



# n The Line

Official  
NEWSLETTER  
Of the

OLD BAR TENNIS CLUB Inc.



Printed Quarterly

Volume 1 Issue 34 October, 2013

## Membership

Year	Actual	SBP*
2003	170	N/A
2004	192	190
2005	212	202
2006	223	212
2007	232	223
2008	215	235
2009	219	
2010	194	
2011	208	
2012	177	
2013	163	

\*Strategic Business Plan

## Wishing a Speedy Recovery

Barry Stephens, from the Old Bar Squash Centre, is now recovering from heart by-pass surgery and associated complications. The surgery was necessary after it was found that Barry was suffering from a number of blocked arteries.

The club takes this opportunity to wish, Barry a speedy recover, and hope that he returns to the squash courts soon. Barry and Robin have done a great job, over many years now, of taking the court bookings for our Club and looking after our interests, seven days a week.



## Working Bee

A big thank you to all those who attended the working bee held on Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> March, in particular, Col Parker, Barry Baillie, Bob Bissett, Rob Powell, Wayne Deer, Sue Lotz, Robin Maytom, Marianne O'Donnell and Di Best. These volunteers did a sterling job trimming bushes, cleaning windows and club house, cleaning the roller doors, cleaning out gutters, removing the weeds around the paths, sweeping up leaves around the clubhouse and a general tidy up.

## Junior Tennis Booming in Old Bar

Our club is particularly thrilled with the uptake of tennis by juniors. Friday nights see up to 52 juniors (ages 5 up) who begin their session of training with qualified club coach, Wayne Deer, around 5.00p.m.

Littlies are coached in all aspects of the sport - fitness, technique, etc, and those who have been through this stage participate in some competitive tennis. Wayne is assisted with his very large group by Bob Stone and Mark Earley on the court with Julie Deer organising the groups.

This event is supported by Tennis Australia's Hot Shots Programme which is aimed at bringing more young people into the sport and in Old Bar it is certainly working.

The young group then enjoy a light dinner together if they wish, prepared by some of our club members who work on a roster basis and whose contribution is most appreciated by the club and the juniors. Around 7.00p.m the Junior/ Senior comp starts with a different group of juniors and teams made up of two juniors and two senior members, compete against each other. This competition sees some very strong and competitive tennis from everyone and is very enjoyable.

A break is taken over school holiday periods.

Any member who would like to get involved on a Friday night is most welcome and can do so by contacting the secretary (on 6553 7574) or coach Wayne Deer (on 0431 540032).

## Christmas in July

The Club intends to hold a Christmas in July function this year at Club Old Bar. As well as a formal dinner the event will also be a fundraiser, with all profits going to the Old Bar Lions Club flood and bushfire relief appeals. The Tuesday and Friday social group have already pledged \$100 towards this cause.

Details on this event will be shortly circulated by the Secretary. If it proves to be as successful as the Club's Christmas Party, it should be a very enjoyable night.

## Profile



*Sheila Rattray..... pictured with her beloved pony, "Buster". "Buster" is now an amazing 30 years old and enjoying retirement.*

Sheila was born at Tamworth in February 1944. She was the third child in a family of five, (three girls and one boy). Her father was a greenkeeper at the Barraba Bowling Club. Sheila spent the first five years of her life in Barraba, but then the family moved to Redfern. She attended the Redfern Home Science Primary School and later the Crown Street Intermediate High School, After she had gained her Intermediate Certificate, Sheila left school and went to work for the Commonwealth Government's Defence Standard Laboratories, as a stenographer and telephonist/receptionist. Fortunately, Sheila's mother had the foresight to send her to be trained in shorthand and typing before she left high school. Even though the 2/6 fee each week was a considerable burden on the family, this move proved to be most beneficial one for Sheila. The skills she learnt during this time and her competitive nature ended up taking her a long way in her career. After six months, she left the Commonwealth Public Service and went to work for the State Public Service as a stenographer with the GIO. After only two years she was promoted to personal secretary to the General Manager.

In 1966 she married John and in 1970 the couple moved to Barraba where her daughter, Susan was born. This move was unsatisfactory and after eighteen months the family returned to the "big smoke", where Sheila took up a position with the Attorney General's Department, as a court reporter; a career she pursued the rest of her working life. Among the highlights of her career was her role in several high profile cases, including the Milperra Bikie Massacre and the Anita Cobby cases. Sheila was enthralled with her job which took her all over NSW taking notes from judges and learning new things every day.

Sheila was a late bloomer when it came to tennis. At age 35 she enrolled in coaching at the Champions School of Tennis and following her 12 lessons she developed a love for the game, playing four nights a week as well as Saturday afternoons in the Fairfield and Southern Districts.

After 10 years of this intense tennis schedule the family moved to Wollombi in the Lower Hunter, where John was involved in raising Angus beef cattle. The peace, tranquillity and remoteness of the area led Sheila into pursuing another sport, that of endurance horse riding. She used to ride her faithful steed, "Buster", 10 kilometres every morning before she travelled to Sydney for work. After ten years Sheila again become involved in tennis, playing once a week in the local Wollombi comp.. It was here that they met their neighbours and fellow tennis enthusiasts, Harry and Lyn Blanche, also now members of our club).

Towards the end of her career, Sheila was fortunate to elect to work three days a week and was able to select which days suited her most. Prior to this time Sheila had been commuting to work in Sydney on Monday mornings staying the week and returning to Wollombi on Friday nights.

Sheila retired in 2010 and moved to Bohnock Where she is now closer to her daughter in Old Bar.



### Club Improvements

The Committee continues to make improvements to the Clubhouse and surrounds.

They have obtained a quote from local builder, Mick Whitton, for the installation of additional shelving in the kitchen and will soon arrange for the repositioning of power points. As well, a new paper towel dispenser has recently been installed in the men's toilet

Last month the club purchased a new mower and a new whipper snipper and safety signage.

In addition, enquiries have been made regarding repair of the fencing between courts 4 and 5 and the painting of the light covers over these courts.

A big thank you to Barry Baillie also, who converted some left over pallets to a workbench in the storage shed at the rear of Court 3.

### Let There be Light

Regular players at the Tennis Centre in Old Bar may have noticed an important addition to the facility in recent weeks.

A street sensor light has been installed over the path leading to the adjoining car park. This has improved lighting in the area between the clubhouse and the car park tremendously, thereby alleviating the risk of falls for those using the path.

The pole and light was installed by MCS Electrical of Old Bar at a cost of \$4,687.49.



### Piping Hot Wins Closely Contested Junior Summer Comp.

A down to the wire final between the Piping Hot team of Luke Jirman, Jenny Smith, Luke Spicer and Sarah Earley and the Swifts team comprising Patrick Abraham, Tanna Hinton, Jamie Schubert and Bevan Smith came down to the last set to decide the winner.

The competition with teams comprising of a mix of adult and junior players has again proved to be most enjoyable and very competitive with the junior players benefitting from the experience of the adults, and the adults welcoming the agility of our younger players.

The final was like a see-saw with matches going set for set, with the hard hitting all court players Luke Jirman and Pat Abraham pitched against each other, showing great tactical responses to the consistent play of their experienced partners Jenny Smith and one of the most improved junior players in the competition Tanna Hinton. These players were ably assisted by their



Winners, (from left): Luke Jirman, Jenny Smith, (Wayne Deer), Luke Spicer and Sarah Earley



Runners Up: Patrick Abraham, Tanna Hinton, Jaimie Schubert and Bevin Smith.

other team members; Jamie Schubert who always gives her best and one of our youngest and much improved players Bevan Smith. Sarah Earley with her quiet charming nature and never give up attitude played some great tennis and was ably supported by the effervescent Luke Spicer.

The matches saw the lead change a number of times during the final, with entertaining rallies, tactical plays and friendly verbal exchanges. With the match tied going into the final set careful tactics were employed as each team tried to gain an advantage. This set resulted in the Piping Hot team winning by 2 games.

Following the finals, a presentation of trophies was made to the winners and runners up. Encouragement Awards were made to the much-improved Tanna Hinton and quiet achiever Sarah Earley.

The competition was held each Friday night during the school term and comprised 8 teams.

Organizer Wayne Deer said that "there were over 30 players in all playing in the competition and it was wonderful to see the inter action between the junior and adult players that resulted in everyone enjoying their tennis and a great social atmosphere".

### Know Your Tennis Rules ANSWERS TO TRUE OR FALSE

- 1 When serving for the first time in the match, the player may choose to have the first point begin with the "first ball in."  
- False.
2. If the server serves from the wrong court by mistake and wins the point, the server wins the point.  
- False.
3. If the receiver is struck by the served ball before it touches the ground, the server wins the point.  
- True.
4. The receiver's partner in doubles should never call the service line.  
- False.
5. Play may be interrupted at any time by a parent or coach to give a player instruction or advice.  
- False.
6. Except in stipulated rest periods, play should be continuous.  
- True.
7. When the ball is out, a player should let the opponent know the call by saying "out" or by giving a hand signal.  
- True.