



MAUNGARAKI TENNIS - NEWSLETTER



2023 and our 50th birthday year is coming to an end - and it is time to say a huge vote of thanks to the amazing people who have worked so hard to make the Jubilee weekend a success!

It is also time to plan for some year end celebrations - and a long summer of tennis to keep us happy...

YEAR END YANKEE - SENIOR PRIZEGIVING - BIG FANCY FUNCTION - MONDAY 11TH DECEMBER

The word on the street is that the Twilight competitions have been really heating up - and that people are able to stick around for extra games and practice in the good weather. It is great to see our new members and stalwarts combining so well in teams that Nikki takes such care to put together with her system of science and superstition.

On Monday 11th or Tuesday 12th (in the case of a rain-off), we will be holding a Yankee tournament - which basically means that all that tennis excellence can be dealt to with a pack of cards.

Come along for some speed tennis - followed by Senior prizegiving at 7:30 and a shared supper.

2024 TWILIGHT AND SUMMER HOLIDAY SESSIONS

Twilight will resume on **Monday 29th January** and we will be opening the club on Monday nights for anyone keen to meet up for casual play from 6pm.

The Holiday sessions will run for a couple of weeks from 15th January - everyone welcome. Thursday night sessions just keep going so make sure you are in the Heja App Group to see if anyone is coming along for a game.

PINEHAVEN INVITATIONAL - SUNDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 1:30PM

Pinehaven Tennis Club are a friendly bunch and we have annual play dates with them where we visit each other for an afternoon of tennis.

They got a bit fancy last year when hosting by donating a Trophy which they then won.

It's our turn to host this year - look forward to food, drink, music, spot prizes, tennis and some devious scoring antics to make sure we add that Trophy to our cabinet.

The date is provisional at this stage - but keep your diaries free for the confirmation.

JUNIOR TENNIS YEAR END CELEBRATION - WEDNESDAY 13TH DECEMBER

Last year we were very impressed by the level of tennis displayed by juniors dressed as Christmas Trees, Reindeer and Elves. We are hoping to repeat the year end fun and invite the bench warmers (parents, grandparents, uber drivers) to join in some games on court with the kids. Juniors - come along to your normal coaching session and expect some fun games and treats....



MEMBERSHIP SUBS - OVERDUE

If you have not received an email from Club Spark asking you to pay your membership - then please don't wait - do the following as soon as possible.

Go to the page 'Join the Club' on our website to see the cost of your membership for the year and our bank details - **Kiwibank a/c 38-9002-0270638-00**

To pay online directly -- log in to Club Spark - if you cant log in, please pay by Bank Transfer.

Subs were due at the end of September and although we love tennis - we cannot sponsor you.

JUBILEE WEEKEND 11TH NOVEMBER

To celebrate our 50th birthday we hosted past members and visitors at the Club on Saturday and at the Maungaraki Community Centre in the evening. On Sunday afternoon we held a fun tournament - resurrecting the traditional Married Couples League as the Street League Tournament.

We also published a Jubilee magazine with over 80 pages of Club history.

The support and efforts of people were truly amazing and I want to begin by thanking each of them for their help.

THE EX-PRESIDENTS JUBILEE COMMITTEE

BERNIE GRESHAM - JASON KANE - CHERYL AND CLIVE GRAHAM IRENE- WONG - KEVIN BIGNALL - HARRY STEWART - LEN KANE

MTC COMMITTEE AND CREW

TONY SKERRITT - BELINDA DUNN - AARON MAO - TAMMY HAMBLING - RICHARD RATTRAY - NIKKI BENTLEY - ANU DESAI - MARK RAHMAN - LANDON MCMILLAN - RICHARD RATTRAY - JAN AND CHRIS MILNE - JAMES O'NEILL-COOK - KAREN HANSON - PAUL LABETT - STEVE LIMMER - TIM LABETT - ISLA TORRIE - FREJA AND AMELIE STERNGARD

JUBILEE MAGAZINE PRODUCTION TEAM

BERNIE GRESHAM - KEVIN BIGNALL - CHERYL GRAHAM - JOAN WRIGHT - DENIKA MEAD - JASON KANE - TRACY TAYLOR - ARANYA BECK

The party shot - event photography by Aaron



Cake by Steve - our very own Chubby Baker



We wrote a book!

The majority were sold by pre-order but we do have some copies left if you missed out



Bernie and Harry take the stage



Tony and Faye on form...



The beautiful function space built by Belinda



Anu 'catering whiz' - Tracy 'president in hiding'



Awarding Life Member trophies to Chris, Tony and Pip



Ray and Alan - talking tennis



Tony and Tammy - Street League Champions!



Tony, Richard and Landon on the bar - working hard or hardly working?

Thanks to our Jubilee Sponsors

S & P Gupta and
friends of MTC



COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT - TIM LABETT

Tim Labett joined the committee officially in 2022 after helping out with some advice about options for rebuilding the deck.

You are just as likely to see Tim planting, building, concreting, digging or painting at MTC as you are to see him with a tennis racket.

On court Tim specialises in trick shots - particularly at the net. Windy conditions at Maungaraki actually suit Tims style of play which he refined with many years of family challenge matches against his two brothers and son Louie before joining Twilight a few years ago.

Tim also plays hockey for Petone, races pigeons, enjoys deer hunting and brewing beer. His other labour of love is tidying up his garage - a project he started around three years ago.

Tim (by trade a mechanical engineer) has also spent hundreds of hours working through deck rebuild options and budgets and has organised our engineering, architectural reports and quotes. He has spent the last year working at revitalising the northern bank and it seems now the southern bank and fence has gotten jealous and also needs his attention.

Tim works to a schedule only known to him, but is always in need of volunteers who can help him out for a few hours. His hourly rate for being Property Convenor is \$23 below minimum wage,

If you can help Tim out for a few hours, or even let him have the odd dodgy line call, we would really appreciate it.



That's it for now - have a great break over Christmas - and of course, we hope to see you out on court soon!

Tracy - MTC President