

The Network

June 2022

PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

All enquiries to:

nedlandstennis@bigpond.com

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(Disclaimer: Editor bias)

Special Announcements & Coming Events

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- AGM – Tuesday 9 August at 7:30PM

Committee 2021/22

President:	Neil Croker
Vice President:	Nathalie Smalberger
Treasurer	Dave Mofflin
Secretary/Manager:	John Detwiler
Sponsorship:	Nathalie Smalberger
Club Captain:	Carolyn Choong
Men's League:	Neil Croker
Women's League:	Mel English
General Committee:	Suresh Sakar
	Michael Nowak
	Warren Vickers
	Frank Sweeney
	Lisa McCusker

ANNUAL GENERAL MEEETING

See Page 14 for details

As predicted the club had a few curve balls to deal with since our last Network. Despite those challenges we are in good shape thanks to the hard work of the Committee, our many volunteers, our coaches, sponsors and enthusiastic players.

Some key highlights for the first half of 2022 include:

- successfully hosted the Tennis West Junior and Open Series Tournament in January, thanks to the fine efforts of **Ali Webster** as tournament director, with great support from **Mel Thew** and a large team of volunteers
- completed the rectification of court 16 wall failure thanks to **Mike Nowak's** efforts
- completed work on heritage related rectifications and received \$5000 heritage grant, thanks to **Mike Nowak** with valuable input from **John Taylor**
- court 10/11 resurfacing, drainage and lighting project is 90% complete with the final lighting work expected to be completed this month – thanks to **Dave Mofflin's** efforts as project manager, as well as our many donors and funding grants from City of Nedlands and WA Department of Community, Sports and Recreation.
- completed upgrade to our watering reticulation system after we identified many of the sprinklers were malfunctioning – thanks to **Frank Sweeney**
- we finished a busy Summer League season with many teams qualifying for finals, and have record numbers participating in our very popular Winter doubles Night Intra-club competitions
- After a protracted planning process the long awaited kitchen upgrade is imminent – thanks to **Mike Nowak**. If you noticed boxes of appliances in the club house, you will appreciate all we are waiting on is the contractor to work through his backlog of work before he commences, hopefully in August
- The Club championships were held in March/April, with triumphs for Men's champion, **Alan Lane** and Ladies champion, **Nathalie Smalberger**



- and the Ladies doubles 3-peat champions **Liz Schmitt and Tricia Herkess**



- As a result of his tireless work for the club I was privileged to award this year's **President's Trophy to Mike Nowak**



I thank all our sponsors for their support: **Gordon Davies Real Estate, Coopers and Lourie Optometrists, Chelsea Psychology, Perth Radiological Clinic and Tennis Only**. Please consider these local businesses that support our club when they may be of service.

Similarly I thank our advertisers: **Blennerhasset Jewellers, Weirs Butchers and MDS legal**.

The first half has been a particularly difficult period to navigate for head coach **Warren Vickers** (TennisHQ) due to Covid impacts and I congratulate him for keeping our juniors and coaching programs running successfully.

I know we have experienced a lot of Covid cases within the club's membership over the last couple of months. Hopefully all are fully recovered and with peak behind us we are getting close to "normal" operations.

Happy hitting.

Neil

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The club and its members appreciate your support and all the help that you have given us

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The Mary Poppins of the Round Robins does her Magic

A special Thank You to Yasuko who organised all the Round Robins Competitions this year, with help from Carolyn and Neil. She often had to dip in her bag of tricks to find replacement personnel at the eleventh hour and allow the faithful to take to the courts without them realising how much work it took behind the scene to have even groups and pairing to make these events enjoyable to all.



As always Thank You to our sponsors for their loyal support of the club.

We welcome all the help we can get and your contribution in funds and in kind is much appreciated.


Thank you to the following donors who kindly supported Our Annual Awards Dinner on the night:

- ★ *Elinor Cross for her generous donation of a Voucher at Elle Beauty in Hampden Road*
- ★ *Mel English for her bottle of Champagne for Best Dressed*
- ★ *Caroline Choong for her donation of two Weirs Vouchers*
- ★ *Gordon Davies for the donation of 2 bottles of wine*
- ★ *Ken Houston for the donation of two bottles of wine for our Raffles*

Elle BEAUTY
louise

Nedlands new beauty salon located on Hampden Rd. Offering waxing, tinting, facials, tanning, makeup, massage, nails and more.

Present this flyer to receive **10%** off your first treatment.



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 www.ellelouisebeauty.com.au

My very last network article! Am I excited? Absolutely yes! Time always comes around too quickly before I read an email with a screaming headline 'network articles due ASAP!!!' Wasn't it just last week I sent in an article? Why do I need to write this article? I have nothing to write about. Three years later, I still have nothing to write about - that's the truth. So, let's talk about my volunteering experience.


The googled findings on benefits of volunteering include:

- Gain confidence
- Volunteering can help you gain confidence by giving you a chance to try something new
- Make a difference
- Meet people
- Be part of a community
- Learn new skills
- Take on a challenge

Clearly, I am a slow learner. Three years later, I am still struggling with this article writing. No new skills gained here and journalism definitely ain't my thing! Neither is public speaking hence I did pick up a new skill - delegating. I have a wonderful team of reliable duty captains who would happily do those afternoon-tea speeches for me and they are so good at it too! They crack jokes, they bark at you to bring social balls back in after last set and they do a beautiful job of thanking the afternoon tea providers, set makers and bar duty people.

Winston Churchill once said "we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give". Reflecting upon Saturday social, it is more than just an afternoon of smacking tennis balls to most people. During the times when our WA border was closed which eventuated in families being separated, Saturday social tennis provided an enforced camaraderie, a familiar and comforting presence for many of our members. All of which would not have been made possible had we not had the support of volunteers, people with a sense of community within our own club.

Lastly, it has been a privilege to serve you all for the past 3 years. I thank each and every one of you for this very humbling experience. I will be handing the reins over to the next generation. Yup that's right - you won't repeatedly get harassed via emails nor texts from me if you fail to respond to duty roster reminders within 24 hours.

 Carolyn Choong

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Nathalie Smalberger

smalberger@westnet.com.au

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SIMPSON
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Vale

Lloyd Nixon

Passed away 14/3/2022 aged 90

Lloyd joined NTC in the early 1970s and was an active member throughout the 70s 80s and 90s. He was awarded life membership early on but continued to make a significant contribution to the club until he moved to Busselton after his retirement.

Lloyd was an active participant in what was considered, at that time, to be the 'veteran males' contingent, even though many of the group were only in their 40s. If you were to climb up and inspect the higher part of the club house wall you would likely find his name on a number of men's veterans Tennis West shields.



He was a member of a group of tennis players and golfers who rather smugly called themselves the **Thursday Aces**, based on the fact that the group included a few of the better tennis players of the day. The **Les Hammond** trophy records that Lloyd and his partners won the NTC Veterans Doubles event in the Club Tournament 7 times during the 70s, 80s and early 90s (twice with **John Anderson**, twice with **Ken Watson**, twice with **Jack Harrison** and once with **Cliff Fitzpatrick**).

Lloyd was a good tennis player with a big flat cross court forehand. When requesting a restring in the 1990s Lloyd was asked what string and tension he preferred. Much to the amusement of the re-stringer, Lloyd admitted that he had not broken a string for over 20 years and had absolutely no idea. Top spin was not in his repertoire.

Lloyd enjoyed playing tennis and socialising at the club but undoubtedly the most positive consequence of membership for Lloyd was meeting **Margaret Kirby** – one of the great romances facilitated by membership of NTC! Margaret and Lloyd married (second marriages for both) and spent many happy years together in Perth and later in retirement in Busselton.

During his many years at the club, Lloyd volunteered and worked tirelessly in many positions. He was Club Manager at a time when the position was completely voluntary. In those days there was no email, Facebook page, club website or mobile phones. Communication with members was cumbersome and time consuming relying on the post, frequent newsletters and hand outs in the club house. Lloyd, frugal with the club's finances, took it upon himself to deliver annual invoices, club championship entry forms and newsletters by bicycle to save the club the cost of postage.



As Club Captain, Lloyd was equally frugal when providing new balls for social tennis, carefully accounting for every ball at the end of Saturday social play, establishing a club culture that seems to have persisted to this day. Lloyd was a high school principal and although he appeared gruff, was kindly with a sense of humour and a keen intellect. This was displayed at the Quiz nights, run annually at that time, when Lloyd seemed inevitably to be on the winning table except when occasionally bested by **Barry Jones'** table, Barry having 'won the lot' on the quiz show Sale of the Century!

Lloyd's keen intellect was on display weekly, in what was one of his most significant contributions to the club, that of Club Captain. In those days, before the introduction of computerised sets, Lloyd would play every set of social tennis but come off each set a few minutes early in order to rush up to the club house and organise the next sets on a blackboard. He was able to get all players on court, organise even sets and ensure players played with different partners and opponents with apparent ease in a matter of minutes.

Lloyd's contribution was summed up recently by our oldest remaining Life Member, **Howard Lange**, who said that if you wanted something done at the club you either asked **John Rogers** or Lloyd Nixon as they never said 'No'. Lloyd will be remembered fondly, by those fortunate enough to have been at the club with him, for his dedicated contribution and especially for the wonderful social tennis sets he engineered.

Helen Morgan

Vale Professor Don Watts 1/4/1934 - 23/5/2022

Don was an esteemed academic and made a significant contribution to Australian education including during his time in the chemistry department at UWA, as the 2nd Director of the West Australian Institute of Technology, as the inaugural Vice-Chancellor of Curtin University and as President and founding Vice-Chancellor of Bond University.

He was held in high regard and recognised in numerous ways from being named a Member of the Order of Australia to having a squash court at UWA and the tavern at Bond University named after him.

An extraordinary keen and accomplished sportsman Don was a vibrant member of NTC over a long period. He will be remembered as a competitive and skilled player, as an active participant in the **Thursday Aces** contingent, a supportive mentor to juniors at the club and for his larger than life personality.

Helen Morgan



LEAGUE/ Ladies' Intra Club

Mel English, League Coordinator

By the second week of June our League teams will be into Round 6 and past the half-way point of the 2022 winter season. Winter tennis always presents challenges with illness and inclement weather. This year has been extra challenging whilst we all come to terms with COVID infections, isolation requirements and close contact definitions. Thank you to all players for pulling together to ensure play happens when possible, and special acknowledgement to our **volunteer captains** (Direshni, Helen and Mel) who have had to manage depleted reserve lists and the complexities of a new rating system.

Our Ladies Thursday evening Intraclub comp has been affected by weather, lighting issues on courts 17&18, and illness and injury! Despite this interruption, the battle of the wine varieties has been keenly and closely contested and many close sets enjoyed.

The New UTR (Universal Tennis Rating) System: This new system has come into effect this winter, and by the end of winter the UTR rating system will fully replace the previous 'CTR' Tennis Australia ratings. Lower is no longer better and we all need to aim higher!

The ratings run from 1(beginners)-16(pros).....

**** Please Note:** All league players, including reserves, are reminded that they will need to have a Match Centre account and to activate their UTR in order for their rating to appear on match scorecards.

**** Please log-in to your Match Centre account and follow the prompts to 'Activate your UTR' . If you do not yet have a Match Centre account, please use the following link: <https://www.tennis.com.au/competitiveplay/register-and-activate-your-utr>**

**** If you intend to play over the coming summer it is advisable to start the UTR activation process now. It should be relatively simple with an immediate result, but there have been a few 'hiccoughs' that are delaying successful implementation.**

JUNIOR LEAGUE

We have a massive ten teams this winter which is more than we can fit on our all weather courts. With a bit of juggling and use of our fantastic grass courts we are able to make it work which is great for our keen kids. The two new hard courts are now in play which is great for the winter season

This season we have been very lucky to have been able to recruit a bunch of talented 12 and 13 year old girls to create a Girls 18s Division one side. They are in general younger than most other teams but it is a great opportunity for them to challenge themselves. If you have a Sunday morning available, come down and check them out when they have a home game. You will be thoroughly impressed by their skills

We have three unbeaten teams at the halfway mark of the season, our boys green ball division two, our yellow ball 13's Divisions two and three. A great start to the season and best of all no rain out days yet! A huge improvement in the weather from 2021's wettest winter in 25 years.

FUN CLUB

We are as always running fun club through the winter season, running from 4.30 - 5.30pm on Friday nights, great for all ages of primary school kids and a social opportunity for parents to chill out to kick off the weekend. A big thanks goes to our club volunteers who staff the bar each week to help our weary parents unwind! All of our coaches do a wonderful job with the kids and make Friday Fun Club the event of the week.

CARDIO TENNIS

Our newest addition to our coaching team Jack has brought new energy into our Cardio sessions which are popular for adults looking to have a fun fitness session and smash a few balls around with friends. We are now offering two sessions a week on Tuesday nights and always welcoming of new players, regardless of standard. Drop in classes allow flexibility and we know you wont believe how much fun you can have and still get a work out.

WILSON TENNIS AFFILIATION

TennisHQ is affiliated with Wilson tennis, the number one tennis brand in the world. So many of the greatest players have used Wilson gear. Roger Federer, Serena & Venus Williams, Pete Sampras, Steffi Graf are just a few of the dominant number one players in the world to use their racquets. If you are ever looking to demo or purchase Wilson racquets please speak to us to see if we can help.

TIP OF THE MONTH

Do you know the modern tennis strings have made the most significant changes to the sport in the last 20-25 years? Not saying its going to make you a great player but it will give you the best opportunity to play your best. The rough rule of thumb for restringing frequency would be how many times you play a week is how many times you restring your racquet a year. It's a little investment in making your tennis experience the best it can be. We have a modern electric stringing machine and can often get your racquet back to you in 24 hours if you need it (sometimes even quicker if urgent)

HAPPY HITTING

Warren & Staff, TENNIS HQ

Picture the scene; Nedlands courts pristine, grounds looking welcoming, with ample shade and seating for all, table tennis in position and ready for normal duties (although carrying many deep battle scars from three adolescent boys with a love of beer pong), an army of helpers ready to sizzle sausages, bake and cook goodies, erect gazebos, organise matches, placate frazzled parents with a soothing ale and generally just be totally amazing club members. We were ready for our annual Junior and Open tournament.

The weather gods looked favourably upon us, and we managed to body swerve the searing heat that other tournaments had to cope with. We accepted 265 entries and scheduled 386 matches, 30 events, all delivered within three days! From 8 am till dusk, the courts were swarming with talent, and we even welcomed Federer, a young junior with a great name to call over the PA system! Apparently, our new, upgraded system was a tad louder than previous ones with Rachel even claiming that she could hear Mel and I screeching out names (with some very questionable mispronunciations) from her house. Apologies to all our neighbours for this noise pollution but needs must when you are trying to coax a junior away from his crucial game of poker or ping pong match to get them on court for their match.

Our tournament attracted players of all ages and one of the highlights was to see some of our adult club members signing up for the Open Doubles events and flying the flag for Nedlands. Congratulations must go to Lucia Agnello, Richard Clarke, Trish Heath, Anne Love, Monika Peterson, and Andrew Stead for stepping into the breach and challenging their young opponents with some crafty tennis. We were very proud of you and hopefully you will encourage more of our members to enter next year, especially when they get wind of your winnings, ladies!

There are so many people to thank, and I will list them all in a footnote to this report, but I must make a special acknowledgement to Mel English, Nathalie Smalberger and Rachel Palmer for their wonderful help and input throughout all the preparation and organisation involved in staging this tournament. This was such a team effort, and I am so grateful for all your hard work, patience, sense of fun and commitment. Gordon Davies sponsored our Open event and was there to award our Men's and Women's Champions; we are indebted to him for his support of our tournament. Mel English also sponsored the Junior trophies that were so popular with our younger competitors- and secretly the envy of our adult players too! Thanks also to John Detweiler and Neil Croker for being on hand to assist with basically anything and everything that we requested.

Nedlands Tennis Club is certainly in good shape and hopefully this tournament will attract new talent and players of all ages. It was a pleasure to organise the event and to work alongside such dedicated and fun people who I will endeavour to list below.

Frank Sweeney	Annie Bull	Lola and Thais
Pip Micalizzi	Richard Clarke	Michelle Smith
Rob Tucker	Nick Palmer	Deb Lord
Phil Holten	Tony Morgan	Penny Oldfield
Rosie McCallum	Neville Opie	Jen McGillvray
Barb and Mike Nowak	Greg and Marion Aylmore	Felicity York
Trish Herkess	Ian and Anne Love	Cathie Clarke
Peter and Helen Morgan	Jim English	Jenny Jones
Amanda Thomas	Julian Goldsworthy	Monika Peterson
Alan Bruce	Lucia Agnello	Cecile Leach
Peter and Liz Schmitt	Julie Lilburne	Trish Heath

Thank You!!
Ali Webster

WA STATE JUNIOR TOURNAMENT JANUARY 2022 AT NEDLANDS T.C.



WA STATE JUNIOR TOURNAMENT JANUARY 2022



WA STATE JUNIOR TOURNAMENT JANUARY 2022



Welcome
New Members!

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

A warm welcome to all our new members. We hope you have many years of enjoyable tennis and look forward to seeing you on the courts.

Omari family

Rod & Chloe Tyers

Andrea Hashemi

Niko Cha

And heartfelt well wishes to departing members who will be sorely and surely missed by the Club and we hope to see you again

The two year membership of Anton and Anna-Lena Brink and their children comes to an end with the family's return to Sweden this month. They were a fixture at the Friday Junior Clubs and the entire family became very competent tennis players, in particular Albin's name is now on the Junior Championship Honour Board.

Nedlands Tennis Club Inc
Notice of Annual General Meeting
Tuesday 9 August 2022
7pm Refreshments & Nibbles
Meeting commences at 7.30pm
NTC Club Room

Please let us know if you have changed your personal details so that we can update our records and keep in touch

AROUND THE CLUB ...



AWARDS DINNER AT THE GOLF CLUB ...



Nedlands Tennis Club Roster & Social Calendar 2021/2022

	Duty Captain	Afternoon Tea Duty	Bar/RSA Duty	Event
9-Oct-21	Carolyn Choong	Committee Members	Committee	Opening Day - Bring A Plate
16-Oct-21	Alan Bruce	Senq Lee	Bridgit Ammon	
23-Oct-21	John Detweiler	Andrew Stanbury	Ruhi Lacey	
30-Oct-21	Alex Tang	Roger Liu	Deb Lord	
6-Nov-21	Rob Storer	Dave Joyce	Lisa McCallum	
13-Nov-21	Alan Boynton	Lana Grobler	Nigel Bill	
20-Nov-21	Peter Schmitt	Julie Cooper	Trish Heath	
27-Nov-21	Carolyn Choong	Nerida Allen	Rachel Palmer	
4-Dec-21	Alan Bruce	Ian Hobson	Steve Hollier	
11-Dec-21	John Detweiler	Rob Tucker	Ken Houston	Christmas Party - Bring A Plate Afternoon Tea & BBQ
18-Dec-21	Alex Tang	Cathie Clarke	Anne Love	Summer Holidays
25-Dec-21	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Christmas Day
1-Jan-22	Carolyn Choong	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	New Year Day
8-Jan-22	Rob Storer	Lisa McCusker	Jenny Jones	Summer Holidays
15-Jan-22	Alan Boynton	Tricia Herkess	Alison Webster	Summer Holidays
22-Jan-22	Peter Schmitt	Susan Tay	Janet Ferreira	23rd Jan - Vets Mixed RR
29-Jan-22	Carolyn Choong	Peter Barratt	Mandy Thomas	Summer Holidays
5-Feb-22	Alan Bruce	Pat Jonklass	Barb Nowak	Summer Cooler
12-Feb-22	John Detweiler	Suresh Sakar	Mel English	
19-Feb-22	Alex Tang	Peter Ammon	Frank Sweeney	
26-Feb-22	Rob Storer	Peggy Dermago	Noel Hart	
5-Mar-22	Alan Boynton	Ying Mortier	Neil Crocker	Labour Day Long Weekend - Club Championship
12-Mar-22	Peter Schmitt	Liz Schmitt	Carolyn Choong	
19-Mar-22	Carolyn Choong	Ian Love	Tony Morgan	
26-Mar-22	Alan Bruce	Steve French	Rob Lilburne	
2-Apr-22	John Detweiler	Tom Walsh	Annie Bull	Club Championship Finals
9-Apr-22	Alex Tang	Flick York	Helen Morgan	10 April - Open Men & Ladies RR
16-Apr-22	Rob Storer	Gordon Royle	Nathalie Smalberger	T1 School Holidays - Easter Weekend
23-Apr-22	Alan Boynton	Penny Oldfield	Yasuko Nagai	T1 School Holidays - Anzac Day Long Weekend
30-Apr-22	Peter Schmitt	Jim English	Rosie McCallum	30 April - Vets Men & Ladies RR
7-May-22	Carolyn Choong	Mike Nowak	Pip Micalizzi	1 May - Open Mixed RR
14-May-22	Alan Bruce	Cecile Leach & Lyn Powell	Carolyn Choong	
21-May-22	John Detweiler	Mark Lawrence	Ken Houston	Awards Night
28-May-22	Peter French	Jenny McGilvray	Alan Bruce	
4-Jun-22	Alex Tang	Jack Richardson	John Detweiler	WA Day Long Weekend
11-Jun-22	Alan Boynton	Gillian Webb	Helen Morgan	
18-Jun-22	Peter Schmitt	Sian Evans	Anne Love	
25-Jun-22	Carolyn Choong	Julian Goldsworthy	John Detweiler	Winter Warmer
2-Jul-22	Alan Bruce	Committee Members	Mel English	T2 School Holidays
9-Jul-22	John Detweiler	Thibaut Mortier	Trish Heath	T2 School Holidays
16-Jul-22	Alex Tang	Janet Ferreira	Ruhi Lacey	T2 School Holidays
23-Jul-22	Rob Storer	Brid Dawson	Nathalie Smalberger	
30-Jul-22	Alan Boynton	Peter Morgan	Yasuko Nagai	
6-Aug-22	Peter Schmitt	Leslee Mourdant	Mandy Thomas	AGM - Tuesday 10 August
13-Aug-22	Carolyn Choong	Nick Palmer	Rachel Palmer	
20-Aug-22	Peter French	Peter French	Lucia Agnello	
27-Aug-22	Alan Bruce	Mike Glynn	Ken Houston	
3-Sep-22	John Detweiler	Ross McCallum	Steve Hollier	
10-Sep-22	Alex Tang	Nigel Shaw	Frank Sweeney	Dinner Off The Green
17-Sep-22	Alan Boynton	Phil Holton	Barb Nowak	
24-Sep-22	Rob Storer	Lisa McCusker	Bridgit Ammon	T3 School Holidays - Queens Birthday Long Weekend
1-Oct-22	Peter French	Suresh Sakar	Neil Crocker	T3 School Holidays - Busy Bee
8-Oct-22	Carolyn Choong	Committee Members	Committee	T3 School Holidays - Opening Day - Bring A Plate

Any problems, please swap with another member and advise Carolyn Choong on 0412 818 845 or email carolyn_choong@me.com

*School Holidays

* Social Events / Long Weekends