

Dear Member/s,

This year we have had the pleasure of welcoming 30 new members to the Club. We trust that their association with us will be an enjoyable one.

The President reports that the last few months have been an extremely busy time for the Club because on top of the usual problems of organising our many Pennant Teams we have also conducted the Aqua Technics City of Perth Championships and been the host club to the Country Week Carnival. These extra events have added an additional load onto the shoulders of our many willing workers. I would like to take this opportunity therefore, of thanking all those members and in particular those who undertook the major tasks of organisation, for their support to the Club. These people were well backed up by other members who assisted with various duties or donated foodstuffs. The Club has received many complimentary remarks from the general tennis community for our handling of both the tournament and country week.

The profit made from these two events should total between \$4,500 - \$5,000 and this will of course assist the Club in financing some of the capital expenditure that has been or will be undertaken in this financial year. These items are:-

1. New reticulation system	\$1,800 (approx.)
2. Portion of new hall floor cost	\$1,100 "
3. Additional patio in licensed area	\$1,000 "
4. Additions planned for Captain's room	\$3,000 "

The City of South Perth contributed \$4,000 towards the hall floor but apart from this assistance the Club has had to maintain itself financially and as you can see from the foregoing, the revenue from these additional events is essential if we are to maintain Club assets in good condition and provide additional facilities for you, the members, to enjoy.

Possibly the reason why Hensman has been such a strong Club for so long is the fact that members get together from necessity, to raise these extra funds that are required because unlike many other Clubs, we obtain very little outside assistance.

From the Captain's notes - We have had good attendances this season on Saturdays with about 100 or so social players each week and the early start at 1.30 p.m. during the 7 weeks of pennant play proved a success and meant that everyone played enough tennis.

The Club fielded 22 weekend pennant teams and 4 mid-week ladies teams in the W.A.L.T.A. Shield competition. Of the weekend teams we had 7 in finals and 3 teams made the Grand Finals. These were the Mens 'A' Grade, Ladies 'A Reserve' Division 1 and the Mens Veterans Division 2 (No. 1 team), but unfortunately we failed to bring home a Pennant. The mid-week ladies are our only hope now so best of luck to them. They play two rounds and the finals are held in early April. At the end of the first round the No. 1 and No. 2 teams were both in third position, the No. 3 team have yet to open their account though they have had some very close matches, No. 4 team has had 3 wins. The Ladies mid-week social tennis continues to be well attended. New players are always welcome on Wednesdays from 10.00 a.m.

Hensman Park was well represented at York on the January long-weekend. There was a big increase in players this year which unfortunately meant Championship matches were reduced to one 9 game set and Handicap events to one 7 game set. Several players were drawn for 6.00 a.m. matches on Sunday and Monday but can you imagine Dick Ker and Michael Hall playing an unfinished match at 5.45 a.m. Sunday - they won too.

Our players did fairly well and Rod Skipworth beat Mark Connolly in 3 sets for the Mens Singles Championship then teamed with Henry Michael to win the doubles. Sue walker had a good win in the Ladies Singles Championships and with her sister Terese Cottrell took of the Ladies Doubles. Due to insufficient time the final of the mixed doubles was called a draw and trophies shared - Terese Cottrell and Mark Connolly were one of the pairs.

Colin Napier played very well. but went down to Brad Williams in 3 sets in the 16 and Under Singles final. The veteran pair of Lois Ker and Margaret Napier won the Ladies Handicap Doubles in a tight match, the score being 12/10. This was a good effort as Lois had hurt her ankle in the semi-final and hopped around on 1½ legs.

The tournament organisation could have been better but on the whole it was a good weekend.

The Junior Coaching Clinic for club juniors conducted during the school holidays was very successful and 16 attended on each of the three days. Thanks to all those who helped with this.

Congratulations to Doug Napier as Manager of the State Junior Tennis Teams who recently competed in Sydney and brought home the Wilson Cup for the first time in the 50 years the competition has been conducted.

Don't forget the Club Championship and Handicap Tournaments that are being conducted during March. Entry forms are available now and should be returned as soon as possible. The Championships will be held on the week-ends of 7/8 and 14/15 March while the Handicaps will be on 21/22 and 28/29 March. Organised social tennis will still be held during the Tournament.

A sincere thank you must go to Lyn Saunders for being such an attractive representative for the Club in the Miss Tennis Quest recently conducted. Lyn worked quite hard to raise funds and the total amount raised by all entrants was \$12,319.66 which helps towards financing the interstate trip of the Junior Teams mentioned above.

March The social committee reports that a Barbecue will be held on Saturday, 14th November after tennis. Everything will be supplied at \$3 for seniors, \$2.50 for juniors. An extended license has been granted so take a night off from the stove at home and join in the fun at Hensman.

A Quiz Night in aid of Club funds will be held in the Manning Hotel on Monday, 23rd March commencing at 8.00 p.m. sharp at \$2.50 each. Local business people are donating a number of prizes but more are needed. If you are unable to come along we would be grateful if you would contribute something towards prizes for the evening. Start making up your tables of 6 now.

The Social Club has T Shirts for sale at a low price - mostly size 14, also Club Emblems (iron on) are available at \$1.50 each.

We are desperate for homes to use as venues for the Progressive Dinner in July. If anyone is willing to let us use their home please contact Pam Gardiner or Barry Daniel, telephone 332.1526 or 457.6078 respectively.

Lost - One Beach Umbrella belonging to the Gardiners. It was lent to the Club for the City of Perth Tournament and they would like to have it returned. Did you take the right one home??

Silver Wedding Anniversary - Congratulations to John and Noreen Ince.

Congratulations to Kerry Hickey and Rob Murton and Jenny Whitely and Phillip Allen on their recent marriages and best wishes are extended to Terese Gottrell and Mark Connolly who are to be married in May.

Chad Hobson is in Shenton Park Hospital recuperating from an operation on his hip. We wish him a complete and speedy recovery.

Duty Roster on Saturdays. Would all members take note of the date they are on roster in either the Captain's Room, for Afternoon Tea, or on Bar Duty. If unavailable it is up to you to arrange a replacement.

Amenities of the Club. No doubt you have noticed we have a new floor in the hall and a new carpet in the foyer. We hope to have a new lino in the kitchen very soon. A Water Cooler is to be bought and installed. The new drink machine is unavailable at present but enquiries are still being made.

Best wishes to those who are playing in Tournaments over the long week-end.

There is still lots of good tennis weather ahead so if you've been a bit lazy over the Christmas holidays, stir yourself and come down and join in the tennis and social activities planned over the next few weeks.

Your Committee.