

## 1981/82

At the 1981 annual general meeting the office of president was re-introduced and the members elected Alan Reginald Walter Jones, Justice of the Peace, Fellow of The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, to the post.

Alan Jones had been a member of the club for forty one years, honorary treasurer from 1948 to 1951, a committee member from 1951 to 1959, captain from 1959 to 1976 and an honorary life member since April 1976.

He had been organiser/referee of the Preston Tennis Tournament numerous times, chairman of the tournament committee from 1962 to 1973 and was elected honorary life tournament president in 1976.

He founded Fulwood's open junior tournament in 1969, was referee of the same for several years and was a member of the Society of Lawn Tennis Referees.

He had been a member of the council of The Lancashire County Lawn Tennis Association since 1967, president in 1975 and chairman from 1977. He was awarded honorary county colours in 1975 – the first Prestonian to be awarded such colours.

He had also been a member of the council of The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) from 1975, had served on numerous LTA committees and was the LTA's representative on the Lawn Tennis Foundation (the charitable arm of the LTA) in 1979 and 1980.

Alan Jones excelled as a football administrator too – he was a board member of Preston North End Football Club from 1971, chairman from 1973 and was elected a life member of the club on his retirement from the board in 1982.

He would win, in 1982, the *Lancashire Evening Post* "Service to Sport" award and, in 1999, was appointed a Member of the Order of the British Empire for services to the community, especially sport.

Alan Jones won Fulwood's HP Bee Trophy five times, and between 1947 and 1976 won twenty eight events in the Preston Tennis Tournament. He played in three finals of the Lancashire Club Championship for the Roscoe Trophy, including that which Fulwood won in 1956, and was a semi-finalist in the Lancashire men's doubles championship in 1966.

Fulwood was, and had long been, unarguably, one of the top tennis clubs in the county (i.e. Lancashire, Greater Manchester and Merseyside). And the camaraderie was second to none. Many outstanding Fulwoodians had contributed to this excellence during the ninety years of the club's existence, none so much as Alan Jones. He was one of the most outstanding Lancastrian lawn tennis player/administrators in the history of the game and it was a great day for the captain in particular, and the members in general, when he consented to be the president of the club.

\*

Bill Robertson was elected a vice-president. He had been a committee member from 1955 to 1974 and match secretary from 1959 to 1965. He had also served as secretary of the Preston Tennis Tournament committee.

Robertson would be remembered by some Fulwood members as the leader of mountain walks in the Lake District during the club's annual "Barmen's Weekend". He would certainly be remembered in this role by barman Roy Bassnett, an acrophobia sufferer, for it was Robertson who rescued Bassnett from the face of Nape's Needle, on the traverse of Great Gable, during one such walk!

Jean Hodgson – another member who had given, and would continue to give, great service to the club – was elected vice-captain, combining the role with that of subscriptions secretary.

Another important election in 1981 was that of club secretary John Baron to the Northern Area Committee of The Lancashire County Lawn Tennis Association. Baron was the fourth Fulwood member to serve the county association.

\*

There was distinction on the courts too. The men's 1<sup>st</sup> team, made up entirely of Prestonians, was unbeaten in Fylde League matches and won the championship. The team comprised David Croasdale, Stephen Hazelwood, team captain Stuart Henderson and David Murtagh.

The men won the Lancashire League third division too, and were promoted back to division two. Their opponents, home and away, had been Blackburn Northern, Brierfield (Nelson), Holme (Nelson), Penwortham and Werneth (Oldham).

The ladies' 2<sup>nd</sup> team won division five of the Fylde League.

\*

Stephen Hazelwood held on to the James Dewhurst Trophy in the men's singles championship. New member Bernadette Eyre won the ladies' event. Miss Eyre was destined to play an exceedingly important part in the reinvigoration of Fulwood ladies' team tennis.

\*

For the convenience of the members a new entrance hall was constructed at the north end of the clubhouse and the bar area was re-arranged and re-carpeted. Another big expense in 1981 was the laying of a new tarmacadam surface on the car park, similarly the provision of a new floor in the gentlemen's dressing room. An interest-free five-year loan by brewers Daniel Thwaites & Co Ltd helped the committee to cover the cost of these improvements.

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**PRESIDENT**

Alan R W Jones JP

\*

**CAPTAIN/CHAIRMAN**

Roy Bassnett

\*

**HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS**

D G Bee (1968)

R H Beetham (1968)

J Brown (1974)

Alan R W Jones JP (1976)

\*

**VICE-PRESIDENTS**

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L P Thornber (1965)

Mrs L P Thornber (1965)

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Miss B E Miller (1978)

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Mrs A R W Jones (1979)

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\*

**VICE-CAPTAIN**

Jean Hodgson

**HONORARY SECRETARY**

John Baron

**HONORARY TREASURER**

Mervyn Edwards

**HONORARY MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

Mark Belderbos

**HONORARY SUBSCRIPTIONS SECRETARY**

Jean Hodgson

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Neil Cartwright

Anne Dickinson

Christine Gravell

John Gravell

Eric Hall

John Hall

Valerie Hough

David Jones  
Patricia ("Pim") Jones  
Mildred Myerscough  
Bill Noblet  
Andrew Powdrell (co-opted April 1981)  
Mike Williams (junior liaison secretary)

\*

**MEN'S 1<sup>ST</sup> TEAM CAPTAIN**

Stuart Henderson

**LADIES' 1<sup>ST</sup> TEAM CAPTAIN**

Mildred Myerscough

\*

**HONORARY AUDITOR**

Paul Clegg FCA

## 1982/83

Ladies' 2<sup>nd</sup> team captain Val Hough was elected vice-captain of the club for 1982/83.

\*

The times when junior members were permitted to play were extended again. They could now use the courts up to 9 p.m. on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, and up to 7.30 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. (They did, however, have to give way, on request, to any adult member). There is a copy of the junior bye-laws, as at February 1982, overleaf.

\*

A ladies' 3<sup>rd</sup> team was entered in division six of the Fylde League, making eight Fulwood Fylde League teams altogether. Five of the eight finished the season in either first or second place in their division, including the men's 2<sup>nd</sup> team, winners of division two.

The men's team in the Lancashire League finished runners-up in division two and were promoted to division one.

To mark the fiftieth anniversary of the first fixture with Broughton & District Lawn Tennis Club a men's match and a ladies' match were played at the Broughton ground. Neither Fulwood nor Broughton has a record of the outcome of either match. In all probability Fulwood won the men's match and Broughton the ladies'.

The downside to all the team tennis played was that the demand for courts exceeded the supply!

\*

Sixteen-year-old Jane Williams was club ladies' champion. The men's champion was left hander David Murtagh, a veteran of twenty! Murtagh was another of coach Mike Farrington's pupils to figure prominently in tournaments and team tennis.

\*

Substantial repairs to the courts and perimeter netting, costing £1450, were put in hand by the grounds sub-committee. The work was done by En-tout-cas. (The average annual cost, from the mid-seventies to the mid-eighties, of keeping the courts, grounds and buildings in good repair was £2500, being about half of the average annual subscription income).

At about the same time a court re-surfacing fund was established with the intention that moneys would be set aside each year towards the cost of laying new courts. This was to prove to have been a wise and timely move.

\*

At the 1982 annual general meeting – the ninetieth such meeting – the members had approved the committee's proposal that there be a new class of membership to cater for those who might like to play winter-only tennis at Fulwood. The subscription was set at £16 - £12 less than full-playing membership – and thirteen newcomers joined the club as 1982/83 winter members. More were to

follow suit; some soon switched to full-playing membership.

Fulwood was one of the few clubs in the county, and the only club in the district, with year-round facilities.

\*

By popular demand the annual dinner dance was held at the Clifton Arms Hotel, Lytham, one of the Fylde coast's premier hotels. The members were grateful, as before and subsequently, to long-time dinner secretary John Baron for his impeccable management of the event. Baron was promoter, organiser, master of ceremonies and toastmaster, all par excellence. His table plans and associated calligraphy were works of art.

\*

## **BYE-LAWS RELATING TO JUNIOR MEMBERS**

February 1982

### **1 MEMBERSHIP**

Junior Members must not be more than eighteen years of age. On attaining eighteen they will be invited to transfer to Full-Playing, Country, Student, Winter or House Membership. (Junior Members under ten years of age must be the children of members and must be accompanied and supervised by an adult member whilst at the Club ground).

### **2 AVAILABILITY OF COURTS**

Junior Members may play at the following times (but, on request, must give precedence to any adult member):

Monday to Thursday	up to 7.30 p.m.
Friday, Saturday and Sunday	up to 9.00 p.m.

Junior Members must leave the Club ground within fifteen minutes of the end of their playing session.

### **3 CLOTHING**

White tennis clothing and footwear should be worn on court at all times, except during the knock-up and in exceptional weather conditions when tracksuits (of any colour) may be worn.

### **4 FLOODLIGHTS**

Junior Members may only use the floodlights if an adult member is present.

### **5 CLUBHOUSE**

When a Committee member, the barman or an adult person nominated by the Committee is on duty Junior Members may be admitted to the clubhouse but must leave by 7.30 p.m. or at the end of their playing session whichever is the sooner unless an extension has been granted by the Committee. (At no time may Junior Members buy or be supplied with intoxicating liquor).

### **6 BICYCLES**

Bicycles must be left in the car park (access via Highgate Avenue only).

### **7 VISITORS**

Junior Members may not introduce visitors.

## **BYE-LAWS RELATING TO JUNIOR FULL-PLAYING MEMBERS**

February 1982

### **1 MEMBERSHIP**

Junior Full-Playing Members must not be more than eighteen years of age. On attaining eighteen they will be invited to transfer to Full-Playing, Country, Student, Winter or House Membership. (Junior Full-Playing Members under ten years of age must be the children of members and must be accompanied and supervised by an adult member whilst at the Club ground).

### **2 AVAILABILITY OF COURTS**

Junior Full-Playing Members may play at any time.

### **3 CLOTHING**

White tennis clothing and footwear should be worn on court at all times, except during the knock-up and in exceptional weather conditions when tracksuits (of any colour) may be worn.

### **4 FLOODLIGHTS**

Junior Full-Playing Members may use the floodlights.

### **5 CLUBHOUSE**

When a Committee member, the barman or an adult person nominated by the Committee is on duty Junior Full-Playing Members may be admitted to the clubhouse but must leave by 7.30 p.m. unless an extension has been granted by the Committee. (At no time may Junior Full-Playing Members buy or be supplied with intoxicating liquor).

### **6 BICYCLES**

Bicycles must be left in the car park (access via Highgate Avenue only).

### **7 VISITORS**

Junior Full-Playing Members may not introduce visitors.



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Alan R W Jones JP

**CAPTAIN/CHAIRMAN**

Roy Bassnett

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Valerie Hough

**HONORARY SECRETARY**

John Baron

**HONORARY TREASURER**

Mervyn Edwards

**HONORARY MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

Mark Belderbos

**HONORARY SUBSCRIPTIONS SECRETARY**

Jean Hodgson

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Colin Avery (co-opted July 1982)

Neil Cartwright

Anne Dickinson

George Dickinson

Christine Gravell

John Gravell

Eric Hall

David Jones

Patricia ("Pim") Jones

Frances Kellett  
Mildred Myerscough  
Andrew Powdrell (co-opted April 1982)  
Mike Williams (junior liaison secretary)

\*

**MEN'S 1<sup>ST</sup> TEAM CAPTAIN**

David Croasdale

**LADIES' 1<sup>ST</sup> TEAM CAPTAIN**

Mildred Myerscough

\*

**HONORARY AUDITOR**

Paul Clegg FCA

## 1983/84

Patricia ("Pim") Jones, chairman of the events sub-committee and secretary of the open junior tournament was, additionally, elected 1983/84 vice-captain. Mrs Jones was the second Welsh person in four years to hold the office of vice-captain, Mervyn Edwards (1980/81) being the other.

\*

Another rule change was made, this time to allow the admission to membership of children under ten years of age, one or both of whose parents was also a member. The subscription was set at the token figure of £1.

At about the same time "short" tennis equipment was purchased for the use of very young members and a juniors coaching fund was established. The fund would allow there to be subsidised professional coaching of junior members, including free courses for those under twelve years of age.

\*

The men's 1<sup>st</sup> team had mixed fortunes. They played in division one of the Lancashire League, with a team comprising three pairs, against Albion (Ashton-under-Lyne), Bamford (Rochdale), Burnley, Liverpool CC, Manchester Northern and St Annes-on-Sea. The standard proved too high for them and the team was relegated. However they had some consolation in the Fylde League, with a team of two pairs, finishing runners-up to champions St Annes-on-Sea, by one point.

The men's 3<sup>rd</sup> team won division four of the Fylde League.

The boys' team, mentored by Mike Williams, won the Fylde League Boys' Division, having won all eight of their matches. The squad comprised L F Banister, J G Brown, A J Marshall, A T W Robison, I A Taylor and S J Williams (Mike Williams' son).

\*

Alan and Kath Jones' younger daughter Alison was one of the members of the Lancashire ladies' team which won promotion from group two of The Lawn Tennis Association County Cup Grass Court Championships to group one. Lancashire's men's team was already in group one so both teams would be at Eastbourne – by tradition the group one venue – in 1984, the year of Lancashire's centenary.

Miss Jones was Lancashire mixed doubles champion in 1983, with partner Mark Rushton of Burnley.

\*

David Murtagh and Jane Williams retained the James Dewhurst Trophies in the men's and ladies' singles events in the annual tournament. Thirteen-year-old new member Lincoln Banister won the boys' event. He was an extremely gifted player.

\*

The 100 Club was still going strong. There were one hundred and two members. In excess of £5000

had been raised since Neil Hough launched the 100 Club in 1970. All the profits had been channelled into the Tennis Club to help finance ground and clubhouse improvements.

\*

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Roy Bassnett

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Neville Buckley (co-opted December 1983)

Anne Dickinson

George Dickinson

Christine Gravell

John Gravell

Eric Hall

Valerie Hough

David Jones

Frances Kellett

Mildred Myerscough  
Andrew Powdrell  
Mike Williams (junior liaison secretary)

\*

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Neville Buckley

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\*

**HONORARY AUDITOR**

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## 1984/85

Match secretary Christine Gravell was also elected vice-captain and would combine both roles for two seasons.

\*

Thanks to Mark Belderbos the club was able to arrange with Preston Borough Council that the lease of the Watling Street Road ground be extended to 2011. The terms were preferential.

\*

Nine senior Lancashire, Greater Manchester and Merseyside clubs were presented with a commemorative pennant by The Lancashire County Lawn Tennis Association, in connection with the association's centenary celebrations, in recognition of the loan of facilities to the association over many years and the hosting of county matches and tournaments. The nine clubs honoured in this way were Fulwood, Blackpool South Shore, Blundellsands (Liverpool), Lostock (Bolton), Manchester Northern, Markland Hill (Bolton), St Annes-on-Sea, Southport Argyle and Vagabonds (Liverpool).

The association held its centenary ball in Liverpool. Jim Cochrane, president of The Lawn Tennis Association and centenary president of Lancashire, was in the chair. R E H ("Buzzer") Haddingham, chairman of The All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, was guest of honour. Lancastrian Alan Mills, Wimbledon referee, was also present. The association had invited Fulwood, being an affiliate member, to take tickets for the ball. The club's party, headed by Alan Jones, chairman of Lancashire, comprised thirty members.

\*

The men's 1<sup>st</sup> team had a poor year and finished next to bottom in the first division of the Fylde League.

Mentored by Mike Williams the boys' team swept all before them again. They were unbeaten in six matches and won the boys' division for the second successive year. Fulwood's boys had not lost a Fylde League match since 1982. The 1984 squad comprised T K Bala, L F Banister, J M Coupe, M S Regan and I A Taylor.

\*

Club president Alan Jones kindly donated a trophy, and gave permission for the trophy he had donated in 1969 to be re-silvered and re-engraved. They were to be known as 'The Alan R W Jones Trophies'. They would be presented to, and held for a year by, the winners of the men's and ladies' level doubles events in the club tournament. The first holders were David Croasdale and Stuart Henderson and Vicky Hinnells and Brenda Pickburn.

The winners of the 1984 singles events were Stephen Hazelwood and Jane Williams. It was the third win in a row for Miss Williams.

\*

In December 1984 Lincoln Banister went to Portugal with thirty five other promising under sixteen year olds from the north west, north east and south west regions, on a tennis tour sponsored by The Lawn Tennis Association. He had taken another important step up the tennis ladder.

\*



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Anne Dickinson

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John Gravell

Valerie Hough

David Jones

Patricia ("Pim") Jones

Frances Kellett

Don Melling (co-opted June 1984)

Mildred Myerscough  
Mike Williams (junior liaison secretary)

\*

**MEN'S 1<sup>ST</sup> TEAM CAPTAIN**

Neville Buckley

**LADIES' 1<sup>ST</sup> TEAM CAPTAIN**

Mildred Myerscough

\*

**HONORARY AUDITOR**

Paul Clegg FCA

## 1985/86

Chartered Accountant Paul Clegg retired as honorary auditor in 1985. He had provided highly valued audit services to the club for nine successive years. His place was taken by David Preston.

David Jones was elected treasurer and George Dickinson took over from Jones as bar secretary.

The 1985/86 committee comprised nineteen members altogether – ten men and nine women – and included five of the six men's and ladies' team captains.

The pool of volunteer bar staff, traditionally all-male, by now included lady members.

\*

A "pay-as-you-play" pool table was provided in the clubhouse, primarily for the pleasure of young members. It proved highly popular during the open junior tournament, refereed again by honorary life member Jim Brown, when large numbers of young people were on the club premises all week. The cash taken at the table was to be split 50/50 with the table's owners.

\*

It was in 1985 that Mark Hough, one of Neil and Val Hough's sons, discovered during school coursework that the club had been founded in 1892, not in 1891 as had previously been believed.

\*

At the beginning of the Fylde League season there were three Fulwood men's teams in the top two divisions – the 1<sup>st</sup> team in the first division, the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> teams in division two. No other club had three such highly placed teams. The 1<sup>st</sup> team went on to finish runners-up to St Annes-on-Sea again, but the 3<sup>rd</sup> team finished at the bottom of division two and were relegated.

The ladies' 1<sup>st</sup> team sank to an all-time low – next to bottom of ladies' division two and relegated to division three. The ladies' 3<sup>rd</sup> team won division five.

The boys' team, mentored once again by Mike Williams, won the boys' division for the third successive year. The team comprised J M Coupe, J J M Noblett, P J Singleton and F E Worden.

\*

Fifteen-year-old Lincoln Banister won the Preston Tennis Tournament men's open singles event. He was the youngest ever to do so and only the second Prestonian. (The other Prestonian was Fulwood member Neville Jones, Alan's brother, who won in the late 1950s on return from national service in the Royal Air Force). Banister beat Roy Whitehouse – twice a runner-up in the county championship – in the final.

Banister was already an established junior county player and he had played for the North West region. He was ranked in the top fifty under eighteen year olds in Great Britain.

\*

David Murtagh won the club men's singles, for the third time; Bernadette Halton nee Eyre won the ladies' event again, the previous time in 1981.

\*

The lack of competitiveness of the ladies' teams had become an embarrassment. Enter first team player Bernadette Halton, a sports teacher by profession, and a tennis coach, with a rescue plan. The plan was developed by Mrs Halton, club captain Roy Bassnett, secretary John Baron, committeeman Mike Williams and the ladies team captains. It received the unanimous backing of the committee and resulted in Mrs Halton being invited to take over the captaincy of the ladies' 3<sup>rd</sup> team, to be composed of herself and the club's up-and-coming young players, picked on merit. Selection for the 3<sup>rd</sup> team would have priority over selection for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> teams.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> team would be playing in the fourth division of the Fylde League in 1986 and Mrs Halton's target was to take it to the first division (overtaking, as likely as not, Fulwood's 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> teams on the way) and into Lancashire's first group inter-club knock-out competition for the Liebert Rosebowl. The Halton initiative would be the chrysalis for a most astonishing turnaround in the fortunes of Fulwood ladies' team tennis: not only did they reach the said first group, they won it! – five times in a row! – they were Lancashire champions from 1992 to 1996!

\*

On the finance side of the club's affairs it was noteworthy that many of the 1972 £100 members' loans had, by the 1985/86 financial year end, been kindly converted into donations.

It had been club policy since 1970 that sufficient income should be raised from subscriptions to cover day-to-day expenditure, leaving profits generated by fund raising activities available for the purchase of major items. Costs had risen relentlessly ever since and subscription levels had been lifted accordingly. The subscriptions for 1986/87 were to be as follows (1970 subscriptions in brackets):

Full-playing members - £40-00 (£5. 0s. 0d.)  
Country members - £26-00 (£2. 10s. 0d.)  
Student members – by arrangement with the membership secretary (£2. 10s. 0d)  
Winter members - £20-00  
Junior members - £20-00 (£1. 10s. 0d.)  
Junior members under ten years of age - £4-00  
Junior full-playing members - £26-00 (£3. 10s. 0d.)  
House members - £10-00 (10s. 0d.)

It was no coincidence that the subscriptions were favourable when compared with those at other senior clubs, for example at Blackpool South Shore LTC and at St Annes-on-Sea LTC.

The club's finances were in excellent order and the court re-surfacing fund had a balance of £11400.

\*

Prior to the start of the 1986/87 season there was the biggest re-shuffle of officers since 1976:

**Roy Bassnett**, a member of the committee since 1969, treasurer from 1970 to 1975, vice-captain 1975/76, captain and chairman since 1976, retired. Bassnett had also served as honorary secretary of Preston Tennis Tournament (of which he was a trustee) and, for eight years, as a member of the council of The Lancashire County Lawn Tennis Association. He was presented with items of glassware as a memento of his service to the club and was elected an honorary life member – the highest honour the club could bestow. Bassnett was only the sixth honorary life member in the history of the club, the others being J Peak (1926), Derek Bee (1968), Bob Beetham (1968), Jim Brown (1974) and Alan Jones (1976). The Friday evening “regulars” at the Fulwood bar gave a supper party for Bassnett and his wife Margaret, in the clubhouse, and presented them with a set of “antler” luggage.

The combined role of captain and chairman was split. **John Baron**, a member of the committee since 1972 and the longest serving secretary in the club’s history was elected captain. Further recognition of Baron’s outstanding service to the club would follow: in 1988 he too was elected an honorary life member.

**Mike Williams**, junior liaison secretary since 1981, was elected chairman (and would, later, serve as president).

1985/86 vice-captain **Christine Gravell** took over from John Baron as secretary. The office of vice-captain was left vacant.

**David Jones**, whose wife “Pim” was also a member of the committee, was re-elected treasurer.

**Mark Belderbos**, a member of the committee since 1972 and membership secretary since 1973 retired. Belderbos, a solicitor by profession, had also provided valued legal services to the club and much wise counselling. He was elected a vice-president.

1982/83 vice-captain **Val Hough** was elected membership secretary. The Hough family had by now been represented on the committee for nineteen consecutive years.

**Jean Hodgson** was re-elected subscriptions secretary. During her period of office from 1976 Mrs Hodgson had so far collected subscription moneys totalling in excess of £50000. Recognition of Mrs Hodgson’s outstanding service to the club would follow: she was elected an honorary life member in 1990.

\*

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**CAPTAIN/CHAIRMAN**

Roy Bassnett

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Mark Belderbos

**HONORARY SUBSCRIPTIONS SECRETARY**

Jean Hodgson

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Sue Basterfield (co-opted July 1985)

Eileen Brown (co-opted April 1985)

Neville Buckley

George Dickinson

Caroline Fell

Mike Halewood

Valerie Hough

Patricia ("Pim") Jones

Frances Kellett

Don Melling  
Mildred Myerscough  
David Preston (co-opted April 1985)  
Mike Williams (junior liaison secretary)

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**MEN 1<sup>ST</sup> TEAM CAPTAIN**

Stuart Henderson

**LADIES 1<sup>ST</sup> TEAM CAPTAIN**

Mildred Myerscough

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**HONORARY AUDITOR**

David Preston

## 1986/87

New captain John Baron had made it clear to members that after his long service as secretary it was not his intention to offer himself for re-election as captain so many times as had some of his predecessors.

The new structure of captain and chairman was to prove successful, with Mike Williams in charge of day-to-day activities and focusing on team and club play.

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A new juniors' committee was established and plans were made for a disco and a winter rota for juniors' night.

\*

It was a very creditable year for Fulwood teams in the Fylde league, with the ladies' 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> teams winning promotion and the boys' and girls' teams winning their respective divisions. A mixed team was also to be entered next season.

\*

Following the resignation of coach Mike Farrington, who had taken up a full-time teaching post, Bernadette Halton and David Shaw were appointed in his place, with the latter having responsibility for juniors.

\*

In an attempt to prevent unauthorised persons using the courts shoe tags were issued to paid-up members.

\*

At Alan Jones' instigation a new event was held at the end of October – President's Night. It comprised of a hot pot supper, wine and live band. It was a great success.

\*

A sad note was the death of staunch member Barbara Miller, a vice-president. Her particular interest in the organisation of the ladies' and girls' teams, as non-playing captain, was to be commemorated by the purchase of two silver-plated cups for the junior tournament, to be inscribed the Barbara Miller trophies.

\*



## 1987/88

The club was particularly delighted to acknowledge the contribution over many years of staunch members Eric Hall and Mike Watson by electing them vice-presidents.

\*

The committee welcomed Paul Finnerty and Brian Taylor into their ranks.

\*

A new tournament – The Volkswagen Ratings Singles Tournament – was held in the autumn and attracted competitors of all standards from various parts of the country, as well as giving Fulwood members an opportunity to compete in a national event.

\*

Essential work in the form of replacement of the clubhouse roof covering was carried out and there were the first stirrings of interest in resurfacing the courts.

A boost to these thoughts came following sterling work by Mark Belderbos LL.B. in the form of a letter from Preston Borough Council offering a new 25-year lease at a very favourable rate of £250 per annum from 1 August 1988, to be reviewed every 5 years thereafter but only in accordance with the cost-of-living index.

\*

Alan Jones, who had been president of the club since 1981, had indicated his wish to stand down. His outstanding work for the club was acknowledged at the annual general meeting. No new president was elected.

As indicated at his election, captain John Baron also stood down, after 25 years as a member. He had held many positions at junior and senior level including social secretary, bar secretary and club secretary for 12 years. He was elected an honorary life member.

Although the committee favoured the separate positions of captain and chairman it was considered appropriate that Mike Williams should hold both, with Mike Halewood as his vice-captain.

Pim Jones was elected a vice-president in recognition of her service to the club since 1977.

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