

ANNUAL PRESIDENTS REPORT 2008

I have much pleasure to present the 26th annual report for the Canterbury Veterans Tennis Assn Inc. This is my last report to you as I have completed my 3 years as your President and under the Constitution rules; a President can only occupy the chair for no more than 3 consecutive years, so we are due for a change. Unfortunately, we have just learnt that our Vice President will not be available for nomination due to personal reasons so we need nominations for President. Don't think that it's not a job for you, we need a change and therefore please contact a committee member and let them know that you would be available.

During the past year, numerous members have lost their loved ones and we pass on the Associations sympathies, but we would like to mention three by name, firstly Mrs Doreen Withers, our original Secretary/Treasurer and first Life Member. Bobby Pattinson and Andrew Hunter who between them won many, many Canterbury titles, Canterbury Veterans and National Veterans titles. These people all served our province well and to them we are extremely grateful.

We have had better success obtaining funding from the "Pokie Trusts" this year, and to the following trusts we are truly grateful. "Pub Charities", "Sovereign", & "Lion Foundation". Also thanks to Mr Charlie Shadbolt from Independent Fisheries for his continued sponsorship of our Canterbury Veterans Championships.

We once again have had a very busy season but again it is very disappointing to be down on members, we are still attracting many new members but retaining the current ones is a cause for concern. Please have a look around our clubs and see if you can talk some of your fellow members into joining the "Vets". Our match committee is really having to work extremely hard to get enough players to meet our representative commitments, so we NEED MORE MEMBERS!

Pam Goddard has again worked very hard all season keeping our web site up to date and full of all sorts of info. The means of communication has cut down our news letter costs but still kept you all well informed. She also runs our Winter & Summer Tournaments (with a little help from others) and was awarded the Canterbury Tennis Personality of the Year at the presentation night of Canterbury Tennis, Congratulations Pam, a very well deserved decision.

Match Report

Quadrangular Tournament: Blenheim:

The annual Quadrangular Tournament between Canterbury, Marlborough, Nelson and West Coast was played in Blenheim on the 25th and 26th August. The weather was perfect with some excellent tennis played over the two days. Once again Blenheim were excellent hosts and a very enjoyable weekend was had by all. Canterbury was the victor for 2007 but games were tight with many matches decided on tie breakers.

Canterbury v Canterbury Country:

The Canterbury Veterans' match against Canterbury Country was held at the Cashmere Tennis Club on November 25 in very hot conditions. Canterbury Country proved too strong for us this year winning over-all 18 matches to 6. Seven of the matches were decided by tie-breakers of which Canterbury Country won five. All players gave 110% and a very enjoyable day's tennis was had by all. Thank you to the Cashmere Tennis Club for providing an excellent barbecue and hosting the Tournament.

South Island Teams 55+

The 55+ Teams Tournament was held in Dunedin at the Edgar Sports Centre on the 7 to 9th of September. Teams involved were Canterbury, Southland, North Otago, South Canterbury, Canterbury Country and Otago. All games were very competitive and played in good spirit giving players an opportunity to renew old friendships. A social event with a live band was thoroughly enjoyed on the Saturday evening making it a very successful tournament. Canterbury won the tournament on a count-back of games and was presented with the Cup at the end of the tournament.

Canterbury v North Canterbury Representative Match

The representative match against North Canterbury was played on Sunday the 4th of November at the Burwood Tennis Club in perfect playing conditions. The weather was terrific, tennis was excellent and a most enjoyable day was had by all. Canterbury was the victor 13 matches to 11.

Canterbury v South Canterbury Representative Match

The representative match against South Canterbury was played at the Bishopdale Tennis Club on Sunday 24th February in perfect weather, although the temperature reached the 30's in the afternoon making it very hot for playing. The tennis was strongly contested with five matches being decided by tie-breakers in the third set. A very enjoyable day was had by all.

Canterbury was the winner by 10 matches to 6.

Queens Birthday Tournament

Queens Birthday Tournament held at the Edgar Centre in Dunedin and was hosted by Dunedin, who proved great hosts.

This year the teams were Otago, South Canterbury, Canterbury, Canterbury Country, Southland / Nth Otago and Southern Lakes.

Once again we saw some very keenly contested matches, and many friendships were renewed. Dinner dance was held on the Saturday night, which was enjoyed by all for great food and music.

Canterbury Country were the overall winners, and this was decided after both Canterbury country and Canterbury both had one loss during the tournament, but Canterbury country were the victor's of there tie 12-8, so overall winner.

Placings- Canterbury Country, Canterbury, Otago, Southern Lakes, South Canterbury, Southland/Nth Otago

Team- Grazie Daly, Robyn Flynn, Andy Garlick, Alice Kearns, Anne Kirkland, Joan Muirson, Brenda Needham, Carolyn Ogg, Louise Payne, Judy Phillips.

Mike Averill, Neville Brightwell, James Callaghan, Allen Cannon, Trevor Daly, Evan Johnston, Jim Martin, Terry Mooney, Brian Needham, Marty Searle.

Financially, we are reasonably secure mainly thanks to the Pokies, but we are always looking for ways to boost our finances. We try and help our with our Rep players when the fixtures are out of town but this depends entirely of funds available. Lynne Switalla, again organised a Disco night at the Richmonds W. M. Club, and whilst the numbers were down on the previous year, those who attended had a great night. Thank you Lynne and also for all the work you do in obtaining the funding from the Pokies.

Thanks to all the committee members for their input during the season, especially Linda, our Secretary, & Sandra, our Treasurer. We need your support at the A G M the fill the committee, remember, many hand make light work.

In conclusion, I would like to wish you all a fantastic season ahead, please support our events, they are put on for your enjoyment, and it has been a pleasure to serve your for the past 3 years.

Tony Ralfe, President.