

Senior Snippets

Thursday, January 15 – Day Four 2009

At last! Snippets are back!

Breaking News - CB from NSW Men's 40s team is finally "Over the Hill" today. Congratulations, Craig! Happy 40th Birthday.

There was the story that "hit the streets" on Tuesday that a Victorian couple had all their team tennis clothing stolen off the clothes line, including the lady's bra and best knickers. On Wednesday, it turned up! Seems someone had accidentally taken it in as part of their own! Whew - they were a very relieved couple, (MA & RA).

Who was the 45s lady who has a new "GPS" system, and got to tennis late, because she couldn't understand its instructions! No names, no pack drill. (She must be blonde!)

Then there was the carpark attendant, DY, who was found "asleep on the job" - he says it was hot and he was tired from a big night on Monday night, plus, "there was nothing happening."

SA had a huge number of players at their State Dinner, 150 or so. The ladies from Riverland had prepared an excellent presentation which included dressing up as the 7 Dwarves. Their heads were covered by HUGE hats, and eyes were drawn on their tummies, with appropriate clothing fitting their lower body. They sang and danced around for a significant amount of time, getting great applause and accolades for their efforts. (Who ended up with some of Snow White's feathers?)

With 30-odd teams performing, players all enjoyed what turned out to be a very long night!!!

Who was it at the NSW Dinner who participated in a "belly dance" routine? There were a few "not-so-stunning" hairy chests being exposed! It's been hinted that more than one of these performers came from the lovely township of Dubbo.

Congratulations to Carl Anjou, who was awarded LIFE MEMBERSHIP of Tennis Seniors Australia at the AGM last night. Carl has devoted over 20 years to Seniors, having been a member since 1985.

Tom Hancy was elected to the position of Secretary, congratulations, Tom.

Robyn Castle, Publicity

Friday, January 16 – Day Five 2009

Finals Day today!

After the intense heat of Tuesday, it's a miracle we have got through the week! Well done to the Organisers and Volunteers for managing so well! And to the players, who have 'suffered' through it all.

Who's got the team with "Kath and Kim"? NSW has fielded a star-studded 40s team – WITH celebrities! Check them out.

President John B wants it known that he has perfected the art of the "come back" – seven set points, in a set on Monday, he was down 3-5 love-40, 4-5 15-40, etc all the way to 5-all – and then captured the TB 7-3.

Back to the SA State Dinner, Eddie D reported that a certain diminutive character called Ray Hill, playing in the 75s, stood on a table to be seen, and announced that each member of his team was from a different part of SA. Kangaroo Island, Bordertown, Mt Gambier and Victor Harbour, which made it a little difficult to meld. As Team Captain, he found it somewhat tricky, adding up the scores in their first match. When he finally worked it out, they had won a total of 4 games!

Some players are vying for a medal in their competition. One team Captain has initiated a "best in match" award. The player with the highest average that day gets his name inscribed. The one whose results are the best aggregate for the week, gets to keep the medal! Makes them try hard in every set! It's in the 70 Men's NSW team #3

Shame on the girls from SA & VIC at Kensington Gardens, Wednesday! They occupied a table marked "reserved for bowlers". Doug suggested they could not read – and they moved reluctantly.

What do you do when you are serving at 5-4 to save the set, and the other team gets 3 let cords? You throw your racquet in frustration of course! Ask JD from the 70 Men's.

Robyn Castle, Publicity

Please let me know of any other "snippets" on 0400 389 234

Weekend, January 17-18 2009

Finals Day produced some scintillating tennis, and some interesting "on court" performances of various kinds. How many ways are there to throw a racquet. Watching at Reade Park, you could have witnessed a couple of QLD teams (M65s) demonstrating several techniques of dropping, bouncing or throwing a racquet. Amazing what a bit of pressure can do!

Congratulations to Henry Parker (VIC) on reaching the tender age of 70 years, and to Rae Uptin (NSW), 67. Many Happy Returns to you both!

Brian and Helen Dew have been married for 44 years, and they had to wait until 7 o'clock at night, to wish each other a Happy Anniversary. It's rumoured that Helen actually forgot, until her son reminded her. It was a "low key" celebration, due to the pair of them being so tired from all the events of the week! Congratulations, Brian & Helen!

It needs to be noted that on Thursday morning, a team from NSW was battling it out with SA for the right to play Victoria in the M50s. In the last set and with the score at 6-3 in the TB, NSW made a sensational come-back to take the set 8-6, reeling off 5 points straight! NSW Captain, Brian Adams made a very sporting gesture by agreeing to bring the Final forward to enable the VICs (Andrew Rae's team) to attend a funeral on Friday.

Talking about "sporting gestures" - what about this? In the ACT championships HR of VIC, was heard to describe the Mixed Doubles as the "Men's Handicap Singles" - well, in Croatia in September, he had the opportunity of playing with KB, NSW, in the Mixed. He has publicly declared that it became the "Women's Handicap Singles". Thanks, Hayden.

In NSW 40s, there are a couple of women who "never drink". Well, that is no longer true. One of these ladies began with 2 beers, and finished off with 4 or 5 Bourbon and Cokes (BF). The other, (HW) started with Bourbon and Coke, and finished herself off with about 6 or 7. Needless to say, their Captain was "less than impressed" when they rolled in to tennis the next day. They did manage to win the event, however.

Sad to relate, one of NSW former young Seniors from Byron Bay, Craig Hill, aged 42, died after contracting cancer in his kidneys. Our sincere sympathy goes to his family and close friends. Such a tragic loss.

Congratulations to the "Player of the Year", Neville Halligan, who won the ITF World 85+ Singles in Turkey! And to Brian Dew, on receiving "Administrator of the Year" - a fantastic job!

Robyn Castle, Publicity. Any other "snippets" ? Phone 0400 389 234

Senior Snippets

Monday/Tuesday, January 19,20

GT called MB sometime Sunday, to ask if he wanted to have a practice hit. His reply? "Oh, I can't - Bruce Burns and Dennis Bindon want me to give them a few tips on how to play Doubles."

Who was the guy who spruiked about having 8 grandchildren? He says, "that's IT! I'm giving up sex, now." Wife said: "you already have, dear." And a voice said: "I used to have trouble getting my wife into bed, now she gets there first and is asleep by the time I get there!"

There was a Women's Doubles match at Kensington on Monday where the four ladies discovered that they were all "convent raised". How? One of them told how she had just changed into her tennis shoes because sister so-and-so had taught her that the shoes would "draw her feet." They all nodded in agreement and laughed, as they had had the same experience.



Wasn't he hungry? The T-Bone is still on the plate! (MP from NSW)

Is there any truth to the rumour that ACT will amalgamate with New South Wales?

Here is the proof that Tennis Seniors is a "family affair" - Nola Collins pictured below at South Park with son, Mark.



A word of warning if you are visiting Kensington Gardens around lunch time. Whatever you do, don't go into the kitchen if Joan Young's in there. She'll "rope you in" to doing some work! One good thing - you do get rewarded with free tea and cake!

A certain lady from NSW is sporting two "not-so-black" eyes after having a fall at the shopping centre. (At least that's the story from husband KS.)

The story was printed in the "Sunday Times" that Margaret Robinson won a World Singles title in Turkey. Headline: Queen Margaret reigns Supreme". Now if you phone the household and get husband Bruce, he says he's "King" Bruce to you!

Kensington Gardens curator thinks he's been "able to work miracles" when praised for doing the courts so well. When he goes anywhere, he says his face gets there before his legs by a long way! Glen Miller, if you want to catch up with him, also looks after Reade Park! No wonder the courts are all so good, he gets plenty of practice!



(John P, John O'B, Eddie D, John & Pam McC at KG)

More snippets? Phone 0400 389 234

Senior Snippets

Wednesday/Thursday, January 21,22

It seems there are several people who can boast about having 8 grandchildren. The story they tell is much the same as yesterday's. This other couple actually plays tennis together, so when they get home to the caravan at night, they are BOTH too tired! (IW and HW).

The junior members of our fraternity have been having a great time in the evenings. They've been handing out awards to one another! The "Ralph Schnitzel" went to VIC Preso Paul K. The Mexican schnitzels were so big, they covered the dinner plate. A group of them arrived late, and ordered entrees as well as mains. A NSW guy made a \$50 bet that they couldn't eat the lot (it came with chips and salad). Paul polished it off! But there were others who tried to get the \$50. C O'M (QLD) hid some of the schnitzel under the table, and if it wasn't for a txt msg to get them to check his lap, he'd have got away with it!

This group are searching "Lost Property" in a vain attempt to find clean undies and socks! They have lost their "washer persons" - wives and John Colley have all gone home!

Who is the 35+ lady with two young sons who won a Mixed yesterday, and was kissed by her partner? The boys cried out: "Grandma, he's kissing Mummy!" (It was only on the cheek, boys.)

Did you know we have a former Golf Pro in our midst? And she can play tennis! She featured in a long, hot Singles match against Steph the other day, and yesterday, she and her partner won a marathon Doubles match on Court 2 at South Park. She says she was pleased to "find" Senior tennis as it gave her something to do! (KP from QLD).

The "young ones" are cracking up! Seems that injuries to their "rump" are a current problem. WD suffered the ignominy of having to retire from a Mixed Doubles with Carolyn. Craig B was hit in the rump by AS from Sth Aus. He's lucky that Wanda can carry him, they won the match.



("King" Bruce with Pam and Margaret)

At the Presentation Dinner last Friday, they handed out an award for the WORST completed card. It was named the NATA award, after golf's NAGA award. (Which, I think stands for "not a golfer's armpit"). The award was gratefully received by NSW players Jan McCoy and Adele Wilson, on behalf of the ACT team in 60-2, who had a good supply of "white out" - remember the cards were GREEN!



TSA Secretary, Tom Hancy with two NSW ladies at KG, Bev and Kim

Wednesday 21st it was "Happy Birthday" to Greg Westwood, NSW (not so happy as he lost both his Doubles matches) - and Chris Luhrs VIC. Many Happy Returns, anyway!
Belated Birthday wishes to Pat Clark, for the 20th.

Watch out for the TSCA - Tennis Seniors' Caravan Association headed by its self-elected President Brian Dew. They get up to some mischief under his leadership!

More snippets? Phone Robyn 0400 389 234

Senior Snippets

Friday, January 23

Finals Day, today.

Comiserations to those who are out injured. Craig Edwards "made a mess of his hamstring early in the week, and Wayne D is hobbling around - "gone in the glutes". (Dicko, which is it? The gluteus maximus, gluteus medius or gluteus minimus? Or maybe it's all three!) Bruce O has done his calf muscle, but luckily his partner could get a "late replacement" Andrew R for the Doubles.

Lito has injured his back, lost the Singles SF, and can't play the Doubles Final. Ian Mac has a hamstring problem and withdrew from the 70MS. Ward Hillier is still going strong - at 83 years young, he had three matches yesterday!

However, whoever said women are the "fairer sex" did not mean we're not tough! Jill T (QLD) featured in the 65WD Final and won it with a broken toe!

Did you hear about the guy who has to do his own washing while he's away from his Mum? He had two shirts in his bag - one dirty, one clean. He washed one and hung it out to dry overnight. He wore it first thing the next day. He went to the bag for the 'clean' one in the afternoon, and found that it stunk. (He had washed the clean one, and left the dirty one in his tennis bag!) GW.

Did you hear about the guy who used a mobile phone so much that when he went to make an announcement on the microphone he put it to his ear!

I was reminded of an amazing past event at KG the other day. Mary G told me about herself and Peg H winning a set 6-love in the Teams' week with the loss of only ONE point. In Perth 1996, a certain Julien P and partner Anne McB, won 6-love with the loss of NO points!!! An unbeatable record.

More on the TSCA - Tennis Seniors' Caravan Association. Self-elected President Brian Dew has imposed a levy on the two Noel Cheshires (one QLD and one VIC) to donated \$10,000 each to the cause. The QLD NC has said "bad luck, the bank manager knocked back my application for a loan. Also due to the economic downturn, the drought and rising interest rates, it just won't be possible."



Well done to Alan Bailey, who moved from NSW to Tassie last year, after recovering from various health set-backs. Alan is the "baby" of the 80 Men's, and will feature in the Singles Final today, against Ward Hillier.

Congratulations to Brian Dew, John Butterworth, Ian Delbridge and ALL those willing volunteers who have kept us "fed and watered" for the entire two weeks. The transformation of South Park from the way I remember it a few years ago is truly amazing, the hard work has certainly paid off!

And the quality of the grass at the other centres has been second to none. Thanks to the excellent work by the curators.

We look forward to the Presentations today, and the Australian Teams' announcements.

That's all folks, until next year in Miami! See you there on Saturday 9th! Don't forget it starts a day early. RC