With the Inter-University Cup right around the corner, I thought it would be good to provide an update on the University of St Andrews Real Tennis Club.

So far we have managed to:

* Grown the club to 30 members with 14 being full T&RA and Falkland Palace members (the largest the club has been since 2017)
* Negotiated a sponsorship deal with Lindores Abbey Distillery and bringing them into the sport
* Organised a fixture against Falkland Palace and the Newcastle University Real Tennis Club. We won against Falkland Palace on handicap and won against Newcastle on scratch
* Helped to organise a tournament with Falkland Palace late May where the University Club will be granted 2 spots in the draw alongside visitors from around the UK
* Create a semi-regular training schedule with new students constantly getting involved
* Entered 2 teams consisting of 8 members in total to the Inter-University Cup (the largest St Andrews entry in history)
* Participated in a documentary with the BBC on Scottish royalty and their obsession with the sport

Our future plans:

* Begin youth programmes in conjunction with local schools (waiting for the weather to turn warmer)
* Seek out more sponsors in the area
* Bring more attention to the sport in Scotland
* Work closer with Edinburgh University as students there have began to inquire to us about setting up an Edinburgh Real Tennis Club
* Continual participation in fixtures (current planned fixtures are: Middlesex on March 3rd, Paris in early April, the Irish Association in May)
* We are scheduled to provide interviews to the Telegraph, the Saint, and the Daily Mail about our club and the sport in Scotland

The issues currently facing the club:

* Logistical Issues
	+ As our club continues to expand, we have been faced with limited drivers and cars to transport people to and from Falkland Palace (2 cars have been lost/disabled on the journey to and from Falkland due to poor road conditions)
	+ Alongside this, the more cars we are utilising, the cost of gas and payment for transport has grown
* Lack of Home Fixtures
	+ Due to being so far north form any other real tennis clubs and the different court conditions, we have struggled to convince clubs to travel to play us at Falkland
* Tournament Participation
	+ Even though we have 14 full T&RA members, there is an apprehension of our members to participate in wider tournaments
* Lack of Regular Court Experience
	+ Falkland's irregular court has led to a significant number of our members lacking experience on normal courts. We currently cannot manage to organise trips down to Jesmond Dene (the closest court) alongside our operations here. This is due to: the travel time and the cost of court booking. However, I have begun a position as an Apprentice/Trainee Pro under Mark Eadle and I may be able to develop some type of training to help USTARTC members at Falkland.

I hope this status report is satisfactory to the Dedanists. Ultimately, we feel that our the 2 goals of our club are to bring students into the sport and to keep the sport alive in Scotland and we believe that we are achieving these goals.

All the best,
Kenneth Huang