



■ Organisers Ann Tapsfield, John Newton, Nigel Vogel and Henrietta Cooke at Hanley Lawn Tennis Club's Good Old Days event.

Tennis club members serve up taste of the good old days

Anyone walking past a Crouch End tennis club last Saturday afternoon could have been forgiven for believing they were seeing things.

Many stopped to stare, wondering whether they had somehow slipped back a century or so.

For the gentlemen and ladies of Hanley Lawn Tennis club had traded in Adidas and Nike training tops and shorts for the Edwardian blazers, boaters and ankle length skirts of yesteryear.

And instead of the high-tech Babolat and Head rackets, matches were played with the old fashioned wooden variety.

Hanley's Good Old Days event gave modern-day tennis fans the chance to experience the game as generations before them would have done.

And true to Hanley traditions, play stopped for tea and cakes

with the ringing of a handbell, at 5pm on the dot, followed by a fascinating presentation on the heritage of the historic Shepherd's Cot Trust, of which Hanley is one of the surviving sports clubs.

Event organisers John Newton, Nigel Vogel, Henrietta Cooke and Ann Tapsfield were delighted with the turnout, and the enthusiastic reception.

"We wanted to give an idea of the origins of this wonderful, unique area," said Shepherd's Cot trustee Mr Newton.

"We're now hoping to develop a heritage group to continue the legacy of the land, and ensure this valued space always remains a place of leisure, recreation and beauty."

Find out more about Hanley at www.hanleylhc.org.uk and the Shepherds Cot Trust at www.shepherdscostrust.org.