



# On the Net

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June 2015

Dear Club Member

We are now into the winter season which will see our grass courts progressively "rested" and play rotated to ensure they are all in good condition for the summer season.

We are talking to a number of local companies with a view of introducing sponsorship packages to assist with the club's finances. Such initiatives are hoped to be able to be used to improve some of the club's aging facilities and bring forward necessary maintenance programs. We are also planning to reinstate the flagpoles on the eastern side of centre court.

We are also in discussions with the State Library, with a view to archiving and digitising some of the more delicate and important historical memorabilia situated in the Members' Pavilion.

More news on these initiatives will be reported as progress occurs.

In this issue, we report on the induction of Margaret Court into the club and a successful visit by two club members to one of our CTC reciprocal clubs in the USA.

Gerry Hofmann  
President

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## TENNIS & SOCIAL CALENDAR

Forthcoming events to diarise are;

<b>2015</b>			
<b>1</b>	AGM	Wednesday 23 September	6.00 pm
<b>2</b>	Opening Day	17 October	Tentative Date, subject to courts & weather
<b>3</b>	Friendly against Nedlands	TBA	
<b>4</b>	President's Cocktail Party	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Tentative date to pencil into your diaries
<b>2016</b>			
<b>5</b>	Past Presidents' Dinner	18 June, 2016	Held only once every 4 years, this should be a gala event.

## CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Unfortunately, the dates chosen for this year's club championships were not ideal, being either slotted in between the conclusion of summer pennants and Easter or between Easter and the start of winter pennants. Having chosen the latter, it was nevertheless very disappointing to see the low number of entries received this year, particularly from the ladies, meaning that no ladies events could be held.

The Committee will seriously review the situation to ensure that next year we can make the club championships more relevant for a larger number of members.

For those events that were held, congratulations to the winners and runners up and apologies to those members who entered events that had to be cancelled due to insufficient numbers.

The results of those events that were held are as follows :

Event	Winner	Runner-Up
Mens Singles	Alex Chijoff-Evans	Michael Naylor
Mens 50+ Singles	Alan D'Orsogna	Ivan Zuvela
Mens Doubles	Ryan Maxfield & Michael Naylor	Alex Chijoff-Evans & Sean Lim
Mixed Doubles	Michael Naylor & Tatum Wolfmarans	Lewis Rattigan & Mareena Weston
Mens 50+ Doubles	Greg Jacobs & Cal Rogers	Alan D'Orsogna & Richard Yong
Mixed 50+ Doubles	Richard Yong & Barbara Oldfield	Greg Jacobs & Wendy Doyle

## MARGARET COURT HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Margaret Court, AO, MBE, was admitted as an Honorary Member of the Club at an induction ceremony on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May. Possibly one of the greatest tennis players of all time, male or female, Margaret won 24 Grand Slam singles titles and a staggering 64 Grand Slam titles in all, which included womens and mixed doubles events. She is the only player ever to have won all 12 Grand Slam events (singles, doubles & mixed in 4 Grand Slam tournaments) at least twice, These records are unlikely ever to be eclipsed.

Margaret, after whom our centre court is named, played at RKPTC on numerous occasions during her career, including using the club courts to practice on during the days when Bill Cross was Curator. Margaret says that Bill used to prepare the court just to her liking. She was a member of the Federation Cup team that won the cup by beating Great Britain in the finals at RKPTC in 1970/71.



Margaret Court with Club President, Gerry Hofmann, with a photo of her playing at RKPTC



The certificate of membership presented to Margaret Court



Margaret Court in action on centre court during the 1970 Federation Cup final where Australia defeated Great Britain (Photo courtesy of Brian Bignell who was President of RKPTC at the time)

## THE CTC INTERNATIONAL TEAMS SHIELD

In late 2013, Royal King's Park Tennis Club was accepted into The Association of Centenary Tennis Clubs (CTC), the prestigious international organisation of tennis clubs which are more than 100 years old.

See the CTC website: [www.centenarytennisclubs.org](http://www.centenarytennisclubs.org)

Over 5 days - 11 to 15 January 2016, RKPTC and Next Generation Kings Park are planning to host the inaugural international CTC Shield Tournament, an over 50's event for teams of 4 to 8 ITF ranked top men and women from CTC Clubs from 8 different countries around the world. It will comprise Men's and Women's Singles and Doubles and Mixed Doubles, played on our grass courts under the new Fast4 format.

We are joining Tennis Australia's "SUMMER OF TENNIS", with our event slotting into the week immediately after the Hopman Cup and preceding the Australasian Seniors Teams and Individuals event which will take place in Shepparton in 2016.

It is envisaged that this will become an annual event. Initially invitations will be sent to CTC clubs in Spain, Germany, UK, France, India, Japan, USA and Australia to compete. With sponsorship support, this event could grow quickly to a 12 team international competition in future years.

All club members will be encouraged to attend the club and mix with our international competitors and to join in the social events planned to celebrate this event.

Visitors will also be able to view much of our tennis history and culture which is on display in the Members' Pavilion, many photos depicting some of the great tennis players from the past from their respective countries.

Next Generation members who join RKPTC (via a simple no-cost application form) will have the opportunity to visit and enjoy the facilities of many of these clubs when travelling interstate or overseas via RKPTC's Reciprocal Agreements with them. There are some 70 CTC clubs around the world - in places as diverse as London, Dublin, Paris, New York, Boston, Newport, Toronto, Barcelona, Berlin, Delhi, Frankfurt, Johannesburg, San Francisco, Buenos Aires and many other great cities - all displayed on the CTC web-site.

RKPTC members are encouraged to pass this information on to prospective NG members and friends and relatives who may be interested in joining the club.

Article written by Laurie Eastwood & Ted Reiss

## VISIT TO LONGWOOD CRICKET CLUB

The following is a contribution written by long term club member Joshua Pitt :

I have just returned from a quick overseas trip which included, as a highlight, a train trip up to Boston to join Jerry Haley for tennis at the famous Longwood Cricket Club. We had organised an introduction from RKPTC under the new Centenary Club exchange arrangements whereby any club member is welcomed to a worldwide and growing list of tennis clubs with the common bond of being at least one hundred years old.

We were met at the door and introduced around the club and then a match was set up for us on the grass courts just opened after winter. Jerry was in good form and we were able to uphold the RKPTC reputation with a 6 to 3 then 5 to 7 result against tough opposition. We had to leave it there as time was pressing and we were keen to get to the bar and chat with club members over a few beers.

It was explained to us that Longwood was very active expanding the Centenary Clubs concept across the USA, South America and Europe and we were presented with copies of their Club's History book. It was a shame we could not reciprocate with a copy of the RKPTC "McGibbon Years" book which is currently out of print.

The enjoyable adventure followed a similar outing to Forrest Hills in early 2014 when Pamela and I joined the Hirst family and friends (that included John and Caty Chappell) that had been organised as a part of Ray and Yvonne's daughter's wedding festivities. On that occasion we were able to present a copy of the RKPTC book which was greatly appreciated.

Jerry and I would like to encourage all club members to get behind the concept and if travelling, try to squeeze in a visit to one of these Centenary clubs to your itinerary. You can be sure of a warm reception and the effort would help lift the status of our club.



Jerry and Josh in front of the Longwood trophy cabinet

Footnote : Josh has kindly donated the funds to have 20 more copies of "The McGibbon Years" printed. These copies which will be made available for presentation to reciprocal clubs (only one per club) by RKPTC members when visiting them.

Also, despite its name, the Longwood Cricket Club is actually a tennis club. Any club member planning a visit to them should be aware that they have an all-white dress code.

## **KAZAKHSTAN DAVIS CUP TEAM VISIT**

We reported in the last issue that the Kazakhstan Davis Cup would be coming to practice at RKPTC in preparation for their tie against Australia in Darwin in July.

Negotiations and details were virtually concluded when suddenly they discovered that some grass practice courts would be made available to them in Darwin.

It was a no-brainer for them to go that way and it has been a disappointment for both parties that they had to withdraw from Perth.

## **NEW CLUB SHIRTS**

The club shirts are now in stock and available for purchase by members.

Manufactured in a cool, light, "breathable" material, the shirts feature the club colours in inserts and piping together with the RKPTC monogram in full colour.



While Marika is on leave (see below), the shirts are available through any Committee member for \$40.00 each and are available in Ladies sizes 10, 12, 14 and 16 and Mens sizes Small, Medium, Large and Extra-Large.

Orders can be placed by paying cash or else payment can be made on TryBooking on <http://www.trybooking.com/139629>

Members are encouraged to support the club and purchase a shirt before stocks run out. Even if you don't need a new tennis shirt right now, consider making a purchase in order to be able to buy a piece of history - they will become collectors' items in the future.

## HERITAGE MATTERS

Our vision for preserving the past while promoting the future requires constant effort to ensure that we act as responsible custodians of the heritage collection of memorabilia that has been handed down from past generations and entrusted to us to pass onto future generations.

In that regard, the Club has been holding discussions with the State Library with a view to preserving and archiving the oldest and most delicate photo memorabilia from our archive collection. This will also include getting digital copies made.

Lindsay Cox, who has been responsible for championing the documenting and preservation of our history over recent years needs some younger assistance to carry on with the good work.

We therefore wish to put out the call for nominations from members who are interested in assisting with the work of documenting and liaising with the State Library in this task as well as progressing with the production of a club booklet to complement "The McGibbon Years" that Graeme and Lindsay Cox wrote.

Any interested club members who may have some spare time and are willing to assist in capturing and preserving the club's history should contact Club President, Gerry Hofmann, in the first instance.

## TENNIS VISITOR PASSES

The club has purchased an additional batch of tennis visitor passes which are only available to members of RKPTC.

Details are as follows:

- Each entry pass will cost \$15 (the normal visitors fee is \$30 )
- Each member will be limited to buying a maximum of 10 passes per annum (the club will monitor this restriction)
- Each individual visitor will be limited to 4 visits per annum, even if being introduced by different members
- You must pay for your tennis visitor passes on Trybooking at <http://www.trybooking.com/60483>
- Marika will then complete the passes and leave them at NG reception for collection. **Please note that the tickets/receipts generated by TryBooking are not the official NG Visitors Passes.**
- NG's "guest disclaimer" forms will need to be completed by each visitor when they enter the club.
- **The tennis visitor pass will provide full access to all club facilities.**

## RECIPROCAL CLUBS

A reminder that if you are travelling interstate or overseas and decide to throw your trusty tennis gear into your travel bag, consider contacting any of the following clubs which have reciprocal playing rights with our Club;

Kooyong Tennis Club	Melbourne	03 9822 333
<a href="mailto:koo@planet.net.au">koo@planet.net.au</a>		
RAC Club Australia	Sydney	02 9233 2355
<a href="mailto:raca@raca.com.au">raca@raca.com.au</a>		
Memorial Drive TC	Adelaide	08 8110 7788
<a href="mailto:doho@nextgenerationclubs.com.au">doho@nextgenerationclubs.com.au</a>		
Hong Kong CC	Hong Kong	+2574 6266
<a href="mailto:hkcc@hkcc.org">hkcc@hkcc.org</a>		
Singapore CC	Singapore	+65 3383 121
<a href="mailto:scc@scc.org.sg">scc@scc.org.sg</a>		
Penang Sports Club	Penang	+65 229 7834
<a href="mailto:pspclub@po.jaring.my">pspclub@po.jaring.my</a>		
British club	Bangkok	+66 2234 0247
<a href="mailto:tadams@bkk3.loxinfo.co.th">tadams@bkk3.loxinfo.co.th</a>		
Ibiza Club	Bengal	+91 033 2470 9928
<a href="mailto:info@merlinprojects.com">info@merlinprojects.com</a>		
ACT National T & C Club	Canberra	02 6160 7800
<a href="mailto:tennis@tennisact.com.au">tennis@tennisact.com.au</a>		
Queensland LTA	Brisbane	07 3120 7900
<a href="mailto:info@tennisqueensland.com.au">info@tennisqueensland.com.au</a>		
Domain Tennis Centre	Hobart	
<a href="mailto:manager@domaintennis.com.au">manager@domaintennis.com.au</a>		

In addition, there are many more CTC reciprocal clubs whose details can be found on the CTC website :

[www.centenarytennisclubs.org](http://www.centenarytennisclubs.org)

Remember to request a letter of introduction from Marika Leonard in the RKPTC office prior to travelling. Please note that Marika only attends the office on Tuesday and Thursday mornings so please give her sufficient notice to attend to this request. During Marika's absence (see below), please contact Gerry Hofmann at [ghofmann@westnet.com.au](mailto:ghofmann@westnet.com.au)

## **RKPTC OFFICE CLOSURE**

Marika will be taking a well-earned holiday from Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July. During this period, the office will be closed but telephone and email messages will be monitored by members of the Committee.

Our office contact details are:

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