



THE MASTER'S VOICE

The Official Organ of the VMSA Inc.

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THE PREZ SEZ

By Lou Morsch



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OUR WEBSITE IS HERE!!!

**Online Entries for
Members now
available**
See the newsletter in
colour
**LOG ONTO YOUR
WEBSITE**

www.vmsasquash.com.au



I'm back at the Rye 'Retreat' to gather my thoughts and pen my latest riveting edition for the newsletter. Thanks to Wali and Terry, Jill and I have enjoyed another relaxing weekend at their fabulous 'resort' indulging in food and wine as the Hawks went about thrashing Sydney in a one sided final of little interest to us one-eyed Pies supporters.

As far as food is concerned, Terry has developed a skill for home-made gourmet pizzas, which are becoming nearly as famous as Wali's cheese platters. All washed down with an endless supply of quality wine, beer and aperitifs. Alfie and Pearl have also enjoyed the pleasures of this quality resort, lazing around on the pet-friendly lounges and feasting on anything but dog food. How do they get away with it!! All under the watchful eye of Wali and Terry's security dog Charlee who must wonder why Alfie and Pearl are so spoilt and allowed to rule the roost in her house!

Enough of the good life, I'm here to update members of the latest goings-on. Shepparton back in July is a distant memory, the Worlds were completed in Hong Kong, and the Australians in Bathurst are over. There's plenty in this edition which covers these events in more depth. Unfortunately the Moorabbin Open in October is cancelled this year.

So that leaves Ballarat as the next occasion for a Master's get-together. For some, it may be the first opportunity for a hit since July, so Ballarat can't come soon enough for a chance for some individuals to play in a tournament again. I'm hoping we will get a similar response to Ballarat as last year when there were many clubs who travelled as a group to make Ballarat a social and sporting weekend. That includes the 16 Tasmanians who entered last year and made such an impression through their competitiveness and friendliness. I'm hoping to be fit enough to play myself by then as injury has laid me low for some time now. Did the 'hammy' which has kept me off the court for nearly a month.

As this edition of the newsletter is chock full of news and photos, my report is brief. So read on and catch up on all the events and stories since our last newsletter. There's plenty to get through. When you've finished reading, why not get straight onto our/your website and complete your online entry for Ballarat. I'd love to see us get back to over 200 entries again which would ensure some strong competition in all sections.

Never too old for.... squash!!

Lou Morsch –
your Prez



TOURNAMENT REPORT

By Helena Morgan

SHEPPARTON CHAMPIONSHIPS 2014

Even though the numbers were down a little, (we are blaming the World Championships in Hong Kong), we still had a terrific weekend, with some great hard fought matches. Thank you to all who entered - 97 entries including 3 "Virgins".

The members at Shepparton, especially the juniors, kept the food and drink flowing and really looked after us well. Great job!!!

The wine tasting table was an added attraction upstairs with some fine wines available to sample, (if you could get the bottles away from the hostesses). A job well done ladies. Hope we can do it again soon.

The bus to the dinner dance was well organized this time, with Michelle taking charge. The organizing of the bus is so much easier if those who want to use the service, nominate to do so on their entry form.

This tournament saw the first stage release of members being able to enter online. 40% of you took advantage of this, and we hope more will do so in the future. We had a few hiccups, but all in all it went very well.

A reminder that the online entries, at this stage, is only available to current financial members of the VMSA. If you would like to take advantage of this service and you are not a current member, it is only \$20 for 12 months membership, so send in your application, which is available on our website.

Winner of our Members Draw for 2 free dinner dance tickets was Catrina Cook.

Congratulations to the following players for reaching tournament milestones this weekend.

Sandra Creek	25
Karen Gallo	50
Terry Barlow	100
Ray Gallo	100

There are now 5 members who have made the 100 tournaments club. It takes a lot of dedication, and a lot of squash, to achieve this milestone, and we thank you all for your continued support.

My tournament committee again did an outstanding job. Thank you.

Now to Ballarat.

Matches will be best of 5 games PAR 15, with a 2 point advantage.

We will provide a bus to the dinner dance at the nominal cost of \$5 for those people that are staying in or close to the city centre.

For those that are staying at The Bell Tower, The Alfred, The Avenue, and The Ambassador, the golf club is a short stroll across the road so you will not need the bus. For those that will need the bus, please book your seat on your entry form. There will be 3 or 4 pick-up points which will be advised to you (by Michelle) on Saturday.

PLEASE!!!!!!!!!!!! get your entries in as soon as you can.

And PLEASE!!!! Book your seat for the dinner dance with your entry.

Numbers have to be confirmed 7 days before the event, so let me know if you are attending.

Hope to see you all in Ballarat

Helena



Online Entries have arrived

We are delighted to announce Online Entries for our Tournaments are now available.

By now all financial members who have an email address registered with us should have received an email advising them of their Username and Password. The first time that you log on you will be asked to change your password to one of your choice. If you have not received an email please contact our Membership Officer, Pam Park at membership@vmsasquash.com.au.

It is easy to enter tournaments online. All you need to do is log on, fill out the details and pay with your credit card. You will receive an email confirmation of your entry in your email Inbox.

There are a range of features available to members including:

- Updating information about yourself such as:
 - Your postal address
 - Your email address
 - Your phone numbers
(important to list a mobile phone number in case Helena needs to contact you during a tournament)
 - Your emergency contact details
 - Your current pennant details
 - How you would like to receive your newsletter ie by post or email.
- The date when your membership expires. You no longer have to worry about remembering when your membership is due as you can check it in *Your Details* section.
- You can also pay your membership online or as part of your online tournament entry, just like many of you have done in the past with the paper tournament entry forms.

This is a new and exciting feature for our members and we would love to receive your feedback.

If you are not a current financial member but play tournaments and would like to be able to enter online, become a member - it only costs \$20 a year and one of the advantages is cheaper entry fees to tournaments. Application forms are available on the home page of our website.

Autumn 2014 Grand Finals

held at Westerfolds and Moorabbin



VMSA Autumn 2014 Grand Final Results

Grade 01	Grand Final	Moorabbin 01	Lost to	Mulgrave 01	63-3-1 to 94-9-3
Grade 02	Grand Final	Fitzpatricks 01	Defeated	Mountain Districts 02	89-9-3 to 72-3-1
Grade 03	Grand Final	Squash Logic 01	Lost to	Moorabbin 02	112-8-2 to 141-10-2
Grade 04	Grand Final	Mulgrave 02	Defeated	Mountain Districts 03	109-9-3 to 112-7-1
Grade 05	Grand Final	Moorabbin 04	Defeated	Moorabbin 06	95-8-2 to 98-7-2
Grade 06	Grand Final	Knox Park 04	Lost to	Mountain Districts 04	89-5-1 to 103-9-3
Grade 07	Grand Final	Mulgrave 05	Defeated	Mountain Districts 05	112-8-2 to 96-7-2
Grade 08	Grand Final	Werribee 02	Defeated	Knox Park 07	103-9-3 to 76-4-1
Grade 09	Grand Final	Fitzpatricks 03	Lost to	Westerfolds 07	105-6-1 to 127-10-3
Grade 10	Grand Final	Westerfolds 09	Defeated	PEGS 03	107-10-3 to 64-3-1
Grade 11	Grand Final	Moorabbin 11	Lost to	Club Hawthorn 04	124-8-2 to 127-9-2

Shepparton Stories

WAKA HAS THE 'X' FACTOR

Over the years at dinner dances some of our Masters players have got up & joined the band (or taken over the band) as back up vocals or even lead vocals and belted out some signatory tunes. Some "artists" include the **Wonthaggi** girls backing up to 'Mustang Sally.' Michelle Rowles and Cassie Miller also did this number in Shepparton. Then we had Alan "The Garden Gnome" Cowling singing 'New York, New York'. Ernie 'Legs' Walsh singing 'All Time Rock & Roll'. Jill Morsch singing (or trying to sing) 'It's My Party' and Kayleen with her rendition of 'Swing Low Sweet Chariot'. While we are at it, we definitely can't forget – as much as we want to, Ziggy 'Stardust' Szambelanczyk with his garbled rendition of 'I Found My Thrill On Blueberry Hill'!!! This year in Shepparton, Waka Elers stepped onto the stage for not 1 but 2 songs. Would you believe one of his songs was an ABBA number– don't know if he was impersonating Agnetha or Frida??. The singing didn't stop there. It carried on in the Booze Bus home with plenty of merry souls singing along. The poor bus driver – hope his ears have recovered.

WHERE'S WALLY - OOPS I MEAN JODIE???

Concerned team mates of Jodie McLean sent out a search party late at night as they had not seen her for a while. Hearing a loud strange sound (not moaning!!!) coming from an room upstairs, they decided to investigate, and what do you know - there she was curled up like a little angel sound asleep, snoringon the floor beside her bed!!!!!!!

THE SACRIFICES THAT WE MAKE

Wali & Jill sacrificed themselves again by not playing squash on the weekend. Instead, they promoted products donated by our wonderful sponsor of the Shepparton Tournament, Combined Liquor Services and conducted a wine tasting of some of Max Smith's leading wines. Of course the girls had to know what they were talking about so naturally they "sampled" all the products as well. They thought that if there was wine in their glass, people would think "well it must be good if they are drinking it". And of course being responsible ladies they laid out one of Wali's famous cheese platter spreads. Connoisseurs need to cleanse the palate to get the full benefit of a wine tasting. Guess what? - it worked a treat as they sold dozens of bottles to our players. Gee the sign was correct when it read "Our Expert Wine Drinkers"!!! Thank you to all those who sampled & purchased the wines - hope you enjoy every drop. Don't forget Max doesn't just sell wines – he also has a good variety of beer & spirits at very good prices. So next time you have a party don't forget Max at Combined Liquor Services on 03 9551 2607.

STARS OF THE FUTURE

Two of Shepparton's talented juniors - Aaron Maidment & Shaun McPhillamy have been selected to represent Victoria at the national championships in Western Australia in October. The young Shepp boys conducted a raffle and sold millions of tickets over the weekend to raise some cash to cover some of the expenses involved in getting there (airfares, accommodation, spending money). Three great hamper prizes were won by Lou Morsch, Mark Thurkle & Wali Linhart. Thank you to all the Masters players for giving so generously to assist these 2 boys. Good luck to Aaron & Shaun. We will be looking forward to hearing how you went as we now would like to think of you as budding Masters players of the future.

Good Aussie Battlers

Welcome back to our tournaments after a lay-off through illness to Shane Thorpe and Roger Reagan. You can't keep a good squashie down for too long. In particular, well done Roger for returning to the court and winning your section.

SHEPPARTON 2014



Presentations - VICTORIAN MASTERS SHEPPARTON 2014

Event	Award	Awarded to
(1) SECTION 1	Winner	GEOFF WILCOCK MOUNTAIN DISTRICT
	Runner Up	CAMERON PENNA BENDIGO
	Special plate	KELVIN GRIFFIN FITZPATRICK
	Plate	DARREN O'NEILL MOORABBIN
	Consolation plate	GARY MCPYKE MULGRAVE
(2) SECTION 2	Winner	ADRIAN MCGREGOR (V) SHEPPARTON
	Runner Up	EDDIE MICHAUD MOORABBIN
	Special plate	ROSS TROMPF WESTERFOLDS
	Plate	ROBERT MACFARLANE LILYDALE
	Consolation plate	LEON GALLIVAN SHEPPARTON
(3) SECTION 3	Winner	DAMIAN MAIDMENT SHEPPARTON
	Runner Up	TONY BENNETT CORIO
	Special plate	GREG DUNCAN WANGARATTA
	Plate	JODIE MCLEAN LILYDALE
	Consolation plate	ZIG SZABELANCZYK PEGS
(4) SECTION 4	Winner	CHRISTIAN LECOMPTÉ (V) MOUNTAIN DISTRICT
	Runner Up	JIM HOWARD
	Special plate	RICKY BOURKE SQUASH LOGIC
	Plate	PETER MCPHILLAMY SHEPPARTON
	Consolation plate	JENNY SWAAB MOORABBIN
(5) SECTION 5	Winner	LINDA WING PEGS
	Runner Up	CATRINA COOK HAWTHORN
	Special plate	MICHELLE ROWLES PEGS
	Plate	TASHIA MIHAIL MULGRAVE
	Consolation plate	STEVE MURRAY MOORABBIN
(6) SECTION 6	Winner	ROGER REGAN CORIO
	Runner Up	ALLISON DOUGLAS MOE
	Third/Special plate	LIBBY BELTON ROSEBUD
	Plate	VIC STAFFORD MOORABBIN
	Consolation plate	NOEL CLOUGH GEELONG
(7) SECTION 7	Winner	HEATHER WILLIAMS WANGARATTA
	Runner Up	HELEN LOCOCO PEGS
	Third/Special plate	RHONDA FRY ACT
	Plate	RITA STEWART MOORABBIN
	Consolation plate	JENNY ANDERSON MOE

AROUND THE COURTS - SHEPPARTON



Bathurst Teams Report 2014

Start your engines Squashies and get ready for Perth 2015. If Perth is half as good as Bathurst was this year it will be a tournament to remember. The Bathurst committee put in so much work this year to make us feel welcome and let me congratulate them because they did in every way, and the tournament exceeded my expectations. Bathurst is a great town and we shared many great meals with loads of Vics and the Tassie crews.

Victoria took away a smaller group this year, but let me say we held our own against a dominant home state NSW playing force. From the 13 Divisions, we won Div 2 which I was glad to chip in on that one with Dave Shay and John Tobin, runners up Div 6 and winners Div 8 plus a few others just piped at the post.

Kings Hotel hosted the Teams Dinner on Sunday night and it was fantastic to have all the Vics in attendance, including Peter Wright, the AMSA President who was reprimanded by the waitress for stealing a chair from a nearby table.

Day one, Monday, kicked off smoothly with no injuries, not something we usually experience as there's always a few injuries, like a broken toe (not to mention anyone in particular). The rest of the week continued smoothly in this regard.

Most of us stayed within walking distance from the Bathurst Panthers Club, where most of the matches were played. The Blayney Squash Centre was not far away at all, about a 20 minute drive, and the 40 minute drive to Wallerawang made time for light hearted banter between my team mates.

We had great fun at the Wrinkleys review, the DJ was a crack-up, full of life, played some great music and even sang along. Thanks to Linda Wing who, once again, worked very hard between wines to produce a great act for us to participate in. I thought she really did a great job, so thanks once again Linda. Mark Thurkle filmed the event so if you want a copy please contact Mark via email markle@exetel.com.au. He will be happy to sell you a copy for \$10. Mark also did a fantastic job, not only with photos and videos, but set up a live feed of the glass court action to the big screen in the lounge area. It was greatly appreciated by all and a very big 'thank you' to Mark for his efforts. Let's not forget the cast of 'Shipwrecked', Linda Wing, Darren O'Neill, Michelle Rowles and Lynette Woodyard, assisted by stage hand John Sands. We got a few laughs which is always the aim of the evening.

The Friday night teams dinner dance was a Country Theme with a little boot scootin' and believe it or not, the food was tops for a dinner dance. The committee put in a great effort to decorate the tables - they looked fantastic.

The Vic's didn't put on a seafood evening this year so we are hoping to re-launch it in Perth, so get your \$30 ready to stuff yourselves silly with as much fresh seafood as your tummy can hold. We will try and secure a fantastic venue as I remember Terry Barlow did last time when we had the seafood evening in Perth 2007.

Many thanks to Dave Shay and Tony Zinna, for helping with the team selection, and to Mark Thurkle and Linda Wing for going in to bat for the Vics at the Teams Meeting. It can be really fierce and not for the weak minded. A major thanks to Michelle Rowles - this girl basically ran the thing single handed as usual. With her regular email and SMS updates, she kept us on target making Bathurst a very smooth teams week.

Please remember Perth 2015 will be a premier event and will attract lots of squash players so book your accommodation early. Michelle is currently sourcing accommodation for the Vics so let her know if you would like to stay with the Vics.

So till next year, stay well, keep the liver healthy, and a very well done to the Bathurst committee.

Over and out from **Darren O'Neill.**



Ross Francis & his harem



Winner
of the ASMA
Judith Goadby
Award for 2014
- Ron Smith

Congratulated by
Linda Wing and
Michelle Rowles



Ross receiving his 10 year AMSA
badge from Peter Wright – looking
cosy guys.

BATHURST 2014 Cont.....



Individual Women's Event

45-49 Div 2	Janine Eedy	Winner
45-49 Div 2	Anne Fordham	Runner Up
50-55 Div 2	Linda Wing	Winner
65-69 Div 2	Marg Delaney	Winner

Individual Men's Event

45-49 Open Pool A	Simon Harrington	Runner Up
45-49 Open Pool B	Kevin Healy	Runner Up
50-54 Open	Warren Miller	Winner
50-54 Open	Peter Gilbee	Runner Up
50-54 Div 2	Jorge Freije	Winner
55-59 Div 2	Mark Thurkle	Runner Up
60-69 Open	John Tobin	Winner
70-74 Open	Tom Slattery	Runner Up
80-84 Open	Syd Webb	Winner
85-89 Open	Max Smyth	Winner

Team's Event

Div 2	David Shay	Winners
	Darren O'Neill	
	John Tobin	
Div 6	Trevor Walker	Runners Up
	Geoff Morley	
	Jeffrey Marr	
Div 8	Linda Wing	Winners
	Michelle Rowles	
	Lynette Woodyard	



Australian Masters Championships – Bathurst 2014



ARTICLES FROM THE DAILY BATHURST NEWSPAPER ABOUT OUR VICS



The article reads: Geoff Marr has made the trip from Braybrook in Melbourne to represent his state at the teams event at the Australian Masters Squash this week. Victoria had sent the third biggest team at the event this week – a total of 38 players will compete across various age groups and divisions. Marr, who has been playing squash since the age of 16 and is a very experienced player in masters, is competing this week for Victoria in Division 6. In a rollercoaster start to this week's event, Marr has been involved in two very lengthy matches in the opening two days. "I won in five yesterday and went down in five today as I'm a bit of a marathon man" he said. His match against Tasmanian Andrew O'Brien yesterday afternoon was a highlight of the tournament so far as both players left nothing on the court. Marr has never before played with his team-mates Trevor Walker and Geoff Morley in an Australian Master's event, but is familiar with both players from previous Victorian tournaments. "Trevor is the number one player at my home club so I know him, and Geoff is from Sale, but I have played against him in tournaments in Victoria and we have had lots of close matches" he said. Off the court, Marr has had a little time to see some of the attractions the local area has to offer. "I went down to the Jenolan Caves when we got here and it was quite good" he said. While he hopes for success this week Marr enjoys catching up with players from other states during the week. "We hope to win, but we also want to have a good time. If you win it's a bonus" he said.



Murphy's true grit not enough
SQUASH
By RILEY KRAUSE
VICTORIAN Belinda Murphy admitted she might have run "out of puff" after she was defeated by NSW's Julie Collie in the interstate clash. The game started off in stylish fashion, the players exchanging service games before Murphy notched the first point of the game after one of the rallies of the day. The early goings of the match were dominated by the Victorian, her array of hard-hitting shots helping her claim the game. With the intensity really starting to show in the second game, it was Collie who was able to level the match at one game apiece thanks to a display of clean hitting and minimal mistakes. With the match now even and both combatants really starting to show their form, the third set made for a decisive point in the game. Collie came out hard and fast, running her opponent all over the court, and a mini fight-back by Murphy wasn't enough to get her back into the game. Despite being in a 2-1 hole, the Victorian wasn't going to go down without a fight. Her gritty performance wasn't enough to get the job done, though, as Collie came out on top three games to one. "I think I just ran out of puff towards the end there – a bit overheated," Murphy said after the match. "She [Collie] got the jump on me in the second game and from there I just couldn't get back in it." Like a lot of people competing in the teams event, Murphy didn't play the first week, instead deciding to save herself for the more social of the two weeks. "The only event I usually do is the teams. I just prefer it because it's much more social," she said. "I don't think I could do two weeks of playing every day. I just don't reckon the body could handle it."

FROM THE SOUTH: Victorian Belinda Murphy and her team-mate Frank Bugeja.

Newspaper article from the Yarrowonga Chronicle 4th June 2014 regarding Lochlan Stenhouse and Brian Lyons competing in the 10th Anniversary of our Masters/Juniors Tournament .

SQUASH

Squash success

Lochlan Stenhouse and Brian Lyons competed and won in the 10th Anniversary of the Masters Junior Squash Tournament.

They played the tournament in Moorabbin, Melbourne in division 7. This is a team event, with each team comprising a Junior player (under 23) and a Masters player. Each round consists of 3 matches;

- Junior v Junior
- Master v Master
- Doubles between all 4 players

It was a timed squash event of 15 minutes per match with point a rally scoring. Out of their 10 matches the local duo won 9.

Lochland and Brian played against players from Melbourne and Geelong and were very excited at their outcome. Well done to both of them for a great effort.

Yarrowonga Squash and Racquetball Club results;

Locks Guns 3/9/200 defeated Road Runners 1/6/179.

Nick Soutter and George McBurnie played a fantastic match. Nick won in three. All three games were close with well thought out shots and great placement.

All too Hard 3/11/210 defeated Red Line 1/5/175.

Brian Rae was in full form this week, he gave Steve Boyer a run for his money. Brian played the length and kept Steve off

Lochy Stenhouse stepped up to play Andrew Fuller and what a fantastic game. Both players fought for every ball right to the tie breaker in the fifth game.

This game had it all the shots the fitness and the mental torment of playing every shot with precision. Andrew won the game in five.

The Junior and the Master – Lochlan and Brian.

the front line. The first four games were close, then Brian closed the deal and won the fifth game easily.

Cubs 3/9/207 defeated The Stayers 1/6/193.

from: "Yarrowonga Chronicle" - 4th June 2014

Masters/Juniors - 2015 at Westerfolds

This popular weekend event which brings together Masters mums, dads and individuals teaming up with their junior partner is on the move. The weekend of 30th/31st May 2015 is the scheduled date with Westerfolds chosen as the venue on this occasion.

I'm giving everyone plenty of notice so planning for accommodation and travel can be made well in advance. Anybody with a query regarding the location of the venue or accommodation requirements can always contact your Prez or tournament host - Jill Morsch for further information. Look up our contact details on the VMSA Website. Mark this date and venue in your diaries now.

SALE- SALE- SALE

The VMSA **Grays - Ballarat tournament** on the 21st/23rd November will see the biggest clearance of sporting goods of all time. Steve Walton is planning the sale of all sales. From his jocks to his socks or his shirts to his shoes or even his rackets to his balls. According to Steve, everything will be on sale at special heavily discounted prices. What a way to grab a bargain and also re-stock your squash kit or wardrobe. Save your money and spend it at Ballarat in November at our Masters tournament. It'll be a great opportunity to find some genuine Christmas specials.

Upcoming Tournaments

Grays Ballarat - November 21st - 23rd 2014

Bairnsdale - February 20th - 22nd 2015

A LITTLE LIGHTHEARTED HUMOUR *HOW TO WASH A CAT*

1. Put both lids of the toilet up and add 1/8 cup of pet shampoo to the water in the bowl.
2. Pick up the cat and soothe him while you carry him towards the bathroom.
3. In one smooth movement put the cat in the toilet and close the lid. You may need to stand on the lid.
4. At this point the cat will self-agitate and make ample suds. Never mind the noises that come from the toilet, the cat is actually enjoying this!
5. Flush the toilet three or four times. This provides a "Power-Wash" and "Rinse".
6. Have someone open the front door of your home. Be sure that there are no people between the bathroom and the front door.
7. Stand well back, behind the toilet, as far as you can, and quickly lift the lid.
8. The cat will rocket out of the toilet, streak through the bathroom, and run outside where he will dry himself off.
9. Both the toilet and the cat will be sparkling clean.

Yours Sincerely

The Dog

WORLD SQUASH MASTERS GAMES 2014 – HONG KONG

Hong Kong was a fabulous place to enjoy our favourite sport and has a great array of tourist attractions to entertain all. Though a small area, Hong Kong has 1,000 squash courts and many enthusiastic players.

The tournament was played out of two venues, The Hong Kong Squash Club and The Hong Kong Football Club. The tournament was extremely well supported with 784 players from 43 different countries. The matches were well organized and all events were played in great spirit, with some very enthusiastic supports cheering their country to victory.

Squash is often called an individual sport, but at an event like this, it is great to see the enthusiasm of the supports, players and non-players alike. Our group was very loyal and familiar faces were always there to support you. Even non-players enjoyed the matches and I wish in particular to mention Tony McInnery, Greg Scenery, Maureen Tobin, Pat Dunlop, Peter, Irene, Glenda and Joe for just being there. It made the week.

The most popular gathering place was The Happy Valley Sportsman Bar where many a beer was had, as well as a few bottles of champagne. The Rugby State of Origin match back in Australia saw a great gathering here of nearly all the 124 Australians who entered the tournament. We all stood up to sing along to Advance Australia Fair at the start of the match, and looking around the room during this raucous rendition, it was a thrill to realize how lucky we were to be at such an event in Hong Kong. Needless to say, many taxis were ordered after the evening.

The weather in Hong Kong was very hot and humid. The courts were air-conditioned but it was still very hot on the courts.

Amanda Hobbs, Sarah Fitz-Gerald, Mary Sceney, Sue Hillier, Craig Rowland, Geoff Davenport and Brian Cook were our Aussie Gold Medalists. Peter Gilbee played some great matches, reaching the quarter finals and only losing to the eventual winner. Warren Miller never disappointed his supporters, playing his utmost as usual and overcoming two injuries, only to lose in the semi-final. Gary Pederson had an extremely challenging quarter final having to wait around halfway through the match while his opponent had a 40 minute injury break. The 2 hour match ended with him losing 9/11 in the fifth. Maree Alfredson was a strong competitor, reaching the quarter finals which could have gone either way, but per opponent just won in 5.

John Tobin would not recommend going on a 6 week cruise as preparation for such an event in the future – but he still put in. Geoff Morley and Ross Francis were extremely popular during the week and their photos will be featured on many a Facebook page around the world. It was great to see the 70+s on the courts. Ken Dunlop, Bryon Lyons and John Link did us proud.

If I can be a little self-indulgent, I would like to mention a few things.

1. We designed a shirt for those who were going to Hong Kong and 20 were worn during the week. We had many favourable comments about them and Gary Irwin took a sample of one. Hopefully they will be our Aussie shirt for all those going to Johannesburg 2016.
2. In Geelong we trained for 7 months for these games. Gary was my coach and helped me tremendously with my game. It was a thrill to hear him say after my last match, that I was actually playing the shots he was mentally calling. Winning the Special Plate in my section was so exciting and I can't wait for the next event in Johannesburg.
3. We went to Johannesburg for the World's in 1997 and had a fabulous time. The organizers kept us busy with many functions to attend, and a group of us went on a safari afterwards. Judith Goadby was with us and I still have great memories of the adventures we had together.

**IF YOU CAN MOVE, YOU CAN PLAY SQUASH AND YOU CAN PLAY IN THE WORLD'S.
TRY TO MAKE IT YOUR HOLIDAY DESTINATION FOR 2016.**

JENNY CLARK

World Squash Masters Games 2014 – HongKong

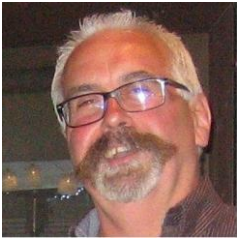
Photos courtesy of Jenny Clark



Ian Arthur Tepper

11th March, 1953 – 3rd October, 2014

61 Years Young



Just over 4 months ago, Ian had an extensive operation after being diagnosed with cancer. He had no symptoms so the diagnosis came as a big shock to Ian. Following treatment, Ian's prognosis was that he would live for another 15 years, however Ian contracted influenza some 9 weeks later and, although he fought very hard, his body was depleted so much he just couldn't hang on. He lost his fight on the 3rd October 2014. He was laid to rest on the 10th October 2014 at Springvale Cemetery.

We honour Ian and his commitment to the game of squash. Ian was a passionate squash player and held many rolls over the years, including the running of Caulfield Squash Club with Paul from the mid 80's to the early 90's after which he played at Gardenvale Squash Club for a few years. Around 1996 he moved to Moorabbin Squash Club where you could say hit his last squash ball. Ian also became a member of the Moorabbin Committee, later becoming Vic President and then went on to represent the Moorabbin Squash Club as President. Ian was held in high regard by the squash fraternity.

Ian's life revolved around his partner Paul, their cleaning & gardening business and a huge friendship group. He was always helping someone in need, but never asking for a single thing in return. He was a very kind and generous man.

Ian's favourite past time was sipping Champagne, eating the traditional lamington daily and trying to avoid getting snapped in a photograph, unless it was taken with a group of people.

The VMSA extend their condolences to his partner Paul, his mother Shirley and sisters Tana, Vicki and Frances.

R.I.P Squashie



With the introduction of Online Entries to our VMSA website, please be aware that the Association has undertaken some major changes to the way the newsletter is distributed to members. This and future editions will be emailed to members unless you specifically request a postal version through your **Membership Details** page on our website www.vmsasquash.com.au, or by contacting our Membership Officer, Pam Park at membership@vmsasquash.com.au.

Our latest newsletter will be available to view through our website as usual if you are a current member, and our past editions are available for all to view.

The Editor.
Happy reading

Women's squash receive huge boost with Hallmark deal



England's world No.2 Laura Massaro who won the 2013 world title in Penang. - filepic

PETAING JAYA: The Women's Squash Association (WSA) has finalised a major long-term agreement with Hallmark Events Group to stage the Women's World Squash Championships in 2014, 2015 and 2016 - and guarantee a total prize-fund in excess of US\$500,000 (RM1.6mil).

The 2014 championship will be staged from December 12-19 at a venue to be confirmed and will be held as the last event of the year on the WSA World Tour in 2015 and 2016 as well.

Total player compensation will rise from US\$150,000 (RM480,000) in 2014, to US\$175,000 (RM560,000) in 2015, before reaching a record US\$215,000 (RM688,000) in 2016.

"We are delighted to have secured the Women's World Championships for the next three years," said WSA president Kasey Brown.

"The increase in prize money levels is not only fantastic news for the players, but also a prime example of the growth the WSA World Tour is experiencing.

"We are excited to collaborate with Hallmark and work together to showcase the finest women's squash has to offer at our premier event."

Hallmark Events Group Founder and Managing Director Simon Arnold stated that Hallmark is equally thrilled to reach a long-term arrangement with the WSA in conjunction with the World Squash Federation (WSF).

"We're looking forward to working with the WSA to continue to grow the Women's World Championship as the pinnacle event on the WSA World Tour," said Arnold.

"Our plans for the championship include iconic venues, new sponsors and greater fan engagement."

England's reigning world champion Laura Massaro will be looking to defend her title in December, while Malaysia's world No.1 Nicol David will also be eager to extend her seven-title record.

The venue for the 2014 championship, which uses dates for the now re-scheduled WSF World Cup, will be announced shortly.