

Over the Net

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

What an amazing tennis year we have had so far! The epic Australian Open final between Nadal and Djokovic had us glued to our seats until the early hours of the morning. With Djokovic triumphant, the game went into the history books as the longest Grand Slam final in history at 5 hours and 53 minutes. Victoria Azarenka won both the Apia International and Australian Open, pinning her as one to look out for this year. Also, the Australian Davis Cup team had an easy win over China in the most recent Davis Cup tie held in Geelong.

Here at the museum we have been very busy with the flood of people coming to see the new exhibit during the Apia, we have received an exciting new item for our collection, and the Ken Rosewall Luncheon is on the horizon.

This year the 10th Annual Ken Rosewall Luncheon will be held on Monday 28th May, so remember to keep the date free!

Any guesses as to who will be our special guest this year?



Victoria Azarenka—Winner of the Apia International Women's Singles

Jarkko Nieminen—Winner of the Apia International Men's Singles



**Friends of the Australian
Tennis Museum
Newsletter
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Djokovic wins the Australian Open



Australia's Davis Cup team at the Geelong Lawn Tennis Club

Apia International Tournament Sydney 2012

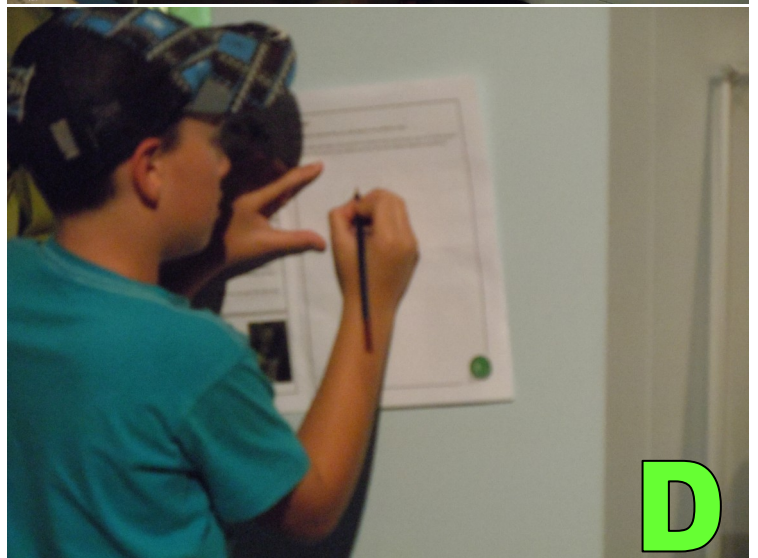
It was another busy January for the Australian Tennis Museum. The Apia International took off with a bang on Sunday 8th January and didn't stop until the evening of Saturday 14th January when Victoria Azarenka and Jarkko Nieminen took home their new titles.

This year the museum had over 3000 visitors and made almost \$5000, \$1324 of which was given in generous donations. Our busiest day was once again Kids Day with 956 people through the museum doors.

Kids Day also provided a very entertaining moment this year when two young boys entered the museum and one loudly

exclaimed "They played with wooden racquets!?!?". One of the volunteers then had to explain to this shocked boy that 'a long time ago' all tennis players had racquets made of wood.

The extra museum activities were popular again this year. Kids swarmed the Nintendo Wii for a game of virtual tennis and our new activity 'The Great Museum Tennis Hunt' saw kids searching the new exhibition for answers to some tricky questions in order to earn a spot with the museum as a Tennis Detective. The museum's Patron Ken Rosewall was also in the museum many days and was kind enough to sign autographs for excited tennis fans.





- A:** Visitors comment on the exhibition with one of the museum volunteers
- B:** Learning about Nell Hopman
- C:** Some kids enjoy the Wii Tennis game in the museum library
- D:** A young boy on his way to being a Tennis Detective
- E:** A group discussing the tennis legends on display
- F:** Ken Rosewall happily signs an item from the museum shop for fans

New Exhibition Receives Fantastic Reviews

The new exhibition at the Australian Tennis Museum is once again a great success and was very popular with visitors during the Apia International 2012:

“Fabulous! Loved it”

“Great – brings back lots of memories”

“Relaxing place and extremely interesting”

“Great history for the kids”

“Very cleverly done”

“A great display of our past glory. Very interesting”

The exhibition is now open to the public on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9am-4pm until the end of November 2012.



Tennis Collectors Meet at the Australian Tennis Museum



Tennis Heritage Australia (THA) is a group created in early 2011 with the aim of bringing together tennis collectors and historians from all over Australia who wish to preserve and promote Australian tennis history (some of the Friends may remember an article in 'Over the Net' from May last year on the newly formed THA group).

With this group becoming more well-known, a NSW chapter has been created and meetings are now being held at the Australian Tennis Museum. It is an excellent opportunity for tennis collectors and enthusiasts to meet together, talk about their collections and share their knowledge. There is also always an opportunity for show-and-tell.

The Australian Tennis Museum would like to invite all of the Friends to attend these meetings.

For more information about these meetings please contact Michael Fitzgerald on 0405 232 232. You can alternatively contact the museum on (02) 9024 7629 or email museum@tennis.com.au.

Our Newest Acquisition



The Australian Tennis Museum is very excited about our newest acquisition: a dress worn by Sam Stosur at the 2011 US Open.



Sam's win at the US Open against Serena Williams was an amazing match that saw Sam become the first Australian woman to win a Grand Slam title in 31 years and only the second Australian woman to win the US Open Singles title (Margaret Court was the first).

This signed dress is an exceptional addition to our clothing collection. It will sit alongside dresses worn by Evonne Goolagong Cawley, Lesley Bowrey, Margaret Court and Jan Lehane.

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