



December 2014

# The Player

Wembley Downs Tennis Club Inc.

From the President – *John Pritchard*

## An Ideal Tennis Club

December is always a great month of the year for me. We all tend to wind down from our busy year and make arrangements for family and friends to gather together. It is a wonderful time to catch up with those near and dear to us and to celebrate the birth of Christ. This year is even more special for me as my son will be getting married on the 19<sup>th</sup> in Busselton and family and friends will be here from around the world.

## My Greatest Wish

When the Lord opened a window to Heaven, he saw me, and asked:

*“John, what is your greatest wish for today?”*

I responded:

*“Lord please, take care of all our members who are reading this message, their families and their special friends over the Christmas holidays and throughout next year. They deserve it.”*

The Lord smiled and said:

*“Always!”*

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your families a joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year? May your celebrations be full of wonder and light, happiness, love and everything bright and may Our Lord rain down his blessings on you in 2015.

**SIMPLY THE BEST!**

**RICHARD LANCELOT DEVENISH WATTERS  
DICK  
9.12.1933 C-15.11.2014**

Our family wishes to thank the wonderful Wembley Downs Tennis Club members for all your sincere condolences on the passing of our loving husband, father and "Grandpa", a true gentleman who never complained and just went about his "jobs". Thank you for the flowers, cards and attendance at Dick's funeral where the guard of honour of members was a touching tribute and greatly appreciated.

We would also like to acknowledge and thank the players who attended to Dick on the court when he collapsed. We know how difficult this must have been for everyone involved and are sincerely grateful for all your efforts.

To Club President John Pritchard, a big thank you for your assistance on many fronts, especially the wonderful eulogy on Dick's life at the Club. Our gratitude also to David and Meg Simpson for organising Dick's Wake at our beautiful clubrooms, as well as to all the ladies who, as usual, provided excellent food. To finish with drinks at the Club was certainly a fitting celebration of Dick's life and his 41 years as a member of WDTC. Thank you to John Venn and everyone who helped during the evening.

I met Dick in 1958 through a friend who was a member of the Cottesloe Ladies' Surf Club and soon learnt of his love of all sports which continued right to his final farewell on the tennis court. He will be missed by so many but never forgotten.

God Bless you all,

Glenys  
Cheryl, Megan Kerry and families



## Members – David Drake

A big, warm welcome to the following new members!

**Full :** Emma Dove

**Juniors:** Will Webster, Tom Walton, Cassidy Clatworthy, Anya Rajan and Bryan Zachary

**Social:** Nando De Luis and Trish Hoskins

*Happy birthdays to Jaydee, Jeremy Bowden, David Drake, Rita Carr, Peter Doherty, Heather Adorno and anyone else celebrating December birthdays! Hope you all have a wonderful year ahead.*

*A special mention must be made of our late and great Dick Watters who would have turned 81 on the 9<sup>th</sup>. Look after us all, Dick.*

## Bicycles are Dangerous

Ask JV and Mark Sims.

Last month both Nigel Breeze and John Hemsley had altercations with bicycles. Nigel threw himself off his bike to avoid running over his granddaughter and John put his life on the line by trying to stop a speeding cyclist with his body. Not sure about the veracity of these stories, suffice to say they both have injuries to prove they came "second". Get well soon.

## Social Committee News – David Simpson

XMAS PARTY ,13<sup>TH</sup> DEC:

Children's Party ; Approximately 25 children rushed down to the top courts to greet Santa and his Assistant come through the Golden Arch and walk up to his throne in the lounge.

They and their parents had a great time and enjoyed the food and entertainment after. Many thanks to Ron Gepp and Janet Paterson for playing their rolls so brilliantly.

Adult's Party: The Social Committee put in a huge effort and worked for many hours to produce an outstanding meal and excellent decorations. The overall supervision, purchasing and guidance by Laraine Penberthy is legendary. 61 people attended and had a great night, trying to answer questions on Christmas and singing ( badly) Christmas carols, which resulted in all tables winning at least one bottle of wine.

Terry Tinsley did a great job, as our resident DJ ( famous in his earlier years!) providing Christmas music and then a wide range of Non- Christmas music

The Social Committee are to be congratulated on how efficiently they all did the job.

Our next event will be **AUSTRALIA DAY BREAKFAST ON Monday 26<sup>th</sup> Jan 2015**, followed by fun tennis. Keep the morning free.

## Captain's Room – *Mike Underwood*

### League Update

In a fairly chaotic time of the year there were a number of things that caught my attention in league play last week and it wasn't just about results. On Saturday the severe wind couldn't blow away the fantastic atmosphere (and Santa) amongst social/ league players and the kids that were down the club. In relation to league the pleasing aspect about many of the examples below were members putting their club/team first.

- Midweek Ladies Over 45 Div 1-Nola Carmignani stepped up for the team at very short notice and with limited practice since her injury.
- Mens Div 1-With some players unavailable we had a makeshift team made up of Alex Downey, Rafe and Luca Bonini and Simon Ferreira (14 playing his first league match in Div 1) playing a very experienced team Old Collegians. The boys were fantastic in winning by a number of games and this could be partly attributed to more strategic doubles pairings.
- Ladies Div 4-We had Louise Hall and Martina Van-Rensburg fill in for this team which demolished Manning 6 rubbers to nil. I hope Louise did not tell her opponent that it was her first singles match in 30 years.
- Mens Div 2-Harry Burrell stepped up to join the boys and played his first match at this level and performed well. It was also impressive that Anthony D'Ignazio was prepared to play with an injured knee. Whilst we don't mind strapping up the old crocs and wheeling them out to battle we want to avoid this with our younger talented players. Anthony and his brother Nicholas joined the club at the beginning of the summer comp.
- Mens Div 6-And last but not least a young team that included Gavin Tay, Connor Jenkins and Connor Alchin (playing injured) beat a very experienced team in North Beach that had not lost a match all season.

Our midweek ladies have now finished their league play for the year with all teams in the top 4 and well placed for a run at the finals. Hopefully both of the Div 3 teams can manage avoiding playing each other in the semis and meet in the final. See photo of their Xmas windup celebration below. The ladies always do it very well and it would be tremendous to organise a similar event for weekend league players in the future.



## **First Aid/Defib**

Our President has organised St Johns to do a training session at the Club in early 2015 and we need to get as many members as possible to the session. It will be on a Wednesday or Friday at 4 pm. We will let everyone know in due course. Peter Doherty and I attended the session and it was very good.

We have purchased a new and improved First Aid kit which is located in the Day Captain's room. The kit can be transported to where it is required and allows us to provide first aid more quickly and efficiently. The kit includes a cold pack (chemical) that is activated by crushing. In the Captain's room there is an A4 sheet on the wall to record any use of items within the portable kit or items in the kit on the wall in the kitchen. This way we can make sure both kits are well stocked all the time.

In the event of crutches being required in an emergency please contact me as I have a pair at home.

We will be conducting a risk assessment on our club 'first aiders' capability so can members let me know of any first aid or life saving qualification.

## **From the History Vault**

For this edition I have picked 1971 as our year in focus. At that time Gary Penberthy was WA's number one Men's player (members may be interested to note he was in WA's top 5 ranked players from 1968 to 1982 which is an outstanding achievement). Haven't given up hope of getting him back on the court at some stage.

The significance of 1971 from a WDTC's perspective was that it was our first Junior league shield, Boys Under 16 Pennant Div 3 1971 made up of Kim Ven Der Beek (Captain), Bryan Knox, Paul Perrott, Ian Campbell, Glen Bailey, Graham Perry & Steven Shippard.

I couldn't find any record of their names on Tennis Vault or current club members so perhaps all of them drifted away from tennis. Please let me know if any members know what any of them are up to now.

## **Etiquette Tip**

One of the fantastic aspects of our club is the way our members provide encouragement and support to all our league players during their matches. This makes a big difference when you are having a long tough match. So can all league players make sure they follow the lead and support their teammates actively particularly with away games.

Finally I would like to wish all members, team managers, coaches and parents of our league players a safe and Merry Christmas!

## **MONDAY NIGHT COMPETITION AT W.D.T.C.**

Are you interested in playing some competitive tennis on a Monday Night?

We are looking for nominations from members and non-members interested in participating in a Monday Night competition @ WDTC from 2nd February until the 23rd March 2015. Teams of 2 Men and 2 Women will be created by the organisers. The format will be a Mens doubles and a Ladies doubles followed by a Mixed doubles. More details are provided on the nomination form.

If you are interested forms are available at the Club or via email from Peter Doherty ([ptd59@outlook.com.au](mailto:ptd59@outlook.com.au)).

Peter can also answer any questions you may have.

## Mid-Week Ladies – Linda Townsend

We celebrated Christmas a little earlier this year with our lunch on 11th December. It was a warm morning but we managed to play some tennis before sitting down to enjoy a delicious lunch washed down with cold Champagne. Many thanks to Micheline and Barbara for doing everything so beautifully.

We will continue to play tennis through the school holidays so see you on Thursdays.  
Very Happy Christmas

## Global Tennis – Joe McCarthy



Joe McCarthy

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## New Membership Trial

### Parent Associate Membership Trial

WDTC would like to invite any parents (who are currently not members) and are keen to ensure that their son/daughter is getting plenty of practice to take up our trial offer of an associate membership for 6 months.

The trial will be from 1st January 2015 until 30th June 2015 and the cost will be \$75 (per parent).

Details of the conditions associated with the trial membership are included on the Parent Associate Membership application form. Forms are available at the Club (Captain's Room) or via email through Peter Doherty.

Please contact Peter Doherty via email ([ptd59@outlook.com.au](mailto:ptd59@outlook.com.au)) or the WDTC Registrar if you have any questions.

## WDTC Uniforms

The Club has available stocks of new WDTC white shirts and tops (in a variety of styles) in time for this summer season.

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



## Defibrillator



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

<http://www.healthcare.philips.com/main/products/resuscitation/products/onsite/demo.wpd>

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

**MONDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> January – AUSTRALIA DAY BREAKFAST**

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



### Quote of the day

Love is nothing in tennis, but in life its everything!

- Author Unknown

## The Funny Side

A dog goes into a bar and orders a martini. The bartender says "you don't see a dog in here drinking a martini very often."!

The dog says, "At these prices, I'm not surprised."!!! Woof Woof!

A very Happy Christmas & New Year to you all - Ed



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WEMBLEY DOWNS TENNIS CLUB



# WDTC XMAS PARTY 2014









