

## Presidents report 21/07/2018

Hello and Welcome

The past 12 months has seen a few big changes around the club. I would like to thank the Maroondah council for the marvellous renovation, completed at their expense, of our clubrooms. The new indoor bathroom facilities are lovely and the addition of the pergola, paving and new doors and windows on the east wall look absolutely fabulous. Even though the changes to the kitchen area were slight, we have ample cupboard room just because of the clever planning around the need for a new internal doorway. The new dedicated office has allowed all the administration paperwork to be removed from the kitchen area, meaning there is much less clutter in the cupboards. Although, I find myself frequently asking,

"Where do we keep the balls now?" and I admit to still walking to the old bin cupboard to look for the bin.

We have just this month received word from council that our grant request for landscaping upgrade, which has patiently been collated and submitted for 4 years running by Chris Hall, has been approved, and our first meeting with council to go over the details is scheduled for next Thursday. These works will complete the outside areas, giving us new seating, completed new paths to the courts, a synthetic grass surface, and a mini synthetic court between the shed and clubhouse for the smaller members. A shade sail will be erected over that area providing a great spot to sit in summer while watching the games in play or waiting for sausages to cook on the BBQ. A rubber soft fall surface is being installed under the fitness station.

Council is currently organising the replacement of the small pathway outside the entrance gate and the replacement of the bike rack to complete the works.

Amongst all this building work the tennis has continued uninterrupted. Our competition tennis with KDNTA (adult night), Eastern Region Tennis (juniors), and Lilydale district night tennis (adults) Midweek ladies tennis association is well attended and we look forward to introducing more teams into the future.

The Victorian government last year introduced a child safe policy which Tennis Victoria implemented, as did we, incorporating the policies into our code of conduct and promoting the child safe message. This year they have focused on a Fair Play policy which focuses on stamping out poor sportsmanship, bullying, and inappropriate parental behaviour. We want kids to be kids and to have fun. Sport is not a business for most people. This message too has been adopted into our code of conduct and is expected to be adopted by all members of our club.

I would like to thank the work of the current committee who do an outstanding job on behalf of all members. We are incredibly lucky to always have such a large group of people who year in and year out willingly put their hand up to help run the organisation. Each event is fun to organise and participate in because the people involved are a pleasure to be around.

You have great courts because Malcom has tended them for years. You have clean clubrooms because so many of you take pride in them and clean up after yourselves and others. You have access to terrific coaches. You may not know but Ben has been selected to represent Australia in the world Championships in his age category this coming October. He is part of a team similar in format to Davis cup. We wish him all the best for that. You have keys and balls and teams well organised because Chris Wishart makes sure you do. Your teams are entered and put together from the available members by Don and Chris, a painstaking job. You have the gardens constantly tended by Viv White and Chris Hall. Viv has been organising the Entertainment books for you for years. Bob has been keeping the weeds under control around the courts. Tanya keeps our bills paid and our finances under control. Peter tries to keep the Monday gents under control and keeps Saturday social going. Lenelle keeps you informed, answers your enquiries, keeps the committee on track. Shaun looks after our technology problems. (I cause most of them). Ros organises the midweek ladies. Tim Allsop looks after the juniors. This is probably the most time consuming of the roles as it requires Saturday Morning. The role nearly always falls to one of the parents as they understand the logistics involved running around after the children and the delicacies of team selections twice a year. Elizabeth keeps all of the events running smoothly and has been there to make everything fun and keep us fed and raise funds and find sponsors. So you can see it is a great team effort.

I also wish to thank our sponsors. Barry Plant for their loyal support. Bakers Delight, Allsports Bayswater, Tennis Victoria and the many businesses listed on the noticeboard who donated prizes for our club Championship.

We have finished the year with around 200 members, a very successful coaching programme, and a lovely space to enjoy. It is our intention, now that the renovation is complete, to reintroduce a list of housekeeping jobs to each captain or organiser, that each group or team using the facility will be expected to do after each session of play. I am aware that many groups already have this habit well entrenched but sharing the load is always good team work. I hope you all enjoy your next year of tennis at HE Parker.

Sue Moreland