



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I hope that Santa found everyone successfully over Christmas and that the New Year has started on a good note for you and yours.

At the time of writing, Western Australia has been experiencing heat wave temperatures, hopefully our improved watering capabilities will stand our grass courts in good stead, and they won't be adversely affected. Having the grass in good playing condition is certainly a priority for me, and I know many members share that view.

As we headed into the Xmas break, most of our pennant teams appeared well placed to compete in finals in their respective grades. Good luck to all teams in the remaining matches.

Plans to upgrade the lighting on synthetic grass courts 11-14 are well under way, so watch this space for a commencement date.

A change to the decor inside adjoining the bar is not too far off either, as new fabric has been chosen to recover the six tub chairs. This will give them a refreshing visual lift, I'm sure.

Club championships are also approaching, please consider entering. There's an event for everyone's playing level, it's a lot of fun and nearly all events are completed in a single day.

Yours in tennis

Kind regards - Jim Sewell



WORD FROM THE EDITORS

Hope that you have all enjoyed the festivities of Christmas and New Year. A big welcome to our new members. It's been a hot January with high 30 degrees, but these conditions have not deterred our members from having a hit down at the club. That's dedication for you! All members, including Juniors, please send your tennis news or photos to vicepresident@bluegumtennis.org

Cheers, Clare Howells, Brad Bocking & Penelope Martella



COMPETITION TENNIS

HOW ARE OUR PENNANT TEAMS GOING?

Our pennant teams have been returning to the courts since the start of February, and we wish them the best of luck for the rest of the season. There's only a couple of weeks left in the season before finals and many of our teams are in a good position to qualify for the finals.

SENIORS

DAY	SENIOR TEAM	CAPTAIN	POSITION
Saturday	Men's Open Div 5	Kieren Trim	5
	Men's Open Div 9	Matthew Sherry	1
	Men's Open Div 11	Mick Moulin	4
	Men's Open Div 15	Goran Sebek	2
Sunday	Men's 45+ Div 1	Sean O'Reilly	1
	Men's 60+ Div 1	Colin Griffith	4
Tuesday Night	Night Mixed Doubles Div 3	Kirsten Hoad	4
Wednesday	Women 8's Div 2 (Day)	Catherine Brock	1
Wednesday Night	Men's 8's Div 2	Marty Claydon	6
	Men's 3P Div 1	Andres Arevelo	4
	Men's 3P Div 2	Tony Coulson	4
	Men's 8's Div 4	Scott Slawinski	8
Thursday Night	Women's 8's Div 3	Fiona Greenshields	1
	Women's 8'S Div 4	Jo Clarke	4

YES, I
HAVE A
RETIREMENT
PLAN.
I PLAN TO PLAY
TENNIS.





JUNIORS

DAY	JUNIOR TEAM	CAPTAIN	POSITION
ORANGE U11	Div 1	Silvester Huang	5th
	Div 2	Kai Malaney	4th
	Jaguar	Lotta Schildenfeld	2nd
	Puma	Jordann Soh	1st
	Margay	Nickan Valizadeh	4th
GREEN U13	Div 1	Berlin Trisula	3rd
	Div 3	Isaac Ye	2nd
	Div 2	Sofia Camargos Langer	1st
	Div 5	Alyssa Eaton	2nd
	Div 6	Isaac Williamson	3rd
	Div 10	Xavier Ellis	1st
	Numbat	Rasya Aluru	5th
	Echidna	Alexander Mc Ilveen	7th
Mixed Yellow U13	Div 1	Flynn Sammut	1st
	Div 1	Jasper Yu Qian Yap	3rd
	Div 2	Caleb Ashmore	3rd
	Div 5	Liam Soh	4th
	Div 6	Benjamin Chi	1st
	Div 8	Alessandro Escott	2nd
Girls U 15	Div 1	Pascaline Mpunga	4th
	Div 4	Skyla Martin	1st
Boys U 15	Div 1	Nicholas Willey	2nd
	Div 1	Louis Pillay	3rd
	Div 4	Marko Gibbison	1st
	Div 6	Matthew Rollason	5th
	Div 8	Oliver O'Brien	6th
Girls U18	Div 2	Arika Kalif	2nd
Boys U 18	Div 2	Logan Ramachandran	4th
	Div 4	Jidu Li	4th





NATIONAL'S SENIORS COMPETITION

ADELAIDE – JANUARY 2025

This year the Tennis Seniors National competition was played in Adelaide. Western Australia was very well represented in the tournament and 6 of our members from BGPTC attended the event. Congratulations to Catherine Brock and her team of players from various clubs around Perth, for your victory in the Over 70's Event. Other club members who participated in the Nationals' Competition were Stephanie Mac Donald, Debbie Cummings, Shelley Boon, Colin Griffin, Colin Lorrimar and Sean O'Reilly.



Catherine Brock, second from right



Colin Griffin, centre / **Colin Lorrimar**, far right



Stephanie MacDonald, second from left



Debbie Cummings, third from left



Sean O'Reilly, far right



Shelley Boon, second from right



THE AUSTRALIAN OPEN

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Australian Open began in 1905
- In its early years, the AO was hosted by many Australian cities including Perth



AO Doubles Elimination Match 1922

- The AO was played on grass for most of its history until late 1980s when courts changed to hard courts.
- In 1988 Rod Laver Arena at Melbourne Park became the first ever stadium in a Grand Slam tournament to feature a retractable roof.
- *The longest Grand Slam final was between Novak Djokovic and Rafael Nadal in 2012. The match lasted 5hrs 53min with Djokovic winning 5-7, 6-4, 6-2, 6-7, 7-5*
- *Martina Hingis at 16 years of age, holds the record for being the youngest ever AO Championship winner.*

CLUB EVENTS

CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Blue Gum Christmas Party was held on Saturday the 14th of December. Around 40 people attended this function. Those of us who did attend would all agree that the food was absolutely delicious. Thanks once again to Claire Hitchens and her hard-working crew who shared the enormous task of preparing the meat and salad dishes and by helping with the setting up and clearing up. We certainly all went home with full bellies.

AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATION

It was a colourful afternoon of tennis with many players proudly wearing their Australia Day outfits. All grass courts were used for our social competition. Thank you to Kirsten and Trevor for organising the afternoon's tennis. In the women's section, Dandan was the winner with Suzie Attwater being the runner-up. The men's winners were nowhere to be seen for photos! The winner was Bill Thomas, and runner-up was Mike Wardle-Johnson.



Dandan, winner

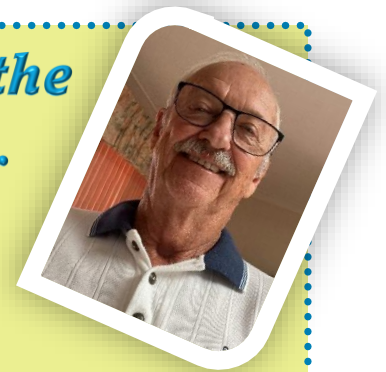


Suzie Attwater, runner up

Following the tennis presentation many players stayed to watch the last set of the AO Women's final which was then followed by a casual, relaxed meal enjoyed by everyone. Some people chose to soak up the summer atmosphere by eating on the verandah. Thank you to Claire Hitchens and her many helpers who contributed to the catering and this fun event.

Through the Wringer...

Dave Blewett



This month's member to answer our quiz is 83-year-old Dave Blewett. After moving up to Perth from Esperance, Dave and his wife Barbara joined Blue Gum in 1986 – that's 38 years ago! Dave has always been actively involved in the club playing pennants and attending club events. He now plays with the Men's Blue Gum Nuts on Tuesdays and Thursdays as well as playing social tennis on Saturday afternoons.

Who is your favourite tennis player of all time?

Federer

What age did you start playing tennis?

Approximately 15 years

Which sport rates 2nd to tennis?

Basketball

What is your favourite food?

Red Rooster Honey Chilli Chicken

What was your first car?

Austin 7 1929

What is your favourite song?

Danny Boy

What is your favourite movie?

Titanic (1950's version)

What is your favourite colour?

Blue

What is your favourite singer?

Abba

Where are your favourite places to go for holidays?

Caravanning



SOCIAL NEWS

BLUE GUM NUTS MOORA ROAD TRIP

On Wednesday 13th November, nine BGN tennis warriors set out for a three-day road trip adventure through the wheatbelt towns of Wannamal, Moora and New Norcia. On the first day, following a cleverly scripted program by John Urbaniak, the group tasted the treats at the Bindoon Bakery, fought the flies at the new synthetic courts at Wannamal, lunched at the Moora Bakery before settling into individual dongas at the Workers camp in Moora. After pre-dinner drinks with French backpackers and Tongan weightlifters, the BGNs ventured to the Drover's Inn for dinner, and enjoyed wonderful tucker, generous hospitality and laughs with the publican Maria. The walk back to the dongas in the darkness provided a great opportunity to get lost, but at the same time the walking straightened up.



The second day started with a grand BBQ breakfast before heading off to play tennis at the Moora hard courts in the centre of town. It was a hot morning accompanied by swarms of flies, so it wasn't long before we all retreated to a gorgeous French café for morning coffee and cake. The warmth helped everyone to catch up on sleep in the afternoon before we went back into action playing tennis with locals at the Moora club from 6 pm under lights. Dinner followed again at the Drovers Inn, this time without Maria's attention, we sang a few songs and got to work on solving the world's problems.

The last day again started with a sumptuous breakfast before we all packed up and headed for coffee, before which we toured the monk's graveyard at New Norcia. This reminded us of the BGNs motto... seize the day while you can! Overall, the trip was very successful, plenty of fun and laughs, good tennis and excellent venues, and just good old-fashioned mateship.





CURRENT CLUB EVENTS

- Saturday 1st February** Pennant League Recommences
- Saturday 15th February** Life Members' Day
- Saturday 8th March** Sponsors' Day
- Saturday 22nd March** Coaches' Day
- 29/30th March & 5/6th April** Club Championships



BGPTC SPONSORS



GET TO KNOW OUR COACHES



DAN SEWELL

**DIRECTOR &
CLUB PRO COACH**



Nickname – Sewelly

Where are you from? Walkaway, Western Australia

What sort of coach are you?

A coach that is ambitious for all players to reach their potential while providing an enjoyable experience.

Why do you coach?

To enjoy the magic of sharing improvement with players and families.

Most memorable moment/s from your coaching so far:
I reflect on the relationships with young players I've coached to an elite level and their families. I reflect on the development of many coaches that have done a wonderful job coaching for TE.

Favorite tennis player?

Nick Kyrgios – he's talented and always interesting (not always for the right reasons).

Qualifications

- Tennis Australia Club Professional
- Bachelor in International Business + Economics
 - TCA Advanced Tennis Coach
 - Member TA & TCA WA Coach Member
 - Tennis Australia Certified
 - Current First Aid
 - Current Working With Children Card

Coaching Experience

- International coaching in USA, Canada, England, Ireland & Germany
- 5 years under WA Coach of the Year John Thorpe at the Dalkeith TC
- Director/ Head Coach – TE Blue Gum TC (14 years) and TE Melville Palmyra TC

Playing Experience

- Represented Wembley Downs TC, North Beach TC and Dalkeith TC in Men's State League
 - Professional 2000
 - USA College Tennis
- Represented WA as a junior