

# The Bluesletter # 4

17<sup>th</sup> June 2020

## 'Green light for the Green Pitch' !

[Following the TSC Board's recent decision](#) to go ahead, we've been working out the final details with the contractor and can now confirm that after a very competitive tender process we've opted for a state of the art sand-dressed surface manufactured by the Belgian company **Lano Sports**. Lano is the pitch of choice for many senior national league clubs in Belgium and The Netherlands and just breaking into the UK marketplace. Our new pitch will be identical to ones at The University of Chester, Leeds University, Beeston HC in Nottingham and that, currently being installed at Liverpool University

It all starts on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July and should take 5 or 6 weeks to complete. The playing surface will be a mid-green colour framed by a lighter green surround, similar to this example....



Around the same time, we are also affecting repairs to the drainage system that runs around the back of both pitches, clearing and de-silting and replacing a section of the land drain. If funds allow, we may undertake some repairs to the fencing as well but that is a decision for later when we see how the initial lift of the old carpet goes. With luck, the new pitch should be usable around the end of August.

It does however mean that, even though we've started to slowly return to sport, during that period we will only have the blue pitch in operation. Now that we have a start date, section chairs will be discussing how to manage access in a safe and sensible manner. They will be communicating this through their own communication channels, but if you have any questions, you should contact your own section chairperson.

In Bluesletter #3 we referred to the £50,000 grant we've been awarded by the National Hockey Foundation and to which we should also add a grant of just over £8,000 towards our running costs from Sport England as a result of Co-Vid19.

We also wish to acknowledge the support of First Ark and Greater Manchester Centre for Voluntary Organisation (GMCVO), both organisations invest in community and social enterprises for the benefit of the people and communities of Greater Manchester and combined have contributed a further £30,000 in grant funding towards the pitch as well as some loan funding on very attractive and flexible terms.

All of this combined has given the TSC Board the confidence to go forward and commit to what is a £240,000 investment in our facilities.

**We are close, but not quite and there is still funding gap of approx. £20,000 that we will need to close over the next six months, and we will need your help to bridge it....**

## The Great Timperley Auction!

.... Is now 'live!' ...and is running until to the live finale 18:30 on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2020 via facebook.

All of the 120+ 'lots' have been donated by members and all of the funds raised will go towards that £20,000 target. So far, the auction has raised almost £4,500 and we've been blown away by the response which has by far exceeded all of our expectations. Thanks to everyone for your support.

BUT... there are still a few days until the auction ends and you can still bid....

1. Follow this link <https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/thegreattimperleyauction> where you can view the auction page and the 'lots' on offer.
2. Create an account by entering your name, phone number and email.

### HOW TO VIEW A LOT

Click anywhere on the item in order to open up the images and the lot description. You may need to scroll down to view all the details about the lot. Click the "X" at the top of the image to get back to the auction home page.

### HOW TO BID

To place a bid click on the item, enter your bid and click on "Bid Now". If you are not already signed in you will be prompted to register (with your email, phone number and password) or to sign in, if you already have a jumblebee account. These details are requested so that you can be contacted if you are the winning bidder and will never be passed to a 3rd Party.

Once you have signed in you will be asked to confirm your bid - at this point you can uncheck "Show my name" if you would prefer to remain anonymous for that bid. You can also opt in to receive a text alert. If your bid is successful you will see a "highest bidder" message on the screen and you will receive a confirmation email and text. If your bid has been successful but you are outbid later you will receive an email and text informing you, with a link to bid again.

Highest bidders will be informed by email shortly after the close of the online auction with details of how to pay, and how to claim your item(s).

## TSC Fundraising group

A small group of members, led by Jarrod Sykes, have got together to work out some ways in which we can all make a contribution towards reaching that £20,000 target. The Great Timperley Auction is the first of several initiative's that collectively will help us bridge that fundraising gap.

We'll be launching these schemes on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June during the 300 club broadcast, where we'll be able to let you know the final total raised by the auction.

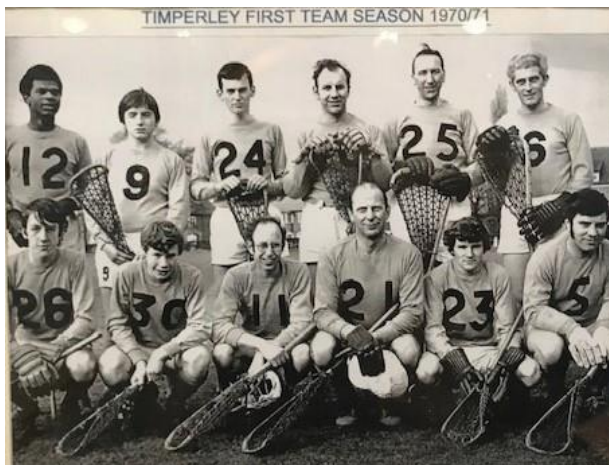
We've had a few queries and just wanted to clarify that if you were a member of the 'old 200 Club' your number and monthly payments have transferred to the new 300 Club so there's nothing to do – apart from maybe buy another number ! The prize fund has been increased to reflect that more people are now taking part – see below.

We appreciate that we are in difficult times and any support is very well received. If you would like to help in other way, perhaps donating some time and/or assisting with our ongoing initiatives/ activities then we would love to hear from you. We would also ask where possible that you share details of our activities in your networks/ groups/ and via social media as sharing the details and giving as much exposure as we can to each event really helps.

## LAX 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday

We've recently had a birthday.

On 27<sup>th</sup> May when we [celebrated 50 years of lacrosse at Timperley](#) This photo, currently on the wall of the clubhouse depicts the original team that would go on to contest the forthcoming 20/21 season..



We may not be able to celebrate in true Timperley-style right at this moment, but as soon as we're able to do so, we'll be launching a nationwide search for the 'Timperley originals' and inviting them back to the club to share a few memories – not that we need to travel very far to track some of them down...

### **Timperley Lacrosse First Team 1970 -71**

*Back Row: Billy Maynard, David Holdsworth, Paul Winters, Rodney Paulson, Arthur Worrall*

*Front Row: Martin Wooley, Carl Hodgkinson, 'Shimmy' Hilton, Frank Tewson, Andy Wilson, Derek Crummack*

## Repairs, refurb and replacement....

Over the last few weeks we've been able to crack on with a number of outstanding jobs around the ground and inside the clubhouse. This includes things such as repairing the driveway potholes, parking line marking, re-seeding and fertilising the outfield. We've started pruning some of the trees behind both pitches and clearing some of the vegetation behind the green pitch; have a look at these 'before' and 'after' photos..



We've replaced all of the faulty shower heads in the changing rooms and we're about to start a complete pressure wash and steam clean throughout, extending to the bar and cellar area. As soon as this is completed. we'll be moving into the lounge itself, cleaning the seating, tables, chairs and carpet.



## Clubhouse re-opening & returning to sport.

Reports about the impact of Covid-19 on the leisure and hospitality sector are all over the media. Suffice to say that the TSC Board are monitoring UK Govt guidance carefully, we are making plans about how, when we are allowed, we could re-open.

This is obviously an evolving situation with few certainties and there is little tangible to report at this point. Whilst we hope that will not be too long, members will appreciate that we will only re-open the clubhouse when we believe it both safe and practical to do so.

Following guidance from our National Governing Bodies and to allow some activities whilst adhering to strict social distancing rules, we're now offering limited opportunities for Cricket, Hockey and Lacrosse and we expect the FA to follow suit very soon.

Our section committee's have been busy interpreting these guidelines, seeing how they would work at Timperley and then working up risk assessments and operating rules to provide members with the opportunity for some pre-booked activity. Check with your own section communications for details of how to pre-book and use the facilities.

Its not what we'd like, but it's a step back into sport that we can build on.



## 2020 – 21 Subs

We've been working with the sports sections about collecting 2020-21 Subs and thank all members who have already paid their subs early to help with the Club's cash flow.

Non Playing Subs for 2020/21 are £53 - payment can be made by PayPal [info@timperley-sports.com](mailto:info@timperley-sports.com) with the reference in the comments box (eg NPSubJoBrown )

## Keep jogging, walking and cycling by....

If you are out and about, taking in your daily exercise, there is something you can do to help us. Take a stroll by the club, just keep an eye open for anything unusual. If you see anything that doesn't seem quite right, get in touch via social media or direct.

We know many of you are already doing this - thanks for that – it all helps.

## Timperley 300 Club 'live'!!

Last month there were 280 participants in the newly re-launched 300 club. See last month's [300 Club Winners and Update](#) . All of the funds raised will go to reducing that £gap we need to bridge in order for us to re-furb the green ATP.

This month's draw take place on **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June at 18.00 hrs** and will again be broadcast on Facebook in glorious full screen LIVE action!! <https://www.facebook.com/TimperleySportsClub/>

To join us and help us keep the club going, you can purchase a number for the draw via PayPal. **All you need to do is to set up a PayPal payment by 17.30 on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June**, so we can allocate all payees a random number ahead of the draw at 18:00. Find out more about the 300 Club at the end of this Bluesletter.

## Finally...

We've been flicking through the history books and as this would normally be the time of year that Tennis dominates our telly screens, we thought we'd share some details about one of our former members;

*Raymond 'Dick' Victor Fontes (1903 – 1987)*

Dick played both Hockey, for whom he was Match Secretary 1929 – 1935 & 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Captain between 1929-31 and Tennis - yes... we had grass courts and ironically, they were where the green pitch now stands!

He was the son of a Brazilian national, born in Altrincham and attended Altrincham Grammar School where he excelled at both sports.

However, his first passion was racing Motor Cars and would drive Bugatti's throughout the 20s / 30s on **Southport Beach races** (!! ) and hill climb trials around the country, and he would retain a love of Bugatti's, owning several, throughout his life. His cousin, Luis Fontes, won the Le Mans 24 hrs in 1935, driving a Lagonda.

He married Nancy Kidson, herself a noted tennis player in 1935 and in 1937 he competed at Wimbledon losing in the first round of the Men's singles. During WW2 he was a Captain in the Intelligence Corps operating in West Africa, India and Burma.

After the war, Dick didn't return to Hockey and instead concentrated on Tennis, he would go on to represent Cheshire over 200 times. In 1947 he and Nancy, now living in Knutsford, won the qualifier tournament at the Northern Club and once again, they played at Wimbledon in the Mixed Doubles. He is certainly the only Timperley member to have played at Wimbledon. Dick and Nancy continued to be actively involved in Cheshire Tennis encouraging younger players to take up the sport. Cheshire LTA continue to award the 'Dick Fontes Cup' to the outstanding Junior tennis player of the year.

Below is a photo of Dick at Wimbledon in 1937 – he is in the centre of the picture with both blazer and tennis rackets. This is his old 1922, 'Type 29' Bugatti, photographed in 2001, by Christies who were to sell his car in the USA for \$424,000. Check out this old film from 1934 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uizbnZkOrw8> and look out for car numbers 20 and 21..... they are both Bugatti's 29's and its possible Dick may be driving one of them.....



## Finally, finally.....

Whether you play, coach, volunteer or simply support Cricket, Hockey, Lacrosse or Football at Timperley....  
**It's your club but it's also our club.** Help us to keep it going through this most challenging of times.

If you have any thoughts or ideas about the above, or anything else, just drop an email to [info@timperleysports.com](mailto:info@timperleysports.com) and we'll get back to you.

We'll keep you updated over the next few weeks as things develop in our next Bluesletter #5.....

Stay Safe.

### Your Timperley Sports Club Limited Board

Alan Holdsworth, Shelagh Everett, Nick Burnett, Richard Knill, Gary Fisher, Bob Page, Phil Hartley, Jarrod Sykes

and the TSC Staff Team Jane Ashcroft, Sam Brooks and Andy Horsfield and Col Taylor

## Stay in touch.....

<https://www.timperley-sports.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/TimperleySportsClub/>

<https://twitter.com/TimperleySport>

