

# Over the Net

**All the up to date information you need on  
The Australian Tennis Museum straight  
from the Curator's Desk**

## *Mosaic Update*

Progress continues on entering Museum items into the Mosaic database. Many more items have now been photographed and these will be linked to their Mosaic file so that an image of the item will be displayed when searching the database. This will greatly assist in the retrieval and research of our collection items. Thanks to our volunteers Dora Hutchinson, Barbara Worthington, Fay Gilmour and Jillian McCarthy for all their hard work in continuing this photographic project.

The other important cataloguing task being undertaken is for our racquet collection. Thanks to Warren Cope and Ken Ryan for their efforts in clearing the backlog of racquet cataloguing and reconfiguring the storage of the racquets for easier access.



**Friends of the Australian  
Tennis Museum  
Newsletter  
Issue 16, Sept 2013**



## *Library collection and January book sale*

The Museum library holds over 5,500 catalogued items including books, programmes, magazines and annual reports.

Thanks to Bruce Ryan for his dedication over several years in cataloguing our library collection onto Mosaic and keeping the collection up to date with new publications. This has allowed the use of the library to a greater extent by researchers of tennis history.

The author, Chris Maron, used the collection to research his books: *Tennis in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs* and the upcoming *The Nursery of Australian Tennis* (a history of the NSW Hardcourt Tennis Association and competitions), to be launched in October. We will sell both books in our shop during the Apia International tournament and they are a great gift for the tennis enthusiasts of Sydney and NSW.

The Museum holds many duplicates of our book collection which we are going to sell during the January tournament to help raise funds for the purchase of a map drawer to better house our poster collection. So visit the Museum during the Apia International if you have an interest in tennis books and purchase a classic on tennis techniques or a biography of your favourite player.



## Thelma Long honoured in the US

Congratulations to one of our members, Thelma Long, for her recent induction into the International Tennis Hall of Fame and Museum (ITHFM) at Newport, Rhode Island, USA, on July 13, 2013. Rod Laver accepted the award on Thelma's behalf.

She was inducted into the Master Player Category. Thelma had a remarkable career over 20 years, winning 19 grand slam tournament titles. These included wins in the singles, doubles and mixed doubles. In 1952 she achieved a world ranking of No. 7 and took out an Australian triple by winning the singles, doubles and mixed doubles titles at the Australian Open.

Thelma was born in 1918 and started playing tennis at 12 years of age. She came to National prominence in 1935 when she won the Australian Junior Girls Singles and the NSW Women's Singles at the young age of 17.

Her distinguished international career was interrupted by the war. She did not play overseas from 1939-1948 so some of her prime playing years were lost and she surely would have won more tournaments to add to her already great achievements.

The Museum assisted in sending some of Thelma's trophies to the ITHFM in the US for their Tribute Exhibition, on display for one year. Two other great Australian players were inducted into this category, Daphne Akhurst (1903-1933) and James Anderson (1894-1929).



A: Sydney Girls' High School 1933. Thelma Long receiving the Stewart Cup Inter-School Singles Cup from Fred Perry.

B: A visit to Acapulco during the Pan American Championships, Mexico City, 1952. Baba Lewis, Shirley Fry, Nell Hopman and Thelma Long.

C: One of Thelma's trophies sent for the US exhibition. LTA Australia, Women's Single Championship, 1952.



## Recent Donations

### Allan Kendall

The Museum recently accepted items from Allan Kendall relating to his successful international career in seniors tennis. Trophies and medallions from around the world show his great achievements.

Allan won the NSW Schoolboys Singles Championships in 1946 and 1947 and won the junior doubles titles (with Rex Hartwig) at the Australian, NSW and Victorian tournaments. In 1957 he won the White City Singles Championships.

Allan retired from the circuit in 1965 but after 20 years returned to play seniors tennis. He won 3 singles, 8 doubles and 2 mixed titles. He then played international tournaments and won an amazing 36 titles in 12 different countries. In 1986 he ranked No2 on the World Circuit Veteran International players. He continued to play weekly at White City up until 2009.



### Alan Walker

Alan Walker was a member of the Australian Tennis Museum founding committee and a long-standing member who sadly passed away last year. He will be remembered for his dedication to the Museum and his outstanding contribution in photography. Alan took many photographs of the NSW tournaments at White City, capturing the prominent players of the time and the changes in clothing and racquet development that help document our tennis history. In 2000 Alan was awarded the Australian Sports Medal in recognition of his services to tennis.



### Mark Edmondson

1976 Australian Open winner, Mark Edmondson, recently donated his collection of racquets and other memorabilia to the Museum. He is the last Australian to win the men's singles at the Australian Open. He achieved a singles ranking of No.15 in 1982, making it to the semi-finals of Wimbledon. He had great success as a doubles player, winning five Grand Slams, including the Australian and French Open.

### Early Footage of Brad Drewett

The Australian Tennis Museum would like to thank Jim Williams who recently donated some rare 8mm film footage of Brad Drewett (1958-2013) playing tennis as a young man at the Manly Seaside courts and the Deaf and Blind School at North Rocks. Brad Drewett won the 1975 and 1977 Australian Open Junior

championships and went on to achieve a world ranking of No.34 in 1984. This footage has been converted to DVD and is a valuable addition to our library collection. Jim Williams also donated footage of Karen Krantzcke (1946-1977) playing as a youngster which will be converted to DVD in the future.



D: Some of veterans tennis trophies from the Allan Kendall collection.

E: The unusual SNAUWAERT tennis racquet (c.1983), made in Belgium, donated by Mark Edmondson.

F: A young Brad Drewett shown on the 8mm film footage recently donated to the Australian Tennis Museum.

# *Flashback to 1928 — "Restrain your feelings"*

## TENNIS ETIQUETTE FOR SPECTATORS

When you attend a tennis match you immediately become one of the "gallery" which has assembled to witness the play. Just as there are rules and regulations which the players must observe, so, too, are there well-defined rules for the spectators to abide by. The observance of these rules will materially help not only the players and the smoothness of the game, but the officials also.

**Don't move in your seats** whilst the ball is in play, for a tennis ball travels fast, and your movement may be the cause of the player missing his shot. Furthermore, your movement may cause the umpire to suspend play.

**Don't applaud while the ball is in play.** Restrain your feelings until the point has been concluded, and then give vent to your pent-up emotions. The non-observance

of this rule will mean that the game will be slowed down by unnecessary stoppages.

Don't move about when opposite the ends of the court. Wait until the game has been completed.

Don't applaud errors. This is the unwritten rule of the game.

Don't give decisions, and don't challenge the umpire's decisions. Competent umpires will be officiating. Not only will they be in a better position than you, but their eyes are trained to follow the flight of the ball.

Read and know the rules thoroughly. It will help you enjoy the play all the more. By assisting the Committee you will help the players, too. We appeal for your co-operation in this matter.

*From our library collection: Souvenir Programme, Australian Lawn Tennis Championships 1928. Perhaps this is something to hand out during current tennis tournaments.*

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## *Tennis Snippets*

Did you know that African Americans were initially banned from competing in the United States Lawn Tennis Association (USLTA) national championships? Thus, the American Tennis Association (ATA) was formed in 1916 to promote tennis, foster the creation of clubs, courts and associations and to nurture their own young players. From 1917 the ATA ran tournaments in big cities such as Baltimore, New York City, Washington DC, Philadelphia and Chicago but players and spectators found it difficult to secure accommodation as most hotels refused black clients. From 1924 the tournaments were hosted by Black colleges during summer break where players, spectators and families could stay together on one campus. I was not until 1948 that African Americans were finally allowed to compete in the USLTA. The ATA still runs tournaments today but participation has declined since the integration of all players in the USLTA championships. American players like Althea Gibson and Arthur Ashe made their start the ATA. For more information visit

<http://www.blacktennishistory.com>

## *Wimbledon statistics 2013*

**Attendance** over 13 days was 486,898

### **Most Aces**

103 (from 6 matches) Jerzy Janowicz (Polish)  
45 (from 7 matches) Sabine Lisicki (German)

### **Fastest Serves**

230km/hr Jerzy Janowicz (Polish)  
198km/hr Sabine Lisicki (German)

### **Longest rally**

37 Novak Djokovic v Tommy Haas (Haas won)  
33 Alize Cornet v Flavia Pennetta (Pennetta won)

### **Merchandise**

28,600 Championship towels were purchased

### **Strawberries**

142,000 portions of strawberries were eaten!

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