

May 2014



The Player

Wembley Downs Tennis Club Inc.

From the President

Hello all

Oh it's been a busy month... The annual **City of Stirling Tournament** took place two weeks ago at Scarborough Tennis Club. WDTC came 3rd, and we probably had the oldest team there. Next year we will need to do some recruiting with younger players and win win win! However, well done to everyone who participated, it was really good tennis.

Following on that, there was the annual social day between **WDTC and City Beach Tennis Club**. This was the Sunday before last and I do believe all who participated had a really good day, albeit dodging showers.

The **2014 Annual Dinner and Presentation Night** on Saturday. themed "The Oscars" was a great night. Congratulations to all who received awards – Club person of the year **Terry Tinsley**, Most Improved Male Player **Marc Worley** and Most Improved Female Player **Alyson Blackburn**. MVP awards from Tennis West went to **Noriko Thompson** (over 45 Div 1) and **Susanna Monaco** (Open Div 1).

Well done to social coordinator **Helen Donovan** and co-conspirator **David Simpson** and all of you who put in a huge effort in organising the event and to all who helped with the set up and take down.

John Pritchard, master MC and the fantastic 14 who turned up the next day to clean up! Well done and big thanks to all.

See you at the Club soon,
Nola

FACEBOOK



'Like' it or not, WDTC now has its own Facebook page. Please 'like' us if you are on Facebook so we can actively promote the Club to existing and potential new members. You can get all the latest Club news and coaching updates more quickly by checking our page **WEMBLEY DOWNS TENNIS CLUB**.

Coming up

MAY

Thu 29 Midweek Ladies Closing Day lunch

JULY

Sat 12 Curry & Karaoke night

AUGUST

Sun 31 Annual General Meeting

Captain's Room

Veterans Club Championships

The Ladies' and Men's Doubles events were held on Saturday 26 April and the Mixed Doubles event was on Sunday 27 April. Due to sufficient entries in the Ladies Doubles and the Mixed Doubles, it was possible to have two divisions. The winners of these events were:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Ladies' Doubles Division A: | Di Rice & Rosie Harris |
| Ladies' Doubles Division B: | Lauren Conlon & Tammy Reddell |
| Men's Doubles: | Stuart Campbell & Tim Kelleher |
| Mixed Doubles Division A: | Rae Savage & Gordon Gregory |
| Mixed Doubles Division B: | Janet Paterson & Tom Paterson |

City of Stirling

This year, the City of Stirling event was held on Sunday May 4 at Scarborough Tennis Club. Five clubs from the area were represented. The winning club was Scarborough, with WDTC finishing in fourth position. Thanks to **Peter Doherty** for managing the team and to all players who represented our club on the day. – *Rae Savage*

At the end of a friendly, competitive day's tennis, Scarborough Tennis Club was named overall winner. WDTC placed 4th overall, defeating North Beach Tennis Club for the first time in at least 5 years. The Handicap trophy, which is decided on the performance of each club over two years, was also won by Scarborough, with WDTC coming 3rd overall.

WDTC will host the City of Stirling Tournament in 2015, which should be another excellent day's tennis. – *Peter Doherty, Team Manager*



Photo: Brenton Bacon, Dominic Leyton-Hannan, Gordon Gregory, Dean Gardiner, David Rice, Mike Underwood, Neale Boucher, Peter Doherty, Jane Crisp, Martina Van Rensberg, Susanna Monaco, Taryn Sullivan, Christine Stanton, Di Rice

City Beach Tennis Club visit

A contingent of sixteen players (8 men and 8 ladies) visited City Beach Tennis Club on Sunday 18 May for the annual social afternoon of tennis. City Beach were excellent hosts, organising the sets and providing refreshments after the match. In spite of an early shower, the weather cleared and play was largely uninterrupted. This is always a popular event enjoyed by both clubs. Thanks to **Phil Hingston** for organising. – *Rae Savage*

Tennis West MVPs

Well played **Susanna Monaco** and **Noriko Thompson** for their nomination by Tennis West as Most Valued Players during the Summer League season. Susanna and Noriko received their awards at a recent presentation at the State Tennis Centre.



Members

A big welcome to the following new members. We look forward to seeing you on court and around the Club!

Full: Rosie Harris, Graham Marshall
Social: Jamie Anderson
Junior: Robert Washbourne, Daniel Cheng, Joshua Cheng, Brandon Porcaro
Carlin Zoehrer, Manu Malladi

Entertainment Book

The new Entertainment Book is now available through WDTC, still \$65 and fantastic value. For the first time, this year EB are offering a digital version which can be downloaded to your phone or mobile device, which will obviate the need for vouchers – just redeem your offer on the spot! Too much technology? Fortunately, the printed version is still available! See Nola for details.



Fale



It has been a very sad month for the Club and its members.

We wish to share our sincere condolences with **Wilma and Jaydee** on the passing of **Elsje**, Wilma's daughter; a very tragic and premature loss.

We were saddened, only days later, at further bad news of **Nigel Breeze's** brother passing away in the UK.

This was followed in the same week by the passing of long-time member **Sue Weston**, after a long battle with cancer - wife of member Terry Weston.

Our thoughts, support and love are with all of those and their families as they come to terms with their loss.

Social

The Annual Dinner and Awards Night was once again the highlight of the Club's social calendar. The theme of the night was The Oscars and it was brought to life by **Nola Carmignani**, who waved her magic wand and transformed the hall into a glittering ballroom into which swarmed an array of beautiful gowns and black tie suits. **MC John Pritchard** took centre stage and ran the proceedings with his usual flair and humour, while **Rae Savage** presented the awards with her usual grace and professionalism. Congratulations to all who received an award.

With the formal part of the evening over, the rest of the night was spent dancing, catching up with friends and enjoying being a part of what was a sensational evening.

Thank you to all the Social Committee who worked tirelessly to make this evening special. A special thank you to **David Simpson**, who coordinated the bookings and whose encouragement and organisational skills led to a fantastic attendance of over 100. – *Helen Donovan*



Well, it certainly was a great turnout and an exciting Oscars night, with something for everyone: glamorous gowns, snappy suits, VIPs, trophies, the odd gratuitous acceptance speech, paparazzi and even a wardrobe malfunction – all that you would expect from a night with the stars! What a credit to **Helen Donovan** and the Social Committee, **Nola Carmignani** and her decorating team, **Rae Savage** for organising the trophies and prize winners, **John Pritchard** for being the host with the most, bar staff, photographers **Clive and Hong Rogers** in their paparazzi role and everyone who contributed in so many ways to make the night such a success. Once again, WDTC volunteers and members supporting each other, which is what makes our Club exceptional. – *Ed*





SOCIAL CALENDAR CHANGE OF DATE:

The Curry & Karaoke night date will replace the Quiz Night, but instead of 5 July will be on Saturday 12 July. Please adjust your diaries as it promises to be a good night.



Coaches

GLOBAL
TENNIS

Special of the Month!

Global Tennis is offering all Wembley Downs members a \$35 special on any of Solinco's top of the line tennis strings (normally \$45). Solinco is one of the premier tennis strings used by many of the top players. If your racquet hasn't been restrung in the last six months, now is the time to get ahead of your friends with a quality restring!



JOE'S COACHING TIP

Here are some pointers to help you become more consistent and accurate with your groundstrokes:

1. Focus on the ball. Try to ensure your contact point is always at a comfortable height, a comfortable distance away from you and comfortably just in front of your body.
2. Consistency starts with footwork. Use large steps to the ball and small steps and side skips ('happy feet') to adjust your position in relation to the ball before finally planting your feet comfortably apart to provide a solid base for each shot. Then recover to a good position on the court ready for your next shot.

3. Play the percentages. Avoid aiming too low over the net or too close to the lines. Go crosscourt unless you're prepared to take a risk.

4. Use topspin so that you can aim high over the net (the ball will dip and is less likely to go long). Sink a little at the knees during your shot preparation to provide some upward thrust from your legs. Imagine there's another net on top of the actual net - make sure you clear both!



5. Use your free hand! Groove your forehand by using your free hand to 'sight the ball' as it comes towards you. Don't leave it there too long though - try to avoid ending up with arms crossed! Clear it away as part of the upper body rotation you use during your forward swing. If you use a single-handed backhand, support the throat of your racquet with your free hand while you take the racquet back, then extend it out behind you to counterbalance your forward swing.

6. Practise, practise, practise! Use a wall if you can't find a partner. ☺

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The Downs Chemist
Robert Martin



Editor's quote of the month

**"The depressing thing about tennis is that no matter how good I get,
I'll never be as good as a wall" - Mitch Hedberg**

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