

June 2016

The Player

Wembley Downs Tennis Club Inc.

From the President – *John Pritchard*

Annual Dinner

Wow! What an evening we had in the Hanging Gardens of Wembley Downs. Once again, a BIG thank you goes to Nola C, the Social Committee, Bruce & Ann McKenzie, John Venn and the many helpers who put the evening together. We must not forget the 121 guests who supported the dinner – I hope you enjoyed yourselves – I did.

Congratulations to the many trophy and award winners. You are a credit to WDTC and yourselves. Long may you continue playing tennis.



Annual Dinner featuring the “Hanging Gardens of Wembley Downs Tennis Club”!

Sponsors

As the financial year draws to a close I wish to again acknowledge our sponsors and say THANK YOU. Without our sponsors we would have struggled to assist the State League and Div 1 players and our juniors, the latter, being the Club's future State Grade players.

WDTC appreciates the support of:

Alan, Beve & Cal Doggett from Properties & Pathways

Alan Starke from Wellington Surplus Stores

Rob Martin from Temorex

Henry & Ryan from The Downs Chem Mart Pharmacy & News

Frank Perry from Axis Travel

Hayden Gibson from Tennis Only

Jamie Anderson from Sign Zone.

John Dehring from Jaydee Air Conditioning

Jeff & Debbi Wright from Wright Real Estate

Nathan Sharp from Bada Bing Cafe

Diana Rice from Diana Rice Interiors

Peter Blackburn from WA Profiling

Mike & Linda Underwood from Met Recruitment

Norm & Sandy Bateman from Bateman Architects

Tom & Janet Paterson

David & Meg Simpson

Hugo from Hugo's Pizzas

Van & Marissa Tran from Mamatran

We will again be seeking support next year so to our existing sponsors, we would be honoured if you "stayed on board". To anyone else who would like to sponsor the club next season, please call me and we can discuss how you may be able to assist us. Once again on behalf of the Club, thank you very much for your support.

SIMPLY THE BEST!

Club Person of the Year

Peter Adorno is our 2016 Harry Spilsbury Club Person of the Year. Thanks Peter for being such a great member. Nothing is too much for you.



Annual Dinner Raffle

Thank you to everyone who supported our raffle. The list of donors and prize winners are on the notice board in the lounge. The donors were most generous and those who bought tickets excelled. We raised \$1,078, a great outcome. WELL DONE.

Members' Survey

Thank you to Peter Doherty who was largely responsible for compiling the survey and its results, to Joe McCarthy for the use of Global Tennis' Survey Monkey and to the 136 members who completed the survey. A summary of the results appears later in the Player.

AGM Sunday 28 August

Be there or be square. WDTC needs younger members on Management. Please speak to me or our VP, Peter, and let us know how you can help. Thank you.

SURVEY RESULTS

Following is a summary of the results of our members' survey. If anyone is interested in more detail they can talk to anyone on the Management Committee.

1. 35% (136) of members responded to the survey, 60% of responses being from Full members
2. 86% of the respondents were over 40 years of age
3. 50% of respondents have been members for more than 11 years
4. 75% of respondents were at least satisfied with Social Tennis, Competition Tennis, Facilities, Coaching, Management, Social functions, Club Communications
5. About 50% of respondents thought that the Club Facilities needed at least minor improvements, with the Hall Building and Court surrounds being the priorities.
6. 85% of respondents thought that additional costs for new facilities should be funded from hiring out the facilities or fund raising by activities/more sponsors
7. Regarding the question of converting grass courts to another surface, 41% agreed, 27% disagreed and 32% were undecided
8. In response to the question of playing night tennis, 43% would be at least interested in playing on synthetic grass and 21% would be interested in playing on hard courts
9. Interest levels of respondents to additional tennis activities were:
 - Organised Club Night Social Tennis - 50% interested
 - Competitive Night Tennis (Inter or Intra Club) - 33% interested
 - Mid-week Mixed competition (Day) (Inter Club) - 27% interested
 - Cardio tennis with Crèche - 1% interested
 - Additional coaching times - 23% interested
 - Friday Afternoon Junior Tennis, Terms 1 & 4 - 16% interested
10. Following is a selection of **individual** responses for other Club Improvements:
 - Cash Register Till - replaced with a stock checking till to minimise bar committee duties.
 - Fee discount for young adults still studying
 - Get more members in 30s & 40s... Maybe Mixed Doubles Night tournaments
 - Encourage younger members to do their bit on management.
 - It would appear that here are many juniors who play at our club as can be seen on the hard courts regularly. We need to somehow get their parents involved.
 - More play and stays
 - Smaller activities such as 100s Clubs, chocolate wheels, raffles could be introduced in a way that the members not only can "win" some benefits but it builds good team work and camaraderie - good club spirit and brings people to the club as they must be present to collect their winnings
 - New membership categories - Fathers and Son/ Mother and daughter at half the Family rate.
 - more flexible and friendly approach towards potential new members re court hire. allow play /court hire - other surfaces than just hard court.
 - Set up a gym and coffee shop.
 - Promote / advertise that people can join in social play for fee
 - Advertise the bar facilities to surrounding sports clubs. They may be able to use as an after match facility! Also advertise our bar facilities in the local area. People could join as social members and enjoy the cheap bar prices.
 - Logo carpet would be good in the bar room
 - Fans outside. Score boards.

Captain's Room – Mike Underwood

It is a relatively quiet time of the year tennis wise so just starting to think about our plans for the next twelve months. One issue we have had recently is the fluffing up of the Slazenger Wimbledon balls. The balls were lasting well in summer however we are finding them deteriorating after a few sets in winter (not sure if this is due to more moisture or rougher courts). Have trialled the Wilsons and they are lasting much better and bouncing higher so for the moment we will stick with them at least until summer. Have passed on the feedback to Tennis Only.

We are looking at getting members staying back after tennis to play darts on a Wednesday or Friday afternoon. So we will resurrect the old dart board. Does anyone know if we have a supply of darts anywhere in the club? Otherwise donations of darts would be appreciated just leave them in the Captain's office. It would be fantastic if we could get a volunteer who is keen and well versed in darts competitions to run a league. Please contact me to express your interest.

The Tournament and League committee is starting to plan for summer league and our aim will be to get a registration form out to all members by early August. Please start discussing with your mates and teams (including friends at other clubs) and keep in mind we will do our very best to accommodate new members.

Women In Tennis Bobbie Edwards

'Women in tennis (WIT)' is a voluntary group of women who raise funds to support girls and young women with their tennis. It is a subsidiary of Tennis West. They hold functions ie gala days, doubles events, Hopman Cup breakfasts etc to raise money to provide financial assistance to girls to assist with their air fares, accommodation and to help them compete. The WIT AGM is being held at Tennis West on Monday 11 July 9 30 am. All welcome. It is a very rewarding committee and not a great deal of work. If anyone is interested in coming on the committee, or getting involved, please contact Bobbie Edwards.

From The History Vault-Seven Year Itch

With the Annual Dinner and Club Champs all done and dusted for another year I have a Captain's trivia challenge for members. A prize will be awarded for the first correct answer.

Question: We currently have 4 past and present open or vets ladies/mens doubles and mixed doubles combinations tied on 7 titles each (this includes this year's results which are not up on the honour boards yet). Next year one combination will vie for the outright record (to the best of my knowledge all record holders are still breathing, not divorced or estranged and playing).

Name the 4 pairs?

Members – Mark Sims

A big, warm, welcome to the following new members –

Junior : Andrew Nikolaenko, Daniel Marshall

Social Committee News – David Simpson

Well the annual dinner at Wembley Downs Tennis Club, attended by 120 people, was yet another success! All had a great time, with lots of food, wine, dancing... well just lots of fun! The young with the old...ER... we are so lucky to have a club like this. All photos can be accessed via the Wembley Downs Tennis Club Facebook page!

<https://www.facebook.com/wembleydownstennisclub/>



On the Sick List!

Liz and Andrew Blackburn are both making steady progress, Andrew more so as he is back on the court playing but serving at only 50%. Won't be long now Andrew and you will be 100%.

Alan Starke and Brian Fricker are both recovering from shoulder ops. Alan's recovery will be longer as he also underwent an "elbow scrape". Two for the price of one? Alan hopes to be back before Christmas whereas Brian is talking about late July. Heed your specialists' advice and you will both recover sooner than later. Take care.

Bruce Mc is almost back to normal after his hernia op but his shoulder is now troubling him. Getting old, Bruce? After your two months up north with your family you will be fine. We hope you and Ann enjoy your trip.

Rita Carr is also recovering from recent hand surgery and making good progress. The major problem is she cannot drive so she and John are both thumbing lifts!!

Many Happy Returns!

At least four members celebrated their birthdays in June; David Simpson and Ann McKenzie, Mark Sims and Max Purdy!. Congratulations to you all and those other members who enjoyed being another year younger.



Mid-Week Ladies –Wendy Hawkes

A sumptuous, self-catered lunch was thoroughly enjoyed by the Mid-Week Ladies at the club on Thursday 26th May.

A huge thankyou to Setsuko McGrath, Di Clegg and Pat Wenham for organizing the lunch.

Camaraderie ran high. It was particularly delightful that Anne Trefry and Norma Henderson attended and “old” friends were able to catch up with them.

There were lots of comments about the exceptional variety of delicious dishes everyone provided.

Our next function will be a lunch-out (hooray, no cooking!) in August, at a venue to be arranged. In the meantime, tennis will continue as usual – it never rains all Thursday morning, touch wood!



Juniors – Louise Hall

Global Tennis – Joe McCarthy & Brenton Bacon



Joe McCarthy

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Upcoming Events – please mark them on your Calendar!

SUNDAY 28TH AUGUST – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WDTC Uniforms

All pennant players are expected to wear the shirts/tops with plain navy blue shorts/skirts or skorts.

Defibrillator



Please remember to check out the following link, which gives a short, 3-step demonstration on how to use the club's defibrillator (press Ctrl + click to follow link).

http://www.healthcare.philips.com/pwc_hc/main/shared/Assets/multimedia/flash/resuscitation/AED/HS1_onsite_demo/index.wpd

'Like' Wembley Downs Tennis Club and you'll see all the latest notifications, offers, photos and news! Your participation will encourage others and give our club exposure to possible new members. Thanks to those who have already checked in!



Quote of the month

Age is an issue of mind over matter! If you don't mind, it doesn't matter!

On the Funny Side – Ahhh! So true!



Members Out and About – Golf Day

On Monday 30 May, Wembley Downs Tennis Club had a social golf day with City Beach Tennis Club. The event was held at Maylands golf course and there were 20 people from each club. The day was organised by Audrey Greeve and Bobbie Edwards. It was an enjoyable day with good weather and some great golf. After the golf we had a wonderful dinner at City Beach Tennis Club. The ladies in the kitchen who did the cooking are to be congratulated as the food was excellent. The winners of the day were Allan Doggett, Max Purdy, Suze Watt and Kayoko Bredemeyer. Special thanks must go to Audrey who organized the whole day.



Members Out and About - Annual Dinner





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Wellington Surplus Stores
Bateman Architects
Diana Rice Interiors
The Downs Chemist
Vince Panajia
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Signzone
Bada Bing Cafe
Tennis Only
Met Recruitment
David & Meg Simpson
Hugo's Pizza



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