

ROYAL SOUTH YARRA LAWN TENNIS CLUB NEWSLETTER

CENTRECOURT



Matthew Leffler, winner of the Men's Open Singles Championships

Autumn 2015



President's Report

Welcome to the autumn edition of Centrecourt. School holidays and the summer break are well over and no doubt all are well settled into 2015. There are many reports in this edition, but I would like to summarise a few items.

2014 Annual General Meeting

Sally Charles and Amanda Schwilk were elected as new Committee members. Sally has been active on the Membership Board over the past two years and plays Monday night tennis competition for the Club. Amanda has Chaired the Young Members sub-committee, has been a member of the Activities sub-committee for the past three years, and is also a keen participant in our swimming squad. We welcome both to the Committee. I would like to thank very much our two retiring Committee members for their efforts and assistance over the past three years: Alec White (including one year as Club Captain) and John Dixon (who supported the Club particularly in relation to our external relations, house & grounds and finance).

Mary Church was awarded the RSYLTC Foundation Distinguished Service Award for her service to the Club which includes being a member of the General Committee and the Social Committee for four years. She was a member of the women's premiership teams who won the 1972 LTAV B Grade competition and the Southern Districts Section 2 competition in 1977. Mary played in the Club Championships for many years and has won the Judy Dalton Trophy and the Ladies Day

Perpetual Trophy. She has convened the Tuesday Bridge Group since 2008.

Jennifer Langford was awarded the Nick Reid Service Award. This award is presented to a young member for their ongoing support to the Club's sporting and social activities. Jen is a member of the Captains Committee and Chairs the women's pennant selection panel.

Honorary Life Membership

Immediate Past President, Susie Strangward was elected an Honorary Life Member of the Club. Most will be familiar with Susie's achievements and involvement at the Club, but in summary she served on the General Committee for fourteen years including serving on and/or chairing the Activities, Clubhouse & Grounds, and Membership Board Sub-committees, was in turn Honorary Secretary, Vice-President and President. Susie was a RSYLTC Foundation inaugural trustee, has played mid-week ladies competition, and has won the Women's Social Doubles Event in the Club Championships. She was also a member of the Maureen Connolly Brinker Cup Organising Committee and has contributed to the Club in many other areas.

Hearty congratulations to all three!

Christmas Events

The Club was very busy through December with the Christmas Drinks Party and various section wind-up parties, including those of the Verdant Group, the Tuesday Tennis players and the Bridge Group. It was great to see so many members enjoying these events.

Tennis and Squash

We had our wonderful Club Championships over two long weekends in February. Our Sports

Director and team organised a seamless and happy event, which ran to time (despite the heavens opening on the first Friday evening). In all, there were over 350 entries in 40 events. Congratulations to our first time Men's and Women's Singles Champions, Matt Leffler and Marie Monterosso, other event winners and all those who participated! The format of combining both the Junior and Senior Championships continues to work well. It's really good to have families take part in and enjoy the occasion, and for all to be able generally to catch up with lots of friends. Thanks also to Bill Turner for the usual first class courts, and James Fien and team for the myriad hospitality offerings (including the 'pop up' dinners)!

RSY fielded a Men's Asia Pacific Tennis League team, which played in the Conference final in November and placed third overall in the Regional final at Melbourne Park in the second week of the Australian Open. It was good to see our ATL players practising on the grass through March for the various Futures tournaments.

The Club hosted the 13/U Foundation Cup event for a week in January. The Foundation Cup Interstate Challenge comprised teams of four boys and four girls from each state, with players competing in a round robin format. Our very own Judy Dalton awarded the Judy Dalton Medal to the most outstanding player of the tournament.

Intra Club tennis has also included our President's Day, Summer Guest Tennis Day and BBQ, plus President's vs. Captain's Tennis Day – all very well attended. We also held our inaugural RSY / Royal Melbourne Tennis Club handicap squash tournament in February, which was enjoyed by all players.

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The Verdant Group

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Editor

Dianne Hepworth

Congratulations to Ann Fotheringham on her recent effort at the ITF Super-Seniors World Championships in Antalya, Turkey, being runner-up in the Singles Final to Ilse Michael from Germany. Ann also made it through to the quarter-finals in the doubles event.

Communications

In April we launched our new website which should be considerably more functional and interactive. The Club will also be more active in using our Facebook sites, Twitter and Instagram accounts to keep you instantly updated. We are also reviewing the role of Centrecourt and our other communications media.

Mont Verdant

Apartment 4 of our serviced apartments was successfully renovated by Christmas 2014 and we have commenced a similar re-furbishment for completion by mid year.

Members' Carpark Boom Gate

Members will be aware Stonnington Council has rejected our application to amend our planning permit to allow these gates to restrict entry to our carpark. It is noteworthy that following advertising there was only one objection to our application;

nevertheless Council refused the submission. The Club is appealing Council's decision at VCAT.

Annual Club Cocktail Party

The Grand Aperitivo party was a very well attended highlight in the Club's calendar to celebrate the end of summer. We were fortunate with great weather for the night and the fireworks were a special feature.

Membership

Members may be interested to know how the Club is tracking in terms of our member numbers. The Club continues to enjoy a stable membership base of approximately 4500 members. This level has been quite constant over at least the past seven years or so, and, given seasonal variances, is in line with the target we set in our Strategic Plan in 2012 where we were mindful of preserving Royal South Yarra's 'family oriented environment'. This is pleasing as we note a number of other sporting clubs struggle to maintain their membership bases and financial viability.

Peter Lie

Honorary Life Membership

Susan Strangward

At the Annual General Meeting held on 20 November 2014 our Immediate Past President, Susan Strangward was elected an Honorary Life Member of the Club.

In proposing the motion, the Honorary Secretary, Jonathan Roberts provided an insight into the significant contributions Susie has made to the Club. She was a member of the General Committee for fourteen years, during which time she served as President for two years, Vice President for two years and Honorary Secretary for two years. During her time on the General Committee her portfolios were Activities, Clubhouse and Grounds and the Membership Advisory Board.

Robert Hinton seconded the motion and recounted Susie's long association with, and support of the Club.

Susie served the Club in many capacities, including – the instigator and convenor of the Monday Morning Ladies social tennis, member of the Maureen Connolly Brinker Cup Organising Committee, established and convenes The Vintage Lunch, and was a member of the Club's 2000 Celebrations Committee and an inaugural trustee of the RSY Foundation. She also assisted in the purchase of artworks and the upgrading and maintenance of furnishings, artefacts and photographs.

The President Peter Lie presented Susie with the Honorary Life Membership pin and Susie responded by thanking the membership for this prestigious honour.

Club Matters

Members Recognised in the Australia Day Honours List

Three members received awards in the 2015 Australia Day honours, being awarded Member (OAM) and (AM) in the General Divisions. We congratulate **Dr George John Luk OAM**, receiving his award for service to the Polish community of Victoria, **Ms Elaine Sylvia Canty AM**, receiving her award for significant service to the community through roles with botanic, health, business and sporting organisations, and as a radio broadcaster and **Dr Gillian Ruth Webb AM** who was recognised for significant service to community health in the field of physiotherapy, and as a contributor to professional organisations and to education.

Obituaries

Our sincere sympathy is extended to the families of our esteemed members:

Norman Albert Beischer AO
Non Playing Member – 1980

Patricia Constance Duncan
Playing Member – 1962

Nigel John Gray AO AM
Playing Member – 1945

Phillip Henry Hall
Playing Member – 1978

Beatrice Ormond Macdonald
Life Member – 1938

Norman Mackenzie (Ken) Roberts
Honorary Life Member – 1941

John Shaw Warnock
Playing Member – 1982

Norman Mackenzie (Ken) Roberts

1922 – 2015

The Club lost one of its greatest contributors and supporters in April with the passing of seventy-four year member Ken Roberts at the age of ninety-three.

Following his schooling at Melbourne Grammar where he excelled in all sports, but particularly football and tennis, Ken joined the Club in 1941, aged nineteen, following his father in membership. This was also the year he joined the AIF, serving WWII through to 1946 with the 2/8th Field Regiment Royal Australian Artillery in the Middle-East (El Alamein) and in Borneo.

Upon his demobilisation from the army Ken joined the company ICI/Dulux where he spent his entire working life in the paint industry. At this time he also became an enthusiastic member at Royal South Yarra, enjoying his tennis to the fullest as a fine player, as well as creating and enjoying his many friends. In addition, Ken became a wonderful contributor to the Club for a period of eighteen years; joining the General Committee in 1969, progressing to Honorary Secretary

(1973-1976), Vice-President (1976-1984) and President (1984-1987). This major contribution culminated in Ken being elected an Honorary Life Member of the Club at the AGM of 1987.

Ken's tennis ability was of a very good standard playing at the level of "C-Special" Pennant and extraordinarily playing for the Club for a period of forty-four years. His greatest achievement and pleasure was as a member of the winning 1991 VTA Men's Veterans Second Grade Premiership with his good friends Brian Collis, Graham Duncan, Tony Cockram and Ian Murray, a difficult achievement in a high standard competition. His Club successes included wins in the "100 & Over Men's Doubles" in 1980, 1983 and 1984, also winning the "Clyde Fenton Cup Doubles" on Ex-Servicemen's Day in 1989, 1993, 1994 and 2000.

It should also be noted that Ken was a keen supporter of the Club's ANZAC Remembrance Parade and Commemorative Luncheon as an ex-serviceman, with the wish that it



be strongly supported by Club members.

In his latter years Ken lived at Barwon Heads playing tennis there as well as

Royal South Yarra. He played regular golf at Royal Melbourne and more recently at Barwon Heads.

With his warm, welcoming smile, this cheerful, friendly contributor to the Club will be sadly missed by his many friends.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Club was held on Thursday 20 November, 2014. The Honorary Officers and Committee were elected for the coming year.

President – Peter Lie

Vice President – Drew Fenton

Captain – Tony Joubert

Honorary Secretary – Jonathan Roberts

Honorary Treasurer – George Colman

Committee

Lachlan Beer

Sally Charles

Di Hepworth

Hamish Salmon

Loretta Sheales

Amanda Schwilk

Introducing new Committee Members:



Sally Charles

Sally joined the Club in 2005 and is currently Finance Manager of Leap Training. She qualified in nursing and moved into recruitment and human resources after completing a post graduate in strategic workforce planning.



Amanda Schwilk

Amanda joined the Club in 2006 and is currently a Marketing Professional at PwC (Pricewaterhouse Coopers). She completed an Arts degree at Monash University majoring in Marketing and Psychology.

Committee Retirement:

Alec White retired after serving on the General Committee for three years. Alec joined the Club in 1989 and during his time on the General Committee he was Captain of the Club for one year and chaired the Captains Committee. Alec was also a member of the Strategic Communication Planning Group.

John Dixon retired after serving on the General Committee for three years. John joined the Club in 1990 and during his time on the General Committee his portfolios have been Finance, Clubhouse & Grounds and External Relationships.

RSY Foundation

One of the financial objectives in the Club's 2012 - 2016 Strategic Plan is to build a long term capital fund for ongoing improvements to the Club. To this end, the Royal South Yarra Lawn Tennis Club Foundation Trustees, comprising those listed below, have discussed and agreed the approach to undertaking this task:

- Janie Bell, Phillip Gray, Ian Jarman, Peter Lie (President), Cathy Moore and Derek Skues.

In addition, a number of members have agreed to become Emissaries to the Foundation to assist in raising its profile, promote it to other Club members and to direct potential benefactors to the Chair of the RSY Foundation. These are:

- Mary Church, Peter Clarke, Zara Kimpton OAM, John McInnes OAM, Angus Mackay, Susie Strangward and Rob Warnock.

The Foundation has been established to support the Club's vision and mission with the dual purpose of:

- contributing to our members' active participation in tennis and associated sport and social activities; and
- making sure our facilities meet our members' contemporary expectations.

Whilst the Foundation has initially raised and distributed a modest sum, there is a need to secure ongoing financial support above and beyond the annual membership fees and revenue generated from our commercial operations.

Building our cash-flow and reserves will enable us to:

- nurture our world-class facilities for members' enjoyment; and
- help protect us against unforeseen events, securing the Club's future for existing and future members.

Funds from the Foundation will be directed towards projects identified within a RSY Master Plan framework, currently being prepared.

By now a brochure should have been sent to senior Club members setting out the details of the RSY Foundation. Also, you will receive a form for a tax deductible donation through the Australian Sport Foundation in support of the Master Plan in relation to facilities and sport development project(s), with your annual subscription notice.

Should you wish to discuss making a donation through this mechanism or directly to the Club, please contact me on (+613) 9829 1556 and/or via: Foundation@rsyltc.org.au

Derek Skues
Chairman, RSY Foundation

RSY Foundation Award for Distinguished Service

Mary Church

At the Annual General Meeting on Thursday 20 November 2014 Mary Church received the RSY Foundation Award for her dedicated service to the Club.

Mary's contribution to the Club has included serving on the General Committee and Social Committee for four years, plus has convened the Tuesday Tennis Group. She has convened the Bridge Section for the last seven years. She represented

the Club in pennant tennis and was a member of 1972 ladies team who won the B Grade LTAV pennant. She has also represented the Club in the mid-week ladies tennis competition winning the Southern Districts Section 2 pennant in 1977. She won the Judy Dalton Trophy in 1972 and the Ladies Day Perpetual Trophy in 1983. Her achievements also include winning the Ladies C Grade Singles and Doubles in the Club Championships. Mary is a very deserving recipient of this award.



Mary Church & Derek Skues

Nick Reid Service Award

Jennifer Langford

At the Annual General Meeting, the Nick Reid Service Award was presented to Jennifer Langford in absentia.

This award is made by the Committee in recognition of an outstanding contribution by a young member in a number of aspects including ongoing support over a number of years of tennis, squash and social activities at the Club.

The late Nick Reid contributed greatly to the Club during his short life. He was involved in junior tennis and was a tireless worker for the Younger Members activities.

Jennifer has served on the Captains Committee since 2011 and has chaired the Women's Pennant

Selection Panel since 2012. She joined the Club in 1994 and has represented the Club in both junior and senior pennant tennis. She was a member of the 2013 Tennis Victoria Grade 4 premiership team and won the U/16 Junior Perpetual Trophy in 1997 and was the recipient of the Stan Churchus Junior Trophy in the year 2000. She has competed in both the junior and senior club championships. In the junior championships she won the Girls 14/U Singles and Doubles, the Girls 16/U Doubles and was runner-up in the Girls 16/U Singles and the Girls 12/U Doubles. In the senior championships she was runner-up in Ladies C Grade doubles on two occasions.

Jennifer responded by means of a video presentation and thanked the Club for this award.



Jennifer Langford & Diana Atkinson

Grand Aperitivo

Fabulous food, friends and fireworks just about sums up RSY's annual March Club event.

Over two hundred members and guests took advantage of a clear night to watch the magnificent fireworks display organised by the Club. Guests could choose from a wide selection of canapes served by waiting staff or visit the two food stations, which were strategically placed to attract guests with their mouth-watering display of St. Helens large growth pacific fresh oysters on ice or gulf cooked ocean king prawns or Thai slow braised beef with glass noodle salad and Roti with cashew mild curry or jasmine rice and Sri Lankan Mattawa chicken curry. The festivities concluded at 10.00pm. Our thanks must go the kitchen staff and hospitality department for their efforts in making this a Grand Aperitivo!





Captain's Report

Asia Pacific League (ATL)

We would like to congratulate our men's team 'The Royal South Yarras' on their outstanding achievement; finishing third in the Asia-Pacific Tennis League Playoffs, held at Melbourne Park during the 2015 Australian Open.

Team members consisted of Luke Saville, Alex Bolt, John-Patrick Smith, Dane Propoggia, Adam Hubble, Jeremy Beale and Lewis Miles who thanked Club Captain, Tony Joubert on his unwavering commitment and managerial skills in organising this league.

The Brisbane Charges team from Queensland won the men's title and the Bayside Thunder team from Williamstown, Melbourne won the women's title.

A highlight of the tournament included Luke Saville and Jeremy Beale representing 'The Royal South Yarras' on the Hisense Arena in a Fast4 exhibition match against the Brisbane Charges. This match preceded Nick

Kyrigos' round four singles match against Andres Seppi.

We would like to thank the RSY players for their tremendous effort in reaching the finals and wish them the very best of luck in their 2015 tennis endeavours.

Junior Open Day

The biggest event on the Junior Calendar was held on Sunday 15 March for members and waiting list children aged 8-16 years. The emphasis on this day is skill building, participation, friendship forming, sportsmanship and fun. This year there was special emphasis on including Tennis Australia's Hot Shots Program which was targeted at the 4-8 year olds with a record number of twenty-five attending.

Squash

There has been a concerted effort in the last twelve months to strengthen the depth and competitiveness of our squash section. For many years the squash program has been successfully carried by a group of die-hard "squashies". There is now a focus on building numbers and youth to proudly represent the Club in the VSRA Club Circuit. Over the coming months, you will see some fresh faces and a squash

coaching program will commence soon. Special thanks must be given to our Squash Convenor, Simon Brain and David Court.

We now look forward to the Squash Club Championships which will commence in May with the finals of the Open and Handicap events being held on Saturday 30 May.

Much is happening around the Club

The Club has nominated seventeen teams in the 2015 Tennis Victoria pennant competition and four teams in the Club Circuit Squash competition. The Blackburn & Districts Night Tennis competition is increasingly popular with the Club, represented by seven teams on Monday night and two teams on a Tuesday night. In autumn the Club will nominate a team to compete in the Snooker City Club Circuit competition. The summer Saturday afternoon tennis on the grass was gaining popularity, however we would like to see it gain more momentum next year.

Tony Joubert

Squash

The combined RSY/Royal Melbourne Tennis Club (RMTC) pennant squash teams had a very successful season in the 2014 spring competition. Three out of the six teams fielded reached the finals and two teams went on to win a pennant. Based on these results, we were announced as the best performed Club in the VSRA Club Circuit, which is considered to be the highest standard of regular competition squash in Victoria. A great achievement for all our die-hard pennant players.

The winning teams were:

B3 Grade (RSY) – Trevor Giacometti (Capt.), John O'Sullivan, Robert Warnock, Jonathan Cameron, David Johnston, Jim Woods.

B4 Grade (RMTC) – Sam Bowman (Capt.), Matthew Downey, John Woods-Casey, Tom Frewin, Christian McGahey.

We continued to strengthen the ties between the RSY and RMTC squash sections, when the first inter-club competition was held in February. A handicapped knock-out competition saw some fast and furious competitive matches and it was a great test of stamina for those who made the final stages. An all RSY grand final saw Jonathan Cameron out-play David Court in a tight match to become the inaugural winner of this competition.

Finally, the Club Championships commenced in May and members of all standards were welcome to enter in the open and/or handicap divisions.

*Simon Brain
Convenor*

President's v Captain's Tennis Challenge



The President's v Captain's Tennis Challenge was held on the pristine grass courts on Sunday 29 March with forty-one players competing in this challenge. The matches were of a very high standard with many hard fought points played in tremendous spirit.

The President's team were the overall winners with a slender 14 game winning margin, 192 games to 178 games. Following play, beverages and canapés were served in the relaxed atmosphere of the President's Bar and the perpetual trophy was happily accepted by the President, Peter Lie.

Tuesday Tennis Group

At the conclusion of a happy and well attended year of tennis, our Christmas Lunch was held on 2 December following the Badge Day finals and social tennis. We were entertained by a very interesting guest speaker, Flip Shelton, who spoke about her humorous experiences in Rio de Janeiro. We were delighted to welcome Joy Fair as a special guest.

The 2014 winners of the Joy Fair – Ladies Day Perpetual Trophy were Brigitte Claney (Silver Section) and Rowena Shew (Bronze Section).

The Tuesday Tennis Group meets at the Pavilion at 9.30am every Tuesday (except Public Holidays). We welcome all members, with full playing rights

to join our morning of tennis. Each Tuesday is convened by two rostered Court Captains, the cost of tennis balls is \$2-00. Following tennis, members can enjoy a light lunch in the clubhouse.

A Badge Day competition is played six times a year in a round robin format with a playoff held in December prior to our Christmas Lunch. Social tennis is always available on the competition days.

Convenors: Pauline Saunders
paulinesaunders2001@yahoo.com.au,
0438 335 850 and Carolyn Martyn
c.martyn@bigpond.net.au 0400 531 852



Brigitte Claney, Rowena Shew & Joy Fair

Mid-week Ladies Tennis

The 2014-15 summer competition of the Eastern District Womens Tennis Association was once again a very successful season. Seven teams competed in the competition, four teams reached the semi-finals and three teams went on to compete for a flag in the grand final. The Section 2 (RSY3) team captained by Sally Bell with Ro Scarborough, Belinda Henry, Fiona Ralph, Sarah Robinson and Ann Hyams won the grand final defeating St Dominics.

The Section 3 (RSY4) team captained by Chrissy Skinner with Sally Lobley, Tracey Kelly, Bryony Simpson, Jessica Davey, Carol Reid and Carolyn Martyn won the grand final defeating East Malvern. The Section 5 (RSY 6) team captained by Annabel Holmes with Andrea Donaldson, Ann Mulcahy, Sally Cameron and Sallyanne Sawers finished runners-up, losing their grand final by two games to Deepdene.

Congratulations to all players on a fun and competitive competition.



Section 2 – Belinda Henry, Fiona Ralph, Ro Scarborough & Sally Bell



Section 5 – Annabel Holmes, Andrea Donaldson, Ann Mulcahy, Sally Cameron & Sallyanne Sawers



Section 3 – Tracey Kelly, Bryony Simpson, Sally Lobley, Carolyn Martyn & Chrissy Skinner

JUNIORS

Bayside Regional Tennis Association 2014 spring season

Royal South Yarra had seven teams participating in the Bayside Junior spring competition, one Saturday team and six teams competing on Sundays. Our Section 2 Saturday team consisting of Giselle Lansell, Hamish Francis, Sam McLean, Freddie Campbell and Lucy Campbell won their grand final, defeating Carmelite by one game. The Section 2 Sunday team of Liam Albrecht, Will Anders, Alex Robinson and Maxim Fisher reached the finals. The combined teams played over one hundred matches for the Club.

Junior Open Day

The Junior Open Day was held on Sunday 15 March. The day included matches for the young Hot Shots players as well as all our juniors aged

from 8-16. The day provides a great opportunity for our newer members to meet other juniors and test their tennis abilities against one another. On the day, our players participate in round-robin doubles matches. We acknowledge the winners of each court and vote for a sportsmanship award to the junior who behaved in the most sportsmanlike manner on each court.

Also we award our premier junior trophy - the Stan Churchus Trophy. The Stan Churchus trophy is presented to a junior who has demonstrated great sportsmanship and general participation over their time at the Club. Junior members 16 or under are eligible to receive this prestigious award. This year's winner was Harry Veall - congratulations Harry (pictured top left).

Junior Strategy

In 2013 we set out a new strategy for our junior players. The strategy begins with the Hot Shots competition, for players from four years old. We then move to Bayside Junior Competition and finally our older junior players play adult pennant. Throughout this journey we have events aimed to encourage participation and fun, such as Junior Round Robin Tournaments and Adult Child Tennis Days.

We will experiment with a number of activities over the next couple of years, aimed at ensuring we achieve our two goals of inclusion and skill development.

Forthcoming Events

Year 8 Disco
Saturday 23 May

Junior Round Robin Tournament
Sunday 24 May



Club Championships

In February the Club hosted the combined senior and junior Club Championships. This annual event determines the best competitors in each tennis category; including competing for the prestigious Honour Board Events.

There were a number of highlights this year:

- There were many notable contests played in the traditional championships spirit that ensured the 2015 Club Championships were again a highpoint of our Club's sporting calendar.
- Combining the senior and junior events provided a vibrant atmosphere and much activity around the Club. It was great to see many young families watching their sons and daughters and then joining the relaxed barbecue opportunities in the evening.
- The unpredictability of Melbourne's weather provided a challenge this year, there were great views from the balcony which showcased many matches for all spectators and players.

We congratulate the Men's and Ladies Open Singles Champions, Matt Leffler and Marie Monterosso and the Boys and Girls 18 & under junior winners, Alexandros Yiappos and Cassandra Moraleja.

We would like to thank all who were involved in the Club Championships, making this an enjoyable event and a special thank you to the Sports Director Jarrad Wright and Hospitality Director James Fien and their teams for their tremendous effort.



Marie Monterosso



Yuri Mijic & Alexandros Yiappos



Andrew Abbott & Simon Connor



Sue Albert & Justin Bowler



Huw Gatford & Andrew Adams



Kitty Park & Brigid Warwick



Eliza Vesey & Hugo Sampson



Natasha Van Bommel & Alec White



Cassandra Moraleja



Ian Jarman & Wayne Cowley



Di Hepworth & Brigitte Claney



Virginia Collins



Alexandros Yiappos



Loretta Sheales & Marie Monterosso



Annabel Holmes



Tim McDonald & Lloyd Havlik



Cathy Moore & Sue Albert



Richard Robson & Robin Forster



Chris O'Farrell & Hamish Sutton



Sunny Brearley



Toby Ralph & Lachlan Mailer



Nicholas Salmon



Claudia Cameron



Harry Veall & Joanna Bell



Sam McLean



Claudia Albert & Eliza O'Farrell



Laura O'Farrell & Vivienne Johnston



Bill Cameron & Sinclair Mosley



Maxim Fisher & John Lush



Chloe Joubert & Chloe Cooper



Rupert Mosley



Charlie Aitken & Lachlan Clarke



Vivienne Johnston & Liam Albrecht



Myles Penfold & Liam Albrecht



Sam McLean



Toby Ralph

Captured during the Club Championships...





2015 Club Championships Results

SENIORS

Men's Open Singles

Matthew Leffler d Robert Tucker 6-4 6-4

Ladies' Open Singles

Marie Monterosso d
Cassandra Moraleja 6-3 6-0

Men's Open Doubles

Yuri Mijic, Alexandros Yiappos d
Adrian Soon, Alec White 6-4 6-1

Ladies' Open Doubles

Marie Monterosso, Loretta Sheales d
Gemma O'Farrell, Jovana Stanisic
6-2 6-7 6-3

Open Mixed Doubles

Alec White, Natasha Van Bommel d
Matthew Camenzuli, Marie Monterosso
2-6 7-5 6-3

Men's B Grade Singles

Hamish Sutton d Chris O'Farrell 6-5 Ret.

Ladies' B Grade Singles

Claudia Trotter d Sophie Trotter
4-6 6-4 10-7

Men's B Grade Doubles

Robin Forster, Richard Robson d
James Brearley, James Bull 6-3 7-5

Ladies' B Grade Doubles

Sue Albert, Cathy Moore d
Virginia Collins, Jennifer Langford
6-3 6-0

B Grade Mixed Doubles

Justin Bowler, Sue Albert d
Nicholas Salmon, Brigitte McGuire
6-2 6-2

Men's C Grade Singles

Huw Gatford d Andrew Adams
7-5 6-2

Ladies' C Grade Singles

Virginia Collins d Sunny Brearley 8-0

Men's C Grade Doubles

Lloyd Havlik, Tim McDonald d
Lawry Simpson, Hamish Sutton 6-1 6-1

Ladies' C Grade Doubles

Kitty Park, Brigid Warwick d
Skye Douglass, Kate MacNeil 6-3 7-5

C Grade Mixed Doubles

Hugo Sampson, Eliza Vesey d
David Dunstan, Virginia Collins 7-5 6-1

Men's Social Singles

Hector Williamson d
Callum Williamson 9-7

Ladies' Social Singles*

Winner: Annabel Holmes
Runners-up: Arabella Georges

Men's Social Doubles*

Winner: Andrew Abbott, Simon Connor
Runners-up: Campbell Kirwan,
Michael Kirwan

Ladies' Social Doubles*

Winners: Brigitte Claney, Di Hepworth
Runners-up: Annabel Holmes,
Sally-Anne Sawers

Men's Veteran Doubles

Wayne Cowley, Ian Jarman d
David Hepworth, Hamish Salmon
6-2 6-0

Men's Senior Doubles

Wayne Cowley, Ian Jarman d
Antony Hearnden, Peter Johnston
7-6 6-4

Boys' Singles

Alexandros Yiappos d
Campbell Salmon 7-5 6-2

Girls' Singles

Cassandra Moraleja d
Natasha Van Bommel 6-1 6-1

JUNIORS

Boys' 16 & Under Singles

David Gatford d William Anders 9-7

Girls' 16 & Under Singles

Sunny Brearley d Isobel McFarlane 8-1

Boys' 16 & Under Doubles*

Winners: Charlie Aitken, Lachlan Clarke
Runners-up: Mackenzie Fenton,
Lachlan Kemp

Girls' 16 & Under Doubles

Claudia Albert, Eliza O'Farrell d
Joanna Bell, Lucy Leckey 6-2 6-1

Mixed 16 & Under Doubles

Harry Veall, Joanna Bell d
Seve De Campo, Meribel Lennon 8-3

Boys' 14 & Under Singles

Rupert Mosley d Liam Albrecht 6-2, 6-2

Girls' 14 & Under Singles

Vivienne Johnston d
Annabel Joubert 9-7

Boys' 14 & Under Doubles*

Winners: Maxim Fisher, John Lush
Runners-up: Henry Campbell,
Hugo Druce

Girls' 14 & Under Doubles *

Winners: Vivienne Johnston,
Laura O'Farrell
Runners-up: Josie Happell,
Charlotte Ritman

Mixed 14 & Under Doubles *

Winners: Liam Albrecht,
Vivienne Johnston
Runners-up: Henry Campbell,
Charlotte Ritman

Boys' 12 & Under Singles

Nicholas Salmon d Hamish Francis 8-0

Girls' 12 & Under Singles

Claudia Cameron d Chloe Joubert 8-1

Boys' 12 & Under Doubles

Bill Cameron, Sinclair Mosley d
Declan Albrecht, Tom Bartlett 8-5

Girls' 12 & Under Doubles *

Winners: Chloe Cooper, Chloe Joubert
Runners-up: Jemma Mitchell,
Abby Ralph

Boys' 10 & Under Singles *

Winners: Sam McLean
Runner-up: Lachlan Mailer

Girls' 10 & Under Singles

Claudia Cameron d
Katharine Soutter 6-0

Boys' 10 & Under Doubles

Harry Cooper, Toby Ralph d
Lachlan Francis, Sam McLean 9-8

* Round Robin Event

Coaching Tip



Volleying Technique

Volleying in modern tennis appears to be a dying art in some respects, however the basics of volleying have somewhat been lost due to very slow

tennis balls, loosely strung racquets and ultra-powerful racquets.

The fundamentals I teach do keep traditionalists at peace for the most part!

My first golden rule is to try and keep the racquet head above the wrist before, during and after impact with almost no swinging movement or hinging of the wrist at all. The vast majority of movement during the volley stroke should come from a set or braced arm, moving from the shoulder.

For a standard volley (not a drive volley) there should be no swinging motion at the ball. The arm, especially forearm and wrist should be held as

firmly as possible so that an off centre hit still reacts well off the racquet face and a timed connection off the sweet spot is returned totally controlled.

I believe the previous ideas of meeting the ball out in front and punching the volley are all but gone. The continental grip is still totally valid in today's tennis but I believe a slight forehand grip is a much better option. The slight forehand grip allows you to still use the one grip for both volleys which is a must.

The main advantage over the continental grip is that it allows contact to be made further back, more level with the nose when producing the shot, not out in front like the older days. Pat Rafter used a slight forehand grip for volleying and I haven't heard anyone say he ever struggled at the net!

With players swinging harder than ever and strings allowing spin that weren't possible in years gone by, the extra time you have to see and then

contact the ball by hitting it a little further back is a massive advantage. Good volleyers look like they have more time and hold the ball on the strings for longer than less competent net players. The slight forehand grip facilitates this with ease.

The one thing I stress is important, is that if you want to be more proficient at the net and make it an imposing part of your game, string your modern racquet strings a little tighter than you normally do. Only a couple of players in history have volleyed well with loose strings (John McEnroe and Vijay Armitraj) so I would go with the masses on the tighter string theory.

I could go on and on but a lesson is probably the easiest way to start re-inventing your net game and make it an aspect of tennis to enjoy and not fear. Tennis like most things is cyclical, so competent net players will one day have their time in the sun again.

Personally I can't wait!!!

Andrew McLean

Blackburn & Districts Night Tennis Association

Three of the eight teams entered in the 2014 spring competition of the Blackburn & District Night Tennis Association reached the finals with two teams winning their respective competition.

Premiers:

Ladies Section 2, RSY Top Shots team of Sarah Robinson (Capt.), Eliza Robinson, Belinda Henry, Sue Gafford, Brigitte Claney, Charlotte Fenner, Margaret Neeson, Jacqui Saunders and Bernadette Stephen won the grand final defeating the Nunawading Nighthawks.

Mixed Section 4, RSY What a Racquet

team of Fiona Ralph (Capt.), Sally Charles, Zoe Browning, Richard Charles, Sophie Richards, Fiona Murdoch, Richard Ralph, Andrew Cox and Jennifer Matthies won the grand final defeating the Hawthorn Hawks.

Runners-up:

Men's Section 2, RSY Volleys team of Richard Ollerenshaw (Capt.), Edward Fitzgerald, David Johnston, Mike Wharton, Lawrence Kim, David Dunstan, Nils Koren and Shane Burke were defeated in the final by Greythorn Park Madpac Two.



Back: Margaret Neeson, Jacqui Saunders, Sue Gafford, Charlotte Fenner & Brigitte Claney
Front: Belinda Henry & Sarah Robinson

Young Members

Want to be part of RSY's Young Members?

The RSY Young Members is a general group that organise and host a range of events for Club members between the ages of 18 and 35 with the purpose of encouraging members to use and enjoy the Club. We organise and hold a variety of events and functions throughout the year to cater for all types of members. Including (very) casual tennis nights with barbeque dinners; drinks on the Club balcony; the ever popular barefoot bowls on the grass courts; and our annual Ball (held jointly between RSY & Kooyong LTC) - there are plenty of reasons to come down and meet fellow young members. All events are held in a very low-key manner and we encourage everyone to come down and meet each other and ultimately, with all it has to offer, use the Club as much as possible.

Barefoot Bowls

On a pleasant, warm and balmy Friday night late in November the Club hosted the Young Members Barefoot Bowls and turning 18 event for the third year in a row. A great turn-out of around seventy younger members and guests ensured a fun and casual night of lawn bowls on the top courts, a few drinks to ease everyone into the weekend and a fantastic spread of a delicious gourmet Mexican themed dinner.

The barefoot bowls was Amanda Schwilk's final event for the RSY Young



Members - we would like to thank Amanda for her three years of chairing the Young Members group. The group and its presence within the Club have really blossomed under her leadership over that period.

Drinks on the Balcony

The Young Members also gathered on a sunny Friday in late February for their first event of the year - casual drinks on the Club balcony overlooking the last stages of play of the Club Championships. It was a very informal evening where all younger members could meet each other and round out their week.

Tennis & Tonic

On a Thursday in May, the Young Members hosted the first of their social

tennis evenings for the year - 'Tennis & Tonic'. The format of the evening was very informal, casual and social. A set or two of tennis with other younger members and guests, a few drinks, a fabulous epicurean dinner, some music guaranteed a good time in an extremely casual environment. We encourage all younger members to get involved in using the Club for tennis and meeting other like-minded younger members.

In early June the Young Members will also be hosting an informal drinks night. We encourage all younger members to come along with their guests for a fun, casual night.

Charles Lie
Chairman, Young Members

Summer Barbecue & Guest Tennis Evening

Market umbrellas and twinkling lights made an imposing scene on the croquet lawn adjacent to grass courts one and two. This was the dinner setting for the sixty players and guests that greeted them after playing tennis on a very hot Friday on February 5. This evening continues in popularity with its casual ambience, social tennis, and guest fees waived. It is a great way to showcase the Club to friends. Thank you to our Hospitality Director who cooked the delicious courtyard barbecue. This remains one of my favourite events of the year!

Dianne Hepworth
Chair of Activities and Communication



RSY v KLTC Tennis Challenge

On Sunday 19 April, RSY members travelled to Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club for the annual RSY v KLTC Social Tennis Challenge.

Royal South Yarra were competing for their fifth straight victory. Teams consisted of sixteen players, playing mixed doubles on four porous courts albeit in less than pleasant weather conditions with showers and cool temperatures.

Kooyong was victorious on the day, winning the challenge 15 sets to 10 sets.

The camaraderie amongst the players was commendable, with all having a fantastic day on and off the court, enjoying the canapés and beverages served after tennis.

We look forward to next year's challenge and winning back the Koots Trophy in 2016.



Cindi Damien & Di Hepworth

Men's Golf Day

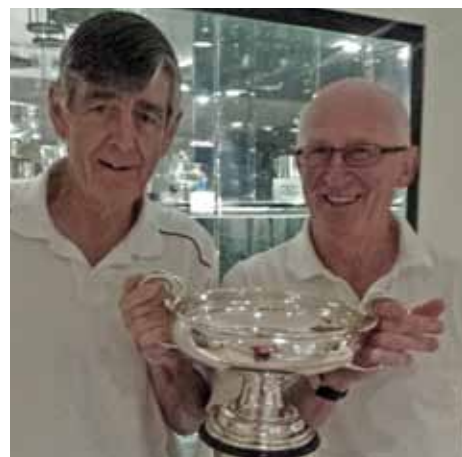
Congratulations to John McInnes and John Grigg who won the Derek Keble-Johnston Golf Trophy on Monday 19 April. Golf was played at the Frankston Golf Club which is an immaculate course in a unique setting.

This year we had a strong field of players, with wonderful weather and a superb barbecue lunch was provided by the Club. This combination made for an outstanding day which however did not reflect in the scores.

Winners of the Longest Drive and Nearest to the Pin were – Phil Vile, Paul Davis, Jack Bryant, Hugh Cuthbertson and Jonathan Harris.

The 2016 Golf Day will be held on Monday 14 March, save the date in your diary.

Doug Tait & John Hood
Convenors



John McInnes & John Grigg

New Responsive Website

The Club launched its new website in April and is now responsive to Tablets and Smartphones as well as PCs and Laptops. It is functionally more efficient and user friendly.

Please give it a try for all your Club information at www.rsyltc.org.au

Dianne Hepworth
Chair of Activities and Communication



Epicurean

Dishes for autumn



Soy & Anise Braised Pork Belly – stir fried wombok, brown rice and sticky caramel



San Danielle Prosciutto with seasonal figs, pecorino and sage



Chocolate Fondant with espresso anglaise sauce and vanilla ice cream



Cheeses served with sliced pear, biscuits and crackers

Tuesday Bridge

The Bridge Club ended their year with the Christmas Bridge Lunch being held on 9 December when ninety members played duplicate and social bridge from 10:00am in the Como and Norman Brookes Rooms. A delicious Christmas lunch was served at which time the winners of the Janette Machin Trophy was presented to the winning pair, Sally Marshall and Trish Donges.

2015 Duplicate Trophy winners to date:

February

N/S – Shirley Philpott & Anne Gunst

E/W – Barbara Mayes & Helen Inge

March

N/S – Anne Ramsden & Jenny Brash

E/W – Mary Church & Ann Camamile

The Red Point Competition held over three consecutive Tuesdays in March was won by Sally Marshall and Trish Donges, a very formidable pair.

Bridge Lessons

On Monday evenings Bridge Director, Ben Kingham provides intermediate lessons at 6.00pm and beginner lessons at 7.45pm. He also provides an advanced lesson prior to the Tuesday Trophy Competition during the month of May, June and July from 10:00am – 12noon.

I would like to thank Judy Foreman our very able Treasurer, Sue Head who organises the Social Bridge days, and the convenors of the inter-club bridge matches all who continue to ably support bridge at the Club.

Mary Church
Convenor

Forthcoming Events:

- **Tuesday 12 May**
Duplicate Bridge Afternoon
- **Tuesday 26 May**
Duplicate Bridge Afternoon –
Trophy Competition
- **Tuesday 9 June**
Duplicate Bridge Afternoon –
Guests Day
- **Tuesday 23 June**
Duplicate Bridge Afternoon –
Trophy Competition



Leigh Machin presenting the Janette Machin Trophy to Trish Donges & Sally Marshall

AUDITIONS

for the Musical Afternoon

Calling all members and their immediate families!

Do you sing, play an instrument or recite poetry

This is not a competition... but an opportunity to share, listen and enjoy our members' varied talents... but we would like YOU to make it happen.

AUDITIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED ON SATURDAY 13 & 20 JUNE IN THE NORMAN BROOKES ROOM

From 10.00am to Midday with
Shoreh Phillips and Michael Wills

Applicants should be Grade 6
standard

Musical Afternoon and High Tea

Sunday 16 August
2:30pm – 6:30pm

Enquiries:

Shoreh Phillips 0422 843 705
or Administration on 9829 1556

The Vintage Lunch

On Sunday 22 March the Club hosted its 15th Vintage Lunch for members aged 80 years and over. On a beautiful day, one hundred and fifteen people attended the delightful Sunday lunch prepared by our Executive Chef, Peter Villingier and his staff. Members were able to organise a table and view the Club Championships with friends who they may only see at this annual occasion.

All our guests on this day are special members, but we would like to acknowledge a few people – Mrs Valnere Hayes who has been a member of the Club for seventy-seven years, Dr John Carre-Riddell and

Mr Graham Duncan who have been members for seventy-three years, and Dr John Tucker and Mrs Jean Harrison who are the seniors of our membership and both have been part of the Club family for many years.

Our President, Peter Lie spoke on the happenings around the Club and Mr Duncan reminisced about his long membership, reminding us of how fortunate we are to have the wonderful facilities we enjoy today, thanks to the foresight of our forefathers, who were responsible for the purchase of the Bruce Street land. He stated this purchase of land was pivotal to the Club becoming what it

is today and we must not forget the legacy to the Club membership.

For me, this is a very special day, spending an afternoon with members who have so many stories to tell, not only their tennis experiences, but also, and very importantly of their later years of Club friendships which they have made and the wonderful social life that the Club offers today.

I look forward to welcoming many more of our senior members in 2016.

Susie Strangward
Convenor

The Verdant Group

The program for the first half of our year has been circulated to all members who have indicated an interest in our group. Much research and thought has gone into providing what we consider an interesting and balanced program and it is our hope that members will be attracted to joining the group on one or all of our activities.

By the time you receive this edition of Centrecourt we will have held our March activity in the delightful Yarra Valley. Our morning commenced with a visit to the Yarra Valley Chocolaterie & Ice Creamery for coffee, this being followed by a picnic-box lunch provided by the Club, held at the Coombe Farm Cellar Door. In the afternoon we experienced a guided tour of Melba's Coombe Cottage Garden created by William Guilfoyle, before sitting down to afternoon tea beneath the home Clock Tower.

Friday 24 April: We were proud to once again present the Club's traditional ANZAC Remembrance Parade and Commemorative Lunch, to provide members the opportunity to remember and honour Australia's Servicemen and Women of all wars and conflicts. This year was special in that it was the Centenary of our ANZAC Troop's landing on Gallipoli in WWI. Our guests speaker on this occasion was Club member, Wing Commander Peter Isaacson AM DFC AFC DRM, a Pathfinder with Bomber Command during WWII.

Friday 29 May: We have arranged a morning guided tour of the superb Geelong Art Gallery, before travelling on to Wairn Ponds to lunch at

Mt Duneed Estate's excellent restaurant. Art lovers should enjoy this opportunity.

Friday 26 June: For those with an interest in fine silverware, we will be visiting Rutherford's Collins Street shop to view and receive a lecture on quality silver. To follow this educational experience, nothing could be

nicer than to dine at the delightful Alexandra Club.

Please remember our group encourages new members, your guests and in particular, single participation.

We look forward to greeting you at one or all of the above activities.

Melba's Coombe Cottage Garden



ANZAC Remembrance Parade & Commemorative Lunch



John Carre-Riddell and Kester Felton



Jonathan Breadmore, Neill Decker & Richard Neville-Smith

Christmas Party

Thursday 4 December 2014



Young Members

'Tennis & Tonic' Social Tennis Evening Thursday 7 May

Young Members of all standards are invited to an evening of casual doubles tennis, drinks and socialising.

Tennis; 6:30pm, for a 6:45 pm start
- tennis attire required

Cost: \$20-00 per person, dinner included - drinks cash bar

Convenors:

Catherine Martyn 0423 023 005
Kate Clements 0408 107 710

Mothers Day

Sunday 10 May

Breakfast - 7:30am-10:45am

Fresh fruits, assorted pastries, Bircher muesli, cereals, brioche, smoked salmon and local cheeses. Assorted juices & espresso coffees. Choice of 2 cooked breakfast items from the kitchen.

Adults \$32-00

Children \$15-00 (5-12 yrs)

Brunch - 11:00am-3:00pm

Fresh fruits, assorted pastries, Bircher muesli, cereals, brioche, smoked salmon, local cheeses, assorted fresh salad & local charcuterie. Assorted juices & espresso coffees. Choice of 2 cooked mains from the kitchen.

Adults \$32-00

Children \$15-00 (5-12 yrs)

Lunch - from 12:00pm-3:00pm

Three course limited choice menu, selected wines, beers and soft drinks included.

Adults \$70-00

(inclusive of a gift for all Mothers)

Children \$30-00 (5-12 yrs)

Entertainment - Live Music

Dinner - from 6:00pm-9:00pm

Three course limited choice menu, selected wines, beers and soft drinks included.

Adults \$70-00

(inclusive of a gift for all Mothers)

Children \$30-00 (5-12 yrs)

Bookings essential 9829 1556

(Bookings inclusive of a gift for all Mothers)

Regional Winemakers Lunch

Friday 22 May

Featuring Mornington Peninsula Wineries End of Harvest Lunch - Foxeys Hangout, Portsea Estate, Phaedrus Estate & Quealy Wines.

Our guests will be:

Tim Elphick: Portsea Estate

Kathleen Quealy: Quealy Winemakers

Michael Lee: Foxeys Hangout

Ewan Campbell: Phaedrus Estate

An expression of the Mornington Peninsula and its sub-climates.

Discover and taste some great wines and meet the people behind their success.

All wines are paired with a regional inspired menu created by our Executive Chef, Peter Villinger.

Time: 12:15pm sharp - 2.30pm

Cost: \$80.00 members, \$85.00 guests

Guests: 3 per member

Convenor:

Adrian Bell 0418 322 009

Enquiries:

Events Manager, 9829 1516 or
eventsmanager@rsyltc.org.au

A Regional Wine Tasting of the Mornington Peninsula Wineries end of harvest will be held in The Racquet Lounge of the Clubhouse on

Thursday 21 May 5:00pm - 7:00pm

&

Friday 22 May 5:00pm - 7:00pm

ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!

Save the Date!

Father & Daughter Dinner

Friday 14 August

RSY Sports Dinner

Saturday 29 August

Save the Date

MAY

Saturday 2

Tennis Victoria Pennant commences

Monday 4

Squash Championships commences

Tuesday 5

Duplicate Bridge Afternoon - Guest Day

Welcome to New Members

Wednesday 6

Duplicate Bridge & Dinner Evening

Thursday 7

Young Members Tennis & Tonic

Sunday 10

Mother's Day Breakfast,

Lunch & Dinner

Tuesday 12

Duplicate Bridge Afternoon

Friday 22

Winemakers Lunch

Saturday 23

Year 8 Disco

Sunday 24

Junior Round Robin Tournament

Tuesday 26

Duplicate Bridge Afternoon - Trophy

Competition

Friday 29

The Verdant Group

Saturday 30

Squash Championship Finals

Pennant Tennis & Squash Get-Together

JUNE

Tuesday 2

Tuesday Tennis Group Badge Day

Tuesday 9

Duplicate Bridge Afternoon - Guest Day

Friday 12

Young Members Drinks Night

Tuesday 23

Duplicate Bridge Afternoon - Trophy

Competition

Friday 26

The Verdant Group



Club Championship Junior Players