland. As we have stressed throughout this process, any future proposals will protect and celebrate the heritage of the parkland and be guided by our landscape advisers who have closely studied the significance and history of the land. We are confident we can work with all relevant stakeholders to help conserve and enhance the land and the potential service it could offer the local area. Most importantly, it would be delivered in partnership with the local community. For the avoidance of doubt, there never has been and never will be any plans to build multi-storey car parks and shopping villages or any other structures that would be completely out of character for the parkland, the local area, the AELTC and The Championships.



## CHRISTMAS CHEER IN SOUTHFIELDS AND WIMBLEDON VILLAGE

Substantial numbers of excited youngers, parents and residents thronged the streets of Southfields (braving the rain) and Wimbledon Village respectively for the annual Christmas Lights switch-on and Christmas in the Village festival.

Both events were supported by the Wimbledon Foundation and in Southfields, our chairman Philip Brook was on hand with brolly to help Mayor of Wandsworth Cllr Piers McCausland (pictured) conduct the celebrations.