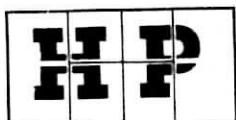


HENSMAN HERALD



Official Newsletter Of
Hensman Park Tennis Club (Inc)

DECEMBER 1988

VOLUME 6 No. 2

New Members

A big welcome to the following new members:—
Marlene Bennett-Bremner, Julie Gething, Susanne Johnston, Susan McGill, Joanne Fletcher, Lesley Thompson, Hilary Whitehead, Ellen Deslandes, Pauline Kay, John and Chris Kagis, Tanha Balasubramaniam, Alan Bourke, Terry Frankland, Peter Howman (rejoined after 4 years absence), **Ian Johnston, Adrian Jones, Michael Travia, John Triggs, Ian Zuvela, Bruce Warland, Ken McIntosh, Arnold Jones, Terry and Rohan Edmondson, Chris Meredith, Gino Vitale, Jeff Kimpton, Tim Hammond, Barry Tognolini** (rejoined), **Michael Smith.**

Miss Tennis

Brenda Elliott is our representative this year and what a worthy representative she will be. Remember there is a quiz night coming up on the 5th December and you will help Brenda's cause by making up a table of six. It will be a fun night, cost is only \$3 per head and the prizes are something else — don't miss it! The venue is the Subiaco Football Club. Also if your waistline can stand it, Brenda has a supply of those delightful chocolates.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

The 1888/89 season is well under way and we are several matches into the inter-club shield competition. It has been a strange start to the season with very unpredictable weather. The lack of sunshine has affected the growth of the courts however they are improving every week. Spraying has recently been completed to control beetles, cutworm and couch flies. The groundsmen are continually moving the courts to avoid excessive wear on vulnerable areas and members are reminded that NO SINGLES are to be played on courts 8 or 12 AT ANY TIME (other than pennant matches).

The new Notice Board in the hall is only one of the jobs carried out most efficiently by our handyman, **Bob Saunders**, and I'm sure all members appreciate the general improvement in the appearance of the club surrounds without the necessity of busy bees. Some seating will be provided along the club house wall soon. The laneway is looking really good nowadays and people are making good use of the seating under the pergolas.

The parking situation has been greatly improved by the work carried out by the Council in Anstey and Hensman Streets. I will be meeting with a Council Officer to discuss reticulation of the area in front of the clubhouse and the new road islands. This will tidy up the entrance to the Club and complement the lovely garden bed there.

Some people may have been a bit slow getting their tennis gear out of mothballs but not so the members of the Social Committee, who certainly have been very active. Two excellent social evenings — a chicken dinner and a Twilight Barbecue night — were well attended and enjoyed by all. Keep up the good work!

We are delighted that **Brenda Elliott** has agreed to be our 'MISS TENNIS' entrant and I hope members will support her fundraising efforts. Proceeds from the Miss Tennis quest assist with the financing of junior players to compete in Interstate Teams competitions. **Kerryl Chute** is Manageress of the Mary Hawton Cup Team (14 year olds) to play in Adelaide, while **Geoff** and **Debbie Thomas** will be taking responsibility for the 12's boys and girls teams in Melbourne.

I'm sure all members are pleased with the improved footing on the synthetic grass courts since their recent sweeping. Thanks to **Alec Whyte** for persevering and arranging for the sweeper to come in.

A group of 20 players from the VETERANS CLUB enjoyed their visit to Hensman on November 18 and after some hard fought matches retired to the hall for well-earned refreshments.

Not only has the appearance of the club and surrounds changed during the past few years, but so has the personal side of things. We certainly have our own kindergarten with the children making good use of the playground. It's good to have the young ones at the club and the sharing of baby and childminding seems to work well, with a couple of grannies lending a hand.

All members can keep up to date with the fortunes of the shield match teams thanks to the chart prepared and updated each week by **Alan Andersson**. This is situated on the hall side of the kitchen wall. I suggested the GOLD STARS (for a win) could be bigger and the BLACK SPOTS (for a loss) could be smaller but Alan says that's the only size he could find!!

Several teams are playing pennant matches at Trinity courts in Manning as all the grades can't be accommodated at the club. If any members feel like calling in for a few minutes on their way to social tennis and giving them some support, I'm sure it would be most appreciated.

This is the last 'Herald' for 1988 so I would like to wish all members and their families a Happy and Holy Christmas and may January be the start of new and exciting opportunities in 1989.

Sincerely,
Margaret Napier

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Social Committee Report

Social functions held so far have been a great success. The social committee really appreciate the support of all members attending the functions and also participating in the raffles. Thanks to all who help preparing, cleaning up etc. at functions.

We realise twilight tennis on Thursdays does not suit everybody, however hall bookings and court preparation makes other nights difficult. We hope you understand.

Unfortunately, **Wendy Ellis** has resigned from the social committee because of heavy work and family commitments. Wendy, thanks a lot for your help for the past 14 months from Randy and the gang.

Carolyn Reynolds has been coerced onto the committee. Welcome Carolyn, you'll enjoy it. It's "Hard Work" but a lot of fun.

Randy

Watch the noticeboard for future functions, which include:—

Thursday, 8th December

Twilight Tennis and Chicken Dinner

This great evening gets under way at 5.00pm and concludes with a delightful meal — PLEASE advise Randy early if you are coming as it is essential for you to notify and pay him prior to the day for adequate catering to be arranged.

Saturday, 17th December

This is a casual evening at the conclusion of our normal Saturday social tennis — an extended bar licence has been arranged and we suggest you each organise your own takeaways on the evening.

Saturday, 24th December

This is our Bi-Centenary event — come to tennis suitably dressed (green and gold would be fine) and there will be prizes for the best dressed. Father Christmas is calling at 5.00pm and we ask everyone to bring along a present to the value of no more than \$3 to put into the community bin for distribution by our bearded friend. Savouries and nibbles will be provided for the Happy Hours that follow.

VISITING RIGHTS

Members are reminded that they may only invite friends to play at the Club as a visitor a **MAXIMUM OF THREE TIMES IN ANY ONE SEASON**. This restriction applies to mid-week as well as weekend play and to Club time. (i.e. between 3.30 & 6.30) on the synthetic courts.

Mid-week membership (at half the rate of a full membership) is available if people want to play regularly during the week but not on weekends.

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Travel News

Steve Ker has taken in the Grand Prix during a recent visit to Adelaide • **Sue and Kevin Harwood** are enjoying themselves in Europe, Kevin having earlier participated in a refrigeration conference in Italy • **Rodney and Lee Skipworth** made it to the Bathurst 1000 recently • Talking of car racing, did you see **Warren Jones** taking part in the Celebrity race at Adelaide's Grand Prix — never a dull moment for Warren • And then there was **Mark Watson** appearing on our TV screens, playing an excellent game in the W.A. v S.A. football match which came to us from Vancouver, Canada • The **Gardiners** are back from Canada, Europe, you name it — by the way did you see that rather cheeky photo of **Cec** doing the rounds at the club recently • **Peter Overheu** is home looking very well after his European sojourn — the highlight of his trip was spending the two weeks at Wimboldon acting as practice partner for **Jenny Byrne** • **Ernie and Jenny Kay** had a delightful break at the Club Med in Bali • The **Thomas's** arrived back from overseas one day and **Frank** was off the next to Katanning for their annual Round Robin event! • **Ross and Fay Totterdell** have packed their bags and headed south for a couple of weeks break • **Cliff Carter**, who thinks he's the oldest member of the club, was invited back to Duntroon for their 50th anniversary celebrations • **Lois Ker** is off to Singapore for Christmas shopping.

*"Until one is committed
there is hesitancy,
the chance to draw back,
always ineffectiveness.*

*Concerning all acts of initiative
(and creation)
there is one elementary truth,
the ignorance of which kills
countless ideas
and splendid plans:*

*That the moment one definitely
commits oneself
then Providence moves too.*

*All sorts of things occur to help one
that would never otherwise have
occurred.*

*A whole stream of events issues
from the decision
raising in one's favor all manner
of unforeseen incidents and meetings
and material assistance
which no one could have dreamt
would have come their way.*

*Whatever you can do or dream you can,
begin it.*

*Boldness has genius, power and
magic in it.*

Begin it now."

Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe
(1832)

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Grounds

The synthetic courts have been swept and appear to have benefitted by the removal of the surplus sand. The courts have been sprayed for kikuyu grass. Thanks to **Norm** and **Randy** for tidying up the front garden area.

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Personal Pars

Garry Napier, ever determined to get right away from all the cares and responsibilities of his captaincy duties, has taken to the skies • **Noel Pearse**, arguably our keenest pennant player, drove down from the farm as usual recently, only to find out that inclement weather prevented play — after a bite of lunch at the Rundles he hopped in his car and enjoyed the three-hour drive home again — with the prospect of his best ever crop this year, Noel is quite happy to continue his membership from afar! • **Margaret Napier** again conducted the State Schoolchildren's tournament during the school holidays and had to contend with some pretty terrible weather — in fact when two ducks came and started paddling around on the court, she figured it was finally time to call a halt to play • **Alan Stewart** has had a spell in hospital recently but has come out looking fit and is already back on the courts • **Jamie Maitland** has been chosen in the State Under 16 Hockey team to visit the Eastern States, and we understand friend **Russell Bomford** just passed out on selection • **Auriol Hearey** is recovering from a recent eye operation — actually prior to this she took part in the annual Blackwood Marathon, as did **Kath Beeson** — gee, the enthusiasm of some people! • Congratulations to Geoff Ince on his recent engagement • **Keith Haley** has been out of sorts since returning from his eastern states safari but we hope will soon be back on our courts again • Veteran members were saddened to learn of the sudden passing of team mate **Mike Newman**.

Sponsorship

Clem Overheu is to chair this committee for 1988/89 and will shortly be discussing renewal of sponsorships with our existing supporters.

The Ian Hutchison Real Estate Round Robin is scheduled for April again and this popular event will round off what promises to be another very successful summer season at the club.

The Veterans team of **Norm Burkett** and gang has been sponsored by **John Lindquist** of the East Victoria Park Pharmacy.

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Tennis Tip "Shot Selection Strategy"

The Bar — be in it! (by Norm)

Thanks to all who patronize the bar. The atmosphere is great. Do try to stay behind after tennis — it really helps all members meet and socialize and we have a range of soft, light and heavy drinks!

Watch the bar roster. Having two attendants appears to be successful and can help make it an enjoyable duty. The **Charles Picchetti-Margaret Napier** combination should be worth witnessing. Will Charles really be topless?

Notable efforts of the "bar persons" include **Chris Lavender** who did his bit to improve dress standards! We are waiting for somebody to outdo his effort. **Jan Bogaards** has broken all sales records — how much did she purchase and imbibe herself?

Garry Napier (C.D. 1987/88) has been quietly observing potential candidates for this season's club drunk award. Someone who must be high on his list would be **Jan Hart, Kevin Lampard** (he is not as innocent as he pretends), **Alistair Boyes, Colin Napier**, the **Jan Hart-Keith Begley** duet, **Sharon Gordon** and **Margaret Napier**. (Doug, we are waiting for something spectacular from you!)

Your Social Committee has a problem — drinks. We have the Riesling guzzling Raux's (Randy and Sharon) combining with the champagne quaffing **Kevin** and **Sue Harwood**, plus the Swan Golden boys Graeme, Tim and Kevin. Then there is Jeanie, who, when she stops chattering, has been seen to partake of whatever is available!

And Auriol — do you really think we believe that is wa ter?? The young vivacious recruits **Brenda** and **Carolyn** have so far remained aloof — probably because of the guiding and controlling influence of **Norm**.

(**Charles Picchetti** wants to introduce his own RBT — "random bottom touching".) **Cheryl Clarke** and **Sandy Churcher** — what sort of party starts at 1.30 a.m.?)

I look forward to meeting all new members during our weekend "happy hours" — make yourself known to me and we will make sure you quickly get to know the old hands!

Norm Burkett

Treasurer's Report

As at 12/11/88 there were 65 members who had not paid their 1988/89 subs — reminder notices are being posted out, however if you have not paid yours please attend to this now and save the extra paperwork involved.

Nominations for Provisional Membership (senior) are being accepted and transfers to full membership are being arranged as vacancies occur.

Bob Howman.

We know from our tennis experience that we often overplay some shots and at other times fail to capitalize on the easy shots. We sometimes attempt to hit returns of serve for outright winners off excellent fast serves. To become competent tennis players we must learn when we need to be defensive, when we need to be a little cautious and when we can afford to be more offensive with our play.

Shot selection may be summed up by using the TRAFFIC LIGHT ANALOGY. Every ball that is hit at us has a certain colour to it. Like the traffic light the ball is either Red, Orange or Green.

A RED BALL as the red traffic light suggests is one that says 'danger' or 'stop'. For example a cannon-ball first serve coming right for our head would be recognised as a red ball. When a red ball comes at us we need to neutralise it. We should be looking to 'block and bloop' it back rather than attempting to hit it back twice as fast.

An ORANGE BALL coming at us signals that we need to be 'cautious but we may proceed'. For example a ball hit wide to our backhand or perhaps to our low volley may be recognised as orange. Here we need to be conscious that our opponents have made us run, put us out of position, made us play from less than an ideal position. From here we need to remain calm and positive, fine tune our footwork and return the ball with purpose. We need to be cautious and not too offensive and yet not too defensive.

A GREEN BALL as the traffic light suggests would give us the 'go ahead'. With a green ball we can be more offensive. It is recognised as a ball that doesn't make us run too much and it is hit around thigh or waist height. It would arrive where we feel most in control.

The colour of the ball is a personal decision dependent on:

- i) your ability level, and
- ii) your level of fitness

For example if we were playing Ivan Lendl or Steffi Graf every ball we hit to them they would set up as if it was an easy green ball, however, every shot that they hit us would be a difficult red one. Similarly, if we were playing a Sumo wrestler and we hit it straight to him at waist height he would recognise it as a green ball, however, if you hit it so that he had to take more than one step he would recognise it as bright red due to his lack of mobility.

My advice is to recognise your opponents weaknesses (technique, fitness, mental) as well as your own and develop a strategy around the TRAFFIC LIGHT ANALOGY, that is to aim to give your opponent as many red and orange balls as you can so that you may receive as many green balls in return.

Keith Begley
Club Coach

Know Your Members

A couple of years ago Vancouver suffered a loss that has turned out to be very much Hensman Park's gain. That was when **Craig** and **Wendy Ellis** decided to go west and settle in Perth, Western Australia. Mind you it is a returning home for Wendy who was actually born in Melbourne (on the second day of the 1956 Olympic Games) and spent the first few years of her life here during the period her father had been assigned 'down under'. Wendy proudly acknowledges her Australian citizenship, and says she will consider sponsoring Craig for his if he plays his cards right!

Wendy has spent the rest of her time in Vancouver, where competitive swimming was her big interest for many years. She swam in the Canadian National Championships for five years and in 1972 took part in the Olympic trials — without quite making the final team. After finishing competitions Wendy spent the next ten years as a Swimming instructor — and then their darling daughter **Carleigh** came on the scene.

Craig was born in Vancouver and spent most of his time there, however after the premature death of his father, he shifted to his mother's homeland of Scotland and spent the next ten years there. Returning to Vancouver, he met up with Wendy and they married in 1980. Craig was employed as a first aid attendant at a large construction site in Vancouver, however on shifting to Perth he was told he would have to re-sit for all the appropriate exams. Craig has now established a successful landscaping business with fellow member **Peter Hamilton**.

There's no hiding the affection the Ellis family feel for Hensman and its members. "We love it here — and believe me we have no intention of returning to Canada to live". Belonging to a tennis club in Vancouver attracts a sub of \$1500, and there is no organised social play and no social life such as we all enjoy and maybe take for granted at Hensman. Wendy's parents were here last Christmas and endeared themselves to members with their regular visits on weekends. Wendy's father passed away during the year however he was delighted to see the new environment in which Craig, Wendy and Carleigh are living. Wendy's mother can't wait until January when she will be visiting us again.

Hensman has much to be proud of in the sixty odd years since it began, and it can look confidently to the future with members of the calibre and friendliness of **Craig and Wendy Ellis**.

New Arrival

Congratulations to **Lianne** and **Ray Valentin** on the arrival of their daughter.

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Provisional Junior Notes

A big welcome to all our new Provisional Juniors. We hope all members will have a happy season and at the end of the season be pleased with the improvement in your tennis.

A number of our P.J.'s from last year have joined the ranks of pennant players, including **Cliff Webster, Matt Harmer, Tim Hammond, Nathan Dalton** and **Geoff Bates** also **Leanne Thorp, Tracey Russell, Samantha Bates** and **Melissa Dunne**. We do miss you but of course we wish you all the best of luck and hope you are enjoying your competitive tennis. We hope to see you back with us when you are not playing pennants.

We were sorry to lose **John Currado** from our club but his parents have been transferred to London. Here's hoping John can find some tennis enthusiasts over there.

We are again lucky to have **Rod Skipworth** keeping his watchful eye over the "Friday night training sessions".

The number of girls attending so far this season has been disappointing, but no doubt after the school exams are over we will see more of you again. We wish all members good luck for your end of year exams especially those taking the T.E.E.

On **SUNDAY, 18TH DECEMBER** P.J.'s will hold a medal tournament and will then have a break until the 8th January when the usual Sunday morning play will resume. Merry Christmas everyone!

Barbara Whitely

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