

whereby on arrival at the Club members placed their racquets in a rack and when a court became free the member whose racquet was at the front of the rack chose another three members to make up a four. This practice still exists today and is responsible to a considerable degree for the friendly atmosphere amongst members at Dean ensuring that all members have an equal chance of playing. Dr Foggie was also a pioneer of the move to obtain a fifth court on the ground adjoining the existing courts but this scheme was regrettably abandoned through lack of funds at the time. No. 4 Court was converted to all weather in 1981 at a cost of £10,872.

The late 1950's saw another decline in the membership, although it never fell below the 100 mark. To counteract this, the Committee of the time decided to waive the entry fee and to create a new category of membership, namely that of "student member" for those at further education establishments, and by 1965 there were 150 senior members, and the total has never fallen below this since.

Dr Foggie succeeded WR Rainnie as President of the Club in 1955 and remained President until 1959. Thereafter each President served for a term of three years only, except for RC Ewart who stayed on for an extra year to see through the critical earlier stages of the re-development of the Clubhouse and new Squash Courts, retiring in 1975.

Balfour Thomson became Secretary in 1965 and added the post of Treasurer in 1967, a joint office which he still holds. On him fell the main burden of overseeing the whole redevelopment operation from 1971 to 1977, from planning and funding through the actual construction work and final completion. Because the costs proved very much higher than estimated, it was decided to carry out the work using voluntary Club labour and sub-contractors. This proved to be a very time-consuming process, and it was only as a result of the efforts of Balfour Thomson, David Filsell (who headed an enthusiastic and hard-working fund-raising team) Robin Gray the architect and a few other members that the new building was completed after many trials, delays and tribulations. The new Clubhouse with two Squash courts was opened on 23rd September 1977 by Peter Heatly, then Chairman of the Scottish Sports Council, whose Grant totalling nearly £20,000 was the main source of finance for the development. The total cost was £60,000.

Competitive tennis has played an important part in Dean's history. A special highlight came in 1969 when the Ladies First Team led by Chloe Scott, Hilda Nimmo, Jennifer Elder, Alice Simpson, Anne Nisbet and Jean Howie won the East of Scotland League and reached the final of the Scottish Cup, losing narrowly to Newlands 5-4.

Dean has had several notable players as members over the years, including Virginia Wade and John Clifton as Juniors.

Coaching at the Club, especially of Juniors, has played a prominent part in recent years. This has been organised by Jane Thomson assisted by Sally Lamond. As a result Junior membership has increased considerably and the development of the Boys and Girls teams has been a feature in the Club's activities. The first notable result of this was the inclusion of Wendy Thomson in the East Junior County team, and later in the Senior East team.

The Squash section has flourished, largely through the efforts of Jerry and Pam Williams; Jerry became the first Squash member to be Club President. Squash teams compete in the East Leagues.

The Club celebrated its centenary in 1984. Since then the major event has been the complete re-laying in 1992 of all four tennis courts and one short court with "Sportfloor", a sand-filled artificial grass surface. This replaced the traditional shale surface and is much more weather-resistant. The work was done by Charles Lawrence & Co at a cost of £60,000. At the same time the Squash courts were upgraded at a cost of £5,000. Again the practical overseeing of all this on behalf of the Club was undertaken by Balfour Thomson. The work was paid for from accumulated Club funds of £40,000 and a Grant from the Scottish Sports Council of £25,000. The new courts were officially opened by Alan Grosset, a Member of the Scottish Sports Council and past President of the SLTA, on 9th May 1992, preceded by an Invitation Mixed Doubles tournament in which seven couples from local clubs took part.

The Club continues in a flourishing state, with 390 members in 1992, including 95 Juniors. The new courts have led to more play and will undoubtedly contribute to the Club's continuing success. The Club has been particularly fortunate to have had Balfour Thomson running the show as Secretary and Treasurer over so many years (in all 27 to date) - years which have been crucial in the Club's history. It is largely due to his contribution in so many areas that Dean has come through so well, and we have every reason to anticipate that the second hundred years will be at least as successful as the first. They have certainly started that way.