

Over the Net



This year has flown by and we have almost finished 2008. At the Australian Tennis Museum we are gearing up for the Medibank International Sydney 2009, putting the final touches on our new exhibition (“Heroes of Tennis”) and looking back at some great improvements to the collection storage areas.

It has been a very busy 6 months and we hope you enjoy this latest newsletter and look forward to seeing you in the Museum soon.

Medibank International Sydney 2009

Things are certainly progressing for the Medibank International Sydney. We will soon be having our volunteer training and making sure the Museum is at its best to welcome everyone during the tournament. With some of the

best players in the world like Tomas Berdych, Elena Dementieva, Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, Serena Williams, Gilles Simon, Lleyton Hewitt, Dinara Safina and David Nalbandian coming to Sydney to play, we are looking forward to a great summer.

The museum has plenty of activities planned to help promote the museum during Medibank. Children are invited to come to the museum from Sunday to Friday to create their own superheroes in the craft centre from 11am to 1pm (\$5.00 each child). There will also be “Guess Who” games and competitions to enter. So come and see what all the fuss is about and view some world class tennis at the same time!

The museum will be open for the length of the tournament (11th to 17th January 2009) and if you are interested in volunteering contact Aimee Deaves on (02) 9024 7600 or email museum@tennis.com.au by Friday 12th December 2008.

Museum hours during Medibank International 2009 are:

Sunday 11th January:	9am – 5:30pm
Monday 12 th January to Friday 16th January:	9am – 6:30pm
Saturday 17 th January:	3pm – 6:30pm



Friends of the Australian
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Medibank Raffle

Nerida Grewal of Tennis Accessories, who makes all the wonderful jewellery in our shop, has kindly donated a beautiful set including a necklace, earrings and charm bracelet to be raffled. We will be selling tickets during the Medibank International Sydney. Come in and show your Friends Membership card to receive two raffle tickets for the price of one.

Tickets are 1 for \$2.00 or 3 for \$5.00 and are available for pre-purchase from Thursday 18th December 2008.

Champions Walk Project

The donation that was given by the Friends of the NSW Tennis Association Incorporated for this project has been well spent and we hope you agree. The tunnel to centre court was a very cold and dreary place, all unpainted concrete and damp spots. It is now painted and we will soon have some great images to hang on the walls celebrating the history of the NSW Championships and those who have been the champions over the last 120 years. Here at Tennis NSW we are all really excited about the improvements and hope you will be to. Group tours can be booked after the Medibank International. Please come and see what you have helped to achieve.

Stay tuned for before and after pictures in the next issue of "Over the Net."

"Heroes of Tennis" Exhibition



The museum will be opening a new exhibition on the first day of the Medibank International that looks at some of Australia's great Tennis Heroes. The exhibition considers what makes a player a hero. Is it what they do on the court or what they do for others once they retire from the game? Heroes profiled include Thelma Long, Margaret Smith Court, David Hall and Pat Rafter. The exhibition is highlighted with objects and photos from both the Australian Tennis Museum and other institutions in Australia. The exhibition will be on display until June 2009.



Who is Your Tennis Hero?

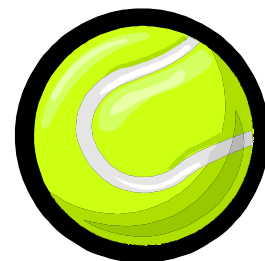
To coincide with our new exhibition the museum will be holding a short story competition aimed to encourage children to write about their favorite tennis sports star and why they are their hero. The prize is a Head Tennis Racquet kindly donated by the SOPTC Pro Shop. For more information contact Aimee Deaves on (02) 9024 7600 or email museum@tennis.com.au. Entries close Friday 3rd April 2009.



Staff News

Farewell from Bronwyn Alcorn

It is with great sadness that I tell you that I have accepted another position and will be leaving the Australian Tennis Museum. From the 3rd November I will be working with the Historic Houses Trust of New South Wales. I have been here for almost two years and have learnt so much from so many different people. It has been a privilege to work with the volunteers at Medibank, in the general Museum and at the Ken Rosewall Luncheons. I must say a huge thank you to all those who have been so generous with their time, knowledge and friendship. There have been some big changes over the past two years, and there is still a lot of work to do, especially with the collection and in generating more public awareness of how great a Museum this is. I hope that you welcome and support Aimee in the same way as you did for me.



Aimee Deaves joins the Australian Tennis Museum after completing a internship here earlier in the year researching our costume collection. Aimee has a Bachelor of Science from Macquarie University and will finish a Masters in Museum Studies next year. Aimee looks forward to working with all of you to make the museum more prominent in the Tennis community and continuing to develop the depth of the collection.



Winners of the *Renew and Win Prizes*

Congratulations to Judy Beekman who won the first of our *Renew and Win* prizes. Judy was given the chance to spend \$200 in the Sydney Olympic Park Tennis Centre Pro Shop on brand new Head tennis equipment.

Congratulations to Marie Jackson who won the second of our *Renew and Win* prizes and received two tickets to the Men's finals at the Medibank International Sydney.

Thanks to all for renewing your membership. We hope to use the feedback you gave us to keep the Friends program an enjoyable way for you to support the Museum and meet other tennis enthusiasts.

Ken Rosewall Tennis Day

Keep an eye on your mailboxes for your special invitation to a new event in our Friend's calendar. The Ken Rosewall tennis day will be held at the Sydney Olympic Park Tennis Centre in late March. The day will be a great chance for all our Friends to come and enjoy a hit on the courts and to socialize and catch up.

Thelma Long's Afternoon Tea

On the 23rd October 25 Friends of the Australian Tennis Museum gathered to honour Thelma Long and celebrate her 90th birthday. There were presentations by Ken Rosewall and tales from Thelma, complemented by a wonderful afternoon tea. It was a great afternoon enjoyed by all.



Photographic Collection

As mentioned in the last newsletter, the Museum was fortunate to receive a VIM (Volunteer Initiated Museum) grant from Museums and Galleries NSW. This was used to purchase conservation standard albums and sleeves for our photographic collection. We still need more albums to help with sorting all of the photographs, but with the grant we have managed to get a good proportion of the collection into albums. In sorting the photographs we have found many where we aren't sure of who is in the photo, when or where it was taken. So in the future we will be featuring a photo and asking for information.



To start off here is a photo that we found in the collection that appears to have an interesting story to tell. Do you know the people in this photograph and what is going on?

If you would like more information about this project or would like to help in identifying images please contact Aimee Deaves on (02) 9024 7600 or at museum@tennis.com.au.

Attention All Aspiring Authors!!!

Here at the Australian Tennis Museum we are always interested in what you the Friends of the Australian Tennis Museum have to say about the world of tennis! If you have an interesting story or photograph contact the curator. With Medibank fast approaching there are sure to be some interesting points of view to be heard.



Australian Tennis Museum Friends Christmas Pre-Sale



The shop at the Australian Tennis Museum has been restocked in time for Christmas. We have in a new range of Aromatherapy socks and some wonderful new Tennis Jewellery & Accessories for men and women. The shop will be open for a special Friends pre-sale on **Thursday 18th December 2008 between 11am and 3pm**. Come in and stock up before the Medibank crowds hit.

From everyone here at the Australian Tennis Museum Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

We look forward to seeing you all next year to help further preserve the history of Australian Tennis.



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