

THE *Waverley* INFORMER

Issue 3, August 2021

The official newsletter of Waverley Tennis

MID-WEEK LADIES

The Mid-Week Ladies' Division Committee handed out these Waverley Tennis-MWL sun visors to all participating teams at their recent AGM.

These sun visors commemorate the 40 year anniversary of the Mid-Week Ladies' Competition and celebrate our return to play after taking a break during 2020. Let's keep our fingers crossed for some more uninterrupted matchplay!

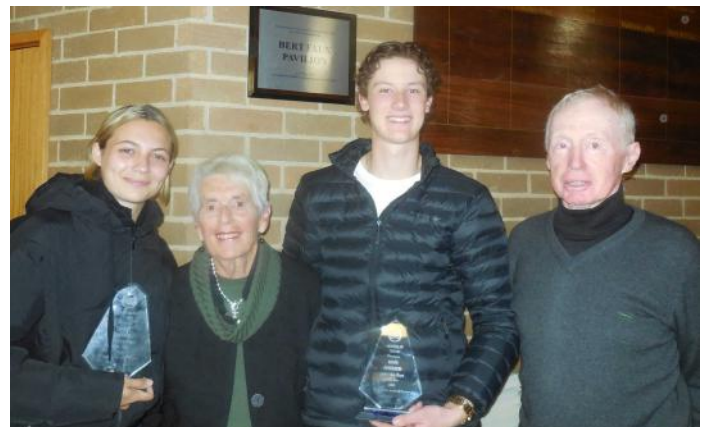


▲ *Nola Williams and Judy Searl proudly sporting their new visors*

JUNIOR PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

A round of applause for Tallie Collins and Rhys Edwards, our Waverley Tennis Junior Players of the Year for 2020.

Tallie and Rhys continued to work hard in the spirit of the game and demonstrated real sportsmanship through the ups and downs of last year.



▲ *L to R: Tallie Collins, Lyn Gillen, Rhys Edwards and Brian Hovey*



**WAVERLEY TENNIS
IS NOW ON
INSTAGRAM**

Better late than never, we always say...

Chuck us a follow on [@waverleytennis](https://www.instagram.com/waverleytennis) (and tell all your mates) to keep staying up-to-date with news, events and more!



THE NEW AND IMPROVED EILDON PARK TC

Over the last few lockdowns, we've seen some major upgrades at Eildon Park Tennis Club that both the committee and its members are extremely proud of.

We had our very old toilet block completely renovated thanks to the assistance of Knox City Council, in which the existing male and female bathrooms were replaced and a new accessible toilet and shower were added in.

Courts 4 to 6 have also been completely redone, again with thanks to Knox City Council, which included new fencing around the courts and LED lighting which looks fantastic!

The Committee has also invested in upgrading the inside of the clubhouse. We have new couches, tables, chairs and are in the process of having two new split systems installed, new flooring, and a new TV.



It's fair to say the club has come a long way in just a few short months. We invite you to come along, and see for yourself the incredible changes via Book a Court:

<https://play.tennis.com.au/eildonparktennisclub>

UTR: LOCAL COMPETITION, GLOBAL RANKING

We are very excited to announce that Waverley Tennis is now a Universal Tennis Club!

What does this mean for you? Events at our club can now count towards your Universal Tennis Rating (UTR), and you can track your own dynamic rating and objectively measure your progress.

You may have heard about the Universal Tennis Rating (UTR), which is the world's most accurate global tennis rating used around the world by millions of players to understand their current skill level and to allow them to find better matches and more players. Every tennis player, across age, gender and geography, has a UTR on the same 16 point scale. It's an objective, results-driven rating based on:

1. Strength of opponent
2. Games won
3. Your last 30 matches within 12 months

As a Universal Tennis club, we'll be introducing new formats and events so you'll get more opportunities for better matches with players at your skill level – and isn't it more fun to play someone at your level?

After you join our club on UTR, check out the ratings of other members and look for upcoming events to experience level-based play.

Follow the links on the Waverley Tennis Website to join our club – see you on court!



ROBINSON RESERVE: CHEERS TO 20 YEARS



It is now 20 years since the WDTA was invited by the City of Casey to take over the tenure of the Doveton Tennis Club at Robinson Reserve.

Much has happened at the Robinson Reserve Complex over this period, including many successful events such as the Tennis Australia/Tennis Victoria sponsored ATL (Australia-Pacific Tennis League), Platinum and Gold AMTs and Waverley Tennis finals, the Daphne Fancutt Carnival and the Pat Pearce Memorial Shield. As Tournament Manager, Lyn Gillen has been the driving force for almost all of the above competitions.

We have been privileged to see many Grand Slam players on the courts, including Destanee Aiava, Peter Luczak, John and Sally Peers, Omar Jasika and Sam Groth.

The nine-court Complex has developed into a busy tennis centre, greatly assisted by notable coaches, such as Justin Yeo, Nectar Davos and Tophan Bulant, helping to build Waverley squads and Doveton membership.

There were many improvements over the past 20 years. Some of the major changes worth noting are –

- Court resurfacing and lighting on courts 7, 8 and 9 when the area was “grassed over” shortly after hand over
- Lighting upgrade on courts 1 – 6 to a modern low level system

- Installation of a 90,000 litre water tank during the 2006 drought (funded by Tennis Australia and City of Casey)
- A major Clubhouse upgrade and extension to modernise the toilets, kitchen, carpets and Tournament Office (funded by City of Casey)
- A major court rebuild and resurfacing of all courts (funded by Tennis Victoria)
- A total upgrade of all external fencing with modern coated wire, including “low viewing” fencing (funded by City of Casey)
- A spectator shelter at the northern courts (designed and built by our Life Member, Len Pratt)
- Upgrading the public address system
- New internal blinds and yet-to-be installed outdoor awnings for the Clubhouse (funded by the City of Casey)
- The erection of a Stratco storage shed (funded by City of Casey).

Many people have been, and still are, responsible for the weekly maintenance at the Doveton courts. In the early days, Tom Smith (dec.) and Bruce Masters were invaluable and regular workers every Tuesday with Committee members, David Hocking and Graeme Gillen (Secretary/Manager). After Tom’s passing, other regular volunteers joined the group, and history should record the Club’s gratitude to Don Aitken, Ian Brown, Tophan Bulant, Peter Durkin and Trevor Smyth for their consistent help in maintaining the Complex.

The Club is grateful to Tennis Victoria, Tennis Australia and Casey Council for their considerable involvement and contribution to the Doveton and Waverley tennis communities.



BIG WINS FOR OFFICER TC

Officer Tennis Club is very proud of its latest improvements at the Club.

Many Waverley Tennis Senior opposition teams were thrilled with the 2 new synthetic grass courts laid in January this year. We now have 4 hardcourts and 2 synthetic grass courts which give more options for playing in wet weather (and are a much more forgiving surface to play on!) The surface has settled in well and teams report they are enjoying how they are playing.



▲ A1 Men's Premiership Winners! (L to R: Travis, Troy, Dylan, Travis, Brien, Glenn)

A1 Reserved Mixed Runners Up
(L to R: Shane, Warrick, Ross, Mary Jo, Kim, Karina) ▼



Other recent improvements at Officer Tennis Club also include: new external black fencing, new LED lighting for the 6 courts, new nets, new water fountain, new seating, and a large shade structure near the Clubhouse. We hope that these improvements bring more Senior players into our club in what is now a rapidly growing area.

This Summer season entered 4 teams. Of these teams, we won an A1 Men's Premiership and came Runners Up in A1 Reserve Mixed Team. Great success for the Club - bring on more tennis!



SPOTLIGHT ON: Lucia Placidi

Every issue, the Informer will be picking the brain of a Waverley Tennis member... This month, we chatted with Lucia who is currently playing College Tennis in the US.

Q: Hi Lucia! Let's start with an introduction: who are you and how did you get involved with Waverley Tennis?

Hello everyone! I am a Melbournian, born and raised in the southeastern suburbs. When I was 9, I joined Waverley Tennis, starting with the Junior Saturday comp at my local club (Doveton TC), and as I got older, I participated in more competitions representing Waverley.

Q: What have you been up to recently?

Since 2019, I've been over in the US playing Division 1 College Tennis. I had to come home last year due to COVID but will be returning in August to complete the final year of my degree in Baltimore, Maryland.

Q: Did you always know you wanted to do that?

I had no clue what I wanted to do once I graduated Year 12, but I definitely knew I wanted to keep playing tennis! So in my last few months of school I decided to apply and I'm glad that I did it. I'm really enjoying it and can't wait to get back over there.

Q: What would you say have been the greatest challenges you have faced?

Probably adjusting to the American way: there are certain ways of speaking, different attitudes, new styles of food. It really is just like in the movies. They drive really big vehicles so at first it was scary on the freeway! Weirdly, my jam-packed schedule stops me from missing home too much, and FaceTime helps a lot.



Q: Who or what has been your greatest support on this journey?

My family has been the greatest support. They drove me to every class, training session and competition growing up, and they're still supporting me today from the other side of the world.

Q: Do you have any pro tips for anyone who is also thinking of College Tennis?

I say go for it! The cons are outweighed by the pros of getting to train on a new level and making friends with athletes from around the world. It's super intense with juggling study and training (both are considered important over there) but you can handle it by being organised.

Q: And finally, if you could be any tennis player for 24 hours - who would you be and why?

I'd be Serena Williams - she does a lot of things in her life that aren't just tennis so it would be interesting to see how she balances everything.



POST-PONED: 66TH ANNUAL PAT PEARCE MEMORIAL SHIELD

Due to current COVID restrictions, Waverley Tennis regretfully wishes to inform clubs and players that the Pat Pearce Memorial Shield 2021 is to be rescheduled.

Previous dates: 1 to 3 October 2021.

New dates: TBC



REMINDER: WAVERLEY TENNIS AGM 2021

The **Waverley Tennis Annual General Meeting** will be held on **Thursday 9 September 2021** from 7:30pm.

The event will be held online via Microsoft Teams. Links to join will be emailed to clubs closer to the date.

You made it to the end! Thanks for reading!

Got something you'd like to share? Submit your stories and photographs by emailing us at informer@waverleytennis.asn.au

Stay up-to-date with everything Waverley Tennis following us on our socials:



PATHWAYS FOR YOU – EducationUSA

Interested in pursuing tennis at a College level in the US?

Representatives from EducationUSA will be attending the Pat Pearce Memorial Shield Carnival, so keep your eyes peeled for the new dates to be announced!

EducationUSA provides secondary students with up-to-date, comprehensive information about studying at accredited institutions in the US.



PROUD SPONSOR OF WAVERLEY TENNIS

Bendigo Bank
Pinewood Community Bank



In the spirit of reconciliation, Waverley Tennis would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land upon which we work, live and play. We pay our respects to their elders past, present and emerging.

