

# North Balwyn Club Tennis

Mid-year Newsletter

July 2009

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear members

Well with 2009 half over, I can report that the NBTC is in good shape, with solid membership numbers in our recent renewals round, and sound finances. Indeed, we did some marketing jointly with our coaches and had a great response, with new members more than making up for a few who didn't renew this year.

As I sit here in Copenhagen, Denmark, I have just looked at the Melbourne water supply report on the internet which is reported at 25.6%, and so despite recent rains in Melbourne, we are feeling vulnerable as a club, of what might happen if the drought doesn't break. As most of you know, we have applied for a significant grant and are considering resurfacing 2 or 4 of our courts with an artificial surface if our grant application is successful. We will continue to keep you updated on this, and always welcome feedback from members.

On a much happier note, we are delighted to be supporting another tennis club less fortunate than ourselves, thanks to an initiative led by Graham Besley. Elsewhere in this newsletter and via email you will have seen notice of our social tennis day aimed at raising funds for Wandong Tennis club, which was burned down in the February bush fires. While their council will rebuild the building, and their courts are OK, they will use our funds as raised on the day to buy some fittings or furniture etc. Please come along, play some tennis if you want to, socialise with members of our club and theirs, and support a great cause. We thank Graham both for initiating this event and for also joining our NBTC Committee and taking on some maintenance responsibilities.

As we start new competition seasons, our Junior coordinators tell us that the move to a new association has gone well, and we also have a solid set of adult teams playing, including Pennant, midweek, weekend and night tennis.

And we are continuing social tennis on Sunday afternoons, so if you want some fun and exercise from 1.30pm on any Sunday, just come on down to the club!

Happy tennis and best wishes to all members and families of NBTC.

*Danny Samson*

\*\*\*\*\*

## **STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS**

**We have just been informed by City of Boroondara that we have been SUCCESSFUL in our application for a Sport & Recreation Victoria (SRV) grant to resurface two of our 8 courts.**

### THE COMMITTEE 2008/2009

Danny Samson  
Vacant  
Vacant  
Tony Barton  
Peter Moran  
Peter McCaw

President  
Senior Vice-President  
Junior Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Membership Secretary

Andrew Halford  
Stuart Brown

Junior Organiser (joint)  
Junior Organiser (joint)

Rhonda McCaw  
Sarma Cherukuri  
Vicki Ibbott  
Graham Besley

Committee Member & Night Tennis Co-ordinator  
Committee Member  
Committee Member  
Committee Member & Maintenance Co-ordinator

*We have three vacant committee positions.*

Andrew and Stuart are also our joint Head Coaches.

### **BUSHFIRE FUNDRAISER for WANDONG TENNIS CLUB**

#### **SOCIAL TENNIS and FUND RAISER SUNDAY JULY 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009 commencing 1.30pm.**

Following the bushfires last summer the bush is regrowing and communities are commencing to rebuild their homes and lives. Many sporting facilities were lost in the fires and communities are also having to rebuild these. The Wandong Tennis Club is one such community that lost their clubhouse and sustained some damage to their courts. The Red Cross Appeal raised significant monies, however, this is primarily being directed to rebuilding homes.

Members may already have seen the flyer on the club noticeboard and received an email advertising this social tennis and fundraiser event set for the 19<sup>th</sup> July. The aim of our fundraiser is to provide support to the Wandong tennis community to help with the refurbishment of their Clubhouse, when it is rebuilt.

The NBTC Committee invites all members and their friends to a fun Sunday afternoon of social tennis, food and fellowship. This is an open day so members are encouraged to bring along their friends and make a family afternoon of the event.

BBQ food will be provided by the Club  
Please bring a plate of salad or sweets to share and BYO drinks.  
Activities will commence 1.30pm

Cost will be \$15 per adult, \$5 for juniors or \$25 per family  
We are also planning to run a raffle on the day, with great prizes.

Members from the Wandong Tennis Club will be joining us for the afternoon.  
We look forward to seeing a great turnout and to have all 8 courts in action.  
The Committee is proud to support this fundraiser which will assist another tennis community get back to a sport we all enjoy.

Please contact Stuart Brown 0412 966 336 or Graham Besley 0417 335 627 if you are able assist on the day or able help with obtaining donated items for the raffle.

**PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY---SUNDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> JULY AT 1.30 PM AND SUPPORT A WORTHY CAUSE.**

### **MAINTENANCE REPORT**

We are very pleased to announce that GRAHAM BESLEY, a long time member of the club has volunteered to be Maintenance Co-ordinator. Any concerns about maintenance matters should be directed to any committee member or by email to [northbalwyntc@yahoo.com.au](mailto:northbalwyntc@yahoo.com.au) and they will be passed on to Graham. Of course we are always grateful to members who are willing to lend a hand with fixing things etc. but please let Graham know (via email) how you are willing to help so he can keep up with matters as they arise.

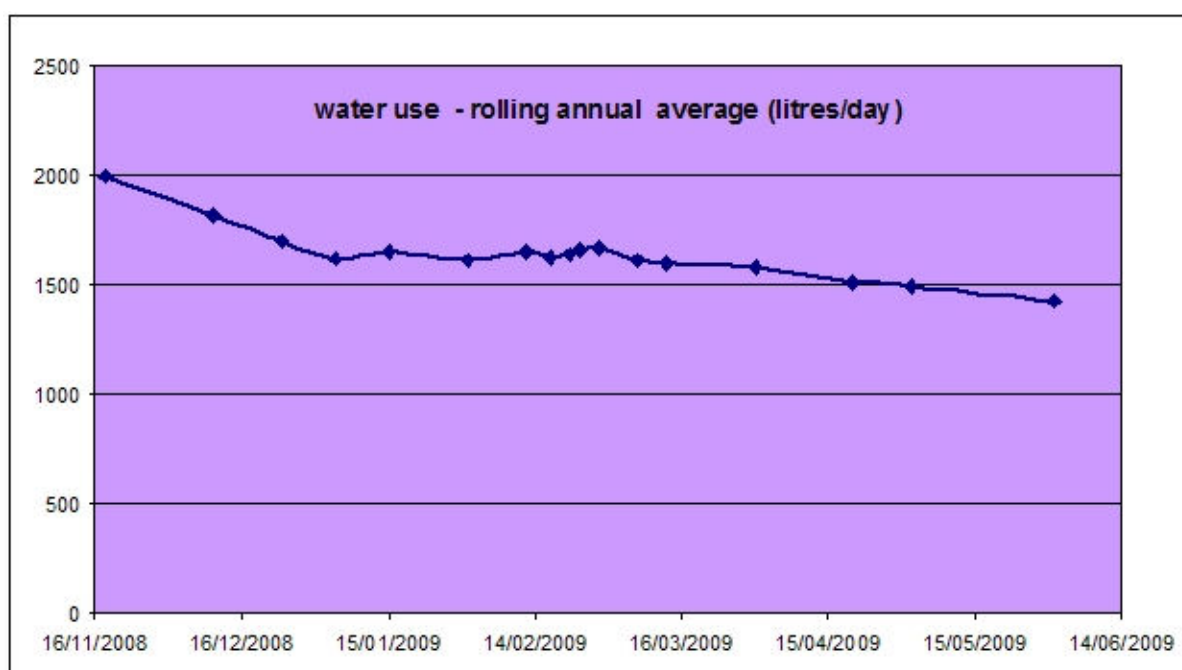
#### **New tanks**

Our three tanks are now installed and operational. When there is sufficient water in them the hoses will be swapped over so

that this water can be used instead of mains water on courts 3 & 4. In addition to rainwater collected from the roof of the clubhouse, we have now set in place an arrangement with Yarra Valley Water that means they will top up our tanks with their excess water from their testing procedures when they are in the area. Most tennis clubs have also set up this arrangement so we have to wait our turn but it will be much appreciated.

#### Water usage report from Tony Barton

Yarra Valley Water has renewed our participation in the Water Conservation Plan. Under this plan we may continue to water all courts under Stage 3a Water Restrictions i.e. watering lightly with a hand-held hose in accordance with guidelines developed by Tennis Victoria. We must continue to monitor our water use and not exceed the annual water usage ceiling. We must track our progress against quarterly targets. Our previous annual allocation was approximately 2,500 litres per day for the year. We met this target. Our new Total Annual Allocation is 743,000 litres for the year which is 2,035 litres per day. We should be able to meet this target as the chart below shows our rolling annual average consumption expressed as litres per day has dropped about 28% over the previous 6 months to under 1,500 litres per day. Presumably this decrease is a result of a combination of the first magnesium chloride treatment in May 2008, perhaps the rainwater tanks starting to have a modest impact and our members being more conservative in use of water. Let's see if we can continue this downward trend and hope that the reservoirs start going up.



#### Court resurfacing

The committee invited members to attend a forum on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April at the club on the issues surrounding the water restrictions and the need to consider either alternative water supplies or synthetic court surfaces that do not require water. About twenty people attended. Danny Samson, the President, gave an overview of action by the committee so far, including installation of three 9000 litre water tanks (after a successful submission for funds from City of Boroondara), magnesium chloride treatment of the courts, an appeal to members for their opinions and the submission to City of Boroondara for an SRV grant to finance the construction of two synthetic surface courts. If we were successful with the grant, City of Boroondara and SRV would contribute \$50,390 and NBTC \$10,000 to the project.

Everyone had a chance to give their opinion and the views expressed included doing nothing and keeping the en-tous-cas courts. The possibility of drilling a bore was also raised but the majority view was to plan to replace our courts, over time, with a sythetic surface that did not require water. Our en-tous-cas courts are in good condition and it was considered that there was no need to rush to replace them. Whether to replace two or four courts in the near future and the timing of the construction would depend on whether our SRV grant submission was successful. There was discussion as to the type of surface and it was resolved that the committee would arrange a time to try out a number of surfaces and then get back to members about their recommendation.

**As mentioned above we have been successful in getting the SRV grant. Well done NBTC!**

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Our membership numbers are quite strong with more paid up members (275) than at this time last year. This is partly due to a very successful membership drive which we conducted over the first few months of the year. However we still have about 140 members from last year who have not renewed but have not let me know that they do not intend to. For these members, a membership renewal form is enclosed.

Remember, if you participate in any club activities: competition, organised social tennis or casual use of the courts, then you must renew your membership immediately. **If you do not intend to renew, please return the subscription form with the 'not renewing' box ticked** which will mean you don't get any more annoying reminders from me. If you have any queries, please feel free to telephone me on 9817 2940.

*Peter McCaw, Membership Secretary*

## FAREWELL TO LONG TERM MEMBERS

Regretfully, we have had a number of resignations from long term members, some of whom have made significant contributions to the running of our club:

Robyn Judd, Helen Cations, Mavis Ryan, Bill Somerville (ex auditor), Jody Edwards (ex secretary & Public Officer), John McKernan and Betty McFee.

## JUNIOR COMPETITION REPORT

We are currently half way through the junior competition season. North Balwyn Tennis Club has 18 junior teams participating over Saturday and Sunday mornings making us one of the biggest clubs playing in the Eastern Region Tennis Association. Well done kids!!!

Prior to this season, NBTC was affiliated with N.E.J.T.A (North Eastern Junior Tennis Association) on Saturday mornings. After committee discussions we decided to move to E.R.T (Eastern Region Tennis) for a number of reasons including closer venues for away matches. Seven matches have been played and so far we are very pleased to have made the change.

Out of the 18 teams, we have 13 playing on Saturday mornings and 5 on Sundays. The Saturday's consist of 8 boys teams and 5 girls teams and Sundays are all boys (I think the girls like the Sunday sleep ins!). Currently 3 out of the 5 girls teams are in the top 4 and 7 out of the 13 boys teams are also inside the top half.

Sausage sizzles are now in action on the Saturday mornings, with all profits going to the club. So if you don't mind the coaches swapping their racquets for tongs please purchase some snags and support the club. We have been watching Master Chef, so the food should be safe!

We would like to wish all the teams the best for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the season and hopefully we will get some more flags up in the clubhouse!

## **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.

NBTC has one team competing in the N.E.J.T.A and this is their report.

### **N.E.J.T.A**

Section 2 girls had a challenging season. From just losing the grand final in section 3 last season, we jumped up to section 2, finishing 7<sup>th</sup> on the ladder. Our game has improved a great deal, and having another shot at section 2 next season seems the way to go. Our awesome team is Martha Clarke, Yana Barton, Serena Tran, Alison Stewart and Kim Vo, and we shall try our best.

*Yana Barton*

## COACHING REPORT

Our coaching program is progressing well as our friendly coaching staff continue to offer and coach all ages and standards in an array of lesson format opportunities to improve their game.

Interested players can choose from private lessons for those that wish to accelerate their technical skills, fun social group lessons based on designed tennis games technique and tactical play, and squad training for the more aspiring player where intense point play involving tactics and technique over a longer duration is required to further match skills.

For adults that are available on Friday mornings, a coaching and match play session is held. This involves a relaxed 1.5 hour session incorporating the required mix of technique and tactics to further match skills.

For any coaching or junior competition enquiries please contact Andrew or Stuart at the club or by phone.

“Tennis, enjoy the game that lasts a lifetime!”.

## **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.

### **MID-WEEK COMPETITION REPORTS**

#### **Tuesday M.E.M.R.L.T.A. Competition**

##### **Section A4**

The team consists of Serena Hayes, Melanie Katopodis, Rowena Sheung, Anke Meinert and Christa Schlifelner as captain. We finished the summer season 2008/09 in section A 4 in seventh place on the ladder. For the winter season 2009, surprisingly, we are still in A 4 and struggling on. This season is marked by injuries – Serena with a shoulder injury, Christa with her knee flaring up again. We have to thank Rhonda McCaw and Jane Cash for helping out.

We are half way through the season and hopefully it can only get better. We play good tennis but it is very often that just the last few important points are won by our opponents. We will keep up our positive attitude.

*Christa Schlifelner, Captain*

##### **Section B1**

At present we have just completed the first round and have had good results so far. At the moment we are in the four and hope to remain through the second round to enable us to play finals again. We welcome Caroline Bragg back from minor surgery and thank Jenny Law for being available as our emergency. Thanks to all the girls for their efforts each week.

*Joan Cocks (Captain)*

##### **Section B3**

The team consists of Deanne Tolley, Anthea De Bono, Tania Rendle, Nicole Bainbridge and two new great team members, Kaye Clarke and Jane Thomas. We are having a good season and enjoying our tennis. We are happy to be sitting 2<sup>nd</sup> on the ladder and hoping for some finals tennis.

*Deanne Tolley (Captain)*

#### **Wednesday E.D.W.T.A. Competition**

##### **Section 5**

The Wednesday team, Dianne Sampson (captain), Diane Baron-Toop, Diana Draffin, Marie Purcell, Norma Ross and Philippa Wardrop, enjoyed the season which was shortened due to a bye. Unfortunately Philippa's season was cut short by a knee injury but she has since had an operation and is now playing again. Diane Baron-Toop welcomed her second grandson and has now left for her usual winter sojourn to the Gold Coast. The team celebrated the end of season with a most enjoyable lunch at Wildflower, Maling Road, Canterbury.

*Dianne Sampson, Captain*

#### **Thursday W.D.T.A Competition**

##### **Section 2**

The team consisted of Judy Davies, Rong Xu, Lorel Wall, Eva Bettiol, Jane Cash and Rhonda McCaw. With holidays and injuries we needed to call on Susan McLaughlin and Susan Martin to help us out during the season. After the previous season where we didn't win a match we were pleased to end up third on the ladder. As it turned out both our emergencies were needed in the finals as our regular team members Eva (illness) and Lorel and Judy (injuries) were unable to play. These days midweek teams need lots of players!

Well, we made it to the grand final and it was a great match. We were only one game ahead going into the last two sets and ended up winning 4 sets to 2, by 10 games. The team on the day was Rong, Susan McL, Jane and Rhonda. Congratulations and

a big thank you to the whole team and of course, the faithful emergencies. We are fortunate to have some of the Wednesday night NENTG team available as emergencies for the next season and, no doubt, with our record they will get a few matches.

Also I would like to thank Jane, who put off her ankle operation until after the finals and to wish her all the best and a speedy recovery.

*Rhonda McCaw (Captain)*



Eva Bettiol, Susan McLaughlin, Rong Xu, Judy Davies, Jane Cash & Rhonda McCaw  
(Absent: Lorel Wall & Susan Martin who played emergency in the semi-final)

## **Thursday Veterans' Tennis Report (Autumn 2009 Season)**

### **Section 2**

Consisted of Ellie Cohen (Capt), Stephen Clarke, Garry Basinski, George Matthews and John Zannoni. Unfortunately injuries and unavailability of players meant they were rarely able to put their best team on the courts and just managed to stave off the bottom spot on the ladder by 3%. It was unfortunate as I thought they had a potential Flag team if they could keep a regular team playing.

### **Section 3**

Consisted of Theo Eversteyn (Capt), Peter Moran, Jim Di Stefanis, Kevin Gregory with Frank Kraps and Graham Watt as emergencies. This team was always in the hunt and finished a close third before bowing out to the eventual Premiers in a preliminary final. A good season.

### **Section 4**

Consisted of Ian Polmear (Capt), Peter Bahen, Tony MacCormack, Neville Gray and Eugene Chandraraj. Unfortunately Tony MacCormack was unavailable for the season due to injury problems and various players were unavailable or injured. Ian Polmear spent the major portion of the season finding emergency players (Julio Pardillo, George Morrin and Barry Williams to mention a few) and the team did not settle until about Round 12 when they had some good wins but no hope of making the finals. Some serious thinking will have to go into team selection for next season.

### **Section 5**

Consisted of Peter Purcell (Capt), Preston Berryman, Tom Yamazaki, Brian Walker and Karl Abele. Eugene Chandraraj played 3 matches as an emergency to qualify him as a player for the finals ("just in case"). We had a good season being on top of the ladder for most of the time. We then won the 1<sup>st</sup> semi against Norris Bank but hit the last hurdle losing the Grand Final

(to Norris Bank) by a miserable 2 games. It was however a big improvement on last season when the same team finished on the bottom of the ladder.

### **New Players Required**

Once again we have to recruit new players as age is taking its toll on the former youth of the Club. The Club really does need an injection of new blood. We are always on the look-out for new players for our Thursday Veteran's competition so yet again the plea goes out that if you are at least 50 years of age and would like to participate in a very popular Veterans' tennis group on a Thursday afternoon please ring Peter Purcell (9857-6286), or Bob Giddings (9857-7292) to assess the situation. The Spring 2009 season commences early August 2009 and ends late November 2009.

*Peter Purcell, Thursday Veteran's Convenor*

### **MIDWEEK SOCIAL TENNIS REPORT**

Our annual Christmas party was held at the Clubhouse on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008 and over 30 attended and it was good to see several former players again.

The weather has been very kind to us, albeit not to our reservoirs, and we have only a few playing days washed out over the past few months, very unusual for May. Attendance is increasing with several new members and existing members returning from injury, so that three playing courts is normal and we often have enough players for four courts.

The efforts of the Committee are much appreciated, particularly the new water tanks which have enabled us to keep within the Yarra Valley Water daily limits and hence retain the use of eight courts right through the summer. Given that on Tuesdays four courts are often taken up with competition, this has meant that we no longer have to restrict the length of sets, as was the case in earlier days of the drought.

Competition players, both male and female, are reminded that in those periods between competition sessions you are very welcome to come on Tuesday and Thursday mornings to play social tennis with us.

*Bruce Holloway*

\*\*\*\*\*

### **NIGHT TENNIS COMPETITION**

All teams were entered in Blackburn & District Association except the Wednesday night ladies team which was entered in North Eastern Night Tennis Group.

#### **Monday Ladies:**

##### **Section 2**

We have just finished the season and even though we did not have a great result, we have enjoyed the standard of tennis each week. We managed quite a few sets (not matches) and had great tennis. As a team we enjoy our Monday night tennis and we hope to improve next season which ever section we are assigned to. We are a very happy team at North Balwyn !!!

I would like to thank all the girls, Helen, Lorna, Julie, Caroline & Vicki for their weekly committment and we look forward to next season.

*Helen Rayner - Captain*

#### **Tuesday Open:**

##### **Section 13**

The Yackers consisted of Joe (captain), Paul and Joseph Iacopino, Kevin Walsh and Alex Barton. They did not reach the finals but are willing to try this section again to see if they can do better this time.

##### **Section 14**

Approaching 20 years as a night tennis team, the Champion Chokers ( originally called the Night Owls) , saw the retirement of Bill Somerville at the end of last season. Thanks for some great memories Bill. Unfortunately David McGrail was on the sidelines for much of the season with a shoulder injury, and we thank Franco DeVivo for filling in for the rest of the season.

We had a good home & away series coming second. Following a sound win in the semi finals, we succumbed to the pressure and lived up to our name in the final. Thanks team for an enjoyable season. We welcome a new team member, Rick Pinto who is joining us for next season.

*Graham Besley*



### **Wednesday Open:**

#### **Section 4**

The Barracoutas had an unfortunate season. Andrew Renney fell off a ladder, Tony Barton had a retina detach, we lost Andrew Phillips to hockey, Stephen Henry to a knee injury. We had to default one round. Thanks again to all the "fill ins" who rescued us for the other rounds: Yana Barton, Alex Barton, George Matthews, David Henry. While we had a few wins and did not get the wooden spoon we are hoping to drop back one section to make us a bit more competitive.

*Tony Barton (Captain)*

#### **Section 6**

In Section Six, the North Balwyn team called 'The Coodabeens' improved steadily throughout the autumn season. A number of our players were returning to comp after a few years away!

All of our players enjoyed the competition and the challenges we experienced every week. We are looking forward to next season on Wednesday nights and we expect to post better results as well. The name stays the same but the results will be better.

P.S. Our team had the best team mascot too - our captain's very friendly rottweiler (Kyla) who ensured that the line calls were all above board!!!

*Judith Rivers, Captain*

### **Wednesday Ladies (NENTG)**

#### **Section 1**

The team consisted of Sheryl Kerwick (Captain), Judy Davies, Susan McLaughlin, Susan Martin, Rong Xu and Helen Cations, with Rhonda McCaw helping out as emergency. The team has been steadily improving over the last two seasons and were successful in winning the grandfinal at last. Congratulations! However the team is not able to continue which is sad as some members of the team have been playing night tennis for over 20 years! A few of the team are available to play midweek and will be very welcome in the Thursday W.D.T.A. Team.



Rhonda McCaw (Emergency), Susan Martin, Judy Davies, Rong Xu,  
Helen Cations, Sheryl Kerwick (Captain) & Susan McLaughlin

### **Thursday Open:**

#### **Section 1**

North Balwyn Scorpions had a new member join the team this season - Troy Rendle. The team played very well to be in the top three until the last few weeks when unfortunately a number of injuries caused us to forfeit one match which dropped us



from 3rd to 5th - just missing out on the finals. It was the most successful season for some time in terms of both participation and position on the ladder. We are looking forward to another enjoyable and hopefully even more successful new season.

*Andrew Hayes, Captain*

### Section 3

The Never Was (very appropriately named) had a very unsuccessful season, living up to our name and finishing very close to the bottom of the ladder. Sadly Pat Smart and Steve Herd won't be playing next season but we have recruited a few new players which has necessitated a move to Tuesday night after about 18 years on Thursday (although with a moving cast of many players over that time with only the captain surviving from the early days). Hopefully the move to Tuesday and the injection of some new blood will reinvigorate the team.

*Peter McCaw, Captain*

*Anyone interested in joining the Night Tennis Competition please contact:*

*Rhonda McCaw, Night Tennis Co-ordinator 9817 2940*

\*\*\*\*\*

### **WEEKEND SENIOR COMPETITION: ERT**

We fielded 2 teams in the summer ERT season, Open Sets 4 and Open Sets 6. Both teams made the grand final with the OS/4 side finishing runner up and the OS/6 side triumphing to give the Club it's first ERT senior flag for some time. Please read Colin Cheong's team report below.

For the winter season we have some new players and have been able to field 3 teams, OS/3, OS/4 and OS/7. At the halfway mark of the season the OS/3 side is well inside the four having just defeated the top side and the OS/4 side is close to the four with every chance of making it. However, the OS/7 side, with mainly new players is going through a learning experience and can only improve in the second half of the season.

After a number of years as our ERT senior coordinator, KK Sheung has handed the job over to me. Thank you KK for your contribution in this area. However, I don't want the job for long and would be very happy to hear from any senior ERT player who would like to take on the position. It is not particularly onerous and I would always be around to help.

*Peter McCaw, ERT senior coordinator*

### **ERT Summer Open Sets 6**

North Balwyn won a flag in the 08/09 Saturday Summer OS/6 ERT competition. The team comprising Tom Harvey, Colin Cheong, Kris Wolanski, Andrew Phillips, Rowan Ashworth and Peter McCaw finished top of the ladder during the regular season and successfully defeated Blackburn in the semis, and then North Kew in the grand final. Although behind on games in the grand final, we managed to secure the crucial 6th and final set to take the tie 4 sets to 2. For many members of the team it was a welcome breakthrough after several prior finals attempts. The new pennant is a proud addition to the clubhouse collection.

*Colin Cheong, Captain*

\*\*\*\*\*

## SUNDAY SOCIAL TENNIS

Our Sunday Social tennis began about 2 months ago. One week when the weather was good, we had almost 30 people turn up for a social hit! We Melbournians are a very tough, hardy group of people and tennis players are even more tough and hardy given that they play in all sorts of weather!

Last Sunday we had enough players to fill 2 courts. Everyone who comes along from 1.30pm, puts their name up on the board and a group of 4 players are organised to play. It's a great way to meet other players and enjoy a stress-free hit as well. So if you are at a loose end on a Sunday afternoon and feel like a hit, why not come on down to the club and enjoy some doubles?

*Judith Rivers*

\*\*\*\*\*

## VICTORIAN PENNANT REPORT 2009

This year we have a men's grade 2, 4, and 12 competing in the Tennis Victoria pennant series. Grade 12 comprises mainly juniors who are keen to gain more competition experience by playing best of three set matches in both singles and doubles. The facilitation of the transition of junior players to senior competition has been difficult to manage in the past. However, over the past few years, through the encouragement of these players to compete and the social opportunities that the tennis club provides its juniors through its friendly atmosphere, the club has had an increase in the number of juniors in the club making the move to test their skills in senior competition. I hope to see this continue!  
All teams are half way through the season and enjoying the challenge.  
Good luck to all teams during the season.

*Andrew Halford - Pennant Secretary*

\*\*\*\*\*

## EVA'S TIPS

### **CAN YOU TELL IF A TENNIS BALL IS STILL GOOD?**

The rule of tennis says that a ball must bounce at a height between 53 to 58 inches when dropped from 100 inches.

The crude version of this is to drop the ball from the top of your forehead, and if it bounces at your belly button "THE BALL IS GOOD" ...assuming it still has a decent coat of felt cover.

Top players just squeeze and judge it by its firmness (the tennis ball of course).

*Eva Bettiol, Registered Umpire with Tennis Victoria and member of NBTC.*

## SOCIAL NEWS

On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2008 a crowd of sociable members of the club came along to celebrate Christmas with a tasty chicken, salad and dessert dinner and lots of good cheer. Many thanks to Liz and Stuart Brown for organising the event and the regular helpers who work behind the scenes. Thanks also to Boccaccio Cellars who once again donated a door prize of two bottles of wine.



The Christmas Party attendees at the clubhouse



Andrew Halford, George Matthews, Stuart Brown, Peter McCaw & John Zannoni

**SOCIAL TENNIS AND FUNDRAISER FOR WANDONG TENNIS CLUB**  
**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July**

See Page 2 for details

## VALE ADRIAN KERFOOT

Adrian died suddenly on 14<sup>th</sup> April, aged 53. He first joined NBTC about 20 years ago, playing competition and social tennis. After a break he rejoined about 8 years ago and mostly played social tennis which he really enjoyed. He obtained Diplomas in Art and Education and taught at schools including Camberwell Grammar and Phillip Institute of Technology. He was a very talented and highly regarded artist – winning the McCaughey Prize from the National Gallery of Victoria in 1983, followed by a scholarship to France in 1984. He had exhibitions in France and London as well as many in Melbourne. Some of his works are held in the National gallery.

May he rest in peace.

Margaret Grouse

### **Why did the chicken cross the road?**

**Kevin Rudd** I am sorry he had to cross the road and I apologise on behalf of all Australians.

**Dr. Phil** The problem we have here is that this chicken won't realise that he must first deal with the problem on “this” side of the road before it goes after the problem on the “other side” of the road. What we need to do is to help him realise how stupid he's acting by not taking on his “current” problems before adding “new” ones.

**Oprah** Well, I understand that the chicken is having problems, which is why he wants to cross the road so bad. So instead of having the chicken learn from his mistakes and take falls, which is part of life, I'm going to give this chicken a car so that he can just drive across the road and not live his life like the rest of the chickens.

**George W. Bush** We don't really care why the chicken crossed the road. We just want to know if the chicken is on our Somebody told us the chicken crossed the road, and that was good enough.

**John Lennon** Imagine all the chickens in the world crossing roads together, in peace.

**Aristotle** It is the nature of chickens to cross the road.

**Bill Gates** I have just released eChicken2009 which will not only cross roads, but will lay eggs, file your important documents, and balance your cheque book. Internet explorer is an integral part of eChicken. This new platform is much more stable and will never cr....#@&&^(C%reboot.

**Albert Einstein** Did the chicken really cross the road, or did the road move beneath the chicken?

**Bill Clinton** I did not cross the road with THAT chicken. What is your definition of chicken?

**Colonel Sanders** Did I miss one?

**“The chicken that crossed the road was poultry in motion”**



### **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 new website address is: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~nbt/>*

**MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRIES  
PETER McCAW  
98172940**