

Hassocks Twinning – Tennis Weekend at the Weald Tennis and Squash Club

Hassocks Twinning Association, with wonderful support from The Weald Tennis and Squash Club and their newly updated facilities, entertained a group from Montmirail Tennis Club in France over the weekend of 22-24 June. The group stayed with various local families and on Friday evening eight of them played tennis at The Weald with spectators watching from the balcony and conversing with the French supporters and hopefully improving their language skills.

The Weald Club last had links 15 years ago, so there were some familiar faces among the group as well as some youngsters. The tennis was very sociable with Weald players teaming up with partners from Montmirail - some of the locals even managed to remember a few numbers for scoring - and it was followed by a typical British fish and chip supper. Coming from the Champagne region south-east of Paris, the group presented the Club with a few bottles of the bubbly stuff and conversation flowed as the sun set.

On Saturday the group went to watch the tennis at the Eastbourne Tournament. They were able to wander round in the informal atmosphere and found the world's top players happy to do the obligatory selfie and sign autographs!! They also had time to take a trip on the pier and enjoy a walk along the beach.

Sunday morning brought another glorious sunny day and the French visitors returned to The Weald for more tennis. This was a chance to play against different members who came along for this session but again everyone enjoyed themselves and after sandwiches (unfamiliar egg mayonnaise went down particularly well with the guests) they departed for Le Shuttle after a very successful weekend.

The Hassocks group have already accepted an invitation to play tennis in Montmirail next year.

