Tennis Seniors 30+ SA 50th Birthday Celebration
1972-2022

Wow! 50 years young. Doesn't seem like 10 years since our 40th. How to celebrate the occasion?

First thing to do - form a sub-committee and work out how to go about it.

I was asked by Ian if I would help in arranging this and the sub-committee consisting of Ian, Mary, Kevin, Sue McK, Karen, Donna, Ken O'D, Chris, Brian and myself was formed.
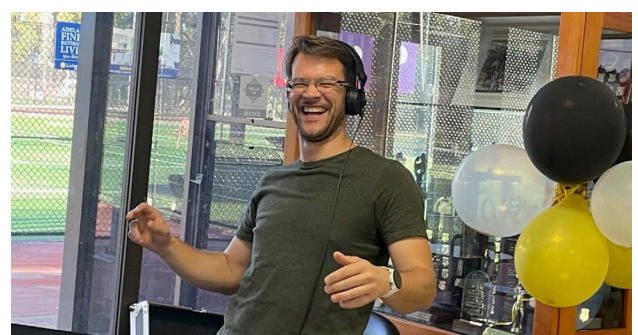
We had our first meeting and got to work. After a few ideas and discussions, we decided on a Cocktail night to be held on Saturday December 10th.

The invitation was designed, and Ian did the printing. The invitations went out to Members, Life Members and Past Presidents, with information also posted on the website. Responses were SLOW but we hoped it "would be alright on the night"

It was decided that Kevin would manage the bar and that the first drink would be free. Carol Delbridge and Kath Benson did the cocktail selection and after several tastings decided on two different offerings. Kevin and Kath handled the bar on the night with help from Carol D and Ken O'D.

We decided to have two different paellas (Chicken /Chorizo and Vegetarian) provided by Adelaide Paella. These were excellent and turned out to be a huge hit. We also provided a grazing table before the main course and this was also well received.

We had a few meetings over the months and, bit by bit, it all came together. Everybody pitched in and we were all looking forward to December 10th.

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We went in to set up on Friday night and again on Saturday morning. By this time, we were very happy with the way it all looked. On Friday morning, Chris and I went to Costco to do the shopping for the grazing table and, with Sue McKelvie unfortunately unavailable, we took Ken Hand with us. This was just as well as the trolley was filled to the brim.

Chris and I did the platters on Saturday morning and placed them in the cool room while Mary and Ian were putting finishes to the clubrooms and Kevin was finishing setting up the bar. Ken H picked up an order from Costco and the celebration cake made by Stephan at Heidi's Bakery, Clovercrest Shopping Centre in the shape of a tennis court.

By mid afternoon we were finished and had time to go home and try to do the Cinderella trick.

We were back around 6 and, despite the slow acceptances, we had a great turnout of more than 90 attendees.

Weather-wise we had ordered the perfect summer evening. People started arriving around 6:30 and it was great to see a lot of "old faces" who hadn't changed over the years.

Brian Dew was asked to be the MC for the night and kept the evening moving. He had done a lot of research and gave us all a lot of information about members and how the club has changed and progressed over the years.

Ian also spoke about the history of Tennis Seniors SA and made a presentation to Life Members – the first one presented was June Raven, one of our "Golden Oldies".

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Donna handled the merchandise and Karen looked after the photos and memorabilia.

Mary organized the decorating of the clubrooms making the "50" numbers for the bar tables and sourcing black table covers which added a bit of class to the room.

Sue McKelvie did the tickets for the free drinks and helped with the slide show.

Mary's son, Christo was our DJ for the evening and did a great job.

Thanks to Claire for the flowers and her help on Friday night and Saturday morning.

I would like to thank members of the sub-committee for making this happen, just pitching in and each playing their part in making our 50th celebration a success.

Special thanks to Ian who was always at the end of the phone to answer questions and offer advice if needed and to Mary who put in 150%.

Bring on the 60th -2032

Signing off,

Sue Hand (good luck Mary!!)

Members of 50th Celebration sub-committee;

Ian Delbridge Karen Ahrens, Kevin Benson, Donna Brewster, Sue McKelvie, Ken O'Dea, Mary Johnson, Brian Dew, Sue Hand.