

CENTRECOURT



CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Tennis Club Championships had a record 360 players competing in 44 events.

ANZAC REMEMBRANCE PARADE & COMMEMORATIVE LUNCH

This was the 71st presentation of this traditional day.



AUTUMN/WINTER 2019



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2019 Australia Day Honours

The Club congratulates members who have been recognised for their contribution to our community:

Mrs Judy A Dalton AM who was recognised for her significant service to tennis as a player, to equality for women in sport and to sporting foundations.

Mr Anthony J Howard AM QC who was recognised for his significant service to the law, to the judiciary, to professional standards, and to the community of Victoria.

Mr David G Inglis AM who was recognised for his significant service to the international community through humanitarian medical programs.

Prof Kathryn N North AM AC who was recognised for her eminent service to genomic medicine nationally and internationally, to medical research in the fields of genetics, neurology and child health and as a mentor and role model.

Front Cover

Aaron Leeder-Chard winner of the Men's Open Singles Championships

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President's Report

We are now entering the cooler months of the year with the warmth of summer well and truly gone.

Grounds Enhancement Program (GEP)

After hosting several Membership Information meetings in December 2018 and February 2019, we are progressing well, as we finalise our plans for the GEP. A copy of the presentation made to members along with the concept plans and professional images (impressions are based on the concept designs) have been on display in the clubhouse since early February.

The feedback has been overwhelming supportive and we thank members for taking the time to provide feedback and encourage you to ask any questions or to seek clarification on any issues or concerns you may have. It is likely the program will be finalised mid-year and staged (to maintain access around the site and most importantly the courts) with a commencement date towards the latter of 2019.

Tennis

The 2019 Club Championships were most enjoyable with the Open Men's and Women's Singles titles won by Aaron Leeder-Chard and Louise Field respectively.

The Tennis Victoria pennant season commenced in April, which should be a promising season in both the men's and women's competitions with twenty-one pennant teams competing. Our junior members continue to enjoy competition tennis in the Bayside Regional Tennis Association. Thirteen teams competed in the autumn competition.

Club Circuit Squash continues to be strong at the Club with three teams representing Royal South Yarra.

Membership subscriptions

The 2019/2020 membership subscriptions were forwarded to members during the month of June for the new financial year, of 1 July. The General Committee have approved a small \$50 increase to the full Playing Membership subscription. Other categories have a smaller increase proportionate to the applicable fee. There has been no change to the House Allowance which will remain at \$150 or \$75, dependent on age. As a reminder with the end-of-financial year coming up, now is the ideal time to consider donating to the RSY Foundation (a 100% tax deduction is applicable).

Courts

The grass courts have continued to hold up well after the heavy use over summer and remained open for Members use until early June.



The porous courts now have individual lighting and in the interests of being environmentally responsible citizens and reducing our electricity consumption we request that members turn on and off the court lighting. Over the past few months we have added additional pathway lighting and spot lights at the Pavilion to assist with entry from Verdant Avenue in the early morning and evening.

ANZAC Day

I had the pleasure of attending Royal South Yarra's ANZAC Day Lunch and it was an honour to meet members who have been gallant in serving our country. The Como Room was near capacity to listen to guest speaker Michael Bennett present an informative perspective on the life of *Sir John Monash - The Nation Builder*. Michael is the great grandson of General Sir John Monash GCMG, KCB, VD.

Very Special Kids

The Club hosted the Very Special Kids Charity Luncheon. Very Special Kids is one of the Club's selected charities under our Club Charity Policy and together, with our support of the day, over \$50,000 was raised at this luncheon.

Australia Day Awards

Special congratulations to the four members who received Australia Day Honours, Mrs Judy Dalton AM, Mr Anthony Howard AM QC, Mr David G Inglis AM and Prof. Kathryn N North AM AC. The awards were well deserved and recognise the outstanding contribution these members have made to Australian society.

Clubhouse Works

Recently the ceiling in the Courtyard Bistro was replaced with acoustic high-quality wood panels. New furniture has been installed in the Presidents Bar and Lounge areas. The Club as we know, has world class facilities and I would encourage members to visit the Club, gather with friends and experience our wonderful food and beverage offerings.

Tony Joubert
President

President's v Captain's Tennis Challenge

The President, Tony Joubert and Club Captain, Richard Ralph led their respective teams into battle at the annual President's v Captain's Tennis Challenge on Sunday 17 March.

The weather was beautiful with sunshine all around, making the courtside Pimms, scones with jam & cream the ideal court-side food and beverage.

Both teams fielded twenty-two players on the grass courts. Following the challenge, players headed up to the Members' Balcony to enjoy beverages and canapes whilst the results were being tallied. The President's team were victorious, 222 game to 214 games. After three defeats in as many years, the President's team won an extremely close battle throughout the day.

The Stergiopoulos sisters (Alexis and Chelsea) were named the President's "Players of the Day" and Sophie Richards was named the Captain's "Player of the Day".

Congratulations to the President and his team on a great victory.



Tony Joubert and Richard Ralph

Pennant Pre-Season Breakfast & Warm-Up



On Saturday 13 April, the club hosted its annual pennant pre-season breakfast and warm-up.

A Captain's meeting was held prior to a delicious breakfast in the Como Room. This morning provides all pennant players with a fantastic opportunity to mingle with new team members and finalise their planning for the upcoming Tennis Victoria winter pennant season.

Our guest speakers were Club members and former ATP players Aaron Leeder-Chard and Oliver Casey. Aaron is the reigning RSY Open Singles Club Champion (back-to-back). Oliver has won the RSY Open Singles and Open Doubles Club Championships, and the Casey family are the only club family to have won the Open Singles title over three generations.

Our President, Tony Joubert held a Q&A with Aaron and Oliver and their responses were extremely insightful which will no doubt assist our pennant players during the season. The audience questions, were a real feature.

Players then took the opportunity to play doubles in their new teams.

Captain's Report

As we approach the end of our grass court season it seems an appropriate time to reflect on the huge improvement in the surface quality.

The work undertaken by our Head Curator, Anthony Lewis and his team has been something to behold; the weeding, scarifying, re-laying, mowing and rolling has all contributed to the excellent conditions of the courts. I think we can all say that it has been the best grass court season in many years.

Over the past six months the Club has been busy with sporting events including Presidents Day, the RSY Foundation Croquet Tournament (fun for all ages), Adult and Child Tennis Day, the annual tennis challenge against Royal Sydney Golf Club, the Tennis Club Championships (with record entries) and the President vs Captain's Tennis Challenge. These Club events are a great way to be involved, enjoy the Club's courts and hospitality and meet fellow members. The "Happenings" emails outline when all sporting events are scheduled and members are strongly encouraged to read these emails and attend events.

Outside of the Club environs are the many Country Tennis Tournaments that operate throughout summer and autumn. The annual Warrnambool Labour Day Tournament is a great example of a country tournament.



RSY members constitute the second highest contingent of players (only bettered by the host club). This year, whilst we didn't win as many events as in the past, I can honestly say we have no peers in the post match revelry. Other tournaments frequented by members include; Shepparton, Yarrawonga and Kerang (all held over Easter). These tournaments are very family orientated and combine physical activity along with a few drinks post-match.

The winter pennant season commenced on the 27 April with thirteen men's teams and eight women's teams entered in this competition. Once again, we are looking for some strong results and hopefully can replicate, if not surpass, our two flags from last year.

Richard Ralph
Club Captain

Bayside Regional Tennis Association

The Club entered six teams in the 2018/19 Bayside Regional Tennis Association summer competition.



Zoe Browning, Fiona Ralph, Vicky Lynagh, Peta Kowalski, Virginia Wallace, Wes Neylon, Yuri Mijic, Tom Neylon and Enzo Aguiard

In the men's competition, one team was in Section 1 and two teams in Section 7. In the women's competition, one team was in Section 1 and two teams in Section 3.

The Men's Section 1 team and Women's Section 3(1) team were successful in winning a premiership.

Congratulations to the Men's Singles/Doubles Section 1 team which consisted of Enzo Aguiard, Simon Goldberg, Anthony Karlovic, Paul Leffler, Yuri Mijic (Capt.), Tom Neylon and Wesley Neylon defeated Dendy Park Tennis Club, 4-0.

The Women's Singles/Doubles Section 3 team of Fiona Ralph, Susie Salmon, Virginia Wallace (Capt.) Vicky Lynagh, Stephanie Kortum, Peta Kowalski and Zoe Browning won a premiership flag defeating Beaumaris Lawn Tennis Club, 6 sets to 3. This team also won the S.D.T.A. Jack Butterworth Memorial Trophy, for being the most successful singles/doubles team (win/loss with %) in the Bayside Regional Tennis Association. We congratulate these players on an outstanding season and achievement.

TENNIS CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Tennis Club Championships encompassed an astounding 360 players (seniors & juniors) playing across 44 events with 498 total matches played. It commenced on Thursday 7 February and concluded with finals on Sunday 17 February.

The weather was exceptionally good, apart from 7mm of rain on the first Saturday. The daily happy hour specials of egg and bacon rolls for breakfast, a complimentary players BBQ, a grab and go fridge, street food options, take away 'boxed food' were received well.

Chair Umpires were present during the Open Singles, Doubles, Mixed Doubles and the U/18 Boys & Girls singles finals respectively. During the championships, record crowds assembled on the Members Balcony and the "Grass Hill" to watch these elite players in the Club's flagship events.

It was dazzling tennis on grass court one in the Men's and Ladies' Open Singles finals. In the Men's Open Singles, Aaron Leeder-Chard won back-to-back titles defeating Oliver Casey in a high-class match. Louise Field once again had an amazing tournament winning the Ladies' Open Singles title for the fourth time, defeating Pearl Jansz. The Ladies' Open Doubles final was won by Pearl Jansz and Tayla Stenta, defeating Louise Field and Loretta Sheales.

Stuart Janiszewski and Rachel McRae won the Open Mixed Doubles final, which was the match of the tournament, against Alexandros Yiappos and Tayla Stenta.

Enzo Aguiard and Yuri Mijic won the Men's Open Doubles title (for the first time as a pair) defeating Ryan McLean and Alexandros Yiappos, in a very entertaining match.

Erica Layton won her second successive U/18 Girls Singles title defeating Chelsea Stergiopoulos and Enzo Aguiard won the U/18 Boys Singles title with Alex Kevill finishing runner-up.

The President, Tony Joubert, Club Captain, Richard Ralph and the Junior Tennis Committee Chair, Fiona Ralph, plus distinguished guests presented the trophies and prizes to the winners and runners-up before canapes and beverages were served to the gathering in the Como Room.



Club Championship photographs can be found at
<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.2071627896284467&type=1&l=75bb96c6f3>

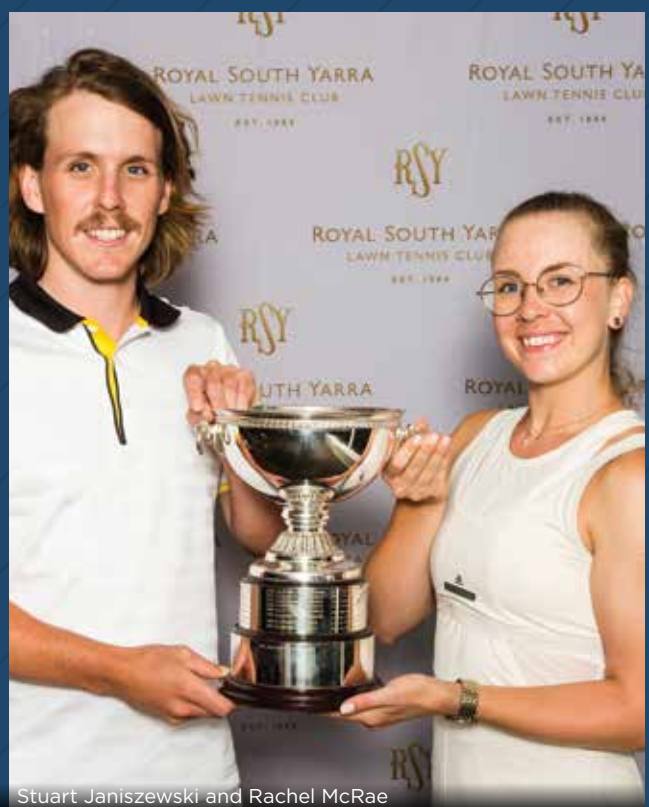
SENIOR TROPHY PRESENTATIONS



Aaron Leeder-Chard and Louise Field



Pearl Jansz and Tayla Stenta



Stuart Janiszewski and Rachel McRae



Claudia Albert



Anthony McDonald and Sylvie Hutchins



Dean Park and Sophie Richards



Yuri Mijic and Enzo Aguiard



Robin Forster and Richard Robson



Callum Champion de Crespigny



Skye Burney and Serena Gleeson



Peter Handbury and Andrew Thompson

Junior Trophy Presentations



Chloe Cooper and Harry Cooper



Peter Tabain



Mietta Passon and Skye Park



Axy Park and Indi Officer



Will Sladen and Jonathan Ingham



Stella Kephala



Kalan Lai and Eagan Lai



Sebastian Liddle



Sophie Davies



Harry Seccull and Jack Keating



Chelsea Stergiopoulos and Alexis Stergiopoulos

Club Championships around the Club...



2019 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS RESULTS

SENIORS

Men's Open Singles

Aaron Leeder-Chard d Oliver Casey
6-3 6-1

Ladies' Open Singles

Louise Field d Pearl Jansz 6-4 6-2

Men's Open Doubles

Enzo Aguiard & Yuri Mijic d
Ryan McLean & Alexandros Yiappos
6-4 3-6 6-0

Ladies' Open Doubles

Pearl Jansz & Tayla Stenta d
Louise Field & Loretta Sheales 6-4 6-4

Open Mixed Doubles

Stuart Janiszewski & Rachel McRae
d Alexandros Yiappos & Tayla Stenta
4-6 7-5 6-3

Men's B Grade Singles

Callum Champion de Crespigny d
Thomas Richardson 6-2 6-1

Ladies' B Grade Singles

Genevieve Bush d Cathy Moore 6-4
6-4

Men's B Grade Doubles

Robin Forster & Richard Robson d
Lachlan Beer & Lachlan Cameron
6-0 7-5

Ladies' B Grade Doubles

Sylvie Hutchins & Fiona Jones d
Claudia Albert & Sue Albert 6-3 6-2

B Grade Mixed Doubles

Anthony McDonald & Sylvie Hutchins
d David Bone & Sue Albert - Retired

Men's C Grade Singles

Edward Finn d David Hepworth 8-5

Ladies' C Grade Singles *

Winner: Claudia Albert
Runner-up: Elissa Lidstone

Men's C Grade Doubles

Peter Handbury & Andrew
Thompson d David Liddle &
Sebastian Liddle 5-7 7-6 10-8

Ladies' C Grade Doubles

Skye Burney & Serena Gleeson d
Annabel McFarlane &
Isobel McFarlane 8-6

C Grade Mixed Doubles

Dean Park & Sophie Richards d
Fiona Ralph & Toby Ralph 9-7

Men's Social Singles

Ross Burney d Marco Nazzaro 8-2

Ladies' Social Singles*

Winner: Francesca Johnston
Runner-up: Vanessa Johnston

Men's Social Doubles

James Hay & Jock Holland d
Alistair Francis & Lachlan Francis 8-2

Ladies' Social Doubles*

Winners: Kate Longbottom &
Kirsten Mailer
Runners-up: Arabella Georges &
Caroline McNally

Social Mixed Doubles

Andrew McFarlane & Annabel
McFarlane d Nicholas Evans & Kate
Evans 8-0

Men's Veteran Doubles

Wayne Cowley & Ian Jarman d
Andrew Adams & Wes Albert 6-0
6-2

Ladies' Veteran Doubles*

Winners: Jane Murray &
Vanessa Calvert
Runners-up: Arabella Georges &
Belinda Henry

Men's Senior (Over 45) Doubles

Wayne Cowley & Ian Jarman d
Antony Hearnden & Peter Johnston
- Walkover

Ladies' Senior (Over 45) Doubles*

Winners: Sue Albert & Cathy Moore
Runners-up: Jane Murray &
Penny O'Farrell

Men's 65 & Over Doubles*

Winners: David Dunstan &
David Hepworth
Runners-up: Warwick Forge &
Jock Holland

Boys' Singles

Enzo Aguiard d Alex Kevill 6-4 6-1

Girls' Singles

Erica Layton d Chelsea Stergiopoulos
6-1 6-1

JUNIORS

Boys' 16 & Under Singles

Harry Cooper d Bailey McLean 8-4

Girls' 16 & Under Singles*

Winner: Jemma Mitchell
Runner-up: Alexis Stergiopoulos

Boys' 16 & Under Doubles*

Winners: William Beaton &
Bailey McLean
Runners-up: Eagan Lai & Toby Ralph

Girls' 16 & Under Doubles*

Winners: Alexis Stergiopoulos &
Chelsea Stergiopoulos
Runners-up: Jemma Mitchell &
Abby Ralph

Mixed 16 & Under Doubles*

Winners: Harry Cooper &
Chloe Cooper
Runners-up: Lachlan Mailer &
Eliza Mailer

Boys' 14 & Under Singles

Eagan Lai d Lachlan Mailer 8-2

Girls' 14 & Under Singles

Chelsea Stergiopoulos d
Grace Keating 8-1

Boys' 14 & Under Doubles*

Winners: Jack Keating &
Harry Seccull
Runners-up: Louis Cox &
Lachlan Francis

Girls' 14 & Under Doubles*

Winners: Skye Park & Mietta Passon
Runners-up: Grace Keating &
Phoebe Ollerenshaw

Mixed 14 & Under*

Winners: Jack Keating &
Grace Keating
Runners-up: Jack Cannon &
Skye Park

Boys' 12 & Under Singles

Sebastian Liddle d Thomas Wenzel
8-5

Girls' 12 & Under Singles

Sophie Davies d Katharine Soutter
8-5

Boys' 12 & Under Doubles

Eagan Lai & Kalan Lai d Oliver
McLean & Sascha Tausan 8-3

Girls' 12 & Under Doubles *

Winners: Indi Officer & Axy Park
Runners-up: Anna Eggleston &
Katharine Soutter

Boys' 10 & Under Singles

Peter Tabain d Boston Moran 6-2

Girls' 10 & Under Singles

Stella Kephala d Isabella Soutter 6-0

Boys' 10 & Under Doubles*

Winners: Jonathan Ingham &
William Sladen
Runners-up: Toby Bonnici &
Thomas Davies

*Round Robin Event

Eastern Districts Women's Tennis Association

The Eastern Districts Women's Tennis Association new format of combining two seasons in one calendar year continues to be well received by all clubs.

The EDWTA committee have also continued with the *Emergency Pool Players and Spare Player Rule* allowing teams who may have otherwise had to forfeit a match (due to lack of players) to compete.

In December Royal South Yarra hosted the end of year EDWTA Christmas Lunch for the second time, when the ladies spent a fun afternoon entertained by Ant & Nelson. We would like to thank the hospitality staff for making this lunch such an enjoyable day.

The Club submitted eight teams in the 2018 Season 2 competition, with three teams in Section 3, RSY5 captained by Sallyanne Sawers and RSY6 jointly captained by Wendy Potter and Sue Hill reaching the semi-finals.

In Section 3, the RSY4 team of Sally Lobley (Captain), Carolyn Martyn, Tracey Kelly, Jessica Davey, Bryony Simpson, Caroline Blackshaw and Sarah Robinson were victorious in a closely battled match against RSY5, who were captained by Sallyanne Sawers and included Sally Bell, Jutta Gattereder, Ro Scarborough, Ann Hyams and Katrina Calder.

In Section 4, the RSY7 team captained by Kirsten Mailer with team players Emma Pierson, Emma Baxter, Anthea Francis, Petrina Lie, Kate Longbottom and Kate Richards snatched victory and won the premiership defeating Vermont Tennis Club (45-30).

Well done ladies on another competitive and fun season.

Libby Hicks
Convenor



Emma Pierson, Kirsten Mailer, Kate Longbottom and Anthea Francis



Tracey Kelly, Sarah Robinson, Carolyn Martyn, Sally Lobley, Bryony Simpson and Jessica Davey

Blackburn & District Night Tennis Association

The 2018 Spring competition of the **Blackburn & District Night Tennis Association** had seven of twelve RSY teams reach the finals, resulting in two teams winning their respective grand final.

The Tuesday **Men's Section 1 'Yarras'** team of Yuri Mijic, Stuart Janiszewski, James Freeman, Ruben Digby-Diercks, Andrew Buchanan, Adam Freeman, Adam McFarlane and Alexandros Yiappos won their grand final defeating Heatherdale Tennis Club.

The Tuesday **Ladies Section 14 'Royals'** team of Lucinda Langdon, Serena Gleeson, Kate Evans and Emma Preston won their grand final defeating the Box Hill Tennis Club in a thrilling victory 27-25 games.

The Monday **Mixed Section 4 'Stars'** team finished runners-up to East Camberwell Tennis Club. The team consisted of Michael Felton, Arabella Georges (Captain), Michael Kirwan, Julie Kluckow, Stephen Lofts, Stuart Martyn and Ada Taylor.



Yuri Mijic, Stuart Janiszewski, James Freeman and Ruben Digby-Diercks



Lucinda Langdon, Kate Evans, Serena Gleeson and Emma Preston

Warrnambool Lawn Open

Even the rain did not dampen the spirits of the large contingent of Club members who headed west to the Warrnambool Lawn Open.

With several rain delays, the tournament organisers of this eight hundred-player event managed to keep the tournament on track.

The RSY team participate by playing tennis during the day and congregating at the team dinners held on Friday and Saturday evenings to join in the camaraderie and savour the delicious Gyros rotisserie skilfully cooked by Lachlan Beer.

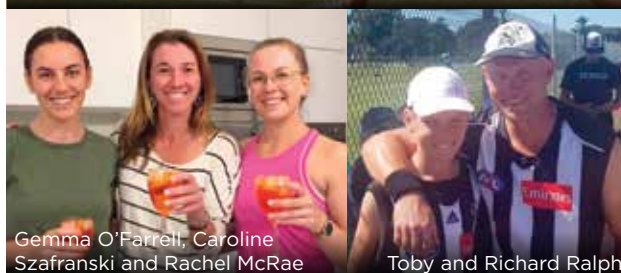
With all the matches played, the highlight for RSY was definitely the junior contingent. Results included:

- Toby Ralph won the Boys 12 & Under Singles
- Sam McLean runner-Up in the Boys 14 & Under Singles
- Rachel McRae and Gemma O'Farrell winning the Ladies A Grade Doubles
- Stuart Janiszewski and Ryan McLean runners-up in the Men's A Grade Doubles

Anyone interested in joining this unofficial team in 2020 should contact Jarrad Wright for more information, but note accommodation must be booked early.



Gemma O'Farrell and Rachel McRae



Gemma O'Farrell, Caroline Szafranski and Rachel McRae



Toby and Richard Ralph

Ryan McLean, James Bull, Di Hepworth, Lachlan Beer, David Hepworth, Stuart McRae and James Freeman

RSY v KLTC Social Tennis Challenge

On Sunday 5 May Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club hosted the annual RSY v KLTC Social Tennis Challenge.

RSY lost the challenge in 2018 and were eager to win back the *Koots Cup*. Both teams had a nice mix of experience and youth, playing both men's and women's doubles and mixed doubles. Although the conditions were very pleasant, perhaps somewhat tactically, Kooyong's grass courts were deemed unplayable with the challenge therefore taking place on the porous courts. The RSY team, which was 24 players strong, were unfortunately defeated, 88 games to 138 games and the *Koots Cup* was accepted by Kooyong's team captain, Jenny Silvers.

All had a fantastic time on and off the court and the canapés and beverages following the tennis were certainly well-earned.

We look forward to the 2020 challenge at Royal South Yarra, and winning back the cup.



Francesca Johnston, Meribel Lennon, Eliza Lennon and Eliza Honan

JUNIOR REPORT

Junior Open Day

The Junior Open Day was held on the grass courts on Sunday 3 March. Despite the very hot temperature (36 degrees) and searing sun, players remained enthusiastic and participated in a round-robin tournament and tennis activities including; beat-the-coach, a round-the-world and baseball tennis. It was great to see seventeen of our younger players (aged 5-11) taking part in the Hot Shots Clinic. The day concluded with presentations and a delicious barbecue on the Western Terrace.

The major award of the day is the Stan Churchus Award. *This is presented to a 16/U member who exhibits qualities such as sportsmanship, tennis etiquette and generally reflects the Club's values whilst participating consistently in Club events and competitions.* The son of Stan Churchus, David, presented the award to James Ollerenshaw, a very deserving recipient.

The sportsmanship awards were given to the following players: Sascha Tausan, Will Baillieu, Lucy Ollerenshaw, Jono Ingham and James Mantello. The court winners were: Toby Ralph, Henry Campbell, Phoebe Ollerenshaw and Stella Kephala (joint winners), Rory Lawson and Genevieve Campbell. The very excited winner of the 'Guess the number of lollies in the jar' was Will Castine and the quiz winners were Sebastian Elliot, James Ollerenshaw and Miles Forster.

Lucy Ollerenshaw won the Head Tennis Racquet which was kindly donated by our head coaches, Andrew McLean and Conrad Lim from SMARTennis.

It was wonderful to see so much talent on display and great examples of sportsmanship all around the courts.



James Ollerenshaw

Lucy Ollerenshaw and Andrew McLean

Will Castine

Junior Awards Day

The RSY inaugural Junior Awards Day was conducted on Sunday 19 May. This is a day where junior members celebrate the best and most improved player performances from the **2018 autumn and spring season of BRTA junior competition** – together with tennis and table tennis round-robin activities.

The day commenced with a junior round-robin tennis and table tennis tournament. It was a perfect autumn day for grass-court tennis. Table tennis was played in the Como Room. Players displayed exceptional skill, sportsmanship and integrity and all had a terrific time in their various groups before swapping tennis for table tennis and vice versa. Prizes were given for each male and female winner from each group, in each activity.

Following the tennis and table tennis activities, players ventured to the clubhouse for the presentation of awards, (and not to mention, Slurpees!), followed by gourmet canapes. The winners were:

Tennis Tournament:

Anna Eggleston
Eagan Lai
Isabella Soutter
Henry Aberdeen

Table Tennis Tournament:

Indi Officer
Sascha Tausan
Isabella Soutter
Niko Tausan

The criteria for the **Best Player** and **Most Improved Player** awards were:

Best Player - the player(s) who has the highest average ranking across two consecutive BRTA seasons, playing a minimum of eight matches in each season.

Most Improved Player - the player(s) who has the highest improved player ranking from one season to the next, playing a minimum of eight matches in each season.

The proud and very deserving recipients for 2018 were, Sophie Davies who won the Best Player award and Luca Webb who won the Most Improved Player award.



Lachlan Stott and Isabella Soutter



Katharine Soutter, Skye Park and Sophie Davies

Year 8 Disco

The Yr 8 disco was held on Saturday 18 May. This is a fantastic evening for our Yr 8 junior members to invite friends to join them at a disco evening.

This is a highlight in the junior event calendar, and it did not disappoint. A record attendance of 180 juniors joined in this “white” themed evening. They were greeted with a “white” mocktail upon arrival and the room looked amazing with over 200 white helium balloons, massive beach balls filled with feathers, an extensive lolly bar and a wonderful DJ.

The Yr 8s had a ball and the night was a huge success. Watch out for this event in 2020!



Lucy Green, Saskia Clifford, Mia Mackenzie, Sadie Preston and Tilly Hunt



Will MacNamara, Jackson Jamieson and Campbell Findlay

SMARTennis

Slice Backhand

Here are some really simple tips to help improve and utilise one of the most underused strokes in modern tennis. That stroke is of course the Slice Backhand.

Continental Grip or Eastern Forehand Grip?

Firstly, you need to know the best grip to use. I believe that most club players use a grip which is too far past the **continental grip** towards the **single-handed backhand grip**. The wiser move would be to use a slight **eastern forehand grip** for the slice backhand. This grip allows you to easily create the flattened **u-shape swing path** and catch the ball later and still being able to produce a **correct swing path** and better-quality stroke. Many a time (at Club level) the slice is used when rushed for time or the ball is very low and short. The **eastern forehand grip** makes execution of the slice backhand easier, as the leading edge of the racquet is in a naturally good position, to not only connect with the ball correctly but also follow through (increasing the chances of producing an effective shot).

As I recommend holding a **forehand grip** for return of serve, this helps hit a slice return if rushed returning serve or dragged out very wide, doing the same.

If the grip is correct, the stroke itself is not too complicated, making it very safe and repeatable if practiced enough. Turn your shoulders side on to the coming ball.

Take your racquet head-up high and level with your *non-playing hand shoulder* and the wrist cupped upwards. Try to contact the ball in line with your *non-racquet arm shoulder*, as all slice backhands should be one-handed (unless in the category of a small minority of players).



Contact the ball with the *full-face* of the racquet with tension on the lower edge of the racquet which will lead the stroke immediately after contact. The racquet slides downward with the bottom edge, still under tension and fully controlled, leading the swing and sliding under the ball then trying to climb up the far side of the ball as it leaves the racquet face. The follow through finishes higher than the contact point at approximately shoulder height. From side on this looks like a flattened U.

My last tip is to not try and create too much power from this stroke. Remember that you are using it when rushed or trying to control the pace of play in nearly every circumstance. If you had the time to load up and “knife it” like in days gone by, before modern backhands, then you definitely should be hitting topspin instead of the slice option.

The video on YouTube can be found at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PD_rZ2Vd9ZA will help clarify any questions you might have or please feel free to organise a lesson with a SMARTennis coach.

Good luck for the Tennis Victoria Pennant season and practice good habits!

Enjoy your tennis.

Andrew McLean

Tuesday Tennis Group

The Tuesday Tennis Group gives members the opportunity to meet and play with fellow members. Players can opt for 1, 2 or 3 sets during the morning and then gather at the clubhouse for coffee or lunch.

Six Badge Days are conducted throughout the year. Badge Days are a mini round-robin with the respective winners playing off in December for the *Joy Fair - Ladies Day Perpetual Trophy*.

Congratulations to winners and runners-up for the months of March and April:

MARCH:

Silver Section

Winner: Bibi Wilkinson
Runner-up: Bryony Simpson

Bronze Section

Winner: Nonee Steer
Runner-up: Susan Mackay

APRIL:

Silver Section

Winner: Carolyn Martyn
Runner-up: Sallyanne Sawers

We always look forward to welcoming new members so do come along and join us.

Liz Jeffrey & Diana Dougall
Convenors

Squash

The Royal South Yarra squash program has gone from strength to strength since the recruitment of players that allowed the addition of Club Circuit A1 and A2 teams.

Both teams were very competitive throughout the spring 2018 season and their form continued during the first half of this year. The B3 team narrowly missed finals in the spring Club Circuit but are buoyed by strength of numbers. A recent update by Squash Victoria has allowed a more streamlined approach to the organisation of Clubs.

The Club is pleased to advise the annual Squash Club Championships commenced on Monday 27 May and the finals will be held on 22 June 2019. The competition includes a Men's & Women's Open Event, a Handicap Event and a Junior Round-Robin Event.

David McRae
Convenor

Billiards & Snooker Club Championships



Tom Cameron and Warwick Loton

After a very successful year in the Billiards and Snooker Section (VBSA), winning the City Clubs Circuit competition, the 2018 Club Championships was completed in December. With increased participation over the last two years, we have enjoyed a heightened interest in the game of Billiards.

The championships have three components - the **Snooker Handicap Event**, which was won by Alastair Alexander, runner-up Warwick Loton. The **Billiards Handicap Event**, won by James Nankivell, runner-up Richard Walpole. The main event is an Honour Board event, the **Open Snooker Event**. Warwick Loton has contested this event for the last four years and unfortunately once again, he finished runner-up. He is a very dedicated player to the game, and will no doubt have success in the future. Tom Cameron won the **Open Snooker Event** for the 5th time, becoming the most decorated player on the Open Snooker Championships Honour Board and the Eric Wells Memorial Trophy.

Congratulations to all winners and runners-up and to all who participated in the club championships, helping cap off a very successful year.

Finally, we would like to thank Jonathan Harris who stepped down as convenor of Billiards & Snooker late last year, and sincerely thank him for all his hard work and commitment to this Club activity over the last nineteen years.

Shane Burke
Convenor



Tennis & Tonic

The annual Tennis & Tonic event held on Friday 1 February proved to be another huge success, with great company, beautiful weather and plenty of social tennis. The event, set on at the Pavilion, welcomed guests with a Gin & Tonic, encouraged everyone to have a hit of tennis and finished with dinner under the stars. The Young Members' Committee sees this as one of the most important events of the year as it kicks off the Young Members' social calendar and gives guests a taste of what is to come; fun sociable events for great value.

Trivia Night

Disco Stu and Funky Freo will be back in June to warm up your winter with their unusual twist on the traditional Trivia Night on **Friday 21 June**. The evening will be full of interactive and thought-provoking questions covering a wide range of topics including sport, geography and pop culture.

Members and their guests will be treated to an array of finger food, whilst they rack the brain for every bit of general knowledge they have. ***This is a night not to be missed!***

Welcome to New Members

In March forty-five new members were welcomed to their Club membership and were introduced to members of the General Committee and key management staff.

After a warm welcome given by President Tony Joubert, new members along with their proposers enjoyed drinks and canapés.



Rebecca Gregson, Charlotte Airey, Olympia Scott, Eliza Heathcote and Whitney McLaren



Kirsty Jamson, Jane Mackinnon, Amanda Scrimshaw and Alexandra Fegan



Marcus Triado, Oliver Flower and Georgia Pugh



Marcro Nazzaro, Katherine Reid, Melissa Palombaro and Debora Lawson

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Christmas Party

A Right Royal Affair

Harry's Bar was a feature of the 2018 Christmas Party serving the time-honoured **Bellinis** reminiscent of its namesake in Venice. The seafood bar did not disappoint with its marvellous array of prawns and oysters. The drink stations did a thriving business with one station serving guests a variety of exotic rum drinks and another served a special 'Christmas Gin' cocktail. A variety of finger food and other beverages were served throughout the evening.

In keeping with the winter theme, huge snowflakes adorned the walls of the Members Dining Room and a photo booth provided lots of fun and laughter as guests donned the myriad of props to pose for keepsake photos. Another happy occasion for the RSY family!

Dianne Hepworth
Convenor



Jo Joubert, Di Hepworth, Tony Joubert and Lachlan Beer



Jenny Grimwade and Genevieve Morgan

Longest Lunch

On Friday 5 April, sixty members and guests enjoyed a long lunch at a beautifully set table on the Western Terrace. The lunch was a French theme, guests were treated to a four-course lunch which included delicacies as duck liver parfait, poached salmon and palmiers, served with paired French wines. Guests were also invited to 'stretch their legs' and walk to the croquet lawn where broccoli and olive croutons were served with a 2015 Domaine Pelaquie Cote de Rhone and Laudin Rouge. During the lunch a beautiful vocalist entertained guests with her sultry French tunes – a memorable day had by all.



Longest Lunch on the Western Terrace

RMTC vs RSYLTC

Royal Tennis

On Saturday 27 April in an atmosphere of camaraderie, a series of matches was played between the Royal Melbourne Tennis Club and Royal South Yarra.

For those who were novices to the game of 'real' tennis, our hosts took time to explain the fundamentals of the game. After overcoming the challenging serve on the penthouse roof and the complex scoring, Royal South Yarra was gallant in defeat. However, the tables were turned following an afternoon of tennis on the grass courts of RSY where Royal Melbourne Tennis Club members played in excellent spirit but succumbed to RSY. A delicious dinner followed with fabulous liquid refreshments courtesy of club member, Jonathan Harris. A combination of both 'real' tennis & lawn tennis gave RSY the opportunity to win the Gerald Patterson Trophy.



Geof Fethers and Jeremy Nestel

JUDY DALTON – Life Member of Tennis Victoria

In January, our esteemed Honorary Life Member, Judy Dalton was acknowledged at the Tennis Victoria Volunteers' Breakfast as the 20th Life Member of Tennis Victoria, in recognition of her incredible career both on and off the court.

Judy's playing career was thrust into the spotlight when she and eight other top female players joined the 'Virginia Slims tour' in 1971 (the 'Original 9' included: Billie Jean King, Rosie Casals, Nancy Richey, Judy Dalton, Kerry Melville Reid, Julie Heldman, Peaches Bartkowicz, Kristy Pigeon and Valerie Ziegenfuss) who formed their own tour in protest of the inequality of prize money and support, compared to that of their male counterparts. The result was the formation of the Women's Tennis Association (WTA).

Her playing highlights include reaching a career high ranking of No.7 in the world in 1968, the same year she made the Wimbledon singles final.



The Fed Cup was extremely important to her, tasting success in 1965 and 1970. Since retiring, she has continued to be a prominent figure in promoting the game of tennis and serves as President of the Fed Cup Foundation.

Judy was also made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in the 2019 Australia Day Honours for her exceptional contribution to tennis and gender equality.

We congratulate Judy on her great achievements.

BRIDGE

Tuesday Bridge

This year we got off to a flying start and within the first two months we reached twenty-one tables. As a result, we may have fielded the greatest number of players (all RSY members) on any one day, of any private bridge club in Melbourne. The standard of play is high, with many talented new members joining the Tuesday Bridge Group.

We are fortunate to have Sue Kelso as our Director and on occasions her husband Laurie (who is the Co-Head Director of the World Bridge Federation) to join or assist with our bridge group.

On Wednesday 20 March a *Mixed Duplicate Bridge and Dinner* evening was held with eleven tables of players and a delicious two course meal & wine. These evenings are light-hearted and fun, although it doesn't mean we don't take our bridge reasonably serious.

In 2018 we finished the year with our Christmas Bridge Lunch when we announced the winner of the Janette Machin Trophy. The winners were Felicity Batchelor and Sarah Lawford and the runner-up was Mary Church.



March

N/S – Janice Johnston and Heather Lawford
E/W – Merrie Harkness and Anne Breadmore

April

N/S – Hayley Mitchell and Liz Gillies
E/W – Jill Coppel and Jeannette Viney

May

N/S – Sue Head and Pru Court
E/W – Mary Church and Joan Gray

Player of the Month:

February Beverley Wardrop
March Sally Marshall
April Sue Head
May Leslie Decker

Sue Head & Pru Court Convenors

2019 Duplicate Trophy Winners:

February

N/S – Judy Foreman & Ann Gorman
E/W – Sally Marshall & Trish Donges

ANZAC Remembrance Parade & Commemorative Lunch

The 71st presentation of this traditional day in the Club's calendar took place on Wednesday 24 April. It was most gratifying to have so many members and their guests attending at a time that was so close to Easter and school holidays.

This day was instigated in 1948 by returning Club servicemen and women from WW11 to honour men and women who served in the World Wars. Today, we also honour, those who served in Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan and other theatres of combat where our armed forces were engaged.

The well attended parade, under the command of the Parade Commander Lt Colonel Graham Lockwood (a Club member), was held under threatening skies on Grass Court 1 viewed by many on the lawn and balcony.

We were privileged at lunch to be addressed by Michael Bennett, great grandson of General Sir John Monash GCMG, KCB, VD.

Michael's insightful address, entitled *Sir John Monash - Nation Builder* was enthusiastically received by all. He recounted aspects of this great Australian's life and career, including his family upbringing and schooling, academic achievements and his early years of engineering and the responsibility, at a young age, for the construction of many of our finest bridges. He spoke about his well documented outstanding military achievements, his post war work as Chairman of the newly formed State Electricity Commission of Victoria, the construction of the Shrine of Remembrance and his many contributions to the community.



Guest Speaker, Michael Bennett

Royal South Yarra President, Tony Joubert on behalf of the Club proposed a very thoughtful vote of thanks to Michael and presented him with a small memento of his visit.

The Club provided an excellent lunch and we expressed our thanks to staff for their contribution in making the day a great success.

We do hope that in the future years, members with an interest in this day and what it represents, will encourage both their immediate and extended families and friends to attend.

Jonathan Breadmore
Convenor

The Verdant Group

The Verdant Group's first event for the year was on Thursday 11 April when we visited the 'Tudors to Windsors Exhibition' at the Bendigo Art Gallery.

The exhibition, featuring portraits from the National Portrait Gallery London, was enlightening and the group spent over an hour viewing the exhibits prior to enjoying a delightful lunch at the Gallery Café and returned to Melbourne late afternoon.

The Verdant Group provides members with interesting outings and guest speaker lunches and welcomes all members to join the group at any event throughout the year.

Liz Jeffrey
Convenor



Bendigo Art Gallery Café

Sunday Morning Group – Diamond Jubilee Year

We wish to report upon this group's successful **Diamond Jubilee Christmas Luncheon** held in the Norman Brookes Room in December.

Continuously playing for sixty years, the Sunday Morning Group (SMG) was established in 1958 by a number of enthusiastic senior tennis friends. The SMG caters for those wishing to play a keen game of social tennis on Sunday mornings, on a turn-up and play basis. The morning's play is always followed by a gathering in the clubhouse with convivial banter and discussion of the past week in Melbourne.

Up to four grass/porous courts may be used depending on conditions of the day.

Most players enjoy two to four sets of keen doubles which is played in a gentlemanly manner on our beautiful courts. These tennis mornings have continued to give enjoyment throughout the years and provide the necessary exercise.

Each year concludes with our happy mixed Christmas Luncheon, highlighted by a prize-giving (awarded by the group committee), together with some extraordinary performances from the Sunday Morning Group Choir and other gifted entertainers.

This very special Diamond Jubilee Christmas Luncheon was indeed a happy occasion, thoroughly enjoyed by group members and our guests. Many thanks to our charming host David Sweeney.



Michael Wills, Liz Jeffrey and Jane Wills



Julian Simpson, David Sweeney and John Carre-Riddell

The Vintage Lunch

The 19th Vintage Lunch was held on Sunday 31 March on a typical Melbourne autumn day. One hundred members aged 80+ attended this popular day with many members organising tables with friends. This brings together different groups of members who only meet up at this lunch. Members were treated to a delicious lunch prepared by our Head Chef, Jake Ward and his team and the dessert, *Eton Mess* was a big hit!

The President, Tony Joubert and CEO, Stewart Fenton were in attendance and Tony presented a summation of the activities and future plans for the Club.

All those who attend this lunch are special members, but a few are noted for special acknowledgment. Among them are Kathleen Regos and James Keipert who are our most senior members, together with our longest-standing members; John Carre-Riddell and Graham Duncan who have been members for over seventy-seven years (during which time they have forged many long-lasting friendships).

Indeed, several members recounted happy recollections of friendships and the richness it added to their social life at the Club. Other guests at the lunch included two Past Presidents; Graeme Fair & Graeme Mollison, plus Honorary Life members Joy Fair & Graham Duncan.

We were fortunate to have several siblings present; Judy Matear, Joan Gray & Barbara Mayes, Kaye Joubert & Richard Neville-Smith, Deirdre Gowan & John Leviny, Mardi Sloan & Gordon Newton, Julia Wilson & Button Howitt, Susanna Allen & Jenny Blencowe, and Jeannette Viney & Ann Fotheringham. This reinforces our family club spirit which is so important and makes Royal South Yarra such a unique Club.

On behalf of those in attendance, Graham Duncan kindly thanked the organisers for another happy day. We also look forward to seeing everyone at the Club during the year and at the next Vintage Lunch in 2020.

Susie Strangward
Convenor



Angus Mackay and James Keipert



Kaye Joubert and Barbara King



Jenny Brash, Anne Williams and Sue Macdougall

Royal South Yarra Lawn Tennis Club Foundation

Foundation Trustees

Derek Skues (Chairman)
Tony Joubert (Club President)
Janie Bell
Phillip Gray
Ian Jarman
Cathy Moore

Activities

The Royal South Yarra Lawn Tennis Club Foundation's mission is to assist in achieving the Club's vision for the future. The current Grounds Enhancement Program is the first of several steps, which will provide immediate benefits in terms of improved, safe and convenient pedestrian access to the Pavilion. Also, a relocated and improved maintenance shed, an additional tennis court, significantly increased shaded spectator seating, security of our site boundary and improved hard and soft landscaping.

Leading up to our 150th Anniversary in 2034, the Club is aiming to rebuild or redevelop our Clubhouse to address the issues identified in the 2016 Master Plan Progress Report.

The Foundation is assisting in the funding of these projects, which now has a corpus of over \$500,000; however, there is still a long way to go in obtaining the required funds. Consequently, we are seeking support from those who have enjoyed the lifelong benefits of the Club to consider providing a bequest in their Will as a legacy to the Club and more recent members to provide a donation to the Foundation.

Recently, we have received two additional major donations from prominent members.

I thank those who continue to support the Foundation in our endeavour to achieve the Club's vision of providing its members with the highest quality and most rewarding tennis and associated sporting and social experience of any private club in Australia.

Major Bequests

- Harvey R Holdenson
- Bruce S Dyson
- R Valerie Edwards

Major Donors (\$10,000 or more)

- Gordon L Newton OAM
- E Mardi Sloan
- Graham A Menzies
- Neil M Thomas
- Anonymous 2

Derek Skues
Chairman

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday 24 August

Yarrayong Ball

(at Kooyong Lawn
Tennis Club)

Saturday 31 August

RSY Sports Dinner

(Tennis, Squash, Table Tennis
and Billiards)

Friday 25 October

Winemakers Lunch

Friday 8 November

President's Day

Thursday 21 November

**Annual General
Meeting**

MEMBERSHIP DATABASE

In order to keep and maintain an accurate membership database we request that members advise the Club administration of *any change* of contact details.

**You can contact Club administration
on 9829 1556 or update details
via the Club website.**

CLUB MATTERS

Amendment to By-laws

Visitors Use of the Hospitality Facilities

After a comprehensive review, the General Committee have approved a change to the Visitor By-Law at the Club. At present, visitors can visit the Club on a regular basis provided that the number of visits is not considered excessive. Clearly the word *excessive* is very subjective and unfortunately, we have had many instances where visitors are using the Club more regularly than many members.

Effective 1 May 2019, the new Visitor By-Law limits the number of visits to the Club by a non-member to twelve per calendar year, which will be closely monitored.

However, for the sake of clarity; a visitor attending one or several privately booked functions at the Club, is not considered a *member introduced visit*, and this will not be counted as part of the twelve maximum annual visits permitted.

Introduction of Visitors

Tennis courts, squash courts and swimming pool

Members are reminded that the name of all visitors to the Club *must* be entered in the Visitors' Book with the appropriate Visitor's Fee paid before the commencement of the use of the tennis courts, squash courts and swimming pool (visitors are not permitted to use the gymnasium).

Hospitality Facilities

Visitor's introduced to use the hospitality facilities only, are not required to pay the Visitor's Fee, but must be entered in the Visitors Book.

Visitor's Receipt

The Visitor's receipt must be retained by all visitors while on the Club's premises.

Member Breach By-Law 24.3

Until the Committee otherwise determines, if a member breaches these By-Laws by failing to honour a tennis booking or failing to enter a Visitor's name in the Visitor's Book or failing to pay a Visitor's fee, such member will be liable to a fine of \$25.00 in respect of each breach.

Reciprocal Clubs

Members should be aware that many of our reciprocal Clubs have strict rules in place for use of their facilities.

As a rule, most Clubs allow only members with **full membership rights** (*Absentee Members or other categories of membership do not have full access to the facilities*), and all exclude members who domicile in the same city as the reciprocal club. That is, if you live in Sydney and or London you cannot use the reciprocal agreement with Royal Sydney Golf Club, or London based clubs.

Please be aware that a minimum of 48 hours is required to prepare a letter of introduction, to enable the process during office hours.

Obituaries

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

Mr Peter Aulich
Playing Member - 1995

Mr Garry F Austin
Playing Member - 1976

Mr Ross G Billington
Playing Member - 1990

Mr Andrew Bristow
Playing Member - 1976

Mr John P Connor
Playing Member - 1993

Mrs Loris J Cook
Playing Member - 1992

Mrs Edrina Dunstan
Playing Member - 1955

Mr Richard Forsyth
Playing Member - 1971

Mrs Judith M Hartley
Non Playing Member
- 1989

Mrs G Felicity Holding
Playing Member - 1994

Mr Richard G Hornidge
Playing Member - 1977

Dr John R Kelly
Playing Member - 1978

Mr Athol K Lidgett
Life Member - 1956

Mr Ronald L McMaster
Playing Member - 1966

Mrs Lee K Pinkus
Non Playing Member
- 2008

2019 U/18 Singles Champions



Erica Layton
2019 U/18 Girls Singles Champion
Seeded 1
Member since 2015



Enzo Aguiard
2019 U/18 Boys Singles Champion
Seeded 2
Member since 2017

