

North Balwyn Club Tennis

Midyear Newsletter

August 2013



Time for a new clubhouse?

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear members,

It's a great pleasure to write a brief introduction to this issue of our club newsletter. The club is in a fine state, with our member numbers remaining strong, at a time when some other clubs are challenged. I really enjoy seeing the courts well used when I get to NBTC on Saturdays and evenings in particular. We have a good batch of members playing competition tennis, in a number of competitions, including pennant, and at many levels, and it's great to see (and occasionally play) lots of social tennis too. Our coaches have been successful at building their numbers of tennis students, and supervising a large number of our junior teams. Speaking of our coaches, congratulations from the whole club to both of you and your wives, Andrew and Stuart, on recently becoming parents (have you enrolled your kids as members yet?)!

I have noticed that our artificial surface courts (courts 3 to 6) are performing really well and I am glad that we went out on a limb, stretched our finances and borrowed money to put those in. We have now repaid the loan. I just want to remind all members to please sweep those courts whenever you play. It's important to their condition and longevity.

The biggest thing we have done in a long time at NBTC is now in play, which most of you would already have heard a fair bit about: namely a brand new clubhouse is being designed over the next twelve months with construction planned for the financial year 2014/2015! We have formed a subcommittee to work on ensuring that we get what we want, and I want to thank City of Boroondara Council in advance for planning and budgeting for our exciting new building. Graham Besley, Melanie Katopodis and Ross Davies (on our subcommittee) have consulted with many members about what features we would like to have (and can afford) in the new clubhouse: if you have not had a chance to tell us and have some ideas, please let us have them. Of course this development will mean that for a period our premises will substantially be a construction site, but we will cope of course and there will be some temporary arrangements. It will be very worthwhile in the end!

Happy tennis to all members, see you at NBTC.

Danny Samson, President

THE COMMITTEE 2012/2013

Danny Samson	President
Frank Crombie	Senior Vice-President
<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Junior Vice-President</i>
Tony Barton	Secretary and Public Officer
Rowena Sheung	Treasurer
Peter McCaw	Membership Secretary
Graham Besley	Maintenance Co-ordinator
Andrew Halford	Junior Organiser (joint)
Stuart Brown	Junior Organiser (joint)
Rhonda McCaw	Committee Member
Kaye Clarke	Committee Member
Peter Moran	Committee Member
Lucia Lattanzio	Committee Member
Ross Davies	Committee Member
David Rehe	Committee Member

Theo Mitsinikos Honorary Auditor

Andrew and Stuart are also our joint Head Coaches.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Club membership is still doing well. We seem to lose quite a few members each year but pick up a similar number of new members. Our annual membership promotion between Christmas and the start of the new membership year on 1 April continues to attract a significant number of people new to the area and appears to be a very worthwhile strategy. We welcome new members who joined under this scheme and all new members who have arrived since.

Membership renewals were due on 1 April and are running at a slightly improved rate compared to last year. To date around 70% of our members have renewed and I thank those who have been prompt in this matter.

For those who haven't renewed, I must remind you that you received either an email or a posted subscription form at the end of March and a reminder in early June. If you wish to continue with tennis at the Club, please deal with this as a matter of urgency. Note that if you do not renew your membership promptly you will be unable to use the Club facilities for competition, organised social or casual tennis. If you have any queries please contact me. If you do not intend to renew, please return the subscription renewal form with the 'not rejoining' box ticked (don't forget to write your name on the form), or let me know by email or telephone. This will avoid further annoying and unnecessary follow up.

Peter McCaw, Membership Secretary, 9817 2940

MAINTENANCE REPORT

Our normal routine contractor has provided maintenance activities and continue to do so without any issues.

The en-tout-cas courts are in good condition following the wet period we had after summer. A soft spot between courts 7 & 8 has recently been repaired. Please advise a committee member if you find any soft spots as they can be ankle twisters if not rectified promptly. Annual service of the synthetic court surface plus regular spreading of sand seems to be maintaining the courts in good condition. Please remember to bag these surfaces regularly after completion of each session of play.

Three court lights have been replaced this year, this continues to be a significant cost item. The use of shade cloth, whilst not attractive, did reduce heat buildup inside the clubhouse over summer. A range of other minor issues (boiling water heater, leaking taps, door locks, net tie down straps, score boards, etc) have been resolved and club members are thanked for bringing them to my attention. A large eucalyptus tree beside court 1 has been partly removed as the Council deemed it a risk.

CLUB HOUSE RENEWAL PROJECT

The Boroondara Council has identified that our clubhouse is at the end of its effective life and is planned to be fully replaced. This will be a two year project, the design and approval phase will occur over the financial year 2013/14. Subject to Council funding approval, the construction phase will then occur in the 2014/15 financial year. We note that four other local tennis clubs are also to gain new clubhouse facilities.

The Club has an opportunity to provide input to the Council and their architects re the design aspects that would be beneficial to the way the Club operates. Thus a "functional specification" has been developed with input from many club members. The Sub-Committee (Ross Davies, Melanie Katopodis and Graham Besley) thanks club members for taking the time to provide some great ideas. The Sub-Committee has also visited a few other tennis clubs with new facilities to get a good understanding of possible design ideas.

We anticipate that the Sub-Committee will meet with the Council project team in August. We have also had a recent meeting with two local Ward Councillors, Philip Mallis and Judith Voce to ensure they understood the value of the Club to the local community. They are both very supportive of the renewal project. We will keep members advised as we progress through this important project.

Graham Besley, Maintenance Co-ordinator

TENNIS MATTERS COACHING REPORT

Of particular note, we have an increasing number of players that are testing their skills not only in North Balwyn Tennis Club teams, but in tournaments and other 'outside the club' competitions. Below is an article highlighting the achievements of Philippa Rehe and her doubles partner, Pia Akaskar. Philippa currently has a weekly private and squad session with us. Pia is also about to enroll in our coaching program. Tennis Matters congratulates both girls on a fantastic effort!

Tennis Matters provides many coaching opportunities to all ages and standards. If you are interested in improving part of your game speak to either Stuart or myself to arrange.

TENNIS MATTERS

Andrew Halford (TCAV Advanced Coach, B.App.Sci. in Human Movement) Ph. 0412 021 911

Stuart Brown (TCAV Advanced Coach) Ph. 0412 966 336.

Website: www.tennismatters.com.au

Email address: tennismatters2us@hotmail.com

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BALWYN

Smashing win for tennis aces

TWO schoolgirls are taking inspiration from Aussie ace Samantha Stosur after their recent win at the School Sports Victoria Girls State Tennis Championships.

Kew East Primary School student Philippa Rehe and Methodist Ladies College's Pia Agaskar topped the championships' rankings earlier this month.



They beat teams from regional Victoria before beating Moorabbin District in the final.

The championships were held at the Boroondara Tennis Centre.

Philippa, 12, took up the sport from the early age of just three. Pia became keen on the sport at seven.

The pair had played only a few games together before the championships, but had developed a good partnership.

"We really only started playing together when we went through all the stages of the titles together," Pia said.

"We've both got different skills, so we do make a good team."

Philippa and Pia are Leader junior sports stars nominees.



Pia Agaskar and Philippa Rehe are now Victorian tennis champions.



COMPETITION REPORTS

JUNIOR COMPETITION REPORT

Summer 12/13 & Winter 2013

ERT Summer saw NBTC make a change to the team entries having us pursue the format of Open Rubbers which provides our juniors the opportunity to play best of 3 set singles matches. This gives them a taste of what is to come once they enter tournaments and transition into senior competitions such as pennant.

We had a bit of a mixed bag in terms of results with the majority of teams hovering around 4th/5th place. A huge victory came from our girls section 4 team on the Saturday as well as our boys section 2 on the Sunday morning.

I have entered 15 teams on Saturday mornings this current season which is one shy of our capacity. Three teams have been entered on Sunday morning. Similar to last season, a number of our teams are breaking into the top 4 and competing well each week. We now have 3 all girls' teams playing open rubbers, playing mostly against boys. It's been a great experience for them so far. We also have 2 junior boys that have made the BIG transition to senior pennant, being Jack Bianco & Jordan Crombie.

As usual, Andrew & I couldn't be more pleased with the attitude and demeanor our kids are showing on court. As stated in other reports, we often get comments from opposition parents at how fair our kids are, this has continued throughout the winter season so far.

Good luck to the teams for the remainder of this season, we look forward to cheering you on in the finals!!

Stuart Brown, Junior Organiser

Eastern Region Tennis Junior Competition Results

Junior Boys/Girls/Mixed	Day	Season	Section	Pennants
Boys Singles/Doubles	Saturday	Summer	9	Runners Up
	Saturday	Summer	16	
	Saturday	Summer	16	
	Saturday	Summer	17	
Girls Singles/Doubles	Saturday	Summer	2	
	Saturday	Summer	2	Runners Up
	Saturday	Summer	4	Premiership
	Saturday	Summer	6	
Open Rubbers	Saturday	Summer	3	
	Saturday	Summer	7	
	Saturday	Summer	7	
	Saturday	Summer	9	
	Saturday	Summer	9	
Boys Singles/Doubles	Sunday	Summer	2	Premiership
	Sunday	Summer	3	
	Sunday	Summer	6	

SENIOR COMPETITION REPORTS

Weekend Senior Competition

ERT

We finished the 2012/13 summer season with two teams in the finals and three missing out. Singles/Doubles 4 won their semi final but were defeated in the grand final. However Open Sets 6 carried all before it, topping the ladder by a big margin and sweeping both finals matches very comfortably. We were helped (somewhat of an understatement) by the presence of Scottish recruit, Graeme Campbell, who didn't lose a set all season and finished with such good results that the ERT player ranking system couldn't cope! Another sporting triumph for the British. Sadly Graeme was lost to us for the Winter TV Pennant season, but maybe he'll be back again for the Summer season.

For the 2013 winter season we are fielding three Open Sets teams in sections 3, 4 and 10. At the halfway mark of the season OS3 is in 4th place but the other two are struggling with huge disparities between the best and worst teams in the grades. Unfortunately, ERT grading seems to be very inconsistent and it appears they can't quite get it right.

Please note that the entry sheet for the 2013/14 summer season will be posted on the noticeboard in late July in time for entries to be submitted to ERT by 28 August. We are always looking for new players. If you might be interested and would like more information, please feel free to ring me on 9817 2940.

Peter McCaw, ERT Senior Co-ordinator

Pennant

This year we have 3 mens teams competing. A grade 3, 7 and 8. All teams are a chance for the finals with only one match left in the home and away season. I wish all teams the very best.

Andrew Halford, Pennant Co-ordinator

Midweek Senior Competition

Night Tennis Competition (BDNTA)

In the Autumn season just gone NBTC entered 10 teams with eight reaching the finals – a great effort. Three teams, Tuesday Rattlers, Tuesday Champion Chokers and Wednesday Barracoutas made the grand finals with the Rattlers and Barracoutas being successful and bringing home the flag for NBTC. Well done! The Spring season has just started and again we have entered 10 teams, losing the Night Owls but gaining the Dragons. We also have a BDNTA Thursday night team from Canterbury, the Wannabees, using our courts for this season due to access problems at their own club. Good Luck to all the teams competing.

Rhonda McCaw, Night Tennis Co-ordinator

Monday Night

The Monday night team, Ballwin.nets Section 3 have had a great season and finished in the top 4. Unfortunately we came up against a strong team who were 'on their game' in the semi final and we lost. We have all enjoyed our tennis and would like to thank Helen De Ross for being part of our team this last season, unfortunately she will not be with us next season. However we are pleased to have Kayelene Ravenhill, Penny Anderson and Vicki Ibbott joining our team next season, so we look forward to a strong performance.

Helen Rayner, Captain

Midweek Ladies Competition

MEMRLTA (Tuesday A6)

Our team consists of Melanie, Serena, Kaye, Christa and Rowena with Melanie being our captain. This is a very odd season with 7 teams and a bye in our section and the standard of the teams quite even. We have two matches left but still can't tell whether we'll end up in the top four or second from the bottom position.

We also would like to thank Rhonda, Robin and Carole for helping us out during the season.

Rowena Sheung

MEMRLTA (Tuesday A9)

Our Winter season is approaching finals and we are currently in the top 4 and hope to stay there and play finals again. Our once stable team has taken on a few changes of late. Sue Charman retired from tennis to concentrate on her golf, I personally have played tennis with Sue for over 30 years, when our children were at school, we are now grandmothers !!! Lorna Sargeant is enjoying an extended holiday overseas, which meant we had to find some players. We have been fortunate to have Shirley Wick and Margaret Enriquez join our team from St Francis Xavier to help us through the season.

Helen Rayner, Captain

EDWTA (Wednesday Section 5)

Ably and agreeably captained by Catherine Lawton we had a successful season in Section 5, finishing 3rd on the ladder. We played the semi-final on a very hot day. Both courts were behind in the third set when the weather obliged and the temperature was 30 deg. at the met office, that's important so must stop. We won the resumed match the following week but lost in the final against South Hawthorn an excellent team.

Norma Ross, EDWTA Convenor

WDTA (Thursday A Grade)

After winning the A Reserve 1 flag last season, the team was once again promoted to A Grade. With the addition of Carol Thompson we put up a valiant effort but did not win a match although we came close a number of times. Undaunted, we requested another go at it and were happy to be given A Grade again. Thanks again to Jane Cash for being captain. After 5 years with the team, Rhonda McCaw is moving to Tuesday MEMRLTA. Good luck for the next season!

Rhonda McCaw, Thursday WDTA Convenor

Midweek Mens Competition (Thursday MMTA)

Two teams competed in the Autumn season, The Tigers, Section 3 and the Lions, Section 4 were Grand-final winners!

Section 4 Lions

From left: JohnMcInnis, Preston Berryman, John Zannoni, Roger Taylor, Garry Basinski, and Steve Clarke (front)

They won the final 4 sets to 2 - a team effort with each player winning 2 out of 3 sets.



Senior Competition Results

Association	Jun/Sen/Vet	Day	Team Name	Season	Section	Ladder	Pennants
MEMRLTA	Senior Ladies	Tuesday		Summer	A5	6 th	
	Senior Ladies	Tuesday		Summer	A9	4 th	LOST S/F
EDWTA	Senior Ladies	Wednesday		Summer	5	3 rd	LOST G/F
WDTA	Senior Ladies	Thursday		Season 1	A Grade	6 th	
MMTA	Veteran Mens	Thursday	Tigers	Autumn	3	5 th	
			Lions	Autumn	4	1 st	WON G/F
BDNTA	Senior Ladies	Monday	Ballwin.nets	Autumn	3	4 th	LOST S/F
Night	Senior Ladies	Monday	Raq Paq	Autumn	6	5 th	
	Senior Open	Tuesday	Rattlers	Autumn	9	1 st	WON G/F
	Senior Open	Tuesday	Yackers	Autumn	10	7 th	
	Senior Open	Tuesday	C. Chokers	Autumn	13	2 nd	LOST G/F
	Senior Open	Wednesday	Barracoutas	Autumn	3	1 st	WON G/F
	Senior Open	Wednesday	Racketeers	Autumn	5	3 rd	LOST S/F
	Senior Open	Wednesday	Night Owls	Autumn	7	4 th	LOST S/F
	Senior Open	Thursday	Scorpions	Autumn	1	3 rd	LOST S/F
	Senior Open	Thursday	Immigrants	Autumn	5	4 th	LOST S/F
Pennant TV	Mens	Saturday		2013	4	1 st	
	Mens	Saturday		2013	7	2 nd	
	Mens	Saturday		2103	8	5 th	
ERT	Senior Open	Saturday	Open Sets	Summer	5	5 th	
	Senior Open	Saturday	Open Sets	Summer	6	1 st	LOST G/F
	Senior Open	Saturday	Open Sets	Summer	10	6 th	
	Senior Open	Saturday	Singles/Doubles	Summer	1	6 th	
	Senior Open	Saturday	Singles/Doubles	Summer	4	2 nd	LOST G/F

MIDWEEK SOCIAL TENNIS REPORT

Winter has been kind to midweek social tennis, with only one or two washouts. We manage two or three courts in action Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Age, injury and travel diminish our numbers but the enthusiasm of the participants is undiminished. We welcome any existing Club members who are available on Monday, Tuesday or Thursday mornings from 9.00am. If members hear of anyone wanting to start playing social tennis, then have them phone one of the Committee members for details or just come along.

Bruce Holloway, Organised Social Tennis Co-ordinator

ANNUAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

NBTC Club Championships March/April 2013

The club championships were organised by the Head Coaches, Stuart Brown and Andrew Halford with the help of club members, notably, Frank Crombie. They used a Tennis Australia online tournament scheduling software for the first time which allowed web updates on results during the events as well. There were 129 entries from 88 players and about 60 members and their families attended the Presentation of trophies and dinner at the clubhouse. The catering for the dinner was done by Melanie Katopodis who put on an excellent three course meal.

The enthusiasm and support for the Club Championships this year was very encouraging and rewarding for those who put all the effort into making it a success and the club hopes to build on this renewed interest next year.

RESULTS

Event	Champion	Runner-up
Open Mens Singles	Haydn Wright	Andrew Halford
Open Ladies Singles	Judy Davies	Sheryl Kerwick
Open Mens Doubles	Andrew Halford Michael Oaten	Sam Ip Shing-Yue Sheung
Open Ladies Doubles	Sheryl Kerwick Susan McLaughlin	Judy Davies Rhonda McCaw
Open Mixed Doubles	David Rehe Louise Rehe	Shing-Yue Sheung Rhonda McCaw
Senior/ Junior Doubles	Frank Crombie Jordan Crombie	Sam Ip Rowena Sheung
Mens 50+ Doubles	KK Sheung Albert Au	John McInnes Peter Nitsos
18 & Under Boys Singles	Shing-Yue Sheung	Jack Bianco
18 & Under Girls Singles	Annie Rehe	Philippa Rehe
18 & Under Boys Doubles	Matthew Chen Travis Ryan	Sam Ip Shing-Yue Sheung
18 & Under Girls Doubles	Annie Rehe Philippa Rehe	Hajin Kim Rebecca Ravenhill
14 & Under Boys Singles	Jack Bianco	Jordan Crombie
14 & Under Boys Doubles	Jordan Crombie Neo DeLos Reyes	Stone Chen Jack Stewart

SOCIAL NEWS

BABIES BORN TO THE HEAD COACHES' WIVES

Gemma Morgan Brown was born on 29th April 2013

Her birth weight was 3.96 kg or 8 lbs 12oz.



Madeleine Clare Halford was born on 24th June 2013 and weighed 6 lbs 13 oz.

BIGGEST MORNING TEA CANCER COUCIL FUNDRAISER

I would like to thank the North Balwyn Tennis Club committee for allowing me to once again run the “Biggest Morning Tea” at the clubhouse, and everyone who helped, baked, donated and came along on the day. You helped raise \$620 for the Cancer Council. I couldn't have done it without your support.

Kind regards

Melanie Katopodis



BUNNINGS BOX HILL FUNDRAISER SUNDAY 27TH OCTOBER

The NBTC has been offered the chance to run the Bunnings BBQ at Box Hill on Sunday 27th October this year. This is a fantastic opportunity to raise extra funds for our club.

We will need 20 volunteers to run the BBQ on the day.

Please let Rhonda know (9817 2940) if you can spare 2 hours on the day to help your club. It is actually a fun day and we hope some new faces come forward to help this time.

THE LARRIMAH TENNIS CLUB

Following is part of a poster and photos from an exhibition at Pine Creek Museum (90 km north of Katherine, NT) visited by the McCaws on their Kakadu trip recently. On reading it I was struck by the enthusiasm and ingenuity of people living in the Outback.

In the mid 1950s Larrimah was a larger community than it is now and the hotel was the hub of much of the activity in the town and the railway trucking operations were at their peak.

The tennis court had been laid by the soldiers and the towns folk were aware of its existence. However, it had many potholes making the surface impossible to play on. Many of us wanted to form a club. Someone “knew someone” at a closeby roadmakers camp and they were able to get a drum of bitumen. However, possibly because it was not mixed correctly, or laid properly, it did not set. This made playing quite interesting if your foot or the ball landed on a sticky spot – as it often did. However, this did not deter local enthusiasm.

Dad donated some wire and the working bee erected the fence at either end - there was not enough wire for the sides. It was imperative therefore to take at least four people to any game as two were needed to field the ball either side, they were easy to lose in the long grass!

Matches were not held on any regular basis but whenever enough people had time off to set up a game. My sister June had an old second hand net given to her – it might have had something to do with why she was voted in as Secretary/Treasurer. A bower shed (a lean-to to cover equipment) was a necessity but I don't know if it ever eventuated. Bluey Tull, a fettler with the Railways said he'd be happy to help with the building of it but unfortunately the Jap's stole his axe during the war!

Here is a picture of the author Deidre Pyle with her two sisters June and Denise. June and Deidre (twins) were away at boarding school in Adelaide from 1958-1962 so they were only involved in the club during Christmas holidays.





Local Heroes!

Supporting our local communities is what the Canterbury, Ashburton, Balwyn and Surrey Hills branches of the Bendigo Bank do best.

The Community Bank's sponsorship of **\$10,000** has provided much needed help towards financing the resurfacing of courts 3-6 with the water-saving court surface, PolyClay XL. More recently, we have received funding for two new promotion boards facing Buchanan Avenue and \$970 to offset the costs of our 50th Anniversary celebrations. For the last seven years, these Community Bank branches have given back more than \$920,000.00 to over 120 local groups, aged care facilities, schools, festival s and events.

NOW, North Balwyn Tennis Club can receive even more funding!

North Balwyn Tennis Club members who do their banking with either Canterbury, Ashburton, Balwyn or Surrey Hills Community Bank branches can earn more funds for our organisation.

\$250 for every approved Bendigo home loan

\$50 for every approved and funded personal loan

\$25 for every approved Bendigo Credit Card application

\$10 for every new business or term deposit account opened and held for 3 months

\$5 for every new Piggy or Ultimate account opened

and more.....

Ask how **you can make more money for our organisation** from Bendigo Community Banking.

Canterbury: 143 Maling Road, Canterbury Tel: 9836 9466

Ashburton: 241 High Street, Ashburton Tel: 9885 2666

Surrey Hills: 107 Union Road, Surrey Hills Tel: 9890 7188

Balwyn: 411 Whitehorse Road, Balwyn Tel: 9836 8029

If you already bank with any of these four branches, please call your branch and let them know that you are a member of North Balwyn Tennis Club and the Club will receive a donation – too easy!

www.supportingourcommunity.com.au

GETTING THE CLUB NEWS

As we only have the Club newsletter sent out twice a year, we need other ways to keep our members informed of club events and key decisions made by the committee. There are a number of ways this is done. Firstly, the monthly committee minutes are posted on the Social noticeboard. Secondly, regular emails are sent out to those members who have registered their emails with us and thirdly, these emails are copied and displayed on the general noticeboard and the fridge in the kitchen. We encourage all members to be on the email address list. It is the most effective and quickest way for us to communicate club matters to you. If you wish to be added to the address list, send your email address along with your name, to **northbalwyntc@yahoo.com.au**.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The NBTC committee would like to thank all those who contributed articles for the newsletter.

Editor: Rhonda McCaw

Do you know someone who might be interested in joining our club?

Why not pass on this newsletter after you have read it, or direct them to our website:

Our website address is: www.northbalwyntc.org.au

MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRIES

PETER McCAW

9817 2940