

HALLAME

2023 INDUCTEES COCKTAIL PARTY



Congratulations to our 2023

Hall of Fame inductees!



On behalf of the Committee of Tennis Seniors Western Australia (TSWA), I would like to welcome you all to our 2023 Hall of Fame inductions and cocktail party. The inaugural event in 2022, on the occasion of our 50th anniversary, was a great success and we hope that further inductions into the Western Australia Seniors Tennis Hall of Fame will be made in coming years. Tennis West will manage the WA Seniors Hall of Fame from 2024 onwards in conjunction with the WA Hall of Fame Champions.

It is fitting that we once again, celebrate this occasion at the home of the Royal Kings Park Tennis Club (RKPTC), as this was also the birthplace of seniors' tennis in WA back in the early 1970s. It has also been the venue for many seniors' events over the years, including this year's ITF Masters event. I hope that Kings Park will continue to be a major venue for seniors' tennis in the future and thank RKPTC and Next Gen for their continued support.

Last year, we inducted nine elite players into the WA Seniors Hall of Fame – including our inaugural Legend Margaret Robinson - and it is great to see many of them here today, supporting the next group of inductees. Our 2023 inductees have all been

stalwarts of senior's tennis in WA for many years, each achieving a significant number of WA State Titles as well as gold medals at the National Teams Carnival.

Thank you to all those people involved in making this event happen, in particular to Marlene Howes and Deb Kirk as TSWA event organisers.

Congratulations to Gordon, Wendy and Garry on their thoroughly-deserved inductions into the Hall of Fame; they are truly local heroes!

Thanks to you all for joining us tonight in these celebrations.



PAUL MOSS

President - Tennis Seniors WA



AGENDA

Saturday 16th December 2023

6:30pm	Arrival
7:15pm	Welcome and Introduction Paul Moss and MC Cam Robbins
7:30pm	Induction of Seniors Players into the Hall of Fame Presented by Margaret Robinson
8:15pm	TSWA Senior of the Year Award Presented by Paul Moss
8:30pm	Tennis West Address
10:30pm	Close

Music:

Melanie Bromley



14 Australian Teams Carnival Gold Medals (between 1992 & 2020) 1 WA Singles Title (1990)

20 WA State Doubles Titles (between 1988 & 2023)

12 WA State Mixed Doubles Titles (between 1989 & 2008)

In 1952, aged 7 years, after encouragement from a cousin, Gordon applied to join the Palmyra Tennis Club (also known as Port's Tennis Club), in Adrian Street, Palmyra WA. This tennis club was located on privately owned land by Mr and Mrs Port.

Gordon was quite disappointed when told that he was too young and advised to wait another year. The following year

he was accepted as a member and began playing regularly. Gordon derived much enjoyment from playing social tennis and soon started to participate in club tournaments.

As a junior at the Palmyra Tennis Club from 1953, Gordon received two terms of basic group coaching from Arthur Marshall.

At the age of 16 - after becoming a member of a Junior Boys Pennant Team for Palmyra in the Fremantle and District Tennis Association - Gordon's team was successful in winning the pennant for the 1961-1962 and 1962-1963 seasons.



From about the age of 15, Gordon focused more on playing cricket, but in 1967 (aged 22) after a change of heart, he gave away cricket and joined Melville-Palmyra Tennis Club to restart his tennis career. During the 1970s, Gordon played competitively at Melville-Palmyra and then later at Corinthian, Leederville, Wembley Downs and North Beach Tennis Clubs, winning a number of shields and club championship events over many years.

Gordon joined Tennis Seniors in 1985 and has been a regular participant at seniors and open events in Perth, country WA and inter-state since that time. Gordon holds the current record for Australian Teams Carnival gold medals with 14 and has accumulated 33 WA State titles.

Gordon won the Australian Championships 140 years Combined Age Doubles with Henry Michael in 2018 and has been a runner up on several occasions at the Australian Seniors Individual Championships over the years. At the Australian Masters Games in Perth 2021 Gordon was successful in Men's Doubles (also with Henry Michael) winning 2 gold, 1 silver and 1 bronze medal in various age/combined age categories. At age 77, he now only plays the occasional country tournament, such as the Busselton March event. However, State Seniors and Australian Seniors Teams Championships still form an important and large part of his tennis calendar.

Gordon holds the current record for Australian Teams Carnival gold medals with 14 and has accumulated 33 WA State titles.





One Australian Individual Doubles Title (2001 55+)

Nine Australian Teams Carnival Gold Medals (between 1992 & 2020) 22 WA Seniors Titles (between 1992 & 2017)

Garry played tennis as a junior in country towns and then came to Perth in 1965 to play football for East Fremantle Football Club. He joined Kensington Tennis Club in 1969 and played pennant tennis in the South Suburban competition. A few years later he joined Leederville Tennis Club and played in the Tennis West pennant competition.

In 1985, Garry moved to Mandurah and has been on the committee, along with his wife Lyn at Mandurah Tennis Club since that time. Both Lyn and Garry are Life Members of that club.

Communications with Tennis West led to the Mandurah Tennis Club being given approval to enter teams in the Tennis West pennant competition on Saturdays and Sundays, having initially been part of Coastal Districts.







Garry played Tennis Seniors competitions from 1985 with Leederville and travelled to Adelaide in the Western Australian 40+ team in that year. Each year following that Garry travelled interstate to participate in the Teams events, winning gold medals on nine occasions during 1992 to 2020.

Gary holds 22 WA State Seniors Titles, including five singles, 13 doubles and four mixed doubles, spanning a period of over 25 years.

Garry was always a keen footballer and - at times - some of the aggression, sledging and bravado experienced in that sport may have surfaced on the tennis court. Garry considers that to be "white line

fever". Garry has enjoyed his tennis journey and acknowledges that it has played a huge part in his life, both in a participation and a social sense.

a keen footballer and at times - some of the aggression, sledging and bravado experienced in that sport may have surfaced on the tennis court.



One Tennis Seniors Individual Mixed Doubles Title (2014 70+)

Three Australian Teams Carnival Gold Medals (between 1988 & 2007) 29 WA State Seniors Titles (between 1986 & 2022)

Wendy started tennis at the age of 26 years at the Maida Vale Tennis Club. In 1970, she went to live in Canada and, while she was there, a coach gave her the encouragement to continue with her tennis when she moved to live in Kuwait.

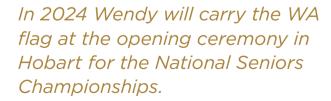
There were not many tennis ladies in Kuwait at that time. However, the Recreation Manager of the Hilton Hotel said if

Wendy could find ladies willing to play, he would give them an event in the tournaments which were played on the two courts at the Hilton Hotel.

It was this manager - Magued Adham - and two other good players that Wendy thanks for the time they took to teach her tennis. She ended up organising a number of tournaments in Kuwait at the Hilton Hotel over many years.









1974 Wendy played in the Cairo International against Sue Barker (United Kingdom) in a Second Round loss. In 1975 she played in the Oman International in Singles, Ladies Doubles, Mixed Doubles and won all events. In 1988 she played in the Singapore Seniors Tournament in Singles and won. She also made it to the Ladies Doubles Quarter Finals.

In 1985, Wendy was awarded Life Membership of Maida Vale Tennis Club. Wendy has played in many Australian Team Carnivals and won three gold medals. In 2024 Wendy will carry the WA flag at the opening ceremony in Hobart for the National Seniors Championships.

Wendy's WA State Seniors Titles record of 29 titles spans 36 years from 1986 to 2022. Wendy has also played in many Perth tournaments during earlier years and won or was runner up in a number of special Singles events.

Wendy has been a member of Busselton Tennis Club since 2004 and has held and continues to hold committee positions at that club.

RE-CAP FROM LAST YEAR INDUCTEES 2022



TENNIS SENIORS' WESTERN AUSTRALIA Legend MARGARET ROBINSON

Since its establishment in 2019, Margaret Robinson is the only WA player to have been inducted into the Australian Tennis Seniors Hall of Fame. Margaret was an inaugural inductee and only 14 players nationally have ever been inducted.

Margaret holds 8 individual world seniors' titles, including four singles, three women's doubles and one mixed doubles. These titles were achieved over an 11 year period from 2003 to 2013 in age groups from 65+ up to 80+. In 2013, Margaret was the number one ranked seniors' woman tennis player in both singles and doubles in her age group.

Margaret has represented Australia at the World ITF Teams Championships no less than 19 times, many times as the number one player and captain of the team. She holds 3 gold medals as a member of the winning 55+ Maureen Connolly Cup team in 1992, 70+ Althea Gibson Cup team in 2004 and 75+ Queens Cup team in 2009.

Margaret also holds 32 WA State Titles, including 17 singles titles during the period 1989 to 2013, nine women's doubles during 1980 to 1991 and six mixed doubles from 1989 to 2013.





TENNIS SENIORS' WESTERN AUSTRALIA LICENTALIA LICENTALIA

Lito Alvarez is a holder of three World Seniors titles and five Australian Seniors titles. He won the World Seniors 50+ Singles title in 1999 and World Seniors' men's doubles titles in 1999 (50+) and 2003 (55+). In 1999, he also won the Australian 50+ Seniors' singles title. In 2003, he won both the men's singles and doubles titles in the 55+ age group. Two further Australian doubles titles followed in 2007 (55+) and 2012 (60+). He was named Australian Seniors' Player of the Year in 1999.

He is a five-time Australian Seniors representative team member in the 50+, 55+ and 60+ age groups and was a member of the 55+ gold medal winning team in 2005.

Lito also holds two WA Seniors titles; the 1998 50+ men's singles and doubles.

TENNIS SENIORS' WESTERN AUSTRALIA ELSIE CROWE



Elsie Crowe is the holder of three World Seniors' Tennis Titles, having won the 75+ Doubles in 2002 in New Zealand, the 80+ Singles in 2007 and the 80+ Doubles in 2009.

Elsie also holds six Australian Seniors Singles Titles and five doubles titles between 1992 and 2010.

Elsie represented Australia in the World ITF Teams Tennis Championships no fewer than 10 times between 1996 and 2013 in the 65+, 75+ and 80+ age groups, including winning a gold medal in 2009 in the 75s.

Elsie has won 12 Western Australia Seniors' Titles, spanning a 25 year period between 1988 and 2012, including two singles, three women's doubles and seven mixed doubles titles.







TENNIS SENIORS' WESTERN AUSTRALIA LICE Player ALAN GOOCH

Alan Gooch is a seven-time Australian Seniors' individual champion, having won two individual singles titles in 2002 and 2013 in the 55+ and 65+ age groups respectively. He has also won five Australian Seniors' men's doubles titles between 2004 and 2016 as well as being a runner up in individual events six times.

Over a 30 year period from 1988 to 2018, Alan has represented Australia in the World ITF Teams' Tournament no less than 13 times (nine as Team Captain) in age groups from 35+ to 70+. He also holds a World Title, as a member of the gold winning Australian 55s Team in Perth in 2005 where he won every singles and doubles match he played.

He holds 27 State Seniors' Titles; 11 singles, 11 men's doubles and five mixed as well as an impressive "head to head" record against his local peers, being undefeated in State Seniors' singles events.

TENNIS SENIORS' WESTERN AUSTRALIA Life Player HENRY MICHAEL

Henry Michael is the holder of a World Seniors doubles title, having won the 65+ men's doubles in 2009. He has also been a runner up in doubles on two occasions.

Henry holds nine Australian Seniors' titles, including one singles title in 1987 (40+), four men's doubles titles between 1998 and 2013 and four mixed doubles titles. His achievements at the national level span more than 30 years, from 1987 to 2017.

Henry has represented Australia 13 times around the world, including nine times in the World ITF Seniors Championships.

Henry holds more Western Australia Seniors' Titles than any other player, with 55 since 1985, including 16 singles titles from 40+ to 75+ age groups, 18 men's doubles and 23 mixed doubles. His WA titles span 35 years from 1985 to 2021. In the mixed doubles, 18 titles have been won with Wendy Weir as his partner.



TENNIS SENIORS' WESTERN AUSTRALIA HEIFN MIIR

Helen Muir holds six Australian Seniors' tennis titles, including the 70+ singles and doubles in 2013. She was also the winner of the 50+ women's doubles four times between 1992 and 1996.

Helen represented Australia in the World ITF Seniors Teams Championships no fewer than 13 times during a 28 year period from 1992 and 2019 in the 50+, 65+, 70+ and 75+ age groups. Helen was Captain of the Australian Bueno Cup Team (50+ Age Group) and a gold medal winner in 1996, for which the team also won the Australian Master Teams Award from the Australian Institute of Sport. Helen was a national seniors' selector for a number of years.

In addition to success on the world stage and at national level, Helen holds 16 WA Seniors' titles, including seven singles, seven women's doubles and two mixed doubles over a 30 year period from 1985 to 2014 in age groups from 40+ to 70+. Helen has represented WA many times at the National Teams Carnival, including wins in the 40+, 50+, 60+ and 70+ age groups.

TENNIS SENIORS' WESTERN AUSTRALIA BRETT PATTEN



Brett Patten was the ITF Seniors World number one ranked doubles player in the 40+ age group in 2012 and ITF Seniors World jointly ranked number one singles player in the 40+ age group in 2011.

A holder of 11 Australian Seniors titles, Brett won five consecutive Australian Seniors singles and doubles titles between 2009 to 2013 In doing this, he became one of only three 3 Australian male players to consecutively win five Australian singles and doubles titles across five successive years, the first two years in the 35+ age group and the last three years in the 40+ age group. Brett added another Australian men's doubles title in the 45+ in 2020 alongside his brother Darren.

During the period 2009 to 2016, Brett won six WA State Seniors singles and two doubles titles, two ITF Queensland singles and doubles titles, three ITF Australian Clay court titles and two ITF Victorian Championship titles in singles and doubles.

Brett represented Australia at the World ITF Seniors Championships on four occasions between 2009 and 2014 in the 35+ and 40+ age groups, winning a silver medal in 2009 and bronze medal in 2011.







TENNIS SENIORS' WESTERN AUSTRALIA Life Player GARY PENBERTHY

Gary Penberthy is the holder or a World Seniors Doubles Title, having won the 45+ Doubles in 1992. He was also a runner-up in both singles and doubles in the 55+ age group in 2003. In 2007 & 2008 Gary held a year end ITF World ranking of number 5 in the 60s age group and was briefly ranked number 2 in his age group in 2003.

Gary holds nine Australian Seniors' Titles, including four singles and five doubles, achieved over a 20 year period from 1988 to 2008 in age groups from 40+ up to 60+.

Gary represented Australia in the World ITF Seniors Championships on six occasions between 1987 and 2002 in 35+, 45+, 50+ and 55+ age groups.

Gary also won six Western Australian Seniors' Titles over a 20 year period from 1987 to 2006, including three singles and three men's doubles titles.

TENNIS SENIORS' WESTERN AUSTRALIA Life Player PETER RIGG



Peter Rigg is the holder of two world men's doubles titles, the first in 1999 in the 50+ age group and the second in 2003 at 55+. In addition to this, Peter has won four Australian men's doubles titles between 1998 and 2012 in the 50+, 55+ and 60+ age groups.

Peter represented Australia in the men's team at the ITF World Team Titles eight times in age groups from 45+ to 60+ over more than 15 years and was a gold medal winner on two occasions; in 1997 and 2005. In 1997, the "Dubler" Cup was held in Pretoria, South Africa and this was only the third time since 1958 that Australia had won the 45+ event.

Peter holds five WA State Titles from 1994 to 2001, including three singles titles at age 40+ and 45+ and two men's doubles titles at 50+.



In 2023, the TSWA Committee commissioned the social history of our organisation to be written. The author is Mr Drew Gaynor. Drew is interested to hear from any past player, member, committee member or anyone with knowledge, anecdotes and/or photographs from Veterans, Seniors or WA Masters over the years. Copies of documents and photographs can be arranged. Contact Drew via tswa@optusnet.com.au

THE STORY SO FAR

The summer of 1972 at Royal Kings Park Tennis Club (RKPTC) saw the First President of The Veterans Lawn Tennis Club of Australia - Victorian John Young - urge local enthusiasts to form a West Australian branch of the recently established national veterans' tennis organisation.

With many tennis enthusiasts in the veteran or near-veteran class - their speediest days behind them, but their love of the game still at its peak - the seed was sown for the inception of a veterans group in Western Australia (WA).

The Governor's tennis team, founded by Sir Charles Gairdner in the early 1960's and continued by Sir Douglas Kendrew had

generously sponsored teams before. However, with the cessation of these teams, it was obvious to the group at RKPTC that a replacement was required. There had been much discussion about forming a team to travel and play overseas and this led to Sir Ross Hutchinson, an enthusiastic veteran, taking matters into his own hands and forming the WA Veterans' Tennis Club and becoming its first President. The group was originally formed for men's teams only for the first five years.

The objects of the Club were as follows:

- To encourage the playing of lawn tennis in the spirit in which it was first played - for the love and enjoyment of the game;
- b. To encourage lawn tennis players who have reached the age of 45 to continue play the game;
- To promote and encourage the holding of veterans events open to players who have reached the age of 45 as part of open lawn tennis programmes;
- To arrange matches between the Club and other teams both at home and abroad.

Initially, qualifications for membership also required the following:

- a. Representation for Australia in the Davis Cup competition;
- b. Having won a national or state title;
- Having played in the Wimbledon, French and USA Championships in open or veteran events; and
- d. Were considered by the committee to be of a suitable standard.

Over time, these exacting qualifications were progressively relaxed, but the focus remained on players of a good competitive standard.

1975 saw two international visits, one to Singapore and Malaysia and another to New Zealand. As well, many visits to WA country towns were undertaken by enthusiastic veterans' teams. Another initiative was veterans playing against junior tennis players of promise in the State, including teams from Scotch College and Guildford Grammar.

1977 saw consistent growth in membership and continued interest in matches between veterans and private schools. As well, there was interest shown in the formation of a Ladies Veterans Association and female players gradually joined.

In 1980, the Veterans Tennis Association of WA hosted their first Australian Seniors Championships in Perth, including the National Teams Carnival and Individual Championships. This event was hosted by the Association a further seven times in WA; in 1988, 1996, 2003, 2007, 2012, 2013 and 2020. In 1988 and 1996, Western Australia won the National Seniors Teams Carnival, which remain the only two victories by the State to date.

In 1993, after a period at Nedlands Tennis Club as the home of Seniors' the Association obtained premises at Royal Kings Park Tennis Club and sought donations of memorabilia to display at this location.

The "Vetscene" magazine distributed quarterly to members for over 35 years (and only recently replaced by social media and on-line newsletters) provided varied information, from welcoming new members by name and contact details, as well as on upcoming tournaments, tours (in 1994 Tennis tour packages were offered to Broome; Brisbane; Pattaya, Thailand; Thailand & Singapore and Alice Springs) – such was the enthusiasm of players – as well as matches against school teams and many social events. There were also a variety of country tournaments offered, some being, Wongan Hills; Merredin; Bunbury, Geraldton.

Veterans Tennis was extremely popular during the 1980s and 1990's – with Social matches being played against 14 suburban clubs and 43 teams playing in the seniors' summer league at one stage. There was a Tuesday night mixed doubles league, Saturday afternoon competitions and a Veterans ladies midweek competition, which continues to this day in an informal way.

In November 1997, The Veterans Tennis Association of Western Australia (Inc.) moved to its new headquarters at Robertson Park Tennis Centre in North Perth. Its membership continued to expand and participation grew in organised events at the new home venue. The varied competitions of midweek, weekend and night tennis with very reasonable membership fees, as well as



social events made Veterans Tennis Association a very popular tennis organisation. It was also blessed with a large number of experienced volunteers.

In February 2000, an Extraordinary General Meeting was held to consider building plans to construct an upper deck on the Robertson Park facility. While this did not eventuate, it was an indication of the growth in membership to over 1200 and the expected expansion of the organisation at that time. A building committee was formed and subsequently, with assistance from the Town of Vincent, major upgrades of all the tennis and administration facilities at Robertson Park were completed.

During the period from 2000, many new formats of tennis competition were developed, with Tennis West offering pennant competition play most week nights, midweek daytime and at weekends, including competition in Seniors' age groups. This impacted the competition offered by Tennis Veterans WA and, together with the ongoing difficulty attracting volunteers, membership declined. However, the WA Veterans continued to host a number of ITF events including world ITF Seniors' events in 2005 and 2009 as well as back-to-back Australian Seniors' Championships in 2012 and 2013. It was also in 2005,

that the term "veterans" was changed to "seniors" nationally and Tennis Seniors WA became the name of the Association.

In 2020, the Robertson Park facility was vacated and the office closed as it had become unviable from a financial perspective to maintain the tenancy. TSWA continued to operate as a "virtual" Association, organising the annual State Seniors' Championships as well as the Australian Seniors' Championships at Busselton/Bunbury in January 2020. During COVID, whilst it was not possible to hold ITF Seniors events due to border closures, TSWA ran two very successful State Titles in 2020 and 2021 at Claremont and Nedlands respectively.

A memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Tennis West was signed in November 2021 with the overall objective to fully embed Seniors' tennis in WA into the State-run tennis frameworks. The current TSWA Committee continues to work with Tennis West on implementation of the MOU and there is still strong interest in and involvement by TSWA in a number of Club-based Seniors' tournaments as well as the State Championships and National Teams Carnival.

TENNIS SENIORS WA

Life Members

Past Presidents

V	1979	Sir Ross Hutchinson DFC	1972-75	Sir Ross Hutchinson DFC	2000-02	Max Heitman
	1980	Don Clayton	1975-77	John Bahen	2002-04	Max Purdy
	1988	Clive Wilderspin	1977-79	Clive Wilderspin	2004-07	Michael Harris
\ /	1989	Geoff Strang	1979-81	Alick Bridge	2007-10	Sandra Petterson
×	1991	Arthur Marshall OAM	1981-83	Don Clayton	2010-12	Kevin Fletcher
	1995	Douglas Brown	1983-85	Arthur Marshall OAM	2012-14	Sue Taylor AM
	2004	Rob Ockerby	1985-87	Geoff Strang	2014-17	Gavan Sullivan
X	2008	Gary Booth	1987-88	Dan Carney	2017-	Paul Moss
	2008	Max Purdy	1988-90	Rob Ockerby		
	2014	Gaye Hawthorn	1990-92	Douglas Brown		
\times	2014	Michael Harris	1992-94	Margaret Thompson		
	2020	Debra Kirk	1994-96	Rob Ockerby		
	2020	Penny Higgs	1996-98	Margaret Wallis		
$\overline{\setminus}$	2020	Rob Comley	1998-00	Gary Booth		



- Hall of Fam

TSWA Senior of the Year

1988-89	Nancy Plaisted	2006-07	Pam Woodward
1989-90	Douglas Brown	2007-08	Leon Dhu
1990-91	Henry Michael	2008-09	David Legge
1991-92	Clive Wilderspin	2009-10	Rhonda Fletcher
1993-94	Margaret Thompson	2010-11	Rob Comley
1994-95	Margaret Robinson	2011-12	Moira Durkin
1995-96	Pauline McCarthy	2012-13	Jhil Taylor
1996-97	Fred Gatti	2014-15	Jeff Glossop
1997-98	Max Heitman	2015-16	Penny Higgs
1998-99	Ken Flavel	2016-17	Margaret Smith
1999-00	Neil Gibbons	2017-18	Penny Higgs
2000-01	Penny Higgs	2018-19	Debra Kirk
2001-02	Rob Barwick	2019-20	Paul Moss
2002-03	Quentin Hillis	2020-21	Sean O'Reilly
2003-04	Darrel Harvey	2021-22	Kath Taylor
2004-05	Sandra Petterson	2022-23	Marlene Howes
2005-06	Wayne Firns		

TSWA 2023 Committee

Paul Moss	President		
Aldis Purins	Vice President		
Marlene Howes	Secretary		
Sean O'Reilly	Treasurer		
Shane Smedley	Committee Member		
Belinda Collis	Committee Member		
Paul Courtis	Committee Member		



TOURNAMENT SPONSOR



EVENT BROCHURE

