



March April 2017

# The Player

Wembley Downs Tennis Club Inc.

## From the President – *Peter Doherty*

### ***Club Coach***

I'd like to welcome our new Club Coach, Simon Harper (Sharper Tennis) and say thank you to Joe McCarthy and Brenton Bacon (Global Tennis) for the coaching services they provided over the last 3.5 years.

Thanks to Janet Paterson and her sub-committee for sorting out the new coaching arrangement so quickly.

### ***President v Patrons***

This year's President versus Patrons teams challenge will be held on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2017. Our generous patrons, Graham Blackburn and Alan Starke, have agreed to provide prizes for the tennis competition and put some money on the bar for reduced price drinks. I will arrange for some food to accompany the drinks.

### ***League Competition***

Thank you to everyone who played in teams representing WDTC over summer. Well done if your team was good enough to make the finals and congratulations to those teams that actually won their section. Thank you also to our dedicated Club Captain and his Tournament team for organising all our senior teams. (see the Club Captain's report and Junior's report for more details.)

### ***Club Championships***

The Annual Club Championships are almost over for another year. Thanks to Mike and the Tournament committee for all their work encouraging members to take part and running each event.

### ***2017/18 Entertainment Books – pre-order now***

You can order your 2017/18 Entertainment Books now. Each book (hardcopy or online) costs \$70 with \$15 coming back to the Club.

Please think about how many you and your friends would like and contact me or order directly online.

### ***Easter/School Holidays***

I hope everyone has an enjoyable and safe Easter and School holidays break. If you indulge in too much chocolate or hot cross buns over the break, head on down to the courts for Saturday or Sunday social to burn off those extra kilos.

Cheers,

Peter

## Captain's Room – Mike Underwood

What a beautiful time of year it is for tennis with nice temperatures and not so much wind. I would like to thank all members for their assistance in ensuring court hirers have a positive experience when they play at WDTTC. Most are now setup on the booking system and all is going well. Having some of the court hirers use our grass courts has been good as it is my belief it adds to the potential to convert court hirers to members down the track. The level of play of the court hirers has been quite good so I plan to offer them a free visit for Social play in May.

As you will all be aware many of our Day Captains are doubling up (or tripling up) on a few committees (or performing other club functions). This concerns me as clearly it impacts on the amount of tennis they get to play and may also cause some grief at home. I would like to ease their workload a little by inviting members to become Day Captain assistants over the next two quarters. Training will be provided and a reminder will be sent a week before. We envisage the commitment will only be one afternoon a quarter or 6 months. I will be in touch to organise and I am positive you will find the experience enjoyable.

### Club Champs Wrap

A high level of tennis was played during the open and vets club champs events and thanks to Alan McLaughlin and Day Captains on duty for their assistance during the events. Timing was not ideal this year as we only had two potential weeks after league finals and before Easter. Winners are listed below with photos at the end of the report. Make sure you book your seat/table for the annual dinner on the 27<sup>th</sup> May!

- Open Mens Singles Champion Harry Burrell runner up James Haas
- Open Mens Singles Consolation Final won by Aubrey Hingston runner up Tom Paterson
- Open Mens Doubles Champions Lachie Ivulich & Harry Burrell runners up Aubrey Hingston & James Haas
- Open Ladies Doubles Champions Martina Van Rensburg & Fiona Brinsden runners up Susanna Monaco & Jodie Thatcher
- Open Mixed Doubles Champions Gareth Fricker & Susanna Monaco runners up Paul Gregson & Fiona Brinsden
- Vets Ladies Doubles Champions Christine Stanton & Susanna Monaco runners up Martina Van Rensburg & Di Rice
- Vets Mens Doubles Champions Baden Bowen & Geoff Sutton runners up Peter Doherty & David Rice
- Vets Mixed Doubles Champions final deferred between Rae Savage & Paul Gregson v Susanna Monaco & Neale Bougher now on Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> May at 3 pm! Should be a cracker.

*A big thanks to our sponsors Tennis Only (make sure you mention our club to get your 10% discount), Jaydees Airconditioning and Hugo's Pizzas for their continued support.*

### Summer league Wrap

Overall a successful season that had its fair of challenges. And we also had our share of tough losses which no doubt a few of us are still getting over. On a positive note having our teams get to and experience the pressure of finals improves our performance for future events. And speaking from personal experience it does build character as I used to sulk for one month after a tough loss now it is only one day (perhaps one week!). Some highlights of the season below:

- Our Mens Doubles Wednesday Div 2 won their grand final against a very determined City Beach team. Team was Matt Connell, James Haas, Aubrey Hingston, Roland Townend and well led by Gareth Fricker (see photo below). This was an outstanding achievement with the final played on difficult synthetic grass courts and our team won the division from fourth place.
- Fantastic achievement by our Mixed Div 3 Tuesday night team in winning the club's first Mixed team division. This was a new squad that won their semi and final coping effectively with wet conditions and injuries. Team squad comprised of Joel Forsyth Captain, Janet Paterson, Tom Paterson, Tammy Reddell, Serene Staunton and Gareth Fricker (see photo below Gareth missing).
- Our club had two senior MVPs Peter Doherty (Men Div 2 over 50) and Noriko Thompson (Wednesday Ladies Open Doubles). Peter and Noriko will receive their awards at a Tennis West function on the 5<sup>th</sup> May. We had several other league players who deserved MVP awards and only missed out by one or two wins.

- We had 18 senior teams with 14 making finals and 5 reaching grand finals (a very good club effort). And our Mens Div 8 & 9 were very unlucky with some external factors outside of their control affecting the top 4.
- We had the opportunity for some of our good young players to gain valuable experience in a very tough Mens Division 2 with some of the teams stronger than Division 1.
- We entered a team in a mixed comp with Northern Districts for the first team. Many thanks to Serene Staunton for Captaining the team which had a very large squad.
- Excellent cooperation by all captains and teams (best I have experienced) with all teams playing in the right spirit and being excellent hosts. From my side this is critical as it helps our club attract members from other clubs.
- Lastly I would just like to recognise Sean Macfarlane (and his two teams on Wednesday night and Sunday over 35). Sean was captain of both teams and led the teams to semi finals in two strong divisions. Captaining one team is tough two teams is a nightmare. Well done Sean.

### **Members Tournament Results (and other highlights).**

*Don't forget to email me your tournament results with photos for future editions! And as we all know keeping a balance between sporting and academic success is very important for our younger members so we want to hear about these results as well.*

I just heard about a significant achievement. Alistair De Vroet is one of our Mens Div 2 players. His school picks the top 20 students in Year 11 to sit physics and chemistry tests which are benchmarked nationally. Alistair was chosen in the top 24 students nationally to go to Canberra for a 3 week summer camp (only 2 from WA) and received a gold medal for physics and silver for chemistry. The top 8 are chosen to represent Australia in the Asian Olympiad which is being held in Russia in May. After Russia the 5 top students will be picked to represent Australia at the Worlds. Best wishes Alistair.

*City of Stirling will be played at North Beach this year on Sunday the 7<sup>th</sup> May.*



Gareth Fricker, Matt Connell, James Haas, Roland Townend and Aubrey Hingston,

Div 2 Doubles Wednesday night





Serene Staunton Joel Forsyth Captain, Janet Paterson, Tom Paterson, and Tammy Reddell,  
Div 3 Night Mixed team



Open Mens Singles Champion Harry Burrell



Open Mens Singles Consolation Final won by Aubrey Hingston



Open Ladies Doubles Champions Martina Van Rensburg & Fiona Brinsden



Open Mixed Doubles Champions Gareth Fricker & Susanna Monaco



Vets Ladies Doubles Champions Christine Stanton & Susanna Monaco





Vets Mens Doubles Champions Baden Bowen & Geoff Sutton



Opening of new Court Hire System!

## Members – Mark Sims

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

Full	
Junior	Michael Woo
Mid Week	Sandy Clarke, Sally Revell
Social	Michael Brain, Glen Keyser, Jenny Bosich

## Social Committee News – Nola Carmignani

Hi all,

Our recent Italian Night saw Susanna and myself dig deep to produce some great food from our family heritage recipes. From Susanna's exquisite Eggplant Parmigana, to my Chicken Cacciatore, the cannelloni, lasagne, not to speak of those mini pastries, (which disappeared as soon as they hit the table), to cured olives from my Dad's garden, there was certainly plenty for everyone! According to all reports, it was "the best food ever!" So well done to us, and many many thanks to all who helped for this function! Your help is invaluable! ALWAYS!



### SAVE THE DATE! "STARRY NIGHT" Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> MAY WDTC ANNUAL DINNER!

This is the pinnacle of WDTC calendar, so please mark this in your dairies!

So... The annual dinner... Unfortunately due to ever increasing costs, after 4 years we have had to marginally up the cost for this night.

**Titled "STARRY NIGHT" on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May, \$80 per head.**

This includes a drink on arrival, a served 3 course meal, cooked by a 3 Michelin Star chef, live music, dancefloor, and minimal cost for decorations. 90% of decorations are sponsored by Event Style.

Flyer will be out soon.  
See you there.

Nola C and Team Social

8 <sup>th</sup> July	"Mexican Night" – SAVE THE DATE!!
WDTC Bsb: 306 050 Acc: 5528258	** To reduce cash handled at functions Tickets to all social functions can be paid on line Ref: initials of the function & your name. i.e. OD Carmignani (Opening Day) Carmignani

## Mid-Week Ladies – Heather Maitre

Midweek ladies tennis has had a mixed bag of weather on Thursday mornings but despite this we have been having a good turn out in numbers and very enjoyable tennis. Our recent St Pats day tournament was lots of fun and well organised by a couple of great ladies. Thank you and good job!!!

Also Easter is fast approaching so remember to bring a Easter egg up to the value of \$5.00 for the Easter tournament which will be held on Thursday 13th of April.



## Sharper Tennis – Simon and Angie Harper

Hello from SHARPER TENNIS.....

As from April 1<sup>st</sup> 2017, Sharper Tennis are very proud to have been announced as the official coaching providers for Wembley Downs Tennis Club.

At Sharper Tennis, we believe that tennis really is a sport for everyone whatever your age, ability or background. Our aim is to deliver fun, affordable, quality tennis coaching to all and help you fulfil your tennis potential. Sharper Tennis is led by Simon Harper.

With over 25 years of coaching experience that has taken him from the UK to America via Africa and India and now Australia, Simon brings a great sense of fun to tennis coaching whilst facilitating a love of tennis through game play and understanding that enjoyment comes from achievement.

Simon and wife Angie, along with their large mob of six kids ranging from 9-31 years of age, arrived in Perth in 2011 having originated from the Essex/ Suffolk border in the UK. This was not however the first experience of the tennis life in Perth for Simon who first worked here in 2000 alongside Peter Le Surf at Melville Palmyra Tennis Club. After a brief stint back in the UK where Sharper Tennis (as well as youngest children Zac and Evie) were born and having tired of sweeping snow from his outside courts, Simon and the family returned to Perth where Simon was responsible for developing and implementing a successful Hotshots programme at Reabold Tennis Club.

Simon has been working at WDTC since early 2016 and was delighted to be asked to head up the coaching programme ably supported by Angie as his Chief of Operations. Even Zac, 13 and Evie 9 are getting in on the family business and are often to be seen both on and around the courts.

"I am very much looking forward to getting to meet more of the members of the club this coming year" says Simon. "We are introducing two new adult training sessions this term with Beginners on Monday evenings and Cardio on Wednesdays and we hope that members of WDTC will come and enjoy their first class for free!"

If you'd like to book a lesson or would like more information on the coaching programme please call Simon on 0449090238 or email Angie at [angie@sharperennis.com.au](mailto:angie@sharperennis.com.au)

Angie and Simon Harper





## **Juniors – Bryn Parsons**

### ***Tennis U14 Div 3: WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS...***

Xavier Picart

Zac Harper

Harry Davison-Petch

Jacques Creighton

***Team Manager: Paulo Picart***



Zac Harper, Jacques Creighton, Xavier Picart and Harry Davison-Petch

### ***U 16 Div 8 Champions (picture in next Player)***

Alistair Harrison

Guy Taylor

Ben Raszyk

Josh Alexander

Kane Alexander

***Team Manager - Helen Alexander***

***Zac Harper*** won the Most Valuable Player award for U14 Div 3 as well as the club championships.

***Luka Brown*** won the Most Valuable Player award for Junior Boys State League.

## ***On the Sick List!***

Harry Banfield

Geoff Westbrook

David Staunton

Sorry to hear you guys are having a rough time. Wishing you all a speedy recovery.

If you know any Club members having a rough time at the moment and want to send a get well wish through the Player please give me a call or send me an email! Lorraine Sims – 92850331 or [simsml@bigpond.net.au](mailto:simsml@bigpond.net.au)

## ***Many Happy Returns!***

To Louise Hall, Bobbie Edwards, Dale Phillips and the many others celebrating during March - April - congratulations and enjoy the coming year. Continue to enjoy playing and or socialising.



## **Upcoming Events – please mark them on your Calendar!**

***SATURDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL – PRESIDENT VS PATRONS DAY***

***SATURDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> MAY – ANNUAL DINNER AND PRESENTATION NIGHT***

***SATURDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY – “MEXICAN NIGHT”***

## **WDTC Uniforms**

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

## **Defibrillator**



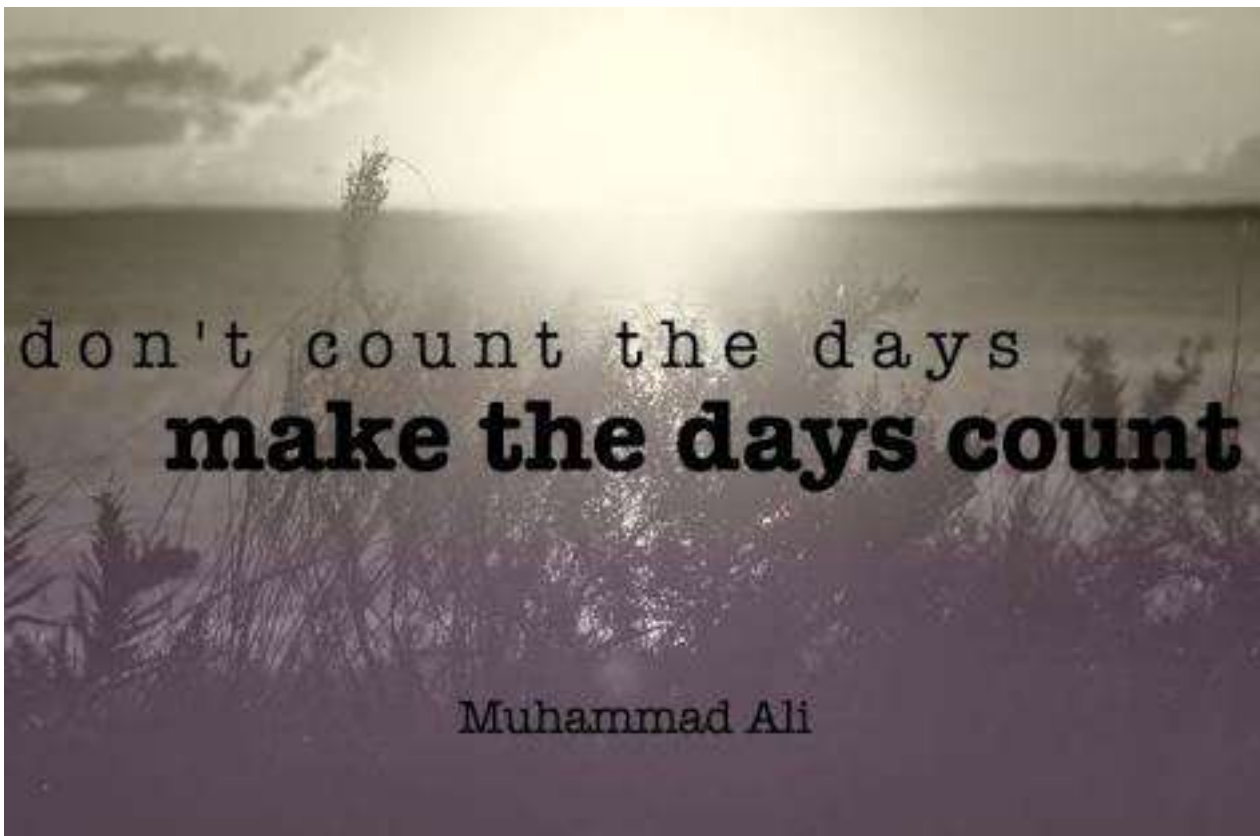
Please remember to check out the following link, which gives a short, 3-step demonstration on how to use the club's defibrillator (press Ctrl + click to follow link).

[http://www.healthcare.philips.com/pwc\\_hc/main/shared/Assets/multimedia/flash/resuscitation/AED/HS1\\_onsite\\_demo/index.wpd](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 Day!



On the Funny Side!





## Members Out and About – Italian Night



*A Fantastic night with fabulous food, great company and a lot of fun!*







*Midweek end of year pennant dinner!*



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